



The OBSIDIAN



VOL XVI JULY 1956 - OBSIDIANS, INC. - P. O. BOX 322 - EUGENE, OREGON NO. 6

CANADA - HERE WE COME!

ALL THOSE LUCKY PEOPLE WHO ARE SIGNED UP FOR SUMMER CAMP IN CANADA ARE ABOUT TO LEAVE - AUGUST 5TH, TO BE SPECIFIC - IF ANYONE IS LATE IN DECIDING, IT SURELY WILL PAY YOU TO CONTACT GENE SEBRING, DI 3-5118, HENRY CARLSON AT LEABURG, OR CLARENCE BANKHEAD, DI 4-6058, OR ERNIE KEASLING, DI 3-2406, OR ANY OBSIDIAN, AND THEY WILL SEE ABOUT GETTING YOU ABOARD --- BUT YOU'D BETTER HURRY!

TRIPS AND CLIMBS AHEAD

July 22-- THREE FINGERED JACK

Climb of Mt. Shuksan postponed.

July 9 - NORTH SISTER, a new route up from the East side, led by Gene Sebring.

Aug. 5 - OBSIDIAN FALLS - a joint hike with Trips Committee, Bertha Deckmann, Arlene & Ernie Keasling, Leaders.

Aug. 12 - MT. SCOTT - on the rim of Crater Lake, with Dave and Gale Burwell, Leaders.

Aug. 26 - SOUTH SISTER - led this year by Mildred Ball.

NOTE

A re-schedule of Three Fingered Jack to be July 22 - check the sign up sheet at Hendershotts.

THOSE EVERLOVIN' TRIPS TO COME

July 22 - HUCKLEBERRY LAKE & THE ISLAND - a qualifying trip - Phil Brogan, of Bend Bulletin fame, will direct us to the site of one of Oregon's most unusual geological formations, with the help of Bette Hack. We will meet Bette at the City Park at 8 A.M. and drive from there to West Lava Camp. There is water on the trail, but you may want to take your canteen along. We will see a frozen cataract of lava, several hundred feet long, and will be able to observe and trace the Little Belknap and Yapoah Crater flows. There will be also a very fine view of the summit lavas. The hike is 8 miles round trip - and - oh yes, it's all downhill!

July 29 - CARPENTER MT. - a long time since our last visit - another qualifying trip led by Frank Sipe.

(Continued on Page Two)

CAMP REED --- FAN LAKE

1956 F.W.O.C. CONVENTION

Labor Day weekend isn't far away, and it's time you were making your reservations for the Federation of Western Outdoor Club's Annual Meeting, which returns to the Northwest this year from far southern California. Also this year both president and secretary of the Federation are Obsidians! - K. Onthank and F. Newsom -- Camp Reed is 35 miles north of Spokane - main highway except 4 miles of excellent gravel. It is a YMCA camp with fine new kitchen, dining hall, and wash house facilities, cottages for 150 and plenty of clean pine woods and lake shore for those who prefer to sleep outdoors. Swimming, boating, riding, tennis, etc., all free, (fishermen must have license before coming). There are plenty of resources for hiking, nature study, etc. Program includes Federation business, important but streamlined, election of officers, reports of clubs and Federation committees working during the year and, particularly, consideration of conservation issues. Notable conservation leaders including Dr. and Mrs. Olaus Murie reporting on the Arctic Wilderness which they are exploring this summer; Howard Zahniser, and Forest Service Officials, Park Service Officials, will be there to join in discussion. In the evenings - pictures of some of our choicest wilderness and discussions of how to assure its availability for future enjoyment.

Reservation blanks may be had from Obsidian officers and Frances Newsom, and

(Continued on Page Two)

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 | Leaburg |
| 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 Soherer | RI 6-1345 |
| HISTORIAN | Mary Kaneen | DI 5-4266 |
| SCIENTIFIC AND CONSERVATION | Frank Sipe | DI 4-9166 |

BOARD NOTES

Meeting of July 12, 1956

Board meeting for July was not called to order due to lack of Board Members, who are out of town. Members absent were Walt Banks, Bob Medill, Keena Northrop, Bernice Lehrman, Ray Harris, Helen Hughes.

There was discussion of making the Odell Butte trip qualifying; also the possibility of altering our qualifying trip policies.

General conversation and fine refreshments by hostess, Mary Cavagnaro, at her home.

EDITOR'S CORNER

Your editor, Walt Banks, has gone to a summer job in Idaho. He asked me to run the paper while he is gone. I will try and get out our usual good bulletin.

This month many things were turned in for news so I have decided to run a summer issue.

I intend to have an August issue just after summer camp, so all members are invited to submit news since our usual channels will be loosely knit during this season of vacations and absentees.

Jim Jeppesen

4TH OF JULY AT BOB & MARY'S

Green lawns and shade trees galore with leisurely Mill Creek flowing by, was just the fare for 14 Obsidians who were guests of Bob & Mary Medill. After one of those fine potluck dinners, we made a short trip to "settle our dinners", and to see the beautiful little falls in Mill Creek, as well as the new Springfield Bridge site.

TRIPS AND CLIMBS AHEAD

(Continued from Page One)

Aug. 5 - 19 SUMMER CAMP IN CANADIAN ROCKIES. All aboard!

Aug. 5 - (See page one) This trip is also qualifying. Arlene and Ernie Keasling will lead us back through the old Obsidian haunts, covering some very spectacular scenery in the Three Sisters Wilderness Area.

Aug. 11-12 - DIAMOND LAKE - an overnight trip. The Mt. Scott climbers will camp here also. George Hermach promises a very pleasant weekend at this beautiful lake.

Aug. 19 - BENSON LAKE - TENAS LAKES FROM SCOTT LAKE - Who has visited these jewel-like lakes and not yearned to go back and see them again? Anna Jeppesen will lead. Don't miss this!

Aug. 25-26 - CAMP ON PERPETUA CREEK - ON THE OREGON COAST. A two-day camp - an overall get-together. We have arranged for the Sky, Sea and Sand to be at their best.

Sept. 1-2-3 - JEFFERSON PARK from Breitenbush - Helen Hughes, leader.

Sept. 1-2-3 - FEDERATION OF WESTERN OUTDOOR CLUBS CONVENTION AT FAN LAKE, WN.

*** *

Always check your schedule and then check your calendar so you won't miss your favorite trip and be disappointed.

1956 F.W.O.C. CONVENTION

(Continued from Page One)

MUST be in by August 15, preferably earlier. The weekend, including all meals, lodging, swimming and other entertainment, will cost a mere \$12.50 for adults, \$6.00 for children.

Caravans are driving from Southern California, starting at Lake Tahoe, Sunday, August 26, picking up Oregon FWOC Conventioneers en route. Will those who are driving and would take paying passengers and those who would like such a ride, please contact Mrs. Keena Northrop, phone DI 3-3426 - she will get them together soon. Your Hosts are the Hobnailers and the Eastern Washington Member Clubs, who extend a warm welcome to all.

The Federation is ours. It is an essential means of keeping us outdoor folks in touch with each other, especially important conservation-wise -- "In Unity Is strength."

* * *

Next Princess Meeting will be September 17 at the home of Mary Castelloe.

TRIPS PAST Jim Jeppesen

REBEL ROCK TRIP Frances Newsom

Those who went on the Odell Butte Trip June 17th saw some new country. All the peaks were visible, extending to Shasta to the South. Every hiker was in accord with the opinion of Jim Jeppesen, leader, that this should be a qualifying trip and also be a repeat another year -- but look out for Joe Daniel and his candid picture taking!

You all probably read the excellent account of the Mt. Thielsen climb on July 1st, which was written by Bob Frazier in the Eugene Register-Guard. This was the annual Tenderfoot Climb and 36 people attended. They say some people had their hair standing on end - not from fright, but by electrical charge. The electrical storm prevented 21 climbers from reaching the top and the rains came before they got back to camp, but they all undoubtedly had quite an experience.

The most recent climb of Mt. Washington was made on July 8th, leader, Tom Taylor. The 17 people who climbed spent a nice evening at Dugout Lake. The route is farther and more difficult than the Big Lake route, but Big Lake was inaccessible. 8 people mounted the summit in two parties led by Doc Boyle and Jim Jeppesen from the North side, and two of the nine attempting the South face reached the top led by Tom Taylor. The weather was very clear, warm, and windy, and the evening brought thunderstorms in the vicinity.

The 18 who made the top of the Middle Sister, July 15, report the finest kind of climbing weather, with the wild flowers just beginning to come out. They camped at Obsidian Camp arriving there at 4:30 Saturday. The climb was started at 7 A.M. - the top reached at 1 P.M. All the climbers enjoyed the trip immensely, under the leadership of George Hermach.

* * * * *

TRAILINGS

We want to include these names in the list of June graduates: Pat Stahl, Springfield High School, and John McCloskey, Bachelor's Degree, Harvard University. Natalie Beckett is home for the summer from her teaching position in Oxnard, Cal., and looking forward to going to summer camp.

Catherine Dunlop is studying at the Marine Biology Station at Coos Bay. Dr. Bayard McConnaughey is Director there. Dennie Koupal will be in the east this summer on a Naval mission.

With Rebel Rock as their destination sixty people journeyed into the Three Sisters Wilderness Area on July 7, 8, and 9, 1956. This was the third annual trip into the Three Sisters Wilderness and the second sponsored by the Friends of the Three Sisters Wilderness, Inc., to study, explore, photograph and enjoy the area west of Horse Creek.

Capable leadership of the trip was furnished by Obsidians Dale Carlson (Chairman) Dave Burwell, Dr. James Kezer, & Dr. Ruth Hopson. Bob Medill handled reservations. Fred Behm, Blue River, was another leader.

Other Obsidians making the trip - were Karl Onthank, Ruth Onthank, Margaret Markley, Douglas Spencer, Mary Cavagnaro, Geraldine Fehly, Frank Sipe, Keith Newsom, Frances Newsom, and Anna Pechanec. Spending Sunday with the campers were Helen and Paul Weiser, Helen Hughes, Blanche Bailey, Thelma Watson, Ray Cavagnaro and Henry Carlson. Professor Jim and Mary Douglas Stovall accompanied them. (Remember his interesting program on the geology of the Three Sisters at our last potluck.)

Frank Riley, from Welches, Oregon, trucked his mules to Rebel Creek so he could pack us into the area. Many of you met him at Camp Carlson (Mt. Hood, 1954) or on previous trips into the Wilderness.

We traveled from the South Fork of the McKenzie River (elevation about 2000') up the Rebel Rock Trail to Rebel Rock Ridge (5354'). The 4½ mile trail led through a variety of flora found on wooded slopes, dry sunny hillsides, rocky ledges, springs, moist ravines, and along a rushing creek. With the increase in elevation it was interesting to watch the change in seasons from summer to spring time. Northwest of the 4 mile marker we found the sloping meadow with sagebrush (*Artemisia tridentata*) and its interesting plant associations. These xeric species growing with it or on the nearby rocks suggest that they are relicts of a former dry flora.

Camp was made among the trees on the ridge. To the east could be seen the high snow covered peaks of the "new" Cascades - Jefferson, North, Middle and South Sisters and Bachelor, and the lower peaks of the "old" Cascades as Olallie, Pyramid, and Rebel Peak. To the southeast was Diamond Peak, and to the west the peaks included Indian Ridge, Harvey Mt. and Death Ball.

(Continued on Page Four)

REBEL ROCK TRIP

(Continued from Page Three)

Saturday evening, Karl Onthank, president of the Friends of the Three Sisters Wilderness, Inc., presided at the campfire and introduced those present. Included were scientists from University of Oregon, Oregon State College, Portland State College, and Oregon College of Education; graduate students and teachers from Oregon, Washington and Nevada; naturalists, foresters, librarians, recreational directors, conservationists and children -- all lovers of the outdoors.

Sunday the leaders arranged trips of interest to Pyramid Mountain (5590'), Rebel Peak (5600') and Rebel Rock (next time take the ropes and climb the rock), Rebel Creek Swamp and Sheep Camp, ridge rock garden and U.S.F.S. lookout (built 1954) and the sagebrush meadows.

In the evening we had a never-to-be-forgotten electric storm over the Cascade peaks. From our vantage point we could see the storm move over the mountains to the east, hear the thunder and watch the lightning play over the not too distant peaks. We even saw smoke billowing up from a strike on Olallie Mt. and an unbelievable double rainbow (or was it triple as the inner arc was double). The storm passed, the wind dried the grass, the stars appeared and about the campfire that night was an astronomical discussion, conducted by Dr. Ruth Hopson.

The sunrises and sunsets were outstanding from the top of the ridge. People were up at 3:30 a.m. to watch Venus appear, the sun rise over the south shoulder of the Middle Sister and to marvel over the pre-dawn color.

Chairman Dale Carlson arranged leaders for groups to leave camp by various routes as Rebel Rock trail (the way in), Rebel Creek Trail, and Cascade Way. This Way, blazed by "Davy Crockett" Burwell proved most interesting with a lunch stop at Beehler Spring, and a trail (?) down a steep cliff with gorgeous flowers, madrone, rabbit brush, etc., to the South Fork road near Cascade Creek.

Thus ended a memorable trip in to our beloved Wilderness.

* * * * *

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

Dolores Jeppesen spent five days on various plane flights from Oslo, Norway, arriving in Eugene on June 28, for a long visit with her family. She embarked on Scandinavian airlines on a plane which became disabled and took her to Copenhagen,

THE WILDERNESS BILL

Bills to establish a National Wilderness Preservation System (discussed at the Conference on Northwest Wilderness at Portland in April) have been introduced in the Senate (S4013) by Senator Hubert H. Humphrey (Minn) co-sponsored by Senators Douglass (Ill), Wayne Morse and Richard Neuberger (Ore), Munk (SD), Duff (Pa), Kuchel (Calif), Lehman (NY), and Mrs. Smith (Maine) and in the House (HR 11703) by Rep. John F. Saylor (Pa) and others. By introducing identical bills, action can be speeded and, it is hoped, legislation enacted this session. The bills provide for establishing in the National Forests and National Parks as specific wilderness, those already so designated (or which may be designated) with provision for adding to them and properly safeguarded, reducing them. They would continue to be administered by the agency which has them now, but subject to this new legislation. This has been prepared after long study by national conservation leaders such as Howard Zahniser, the agencies concerned and members of Congress. Wilderness now has no legal status, is dependent wholly on administrative action. A more dependable status is obviously needed.

Obsidians wishing more information may obtain it from Frances Newsom, Ruth or Karl Onthank, or others who are actively engaged in conservation efforts. It is important that support of these bills be expressed soon to our own Congressmen, Hon. Harris Ellsworth, House of Representatives, and to Senators Morse and Neuberger; to Rep. John Saylor; to Rep. Clair Engle (Calif), Chairman of the House Comm. on Interior and Insular Affairs to which the bill was referred; to Mrs. Edith Green, a member of that committee. And in the Senate to: Senator Hubert H. Humphrey, Sen. James E. Murray, Chairman of the Comm. on Interior and Insular Affairs which has the Senate bill, and to any others where you can help. Get friends and relatives in other states to write to their Congressmen. Say you know about the bill, are for it and ask their support in getting it passed this season.

* * * * *

but eventually she reached Prestwick, Scotland, where she visited Robert Burns Memorial. On flight to Newfoundland, a most spectacular sight was the thousands of wild Rhododendrons blooming in Scotland. She will return to Norway August 19.

PROTECT THAT HERITAGE OR WATCH A CHANGE IN AMERICA'S OUTDOOR LIFE

Your ability to choose and seek your choice of entertainment on public lands is a very precious heritage. It is one that many are constantly attempting to eliminate and pass it all into private hands. Just think a bit as to what such a set-up would do for you. If you have not the means to pay admission or if you do not know the owners, or if you do not belong to one of the inevitable private organizations, YOU will be on the outside looking in. Every point of interest will be heavily commercialized and everything will be available for a price. It means, in fact, that the American way of life would be changed for the majority of us.

I read some alarming news in our local paper on June 28, 1956, that stated how a bill was introduced in Mid-March which would transfer, by so-called sales, Federal Lands to private ownership. This means that with all the lobbying and influence peddling by these and others, that certain ranchers, timber companies, mining companies, etc., would control and own, undoubtedly, all public lands of any value whatsoever. A few days later it was revealed that the Interior Department agreed with the proposed forest transfer. The gentleman who stated this favorable reaction was none other than good old Wesley A. D'Ewart, a big ranch man from Montana. He is the man in charge of public lands, appointed by Mr. McKay and approved by President Eisenhower in 1955. He is an enemy of public lands and has been for years. If you doubt this talk to some Montana folks who know the D'Ewart spread and especially its location to additional public lands. This last point is interesting as I will quote directly from the June 25, 1956, issue of the Guard "to provide that so far as practicable, such lands shall be disposed of in tracts of such size and numbers and under such terms and conditions as will best serve the purposes of the Federal Government, the State, and the general public, (this is a nice last statement to generally include everybody). Taking into consideration the predominant land needs, if such exist, (and they would) of present land owners in the vicinity of such lands...". Now I will quote from page 53 of Harper's Magazine for March, 1956, about Mr. D'Ewart. "In October, 1955, Secretary of the Interior

McKay named, and President Eisenhower approved, Wesley D'Ewart as Assistant Secretary of the Interior in charge of public-land management. This includes the Bureau of Indian Affairs, the National Park Service, Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Bureau of Land Management. D'Ewart is a stock-raiser and ex-representative from Montana. In 1947 he was a member of what the Denver Post called "Stockman Barrett's Wild West Show," the Subcommittee on Public Lands chaired by Congressman Frank Barrett of Wyoming which "investigated" the National Forests with an eye to putting up for sale whatever might be labeled "grazing lands" within those forests--pretty nearly everything but the peaks, as it turned out. In 1953 Secretary McKay denounced D'Ewart for sponsoring "giveaway" legislation. Yet two years later he put him in charge of conserving the same lands." "Oscar L. Chapman, former Secretary of the Interior, testifying before Senator Butler's Committee on tidelands legislation, said that he thought it 'would establish the pattern for the greatest giveaway program in the history of the world'."

Another matter which should be of grave concern to every outdoor person are some remarks in a speech made by W. F. McCulloch, Dean, School of Forestry, Oregon State College, which he gave to a Supervisor's Meeting in Portland, Oregon, March 28, 1956, copies of which were shelled out to forest managers, etc., throughout the Forest Industry. (I am told that the speech was not to have gone any further) The Dean started out with a civil trend, then he began making vicious, biased, and radical remarks about outdoor people as enemies of forest management as I will now reveal. Under a topic called "The Problem of Concentration of People", he spoke of "less obvious" results (he was getting at undesirable problems, so-called) I quote, "...one situation which resource managers will find increasingly difficult to tolerate is the ascendancy of the urban birdwatchers, the daffodil wing of nature-lovers. These often well-meaning town folk are self-styled experts in all phases of resource use...the theory is that if you shout loud enough you don't need to know anything about the subject...". He calls the outdoor people fanatic "preservers", conservation shouters, the single track recreationist"; he says that

(Continued on page Six)

emotion has been allowed to supercede reason, that "the urban conservation dogooders can see no connection between contour plowing and forest-fire control and conservation"Wow, how far off base can one in such a position become???

The Dean has made a relentless and vicious attack on all (including many in the forest industry) outdoor people; he has revealed that his idea of conservation is to cut everything of value; he states "It is the responsibility of those who know the facts in natural resource fields to educate those who do not."

He said a mouthful, and he also left out the large item of human value or value to humans of outdoor living for recreation.

Forestry at Oregon State is little more than fifty years old, and with the malignant depletion of forest lands apparent in our state and the entire country, those who claim to be in the know have little to show for their volumes of theory.

If you desire to read this speech in full, contact me; and any who can and will should write to John Richards, Chancellor, Oregon State System of Higher Education, Eugene, Oregon, and protest having such biased and rabid viewpoints expressed by a man in Dean McCulloch's position. He should be reprimanded, at least. You will be doing yourself, your State, and your Country, present and future, a favor.

J. Jeppesen

* * * * *

URGENT CONSERVATION NOTE

Congressional Record describes excessive oil & gas leases in wildlife refuges, granted while a dummy stop order threw conservationists off guard. I've asked copies be mailed to all Obsidians. You're then urged to write Interior Secretary Seaton supporting cancellation of leases. - Tracy Caldwell

TRAILINGS...Keith Newsom has achieved his Eagle Scout Award and is Counsellor at Melakwa Lake this summer - Jim is helping train the Plebes at West Point -- Frances was elected to Oregon Academy of Science.

A COUPLE OF GOOD MOTTOES

"You ain't learnin' nothin' when you're talkin'!"

OBSIDIANS, INC.

P. O. BOX 322

EUGENE, OREGON

B U L K R A T E

The eight who participated in the work at Paradise camp (the day of the tenderfoot climb on Thielsen) felt that the work accomplished was a good step in the preservation of one of our many fine camping spots. With a good genial foreman, Ralph Teters, and a perfect spring day, the work of cleaning up was "just a lark" for the always-outdoor Obsidians.

Unaware of what was happening on Thielsen, we ate our lunch at noon-time by the onrushing cold and pure waters of the beautiful McKenzie river -- 7 of us wishing for a taste of Gerry's open-fired "steak and potatoes."

Those on the trip: Thelma Watson, Blanche Bailey, Helen Hughes, Gerry Fehly, Jim Jeppesen, Art Johnson, Keith Brunig and Ray Sims.

* * * * *

HOW SOME OF OUR CASCADE MOUNTAINS RECEIVED THEIR NAMES

Compiled by Frances Newsom

The mountains the Obsidians climb have names familiar to us. Did you ever wonder how they received these names? Lewis A. McArthur's "Oregon Geographic Names", gives us the following information.

Oregon's highest mountain, Mt. Hood (11,253') was discovered on October 29, 1792 by Lt. William Robert Broughton, of Vancouver's command, and was seen from somewhere near the mouth of the Willamette. He honored this high snowy mountain with Lord Hood's name, as Mr. Hood had signed the original instructions for Vancouver's voyage. Lewis & Clark first saw Mt. Hood on October 18, 1805. Joel Palmer made one of the earliest attempts to climb the mountain on October 12, 1845. He was also a member of the party who made the first ascent in August 1854. The Mazamas were organized on the summit of Mt. Hood July 19, 1894.

Mt. Jefferson, the second highest peak in Oregon (10,495') was seen by Lewis & Clark on March 30, 1806 from a point near the mouth of the Willamette River and named by them in honor of Thomas Jefferson, President of the United States.

(To be continued in the August OBSIDIAN)

Blessed are they who go around in circles for they shall be called WHEELS.