



Vol. 31

DECEMBER

No. 3

CHRISTMAS PARTY AND POTLUCK

Saturday, December 19th

6:30 P.M., Obsidian Lodge

Entertainment- Special music by

Dr. John Bascom and his musical family.

Gift Exchange - bring a gift of approximately 50¢ in value.

Men bring a gift for a man,

Women bring a gift for a woman,

children bring a gift for a child.

Please have them labeled such that it helps Santa in distribution.

If time allows, we might even have some group singing!

- The Bridgemans are in charge. -

NOTICE!!

Christmas Tree Hunt in the Lowell area will be led by Marriner Orum on Sunday, December 13.

There will be a \$1.00 charge for cutting a tree in addition to the trip fee and transportation fee.

Sign up at the YMCA or call Marriner.

Year starts in October!!

For those of you who are filing your Bulletins - the October issue should read Vol. 31, No.1 and the November issue should read Vol.31, No. 2. - Just one of those things!

CAMP ROSS SUMMER CAMP of 1971

Yes, folks, here is the first juicy, tantalizing tidbit about our next Summer Camp. It will be in the LAKE TAHOE DESOLATION VALLEY PRIMITIVE AREA, from Monday, July 26 to Friday, August 6.

It is a 4½ mile pack-in.

NEW YEARS EVE CELEBRATION

Time: 7 P.M. till 1971

Potluck Supper will not be 6 P.M. not 6:30 P.M., but 7 o'clock!

Those who want to come to the potluck only, may do so. Those who want to come to the party only, may come at 8 P.M.

Any of you who have something you would like to act, say or sing, or any stunt you would like to do will be given a chance, so please put on your thinking cap and come and do your thing.

Also come prepared for the Annual Liars Contest. Now I've heard some good lies this past year, so come out and tell them to all of us.

Please bring cookies or sandwiches. Coffee, tea and punch will be furnished by the Lodge.

Join the Fun Games Lies Singing!

- The Medills

FRIENDLY HOUSE PROGRAM for December

Dec. 13

Ray Sims, Summer Camp 1970 and Jet Boat Trip

Dec. 20

South Seas - Mr. & Mrs. Ansel Hyland

Dec. 27

Potluck Dinner at 5:30 P.M., Board Meeting and story at 7:30 PM, slides at 8 P.M. - Harold Dunn's "Craggs and Canyons" - Mt'l Parks of the west.

Jan. 3, 1971

Hawaiian Islands, John Stafford

Jan. 10

Spain, by Paul Simpson

DR. ALEXANDER RENFREW 1816 - 1876
Part 3. by Art Steele

Soon Dr. Renfrew turned the management of St. Charles Hotel over to his wife and went up the McKenzie for the summer. On Friday, August 4, he set out on a three or four mile hike from a camp of his on Blue River to go to some of his diggings in the United States Creek area just north of Gold Hill.

His way led up the Simmonds Creek Trail through an area that had been burned over in a large fire in 1855.

The day was hot, and as he made his way up the hillside he came to a spring.

As near as can be determined, he suffered from diabetes, one of the symptoms of which is an uncontrollable thirst and this, coupled with the hot day, and possibly his unsound mind, caused him to drink too much cold water, and he died of cramps about 200 feet from the spring. Each of the local papers in its Saturday, August 12th edition carried notice of his death. The Guard stated that he was found on Sunday, August 6 by a party sent to search for him. The State Journal said word came from E.P. Connell of the finding of his body.

His body was buried, where found, near the spring which now bears his name. The grave is currently marked by a crudely chiselled native stone, and is in a patented mining claim called Durango and now owned by Bert Udell of Lebanon, Oregon. As an additional bit of revelant information about the area, there is another spring 100 yards over the crest north of Gold Hill, called John Downing's Spring. It was named for a miner who came along after Dr. Renfrew who was known as "Nigger John".

He is clearly remembered by local residents. The end.

- Compiled in 1970

JOKE!!?

"Not since the days of Indian scalp gathering have so many people been going around with hair that is not their own."

ONE WAY TO WIN by Polly Tickle

Having been more or less tranquilized by acceptance of Initiative #9 at the last election by the voters of Oregon, authorities at Salem have decided that I am now safe to be turned loose to come back home. The winning of this contest to save some of our scenic rivers from the ravages of the (human) piranhas seeking to hold and extend their jobs started in Salem in February 1969 when a handful of men, including one of your Obsidian members and a couple of Mazamas, an ex-state senator from Fossil, and some others organized into "Friends of the John Day".

Your Obsidian was elected "State Director". A Mazama member was elected "Chairman". At the last meeting of the State Legislature Senator Don Willner of Portland introduced a bill to set aside these streams as Scenic Rivers. Due to pressure from lobbyists the bill never had a chance. Senator Willner was so determined that the people of Oregon wanted some of their rivers saved from further deparadations that he instigated this initiative petition to carry the fight to the people. Joining up with Senator Willner, the "Friends of the John Day" threw their weight and finances into the fray, as did hundreds of others all over the state with the result that the people of Oregon were interested enough to carry the measure two to one.

What I can't understand is why the one third voted the way they did, but anyhow the fight so far has been successful. This is the first time since 1958 that Oregon voters have approved an initiative measure. Think about that for a while. And the men we elect ot the position of Legislators and Senators like it so well that they wanted to go up to Salem every year instead of just every other year. Now I think that if the measure called for them to meet every four years, it would have carried. But I can't get too deeply involved in that or I'll find myself back in Salem.

8 8

Notice to members!

Chiefs follow Princesses!

First PRINCESS NEWS

Princess Party will be Monday, December 21, 7:30 P.M. Princess Goldenrod (Helen Weiser) invites all princesses to her home at 945 Coburg Road. Florence Sims (Blue Waters) and Jane Hilt (Silver Birch) will be co-hostesses with Helen.

There will be a short program and everyone is to bring a \$1 gift for the Christmas exchange.

ANNUAL INITIATION - Nineteen princesses held their annual ceremonial at their remote campfire on Nov. 21, 22 and welcomed two new members - Princess Glacier Gold (Anita Dark) and Princess Edelweiss (Cindy Bascom). Even Mother Nature was impressed by the event and created a fairyland world of ice-sheathed trees and grasses. Everyone enjoyed the bountiful feast and warm fellowship. In addition to Anita and Cindy, those attending were:

| | |
|-----------------------|------------------|
| Lois Schreiner | Lenore McManigal |
| Helen Lymch | Mary Bridgeman |
| Wilma Moore | Barbara Hasek |
| Jane Hilt | Blanche Bailey |
| Frances Newsom | Dorothy Scherer |
| Margaret Markley | Anna Pehanec |
| Catherine Dunlop | Mary Castelloe |
| Helen Smith | Thelma Watson |
| and Nellie McWilliams | |

NOVEMBER MEETING was taken up with final preparations for initiation at the home of Princess Meadowlark - (Charlotte Lemon) who was assisted by Princess Alpine Phlox (Frances Newsom).

then CHIEFS INITIATION Nov. 14, 1970 follows

FUN AND SURPRISE was the theme of this year's annual initiation. As about a dozen Chiefs sat around the peaceful fireplace, who should walk in but Chief Pack Chaser, Tom Miles for the first time in some 35 years.

Howard Byerly drove in from Paisley, Oregon, and last to come was Gene Pearson. Fourteen of us sat down to dinner at about 6:45 P.M.

Chief Smoketurner had some sad news - only that week Chief Shitepoke, David Faville, had passed away in Palo Alto.

Wes Prouty was the lone initiate, and because of his many talents was named CHIEF WOOD BUTCHER.

Eight stayed overnight at the Lodge

- CHIEFS (still following)

and the new Chief put on a very fine breakfast. Then the woodshed was filled, and another year had come to an end. But remember! Next year will be the 44th, and THE ONE FOLLOWING THAT WILL BE THE 45th! - We will all get together!

Those attending were Tom Miles, Bill Beaman, Bailey Castelloe, Arthur M. Johnson, Gene Pearson, Bob Northrop, Keith Brunig, Jim Jeppeson, Lloyd Plaistad, George Korn, Howard Byerly, Douglass Spencer, Wesley Prouty and Ray Sims.

HELP SAVE LOCAL PETRIFIED FOREST

Members of the Springfield Rock Club and the Sweet Home Rock and Mineral Society are working fast to try to save an area known to geologists as the Sweet Home Petrified Forest. A recent meeting of these clubs with the Army Corps of Engineers, the National Park Service, and the Soil Conservation Service was held near the area to present requests for preserving it. Lloyd Staples, UofO geologist urged the Engineers to evaluate the significance of this petrified wood resource before constructing a dam which would inundate the area.

According to Staples, about 35 million years ago during the Oligocene Era, a sub-tropical forest existed along the shoreline of a lagoon of the Pacific Ocean when the Coast Range was beginning to form. When the trees were covered with silt, the wood was gradually replaced with silica which petrified the wood.

This area is not open to the public. Permission must be secured in order to visit it. Obsidians are urged to help in the project of preserving this area for study purposes and to call Obsidians Mr. and Mrs. Leo Paschelke for further information.

How would you like a scrumptious, munchy,

"CRUNCHY GRANOLA" recipe next month?

I'd give it to you now, but I must try it first. It's by Joy Ballinger.

MEMORIAL to Dave Faville

Obsidians are saddened to hear that our Honorary member David E. Faville died recently. Dave (as he was called by Obsidians) was given the name Chief Shikepoke in 1930. He was the 12th Chief.

At that time he was Dean of the School of Business Administration at the UofO.

While attending the Obsidians' second Summer Camp at Hinton Creek just west of the South Sister (Camp Bovard, 1931) he wrote the Obsidian Song which so aptly fits us. Quoting from Ray Sims' History: "Another noted event was the writing of the Obsidian Song by the young, talented David Faville. He wrote a verse after each climb. The first week - "There lies a mountain to the north, whose sides are very steep". The second week brought - "The Middle Sister stands so prim, with nothing much to do". And - "Lakes and lakes that really can't be found" resulted after members drew maps in the dirt around the campfires describing their attempts to find Honey Lakes.

Well, Dave had lots of fun at his first Summer Camp with the Obsidians, and as an excellent singer he had no trouble finding the proper tune." (Obsidian Song uses the tune of 'Ramblin' Wreck from Georgia Tech).

Dave had a beautiful voice and a grand personality which seemed to blend so well with his stature - he was well over six feet tall, broad shouldered and very handsome. There are so many wonderful memories of Dave (some still treasure his songs, stories, and even his recipes). He often returned to attend our Summer Camps even after moving to Stanford University in the 1930's.

Dave had received his B.A. from Stanford in 1922, his Master of Bus.Ad. from Harvard in 1925, and became Dean of the Bus.Ad. School at UofO in 1928.

As Professor of Marketing at Stanford U., he received many honors for his work. He traveled extensively, was well versed in worldly knowledge, and was a great opera fan. Even after retirement he achieved recognition in the field of art. We Obsidians were pleased to receive one of his paintings in 1968 - a picture of the South Sister bathed in alpine glow, with Chieftan Lake (one of his favorite spots) in the foreground. - next paragraph

Dave Faville, cont. -

(He used acrylic paints) This now hangs in our Board Room. He most recently achieved fame in Japanese brush painting and many Obsidians are proud recipients of his hand-painted Christmas cards.

DR. JOHN BASCOM has been elected President of the Lane County Medical Society for 1971, after having served as President-elect during 1970.

Dr. John has been practicing-surgeon in Eugene since 1960.

ADDRESS CHANGES

Roger F. Smith
2203 Lorane Highway
Eugene, Ore., 97405

Ron and Judy Faich
3410 Potter St., Eugene, Ore., 97405

MORE ADDRESS CHANGES

Grace Smith
2160 Friendly St.
Eugene, Oregon, 97405

Howard Byerly
P.O. Box 147
Paisley, Oregon, 97636

Mozelle Hair
12705 S.E. River Road, #311S
Portland, Oregon, 97222

DOOZERDOO!!!

Okay, folks - those of you who HAVE NOT PAID YOUR DUES FOR THE COMING YEAR - Now is a good time to remember! Put a mark on your calendar, or better still, sit down right now and mail your dues to your NEW Membership Chairman, Wayne Renfro, c/o Obsidians, Inc. "Thanks."

- While you are about it, how about slipping in a few Gold Bond Stamps, Betty Crocker coupons or Flav-r-pak labels.

FALL FOLIAGE PANORAMA TOUR
October 16,17,18

Here is a list of the people who went on this delightful excursion into the rugged area of British Columbia.

Clara, Rolfe and Bertha Anderson
Alice Bissell Frank Scobert
Maude Bowen Grace Smith
Mary Broderick Edna Temple
Ray Cavagnaro Louis and
June Collar Roxie Waldorf
Mrs. Jo Dotson Helen Weiser
Gerry and Mary Sue Fehly
Geiger Jewel Arthur West
Esther Gragg Bob Wilson
Virginia Horton Marjorie Wilson
Elizabeth Jungers
Arlene Keasling
Veraraye Luddell
Mac and Nellie McWilliams
Lillie Morgan
Edna Noland
Roger and Olive Rees
The leaders were Gerry Fehly and
Ray Cavagnaro

SCOTT MOUNTAIN Oct. 10

(Listen to this delightful report)

Dredged up from the back reaches of my memory (due to the natural Bascom casualness about deadlines, and my faith in the Obsidians' ability to forgive, we waited until Cindy became an Obsidian Princess and got word of it from the powers that be) are the following details:

Friday it was pouring in Eugene, and after 7 people cancelled out, we began to pack large quantities of raingear.

Saturday morning was little better, and after counting the number in our party (13) I was not hopeful for change at higher elevations.

However, it was cloudless up on the pass (someone up there loves the Obsidians) and the hike was disappointingly uneventful, although beautiful.

We stopped at Tenas Lakes on the way back, convinced Andy and Kurt to "swim" in the glacial pond, and we had a water fight.

Those on the trip were:

- How about next column??

***** 1971 DOOZERDOO *****

Becky, Cindy and Ellen Bascom
Mike Blazeŷ & his friend from S. Dakota
Mary Bridgeman
Katie Brubaker
Fran Chapman (I think)
Girl from Chicago
U of O student
Kurt and Jake Veldhuisen
Andy Wish
Leaders were Becky Bascom, Ellen, 400.
P.S. My apologies to those without
Christian names - the list has disappeared

LOWDER MTN. - WALKER CREEK SHUTTLE
Oct. 17

The trail is easy and well marked to the top of Lowder Mtn., the view of the Sisters, Jeff, Washington, etc. from which is excellent on clear days. Lunch break was welcomed by all, for the short climb up the mountain is arduous for inexperienced and undisciplined hikers. On the route to Lowder is an excellent viewpoint of French Creek Valley in all its breathtaking enormity and glory, for those able to stop and remain quiet enough to feel the magnitude of the experience; few on this trip were so inclined. Once on the Walker Creek portion of the trip, the trail becomes rather indistinct and difficult to follow,

requiring a modicum of discipline in a large group to avoid unnecessary delays and possibly accidents. The trail traverses a lush forest valley, replete with mushrooms and vine maple, but the length of the trip requires a pace too rapid for casual perusal. After 5½ hours we reached the lower trailhead, and with an additional 1½ hours consumed completing the shuttle, we reached Highway 126 just as darkness fell.

Those shuttling along were:

| | |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| Anne Anderson | Roger Long |
| Jim Cagle | Rose Marie Moffitt & |
| Greg Carlson | two children |
| Dave Cohen | Nancy Ostberg |
| Al Coons & daughter | Donald Payne |
| Barbara Durchanek | Mr. & Mrs. Quales |
| Judy & Ron Faich* | Bob Rowe |
| Dave & Pat Huam | Lois Schreiner |
| Paul Iwata | Helen Smith |
| Dorothy & Ronnie Leland | Vi Tucker |
| Greg Wannier | Mildred Wilson |

CASTLE ROCK Oct. 25

What was supposed to be a pleasant fall walk on bare ground to Crescent Mountain turned into a substitute snow trip to a much lower elevation. An early and heavy snowfall made the original trip impossible.

We ran into snow before Blue River. Stopped and put chains on Clarence Landes' vehicle. Took off again and arrived at end of road in six inches of snow. Snow fell continuously during entire trip. Snow-decorated fall foliage on deciduous trees made for beautiful views in spite of close-in weather conditions.

Who would believe 15 inches of snow at 3800 feet on October 25!?

Unbelievable but true. Party consisted of Jim Cagle, Dave Cohen, Clarence Landes, Robert Rowe, Lois Schreiner, Helen Smith and leader Clarence Johnson.

CASTLE ROCK Nov. 7

It was a short, one mile hike up to Castle Rock. We stayed for about an hour on top waiting for a clear sky, and had lunch while waiting. Since it was such a short hike, the party decided to hike up French Pete for a short distance. Weather was overcast all day. As it is now such a short trip, it should be combined with another trip in the area.

With Mary Bridgeman were Joy Ballinger, Ted Campbell, David Cohen, Neal and Nene Kalez.

OBSIDIANS, INC.
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FIRST CLASS MAIL

HISTORY OF THE OBSIDIANS

#79

Ray Sims

The year 1960 should be remembered by all Obsidians, because in November the Obsidian Lodge was started. Tom Taylor was President, and I was on the Board when a meeting was held 'across the tracks' in an old house that was one of four places being considered. The other three places were our own lot at 17th and High, a large house in Springfield next to Bob and Mary Medill's, and the four acres that our present Lodge now stands on.

Eighty members were present at this meeting, and when all the votes were counted, Tom called to me and said "This one is for Ripley - there are twenty votes for each of the four places." That proved what we all know, that an item of this importance should be settled by a committee. Thus it was done. All the money that the club had saved from the beginning was then used to buy our 4½ acres.

On April 3, 1960, we took a Greyhound ski bus to Crater Lake. This was our sixth trip since 1948 that we have gone in April. Nearly 20 feet of snow was banked up against the Lodge, but the roads were plowed clear and there was little ice on the blue lake water.

(More later, as 1960 was eventful.)

