



The OBSIDIAN

P.O. BOX 322 EUGENE, OREGON

VOL. XXIII

DECEMBER 1962

No. 3

*Merry Christmas
and Happy New Year*

CHRISTMAS TREE TRIP

Dec. 16th. Meet at the City Park Block at eleven o'clock a.m. Then to Hellsgate bridge on the road to Westfir where we will be met by a Forest Service Ranger. He will lead us on up the North Fork of the Willamette. He will also issue us the necessary tags for our trees. Christmas tree tags are \$1 each, but we will be permitted to gather greenery without cost.

DANCE NITE

December 13th, Thursday, from 7:30 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. Music by Cold Morter. At the Lodge. Come on up and join in the fun. No body can dance but we do have fun. This will be the only night in Dec. for this event, but will be resumed in January.

CHRISTMAS PARTY

Is being put on by the Princesses and will be Dec. 23, Sunday from 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. There will be a Christmas tree and parents are asked to bring something for the children and also salads, dainty sandwiches and Christmas cookies. The Princesses will furnish coffee and punch. You are asked to bring cups, plates and forks. Packages for children should be well labelled. A Christmas play is being planned.

NOTICE: Board meeting nights have been changed to the first Wednesday night

PUBLICATION REPORT

No report of this committee was given at the annual meeting so one is given now. A total of 2475 bulletins were run off in 11 editions. Over 200 copies of each edition were mailed out. 100 copies of the membership renewal forms were printed. 100 ballots were also printed as well as 250 summer camp brochures, 400 annual meeting notices, about 100 camp songs and 250 membership lists.

This at a cost to the club of \$ 118.34, of which \$ 66 was for postage to mail out the bulletins. This leaves a net cost for publications only, of \$52.34. The last year we had the publication of the bulletin contracted out the cost was \$288.

The various items necessary for putting out our printing includes paper, printing ink, addressing ink, mimeograph stencil sheets, address plates and staples. We are now making our own address plates saving a few dollars by doing so. We are also printing our own mastheads, while they may not be as attractive as having them done commercially, it does save us considerable money.

Want to call attention again to everyone that it would be a big help if people would turn in items to the publications committee that will be of interest to the membership. Its a big job to gather up and put out all of our printing and this would be a big help.

President....Margaret Markley.....4-0716
 Vice-pres....Dr. Robert Dark.....5-3780
 Secy-Treas...Dorothy Towleron.....5-4079
 Editor.....Bob Medill.....6-2908
 Asst. Ed.....Mary Castelloe.....4-5168
 Material for publication must be in not
 later than the 1st Thursday of the month.
 Bulletin Subscription.....Membership.
 Non-members.....\$2 per yr.
 Club Dues.....\$4 per yr.
 Juniors.....\$1 per yr.
 Dues are due.....October.

BIRD COUNT

The next annual bird count will be Dec. 30th. Take off time will be 8:00 a. m. and the launching pad will be at 13th & Kincaid. If you want more information on this call Ben Pruitt or Emma Wright.

The next Natural History meeting will be the evening of Dec. 14th when Mr. Donald Payne will talk on birds, about birds and how the National Annual Bird count is made, how you can help and do it intelligently.

To Thee We Sing!

Mountain trails,
 Sunshine bright,
 Paths toward the heavenly blue;
 Beauty shared,
 Moments loved,
 Wonderful hours we knew.

Golden days,
 Flowers gay,
 All those majestic hills;
 Splendour falls
 Over all
 Bird songs warbling trills.

Stately trees,
 Towering cliffs,
 Shimmering peaks out there;
 Rippling streams,
 Glistening lakes,
 Enchantment everywhere.

Sunrise bright,
 Breaks the night
 As we gladly come;
 Sunsets glow
 As we go
 Back again toward home.

Dear ones come
 Let us go
 Roam those paths once more;
 Glimpse anew
 Joys we knew
 When we strolled before.

Q. Mardette

PRINCESS DOINGS

Lorena Reid and Nellie McWilliams were hostesses at the Nov. 19 meeting of the Lodge board room; a most delicious dessert was enjoyed by all. Catherine Dunlop reported on the Hugh Pruett Maltese Cross project (the distribution of orange and black stickers to shut-ins to prevent Halloween disturbance); assisting on this work were Helen Kilpatrick, Natalie Morgan and Doris Jones. There was a discussion of what remains to be done in the kitchen, such as painting, etc. The group decided to sponsor the Annual Christmas Party (see story on Page 1) and to hold their own party at the Lodge on Dec. 17, with decorating the tree as entertainment (stringing of rose hips and popping popcorn in the fireplace). A gift exchange will be held. Nellie McWilliams will show slides of Princess Initiations.

OUR LIBRARY

On the Obsidian Library rack in the Board Room you can find bulletins from the clubs with which we exchange ours. From furthest away is Chicago Mountaineering Club's 1961 Outing---Climbing in the Selkirks (Our Outing Committee might read the last page.) Other items too are worthy of your perusal: Accidents in North American Mountaineering, the Canadian Ski Annual, A Visit to the Atomic Park, The Nature Conservancy News, The Forest Service's America's Playgrounds issue on Camping, our own state's Oregon Outdoor Recreation (It would be well for us to absorb much of this information to pass on to friends.) For shutter bugs there is an issue of Canadian Photographer. Catalogs, too, find their way to this shelf. Mountaineering Supply, Springfield, Mass., and Sport Chalet, LaCanada, Calif., are here now.

Best of all are our own fine copies of record books from the tops of the Three Sisters. Show by the reading of this material that we appreciate the work of Librarian Art Johnson.

 Obsidians extend sympathy to the Scherer
 family on the passing of Clarence's
 mother, and to Frances Newsom and her
 family on the loss of her father.

In and Out of the Hospital; Paul Weiser, Harmon Pennoyer, Glenn Sims, and of course Ray Cavagnaro is in and out all of the time

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MARGARET MARKLEY

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For the second time in its history the Obsidians have a woman President. Margaret having been elected to that office at the last Board meeting. Margaret has earned the Obsidian's ten peak award, is a Princess and has done an immense amount of work for the club. She is very capable of handling the job.

Other officers elected are:
 Dr. Bob Dark, vice-president
 Sec.-treas., Dorothy Towler
 Committees:

Trips - - - - - Gene Sebring
 Entertainment - - - - - Betty Boeshans
 Climbs - - - - - Bob Dark
 Library - - - - - Art Johnson
 Publication - - - - - Bob Medill
 Membership - - - - - Mary Jo Johannis
 Conservation - - - - - Don Hunter
 Outing - - - - - Jim Jeppesen
 Search & Rescue - - - - - Stan Hasek
 Youth - - - - - Frank Moore
 Lodge & Grounds - - - - - Mac McWilliams

In other action at the board meeting \$100 was allowed for the Northwest Conservation fund.

Adopted a resolution as follows:
 "That there is to be nothing of a permanent nature hung on the interior or exterior walls of the Lodge without first being approved by the board".

Accepted the resignation of Dorothy Raines and Art Steele, Jr. who has gone East to enter college.

Accepted the applications for membership: BOB BAU AN, 705 Berntzen Rd. Eugene
 ELLA CARRICK, 1831 High, Apt. 1, Eugene
 CAROL SCHERER, 1476 Pleasant, Springfield
 NANCY SCHERER, 1476 Pleasant, Springfield
 MARK SEBRING, Rt. 2, Box 87B, Eugene
 Susan Wilkins, 580 Horn Lane, Eugene

Request from Dan Sellard of the Register Guard that we put on a class in back packing and this was turned over to Bob Dark and may be held in along with climbing school in the spring.

Board meetings have been changed to the first Wednesday of the month except for the January one which will be the second Wednesday. REMEMBER THE 2ND Wed.

AWARDS. 10 PEAK AND 3 PEAK

Mark McLaughlin as the only one to receive the ten peak award this year. Those receiving the 3 peak award were Margaret Weise, Marriner Orum, Bob Ashworth, Kirk McLaughlin, Bob Dark and Mac McWilliams. Mac having earned his several years ago but had not been presented with his before.

JOINT POT-LUCK

A far sized group of Friends of the Three Sisters and Obsidians broke bread together at the Obsidian Lodge the nite of December 1. Thanks to Mac McWilliams the building was nice and cosy and we all had a real nice time. Fred Behm of Blue River showed movies and others showed slides. A talk was given by Mike McCloskey on the struggle to save some of our more outstanding areas in their natural state. Did you know that a group of L.A. men have taken out mining claims in the South Sister Wilderness, to be exact, in the Rock Mesa area, to mine pumic blocks. We cannot even feel secure in areas that have no timber.

CONSERVATION REPRESENTATIVE

Mike McCloskey has done a tremendous amount of work along this line during the past year and has agreed to carry on for one more year. Mike gets his orders from a committee composed of FWOC and Sierra members. In order to keep Mike going another year is going to take just twice the money it has taken the past year. The Sierra Club matches all funds that are given for this purpose. All clubs are asked to double their last years donation and private contributions are urgently needed to help bring this fund up to the required amount, so if you can help with any amount send your contribution to the Sierra Club, or to Karl Onthank and Earmark your check For Northwest Conservation Fund. The contribution is tax deductible.

FWOC FINANCIAL REPORT

The joint Obsidian and Chemeketan FWOC convention endeavor has shown a net of \$357.86. This money has been contributed to the Northwest Conservation Fund as was agreed to by the committee before the convention. The complete report by Frances McCarter is on file at the Lodge. Miss McCarter wishes, thru the bulletin to extend her thanks to all those who helped with the work.

NEW BOOKS

From the Univ. of Washington Press, Seattle 5. THE SAVORY WILD MUSHROOM, by Margaret McKenny. This book has all the various ones, good and bad, with over 80 photographs, 48 of them in color, also how to prepare them \$3.95.

HIGH TRAILS, by Robert H. Wills describes the Pacific Crest Trail thru Wash. and Oreg. mile by mile, as well as the myriad side trails. U. of W. \$3.00

CIDER PARTY AT THE WESLEY'S

Nov. 11, 1962. Thirty - four persons accepted Harry and Lois Wesley's invitation to a cider party at their home on the Umpqua River about 8 miles northwest of Roseburg. The group arrived at the Wesley's about 11 a.m. After greeting them, we took a short walk down to see the river in spite of the misty rain. A delicious potluck picnic was enjoyed at noon indoors in the Wesley's spacious and comfortable home.

After lunch the cider mill, merrily turned by an electric motor and fed dripping apples by many hands, ground out gallons and gallons of sweet cider from the many boxes of apples furnished by Harry Wesley.

All declared the occasion a joyous time and departed with well-filled jugs and grateful hearts for Harry, Lois and Jo Anne's warm hospitality. Those who partook were: Kay Fahy, Catherine Dunlop, Myrtle Smith, Ella Carrick, Thelma Watson Charla Eubanks, Dorothy Towlerton, Nellie and Mac McWilliams, Jane Hilt, Mary and Bailey Castelloe, Gudrun Wangsell, Harmon Pennoyer, Judy Doig, Jim and Mary Douglas Stovall, Helen and Paul Weiser, Margaret Weise, Lois Nelson, Donn and Jean Chase, Clarence and Dorothy Scherer & their 5 children, Del Blattler, Olga Mortensen Mrs. Erno, (Olga's sister) Margaret Markley.

DETERGENTS We have seen pictures and have read about the detergent problem in the East where the population is heavy and what it is doing to the rivers and to all water supplies. When back in Illinois I saw, in the Illinois River, which drains sewage from Chicago, 90 miles south of Chicago where the river goes over a small dam, detergent suds 5 to 6 feet high and extending down river for about a mile before dissipating again. Any rapids or water falls creating this foam again and it completely fills the river from bank to bank. Bob Medill.....

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WE WUZ ROBBED

In a back issue of the bulletin we told of the controversy between Oregon and Washington as to which state had the largest fir tree being settled in favor of Oregon and where this tree was located. Now, because of the big wind of Sunday, 25 of November, the honor goes back to Wash. This fir stood over two hundred feet high and 15½ feet in diameter at waist height.

STONE MOUNTAIN TRIP: We were surprised as we assembled at the junction of Highway 58 and the Hills Creek turn-off when Helen and Paul Weiser joined us on our journey to Stone Mountain. As we began the climb, however, they decided the ascent seemed too steep for them and so returned home. The climb was steep but short, similar to the Spencer Butte climb and with a long ridge of rocks at the summit too. This ridge was reached by climbing more or less straight up the wooded slope behind the sheer wall of rock that had faced us as we drove toward the mountain.

Canyons were flecked with yellow leaves of autumn peeping through the darker hues of the evergreens. Low clouds prevented a distant view but it was still a very lovely scene. The ridge culminated in the sheer cliff overhanging the road.

Twenty people lunched atop the ridge & we reached our cars just as the first drops of rain fell. The ride home was alternately clear and showery, ending in a downpour as we arrived in town. -

Dorothy and Catherine took a wrong turn at Hills Creek as they were coming back & wandered around in the vicinity of Kitson Springs before they discovered their mistake, but they enjoyed that little side trip too and discovered the road would take them over the mountain to Highway 58 much further east. They did not go that far but may next time they are in that vicinity as both are curious. Those on the trip: Helen and Paul Weiser, Ray Cavagnaro, Evelyn Hiles, Del Glatler, Trudy Halverstatt, Pamela Hacek, Dorothy Scherer, Bailey and Mary Castelloe, Ted and Mary Jo Johannis, Henry Jeppesen, Catherine Dunlop, Helen Modersohn, Annette Gramblette, The Scherer children, Barbara Hiles Dorothy Towlerton.

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WHY do people climb mountains? This has been asked by so many so often that it has become something of a joke. However here is one answer. Where else can one go and not get run over or run into by an automobile, or other motorized equipment? On top of the mountains there are no stop signs, no traffic cops writing out tickets, no gas fumes and the lights are always green. And that's pretty close to heaven.

Let's all have fun at the Christmas Tree trip and the Princess's Xmas Party.

HILLS CREEK POWER HOUSE AND DAM

Nov. 25th Roy Temple led this one. The party left Eugene about 8:30 stopping at Temple's store in Oakridge to pick up Roy and Edna and then onto the dam. Two of the attendants explained how each piece of equipment operates. Also said that each piece of equipment has a duplicate to fall back on if one fails to work. One attendant then led the way from the power house down below the dam around and on top of dam at the intake. We saw where a large crane that lifts some concrete slabs that regulate the water had come unhooked under several feet of water and a skindiver had to go down and hook it up. Then most of the party got on the elevator and went down inside the dam. Some walked down 210 spiral steps. All got on elevator to come from bottom to top. The attendant and party of nine made ten persons on the elevator. Got within four feet of top floor and everything stopped. All but the phone. Attendant rang out to man in power house but before he could drive around we got man hole in the ceiling open and he was helped thru the ceiling of cage and tripped a kick-out. While the elevator was dead he punched a down button to the bottom so when power came back on we all went down to the bottom, then had to dial top floor. This time to the top without the operator. We then drove to Salmon Creek Falls camp ground & had our lunch. Then drove to Wall Creek where we parked and hiked in over part of Wall Creek Smith Trail to hot springs, then back another way by Warm Springs Spur road. About that time it started to rain. Arrived back to Roy and Edna's place 3:30pm. Spun a few yarns till about 6. Then left for Eugene. Those on this trip were: Roy and Edna Temple, Adeline Adams, Mr and Mrs Harold Howser, Mac and Nellie McWilliams, Dorothy Towler, Catherine Dunlop.

GOBBLEDYGOOK

A study indicates that food should be on hand to give a soldier a square meal when he finishes fighting.

How would one say that in government gobbledygook?

Here's how it was said in a horrible example cited by a Chicago Daily News reporter.

"In the current stages of the outgoing post-attack productivity study, the identification of the enervating effects of a decreased caloric diet upon physical productivity indicates the need to plan pre-attack, for adequate caloric food stockpiles". From Ray Sims.....

TIPS FROM TOLMIE

Inez Tolmie sends the following tip to the Obsidians. Fill plastic bottles, (she uses the large round detergent ones) with water to within an inch or so from the top and place in freezer. When going on a trip put these in your camp cooler instead of a cake of ice. They last as long as ice and you do not have the water problem. Keeps your cooler clean. Sounds good. She also sends ten dollars for two chairs. Thank you, Inez. Inez is Mary Medill's daughter.

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A THANK YOU to the retiring board members, Kay Fahy and Donn Chase for their three years of time and effort and to all the committee chairmen and members for their contribution during the last year.

INDIGO LAKE AND SAWTOOTH MTN.

Sept. 29, 1962, led by Helen Hughes. This is a delightful trip for fall. Snow had fallen at high elevations of the trip a day or so previous to the trip, and altho the lake was clear, those who made the trip to the top of Sawtooth climbed most of the way in 2 to 12 inches of snow. Clearing weather gave picture takers a blue sky and everyone a wonderful trip. About half the party went only to Indigo. The rest climbed Sawtooth and then came down the face just above the lake. Those making the trip were Margaret Markley, Margaret Wiese, Martha Goodrich, Betty Boeshans, Loraine Bressler, Paula Vehrs, Clarence Landes, Mike Bray, and Helen Hughes.

SOUTH JETTY OF THE SIUSLAH with Donn Chase on Nov. 18th. Fourteen persons spent a very nice day on the river and beach. Two boat loads were ferried down the river in the Chase's outboard cruiser. The first load left from Cushman and the 2nd load was picked up at Florence. We tied up after dumping Charla off in the river at the construction dock. A large fire was built on the beach and after the eats several hikes were taken. There was no wind, the temperature a warm 60 and the sunset was beautiful. The last boat tied up at dark at Cushman. Those aboard were: Thelma Watson, Al Coven, Charla Eubanks, Hella Modersohn, Kay Fahy, Del Blattler, Ted and Mary Jo Johannis, Catherine Dunlop, Alvin and Helen Lynch, Myrtle Smith and Ilse Kreft who is an exchange teacher from Germany.

CHIEFS INITIATION

Twenty Obsidian Chiefs were in the initiation party at the Obsidian Lodge on Saturday, November 24, 1962.

The three new Chiefs are Bob Ashworth "Chief Falling Rocks", Karl Onthank, Chief Yukuma", Marriner Orum, "Chief Cruiser"

Everyone was well pleased with the finished Lodge and the warm feeling it gives.

Six or eight brot sleeping bags and stayed overnight. Many things were discussed for the betterment of this fine lodge.

Those attending:

Horsefeathers.....Henry Korn
Smoketurner.....Ray Sims
Honker.....Gene Pearson
Brokentop.....Bailey Castelloe
Kiyi.....Bob Wilson
Appelknoker.....Paul Weiser
Bear Hunter.....Dale Carlson
Substitute.....Henry Carlson
Q Ball.....Milton Koupal
Thunderbird.....Mac McWilliams
Posy.....Lloyd Plaisted
Smokey.....Merle Bailey
Lookout.....Keith Brunig
Bantam.....Art Johnson
Ab Dulla.....Bob Northrup
Wah.....Bill Beaman
Moose Watcher....Frank Moore
Falling Rocks....Bob Ashworth
Yukuma.....Karl Onthank
Cruiser.....Marriner Orum

A repetition of the big 1961 Chiefs reunion will be held in 1964. This should be plenty of notice so you can plan to attend this event.

FIR SEEDLINGS. Does anyone know how and where we could get a couple dozen to be planted on our land? Maybe we could plant more than that, and then we could have a club Christmas tree from our own land to be used at the Lodge at Christmas time.

HISTORY OF THE OBSIDIANS

From the beginning

by Ray Sims

The swirling mountain storm of Labor Day weekend of 1927 brought word of tragedy to Eugene that started the Obsidian Club. It was Tuesday, September 6th, 1927, that Prince Glaze of Frog Camp sent word by telephone that Guy Ferry and Henry Cramer Two University of Oregon boys of The Dalles Had failed to return after their trip into the Three Sisters area.

Their model T Ford was there and Prince Revealed that they had gone in to climb the Middle Sister on Sunday, but returned late saying, "A storm was on the Mountain" But leaving again on Monday they went in to climb again-never to return.

The Forest Service erected temporary tents at Frog Camp to house the 150 to 200 men from all over Oregon who reported in to aid in the search. In the group from Eugene were, J. Ed. Turnbull; Elmer Maxey Sid King; W. Reynold Landrum; E.A. Britton Prince and Ethel Glaze and Ray Sims.

Both of the parents of the lost boys were also in the rain soaked tents, as the rain continued during the week.

Thinking the boys might have gone to the South Sister, Nels Wulfsburg and Emil Nordeen climbed the South in a blizzard but found no clue. So E.A. Britton joined them in a climb of the Middle and in the register book there-their last words, "We were up here yesterday in such a blizzard that we could not find the register box. Stormy and cold today-left Frog Camp at 11 a.m.-arrived here at 3:35 p.m. signed, Guy Ferry, The Dalles. Henry Cramer, The Dalles, Oregon. to be continued.

RAY SIMS after a long absence has made his first reappearance back to the club, attending the annual meeting. Welcome back, Ray, and we all hope to see you attending all doings at the Lodge

OBSIDIANS, INC.
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