



The OBSIDIAN



VOL.XVII

JANUARY 1957 - OBSIDIANS, INC.- P.O. BOX 322 - EUGENE, OREGON

NO. 1



OLD TIMERS' PARTY

Another famous Obsidian potluck is in the offing for Friday, January 25th, at the Plymouth House on East 13th St. The surprise of the evening will be to see some of the pictures of "those old time summer camps"...See Bailey at 25 years -- Thelma in a 1920 bathing suit, Dot & Elsie on their honeymoon, and what the well-dressed hiker wore when the Obsidians were new.

Bring your favorite dish and table service and we'll be looking for you at 6:30 p.m., Friday, Jan. 25th!

- WINTER CLIMB -

The tentative date for this year's winter climb, Three Fingered Jack, has been scheduled for February 23 and 24, and it will be an overnight camp in the snow.... Skis or snowshoes will probably be necessary by that time, in addition to other special equipment. A more exact description and equipment list will be announced later.

NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY MEETS

Friday, January 18th, 7:30 p.m., at 207 Chapman Hall on campus. There will be a short business meeting first - then at 8 p.m. Mr. Fremont McComb will speak on: "Indian Artifact Hunting in Southeastern Oregon", and will show slides taken on

(Continued on Page 2)

OUTDOOR FUN TO COME

JAN. 20 - Beach Trip - Overnight trip --- watch Register-Guard for more details - also sign-up sheet at Hendershott's. Lorena Shinn, Leader.

JAN. 27 - Old Baldy - A regular but always interesting - led by Mary Cavagnaro and Robin Jaqua.

FEB. 3 - Undecided.

FEB. 10 - Sweet Creek Homesteads and Goodlin Peak - out west of Eugene.....Gene Renard is our leader.

FEB. 17 - Winter McKenzie Trip - we'll drive as far as we can, then hike...or ski up the highway as far as we like, ...take pictures if we like....and just have fun - Bailey Castellote, leader.

WINTER OUTING COMING
There will be a Winter Outing the latter part of February. More details next month.

OUTSTANDING SPEAKER HERE

Dr. Paul B. Sears of Yale University, outstanding scientist and conservationist, will speak on the University Campus Tuesday and Thursday evenings, February 22nd and 24th. The program, as part of the Condon Lecture Series, is open to the public and anyone interested is urged to attend. Wednesday evening, February 23rd, Dr. Sears will be the guest and consultant

(Continued on Page 4)

DON'T FORGET OBSIDIAN PICTURE NIGHT AT FRIENDLY HOUSE, MONDAY, FEBRUARY 4

NOTICE !!!!!

Hereafter the list of officers and the Board of Directors will appear every other month; consult past issues for phone numbers when needed. J.J.

EDITOR'S CORNER

During the Holidays I heard several spot crusade programs cautioning for extreme care when on the highways. I couldn't help but think as I caught myself, just how many would leave it to the other fellow and take no heed.

The big "I"; nothing could happen to it! The magnitude of how important Mr. I has become is evidenced in other forms also. The trash along our highways, trails, in camps, lakes frequented by "sportsmen", and other defacement of property. These people obviously respect the rights of no one, not even themselves.

This passive and careless attitude of leaving troublesome and thought provoking problems to others affects us all privately and nationally and should cause concern.

Along this line of thought also enters selfishness. What's in it for me? How can I gain by this? How much nicer if perhaps the other fellow was considered and what would everyone gain, or lose, by "my" actions.

No one knows whether he or she will greet tomorrow and can only be sure of time past. How much nicer to feel that one would be remembered as kind and considerate rather than hard and thoughtless.

Jim Jeppesen

DUES YUE KNOW THAT DUES ARE DUE? IN FACT YUES MAY BE IN ARREARS.

SO TAKE THE CUE AND HEAR OUR CHEERS. Send to Bernice Lehrman, 364 E. Broadway, Apt. 9, Eugene, Oregon. Phone DI 5-1347.

NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY MEETS(Cont. from page 1)

several trips made in pursuit of his hobby. He will display some artifacts also.

On Sunday afternoon there will be a tour of the Museum of Natural History on the campus, at 2 p.m., with Dr. Arnold Shotwell, Curator, leading the group and directing their observations of the Indian artifacts displayed there. The public is invited to all these meetings.

PRINCESSES MEET

Obsidian Princesses will meet on Monday, January 21st, at 8:00 p.m., at the home of Charlotte Lemon, 1280 Mill St. (Princess Meadow Lark.)

OUR PRESIDENT SPEAKS

by Henry Carlson

You have probably noticed that people of our group are never wholly satisfied. This is not to be construed as meaning that they are dissatisfied but rather to mean that the group is not lethargic or standing still, that we are constantly striving for something which we believe to be better. This feeling is one that we have in common with all other active organizations.

Neither are the Obsidians unique in striving for more than one goal at a time. At the present there are several. We would like to have a new clubhouse, which goal seems to be coming increasingly within reach; we would like to have more members(as well as keeping those we have), which goal we expect to accomplish through the efforts of our membership committee and the members at large. There are other fields which are capably handled by other committees.

One of our greatest needs at this time is to have more of our members take a more active part. This statement isn't intended to cause you to feel that you aren't wanted because for one reason or another you may not find it possible to be active.

We very much appreciate your support by remaining members and it is partly because of this appreciation that we would like to see you at some of our social affairs, and trips and climbs and other activities.

There are those who have been members longer than the writer and others whose membership isn't of such lengthy standing whom the writer hasn't met and would like to meet at some Obsidian function. There are many other members who feel the same and often voice this desire.

As mentioned, it is realized that many of you have other affairs and interests that occupy your time and we are very happy to have you as members. Those of us who don't know you assume that you must be very fine people to see fit to help our aims by becoming and remaining members and for that one reason, we would like to meet you and become acquainted with you. Won't you try to make a point to come to one of our social affairs soon?

Also there is another group of members that we miss very much. They are the people that used to be at the forefront in Obsidian affairs and that we seldom see any more. We miss you as good friends and
(Continued on Page 3)

companions that we enjoy being with and for the added zest it would give you to be with us more.

Can't you find time to come a little more frequently? You don't realize how much you are missed and how often some member expresses his or her wish to see you. It would probably surprise you to know that you are that person who is missed. Please come a little more often.

LOST AND FOUND

FOUND: One child's red and blue cordoroy striped jacket at the Christmas Party.

One wooden candle stick from the Christmas Party.

One gold earring set with aqua gems at Plymouth House.

These items may be claimed at Natalie's or phone DI 4-9388.

LOST: Mrs. Harold V. Melchert lost her Chemeketan jacket on the North Sister, on Sept. 23, 1956, somewhere above Sunshine Shelter. She says it is a red and blue check with a Thunderbird emblem, zipper front and wool. Will pay postage. Address: 420 N. 19th St., Salem, Oregon.

DAVID SIMON'S PICTURES

Fifty Obsidians and friends enjoyed seeing David Simon's pictures of the Glacier Peak limited area during the Christmas holidays.

Dave, a student at Stanford and a recent member of our club, was sent last summer by the Sierra Club to the Lake Chelan area to take pictures and do some map making. His pictures are fine, both the colored slides and still shots, and the maps he has made give a very detailed description of the locale. We greatly appreciated Dave's giving up an evening of his vacation to us - for we who attended certainly enjoyed every minute of it!

CLUB BOOKS FOR LOAN

Bob Medill, Historian, reports that the club has the following books for loan to responsible members:

WESTERN WILD FLOWERS by Margaret Armstrong
BIRDS OF WESTERN CANADA by Taverner
WESTERN FLOWER GUIDE by Saunders
WILD FLOWERS OF PACIFIC COAST by Haskin
FOREST TREES OF PACIFIC SLOPE by
Sudworth of Dept. of Agriculture
FIELD BOOK OF ROCKS & MINERALS by Loomis

Sounds like good reading!

If interested, contact Bob at RI 6-2908.

TRAILINGS

...Dale Carlson again has been asked to be chairman of the Friends of the Three Sisters Committee, which entails the planning of the 4th summer expedition.

...No wonder we've been missing the Northrop's at our latest doings...they've been wielding paintbrushes on their NEW house (soon to be moved into) on E. 30th. ...We wish to extend our sympathy to Bernie Lehrman at the death of her mother during the holidays.

...Not only is our Myrtle Smith an artist of ability, but also the champion of this year's Liar's Contest. The sterling trophy is hers, but the memory of that whopper will live forever!

...Keith Newsom is a finalist in the National Merit Scholarship competition and will be among 7500 students competing for 700 scholarships to be awarded in April. Good luck, Keith!

...On the clear day of Jan. 6, Doris, Jim and Ray Sims climbed Spencer Butte. The Three Sisters were beautiful with their deep mantles of snow. (Some of which George Korn could use!)

...Bob Lemon was recently appointed to the State Board of Accountancy.

...Christmas time is coming-home time... Lorena Shinn spent five days of her Christmas vacation with family and friends in Indiana.

...Jim Newsom, first classman at West Point, returned to Eugene for the holiday season much to the delight of family and friends.

...Dr. James Kezer spent Christmas holidays in Louisiana and returned with live salamander specimens. We're looking forward to another of his interesting lectures.

...Christmas Day found Ruth and Karl Onthank climbing Spencer Butte before dinner. Nothing like a good hike to whet the appetite, is there? Right now, they are combining a business and pleasure trip and enjoying some California sunshine.

...Ray Cavagnaro, who is business office manager of Sacred Heart Hospital, was recently elected Secretary-Treasurer of the Willamette Valley Council of the Oregon Assn. of Hospitals.

...Mike Stahl announces his daughter Beth's engagement to William F. Hall of Oakridge. She is senior at Springfield High School, he in the U.S. Navy, stationed at Long Beach, California. They will be married in February.

OUTSTANDING SPEAKER HERE(Cont. from P.1)
at a dinner at the Student Union given by
the Friends of the Three Sisters Wilder-
ness Council.

WILDERNESS CONFERENCE

Remember the Wilderness Conference to
be held in San Francisco Friday & Satur-
day, March 15 & 16. Outstanding Conserva-
tion leaders from around the country will
be present. The main theme is "A Wilder-
ness Protective System" - Make plans NOW
to attend!

CHRISTMAS TREE TRIP

The Christmas Tree trip on Dec. 16th
was led by Paul Buckner and the fine group
of 23 journeyed to McKenzie Bridge, found
a beautiful sunny day, and were met by
John Pervich of the Forest Service. They
all went on to White Branch where cutting
of small trees was permitted. It was a
real pleasure to have Mr. Pervich with the
group as he explained the practice of these
small cuttings to allow new trees to grow
continually, and it would be well if the
club took more of these Forest Service su-
pervised trips.

LOOKOUT POINT DAM

Gene Renard was leader on Jan. 6th, to
Lookout Point Dam and Reservoir, and a
good group of 29 Obsidians and guests en-
joyed a very interesting guided tour. The
trip through the dam and powerhouse made
everyone realize that it was not just a
"big block of concrete." It ended with
a picnic lunch at one of the county park
landings on the North shore. Gene then
took the group on another half mile where
much driftwood and three Indian arrows
were found.

80 ATTEND CHRISTMAS PARTY

With a definitely pink motif carried
out in the decorations, and candles light-
ing every table, the annual Christmas Par-
ty given by the Obsidian Princesses and
the Entertainment Committee couldn't have
been more delightful. Nearly 80 people
were in attendance, counting the children
and Santa(who had a vague resemblance to
Bob Medill). After the delicious eats
were consumed, the program was presented
by Clarence Scherer. Accordion solos by
the Pietka family members, Nina Harmon,
Jim Dotson, and a rousing duet by Mike
Forrester and Chester; piano solos by
Karen Guldager and Terry Hamlin(Karen on
the accordion also); and the movie "The
Littlest Angel" shown by Dot Dotson. Ches-
ter led the singing of Christmas Carols
and the program came to a grand finale
when Santa arrived and gave gifts to all
the children present.

(Continued on Page 5)

LEADERSHIP SCHOOL

This year, in addition to the usual
climbing school, the Climbing Committee
is adding a more advanced school on lead-
ership. It is hoped this school will pro-
vide training for new leaders and a re-
freshers for experienced leaders.

Several indoor discussion periods will
be conducted informally to give all those
attending an opportunity to express their
own views relating to leadership.

The indoor discussions are desirable
but not mandatory for all who will be lead-
ing future parties. However, the Climbing
Committee feels that it will be necessary
for all leaders of this year's climbs to
attend at least two outdoor sessions. We
hope this will insure us a safe and en-
joyable climbing season.

The tentative schedule for the leader-
ship school is as follows:

Wed. Mar. 6 (Indoor) - Philosophy and re-
sponsibility of leadership.

Wed. Mar. 13(Indoor) - Group control,
route finding, planning, timing, pace,
etc.

Wed. Mar. 20(Indoor) - Emergency technique.

Wed. Mar. 27(Indoor) - Technique of rope
work.

Sun. Apr. 7(Outdoor)- Dynamic belaying.

Sun. Apr. 14(Outdoor)- Rockwork for lead-
ers.

Sat. Apr. 20(Outdoor)- Rockwork for lead-
ers.

The indoor meetings will be at 8 p.m.
in the Erb Memorial Union Bldg. The time
and place of the outdoor sessions will be
announced later. All meetings will be
open to anyone interested in attending.

Tom Taylor

- CLIMBING SCHOOL -

The regular Climbing School should start
in late spring following the leader's
school and will continue through the sum-
mer on various weekends. For some par-
ticular climbs, attendance at climbing
school will be mandatory in lieu of suf-
ficient experience.

Tom Taylor

NEW YEAR'S EVE FUN

The good old Obsidian New Year Spirit was
revived this season. Pete and Hanna Skov-
bo are such hospitable people and invited
our club to gather on New Year's Eve in
the loft of their barn. A bright electric
star atop the barn welcomed us as we em-
erged from the fog, and upstairs, Kay
Faye and her committee had wrought mira-
cles with many colored streamers and bril-
liant balloons. Games, dances, and stunts

(Continued on Page 5)

CHRISTMAS PARTY(Cont. from page 4)

We were very pleased to have so many out of town members present: Margaret Hines and Vina Amort from Corvallis, The Beamans (four) from Albany, The Bankses(four) from Salem, Solvig Carlson from California, and Jim Newsom from West Point, N.Y.

NEW YEAR'S EVE(Continued from Page 4)

kept everyone guessing, tripping, and performing. Flashlight bulbs popped as they made a permanent record of embarrassing moments. Mountains of sandwiches and cookies, pickles, coffee, and punch - tin horns - fancy paper hats - cries of "Happy New Year - and oh, yes, the famous LIAR'S CONTEST - won this year by our own Myrtle Smith with her innocent tale of two big mosquitoes - just everything we needed to complete a rousing evening! The New Year was almost an hour old before we sang Auld Lang Syne and groped our way through the fog to Home, Sweet Home.

Roxie Waldorf

REMEMBER THE 1945 CAMP?

by Ray Sims

Do you remember the year 1945? It was a memorable year for many and for many reasons. It was the year of gas rationing for us all. For that reason the Summer Camp Committee announced at the Annual New Year's Party(traditional gesture)that the outing would be held close to home. The 1928 campsite, Obsidian Camp, was chosen, with a total registration of 66. This camp has been voted many times as the center of activity in the Three Sisters Area, and many would like to repeat. Remember, too, that was the year many of us became acquainted with Ned Graves, Western Representative for the Nat. Parks Assn, and also learned a thing or two about taking colored slides. Ned had been delegated to the job of preparing a set of slides to be placed in the Library of Congress from all wilderness areas and our National Parks and Monuments. I prize highly a set of these slides taken by Ned in our own Three Sisters area, as do others. And so it was that Camp Sipe remains in our memories as one of the outstanding camps. Remember the trip to the Husband, the climb and then the dip in Husband Lake with the threatening clouds all around? Within minutes a terrific roar, lightning, thunder and rain. Passing through a clump of trees, lightning struck, throwing limbs, and split pieces of wood six feet long around the party of climbers but narrowly missing us all. The trees burned in the stiff wind, but we waited until it was out. The party headed

(Continued on Page 6)

ANNUAL BIRD COUNT

The 57th annual bird count, conducted by members of the Natural History Society, and others was held December 30th. Birds were recorded at Fern Ridge, Hendrick's Park, Spencer Butte, and territory within a 15 mile radius of Eugene. 88 species of birds were counted. Leaders were Lawrence Daggett and Ben Pruitt.

ROUTE "F" TUNNEL TRIP

Twenty one people went out on Sunday, Nov. 11, 1956, to inspect the work on the Route "F" tunnel. Under the authorization of the Contractor, John Quiner II, Oregon State Highway Dept., took leader Jim Jeppesen and Margaret Markley, Henry Carlson, Joanne Quiner, John Quiner, Dorothy Quiner, two Quiner daughters, George Hermach and his four boys, Kenneth Lodewick, J. H. Jeppesen, Anna Jeppesen, Ray Cavagnaro, Mary Cavagnaro, Inez Cummings, Lorena Shinn, into the tunnel to view the "diggings".

We had a beautiful day of sunshine over on the other side of the summit. The temperature was warm enough for everyone to enjoy eating their lunch in the open.

Just after we finished eating, the workmen cautioned us to remain inside the cars while they blew some rock on the road approach. Those of us who stood behind the cars ducked quickly when the rock went into the air, although it was far enough away to be safe. Henry Carlson broke all records for entering automobiles, too.

We then walked up to the tunnel and encountered some sandstone mud created by the broken rock and drilling, etc. On the way in we could inspect the heavy wooden timbering used to shore the inside. A little over 400 feet in we were against the face. It was neatly cleaned and left for the weekend with shoring right up to it. John Quiner II said under actual progress the face and shoring did not look as safe as this.

Due to the 6% uphill grade, many fumes are collected in the tunnel. These were somewhat unpleasant. During work a large blower forces in fresh air, but even with this the typical working day is worse than what we smelled.

After many questions were asked and answered, we returned to the cars and home, encountering the fog near Blachly.

Jim Jeppesen

LAND-USE STUDY TO BE MADE OF WALDO LAKE
In answer to an inquiry by the Conservation Committee, Robert Aufderheide, Forest Supervisor, Willamette National Forest
(Continued on Page 6)

LAND-USE STUDY(Continued from page 5)

est, writes in a recent letter: "Waldo Lake and immediate vicinity is now classified as a 'limited area.' At a recent conference with Regional Forester Stone, a decision was made to complete a land-use study of this area prior to making any decisions affecting the area. We hope to receive funds for this study next fiscal year.

"...On the basis of existing knowledge, we think the area should be classified as a recreational area, developing the east side of the lake with a road and leaving the west side undeveloped. However, we now intend to make the land-use study first and will delay all development until that is completed."

The Conservation Committee also wrote Asst. Secretary of Agriculture Peterson, urging retention of present boundaries of the Three Sisters Primitive Area as a Wilderness Area. A reply was received from John Sieker, Chief, Div. of Recreation and Land Uses, in which he says in part: "Assistant Secretary Peterson has asked us to answer your letter of Nov. 28 ...We appreciate receiving your views on this important land-use question and assure you that they will be carefully considered in arriving at the decision.

"The Secretary has been studying all of the public resources and values in the Three Sisters area and as soon as he is convinced that all of these have been properly evaluated he will make his decision concerning this area."

M.M.



SCIENCE NOTES...Wild Mushrooms

Are you one of those folks who take delight in the delicate flavor of mushrooms with your steaks or other food? If so, you should become acquainted with some of the many species of "wild mushrooms" that abound in the Oregon forests, and can be had for the picking and carrying home. Above is a sketch of one which you have undoubtedly seen, on some trip in the woods. It grows in great masses on well-rotted logs. It consists of numberless downward pointing teeth, and is ivory or pale cream in color. Its name is quite descriptive: Hydnum coralloides. It could not possibly be mistaken for any poisonous species. Of course, this is only one of the many edible fungi. Taking home some of these will add gastronomic enjoyment to aesthetic thrill from views of lonely mountain peaks. Science Comm.

Illustrations in this issue by Myrtle Smith.

1945 CAMP(Continued from page 5)

for camp, where a good roaring campfire was cherished. The second week, remember listening to Hugh Currin as he arrived back from the telephone at Sunshine Shelter? He brought word that the WAR HAD ENDED, and that was the day that I edited a REAL camp newspaper. When we hiked out to Frog Camp, after two wonderful weeks, cars were going down the highway "like mad" - the war was over - speed limit off!

NOTES FROM THE BOARD MEETINGS by Jim Jeppesen

Our Treasurer reports a balance in checking account of \$1174.31. She had a check for \$11 as refund on cost of Camp booklets with request that this be credited to the Dorr Hamlin Memorial Fund.

Two new members in Dec. were Kenneth Lodewick & Kent Gill. Welcome, Gentlemen.

It was brought up that a meeting to be held in Portland vicinity on the 15th of Jan. in conjunction with the Forest Service is one at which future policies regulating mountain climbing will be discussed. This meeting could have far-reaching effects. Possible representatives - Doc Boyle, Tom Taylor, Joe Daniel.

The new policies of the Conservation Committee are as follows:

1. To obtain accurate information on conservation matters.
2. To inform members of the club and the public on conservation.
3. To take appropriate action in accordance with club policy on matters of conservation interest.

The conservation work of the Committee will be non-partisan. It is requested that all conservation material for the Bulletin be routed to the Chairman of the Conservation Committee for editing.

Lengthy discussion, as yet unfinished, pertaining to structure of Search & Rescue Committee revealed objections as to possible member acquisition. More later.

Motion made, after Building Committee report, was as follows: ...to list the lot with Guske Bros. for 6 months exclusive, for \$25,000 with privilege of changing price every 60 days and to authorize one of the comm. members(Gene Sebring) to sell lot for \$25,000.

In the interests of all club members a resolution, which it is hoped, will affect future club structure in committees, recommends a maximum of two committees for any one member. Sorry-no room for full text

OBSIDIANS, INC. - P.O.BOX 322, EUGENE, ORE.

B U L K R A T E