



The OBSIDIAN



VOLUME XIX

OBSIDIANS, INC. - P. O. BOX 322 - DECEMBER 1959 -EUGENE

NO. 8

Merry Christmas

PRESIDENTS MESSAGE TO OBSIDIAN CLUB 1959

Upon assuming the duties of president, I must base my message on two factors very important to the future of the club. These concern the proposed club house and Obsidian climbing program.

We now have adequate property and funds available to build a modest club-house, provided we can foot the annual bill for upkeep. A study is being made by the present building committee to determine what these costs should be and where the revenue shall come from. If the committee's report is favorable, construction should take place some time next year.

Of greater concern to me now, however is the apparent deterioration of the Obsidian Climbing program during the past few years. During the past season, some climbs had to be cancelled or postponed due to the lack of leadership. Of the climbs completed, five had to be led by the Climbing Chairman. There were no winter climbs scheduled or even out-of-state climbs other than Rainier at summer camp and Mt. St. Helens, both of which had to be cancelled due to lack of leadership and overall climbing strength. Our climbing schools have brought many new climbers into the sport, only to have them leave Obsidian climbing for more interesting climbing. To me the reasons are quite apparent. While we have a good novice program, there is no club program for the experienced climber except leading novices, which is a

(Continued on Page 3)



DECEMBER BOARD MEETING

The regular meeting of the Obsidian board of directors was held at the home of Kay Fahy on December 3, 1959. Those present were: Kay Fahy, Frances Freedenburg, Donn Chase, Anna Jeppesen, Geraldine Fehly, Mike Stahl, Lorena Shinn, Gene Renard, Ray Cavagnaro, Bob Medill, Ken Lodewick and Ray Sims.

The meeting was opened by Vice President Mike Stahl, in the absence of President Tom Taylor. After the minutes were read by G. Fehly, Mike had the board vote on the correspondence as to the location of the 1961 and 1962 Labor Day F.W.O.C. meetings. The 1960 meeting is to be in Washington, on the Hood Canal.

The usual informative committee reports made us realize that the Christmas party will soon be upon us, this year to be held at the Eugene Water Board building Dec. 20. Also word has just been received that an overnite New Years party is being considered with dinner the next day at Odell Lake Lodge.

Some discussion was made on the message of Tom Taylor, as a number of the board members remember when the climbing committee was formed back in 1948, with not unanimous acclaim.

Frances Freedenburg received the newly typed South Sister summit book and the original is to be placed in the U. of O.

(Continued on Page 2)



THE OBSIDIAN BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President Tom Taylor DI 3-3237
 Vice President Mike Stahl RI 7-9335
 Secretary Gerry Fehly DI 3-2784
 Treasurer Ray Cavagnaro DI 3-8357
 Board Members: The above and Lorena Shinn,
 Ray Sims, Kay Fahy, Gene Renard and Donn
 Chase.

BULLETIN EDITORS: Ray Sims DI 4-9546
 Bob Medill RI 6-2908

TRAILINGS

One whole day was set aside during Homecoming week at the University of Ore. to honor Karl W. Onthank, Professor emeritus of social science. The Obsidian Club feels honored to know Karl and have him for an active member. Bob

Jim Harrang, Doc Lee, Lloyd Plaisted, Ray, Betty and Carol Harris will be seen on KVAL-TV Friday, Dec. 11 at 6:30 P.M. on "Road to Adventure". The movie was made by Mr. Turnbull who shot 600 feet of film while the above went thru all the problems of climbing from basic to the highest types of advanced climbing. The picture was made up in the Coburg hills. Bob

Well. Broken Top is home again. He had been called back east when his sister, Dorothe, underwent a serious operation. She is getting along real good now and is planning on being here to visit with Mary and Bailey for the Holidays. Bailey will be able to qualify for a pilot's license if he keeps sailing thru the air like he has been this summer. Bob

December Board Meeting (Continued from P.1)

It was mentioned also that "THIRD MAN ON THE MOUNTAIN", which has been at the Fox Theatre, is a climb of the MATTERHORN, and all Obsidians should see it, according to a number of board members who have.

Until spring all trips cancelled on account of weather will be held the following Saturday.

Donn Chase says that so far the majority seems to be in favor of holding the summer outing at Jeff Park. However he is going to personally call each and every one of you to get your opinion on two or three places, so be ready and have your mind made up.

Next meeting will be at Ray Cavagnaro's, 738 E. 12th, on January 7, 1960.

Next bulletin will be out January 6.

CASTLE ROCK LOOKOUT

Seventeen were in Dwight Berreman's party on the morning of November 15, leaving the park block at 8:45, they proceeded to the foot of the trail to Castle Rock, only to find fog and a cold day. Leaving on the trail at 10:25, the fog persisted all the way.

Lunch was eaten at the lookout at 1 P.M. Not staying long at the top, as the wind was cold, all were down at the cars at 3:30. Those on the climb: Dr. Dick Keller, Anna Pechanec, Bob Ashworth, Richard Stanfield, Frank Moore, Lloyd Plaisted, Ron Meskimen, Mary Kaneen, Lillian Johnson, Art Johnson, Mariam Johnson, John Cadey, Kay Fahy, Thelma Watson, Dr. Bernd Craseman, Dwight Berreman, Leader, and Keith Brunig assistant. Ray

CENTENNIAL BUTTE

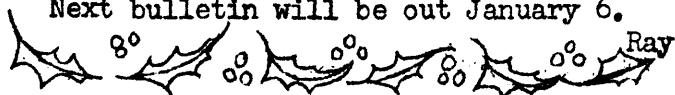
The trip for Saturday, December 12, to the site where the early settlers held a picnic in 1859 to celebrate Oregon's entry into the Union will be led by Merle Moore, and Nellie McWilliams (who are descendants of one of the pioneers of this picnic) and Mary Castellloe and Bob Medill. It is hoped that several of the descendants of the original party will attend. Members of the Lane County Pioneer Historical Society will also attend. There are two meeting places - 19th & Patterson (South Eugene High School) and the Park Blocks. Meet at 11:00 A.M. at either of these places and then again at the Coburg School House at 11:30 A.M. Bob & Ray

NOVEMBER POTLUCK

Between 45 and 50 people enjoyed the entertainment committee's potluck and program held at the Eugene Garden Club. If these, "All You Can Eat For \$1.50", places are worth \$1.50, then these potlucks are worth \$2.50. Then one has the comradeship of all one's friends plus the entertainment. Everyone enjoyed Mr. Hermach's music and Mr. Barker's movies and stills were unusual and very, very interesting. Thank you, entertainment comm. Bob

SNOW'S COMING

According to the Alpine Ski shops news - the squirrels have thrown all the winters nuts back on the ski runs thinking of the winter last year - BUT - George has ordered PLENTY of snow this year.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE CONT. from Page 1.

dangerous and tough job at best.

In order to develop their own abilities and enjoy climbing mountains which challenge their capabilities, these experienced climbers seek their own level outside of organized club circles. Formal scheduling, regulations, and restrictions, advance assignment of leaders and climbs open to all, whether capable or not, are encumbrances an experienced mountaineer seeks to avoid. Indeed, the essence of the sport is freedom of action and deletion governed only by the rules of prudence and safety determined by nature.

I feel the Obsidians have failed to develop any sort of program for these mountaineers and they in turn have gone their own ways, leaving our present novice climbing without enough qualified leaders for adequate, let alone interesting program.

As I see it, the situation will get worse -- the old hands are becoming very tired of leading, very often without support, year after year.

There may be more than one way to solve this problem, if it is to be solved at all. The most positive solution I can see at present and perhaps the only one which would have any chance at success is to create a separate Obsidian Climbing Section. It would be composed only of experienced and active climbers who would be self-governing. It would serve the principal organization's needs for experienced mountaineers, namely; a clearing house of ideas, a place to meet other climbers and plan trips, and an outlet for their own experience to train others. Climbs could be spontaneous, of any route or mountain anywhere, and the groups selective. All members would have to keep active to retain their membership.

The principal benefit the Obsidians would derive from such a group would be a ready source of leaders available for some novice climbs, a group which would be interested and capable of conducting a training school most of the year, and a trained mountain rescue group.

Without such an organizational move, and soon, I feel that Obsidian climbing will someday be a thing of the past. The concepts, equipment, and training for mountaineering have been changing and will continue to change. Why not have a flexible club capable of changing with

the sport? The Sierra Club has done this with success -- there is probably no organized regional club in the United States with greater ability and accomplishment in the field of rock climbing. We seem to have a club which is crystallized in its ideas and goals. Active climbing members of this club represent a very important portion of its vitality and future -- let's not lose this vitality, but take measures to increase it. Tom Taylor

THE PRINCESSES DOINGS

The Nov. Meeting was held at the home of Helen Kilpatrick. Those attending are as follows: Myrtie Hamlin, Helen Weiser, Catherine Dunlop, Florence Fulton, Arlene Keasling, Nellie McWilliams, Beverly Lindley, Thelma Watson, Mary Castelloe, Ethel Glaze, Frances Newsom, Virginia Sebring, Mary Kaneen, Natalie Morgan and Elsie Dotson, Olga Mortensen and the Hostess. Order of business consisted of re-imbursing Helen Kilpatrick for the costs of the Maltese Cross program carried on each year at Halloween time in memory of J. Hugh Pruett; The Christmas party for the next meeting at which will be the annual exchange of (\$1) gifts. The rest of the time was spent in eating and talking about those who were not there. Nothing was said however unless it was good and, Boy! was some of it good. The next meeting will be at the home of Arlene Keasling with Nat Morgan assisting. The meeting this month will be the second Monday, December 14th.

Nellie McWilliams

CONSERVATION NOTE

Pressure is building up to create a new State Park in Calif. at Squaw Valley. This is where the 1960 Winter Olympics are to be held. The State and Federal Governments are spending 13 million dollars to make this the finest ski area in the world and if made into a State Park would be of value to the people both in the winter and in the summer. Bob

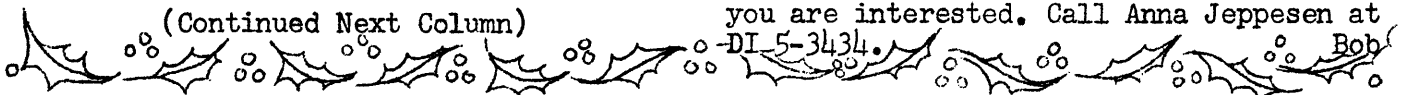
POSSIBLE NEW YEAR'S PARTY

The entertainment committee is trying to cook up something for New Years besides turkey. So far they have under consideration Odell Lake Lodge. We can have beds from \$10 down to roll-away beds for \$2. Sleeping bag space \$1. Breakfasts from 35¢ to \$1.35. They can give us a bang-up New Years dinner for \$2.50 and a midnite snack for \$1. Let the committee know if you are interested. Call Anna Jeppesen at

DI 5-3434.

Bob

(Continued Next Column)



THREE DAYS ON THE OREGON DUNES

Taking off with pack on back, Bob and Ray, your editors, spent Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, November 16 - 17 - & 18th camping on the Dunes South of Florence.

Driving a little past Florence, the car was parked and the hike began. Hiking over the sand white dunes is very interesting as new and beautiful places continually come into view. By noon, Little Bear Lake was reached and camp was made. The rest of the afternoon was spent on a trip out to the ocean - going over the dunes most of the way. This area is in the land owned by Lane County and Oats and Barley have been planted in long rows up and down the area before the beach is reached, for both stabilization and food for the geese. A road runs lengthwise of the area and a number of jeeps were seen, one driven by two ladies who had shot a large goose.

Exploring along the beach, a number of cold water creeks were found running into the ocean, which proved to be of value later. In the early evening, while camping at the Little Bear Lake, two deer came down on the opposite shore and walked in the water to the north end unaware of our presence, however the next morning deer had walked all around our camp.

Tuesday morning, again with full packs we began our hike south past the Cleawox outlet and began ascending the big dune just south of Cleawox Lake. As we had been warned of a storm, this is where we encountered a stiff wind blowing sand knee high all the way to the top of the big dune. Altho clear, the wind was strong, and Cleawox Lake was a beautiful blue, looking south, endless dunes reached as far as one could see. With bright sun it presented a beautiful picture.

Hiking on a couple of miles we decided to camp in the timber next to Hiway 101 but could find no water, but remembered the creeks out at the ocean, and there was time to hike out over new and big and beautiful dunes again to the ocean. Ahead one could see a low place in the dunes along the ocean we found it to be one of the many creeks. Camp again was made, overlooking the beach. A roaring fire, a fine dinner and after watching a number of fishing boats, the sun went down and we again snuggled down into our sleeping bags. -Tho - not for long - as rain began pattering down. Sleeping some, keeping

(See Next Column)

the fire going - standing by it - sitting by it - it was a long night. Fog had blanketed the dunes so travel was out of the question until it became light.

The light came by six thirty so a course was made thru the fog to the road running along between the beach dunes and the large ones, traveling north for one hour - no landmarks could be seen - we turned East and found our trail in another hour near Little Bear Lake, so traveling North - raining all the way - and soaking wet (outer garments) we were in our warm car before noon - then to find the nearest cafe for a warm breakfast. - Thus ending the trip. If the storm had not come, we had planned to travel the dunes all the way to the Umpqua.

NOT THE BOB & RAY ON "MONITOR"

A national park - we will only say - "there is an awful lot of sand down there".

Ray

25 YEARS AGO

(In the South Sister summit book - recently printed by Bob M. and Dorothy R.) AUGUST 24, 1934

Jack Wilkinson, Honolulu, Hawaii.

I am camping at Mirror Lakes alone. I believe I am the first to climb this peak without garments, so to speak. The day is warm and I left my camp to climb wearing nothing but shoes and trousers. I had to forsake the trousers when I fell in the creek at the base of the mountain. I got a little sunburnt. I encountered no one. Thank Heavens: There is a huge forest fire about fifty miles south, near Davis Lake.

AND

MAY 31, 1931 Harold A. Trotter

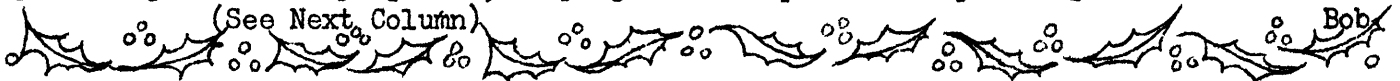
"The last of my three hills".

(Editors note - These summit books are interesting. August 24 was a FRIDAY and Mirror lakes probably were Green Lakes.)

AND AWAY BACK THEN the Obsidians were having their discussions and meetings about a club house. Bailey Castelloe was Chairman of the building and Dorr Hamlin, Chairman of Financing.

AN ITEM IN THE BULLETIN 20 some years ago says, "Statistics show more people get hurt in ski accidents the first of the season than later". That's easy to understand. Their ranks keep getting thinned out as the season advances. More skiers putting in more time in bed and hospitals recuperating from ski accidents.

Bob



MULTIPLE - USE CONCEPT

Excerpts from Grant McConnell's "Multiple use concept in Forest Service Policy" - His article in the October Sierra Club bulletin. "The law of 1891 by whose authority President Harrison set aside the first of the forest reserves marked a break with the long-existing American land policy. With the passage of this law, the President was empowered to 'set apart and reserve' public lands from private entry and acquisition. The 'multiple-use' policy of the Forest Service however, bears the ambiguities and uncertainties of the particular point of view from which it emerged. These ambiguities have had only minor practical significance until recently. Now, however, they raise serious questions concerning the quality and character of administrations' responsibilities. At the time when Gifford Pinchot was Chief of the Forest Service, the Use Book was the Manual which stated 'All timber on forest reserves which can be CUT safely and for which there is actual need, IS FOR SALE'. The concept of recreational use was considerably broadened when the Forest Service manual was re-drafted in 1921. It included - No plan of national forest administration would be complete which did not CONSERVE and make them (the mountains, cliffs, natural formations, etc., found in the national forests) fully available for public use. Their PRESERVATION, development, and wise use for the promotion of the public welfare an important and essential feature of timber and forage and the conservation of water resources.

'The Forest Service is no longer a custodial agency'... 'We are entering the period of intensive management'. So says Chief McArdle, in discussing 'clear cut' or 'patch cutting' as his 'multiple use' in our present day. Nothing in forestry training will give technical competence on which to base a choice as between, say, lumber or scenery.

"Curiously, however, relatively little has been done by the Forest Service to develop and refine the principle of 'highest use' receiving no elaboration in the regulations of the service.

"The conclusion must be that, as it stands multiple use is less of a policy and less of a guide than it may appear.

At worst, it may be the disguise for an

(See Next Column)

absence of policy and for the arbitrary exercise of large-scale discretion." Ray

TRAILINGS

Have you read David Simons' article in the October Sierra Club Bulletin entitled "These Are The Shining Mountains", in which he, an Oregonian, proposes the creation of Cascade Volcanic National Park covering our own familiar mountains from Mt. Jefferson to Diamond Lake. This is David's own idea and he writes in glowing adjectives about the Cascades we love so well.

* * * * *

Nellie McWilliams has a girls' English light weight bicycle she wants \$15 for. Just the thing for trail hiking.

* * * * *

PAY UP YOUR DUES. KAY FAHY IS GETTING HARD UP AGAIN. NOTE HER AD.

* * * * *

Kay Fahy wants to sell her Borgward. License, leash and all.

NEWS DEPARTMENT

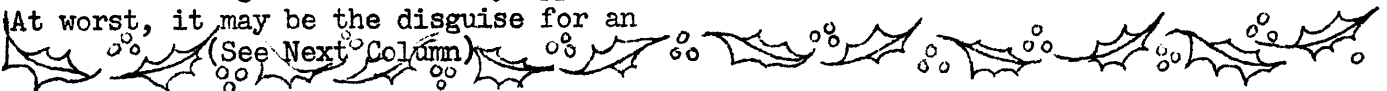
Remember - your editors are just sitting by the phone waiting for you to call and give them items of interest to club members. Don't be so backward - we need the help of all members to make the paper just what you want. We want everyone to take part in its production and enjoy the result. Please call.

Bob and Ray

MT. PISGAH - DEC. 6

The trip up Mt. Pisgah was made by Ray Cavagnaro, Ray Sims, Thelma Watson, Milo Holmes, Catherine Dunlop, Clarence and Dorothy Scherer and their five children, Mac McWilliams, Bailey Castelloe and Mary, Anna Jeppesen, Ted Hansen, Charlotte Buck, Perry Buck, Bob Medill. The weather was absolutely perfect and altho this is an old place to us it is always different. The crowd is always different; some new, some old, and the area around is always changing. Some mistletoe and some fir greens were brot back to take home for the Holidays. Left Eugene at 1 P.M. and back at 5 P.M.

Bob





TRIPS SCHEDULE

The Trips Committee has lined up the following:

Dec. 12: Centennial Butte.

Dec. 13: Christmas Greens Trip.

Dec. 20: Christmas Party.

Dec. 27: No Obsidian trip. Ben Pruitt's annual bird count will be taken on this day and anyone who wants to get out in the country is welcome to come along. Meet at the Old Condon Hall to leave at 8 A.M. They will need observers, drivers, score keepers. Bring binoculars and lunch.

Jan. 10: Jasper Hills to a place called Scuffle. Donn Chase

The Princesses say they are going to have a rummage sale along towards spring and want all the stuff they can get, so now is not too early to start setting aside anything they might want that you don't. Call any Princess. Bob

Copies have been made of all summit books turned in for copying and makes for interesting and easier reading. They are all bound in metal and the covers each have a picture of the mountain the book is from, drawn by Myrtle. These books have been placed in the U. of O. Library. Bob

This paper is going to run a lost and found dept. It seems as tho at all Potlucks someone is always going home with someone else's tableware or dish, or else they are short something that they had taken. Sometimes one may get home with an item that is better than the one they took so in that case we do not expect to hear from them. To start with Mary Medill has a heavy silver table-spoon that was brot home from the potluck held at the Womens Garden Club the night of Nov. 20th.

Lost, Loaned or Left Someplace.

A brand-new gray-green, quilted, nylon jacket (White Stag) with corduroy cuffs and detachable hood. "This is very valuable to me, and so new I've hardly had a chance to break it in. I think I may have loaned it to someone when they were visiting our city. Here's hoping." Blanche Bailey. 1520 Jefferson, Salem. Bob

The largest crowd ever to turn out for Obsidian night at Friendly House came out at the last meeting when Frances Newsom showed her pictures that she had taken on her trip thru Europe. The next meeting will be Dec. 28 when a variety of pictures will be shown. Bob

OBSIDIANS' ANNUAL CHRISTMAS PARTY

Sunday, December 20, 1959

The Christmas Party this year will be held at the Eugene Water Board at 500 4th Ave.E. This will be the evening of December 20th, at 6 P.M. Bring cookies and sandwiches and your own table service. The club will furnish coffee and punch and SANTA CLAUS. To get there, go north of High St. to 4th. Then turn right, go under Ferry St. overpass, then turn right again and there you are. All of you bringing children should bring a gift for them with their name clearly marked on it. Any of you who have children who can perform for the Christmas Program, please help them to be ready when called on.

OBSIDIANS, INC.
P. O. BOX 322
EUGENE, OREGON

25 YEARS AGO - the Princesses put on a Chief's 'initiation' at the New Years Party. Sounds like fun - wonder why it couldn't be done again?

