



The OBSIDIAN



VOL. XIX

OBSIDIANS, INC. - P. O. Box 322 - MAY 1959 - EUGENE, ORE. NO. 4

Some Trail Trips At Mt. Rainier

Besides the opportunity to climb our highest Northwest mountain under the most favorable circumstances, the north side of Mt. Rainier offers a wide variety of lesser climbs, hikes, nature walks, and strolls through mountain meadows. These climbs, interesting in themselves, make excellent conditioners for the big climb. Having spent two previous outings in this area with the Mazamas and Obsidians, I can heartily recommend it to all of our members. You can take it just as strenuous or as easy as you like.

Berkley Park, Grand Park, Sunrise Ridge Burroughs Mountain and other park areas are easy strolls, while Mt. Fremont, Sky-scraper, St. Elmo Pass and others are real workouts. Overnight bivouacs may be made to Mystic Lake and Steamboat Prow. The latter will be the bivouac for the climbers. Threading along or jumping some of the innumerable crevasses on Winthrop and Emmons glaciers can be a thrilling experience for those equipped and qualified.

The road inside the Park from the north side via Stevens Canyon opened last year. This would make a fine all-day auto caravan round trip. Or some may wish to return home by way of Paradise.

Yakima Park and Sunrise Ridge themselves are excellent places just to lazy around in the mountain sunshine under intensely blue sky amid mountain flowers.

-- Louis Waldorf

FRIENDLY HOUSE PIC NITE

Our June 1 Friendly House Picture Night will bring Mary Douglas Stovall, showing her colored slides of Oregon Wildflowers, starting at 7:30 P.M. Members are asked to bring a few cookies or sandwiches and a few of their own pictures from recent trips. Mrs. Harlow Hudson, our gracious hostess, will serve the coffee.

Summer Camp At Mt. Rainier

"Old folks, young folks, everybody come
Come to our summer camp and have a lot
of fun..."

This variation of the familiar Obsidian camp song is the invitation for you to join us at Yakima Park campground in Mt. Rainier National Park for summer camp with unlimited opportunities for hiking and overnight bivouacs in remote areas, a big glacier only half an hour away by trail, and the Northwest's biggest mountain to climb. And to add to this, Selma will be cook again.

The time -- the usual first two weeks in August; from Aug. 1 to Aug. 16. We plan to serve the first meal Saturday evening, Aug. 1, and the last on Sunday morning, Aug. 16. This gives a full two weeks in camp, with a couple of meals added.

The cost -- for old folks -- anyone over 12 -- \$45 for two weeks, \$25 for one week, and \$4.50 per day for weekenders. For young folks -- 12 and under -- 60 per cent of the old folks' fee, which adds up to \$27, \$15, and \$2.70. Campers will furnish or arrange for transportation for themselves and their personal gear, including tents and sleeping bags. Since it is less than four hours drive there ought to be plenty of cars going. The committee will be glad to help make arrangements, if you have extra space or need a ride.

There's only one thing we can't arrange in advance: sunny weather. There's only so much available, and Mt. Rainier sometimes lives up to its name and is rainier than other places. So be forewarned and bring a raincoat.

Your outing committee is Louis Waldorf, Donn Chase, and Mike Stahl. Unofficial assistants will be Roxie, Dot, Donnie and probably Lorena and Doris Shinn.

-- Mike Stahl

THE OBSIDIAN BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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

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

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

Some Facts About
 Mt. Rainier

The Indian before the advent of white man called it Takhoma or Tahoma and they still do so. Captain Vancouver bestowed the name Rainier on its heights in 1792.

The first ascent of the mountain was made by Hazard Stevens and P.B. Van Trump in August, 1870.

Flower-wise Rainier is a mountain of rare delight, having about 300 kinds of plants -- some of which belong exclusively to this mountain. Many different types of foliage grow in the lower altitudes of the park -- such as vine maple and devils club, but the flowers are what warm the heart of botanist and plain flower-lover alike. Some of the best known are the Mountain lily, Indian painted cup, snow brush, gentian, which is a beautiful blue autumn flower, Alpine asters, growing in scattered abundance, avalanch lily and white heather, found in most grass flats around the high lakes.

No Obsidian should travel into the wonders of Mount Takhoma without a guide to Alpine flowers and plants available. It will triple your enjoyment of the park.

--Donn Chase

When Doris, Ray and Jim Sims sold their home as of May 1, the many board meetings, committee meetings and special meetings, as well as many Obsidian Dinners, pot-luck and otherwise, and picture shows became the many happy meetings of the past. Ray may be found at 482 East 16th, Apr. 3 phone DI 4-9546, while Doris and Jim may be at 585 East 19th, Apt. 13, phone DI-5-8804.

See you at Mt. Rainier!!

Phil Brogan's Trip
 To The High Lava Plains

Our good friend, Phil Brogan, has many fine plans for entertaining Obsidians the weekend of July 17 and 18. We will arrive in Bend by noon Saturday, the 17th, and visit some of the geological wonders of that immediate area. Then on to Summer Lake via the Fremont Highway. Beautiful Crooked Creek State Park will be the evening campsite. This is a spectacular spot just out of Lakeview. Those who wish may "motel it" in the City of Lakeview.

Early Sunday we will head out for Plush to see the interesting Warner Rim country and the shore lines of its vanished lakes. Then on over the desert's paved highway to Central Oregon highway, take time out for a sketch of the wanderings of the lost immigrants of 1853 and back to Bend. This weekend promises to be one of the Obsidians' best of the year. Invite your friends, and especially the non-Obsidians. Get lined up for an interesting and fun-packed weekend with Phil Brogan.

---Ray Cavagnaro

'Friends' to Visit
 Buck Meadows Area

This year's Fourth of July Trip of the Friends of the Three Sisters Wilderness will be to the Buck Meadows country. This is a year when the Fourth of July holiday is good for only two days for most of us so the expedition is planned for two days for most of us and three days for the few who can squeeze out a Monday.

Obsidians are especially invited to take part in the Fourth of July trip. Our Margaret Markley is in charge of reservations and our Dale Carlson will be the leader.

The group leaves the road head at the end of the Foley Springs Road on Saturday July 4. Pack animals will carry gear into Buck Meadows. Many trips will be made into nearby country. Duffle will be packed out either Sunday or Monday, depending on the individual's choice. Write Margaret, 1967 Adams, for more details.

President Jeppesen Reports On the Problem of the Building

On Saturday, May 23, at 7:30 p.m. a meeting was held for the purpose of investigating a piece of property for a potential clubhouse site or as an investment or for some of both.

Unfortunately I could not attend, but I heard that very few members turned out and that there was some dissention as follows:

That no officers were present to make it an official meeting; that there were too few attending to decide anything, and so forth.

I would like to say that the board has been working on buildings and property off and on for the last two years on this current decision; we have asked for ideas and information leading to possible sites on a club-wide basis. We received comparatively few replies.

Fortunately we have had an active and competent building committee during this time and it went on its own with board approval investigating what it heard about and what it could find on its own.

After considering costs, zoning, decoration, desirability, etc., it boiled down to a few reasonably priced parcels anywhere near our geographic location. The parcel currently being considered has been recommended strongly by several members and by the building committee. The growth of the community and street improvement would almost insure a gain in value in a few years.

At the April board meeting Tom Taylor, building committee chairman, told the board that the owner wanted a definite reply as to our intentions and that he would consider us first as we had seen him during the year previous. The board voted to take an option on this property for 60 days, which cost us \$150. We set aside the forementioned Saturday for the club inspection and felt that either the bulletin on postcards would be sufficient notice.

The matter of an official meeting was decided against, since the board through its committees is authorized to conduct club affairs, and the building committee a year or two previously had been given a vote of confidence pertaining to the conduct and activities.

The meeting held was to get only a consensus of opinion. It is my deduction that of those present the majority ruled favorably to purchase this property.

We must act on this matter prior to June 6, 1959, which means June 4, 1959, at our next board meeting. Although I must remain neutral at the meeting, I personally feel that this property would be a sound investment.

— Jim Jeppesen

Hey, How About Those Trip Reports

Ray Cavagnaro, chairman of the trips committee, complains that reports of the trips are not being turned in promptly. The committee must have these, if it is to keep its records up to date and then build a file of information for future committees.

Membership Changes

Resignations: Ruby Frazier, Chester Pietka.

Change from dropped to resigned: J.R. Bruckart.

Off to Europe

Frances Newsom leaves about June 1 for a four-months trip to Europe. On her Sabbatical leave from the University of Oregon, Frances will visit art libraries in the major cultural centers of Europe.

She will also visit son Jim who is in the Army Engineers in Europe, and, it is expected, will find time to see and photograph a mountain or two. While she is gone Frank Sipe will fill in as chairman of the Scientific Committee.



Conservation Program Outlined by Committee

The conservation committee has gone on record on these matters, approved by the board of directors:

1. Urge writing to the regional forester about natural areas inside the excluded parts of the Three Sisters Wilderness.
2. Back the wilderness bill by letters and by urging friends elsewhere to write.
3. Be represented at hearings on the Glacier Peak wilderness proposal.
4. Urge appropriations for the work of the National Outdoor Recreational Resources Review Commission.
5. Participate in the hearings on the Willamette Basin Study of the Oregon Water Resources Board.
6. Approve the idea of an Oregon Coast Trail on the general order of the Skyline.
7. Approve in principle the idea of a sand dunes park under the U.S.N.P.S.
8. Cooperate in the study of four proposed limited areas --- Sky Lakes, North Umpqua, area west of Diamond Lake and the Illinois Canyon. Obsidians having special knowledge of any of these areas were asked to get in touch with Karl Onthank.
9. Reaffirm the board's stand against a dam at Bruce's Eddy, or money for it.
10. Express appreciation for recent trail work in the Three Sisters Area and urge further work on trails, bridges, shelters, camps and so forth in both the McKenzie and Willamette basins. Also urge the placing of more and newer signs.

Our first Potluck Picnic of the summer will be on Thursday, June 18, at the home of Bob & Mary Medill. Don't miss this - especially Bob's delicious Obsidian coffee from the old black pot. ***** As this issue was being prepared, Paul and Helen Weiser were preparing to lead the two-day trip to Saddle Mt. with camp at Cape Lookout State Park. We hope to have a report on this grand trip in next month's bulletin.

Old Books Wanted

Look in your basement. Maybe you have a book of minutes or other club records. Because we have had no clubhouse, many of our records and other possessions are scattered pretty badly. The board would like to get them together. So please poke around.

Sign-Up Sheets Moved

Sign-up sheets, which have been at the Alpine Shop since Hendershott's closed, are now at Gilbert's Shoe Store, 49 East Broadway. That is between Willamette and Oak, next to the alley and on the north side of the street.

It is worth noting that the proprietor of Gilbert's is Sterling Behnke, who is a climber, hiker and skier of real ability and wide experience. He has been out with Obsidians a number of times in years past.

And he sells some mighty fine boots.

Obsidians Among 'Friends'

A number of Obsidians are among the officers of the Friends of the Three Sisters group. Officers of that group are:

President, Karl Onthank; vice president Alex Kirnak of Portland; Secretary, Frances Newsom; Treasurer, Albert Kaufman.

Executive committee members are Jim Kezer, O. K. DeWitt, and Lawrence Merriam.

Council members: Fred Cuthbert, Arthur C. Johnson, Gene Renard, Al Kaufman, Karl Onthank, Daron Dierks, Henry Hanson, Robert Storm, James Macnab, Ruth Hopson, Tom McAllister, and Al Schmitz.

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