



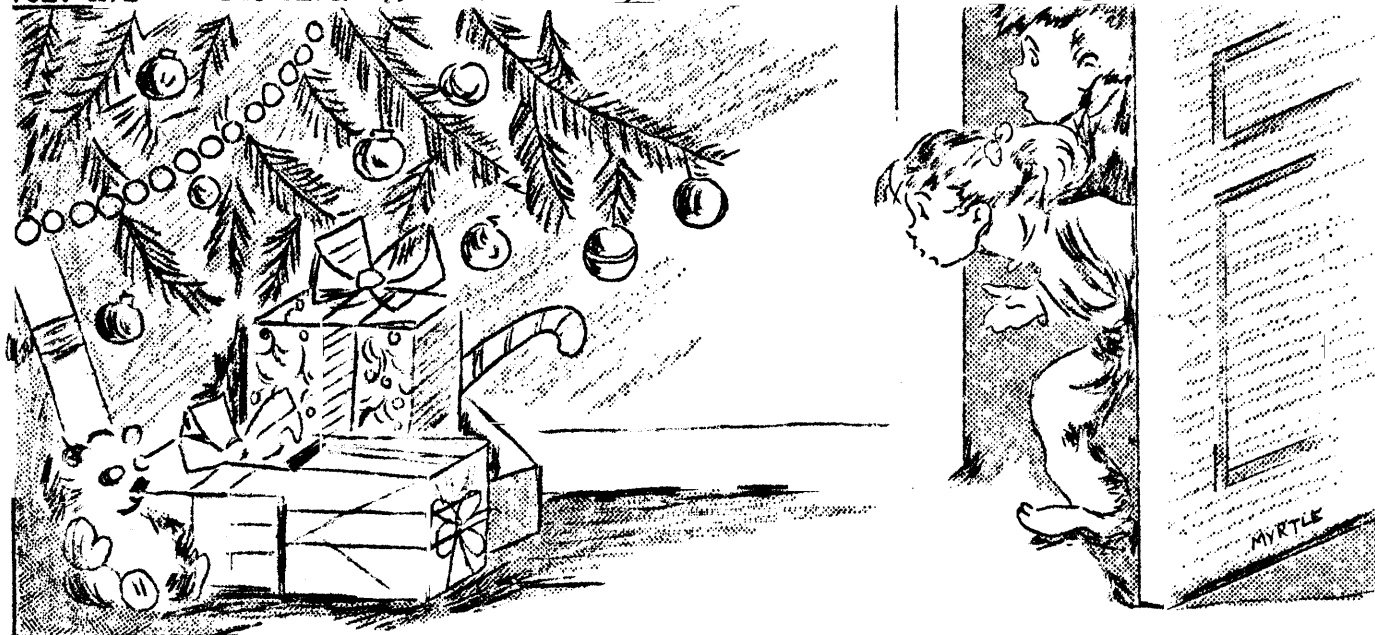
# The OBSIDIAN



VOL. XVI

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NO. 9



## Building Committee Reports

A meeting of the '56-'57 Building Committee was held last November 2. The members present were Louis Waldorf, Mike Stahl, Dale Carlson, Virginia and Gene Sebring.

A reappraisal and evaluation of the assets the club has acquired to date for the construction of a club house show about \$6000 and a choice lot with a real value of over \$2000.

The pros and cons of building on the 17th and High lot were discussed and it was agreed that a two months period would be given to looking for a more desirable location.

As this (a common meeting place) would have a stimulating effect upon our club and benefit us all we would be glad of any card or letter with your ideas to the Building Committee.

Gene Sebring

HELP!!!! HELP!!!!

Your Editor can obtain much news from various members on specif matters, but the small items for Trailings, Committee news, meeting news, must be written up and turned over to a member of the Publications Committee. We consist of Jim Jeppesen, Ray Sims, Myrtle Smith, Natalie Beckett, Dorothy Ruse. Call us...

## Obsidian Board Meeting

The November Board Meeting was held at the home of Mrs. Bob (Keena) Northrop.

Along with ordinary business, the following matters were brought up which are of interest to the members at large:

Two new members in the Obsidians are Ken Gunther and Durward "Doc" Boyle. We welcome both of these fine fellows.

The matter of distributing the work of the club among more members was discussed after several of the same members were listed on several different committees. A motion was made to investigate this matter and three Board members—Helen Hughes, George Hermach, Jim Jeppesen, were appointed to report on this at the next Board Meeting to be held at Henry Carlson's home at Leaburg on December 6, 1956, for action.

Youth activities was pointed out as a good possibility by Karl Onthank. He said that Byron Graff discussed this at Fan Lake during the F.W.O.C. Convention this fall.

It is felt that our club needs a publicity chairman to get news in the F.W.O.C. Quarterly, the Eugene Register-Guard, etc., to plug our activities more. This chairman, or someone else will also be the membership "driver" for the F.W.O.C., the Friends of the Three Sisters, Inc., and others.

Jim Jeppesen

# THE OBSIDIAN BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President	Henry Carlson	Leaburg
Vice President	Ray Harris	DI 3-2926
Secretary	Keena Northrop	DI 3-3426
Treasurer	Helen Hughes	DI 4-6072
Historian	Bob Medill	RI 6-2908
	Karl Onthank	DI 4-7839
	Jim Jeppesen	DI 5-3434
	Bernice Lehrman	DI 5-1347
	George Hermach	DI 5-8541

## COMMITTEE CHAIRMEN

Entertainment	Natalie Beckett	DI 4-9388
Trips	George Hermach	DI 5-8541
Membership	Bernice Lehrman	DI 5-1347
Climbing	Tom Taylor	DI 3-3237
Search	Ray Harris	DI 3-2926
Conservation	Margaret Markley	DI 4-0716
Scientific	Frank Sipe	DI 4-9166
Building	Gene Sebring	DI 3-5118
Youth Activities	Mary Cavagnaro	DI 5-6704
Publication	Jim Jeppesen	DI 5-3434
Outing	( open )	
Auditing	Clarence Scherer	RI 6-1345

## EDITOR'S CORNER

We have just passed through a time of year traditionally set aside for Thanksgiving, and before us is a time, Religiously, for worship and joyous proclamation. In this country we can put our hearts into both seasons freely and as we choose.

We have much to be thankful for whether it be individually or citywise, or countrywise. We are thankful for what we have and not sorry for what we had. There are many things for us to fight for lest one Thanksgiving Day we will have some things to remember with sorrow.

On this troubled Earth millions will not be able to worship as we in the United States of America. We must strive to make this lasting too.

A Merry Christmas and whether your troubles be large or small, may the New Year see you through with much success.

Jim Jeppesen

\* \* \* \* \*

## A STORK STORY

Gene and Virginia Sebring are the proud parents of an 8 lb., 8 oz. baby girl . . . Martha Eileen, born November 8, 1956.

## THINGS TO COME FOR THE OUTSIDE

Dec. 9 - Christmas Greenery Trip  
 Dec. 16 - Christmas Tree Trip  
 Jan. 6 - Lookout Point Reservoir. A reconnaissance to inspect the recreational facilities being installed around the lake. Gene Renard, leader.  
 Jan. 13 - Ski Trip For Those Skiers - and possibly the Southern Pacific Yards for the others.  
 Jan. 20 - Beach Trip. The coast is nice this time of year if no rain is falling. Overnight.  
 Jan. 27 - Old Baldy. A "regular," but always interesting.  
 The Trips Committee is planning an active season for you. Please watch the News Briefs in the Eugene Register-Guard and remember to check the Bulletin Board at Hendershott's downtown for further information.

## BIRD IDENTIFICATION

The Natural History Society is sponsoring a workshop on bird identification, -- Friday evening, December 7, 7:30 P.M., at the Museum of Natural History, University of Oregon. It is located on Onyx St., between Franklin Blvd and East 13th Ave.

Ben Pruitt, well-known naturalist, will be in charge of the program. He will use slides and bird skins to illustrate his talk. Winter birds found in this area will be emphasized, so people will be better prepared for the Bird Count on December 30th.

## 57TH ANNUAL BIRD COUNT

The 57th Annual Bird Count, to be conducted by members of the Natural History Society and other interested people, will be held on Sunday, December 30th. Leaders will be Lawrence Daggett and Ben Pruitt. Watch the Guard for further information.

Birds in a 15 mile diameter of Eugene including Fern Ridge reservoir will be recorded and results sent to the National Audubon Society in New York. Last year's count tallied 88 species of birds.

You are invited to attend the workshop and participate in the Bird Count.

Frances Newsom

## HAVE YOU PAID YOUR DUES YET?


IF NOT SEND THEM TO BERNICE LEHRMAN, 364 E. BROADWAY, APT. 9, EUGENE, OREGON

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Be Sure To Hear - David Simons talk on Northern Cascades of Washington and his suggested site for 1957 Summer Outing in a "new" territory -- Cascade Pass in the Glacier Peak Wilderness Area -- on the main Cascade Crest, which conservationists(that's all of us) are urging be included in the Glacier Peak Wilderness Area. Time and Place to be announced later. Probably sometime between Christmas & New Years.

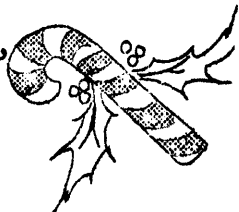
# CHRISTMAS PARTY

AROUND MT. JEFFERSON IN 1939  
by Ray Sims




Santa, surprises, salubrious goodies, and a delightful time are in store for you at the Christmas Party. The Princesses, with the help of the Entertainment Committee are planning a good time for all on Sunday afternoon, December 23rd, from 5 to 7 at the Washington Street Recreation Center.

This party is an annual one with the Obsidians - a MUST for every family with children, as well as for those who are still young in heart (and who isn't?)




Santa will be there to distribute gifts to the youngsters, so do remember to bring (wrapped and tagged) a gift for each of your children present.



The program will be presented by the children, so if your "future" Obsidian can perform, let us know!

Ladies are requested to bring some of their Christmas goodies (small sandwiches or cookies). A beverage will be furnished.

## NEW YEAR'S EVE FUN



Be thinking of the BIGGEST, gewalopping tale you can for the LIAR'S CONTEST - dust off your folk dancing shoes, and come and join

in the fun at Pete and Hanna Skovbo's Barn on NEW YEAR'S EVE, from 8 until 1957 comes rolling in.

A grand time has been planned for you and your friends, so dress comfortably - and be ready for fun!

We'd like for the ladies to bring cookies and sandwiches (so the inner man will be as happy as the outer one), and Henry's "Tropical Punch" (with some additions, we hasten to add) will be furnished.

Join your Obsidian friends at Skovbo's! Monday! 8 o'clock! We'll be looking for YOU!

The Obsidian Summer Camp of 1939 was held August 6th to 13th in beautiful Jefferson Park.

We had been packed into the park from Breitenbush Lake on Saturday, so the setting up of the camp was scheduled for Sunday. However, one of the committee and a boy and girl just in for the weekend, decided to climb Mt. Jefferson. Very early that morning the three set out for the summit. We did not get any flashes during the day and darkness fell without any word from them. About nine that evening those in camp decided to make them a lunch, and with flashlights we set out across Jefferson Park Meadows to go up after them. As we were nearly to the mountain approach, a call from camp told us that a dim flashlight could be seen coming down the White Water Glacier. We knew it must be they, so we hurried to meet them. It was eleven o'clock by the time we met, and the three were a tired trio of climbers.

A tale of a broken up glacier was the reason for their delay. The truth was that they attempted to climb up those rotten rocks on the north side - the same place that three Portland climbers fell to their deaths on Labor Day of 1933.

We slept late the next morning, and as we were lying there on the grass looking up at the mountain, Bill McCracken said, "Isn't there another way to the mountain?"

"Yes," I replied, "We climbed it from the south by way of Hunt's Cove in 1930 when we camped at Marion Lake....without touching a glacier too."

That did it! Five of us gathered all the 3 lb. sleeping bags and fixed THREE meals and set out for Hunt's Cove on the other side of the mountain. We arrived that evening at the two Indian Lakes above the Cove, where we spent the night. The next morning, the five - Doris, Eileen Baker, Elmer McBee, Bill, and I took our sleeping bags on up to the Black Ridge on the east side and left them. We continued on to the Red Saddle, crossed over below the pinnacles and climbed the large rocks to the box on the summit. It had been decided that we would go on AROUND the mountain if it seemed advisable from the top. So, as it was early, we went down the ridge to our sleeping bags, and continued on around below the "broken up glacier." This part of the mountain can-  
(Continued on page 4)

AROUND MT. JEFFERSON IN '39(Continued)  
not be seen from the summit and it was much bigger and rougher than we had expected. Nightfall came all too soon and we were still going up and down moraines. Since we had our bags with us, we decided to stop for the night. Our food consisted of a dry sandwich and some tea. The next morning(after more tea) we started out for Jefferson Park. Between us and the Park however, was the deep canyon of White Water Glacier. It took us two hours to get to the bottom and then there were many small streams to cross. It was the middle of the third day that we finally climbed up into BEAUTIFUL JEFFERSON PARK.

#### TRAILINGS

Karl Onthank and John L. Barber, Jr., were recently in Dallas, Texas and Pensacola, Florida on a Civilian Navy Orientation Cruise. Karl arrived home sooner than expected from this trip and found himself locked out. He found Ruth at our Potluck—that's one way to get people out!!!

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Jim Jeppesen attended a Publicity Chairman instruction class conducted by the Eugene Register-Guard. He took notes and obtained a booklet to give to the Club Publicity Chairman when appointed.

\*\*\*\*\*

There is a sassy new '57 model sitting on the driveway at 2181 Washington Street.

\*\*\*\*\*

Durward "Doc" Boyle was married recently, lives over on Riverview St—all I know! Congratulations, Doc! He's a recent new member and quite a climber.

\*\*\*\*\*

Art Johnson, an ex-Obsidian, and a lawyer is back in association with his father and brother, and James Harrang, after serving with the Army in Europe.

#### PRINCESSES TALK, EAT, MAKE XMAS PARTY PLANS

At a very pleasant meeting at Princess Alpine Glow's(Arlene), where Pinky Parakeet was the show-off star of the evening, plans were made for the Annual Xmas Party, with Pres.Vine Maple(Dorothy) taking the lead in planning, in cooperation with the entertainment committee(see page 3). Hostesses for the December Party for the Princesses will be Melody(Helen H.), Alpine Phlox(Frances), Alpine Fir(Lorena), and Orange Blossom(Mary C.); they'll welcome all princesses at Mary's, 1930 Todd St., on Monday, December 17, 8 P.M. Each Princess will bring a gift(not over \$1), for the exchange.

Sisters Wilderness would remain inviolate for others to study, explore, and enjoy.

#### REBEL ROCK RECOLLECTIONS

A magnificent view of the snow-capped Cascade peaks - Jefferson, the Three Sisters, Little Brother, Bachelor and Diamond Peak in the new or eastern Cascades and Pyramid, Olallie, and Rebel Peak in the old or western Cascades - was the reward of 5 hikers on Saturday, Nov. 24, — when they traveled the Rebel Rock trail to Olallie Mountain Vantage Point.

The hikers - Margaret Markley, Betty and Ken Metzler, Frances and Keith Newsom - left a cold and fog-bound Eugene, and were both pleased and surprised to find sunshine, no wind, and a dry trail. The first cache of warm clothing was made half a mile up the trail. The green foliage and flowers were missed, but it was interesting to see what they had hidden - large sugar pine cones along the trail, moss-covered rocks, little streams coming down the steep hillside, crossing the trail and forming delightful pools as they continued to join the cascading, nameless creek that flows south of the trail.

Birds seen or heard include the Harris woodpecker, nuthatch, chickadee, junco, kinglet, and red-tailed hawk. Rocks high on the hillside above the two mile sign attracted our attention and we climbed up to see them. As usual they were farther away than we thought, so we decided that another trip should be made to explore them. Snow was found in the meadow beyond the three mile marker and on the ridge above Fire Camp 7. A visit to the tilted meadow with its sagebrush surrounded by conifers showed the plants looking grayer than ever and this season's flower-clusters still attached. We wondered why this sage brush(Artemesia tridentata) commonly found in eastern Oregon should be growing west of the Cascades, and whether it was left over from a former warm-dry plant association.

Continuing, we admired the true firs, a huge pine with its load of cones, an old cherry tree, rock formations, green sedum, the cloudless blue sky, and the view across the South Fork of the McKenzie. The air was so clear that even Mary's Peak could be seen. Water from the spring near the cabin was as refreshing as ever. From there we continued up the hill to the ridge where we camped last July and on to the viewpoint from which we looked across the forested slopes to the exciting snow peaks of the eastern Cascades. As we thrilled to the view we fervently hoped that this beautiful vista and the Three

Frances Newsom

F.W.O.C. TRIP TO  
WALDO LAKE LIMITED AREA

By 1949 Region 6 of the U. S. Forest Service had designated seven Limited Areas in the Oregon Cascades. The Oregon Skyline Trail goes through, and so is protected, by all but one of these Limited Areas.

In 1950-51 the U.S.F.S. suggested that Waldo Lake Limited Area might be proposed as a Wild Area and given their best protection - that of regulation U-2. Unfortunately the U.S.F.S. Region 6 dropped this plan.

The Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs sponsored a trip to Waldo Lake September 21, 22, 23, 1956. Tom McAlister, Outdoor editor of the Oregon Journal was leader. Ranger Bill Cummings generously spent his weekend with us, also Bruce Harolson, Chris Jensen and young Chris. Obsidians Gene Renard, Roy Temple, Ruth and Karl Onthank. Gene is Superintendent of Lane County Parks and Recreation Commission, two of its members enjoyed the trip too—Art Richards and Karl. Two boats with motors were used to explore the deep, blue waters of the Lake, its shores and the many surrounding small lakes, the forest trails and the hill-top views. Soon after our return the Lane County Parks and Recreation Commission passed the following resolution:

WHEREAS, it has come to our attention that various conflicting uses are proposed for the development of the Waldo Lake vicinity; and

WHEREAS, this lake and its vicinity are included in the Waldo Lake Limited Area, so classified and designated by the U. S. Forest Service, and the regulations governing limited areas prohibit such conflicting uses; and

WHEREAS, this is a region of very uncommon natural beauty now primarily in a wilderness state which would lose a major share of its appeal by ill-considered developments; and

WHEREAS, the Lane County Parks and Recreation Commission is charged with planning the coordinated protection and utilization of the recreation resources of Lane County, of which this Cascade Lake region is a major part.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Lane County Parks and Recreation Commission, meeting in its regular session, October 11, 1956, hereby goes on record as requesting the Waldo Lake Limited Area classification not be rescinded or violated until comprehensive planning

-5- studies have been made justifying such action and the Lane County Parks and Recreation Commission and other interested persons and agencies have had opportunity to be heard.

\* \* \* \* \*

The party drove to North Waldo Shelter via the Taylor Burn road. Here the boats were launched in a charming and sheltered natural bay. Our camp, in mountain hemlock forest, overlooked the green and blue entrance bay and a great expanse of Waldo Lake. The autumn reds of huckleberry and mountain ash often glowed along the forested shores. Deer and elk were feasting on the plentiful mushrooms. After the welcome warmth of the generous campfire was gone the calm quiet of the night was broken by the bugling of the bull elk. Sunrise was dreamlike in its quiet, peaceful beauty — first the sun's rays showed the pure white of Diamond Peak, then the great cliffs of Fuji glowed pink, finally the valleyed slopes of Mt. Ray were lighted. — Through the days of happy exploring of this congenial party ran the tales of hunting adventure, the discovery and naming of lakes and men's plans to "harness" this summit lake. Yet this perfect wilderness lake, still practically untouched by man, is still ours to enjoy and to protect. We along with all citizens of the U.S.A. own it — if we so choose it can always be there, for us and for our grandchildren.

But it needs our help right now! In the 'teens a tunnel was blasted through from the lake to the cliff edge. The iron gates that hold back the lake waters are rusted. We found them leaking so that quite a stream is flowing out of the tunnel. It may have lowered the lake and there is the chance, should the gates give away completely, that the lake would be lowered many feet. Please urge the Willamette National Forest officials to see that this old tunnel is permanently closed as soon as possible.

This lake, beloved by fisherman, hunter and hiker is authorized to be drawn down twenty feet or more in very dry years, by the Army Engineers. Its watershed is very small. Those who know the country think it would take years to refill it. Please write your Congressman and your Senators, not to allow the money to be appropriated to build this new Willamette Valley Project Tunnel.

Ruth Onthank



## THE DEVILS TOWER

Just 50 years ago today a presidential proclamation made Devils Tower the country's first National Monument, September 24, 1956.

It may be closer to a 50 millionth anniversary for the old Tower itself. An 800 ft. shaft rising out of rolling ranch land in northeastern Wyoming, Devils Tower was originally a molten mass of rock which cooled slowly underground. Shrinkage as it cooled created a network of cracks like those in a sun-baked mud flat. Hence the rock is columnar in structure, and the sweeping lines of the great columns add immeasurably to its impressiveness.

The almost vertical walls of the Tower have long challenged climbers. First to reach the summit were Rogers and Ripley, local ranchers, who in 1893 built a ladder of wooden pegs up one of the vertical cracks. This feat, though amazing, is rather looked down on by modern climbers who prefer to climb with rope and pitons for safety, but without such aids as two-by-fours and sledge hammers.

In 1937 Fritz Wiessner led the first "rock climbing" ascent of Devils Tower using standard mountaineering techniques and equipment. A year later Jack Durrance led a second ascent by a different route, which is the route most used by climbers today.

Next to visit the summit was George Hopkins in 1941. He dropped there by parachute as a publicity stunt, but had underestimated the difficulty of getting on down. After six lonely days for Hopkins, and six frantic days for the staff at Monument Headquarters, he was rescued by Durrance and other climbers.

Many climbing parties now reach the top each summer. This year as part of the anniversary celebration a "Mountaineer's Week" was held in July, with at least one team on the rock each day. Climbers must get permission from Monument Supt. R. W. McIntyre. His requirements are stiff, for he is determined to continue the perfect safety record among climbers maintained thus far.

OBSIDIANS, INC.  
P. O. BOX 322  
EUGENE, OREGON

FIRST MONDAY OF EVERY MONTH IS OBSIDIAN PICTURE NIGHT AT  
FRIENDLY HOUSE, 2445 KINCAID, UNDER JOE DANIEL'S DIRECTION.

An excellent climb on firm rock, Devils Tower will remain a challenge for each new generation of climbers.

Herb and Jan Conn

When Betty and I were on our vacation last summer we were fortunate in being able to help celebrate the 50th Anniversary of this great monument. We listed the Obsidians as one of the participating clubs.

Ray Harris



## FOR ALL YOU COOKS

You have all noticed those silver-wrapped "things" that Lorena Shinn eats on all the trips that she attends. Well it seems that so many have tasted them that by popular demand we are placing the recipe here for you with Lorena's compliments. Proceed at will.

### NANAIMOS

1. Cut 22 graham crackers into  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch squares.
2. Melt  $\frac{1}{4}$  lb butter (or oleo), add  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup sugar,  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup chopped nuts, 2 Tbsp cocoa, and 1 beaten egg. Stir and bring to a boil (boil 1 minute only). Add 1 tsp vanilla.
3. Add to graham crackers and mix, then press into buttered 8 by 8 pan and set in refrigerator to cool.
4. Prepare a powdered sugar icing with butter (oleo), powdered sugar, milk, and vanilla (fairly stiff). Spread over cooled graham cracker mix.
5. Melt 2 Tbsp. butter (oleo) with 2 squares of bitter chocolate (over hot water) and pour over icing mixture.
6. Cut into 1 by 2 inch bars when chocolate is firm but not brittle. (For trips they should be wrapped in small squares of aluminum foil).

Lorena Shinn

(ILLUSTRATIONS IN THIS ISSUE BY MYRA SMITH)