



The OBSIDIAN



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NO. 4

Climbing School
Details Coming Up

Fourth of July
Weekend Trips

There will be a climbing school this year, says Mike Stahl, co-chairman of the climbing committee. Details are not firm yet, but it will be early in June, likely with two indoor sessions in the middle of the week, and two outdoor sessions on the weekends. Graduation will be at Wolf Rock up in the Carpenter Mountain area June 22.

Details will be in the Register-Guard, at Hendershott's, and on postcards which most will receive.

Climbs this year which may not be made without having gone to climbing school or having had equivalent experience include Washington, Jack, North Sister and Jeff.

Revive the Tour?

(Ray Sims, who turned in the following bit, is the only one who has made all the Craig ski trips, across the McKenzie Pass along the pioneer mail route)

Obsidians were fortunate to have Dolph Janes and his daughter, Alice, at the 31 anniversary dinner. Dolph suggested that the John Craig ski tour across the snow-bound McKenzie Pass be revived.

He said he felt this well-known event noting John Craig who carried the mail across the pass on skis and snowshoes in earlier days would be a good state event next year as part of the centennial anniversary of Oregon statehood.

Snowshoers would be welcome, but they would be well advised to use skis instead because the 19 miles of snow is a long way to travel, much of it climbing or poling along the level or down quite gentle slopes.

Also, it is a lot easier to go from the east side across to the west than it is to travel up from the Alder Springs side on the west and come down at the Cold Springs side on the east. The climb on this side is much more severe.

---Ray Sims

A tenderfoot climb of the South Sister is announced by the climbing committee via the south route from Devil's Lake on Saturday, and a climb of Bachelor Sunday. Camp at Devil's Lake or Fall Creek. Skiing on Bachelor for those interested.

Louis and Roxie Waldorf, leaders, offer a nice cool, shady, quiet camp on clear Metolius for your pleasure, starting Friday, with side trips according to your wishes. A pleasant prospect for 3 days.

Friends of the Three Sisters' 5th Annual Wilderness trail trip follows Tipsoo Trail to camping spot in Lowder Mt. Area. Register soon with Doris Sims, 2181 Washington, Phone DI 4-9546.

Trips to Come

A few pretty easy trips and a few that are real conditioners are on tap for the next few weeks, as days get longer and as climbing season gets closer:

May 25 --- Looking for fossils up on the McKenzie with Bob Medill, and a survival demonstration by Dave Burwell afterward. Not a long hike. Meet 9 A.M., City Park.

May 30, 31, June 1 --- An exciting boat trip up the Rogue

June 8 --- Iron Mountain up the Santiam with Kent Gill.

June 15 --- A forest service trail maintenance trip with Henry Carlson and the Forest Service, probably in the Horse-pasture area.

June 22 --- Red Top, near Crescent Lake, with Bob Northrop. Not tough, but something the weekend before the Hood climb. Also this weekend is climbing school graduation at Wolf Rock near Carpenter.

June 29 --- Hood Climb, and a trip into the Carmen Smith and Tamolitch Falls area with Mike Stahl.

THE OBSIDIAN BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President	Ray Sims	DI 4-9546
Vice President	Jim Jeppesen	DI 5-3028
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Board Members: The above and Natalie Morgan, Henry Carlson, Karl Onthank, Bob Medill, Bob Frazier.

Bulletin Ed: Bob Frazier, DI 5-1551 or 5-6000

Looking for a Lot

Nearly 40 Obsidians turned out to look at building sites April 13. They saw one in Springfield, two in the Glenwood area and one up behind Laurelwood Golf Course. Committee Chairman Tom Taylor handed out 28 ballots on which members were asked to express a preference for a site. But only 12 ballots were turned in.

Tom doesn't think that is a large enough voice to be a good guide for the committee. So he wants another tour, sometime soon.

Meanwhile another piece of property may be added to the list of possibles. Board members expressed interest in a lot, now containing an old abandoned house on the southeast corner of 3rd and Pearl, at the foot of the Butte. Members might stroll by between now and the official tour.

Board members agreed there are advantages to a town site, and advantages to a site farther out. But only if you express a preference will they know what the members want.

Membership Changes

RAY BOALS and PAT CALLIS have asked to be put on the inactive list.

HERTHA DECKMANN has been reinstated.

MARGARET LEMON'S resignation was accepted by the board. Margaret is now going to school at Cottey College in Missouri.

KAY FAHY is driving a new Borgward...

DON'T FORGET -- June 2, Monday, is the date of our last picture night at Friendly House until fall.

Good Film But
Too Few Attended

"Danger River," the thrilling film of a trip down the Colorado River was shown April 12, but not to enough people. Club loss on the film amounted to approximately \$96.50, or slightly more than the club lost on a similar venture a year ago.

But it was a good film, as was the visit with Charlie Eggert, the photographer who brought the full-color, wide-screen film to the Northwest.

Would more persons have gone if we had had an advance sale of tickets? Would it have been better, if we had distributed more posters, circus style? These are a few of the questions board members asked each other after the accounting was in. They found no answers.

Overnight or Sunday?

Sept. 28 is the date for the trip into Waldo Lake, over a trail that may be a paved road one of these years. Mary Cavanaugh, leader, has been asked to make it an overnight pack-in trip, thus giving us more time to poke around Waldo Lake before it gets too civilized.

How does the membership feel about it? If you'd like to make it an overnighter, or if you would not, please let Mary or Bob Medill, trips chairman, know. Or, if there is enough response and enough division of opinion, perhaps we could do it both ways, with some camping Saturday at the lake, while others arrived on Sunday with a different leader.

Some who can get off on Saturdays often like to get an early start. Others who must work Saturdays can just go on Sundays. Can we compromise?

New Tents

Three new tents will likely show up at the summer outing in the Arizona-Utah national parks this year. Outing Chairman Gene Sebring got board permission to buy three umbrella jobs, of a 9x11 size.

June 2 - DON'T FORGET - Monday Night is the date of last picture night at Friendly House until fall. Roxie Waldorf has arranged for Frank Sipe to show his colored slides taken recently in the desert. Members are asked to bring current trip pictures also, as well as cookies or sandwiches.

June 11 - POTLUCK, PICNIC and VISIT at Ray and Betty Harris' new farm. Bring winners for roasting, if you wish. Bob Medill will show up with the traditional black coffee pot. To get there drive out West 11th, to the Rainbow Stables sign. Turn left to Lorane Highway, then right toward Crow two and a half miles to the junction. Then left one half mile to the game. Obsidian signs will mark the way. Time is 6:30.

Princesses

Princesses met Apr. 21 at Thelma Watson's where members helped Frances Newsom assemble announcements for the July 4 Three Sisters Wilderness Trip. On May 19, they met at Mary Castelloe's, with Olga Mortensen as co-hostess, and helped assemble the lists of Three Sisters Area Flora, which was compiled by Frances, Ruth Onthank, and Mary Douglas Stovall. Arlene Keasling, Virginia Sebring, and Beverley Lindley will be hostesses at a Princess Potluck Picnic at Arlene's home, 3450 Bell Ave, June 16.

A True Story

"Don't get me wrong," says Bob Medill. "This isn't a kind word for litterbugs." Then Bob goes on to tell about how he climbed Spencer's Butte late one afternoon with the promise of a full moon and the view one gets at a time like that. But he forgot and left his flashlight in the car. The view was fine. But on the trip down he found that the trail is on the wrong side. The full moon didn't help a bit. All that saved his neck was the trail of orange peels, cigarette and candy wrappers and miscellaneous junk along the trail. He could see the white specks, even if he couldn't see the trail. Moral of the story, says Bob, is not that we should be litterbugs, but that we should not forget flashlights when climbing the Butte by moonlight.

Seventy-eight persons attended the anniversary banquet, April 19, at Bethesda Lutheran Church. Featured speaker was Dr. Raymond T. Ellickson, head of the physics department and acting dean of the graduate school at the University of Oregon. He talked about Outer Space.

Ray Sims, master of ceremonies, called on several former club presidents, Louis Waldorf, '39; Bailey Castelloe, '40; Ernie Keasling, '49; Clarence Scherer, '53; Dale Carlson, '54; Gene Sebring, '55; and Henry Carlson, '57. They spoke briefly.

Les Cooper performed several feats of magic, in keeping with the wonders of science described by Dr. Ellickson.

Five representatives from the Chemeketa of Salem were down for the banquet, thus repaying a visit Obsidians made to that club's banquet last winter.

President Ray Sims says he hopes that the spring banquet can become an annual affair.

People You Know

JIM STOVALL who was promoted to associate professor of geography at the University of Oregon.

KARL ONTHANK who was named counselor of university mothers and dads.

TOM TAYLOR who received the full tuition Pennell Scholarship in architecture.

FLORENCE AND GIEN SIMS who have returned from their winter in Arizona. They came back through Nevada where they visited a sister of Glen's in Lovelock.

JIM NEWSOM, who is now in Germany, in the army and still jumping.

MYRTIE HAMLIN who lent the brown cloth shopping bag she uses to collect marine treasures. This was a year ago on the Marine biology trip. She'd like to know who has it, and if she can please get it back.

Little MARTHA SEBRING, star entertainer at the Swimming Party.

Experts Advise Wearing A Hat on Winter Trips

The 1958 edition of "Accidents in American Mountaineering," published by the American Alpine Club, carries an article in which winter climbers are strongly advised to wear hats.

The article, digested from the Journal of Applied Physiology, says that at 25 degrees the amount of heat lost through the head equals half the amount produced. Hats should be worn to minimize this heat loss.

The article also says it is not a bad idea to stuff an extra hat into the pack. "Loss of hats in mountaineering is not too uncommon," the article continues, and "Usually this leads only to inconvenience but it could be serious in bad weather. The fact that the head does not feel cold even when heat loss is great means that nature gives us no warning that we should cover the head to conserve body heat.

Clothing should be opened or removed during periods of exercise, to permit escape of moisture, the article says, and then donned again in periods of inactivity. A number of layers of clothing are better than one heavy layer, something most people who have spent much time in the snow country already know.

The booklet that carries this article makes excellent, if chilling reading, for the evenings between climbs and trips. It is an annual publication and each year carries a digest of all reported mishaps on the nation's mountains. Of the 45 accidents and 17 deaths reported in 1957, only one accident and two deaths were in Oregon. That was the tragic accident on St. Peter's Dome Sept. 15, which claimed the lives of two experienced climbers, Don McKay and Joe Quigley.

The greatest number last year was from Washington, where 19 were reported. Seven were in Colorado, four in California.

The booklet, and most of the 10 back numbers may be obtained from the American Alpine Club, 113 East 90th St., New York. They cost 25 cents each, and are a valuable and worthwhile addition to a library.

Reports of Trips Mt. June and Rebel Rock

Eighteen were in the party that left the Park Blocks in four cars on a fine spring morning, April 27 for the climb to Eagle's Rest. Past Dexter we turned up the Lost Creek Valley and left up the Eagle's Rest road where one of the Giustina Gates was unlocked. Another mile brought us to the road-head for a couple of miles of hiking, some through timber, some over out-over land. Part of the trail is the Eagle's Rest to Mt. June to Hardisty trail. The zig-zag trail is an easy one.

None in the party had seen this small 10 by 10 lookout house, as the club had not been at this point since the house was built, after the war. We climbed here often, however, in the 30s and early 40s.

The day was cloudless, bright and warm. On the trip were Bob Medill, Doris Sims, Jim Sims, Bill Soukup, Margaret Markley, Frances Newsom, Don White, Lorene Bressler, H. S. Bressler, Fred Bressler, Arlene Keasling, Michele Collar, Mac McWilliams, Nellie McWilliams, Leslie Cooper, Henry Jeppesen, Tim Hermach, and Ray Sims, leader.

The next week, May 4, with weather just as fine, 14 traveled up the McKenzie, across Bruckart Bridge above Blue River and along the South Fork past the Cougar Dam construction. Then we went up the steep trail to Rebel Rock viewpoint. The last thousand feet of climb, out of 3500, was over snow, which was slower, but far better for conditioning the legs.

Visible from the table on top were Jeff, Washington, the Sisters, Broken Top, The Bachelor, and Diamond.

Making the trip were Bob Medill, Jim Sims, Doris Sims, Mary Cavagnaro, Helen Hughes, Margaret Markley, Frances Newsom, Nancy Soukup, Herb Kariel, Pat Kariel, Bob Frazier, Henry Carlson, Don White, Bruce Stark and Lorena Shinn, leader.

The weather was bright and warm enough to make it a shorts-wearing day for half of the Obsidians. The 1,000 foot climb over the snow at the top was harder than the first glissades down.

Obsidian Resolution On Waldo Lake Area

Following is the text of the official Obsidian resolution on the Waldo Lake limited area:

IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED that the Obsidians express appreciation to the Forest Service for the opportunity to consider and recommend with respect to its plan for the Waldo Lake Limited Area, that they approve the plan to move the Skyline trail away from the proposed road to the summit ridge, and make the following requests of the Forest Service.

1. That the reclassification of the Waldo Limited Area be deferred until more adequate and recreational resources of the same character, and of the future need for such resources, is available, as a basis for a sound and defensible long-term plan.

2. That if, notwithstanding the consideration stated above, it is determined to reclassify the area at once, the proposed action be set forth in writing so that it may be known and studied with more definiteness, and that if there should be significant demand, that a public hearing be held on the proposed plan.

3. That in locating the road and in any other development, maximum protection be given to the exceptional natural qualities of the Waldo Lake and its surrounding area, which are, and if maintained will continue to be, its chief attractions.

4. That as minimum recognition of these outstanding qualities which prompted farsighted Forest officers to set the area aside originally as a Limited Area, the north, west and short south shores of Waldo Lake, the lake basin behind them and the area of little lakes to the north and west of Waldo, be reclassified from Limited to Wild Area status.

That Gold Lake be given a wide protective strip and the adjacent sphagnum bog of large scientific importance together with a substantial protective strip around it be designated a natural area.

More About Picnics

Bob and Mary Medill have invited us to have a potluck picnic in their back yard on Thursday, July 24. This will be just before the Summer Campers take off for Bryce-Zion-Grand Canyon. Then we will have another potluck picnic to welcome them home again in August.

About Camp Ray Sims, August 3-16

Have you sent your \$10.00 to Gene Sebring, Rt. 2, Box 87B, Eugene - to secure your reservation for this 30th annual outing? If not, do so immediately - the committee must know how many to prepare for. This is a rare opportunity to see these great National Parks with a group of your best friends, and at a very small cost.

About Don Kohler

Lloyd Plaisted who was recently in California on vacation saw Don Kohler, whom many will remember as one of our more active climbers. He reports Don is doing research at Cal Tech and will be through soon, ready to take a university job.

Don looks forward to receiving the Obsidian Bulletin, and keeps himself in shape scrambling around the Sierras. He has climbed Mt. Whitney in both summer and winter, and by several of the more technical routes.

Losing Something

What is there about the responsibility of leadership that makes people forgetful? At the Rebel Rock trip early in May Lorena Shinn, the leader, forgot her pack and had to go back on the trail to get it. A year ago, on the McLoughlin climb, Doc Boyles, who was leading, left his behind a rock, and almost didn't find it.

Glacier Peak Dope

Anybody planning to spend a vacation in the far north Cascades? If so, Gene Sebring has a stack of information on Glacier Peak and area. Any Obsidian needing it is welcome to borrow it.

FWOC Meeting At Scout Camp

Obsidians have been asked to send some representation to the 1958 meeting of the Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs which will be at Boy Scout Camp Meriwether over Labor Day. Mazamas of Portland are hosts for the meeting of representatives of all outdoor clubs in the West.

Conservation and other problems will be discussed with government representatives and a lot of informal swapping of ideas is on the program.

The camp is south of Tillamook, across Cape Lookout from the state park. The \$12 adult rate covers registration and meals from Saturday noon to Monday noon, inclusive. Full fee must be in by August 15.

After the convention Mazamas are inviting representatives to Mazama Lodge for a climb of Mt. Hood. Fee for that is the usual \$3.40 for lodging and three meals.

Obsidians wanting to represent this club can notify Ray Sims or Bette Hack.

More Trails

Karl Onthank makes a good point. He says we have to go too far away to find a good trail for a short hike. Even in the larger cities, foot and bridle trails are more accessible than they are here.

He urges that some of us get together with a group like the Hunt Club to promote better trails close by, so that we won't have to drive 50 miles in order to enjoy a five-mile hike on something besides the city street, county road or brush.

Closer trails would also be handy for late evening trips these long days, and for short Sunday trips when the days are neither so long nor so sunny.

Board Meeting

The next board meeting will be at the home of Natalie Morgan, 741 East 14th, Apt. 1, on June 5th, a Thursday. Apartment 1 is first on the right.

Obsidians Early In Battle for Butte

As soon as it was revealed that a commercial interest wanted to run a road up Spencer's Butte for a television tower, Obsidians were among the first to lodge protests with the city council.

Mozelle Hair, Doug Spencer, and Karl Onthank were at the next council meeting, protesting such a use of the butte. But at that time, it did them no good. Only three of the eight council members saw it their way.

It is too early to tell what will develop. But at this point it appears that initiative petitions may be circulated to forestall ruining what has become a fine park close in to the city. If that does happen, a lot of petition pushers will be needed to gather signatures.

Karl Onthank warned of this likely development several months ago. His conservation committee stands ready to help in any way it can.

The best way to help is to yell and do it loudly, meanwhile encouraging Boy and Girl Scouts, other youth groups and such to join the chorus.

It also might help to demonstrate that the trail to the top is used all the time. How long since any of us have been up on top without having seen at least one other person? One is more likely to see 10 or 12. These facts should be relayed to the council.

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