

February 1970

THE OBSIDIAN

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Meditation on Mountains

I have an understanding with the hills
At evening when the slanted radiance fills
their hollows, and the great minds let them be
And they are quiet and look down at me.
Oh, then I see the patience in their eyes
Out of the centuries that made them wise.
They lend me hoarded memory and I learn
Their thoughts of granite and their whims of fern,
and why a dream of forests must endure
Tho every tree be slain: and how pure
invisible beauty has a word so brief.
A flower can say it on a shaken leaf. - Grace
But few may even snare it in a song, Hazard
Tho for the quest a life is not too long. Conkling.

Feb. 15 (Sun)

Cape Arago car trip.

Mildred Holm, Leader

Feb. 14, 15 (Sat.-Sun) Q

Gold Lake snowshoe, ski trip.

Mary Bridgeman, leader

Feb. 21 (Sat)

Devil's Elbow State Park,

car trip. Mary Hanson and

Jane Pierron, leaders

Feb. 22 (Sun) Q

French Pete snowshoe, ski trip.

Clarence Johnson, leader

Feb. 28 (Sat)

Mt. Thielson climb, Dale Moon,

Leader. Snow camp & ski-in.

Signup sheet at the Y.

March 1 (Sun)

Centennial Butte

Mary & Bailey Castelleo, ldrs.

March 7 (Sat) Q

Castle Rock, Roger Smith, ldr.

WHERE? 7 Devils Mountains, Idaho.

WHEN? First 2 weeks in August.

HOW? By car.

WHAT? Camp Renfro Summer Camp, '70.

WHO? You and I, members and friends.

25 Lakes, Hells Canyon, 9,000 ft.

peaks, Salmon River, jet boat

rides, overnight on the desolate

Hells Canyon beaches. Wow!!!

- And you've heard nothing yet!

March 8 (Sunday) Clover Patch Butte, Lois Schreiner

KAH*NEE*TA April 4, 5

Another of our popular trips to Warm Springs Indian Reservation is scheduled, by way of Government Camp, with a stop for a sack lunch.

The cost will be \$18.15, which covers trip fee, lodging, evening buffet and bus transportation.

A \$5.00 deposit is requested with reservation. Contact Frankie Kardell, 344-4057, 1152 Olive St. for additional information.

February POTLUCK BUFFET the 28th

Come with Walter Youngquist as he takes us through the breath-taking Arches and Canyonlands of Utah, rivaled only by the tremendous speaking ability of this man.

CORRECTION:

Rachel Roach married to

Carl Husbands - not Don.

New members -

Mr. and Mrs. Charles L. Rimpley

Phyllis Ford lives in Coralville, Idaho, not Coraville.

- Wrong husband, wrong name, wrong town. If you see 'The Mt. Baker Club Bulletin' heading, you will know that the Ed. is dreaming again of his old haunts.

Across The Mexican Wilderness

Watch the coming bulletins for a Fotluck in which we will have the special privilege of having a member, Dr. Krakauer, of Corvallis, give us an account of a trip of his across the southern sector of Mexico, meeting several primitive Indian tribes.

Obsidian Chiefs Initiation

On Saturday, Dec. 13, 21 were at the Chiefs Dinner at the Lodge. It was the third reunion of the group, which is held every third year. This year we were honored with the presence of Sid King of Portland, who edits the Oregon Notorist.

Sid is #6 in the long list of 167 Chiefs since 1928.

This year we initiated Austin McLaughlin (Chief Chow) Roger F. Smith, (Chief S.O.S.) and Rex Stevens, (Chief Skookum).

Other Chiefs there were: Bailey Castelloe, Bob Nedill, Lloyd Plaistad, V. Edwin Johnson, Glen Sims, Keith Brunig, Joe Heidenreich, Jim Jeppeson, Henry Jeppeson, George Korn, Mac McWilliams, Bill Deaman, Sydney A. King, Howard Dyerly, Alvin Lynch, Arthur Johnson, Douglass Spencer, Milton Koupal and Ray Sims. (Im. No Indians?)

January 31st Buffet

Having Consumed a sufficiency of excellent food, we were privileged to see the beauty of Nepal, as well as hear of the customs and anecdotes regarding this most interesting country. Barbara and Stan Hasek were very fortunate to have lived in this wonderful country, and we in their willingness to share their experiences with us. Thank you so much, Barbara!

Dear Mary, Gerry, or Bob,

Did you know that the town I live in is called Coralville, not Coraville? It is named for its fossilized coral, not for some gal named Cora.

I wish your Obsidians weren't so interesting - it makes me homesick for Oregon. I may be able to get back to Oregon next August.

- Phyllis Ford

Oh, many a mile I've traveled,
Ten thousand miles or more,
And Bob and Dorothy up a stump
I've never seen before.

"To say we were both completely stunned and up a stump will be putting it mildly, but have recovered sufficiently now to thank everyone from the bottom of our hearts for the wonderful reception given us January 10th, in a room in which 35 persons crowded into a room with a capacity of fifty.

We take this way of expressing our deep and sincere appreciation, although we would rather show our appreciation individually, but find this task to be almost impossible, as we would for sure miss some of you folks.

But we can say that this was one night in our lives that we will never forget, and we both thank you all for all your efforts in making it so. It was certainly wonderful.

There wasn't quite enough money on the money tree to cover the costs of a divorce, so guess we will have to stay together, but will find some place to put it where it will get something that will be with us as long as we live. Thanks again for a most wonderful evening.

- Bob and Dorothy Nedill
P.S. Another thanks to all who could not attend, but who sent us nice cards and green leaves for the money tree.

We were sorry that you people could not come, but it was just as well, because it was doubtful if you could have gotten in. And we have all the nice cards and notes of best wishes all mounted in a scrap book, which we can look at over and over again. - B.M.

Obsidian club members wish to extend their sympathy to Thelma Watson and her family - their brother George Watson died January 22, 1970.

COLLIER GLACIER on the North Sister was named for Professor George Collier of the University of Oregon. Professor Collier made a climb of all three Sisters in 1880 - long before present day "mountaineers" bragged on their prowess as alpinists with modern equipment and much shorter routes to the summits.

PRINCESS NEWS

Margaret Hiese (Pr. Prairie Flower) with Catherine Jones (Pr. Blue Columbine) as co-hostess, will entertain the Princesses on Monday, Feb. 16 at 7:30 P.M. at Margaret's home, 3520 Donald St. Please call her at 344-5008 if you can attend.

JANUARY MEETING

Mary Bridgeman (Pr. Equestra) our expert hostess, delighted the 14 attending with beautifully served dessert (recipe available - delicious), while Edith Bridgeman graciously assisted in the background, and VP Hilma Moore (Pr. Pipsissewa) poured.

Dessert and visiting were enjoyed with the hospitable glow of the fireplace reflecting rich highlights on those rare Bridgeman antiques!

Rusty saluted everyone with friendly barks and tail waggings, then retired politely during the meeting.

BUSINESS

Reading of minutes and financial report; reading of thankyou notes and letters from Helen Meiser; (Pr. Goldenrod) discussion of Annual Pr. projects - -

Rummage Sale - (no date set, but all offers of rummage are welcome and will be stored at the Lodge) - -

Spring Pancake Breakfast set for Mothers Day, May 10, Bob and Dorothy Medill, chairmen. (Purest Canadian Maple Syrup already secured by Bob M.) ((Gads! No Vermont Syrup? - Ed.)) Annual All Women's Party, set for July, Lois Schreiner, Chairman. (Princess Monadnock)

Decision To Send Obsidian Board \$10 toward the recently started remodeling project (it was noted that \$60 of Princess earnings was presented to the Board during 1969).

Suggestion by Princess Sun-On-The-Snow Barbara Hasek, Sec., that action be started to publicize Princess Club history, now that the membership has reached ONE HUNDRED. (Heartily approved by the group)

August 1970 will complete FORTY TWO YEARS of the Princess organization.

TEN DOLLARS MORE has been donated to the Typewriter Fund, by two members of the Obsidian Bulletin Committee.

One is a Keith some ~~body~~ and the other is a well-known Club Liar.

ROCK ROCK January 3

Assistant leader Lois Schreiner met with the group at Oakridge as snow started to fall. The weather remained slightly snowy the balance of the day, but not enough was encountered to be a problem. There was approximately 4" of snow on top of the rock. The group drove along the railroad access road to within a mile and a half of the rock, then followed the railroad to just below the rock. Lunch stop with a good fire was made just before the final climb.

The final 70 foot rock climb was very difficult due to snow and ice on the hand holds, and only Les Prouty, Jeff Kuhns, Clarence Landes and the leader decided to go to 'the top. The rest enjoyed the view from around the fire. Back to the railroad and out before dark for as successful a trip as you can have this time of year.

Around the fire watching the final scramble were Mary Bridgeman, Bob Capron, 'Max' Maxwell*, Myrtle Maxwell*, Bob Reister* and Lois Schreiner.

- Don Chase, leader

ELEPHANT ROCK January 11

Elephant Rock was substituted for a scheduled hike to Mary's Peak, which was considered impassable at this time.

Although there is a logging road that skirts the base of the Rock, we parked our car some distance below because of snow on the road. However, most of the road above the parking point was free of snow, so our two mile trek by winding road to the Rock was not difficult. When we reached the sheer cliff of several hundred feet, we were anxious to explore the possibility of going to the top. On the opposite side we discovered a mossy covered approach, which was somewhat steep, but with care we made it to the top.

By this time the clouds which had accompanied us along the road parted, and we enjoyed a sunny, warm lunch on top. We could look down to where we had left the car, and decided to take a direct route back rather than follow the road. It was an 1,100 foot drop through forest, over and under logs and across streams. This added attraction made an otherwise easy trip tough worthwhile.

Glynn Leyshon was the only non-member who accompanied the ever faithful Mary Bridgeman, Helen Smith and Lois Schreiner, leader.

ROSARY LAKE January 13

Snow was wet and a little heavy. About 30" deep at the beginning, and about 48" to 60" deep at the Rosary Lake (South Lake).

The 'blazes' were visible all the way plus the fact that a pair of skiers were ahead of us meant that we were not lost any of the time.

We had the added attraction of two or three light showers plus a little snow mixed in, but an hour by a fire near the lake at lunch time took the curse out of this part of the weather.

Otherwise the weather was warm and overcast with a little sun breaking thru the last half hour on the trail as we came out.

A few tumbles by some of the 'skiers' and by some of the 'snowshoers' with their efforts in getting up gives you an idea where the center of 'gravity' is located. - Clarence Landes

Those helping C.L. testing the Laws of Physics and Gravity were: Darlene Burgert, Mary Bridgeman, Clarence Johnson, Holly and Terry Jones, Ron Munemaker, *Sig and JoAnn Otto, Les Prouty, Lois Schreiner and Helen Smith.

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McKENZIE HIGHWAY Jan. 24

Because of a preponderance of indications of extending inclemency, the ultimate decision of the McKenzie Highway expeditionary Council of Mary Bridgeman was to temporarily terminate the venture until a more propitious time.

(How does that grab ya?)

OREGON -- THE LAND OF LAUGHING WATERS

Here I am, back up in Salem again. This time I am becoming quite violent over the fact that we are fast losing our beautiful, clear, cold and lovely rivers and streams. As our attention is being drawn mostly to how we are losing so rapidly all of our here-to-fore wild areas under the guise of multiple-use, of which there is no such thing, we are blinded to just how rapidly we are losing our renown as a state of beautiful running waters, and also a state of superb fishing.

While we are worrying about how nuclear power is going to raise the temperature of waters to where fish life and other life will be upset ecologically by a raise in the natural temperatures, no thought has been given as to how much temperatures are being raised by dams, which is considerable.

When a bureaucracy's existence is dependant upon the continued erection of dams, it is only reasonable to assume that this will be so as long as there is any running waters left to be dammed.

Dams - lots of them - have been built that are most beneficial to us, but a lot of us believe that point has been reached, and we are looking into the matter, and believe that all the people of Oregon should be given the right to vote on the matter of saving five of our streams, or what is left of them. These petitions (initiative) specifically designate part of the

Deschutes, John Day, all of the Minam and part of the Rogue and and part of the Illinois.

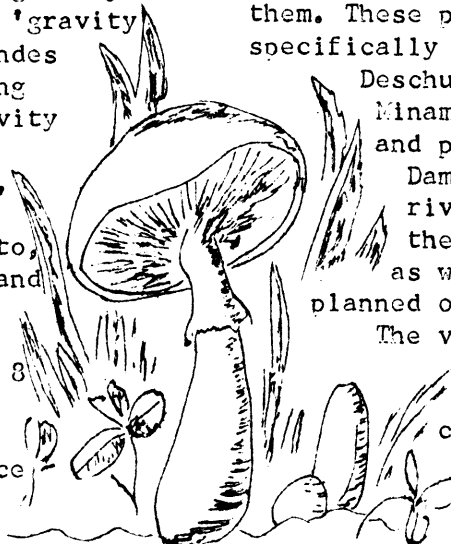
Dams are planned for all these rivers with the exception of the Rogue at the present time as well as dams already planned on many other streams in Ore.

The value of dams on the above mentioned streams is debatable as well as the costs and returns from such dams. In the matter of costs as presented is, it is a well known fact that costs never are what is given before building. The costs of

building the John Day Dam on the Columbia and the Lower Monumental Dam and transmission lines exceeded the amount given before construction by \$22 million dollars. Only ninety miles of the Rogue has been set aside by the Powers That Be as a stream to be free in all of Oregon, and of this ninety miles, fifty-five miles are private ownership. We are desperately in need of people to help circulate these petitions as well as any financial help we can get, even from a dime up. If you can help in any way, please contact Bob Medill, 2164 Laura, Springfield 97477, or Veola Hilmot, 2160 Fairmount, Eugene 97403.

I can say that so far costs of this campaign are \$1375, of which \$375 have been donated to date.

- Sincerely yours,
Polly Tickle



Meadow Mushroom

SCIENCE AND EDUCATION DEPT by Mary Douglass Stovall

The Science and Education committee listed over one hundred wild flowers and shrubs on the Obsidian Lodge grounds, but a list alone does not reveal some of the interesting stories and legends connected with many of these species. For example Camas (*Camassia Quamash*) was found on the southeast area of the grounds under the trees, although this is not a typical habitat, as it prefers to grow in the open, wet fields where, if left alone, it will cover acres of land and when it blooms from April to June the expanse of clear blue flowers is an unforgettable sight.

Camas was an important food for the early Indian and the women dug the deep-seated bulbs with a pointed stick. Try this sometime and you will have considerable respect for the efforts of these women to stock the winter pantry.

These bulbs are tasty, either raw or baked, and the camas fields were considered tribal property to be guarded, as survival of the clan depended much upon the annual harvest.

When white man encroached upon the Camas fields with his plow, trouble started, sometimes resulting in war as in the case of Chief Joseph and his Nez Perce tribe of the Walla Walla Lake region.

Camassia Leichtlinii, a different species also used by the Indians, is found west of the Cascades. In the Willamette Valley its blossoms are mostly a deep blue, but in the Umpqua Valley the colors vary to creamy white. This should not be confused with the so-called Death Camas which is not a Camas at all but an entirely different genus named *Lycadenus*. It is poisonous to man and animals, especially sheep.

As space permits we shall try to give you more stories about some of the interesting plants found on the Obsidian grounds.

(Ed. note. It is high time we recognized the Science and Education Department with articles by the committee in the Bulletin. We have numerous qualified experts in many fields of nature whose talents have been hidden too long from us.

Watch your Bulletin in the coming months for more articles from the Science and Education Committee.)

BUILDING AND GROUNDS

Ray Sims has volunteered his services to prepare the Lodge building for use at each 'Potluck' and 'Entertainment'. This will include getting the fireplace fire built, getting the electric heaters turned on as weather may indicate, having the building completely swept, turning on the yard lights, and such other details that may arise; all of this to be done so as to have the building comfortable by meeting time.

There have been many members, and some regularly, who have taken care of many of the jobs such as these. This is a much-needed service, so we appreciate Ray's willingness to take on this chore and we thank you Ray.

It has been the plan to set up a schedule for house-keeping at the Lodge and you will hear more about this soon - (If you are leaving town, please leave your address!)

- Clarence Landes

- more -

As a part of completing the improvements in the Board Room- (which cabinets are now being built in Wes Prouty's shop) we are promoting the addition of two tables for the Board Room like the banquet tables we now have. The Banquet Tables and Chairs we now have were provided by donations from the membership at that time.

The Princesses have donated \$10.00 as a starter and we thank you one and all. The Logge will very much appreciate further contributions to this project and in the very near future we will have more information as to how much is needed.

- Clarence

Coffee Pot Creek

There are four Coffee Creeks in Oregon - two of which are in Lane County. There are also three Coffee Pot Creeks, one of which is in Lane County. It flows into the Middle Fork of the Willamette. A coffee pot fell from the wagon of an immigrant and was run over, rendering it useless. The pot was seen there by travelers for several years so it was only natural to call the creek Coffee Pot Creek. (So now tell us about Horsehead Creek and Butcher Knife Creek which are right next to each other near Provolt on the Applegate River.)

HISTORY OF THE OBSIDIANS No. 71 by Ray Sims

At the summer camp in 1957 at Husband Lake, this was one of the rainy camps in our history.

With the large tarp over the table, this was the main dry area. However, the campfire was always going, and so much of the time was in 'good fellowship'.

Gene Sebring was head of camp, and built a permanent highchair for Martha at the table, as she was but a very small girl.

The small children of Dr. and Mrs. Herbert McCormack roamed the meadows 'too much' in the rain, and one of the girls got such a bad cold that the entire family had to leave camp during the first week.

I mentioned last month the three packers who employed 14 horses on each of their three trips on separate days. In past years the entire cost of packing was as low as \$75.00, but this year at Husband Lake it was a flat \$250.00.

The weather was better the second week. The South and Middle Sister were both climbed then, as well as the Husband.

When camp was over, the highest bill for packing was received - \$786.00. This was not necessary, as I will tell you in next month's report about our 1958 Summer Camp.

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F I R S T C L A S S M A I L