



# The OBSIDIAN



VOL. XVIII

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NO. 9

## Here Are The Trips for Winter

Ray Cavagnaro's trips committee has outlined a set of trips to take us into February. Tentatively, here is the list:

Dec. 14 -- Christmas trees and greenery.

Dec. 21 -- Open date right before the holidays. CHRISTMAS PARTY, 5 PM, WASH. ST. RECREATION CENTER (See Page 5).

Dec. 28 -- An afternoon romp up Spencer Butte with Dorothy Ruse as leader.

Jan. 4 -- A ski trip into Rosary Lakes, east of Willamette Ski Area with Jane Hilt.

Jan. 11 -- A Donn Chase chase. In other words some kind of trip with Donn Chase.

Jan. 18 -- Into the Mohawk area with Leo Paschelke.

Jan. 25 -- Somewhere at the beach for a trip led by Merle and Blanche Bailey who will come up from Salem for the occasion.

## A Big One For February?

Ray says the committee talked about a bus trip to the new Bachelor Ski area for some time in February. Similarly Mike Stahl, outing committee chairman, and Tom Taylor who knows a lot about that country have been thinking about Bachelor for a winter outing.

That would give us either two trips to the Century Drive area in winter, or perhaps one combined trip. Those who climbed Bachelor on the Fourth of July weekend a year ago know what a terrific view one gets to the north and west of Broken Top and the Sisters. Think of what it must look like from there in winter! The committees also know that bus trips are precarious. Sometimes everybody who said he'd go doesn't show up. Thus if a bus trip is planned, plans (meaning money on the line) must be firm.

## Jim Jeppesen Is New President

Jim Jeppesen is new president of the Obsidians, as the result of a pair of elections earlier in the fall. The membership voted for a board of directors, and the board picked the officers.

Tom Taylor is vice president. Mildred Ball will serve as secretary, and Lillian Johnson will again serve as treasurer.

The nine-member board of directors includes the above four and Karl Onthank, Ray Sims, Lorena Shim, Ray Cavagnaro and Mike Stahl. Lorena, Mildred, Mike, Tom, and Ray Cavagnaro were elected to the board this year. Ray Sims, Karl, Jim and Lillian are holdover members.

## Movie Next Week

"The Mountains Don't Care," a movie by Bob and Ira Spring, the famous Washington mountaineering photographers, will be shown at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Dec. 17 in the basement assembly room of the Register Guard. Club members are urged to attend.

Gene Sebring, chairman of search and rescue, has arranged for the film which he says is an excellent presentation of the hazards of mountain adventure by the amateur.

## Christmas Tree Trip

The 1958 Christmas tree trip will leave from the Park Blocks at 1 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 14. Bob Northrop will lead the group to the Chester Goodman tree farm above Vida. There they will get a look at an "orchard" of Christmas trees commercially developed. Chester Goodman, operator of the farm, will conduct the tour.

An axe or saw will come in handy for those picking out trees for themselves. Club members who use this trip to get the family tree should be prepared to pay a small charge.

## THE OBSIDIAN BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Committee Chairmen,  
Members Picked

President Jim Jeppesen DI 5-3028  
 Vice-President Tom Taylor DI 3-3237  
 Secretary Mildred Ball  
 Treasurer Lillian Johnson DI 5-6338

Board Members: The above and Karl Onthank, Mike Stahl, Ray Cavagnaro, Lorena Shinn and Ray Sims.

Editor: Bob Frazier, DI 5-1551 or 5-6000

Nine New Members  
 Join Obsidians

The club is richer by nine new members, some of whom have been out with the club many times. They are:

LARRY HILT. He was on the "climb" that didn't pan out last year when the weather failed to cooperate for Broken Top, and also on Green Lakes and Waldo trips.

ROBERT NICHOLSON. He's climbed Hood, McLaughlin, Diamond, the North Sister and Thielsen with us.

ANNA LOIS MILLS. Call her Lois. She was on a number of fall trips, including Waldo, the Loop, Santiam to McKenzie and the Parks.

JAMES RICHARDSON. He's an old-timer now having climbed Jack, the North, South, Middle, Jefferson and Hood.

HOLLIS OXLEY. He was along on climbs of the Middle, Thielsen, North and Diamond.

STAN DARLING, JR. Stan started with us this year and did the South first, then the Middle and Thielsen.

STEVE HADLEY. Steve has done the North, Middle, Washington and Thielsen.

KITTY LOU SHAW. She's been with us many times for many years. Among her climbs are the North, Middle, South, Hood Diamond and Thielsen.

HERRICK HUDSON. Herrick, a junior member, climbed the Husband and went on several trips, including Red Top, Castle Rock and Mt. June.

Obsidian committees are just about in shape now. Following is an incomplete list, with the chairman listed first:

Conservation: Karl Onthank and Douglas Spencer, Jim Kezer, Bayard McConnaughey, Mike McCloskey, Frances Newsom, Dwight Berreman, Doris Sims, Helen Hughes, Jim Jeppesen, Mozelle Hair, Jane Hilt, Frank Sipe, Gene Renard and Dale Carlson.

Trips: Ray Cavagnaro and Bob Northrop, Margaret Markley, Thelma Watson, Adeline Adams, and Gene Renard.

Membership: Kay Fahy and Blanche Bailey, Lillian Johnson, Art Johnson and Natalie Morgan.

Search and Rescue: Gene Sebring, and a committee to be selected.

Scientific: Frances Newsom and Jim Stovall, Mary Douglas Stovall, Jim Kezer, Frank Sipe, Catherine Dunlop.

Outing: Mike Stahl and Louis Waldorf and one to be selected.

Climbing: Lorena Shinn and Tom Taylor, Bob Nicholson, Jim Jeppesen, Frank Jones and Dwight Berreman.

Entertainment: Jane Hilt and Anna Jeppesen, co-chairmen, and Gerry Fehly, Olga Mortensen, Ray Sims, Bob Medill, Roxie Waldorf, Florence Fulton, Helen Kilpatrick, Lorena Shinn, Myrtle Smith, and Ken Lodewick (in charge of Friendly House Pic Nites).

Young Activities: Tom Taylor and a committee to be selected.

Historical and Library: Dorothy Ruse, Helen Kilpatrick and Helen Weiser.

Building: George Hermach and Hollis Oxley, Art Steele, Tom Taylor, Bob Medill, and Glen Sims.

Publications: Bob Frazier and Mary Castelloe, Ray Sims and Keith Brunig.

!!! Have you paid your dues? !!!

An Initial Statement  
From the New President

I was pleasantly surprised when I was elected president of Obsidians, Inc., for the coming year.

Our club has great potential and I plan to do my part in carrying it through the year with some favorable results that can be credited to all those who participated in the club's administration during the year.

We are a great group of people and we have many pleasant memories and experiences to share with one another. To further our greatness I believe that the following points would be to our advantage:

1 To create interest and encourage more individual participation in club matters and activities -- especially those heretofore not participating.

2 We have excellent committee chairmen and committees to give you an active year. I believe that enthusiasm begins at that level.

3 To appeal to newcomers we must first appeal to ourselves through greater harmony and understanding.

4 That to be known we must be heard of, which involves getting comments in the papers and other media at the opportune time. These should be clear, concise, correct and to the point. Where announcements are made they should be carried out as stated, especially for the impression upon strangers who may attend.

In closing I wish to extend to all my best wishes for the coming holidays and for the coming year.

Jim Jeppesen

To Air Force

Pat Stahl has joined the Air Force. For a while her address will be A/B Patricia C. Stahl, AA8-406-434, Box 1529 Flt. #49, Lackland AFB, Texas. Pat's last official Obsidian function was earning her 10-peak award on Jefferson.

Obsidians Represented  
At Wilderness Bill Hearings

Early on the morning of Nov. 7 a group left Eugene to attend the Wilderness Bill hearings at Bend. Attending were Karl Onthank (FWOC), Jim Jeppesen (Obsidians), Dr. Jim Kezer (scientific), Dr. Sandy Tupper (Sierra Club), Mrs. Katherine Noyes (Sierra Club), Mozelle Hair (Obsidians), and from up-river Prince Helfrich who made an excellent extemporaneous presentation inspired by preceding comments. A group of students from Blue River Union High School also spoke in support of the bill.

The date and place made it impossible for all but a few working people to attend. The majority represented logging and lumber companies and organizations, lumber products organizations, forest industry organizations, sheepmen, cattlemen, mining organizations, irrigation organizations, and the Indians whose inclusion in the bill is optional.

It boiled down to the fact that lumbering, mining, grazing and irrigation interests are anti-conservation of this type. They presented their basic arguments on economics which appeared to sound convincing but not infallible. Some made excellent presentations but with so many misstatements that it was obvious they did not know the contents of the bill.

Lasting impressions were:

1. Unless we speak up, passage of the bill faces a tough battle.

2. Many opponents of the bill did not oppose existing areas, but opposed the expansion of present ones and creation of new ones.

3. Those from the Olympic peninsula lamented the park there as "something you have to live with."

What can be done? It may not be too late to write in favor of the bill to Hon. James E. Murray, chairman of the committee on interior and insular affairs, Room 224, Senate Office Bldg., Washington, D.C.

-- Jim Jeppesen

### Obsidian Chiefs Initiate Three

Eighteen were present at Chief Little Jeff's cabin Saturday evening, November 22nd, on Horse Creek in the McKenzie Bridge district for the 1958 chief's initiation.

The initiation of three new chiefs was held during the evening and a little splitting of wood took place the next morning and all returned home before noon. None went on the scheduled trip to Castle Rock.

The three new chiefs are Frank Jones (Chief Fizzle), Frank Moore (Chief Moose Watcher), Jim Richardson (Chief Fire Fighter).

Others attending were Chiefs Smoketurner, Paintbrush, Broken Top, Hoot Owl, Smokey, Posey, Big Stick, Lookout, Eagle Scout, Thunder, Bantam, Sea Gull, Little Jeff, Ab Dulla and Wah.

To show the ingenuity of Obsidian chiefs Smokey and Wah driving down from Salem and Albany had not been notified that the ceremony was not to be at the Belknap Camp. But after a few phone calls, in they walked, only a few minutes late.

-- Ray Sims

### The Obsidian Name

Several times last summer around camp fires the question was asked about the name "Obsidian." Everybody seemed to understand that the club was named for the rock which is found in the Sisters region and which is hard. But how was the rock named?

Pliny, the Roman naturalist and writer who lived around the beginning of the Christian era, provides an answer. There was a man of Rome named Obsidius (perhaps Obsius) who traveled and brought back the wonders of the world. One of them was a hard, shiny rock he found in Ethiopia. So it was named for him.

!!! Have you paid your dues? !!!!!

### 25 Princesses Initiate Three

25 princesses held their annual initiation ceremony Saturday and Sunday, Oct-18-19. Three new princesses are Blanche Bailey (Singing Waters), Marjorie Beaman (Golden Slippers) and Jane Hilt (Silver Birch).

President Helen Hughes officiated. New officers besides Helen are Beverly Lindley, vice-president, and Mildred Ball, secretary-treasurer.

Other princesses at the ceremony were:

Adeline Adams (White Heron), Mildred Ball, (Blue Spruce), M. Castelloe (Orange Blossom), Bertha Deckmann (Penstemon), Elsie Dotson (Dawn), Myrtle Hamlin (Drifting Cloud), Helen Hughes (Melody), Arlene Keasling (Alpine Glow), Charlotte Lemon (Meadow Lark), Margaret Markley (Rainbow-on-the-Fog), Nellie McWilliams (Lightning), Olga Mortensen (Golden Butterfly), Frances Newsom (Alpine Phlox), Lorena Shinn (Alpine Fir), Florence Sims (Blue Water), Doris Sims (White Dove), Helen Smith (Moon Dancer), Thelma Watson (Pine Tree), Helen Weiser, (Goldenrod), Margaret Benston (Red Feather), and Catherine Dunlop (Ollalie).

The November princess meeting was at the home of Arlene Keasling. Arlene showed pictures from the trip to Europe from which she and Ernie returned this fall.

The Christmas party will be at the home of Adeline Adams, 1939 Alder, Monday, Dec. 15th, 8 P.M. There will be gift exchange.

-- Mary Castelloe

### People You Know

MIKE McCLOSKEY who is out of the service and home to stay.

GREGG BRUNIG who has enlisted in the Navy and is now undergoing boot training at San Diego.

MARY CAVAGNARO who is recovering at her home from surgery.

BRUCE JOHNSON who is married and living at 1474½ W. 6th. Phone DL-5-2819

## Christmas Party December 21

It's that time again and another Obsidian Christmas Party has been planned for Dec. 21, the Sunday before Christmas. It will be at the Washington St. Recreation Center, beginning at 5 p.m.

Bring cookies, sandwiches or salad and your own table service. Parents who care to bring their own small children should bring presents for THEM and them only - with the child's name on the present. In other words each parent brings a present for his own child.

Aside from that here's how it stacks up on the work end:

Santa Claus --- Clarence Scherer.

Coffee maker --- Henry Carlson.

Serving --- Catherine Dunlop, Roxie Waldorf and Mary Castellloe.

Decorating --- Myrtle Smith, Gerry Fehly and Bob Medill.

Punch bowl --- Lorena Shinn and Mildred Ball.

Serving Coffee --- Florence Fulton and Helen Kilpatrick.

Program --- Virginia Sebring, who will get in touch with parents of small children to arrange a Christmas program.

Carols --- Anna Jeppesen will lead the singing and will get somebody to do a reading or a poem.

Anna Jeppesen and Jane Hilt, as chairmen of the entertainment committee, worked out the general plan of the party.

## January Party

The January party will be a potluck at 6:30 p.m. Jan. 24 at Skinner's Butte Center. Drs. Fred and Marion Miller, of the U. of O. will show slides taken on their recent trip around the world. Jane Hilt says that it may be necessary that there be another program featuring the Millers' world tour.

## Scientific Committee Plans for Big Year

Frances Newsom's scientific committee has big plans. Among them are these:

To help Frank Sipe get a natural area established in the Iron Mountain region. Hopefully, the committee will arrange a spring trip there.

To help Jim Kezer get a natural area established around the Gold Lake bog.

To arrange with Phil Brogan of Bend for a trip somewhere in Central Oregon. Last year a trip was scheduled but had to be called off because of Phil's vacation.

To work with the outing committee on the summer camp area, probably Mt. Rainier. The committee will try to arrange scientific exhibits at the camp and to provide for scientific leadership for campfires. An attempt will be made to get useful publications in advance for study by those who intend to go to the camp and for the members who are at the camp.

To continue to work on scientific bibliographies started a year ago, especially as they apply to our Three Sisters area.

To continue bird identification work, and to participate in the annual bird count for the Audubon Society Dec. 28.

To participate, as individuals, in the meeting of the Oregon Academy of Science at Oregon State College Dec. 29 and 30. Frances has the program for this meeting.

## Bird Count Dec. 28

Many Obsidians are expected to help in the annual count of birds Dec. 28. Some will have brought themselves up to date by attending Ben Pruitt's "What Bird Is That" lecture at the University Dec. 12.

Meeting place will be at Frances Newsom's home, 708 E. 11th Ave. This is a function of the Eugene Natural History Society which does the count for the Audubon Society. Either Ben or Frances can supply details for club members wishing to participate.

### Climbing Committee Busy Despite Winter

It may be December and June may be a long way off, but the climbing committee is planning and probably dreaming a bit of the glories of summer in Oregon.

It's time to mend the nets, so members plan to make an inch-by-inch inspection of club ropes which are too important to take for granted.

Also we need more ropes. Lorena Shinn, committee chairman, will be in Spokane to spend Christmas with Doris. She'll come back via Seattle, stopping at the co-op to pick up two ropes and four axes in the club name.

What about axes? The few the club owns are in poor shape. The board of directors is talking about operating a limited rent service for such things as axes and maybe snowshoes. Crampons were ruled out because of the problem of fit and the infrequency with which they are used.

Climbing school plans, indoor and outdoor, are also being advanced.

With only one long weekend next year, because Fourth of July and Memorial Day both fall on Saturdays, the club may be more limited this time in scheduling the longer climbs. Lorena says popular demand seems to be that Jefferson be done on Labor Day again. There is interest in doing it this time from the Jeff Park side.

About winter climbs, plans are still in the germ stage, and no climb will be on the schedule until probably February at the earliest. There has been talk of The Bachelor and of Broken Top. (Lorena led the Broken Top climb last September that was turned back because of ice on the rock.) Or, it is possible, Three Fingered Jack will be attempted again in the winter.

The committee will work with Search and Rescue on disposition of club equipment. It is an unfortunate fact that when such rescue equipment as ropes is likely to be needed, the climbers will probably be out on a climb -- with the stuff.

### Two Possibilities For Winter Outing

Mike Stahl, outing chairman, has appointed Lloyd Plaisted and Gene Sebring as a subcommittee to work out winter outing plans. Two ideas are under consideration.

If there is a John Craig Memorial Ski race across the McKenzie Pass this year, it is possible that the outing could be up on the McKenzie, with some outing participation in the race.

But there may not be a race. If there is to be one it will require the cooperation of one or both of the ski clubs in the area. And their members seem to feel that too few persons, these days of ski lifts, are interested in anything as rugged as cross country skiing. And it is doubtful if there are enough competent cross-country skiers in the Obsidians to make the historic race a success.

(Incidentally if there is a race, the Oregon Centennial people are interested in it as a centennial event.)

If there is no Craig race, the thinking runs to a winter outing in the Bachelor area, perhaps in conjunction with a February bus trip by the trips group, perhaps independently.

More on this next month.

### Rainier Is Likely For 1959 Summer Camp

Club opinion leans heavily toward Mt. Rainier National Park for next summer's outing, according to Outing Chairman Mike Stahl. He and Louis Waldorf are looking into it.

If the camp is there, Mike says, it may be at the Yakima Camp Ground, an easy day of driving from Eugene and not a difficult jaunt for weekenders. Mike and Louis plan to scout the area thoroughly over the 4th of July weekend.

If the camp is there, a climb likely will be scheduled. However, this is no climb for beginners. Club rules plus the strict park rules will limit the climb.

### Library Files To Hold Mountaineering Periodicals

Hereafter copies of the Western Outdoor Quarterly of FWOOC, the Sierra Club Bulletin, Living Wilderness, and publications of other clubs will be filed in the Obsidian library for reference by members. Librarian Dorothy Ruse will work on this.

Helen Kilpatrick will clip newspapers and take care of the club scrapbook.

And who has the green filing case that belongs to the club? It contains records the library and history committee needs.

Also, does anybody have a complete file of bulletins belonging to the club. Several members may have personal bulletin files that are complete or near complete, but how about the official files?

### Flames Destroy Old Mazama Lodge

Fire destroyed Mazama Lodge, familiar to many Obsidians, early Dec. 4. The fire, blamed on faulty wiring, broke out about 8:45 a.m. It was ashes before fire fighting equipment could arrive from the USFS guard station.

The lodge which was built in 1931 was valued at \$35,000, of which insurance is expected to cover only about \$20,000. The lodge cost \$8,000 to build, largely with volunteer labor and donated materials.

Mrs. Ruth Rietsma, mother-in-law of the caretaker, died of a heart attack after hurrying to the ranger station to report the fire.

Many Mazamas who had personal effects stored in lockers in the building lost them.

A few of the fireplace stones were reported saved and can possibly be used to build a new fireplace when the lodge is rebuilt. It is not known if the stone off the North Sister, contributed by the Obsidians, was among those that can be identified. Bend Skyliners contributed the South Sister stone.

### "Dutchman Flat" Origin of Name

It appears likely that one way or another many members will be in the Bachelor area this winter, on a winter camp, a winter climb or a winter trip. Some may visit there to try out the new ski area. Thus origin of the name "Dutchman Flat" may be of interest.

The flat spot at the north of Bachelor between that peak and Broken Top has long been regarded as a memorial to a German shepherd, member of a party that attempted to bring a band of sheep across the Cascades long ago. The party spent the winter near Sparks Lake, or so the story goes.

Now Phil Brogan of Bend comes along to cast doubt on the story. He says the yarn about the shepherd is "a good one but just too impossible", doubting that either men or sheep could have survived the 15-foot drifts that pile up near Sparks.

He finds a story that the flat was named for "Dutch John" Felderwerd, who was a pioneer in what is now the Bend area. He was the first man to divert water from the Deschutes for irrigation of land. He grazed sheep in the Sparks Lake area --- but not in the winter time.

Several cabins in the area were built by or for him. One stood until recently on the old Century Drive route, a little ways east of Dutchman Flat. Another was a short distance below the present Crane Prairie Dam, on the Deschutes.

Phil, writing about this in the Bend Bulletin, of which he is associate editor says he got his information from three sons of another pioneer. They were Clint, Claude and Bill Vandevent.

So goes another fine old story. But we might as well be accurate.

Phil also wrote recently and wrathfully about mention of "Hog Rock" on the Santiam. The name, he pointed out is "Hogg Rock" with two "g"s. T. Egerton Hogg was an early-day railroad promoter.

!!! Have You Paid Your Dues? !!!

## They're Coming

Worried about those summit certificates for the North Sister and/or McLaughlin? Well, they're coming, advises Mike Stahl, last year's climbing chairman. Seems the club ran out of forms. They'll arrive in the mail.

Also in the mail quite soon will be the Three Peak and Ten Peak Awards earned by a number of club members.

## Nanaimos Anybody?

A climb wouldn't be a climb if Lorena Shinn didn't dig into a big sack and pass around those foil-wrapped goodies she calls "Nanaimos." The word is pronounced Nan-Eye-Mo. Here, once again and still by popular request, is the recipe:

Cut 22 graham crackers into  $\frac{1}{2}$ -inch squares.

Melt  $\frac{1}{4}$  lb butter or oleo, add  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup sugar,  $\frac{1}{2}$  cup chopped nuts, 2 Tbsp cocoa, and one beaten egg. Stir and bring to a boil for one minute only. Add 1 tsp vanilla.

Add to graham crackers and mix, then press into buttered 8-by-8 pan and set in refrigerator to cool.

Prepare a powdered sugar icing with oleo or butter, powdered sugar, milk, and vanilla (fairly stiff). Spread over cooled graham cracker mix.

Melt 2 Tbsp butter or oleo with 2 sq bitter chocolate (over hot water) and pour over icing mixture.

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.

That's it. Now is there any reason why Lorena has to be the only one to sit on a high ridge and cheerfully say, "Nanaimos, Anybody?"

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It's time to pay your dues.

## People You Know

ERNIE AND ARIENE KEASLING who are back from Europe.

NELLIE McWILLIAMS who is recovering from a broken knee.

KEITH NEWSOM who brought a friend home from Stanford at Thanksgiving to partake of some of Frances' turkey.

WALT BANKS who supplied Obsidians with California newspaper accounts of the big frontal assault on El Capitan.

TRAILS CLUB members who have a new address -- Box 1243, Portland 7, Oregon.

CONTRA COSTA HILLS CLUB members who also have a new address, 306 40th St., Room 3, Oakland 9, Calif.

TOM TAYLOR, father of a new climber, Thomas Edward Taylor, Jr., born Nov. 28.

KARL ONTHANK who recently attended in California meetings of Nature Conservancy and the Sierra Club. He was very impressed with the conservation activities of both organizations.

DAVE BROWER, executive director of the Sierra Club, who was in Bend to testify at Wilderness hearings.

## Friendly House Night, Jan. 5

CATHERINE DUNLOP will show some of her European pictures at the next Obsidian picture night. Members are welcome to bring a few of their current trip pictures; bring also a few cookies or sandwiches. Ken Lodewick is in charge.

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B U L K    R A T E