



# THE OBSIDIAN

P.O. BOX 322 EUGENE, OREGON 97401

Vol. 31

JANUARY

No. 4

Jan. 9 (Sat.)

Marilyn Lake, snowshoe.  
Mary Bridgeman, leader.

Jan. 16, 17 (Sat.-Sun.)

Red Top, snowshoe; overnight.  
Marriner Orum, leader.

Jan. 23 (Sat.)

Three Mile Lake.  
Hank Plant, leader.

Jan. 24 (Sun.)

Buck of the Coburgs.  
Louise Berkey, leader.

Jan. 31 (Sat.)

Place to be selected later.  
Clarence Landes, leader.

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## CAMP ROSS NOTES

Now Hear This! As mentioned in the December Obsidian, there will be a high altitude pack-in Summer Camp in 1971.

It is located in the Eldorado Nt'l

Forest in California, Lake Tahoe area. The Desolation Valley Primitive Area more or less borders the south-west side of Lake Tahoe.

For those who have already dug up maps of the area and are wondering just where camp will be - listen carefully.

From south Tahoe follow highway 89 around West side to Emerald Bay. There at Eagle Falls Campground the trail starts, and 4½ miles later (not 7-8) you will be in the Velma Lakes Basin and Camp Ross.

Look and think about this beautiful never-been-in-to-area-before and we will discuss it further.

So now let's all give a moment's silence to a small group of individuals called "your camp committee". -Those who have braved untold hardships as vanguards in unfamiliar country, so that you who follow will have a much easier trail -

DON'T MISS THE JANUARY POTLUCK writeup ON THE NEXT PAGE! DON'T MISS THE POTLUCK!

## Friendly House Programs

Jan. 10 Paul Simpson on SPAIN.

Jan. 17 John MacGregor - New England and Boston's Freedom Trail.

Jan. 24 Mel Jackson and RESCUE.

Jan. 31 Mr. and Mrs. Hazen Bressler - Car camping in Europe.

Feb. 7 Mrs. Robert Trotter - Middle East and the Orient.

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## CAMP ROSS - cont.

to guide you. (Sorry, Editor, guess I got carried away by the holiday season.) Anyhow, we will have a rundown of the committee, etc. next time.

- Chairman Lloyd Plaistad

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## - NOT GETTING YOUR BULLETIN?

Have you paid your 1971 dues???

They are due NOW, so mail your check to Membership Chairman Wayne Renfro, c/o Obsidians, Inc., Box 322, Eugene, Or.

Your name might be in the next Bulletin, and we would sure hate to have you not see it in print.

For membership information you can call Wayne at Fall Creek, or your Editor.

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Feb. 7 (Sun.)

Rosary Lakes Snowshoe trip.

Lois Schreiner, leader.

(Please include in top left column.???)

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DON'T YOU AGREE?

1970 was a great year for the Obsidians. It was a year of sharing joys and sorrows and companionships which will linger fondly in our hearts forever.

special POTLUCK special  
January 30  
6:30 P.M.

SMITH ROCKS, PAINTED HILLS  
June 6, 1970

Program by Don Hunter.  
Three screen Color Spectacular with  
stereophonic sound.

Chairmen are Art and Betty Herron.  
Bring table service and a potluck dish.  
See you there!

#### NEW MEMBER

Beverly Inach Ph. 343-4076  
1787 Columbia St.  
Eugene, Oregon 97403

"Welcome to the happy throng, Beverly."

CHANGE David Zevenbergen's ZIP CODE to  
97402. Sorry 'bout that, Dave.

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#### PRINCESS NEWS

23 Princesses enjoyed a very  
pleasant Christmas Party Dec. 21 at  
the home of Helen Weiser, who was  
assisted by co-hostesses Jane Hilt and  
Florence Sims. All three had made the  
traditional Christmas dessert - carrot  
pudding with lemon sauce. Served with  
this were Helen's 'Prunelets',  
Margaret Wiese's Chocolate Marshmallow  
Rolls, and a box of chocolates  
presented by Mrs. Charles Adams (an  
annual gift). Helen Weiser had spent  
much time decorating her home, making  
it a beautiful Christmas setting.

Florence Sims arranged for distribut-  
ion of gifts by small numbered golden  
bells matching numbers on the gifts.

Special guest was Sophia Tworek,  
from Poland, house guest of Frances  
Newsom, and a graduate student at the  
U of O, studying Electron-spin-  
Resonance. She described Christmas  
customs in Poland, and showed Polish  
dolls, textiles, pictures and other  
items of interest.

New Princess Cindy Bascom  
(Eidelweiss) played Christmas carols  
on her recorder to accompany our sing-  
ing. The party was a delightful prelude  
to Christmas. We thank hostesses Helen,  
Jane and Florence.

Note: January meeting will be at Lois Schreiner's, 7:30 P.M., January 18.  
\*\*\*\*\*

This was a picture trip - much  
driving or riding, and little hiking,  
with stops along the way for shots of  
the photogenic Oregon scene. There is  
much variety along this 200 mile stretch  
of Oregon. Traveling eastward from the  
populated Willamette Valley, we pass  
through the verdant McKenzie Valley into  
the Cascades, with many lakes, falls,  
mountains, volcanic cones and lava  
flows. The climate changes to alpine  
from mild, then arid, with corresponding  
changes in the flora.

At Sisters we side-stepped a few  
miles on the Three Creeks Road to a  
viewpoint which provided magnificent  
morning views of the snow-covered Three  
Sisters. Arriving Smith Rock just before  
noon, the sun cooperated with photograp-  
hers most of the time for good lighting  
on the buff to pink canyon walls.

After taking a scenic back road to  
Highway 26 at Prineville, we stopped  
for lunch at Cougar Campground, where  
some played hide-and-seek with the clouds  
for sun-lit ponderosa forest pictures.

Another stop was made at what  
appeared to be a barren hillside. It  
proved to be sprinkled with blooming  
cactus, providing stickers and delicate  
images of waxey yellow blossoms for  
camera fans. We arrived at Painted Hills  
Overlook just in time to make a few  
pictures of the area before the high  
haze consolidated into storm clouds.

We continued through the park as  
the lighting worsened, producing rather  
dull pictures of the vari-colored hills.

Soon after we broke up - some  
continuing explorations in the area for  
an additional day - some circling back  
through backroads to Ashwood and Madras -  
a thunderstorm broke loose with continu-  
ously flashing lightning and crackling  
thunder. If only the leader had brought  
a stereo recorder to document the mood  
created by sheep bleating amid thunder  
rolling from mountain to canyon.

With Don Hunter were Mary Jo Johannis,  
Ted Johannis, Clarence and Helen Landes,  
Margaret Markley, Dorothy Medill,  
Lois Schriener, and Janis and Joe Stuckw.

(I found this article stuffed away in the  
"June to January" file. Sorry - Ed.)

## WINTER WONDERLAND PANORAMA RAIL TRIP

February 13,14,15

Remember the British Columbia Fall Foliage rail trip last autumn? That was one of the outstanding Obsidian trip events of the year.

At that time it was requested that the same route be displayed in Winter, and Mr. Krebs of the Pacific NW Railway Association how has this trip scheduled for Feb. 13 to 15.

Obsidians and their friends are cordially invited to go along.

Cost from Portland will be \$79.50.

If there are at least twenty-five from Eugene, a bus can be provided from the South Eugene High School lot.

The tour includes bus from Portland, most meals, two nights at the Biltmore Hotel in Vancouver, and reserved seat in your special rail car for the one-day trip into the Fraser Canyon country of Canada.

For reservations call:

Gerry Fehly, 343-2784 or

Ray Cavagnaro, 345-8434

\* \* \* \* \*

NOTES FROM THE SUMMIT REGISTER  
OF THE SOUTH SISTER

"O.J. - your mom will disown me for not taking you to church."

- Melvin Mitchell, 7-23-67

"It's all so blue  
all so white  
so peaceful

What the Hell's wrong  
With the rest of the world?

If we strive  
And if we love  
Some day we won't have  
To climb the South (Sister) to find  
True Peace and Tranquility."

- David Straton, 6-17-69

When Climbing Chairman Ben Ross gave his yearly report at the Annual Meeting, he took time to share with us some of the comments written in the register which was brought down recently by his committee members.

If you like these, would you like to have some more printed? There are some which should tickle your tummy.

## SCIENCE AND EDUCATION

by Mary Douglass Stovall

Perhaps trilliums are the most popular of our early blooming flowers, as they are true harbingers of spring.

In some areas they are called Wake Robin because they are supposed to wake the robins into renewed activity, but that name is hardly suitable for western Oregon where the robin is busy and active all winter.

The word trillium means three, and in this plant the parts are commonly in 3's- three leaves, three sepals, three petals, three-lobed pistils and twice 3 stamens.

Geraldine Fehly found a cluster of Giant Trillium (*Trillium chloropetalum*) on the Lodge grounds with 27 buds and blossoms. The creamy-white flower petals of this species are narrow and sessile, that is they are without stem and are nestled in the center of the three leaves.

This species varies in color according to location from nearly white to yellow to deep maroon. Large stands of the maroon grow near the mouth of the Rogue River on the south bank.

The more common trillium (*Trillium ovatum*) has a flower stem above the three leaves, and the blossoms are pure white at first, changing to deep pink with age. They are sometimes even more beautiful in this mature stage, thus often giving the impression to one not wholly familiar with the plant that it blooms in this lively color. However, it should be remembered that there are 30 or 40 species of these plants and that in other parts of the country they do bloom in colors ranging from whites, yellow, reds, pinks and maroons to various combinations of these colors, but in Oregon the four native species bloom white, yellow or maroon and any variations usually come with age.

(Although this article has been held for some time, and it might at first seem that January is an odd month to publish it, I not only felt that it would be an excellent introduction to spring, but that many flowers here in the Willamette Valley do bloom all winter and I am sure that at this very moment you could probably find crocus blooming somewhere around your house. Yes, our unexcelled climate provides us with many joyous surprises of nature year around, and we do appreciate it. - Ed.)

Trestle Road cont.,

see a remnant of an age of logging  
which is gone forever.

I think it would be quite an interesting adventure to try to find some traces of the pole road, too, some time this coming season, and we can get all the supervision we need, and even a guide, if we need one.

\* This info was given to your Ed. by  
Mr. Harland Clark of the Guistina  
Bros. Logging Company.

\* \* \* \* \*

Louis Waldorf made a quick trip to the hospital Dec. 20, and was out again in a couple of days.

Robert Cox was elected President of Toastmasters #145 at their semi-annual elections held December 22 at the Colonial Inn.

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Alvin and Helen Lynch  
announce the marriage of  
their daughter, Betty Jane,  
to Kellow, on December 20th

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Here it is, folks, that scrumptious  
CRUNCHY GRANOLA recipe by Joy Ballinger

Mix 4C rolled oats, 1½C shredded, unsweetendd coconut, 1C wheat germ, 1C chopped nuts, 1C hulled sunflower seeds, ½C Sesame seeds, ½C Flax seeds, ½C Bran, and 1C ground, roasted soy beans.

Heat  $\frac{1}{2}$ C of soy, sesame or corn oil  
 $\frac{1}{2}$ C honey and  $\frac{1}{2}$  tsp. vanilla.

Add honey-oil mixture to dry ingredients  
and mix. (Mixture will be dry)

Spread mixture on jelly roll pan. Bake 15 min. or until light brown. 325F.

\*The mixture at Willamette People's Food Co-op (21st & Emerald) is very good. - 55¢ per lb. It is made of rolled wheat, rolled oats, sesame seeds & coconut.

This is lightweight, nourishing and delicious - a good trail food. Any combination of ingredients may be used.

(Mary Bridgeman has already initiated a number of people to these "munchies".)

\* \* \* \* \*

Don't forget to save GOLD BOND STAMPS,  
FLAV\_R PAK labels, BETTY CROCKER coupons.

SAND DUNES Nov. 14 (N of 10 mi. Cr.)

Was the leader confused?

There were 3 Helens, 2 Margarets, 1 lost, 1 canceled, 4 actually signed the "sign-up sheet" and 9 requested rides. They were all welcome, bless their souls, and we hope to see you all another year and further hope to have a nice quiet warm day as was the case this time.

Following Clarence Landes were:  
 Mary & Roger Bridgeman Ron, Darlene,  
 Dave Cohen Sandra and Renee  
 Duchess Cox Nunemaker  
 Barbara Durchanek Lois Schreiner  
 Opal Lee Forrester Helen Smith  
 Catherine Jones Jeanie Sprecher  
 Neal & Nina Kalez Margaret Weise  
 A & M Kubo Helen Weiser  
 Helen Landes  
 Margaret Markley

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SPENCER BUTTE Nov. 22

It was raining, foggy and 29 degrees.

The hike was up the east side, under the majestic fir trees. They offered a lot of protection from the rain. In fact, very little precipitation was felt until we reached the top. The ground was freezing, however, and about 1/4 inch of ice was on the logs, leaves and rocks.

It took some tricky footwork to remain in a vertical position on several occasions! The wind was cold and visibility from the top was nil.

After a quick look around the top we headed downhill again to the protection offered by some of the large rocks under the fir trees. Hot coffee, cocoa and cookies renewed our strength there, and we headed back to the car.

Despite the elements, a good time was had. All made it to the top - even Judy, who certainly was initiated into Obsidian hiking the hard way today!

With Natalie Morgan were  
 Judy Hucka, Clarence Landes and  
 Mildred Wilson.

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On the Annual CHRISTMAS TREE HUNT on December 13 at Winberry Creek were Hazen and Lorene Bressler, Ken and Robin Lodewick, Neal and Nina Kalez, Ray Sims and Marriner Orum, leader.

\*\*\*\*\*

Remember 'Who' lost his wallet at the Wallowa Summer Camp in August, 1966? Well,

WINBERRY RIDGE Nov. 29

Although it was overcast going to Lowell, as we left the parking lot at Dexter Dam the sun came out. We started climbing and could see the surrounding hills with a thick fog in the valley below. We had a liesurely hike along the ridge. Since it was still early, we decided to hike to Lowell Butte, and were back down to the car by 3 P.M. As usual, a good group, a good day, and good weather. With Mary Bridgeman were Roger Bridgeman, Neal and Nina Kalez, Roger Long and Mildred Wilson.

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EAGLE REST Dec. 5

Because the leader was 'chicken' and wouldn't drive into the snow, we walked two additional miles by road to the Eagle Rest Trail. We followed it a half mile to the lookout, where it was sunny but very windy. We returned to the car by noon, then drove back down Lost Creek Road to find a good place to strike out cross-country to Zion. About that time Chuck Berkey joined us, and we gave up the Zion trek almost immediately because we ran into poison oak.

Since the snow had melted considerably we drove up past Eagle Rest Trail to the area originally scheduled (Mt. June).

We were stopped a mile short of the trail because of huge trees blown across the road. We were undaunted, though. We climbed over and under the logs and up the road, bracing ourselves against the strong wind, to the trail head. We ran into snow again - this time enough to make a snowman. As we started up the trail we sank into deep snow, but once in the woods it was easier going.

However, as we gained altitude, the snow became difficult to navigate since we left our snowshoes in the car. Besides, it was getting late by now, so we returned to the cars. But we were still adventurous so returned to the Lost Creek road and followed it for several miles, hoping to find Mt. June, but had to turn around because of the lateness of the hour. With Lois Schreiner were Chuck Berkey, Mary Bridgeman, Dave Cohen, Barbara Durchanek and Helen Smith.

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it was returned 'intact' a few days ago by Lynn Moore, and it still had a \$20 bill in it. What a Christmas present!

This Bulletin is published monthly by  
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P.S. or LATE FLASH or - something - -

Has anyone called Mrs. Gene Thaxton  
to wish her a quick recovery? She just  
returned home from a bout with the  
hospital, and her phone is 345-2410.  
- Well, get with it!!

John Leland opened a new business in the  
Oakway Mall - The American Handicrafts Co.  
featuring Do-it-yourself hobby and craft  
kits and supplies, with evening classes.  
John taught industrial arts in Eugene  
for eleven years.

Delyn Dark was married to Robert Neil  
Dunham Dec. 21; both are juniors at UofO.

OBSIDIANS, INC.  
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F I R S T C L A S S M A I L

## HISTORY OF THE OBSIDIANS

No. 80

by Ray Sims

On May 29 and 30, 1960, our trip  
Malheur Lake Bird Refuge was outstanding.

The ducks in the park in Bend were  
just a preview of the birds to be seen  
and after our long trip we paused at  
French Glen before going to the Lake  
headquarters. We camped at the base of  
the 130 foot tower which gives a wonder-  
ful view clear to Steens Mountain and  
its mantle of snow.

We saw Egrets, Blue Herron, yellow-  
headed Blackbirds and many ducks, and  
an 80 year old barn and woven fence lent  
atmosphere to the area.

Summer Camp was held again in  
beautiful Jefferson Park that year.

Flowers were at their best, and camp  
was based in the western section of the  
park where the Skyline Trail passes by.

Climbs were attempted on both  
Russel and Whitewater Glaciers, but time  
was a limitation factor.

The first pictures of the building  
of our Lodge were taken on a sunny  
November 5, 1960, and Don Hunter, Mike  
Stahl, Donny and Ken Lodewick, Lloyd  
Plaistad, Art Johnson and I found the  
brush bulldozed off and a small amount  
of lumber on hand. By Nov. 11 the  
foundation was forming, with gravel  
used as fill.

\* \* \* \* \*

Dr. Ewart M. Baldwin appeared on KEZI-  
TV on Sunday, December 13 with the  
Rev. Dr. Herbert E. Richards on the  
"Inspiration of Life" program.

