



The OBSIDIAN



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NO. 1

Four February Trips For Four February Days

Following are February trips planned by Ray Cavagnaro's trips committee:

Feb. 1 -- Ski again, this time up the McKenzie with Margaret Wiese.

Feb. 8 -- Cougar Mountain, east of Saginaw. Alvin Lynch will take us into new country.

Feb. 15 -- Saddleblanket Mountain in Winberry area. Wayne Bailey will lead.

Feb. 22 -- Nelson Mountain. Jim Richardson will lead us on this one, down in the Siuslaw country.

Saturday Trips?

How about some Saturday trips? Are there enough Obsidians who are bottled up on Sunday to make Saturday schedules worth while? These are questions that occurred to the trips committee, according to Bob Northrop who reported for Chairman Ray Cavagnaro at the January board meeting.

The thinking of the board was that it would be worth while to schedule a few Saturday trips and then to sit back and see what kind of response there is.

One thought was that Saturday trips are especially appealing to skiers, who go to the ski slopes on Sundays. This would let them get in some hiking, too.

And how about afternoon trips -- short hikes on either Saturday or Sunday afternoons? The board and the committees don't know how you feel unless you tell them.

Like Boating?

Commenting on the fact that ski tows seem to have killed the fine and rugged old sport of ski touring, Mike Stahl says 'Yeah, it's like asking who rows a boat anymore.'

Youth Activities Plans Advanced

The Obsidian Youth Activities committee under chairmanship of Tom Taylor has been talking with Eugene YMCA officials about a climbing program for summer. So far all is tentative, and all plans will be subject to approval of the YMCA board, the club's youth activities committee and the Obsidian board.

But so far the idea that has the most favor calls for the Y to work out its own program, with the Obsidians furnishing leadership and support. A few Y climbs would be scheduled for the summer, and the teenagers would be invited to participate, also, in official club climbs. The board feels the Y climbers should be entitled to Obsidian summit certificates on climbs which are also open to Obsidian members.

There is a possibility of merging the club climbing school with the Y school that would be required before the Y boys attempted any mountains. Indoor sessions likely could be at the Y, with outdoor sessions in the Coburgs, as usual, under Obsidian leadership.

Members of Tom's committee are Gene Sebring, Ray Harris, Bette Harris, Mildred Ball and Lorena Shinn. It's not the club climbing committee, but it's surely a committee of climbers.

Winter Outing Plans Still on the Way

The winter outing will be in March. Details will be in the February bulletin. The possibility that it might be conducted in conjunction with the Craig race is no longer a probability, since there will probably be no Craig cross-country race. (See comment in adjoining column.)

Thus far most comment about the winter outing has seemed to favor the new Bachelor ski area which provides good climbing and scenery as well as skiing.

THE OBSIDIAN BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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Vice President	Tom Taylor	DI 3-3237
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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

Junior Members
Do Grow Up

The following members, formerly juniors
have been accepted as full members since
achieving their 18th birthdays:

Greg Brunig, Bill Forrester, Ron Green,
Wendell Johnson and Keith Newsom.

Greg is now in the navy, Ron in the air
force.

We Have Axes

Lorena Shinn, as part of her Christmas
trip to visit Doris in Spokane, stopped
in Seattle to pick up some club axes at
the Co-op. She got four, in 35, 36, 36½
and 37-inch lengths.

They will be available for rental at a
fee which will be announced before climb-
ing season. Lorena also is putting club
markings on them -- in paint on the han-
dles and by electric needle on the metal
parts.

We still need rope--if we are to have
enough ropes in good condition to use
for regular climbs and still keep enough
in town for emergency use by the search
and rescue committee. Unfortunately ac-
cidents usually happen on weekends, too,
and the search and rescue boys can't use
club ropes that are already on a peak.

Lorena reported the co-op was able to
supply us at the time only with goldline
rope, which, because of its tighter twist
is kinky and relatively hard to coil. So
we must look elsewhere for plain nylon.
If we get 3/8-in instead of 7/16 we'll
save weight, but have an abrasion problem.

Entertainment Plans
Through February

The entertainment committee met January
13. Since Ray Cavagnaro could not get to
the meeting early, he was appointed chair-
man for February.

Beginning in February meetings will be
at the Lane County Electric Co-op, 1715
Franklin Blvd. There will be no pot-luck
at the February meeting which will be a
Hard Times Party Feb. 21, a Saturday, at
8 p.m. Ray will choose his committee. De-
tails will appear in the February issue.

The January meeting will be a potluck
at 6:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 23 at the Skin-
ner Butte Community Center. Pictures by
Marian and Fred Miller, who have returned
from a round-the-world trip, will be the
feature.

---Anna Jeppesen

Picture Night Programs

Ken Lodewick, in charge of the Friendly
House picture nights, announced that Er-
nie and Arlene Keasling will show their
European pictures Feb. 2, Monday, with
emphasis on the Brussels Fair. That's at
8 p.m.

At 8 p.m. on Monday, March 2, Ray Sims
will show his collection of pictures of
Collier Glacier which he has collected
for many years. They show graphically how
the glacier has receded.

Members and friends are invited to both
meetings and are asked to bring cookies
or sandwiches.

For Sale

Northland metal-edged, down-hill skis
with front-throw cable bindings. Also
Bergman ski boots. All in good condition.
Good Buy. See Adeline Adams, DI 5-6526.

Buy, Sell or Swap?

Anything to sell or swap? Members may
use the bulletin to get rid of things or
to acquire things. And that's another ad-
vantage to membership.

Louis Waldorf
Talks About Rainier

Yakima Park, lying on a high, grassy plateau studded with alpine trees will be the site of our 1959 summer outing. This park commands an unobstructed view of the whole north face of the mountain as well as a sweeping view of the Tatoosh Range, the lesser peaks to the southeast and the west, Mt. Adams and the Yakima valley.

It is an easy day's drive from Eugene by U.S. 99 and the White Pass road, or it may be approached from the Yakima side, all on paved road. You can drive all the way to the camp where we will have a section of the public camp ground. No packers or bus to hire this time.

Rainier itself, across the canyon of the Whitewater, looks so close it seems as if you could touch it or run and jump on Inter Glacier and Steamboat Prow. Yet it is a day's climb to the bivouac on the tip of Steamboat. The mountain is a two-day climb.

Rainier, elevation 14,410, is a real challenge for the most hardy. Skyscraper, Mt. Fremont, McNealy Peak and others are interesting one-day climbs and excellent for becoming acclimated and toughened up in preparation for the Big One.

Trips out onto Emmons and Winthrop Glaciers will give you a taste of real ice climbing and make you lose fear of, but not respect for, crevasses. There are probably more crevasses on those two glaciers than on all our Three Sisters combined.

There will be lots of trips to Berkley Park, Grand Park and others -- or even a bivouac trip to Mystic Lake. There will be plenty of time just to stroll around the park among the beautiful wildflowers and up on Sunrise Ridge.

Whether you can go for two weeks or just one, or even only for a week-end, you will find it well worth-while. But if you do not go for the full time, you will miss a lot.

The camp will be Aug. 2 to 15.

---Louis Waldorf

Odds and Ends
On Rainier Outing

The club has two new tents for the 1959 summer outing. They are pyramidal tents, war surplus, scouted out at a good price by Louis Waldorf and Mike Stahl, outing chairman. They are 11x14 and made of nylon. Tom Taylor has a mountain tent made of the same stuff and he says it's still water tight after 15 years.

Donn Chase is the third member of the outing committee, along with Louis and Mike.

Transporting the gear to camp will be accomplished by Donn in his Volks pickup and if we need it, we can use Lorena's pickup, too.

Frances Newsom, scientific committee chairman, has scoured the library for information on Mt. Rainier. She showed up at last board meeting with an armload of books on the natural history, geology and folklore of the Northwest's biggest peak. The club will buy copies of some of the books for use at the camp and, later, for inclusion in the club library.

Billboard Control

The conservation committee and the board have urged members to get in touch with their legislators, urging favorable action on a plan whereby Oregon can get a $\frac{1}{2}$ of 1 per cent bonus in federal match money for the freeway system if the state adopts a billboard control measure satisfactory to the federal government.

The Oregon Roadside Council, the Oregon State Motor Assn. and several legislators have prepared bills to this effect. The most sweeping of the bills call for control on all new freeways, whether or not they are part of the federal system.

Members were also urged to write thank-you notes to congressmen for the bill, in the last Congress, which deauthorized the Waldo Lake project of the army engineers. They might also ask that Waldo's status remain unchanged, pending the report of the National Outdoor Recreation Review Commission.

Smith Rocks Eyed As State Park Site

Smith Rocks, the geologically valuable area east of Redmond and Madras, visited by the Obsidians last summer, is being promoted as a state park site. Mary Brown, an Obsidian and publisher of the Redmond Spokesman, urged the Obsidians to go on record favoring such a project. This the board has done, on the recommendation of the conservation committee.

While some of the area is in public ownership or while easements are available, much of it is privately held and access at times is difficult.

S&R Committee

Lloyd Plaisted and Ray Harris have joined Gene Sebring on the search and rescue committee. Their most recent project has been a checking and repair of equipment, including some repairs to the litter.

History and Library

The big, green box containing club papers and such has been located. Bette Hack gave it to Ray Sims who gave it to Dorothy Ruse, and that's where it belongs.

Dorothy asks present and future buyers of official summit books to please spend a little more money and get better books. They wear better, says she, and withstand the ravages of melted snow which falls in the boxes while the books are being signed.

The 1959 Bird Count

The Audubon Society's annual bird count uncovered 91 species of birds in the local search. A total of 20,399 were counted. There were 38 persons on the count, including three Obsidians, Frances Newsom, Margaret Markley and Catherine Dunlop.

Natural History

Sam Dicken will talk on volcanoes at 8 p.m. Jan. 30 at the Natural History Society meeting in 123 Science, U. of O.

People You Know

PEPE HENSEN who with BERT and his mother will spend the year in Italy. The letter, bearing dues, bore the return address c/o 31 Yale Place, Rockville Center Long Island, New York.

BOB FRAZIER who is tooling around in a Volks. Seems half the membership is driving the peewees these days.

STEVE HADLEY who turned in the alarm for the big Woodrow Wilson Junior High fire.

THE STAHL FAMILY, recovering from flu.

MARTIN OOSTERKAMP who is doing city planning in The Hague. His Christmas card to Frances Newsom gave his address as "De Carpenteerstrasse, The Hague, The Netherlands."

Helping After Fire

The club has contributed \$25 to the Portland Mazamas' campaign to get money to replace their Mt. Hood lodge which burned in December.

New Board Time

Hereafter the board will meet at 7:30 p.m., in an effort to get home before midnight for a change. Next meeting, Feb. 5, is at Frances Newsom's.

List Coming Up

Membership list should be ready for the February bulletin.

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