



# The OBSIDIAN



VOL. XVI

APRIL 1956 - OBSIDIANS, INC.- P. O. BOX 322 - EUGENE, OREGON

NO. 4

## LET'S GO TO

"Fifty Switzerlands in One", the folder said, but I didn't believe it. My own memories of the Alps were too recent and vivid and awesome—surely that magnificence of rock and snow couldn't be matched. I was wrong. The Canadian Rockies live up to everything one can say about them and still surprise you. First it's the individual features; jagged peaks reaching up toward the sky; Maligne canyon opening at your feet like a wierd gateway to hell..."

The above is part of the first paragraph of an article in the May 1956 issue of Household Magazine. It is called "For Ten Days the Sky's the Limit", and is written by Albert Roland, who, with his family, visited Banff, Jasper, Kootenay and Yoho Parks as we are going to and also made the trip over the Going-to-the-Sun Highway in Glacier, as we plan to do.

As many of you are interested in the outing this summer, your outing committee is taking this opportunity to inform you of what arrangements have been made.

The Banff Park Superintendent, Mr. J.I.M. Strong, has been very cooperative and helpful. He has reserved an area for us at Johnston Canyon Campground where we will have the use of a kitchen and tables and benches. There are other modern facilities also, and it does seem that this camp should be relatively luxurious so that all we will have to do is derive the utmost possible enjoyment from this scenically rugged area.

We hope to be able to spend the second week at Jasper which is 150 miles to the north.

An outing based in a campground definitely has its advantages as any of last year's Tuolumne Meadows campers will verify. Also there are some who would not attend if a rugged hike into camp were involved. There will be plenty of hiking and climbing for all who want it.

The total distance travelled on this outing will be over 2,000 miles, as it is about 890 miles to our first camp. If our outing at Glacier was any indication, we will do considerable travelling in Banff Park and then in Jasper Park. The return

## SUMMER CAMP!

trip via Glacier Park will also add to the distance, so we are taking 3 days for the return trip. As many of you know, Glacier is definitely worth it.

Other than a 2-day's supply of food we are allowed to take into Canada, the remainder must be purchased there. We are going to contact grocers in Calgary and have the benefit of information received from the Mazamas.

The cost for the two weeks will be \$80.00, and will include transportation, park entrance and road-use fees, meals, shelter for those without their own tents, use of club equipment and the most wonderful outing of all!

Please help the outing committee by signing up early. The picture night for summer camp will be Friday, May 25th (Skinners Butte). We will have sound and color movies provided by the Canadian Government Travel Bureau. All who plan to attend summer camp and have slides of this area are invited to bring 10 to show on picture night. Quite a number of Obsidians and a few non-members have already said they are going if they can possibly arrange it, so it looks as though it will be a well-attended outing. Here's hoping you can come too, and help to make this what we expect to be one of the most enjoyable outings ever.

Henry Carlson

REGISTER NOW AT HENDERSHOTT'S -- OR  
WRITE TO HENRY CARLSON, LEABURG,  
OREGON; CALL GENE SEBRING, DI 3-5118  
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION.

\* \* \* \* \*

## NOTICE FROM CLIMBING COMMITTEE

Throughout the summer, all notices put in the Register-Guard news briefs will be headed by ANYONE instead of OBSIDIANS! and will have the trip or climb sponsored by Obsidians.

Next Events-Climbing School  
May 6th & 13th - Coburg Caves and Rocks  
May 27th - Simulated Rescue



# LOOKING

-2-

# AHEAD

## Outside Fun



### THE OBSIDIAN BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President	Lloyd Plaisted	DI 5-6393
V. President	Bernice Lehrman	DI 5-1347
Secretary	Keena Northrop	DI 3-3426
Treasurer	Helen Hughes	DI 4-6072
Committee Chairmen		
OUTING	Henry Carlson	
CLIMBING	Ray Harris	DI 3-2926
BUILDING	Bailey Castelloe	DI 4-5168
SEARCH	Gene Sebring	DI 3-5118
MEMBERSHIP	Bernice Lehrman	DI 5-1347
PUBLICATIONS	Walt Banks	DI 4-8797
ENTERTAINMENT	Mary Cavagnaro	DI 5-6704
TRIPS	Bob Medill	RI 6-2908
AUDITING	Clarence Scherer	RI 6-1345
HISTORIAN	Mary Kaneen	DI 5-4266
SCIENTIFIC AND CONSERVATION	Frank Sipe	DI 4-9166

### BOARD NOTES

...at the home of Bob and Mary Medill

TRIPS - The pocket schedules will be out in early May, and will list both Climbs and Trips, as usual.

SEARCH - The collapsible stretcher-on-wheels (litter) has arrived and Gene and Ray proudly demonstrated it for Board Members. The first aid class is in progress, with about 25 in regular attendance. Those who wish to participate from time to time should call Gene Sebring for details.

CLIMBING - The out-of-state climb this year will be Mt. Shuksan in Washington July 20, with Joe Daniel leading.

MEMBERSHIP - David G. Simons was welcomed into the club. He is a Springfield boy, now a student at U. of Cal.

CONSERVATION - Discussion of the recent Wilderness Conference, and the fine talk given by Jim Kezer. The Desert Protective Association has formed to save the area around Palm Springs and Joshua Tree National Park from the Military and Miners.

NEW BUSINESS - The Girl Scouts have requested Obsidian leadership in some trips and outdoor activities. So membership be thinking of some interesting things to show the Girl Scouts. - Call Mary Cavagnaro if you wish to participate.



MAY 6 -Mt. Pisgah - An old favorite in the spring, and the leader has something of special interest to show us on this trip-Ray Cavagnaro.

MAY 13 -Baldy of the Coburg's - Another spring favorite. Henry Jeppesen

MAY 20 -Callapooya River in Linn County - to search for petrified trees. We may not find any, but a fine trip is promised by ... Les Cooper.

MAY 27 -Mt. Nebo - Going to try this one again. This is a real worth while trip. Dale Carlson

## Inside Fun

MAY 7 -First Monday Picture Night - Friendly House will host Les Cooper and his pictures of Arizona, Grand Canyon, Cliff Dwellers, and Indian Dancing.

MAY 12 -Second Saturday Potluck and Polka Party at River Road Women's club.

MAY 25 -Obsidian Friday Night has been moved to the 4th Friday. The outing committee has big plans after the 7:30 business meeting.

MAY 27 -Open House at Friendly House 2:30 to 6:00, with a short program at 3:00. Obsidians are especially invited, because of our continued interest and support of this worthy enterprise.

JUNE 4 -Frank Sipe will show desert pictures at Friendly House. Also some flowers.

## Rummage

RUMMAGE-RUMMAGE-RUMMAGE---Remember the all-club sale on Saturday, May 26 at the Rummage Center, 31 W. 7th - and save all your unused articles for it - call us if you'd like things picked up, or leave at Waldorf's basement, or bring to Rummage Center Friday evening, May 25th, on your way to the Obsidian picture night. Offers of sales help will be appreciated also, so call any of the committee:

Jean B. - 4-8797	Nellie M. - 5-1422
Mary C. - 4-5168	Helen W. - 5-1234
Helen K. - 5-1806	Roxie W. - 4-5302
Margaret M. - 4-0716	

HELP GEORGE KORN GET THE "BIG LIFT IN BY '56" - BUY A SHARE TODAY!

Two cars of eight hearty climbers left Eugene Saturday morning, April 9th, to drive to Santiam Lodge. We left the cars and started to ski into the mountain - Mildred Ball and Bruce Johnson used snowshoes. The weather was quite bad; there were a few snow flurries. By 5:30 P.M. we found a place to camp near the base of Jack Butte on the Southwest ridge. Everybody dug a hole in the snow near a tree and spent a quiet night. In the early morning the sky cleared and the sun shone nice and bright.

By seven A.M. we started our trek up the mountain. As we approached Jack Butte, - Mt. Washington, the whole Sisters family, Broken Top, Bachelor, and Diamond came into view.

As we neared the mountain, we noticed that the snow on the trees had piled up from 3 to 6 feet on the windward side. The mountain had the same type of build-up even greater. Nature had carved the snow to look like white coral. The trip was leisurely and many pictures were taken. By the time Gene and I got around the crawl it was so late that we had to turn back without making the top.

As it was, we didn't get out to the cars till dark, but I believe even though we didn't make the top everybody enjoyed themselves and had a grand outing except for the sunburns afterward. Those on the trip were: Ray and Betty Harris, Gene Sebring, Mildred Ball, Bruce Johnson, Hale Hohnstein, and Norman Klehamer.

Ray Harris

#### IN HONOR OF THE MURIES

Our busy spring calendar was augmented recently with the visit of Dr. Olaus J. Murie and his charming wife, who were enroute to the Wilderness Conference in Portland. All who attended the potluck at Congregational Church in their honor felt the impact of the philosophy of this very great and humble man. His interest in the preservation of natural beauty has taken him many thousands of miles, while his friendly and inspiring personality must surely result in many return visits. Obsidians at the 1950 Teton Summer Outing remember well his participation at one of our evening campfires. His next junket is to Alaska for the purpose of - you guessed it - establishing a wilderness area or park in the Arctic.

TRAILINGS...George Korn is President of Willamette Pass Chair Lift Inc.

Forty-two Obsidians and guests returned from Beachcomber's Rest March 25, with pockets full of agates and other flotsam and jetsam provided by the howling coast storm. Sunday morning Mac McWilliams led the group to some old "pirate caves", which provided some thrills and excitement with the steep cliffs and improvised bridges, which were swept away by the incoming tide just as the last member of the party reached safety. We are happy to announce that no pneumonia resulted from the frequent drenchings received by many who attempted to fight it out with King Neptune, and lost. The hotcakes were enjoyed by all, and no casualties in this department were reported either. We were particularly pleased with the family turnout and enjoyed the 15 children. Let's have more of these family events.

Mary Cavagnaro

#### WILDERNESS CONFERENCE, Portland, April 7,8

Obsidians attending: Dale Carlson, June Carlson, Henry Carlson, Mary Cavagnaro, Catherine Dunlop, Ruth Hopson, James, Henry & Anna Jeppesen, James Kezer, Margaret Markley, Frances Newsom, Karl Onthank, Anna Pechanec, Ray Sims, Doris Sims, Frank Sipe, Mike Stahl, Louis & Roxie Waldorf. (20 total) All who attended felt amply rewarded; it was highly successful. Our own Karl Onthank did an excellent job of presiding. Jim Kezer gave one of the most outstanding talks in a stimulating and unique presentation of the Scientific Values of the Wilderness. Other Obsidians made valuable contributions from the floor. Fred Packard, Nat. Parks Assoc. Director, who flew out from Washington, D. C. to speak on the Human Values, stated that this conference was outstanding in its fresh viewpoints, etc. He explained that he had long been "an out on the balcony or stairs" conference attendee until this one which had grasped his interest and held it. Registration was well over 200, with over half this number from outside the greater Portland area.

TRAILINGS . . . Our best wishes to Adeline Adams, recovering from surgery in Eugene Hospital, and Bertha Deckmann, recovering from a train-car accident at Sacred Heart; she received 6 broken ribs and a fractured ankle. Both are doing very well.

. . . Doris Sims was elected Secretary of the week.

. . . Enjoyed seeing Ned Graves April 12.

Adeline was able to go home May 4

TIPSOO LOOKOUT IN 1900  
(Fourth of a series on Lookout life)  
by Ray Sims

With the telephone working, after 7 in the evening we were privileged to call other lookouts, so Bob and Mert Dean on Rebel Rock, Jack Konig on Indian Ridge and Ed Orth on Castle Rock were the ones to help dispell the long evening hours.

I made a wind vane, painted the nose red and mounted it on the top rail of the catwalk, so when McKenzie Bridge wanted to know which way the wind was blowing, I could always see from inside.

Visitors are appreciated by lookouts, and we faired rather well. Doris returned on July 14th, bringing such a big pack of newspapers, fresh fruit and vegetables — that I had to go down nearly to the car to pack it up.

Then on Sunday we were awakened by 3 bear hunters who came under our lookout, so we arose and had coffee for the 3, who were Jim Janiser, Dwane Martenson and Dean Hanson, of Springfield, who had been told by Prince Helfrich that there were bear up there(thank goodness we saw none). The boys let Jim shoot their 300 Magnum rifle, which was a thrill for Jim. Two days later we were awakened at 4 A.M. by the barking of coyotes down in Walker Creek canyon. Too bad the hunters were not there!

For the Obsidian trip on the 24th, Jim and I brought up plenty of cold spring water and about 1:30 Leslie Cooper appeared first on the trail, with Ben Marks, Mary Gillespie, Lee Cunningham, Francis Newsom(leader), John Wicks, Ben Pruitt and Hal Pruitt, following shortly. I would like to say "that was an enjoyable day." In the future, more trips to lookouts while they are open, will be appreciated.

The first rain of the summer came on the 26th so we had trouble sleeping at night because of the strong wind whistling down the chimney, but as it cleared, the first deer appeared down in the meadow; 4 were seen the first afternoon; the first snow appeared on the Three Sisters, too. It has been identical the last 3 summers.

I will mention that on one of those 4 A.M. risings, I took one of my best pictures, just before the sun came up. There was a red rim around the eastern sky, and the 8 big mountains we could see, stood like black sentinels in that tremendous silence.

OBSDIANS, INC.  
P. O. BOX 322  
Eugene, Oregon

BULK RATE

EARLY CLIMBS IN THE OREGON CASCADES  
Ray Sims

After receiving the letter from John Edmundson of Willamette University asking for information on the early climbs of the Middle and South Sisters, Broken Top and The Bachelor, I found a wealth of very interesting material both in the early books and the Morning Oregonian of 1885.

John Straub, Professor, U. of O., left his now famous notebook on top of the Middle Sister August 26, 1892, making his second ascent. These last four words made Helen Kilpatrick and I do some looking into the archives of the U. of O. library.

We found that the Oregonian carried a two column story on the FRONT PAGE on August 23, 1885, stating that on August 5, 1885, S. B. Eakin, T.C. Judkins and their guide, probably Harry Hayes, climbed the Middle Sister for the first ascent. AND BESIDES THAT, THEY TOOK THEIR BLANKETS AND STAYED ALL NIGHT ON TOP.

They recorded the temperature as 25 degrees and said the view just before the sun came up was awe inspiring; "all the great peaks of Oregon standing as black sentinels in this vast forest of silence."

The rest of their party came up the next day, believed to include John Straub, J. H. McClung and A. F. Martin, making a total of eight.

Also of interest was the note in this issue of the Morning Oregonian that S. B. Eakin and Tom G. Hendricks were to return to Eugene and start a BANK. And of course we know that Eakin was the first Vice-President of the First National Bank of Eugene, and Tom G. Hendricks was the first President.

A policy of the 1885 Oregonian was to devote the first two columns on the left side of the front page to advertising — hence — in bold type, "For a round trip to see spectacular Elliot Glacier, with perpendicular ice standing over 300 feet, on the north side of Mt. Hood, only \$9.50."

\* \* \* \* \*  
T R A I L I N G S . . .

Mary Cavagnaro has joined the faculty of U. of O. Psychology Dept. attached to the Child Guidance Clinic.

The stork has been seen hovering around the abode of Bob and Keena Northrop.

Louis Waldorf has just returned from Nebraska, called there by a sister's death.