



THE OBSIDIAN

P.O. BOX 322 EUGENE, OREGON 97401

Vol. 31

SEPTEMBER

No. 11

Sept. 11 (Sat.)

Sawtooth Mtn.

Clarence Landes, ldr.

-Marion Lake ???

L.&H. Bressler, ldrs.

Sept. 12

Black Crater

Paul Slovic, ldr.

-Windy Lakes, Bob Cox, ldr.

Sept. 18 (Sat.)

Tidbits Mtn., Catherine Jones, ldr.

Sept. 19

French Pete, Dorothy Hayes, leader.

Sept. 18,19

Eight Lake Loop, Marriner Orum, ldr.

Sept. 25 (Sat.)

Lamb Butte & The Potholes, Helen Smith

Sept. 26

Scott Mtn., Clarence & Dorothy Scherer

Sept. 25,26

Park Meadow, Dale Carlson, leader

Oct. 2 (Sat.)

Clark Butte, Art & Betty Herron

Oct. 3

Pyramid Mtn. Shuttle

Barbara Durchanek, leader

Oct. 9 (Sat.)

Hand Lake/Scott Lake Loop

Mary Bridgeman, leader

-Ribbon Trail, Chuck Berkey, leader

Oct. 10

Tipsoo Butte, Liz Glover, leader

Oct. 16 (Sat.)

Yapoah & 4-In-One Craters

John Anderson, leader

Oct. 17

Crescent Mountain, Clarence Johnson

NEW MEMBER

(J) Bob Reister Ph.747-7836

2009 H St.

Springfield, Ore., 97477

Welcome to the fold, Bob.

Life is great in the out-of-doors -
with members of the Obsidians.

Life travels upwards in spirals;
He who takes the pains to search
the shadows of the path below us,
then can better judge the tiny
arc up which he climbs,

And more surely guess the dim
curves of the future above him.

- Anon.

Climbs

Sept. 11,12

Mt. Index, Don Thomas

Sept. 18,19

Mt. Thielson,

John McManigal, ldr

also

North Sister,

Chuck Berkey, ldr.

SUMMER CAMP Banquet and Reunion

Where?

Dinner will be at the Colonial
Inn, 1626 Willamette St., Eug.

When?

Saturday, Sept. 25

Dinner at 7 P.M.

Reunion at the Lodge, 8 P.M.

Dinner will be \$2.25 for adults, with
reduced rates for children under
10 years of age.

Reservations must be firm by Sept. 20
to reserve a banquet room.

Bring your ten best slides or pictures
and let's look that wonderful
area over once more.

Call or write Committee Secretary
Sandra Shepard,
350 W."D" St., Springfield,
Ph. 746-3840 soon as possible.

Yes, EVERYONE is invited! See you there!

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

Anyone who has climbed the "3 Sisters"
mountains recently with the Obsidians,
or anyone who has completed the
"Ten Peaks" in Oregon, please phone
Ves Prouty, Climbing Chairman, 747-9511.
Give Ves the dates of your climbs and
the leaders' names. This suggestion is
being made so that with your help we
can be sure that all eligible persons
will receive their climbing awards at
the Obsidian Annual Meeting, Oct. 8, 1971.

PRINCESS MEETING

The September meeting will be a 'Potluck' supper with Dorothy Medill, at 6:30 P.M., on September 20. (Take notice, all you Princesses!)

"I say there - Welcome back!"

(This little salute is to Helen Robbins, who just returned from 'Merrie England'.)

Note: Because of the great number of climb reports, and a very limited time to edit them, only the most delectable excerpts have been taken from them for printing.

SOUTH SISTER, July 3,4

We crossed Fall Creek on a snow bridge and started up a steep, icy pitch.

There were some steps in the frozen snow. Nevertheless, the icy underfooting was a bit of a thriller for those with no ice axe or snow-climbing experience.

All made the summit. They were: Dick Anderson, Ben and Lois Bronfman, Stan Keil, Phyllis Ford, Charlotte Mills, Donald, -Alan Payne, Christopher, -Paul Orum, Dorcas Riddle, Phil Settles, Getl Wannier, Darrell Wilder and David Zevenberger. - Marriner Orum, leader

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MIDDLE SISTER July/10,11

-via Renfr ew Glacier

The lava beds were almost full of snow, allowing the party to go straight across instead of following the switchbacks on the trail. We entertained ourselves (at Sunshine Shelter, in mist, rain and sleet) by melting snow and attempting to keep dry and fairly warm.

Put on crampons above first snow slopes for use on very hard ice-snow,

Route followed glacier all the way to the saddle. Arrived on top after an enjoyable climb.

Clear and practically windless on top, with scattered clouds below and to West.

Glissaded down to Sunshine in about two hours. Climbers were Steve Northrop, Dennis Kneff (non-member) and

- Ed Harms, leader.

SAVE GOLD BOND STAMPS, FLAV-R-PAK LABELS
AND BETTY CROCKER LABELS, - okay??

(for the Princesses' projects)

LITTLE TAHOMA July 17,18

The day camp acquired melting snow - and easy task in shorts and shirt-sleeve weather. A huge marmot played in the area a few hours, hiding and seeking company.

Climbers left at 3 A.M. by moonlight, and were wanting to climb in shorts by 4 A.M. as it was so warm.

A moderate pace put us on top by 9:45. Snow bridges over creeks and trail provided some excitement. Norm, who was directing traffic over a creek on a slim snow bridge, was the only one to fall through. With a full pack and a three foot fall, it was quite a surprise.

In the party were Dale Steinhauer, Carol Scherer, Nancy Scherer, Ellen Samms, Norman Benton and Steve Ross, ldr.

DIAMOND PEAK July 18

Camped Saturday night at Blue Lake. Ascended by route marked with red tape, then rocky west ridge. Arrived at summit 10:15 A.M. Descended glissading down the glacier, then picked up trail markers for return. Weather warm and slightly overcast. Climbing were: Chapin Clark, Phyllis Ford, Clarence Landes, Charlotte Mills, Marv Ostberg, Marshall Pallett, Alan and Don Payne, Bob Reister, Lois Schreiner, Brad and Rex Stevens, Deborah Thiessen and

- Greg Wannier, leader

BROKEN TOP July 24,25

Successful climb from Green Lakes. Maryanne Sandstrom, Nancy Schairard, Wanda Gilbert, Mike Smith and

- Mike Seeley, leader.

August PRINCESS MEETING

This meeting was held in Corvallis with Florence Fulton as hostess.

After a pizza supper at Hoakies, we adjourned to Avery Park for dessert and an evening of pleasant fun.

(Do you read bulletins backward? Then notice of Sept. meeting is on top left side of this page.)

RUMMAGE SALE on September 25 at

Charlotte Lemon's. For info, call Mary Castelloe, 344-5168 or Mary Bridgeman, 344-8952. No excuse for not being there.

NOTE: Due to the fact that we have an unusually large number of trip reports which should be out in proper time...the following are excerpts only, presenting the most colorful and interesting paragraphs.

WILDCAT SWAMP July 3-4-5

Drove up East fork of McKenzie to Olallie trail. Hiked south to Park Trail then east to Wildcat Creek where we camped both nights. Were able to follow the old brush draw way trail south to Wildcat Swamp on the middle day. Found lots of water to slosh through and streams were high to get across. Had some pretty good snow hummocks to get across, especially during the first couple miles on Olallie trail...Mosquitoes out in full force, weather clear and sunny. Sloshing through were: Mary Bridgeman; the Moffitts -- Rose Marie, Alice, Paula, Bobby; Ellen Newell; Paula Norman; Marianne Sandstrom and Helen Smith, leader.

BLAIR LAKE TO SPRING PRAIRIE July 11

Forty-two people--ages 4 to 80+ took the trail (it starts there, it doesn't go there); all but 5 reached the helicopter landing on Spring Prairie. Flowers were spectacular--acres of alpine shooting star and white marsh marigold. Square miles of bear grass, some in bloom, some still under the snow. More acres of lilies---perhaps Washingtonianum?--not yet in bloom. Whole beds of yellow violets, and some of the shy little purple violets in the marsh. Yellow cat's ears on the warm sunny bear grass meadow where we lunched, rested and admired the view from Mt. Jeff to Diamond Peak. Hood was under clouds. Salmon Creek Camp Ground is a lovely stopping place. Enjoying this trip were: Laurie Brooks, Bob Capron, Ruth Caron, John & Peter Cecil, Chris & Cindy Corrie, Mary Couch, Duchess Cox, Clara Emlen, Ina Foss, Carol Goodyer-Hill, Kenneth & Virginia Horton, Alelia Linscott, James & Maryanne McNamara, Kenny & Sheri Martz, Alice & Dorothy & Sara Munz, Ellen Newell, Nancy Ostberg, Alan & Donald & Suzan Payne, Marshall Pallett, Karen Seidell, Velma Shirk, Stephen Smith, Sue Tate, Don & Nancy & Susan Turner, Paula Vehrs, Stephanie Westberg, Mildred Wilson, Cindy & Lori & Mike Wright and Grace Smith leader.

BOHEMIA MT. July 17

Proceeded to Bohemia Saddle via Brice Creek road with stops along the way for items of geologic interest pointed out by Harold Barton, geologist, miner,

mining property realtor, etc. The morning was spent following Musick mine tunnels and ore vein downhill from the picnic area, wandering through Bohemia City ---then lunch in the picnic spot. Then 19 of the party went up Bohemia Mt. Trail hunting flowers only to get lost in a snowdrift and end up about ½ mile beyond the summit before returning to climb the rest of the rock pinnacle. Geology was wonderful, flowers beautiful and just in the right season. All enjoyed the trip in spite of the very hot day. (As done this time, with 7 miles, heat, snow and bushwhacking, this trip was qualifying---not ordinarily). Bushwhackers were: Ewart & Margaret Baldwin, Harold Barton, Mary & Roger Bridgeman, Britt Brittain, Joan Bray, Harold Dunn, Nancy Durfee, Clara Emlen, Ina Foss, Robert & Steve & Lisa Gough, Charles Hallin, H. & J. Kirkpatrick, Dorothy & Ronnie Leland, Deloris Lewis, Alelia Linscott, Parker Riddle, Merle Trout, Phyllis Trowbridge, Pat Widney, Ray Sims, and leaders Kenneth & Robin Lodewick.

SOURGRASS MT. July 24

A hardy group of Obsidian hikers once again followed the Bigfoot tracks of Bob Holmquist for 2½ miles over a vague and dimly marked trail to the green, sunny slopes of Sourgrass Mt. The variety and abundance of the plant life on this mountain never fails to bring forth a continual murmur of comments from these nature loving Obsidian people. The unmaintained trail to the mountain is overgrown with Rhododendron, salal, thimbleberry, currant, bunchberry, dogwood, vanilla leaf and johnny-jump-up, to mention a few. One clearing was so covered with penstemon that we could not avoid walking on them. The high point of the trip, of course, is when I lead my group out of the darkness of the forest onto my field of bear grass. Ten acres, plus, of blooming beargrass with just a slight sprinkling of Columbia (Tiger) Lily for accent. The south edge of the bear grass field gives way to a grassy, flower decorated slope which sweeps into a dense thicket of alder and viney maple with a backdrop of old growth Douglas Fir.

(Continued Next Page)

SOURGRASS MT. (Continued)

At this spot, I, Bob Holmquist, presented to the afore-mentioned group of hardy Obidians, one of my favorite secret places.

As we ate our lunch we enjoyed the panoramic view of the Canyon of the Willamette Middle Fork...Diamond Peak was the focal point...with Thielsen, Bailey, Yoran, Hemlock Butte, Moss Mt., Juniper Mt., Kitson Ridge and Hills Creek Reservoir all visible. The usual question came up, "Why is it called Sourgrass Mt. when it is covered with Bear Grass?", and I gave the usual shoulder shrug. After lunch we inspected the old prospector diggings and ruins of old Sourgrass Camp. Still early afternoon, we drove down the mountain and I gave away another of my secrets, the unmarked trailhead to Elk Camp Shelter. Further down we drove in to Little Blanket Shelter, which is trailhead for Saddleblanket Lookout. Resting here, we listened to an inspiring ecology lecture by Joy Balinger and then drove down the mountain to the end of a beautiful day. Following Bigfoot were: Bertha & Rolfe Anderson, Joy Balinger, Bob Capron, John & Peter Cecil, Mary Couch, Duchess Cox, Nancy Devore, Jon Holmquist, Mike Miller, Ruth Nichols, Paula Vehrs, and Bob Holmquist, leader.

YORAN LAKE July 25, 1971

The day was beautiful and warm. We did walk on quite a bit of snow, but it had been melting down fast with the previous week's sunshine and the trail was easy to find. We took a side trip to several small lakes which were all clear of any ice. Parker Riddle caught a nice fat brook trout, and a few of us saw a young buck deer with velvet antlers. We looked at Diamond Peak from many angles throughout the day and it was still mostly covered with winter snow. The pace was kept at a good clip with the help of our prodding mosquito friends. Those on the trip were: Bertha & Rolfe Anderson, Joyce Norman, Brett Brittain, Parker Riddle, Paula Vehrs, and leader Nils Norman.

BACHELOR BUTTE August 15, 1971

Neal Kalez, and Nancy and Susan Turner accompanied Mary Bridgeman, leader, on this most delightful day! Arrived at Bachelor Butte Ski area--good road up to last rope tow, then a mile to top with lava all the rest of the way. Good day--no clouds and a little breeze.

THE BOLIVIAN

GOLD HILL August 21, 1971

After six paved and fourteen gravelled miles up what might be the roughest, steepest mountain roads around, both cars arrived at the abandoned ranger cabins on Gold Hill ridge. It was remarkable that Bob's (Capron) car with no 4-wheel drive made the trip so well. The entire party first viewed Renfrew's Spring and grave and then returned to the cabins for lunch. Then a visit was made to John Downer's Spring and the summit. Everyone enjoyed picking huckleberries & blueberries, some eating, some saving them. A small party visited the rock cairn on west summit and about 3 o'clock left for Leaburg...two doe deer were seen, also a few chipmunks and birds. After a 54 day dry spell rain started just as we arrived home. The history buffs along were: Bob Capron, Mary Bridgeman, Ann Kemp, Marian Mathews, Ruth Nichols, Helen Robbins, Janice & Joe Stucke, Cindy & Phyllis Treinen, Gail Wickstrom and leader Art Steele.

MT. BOLIVAR/MARIAL July 31-Aug. 1

This was just what it was advertised to be--a long drive to make a short hike in an interesting area. Objective was Mt. Bolivar (4319 ft.), the highest point in Coos County. Started up good trail, climbing approx. 1200 ft.; At 4200 ft. level--startled by good sized rattlesnake coiled in middle of trail. Patience prevailed and we parted company somewhat more cautious. Excellent view except for logging scars visible. Returning to cars we departed for Marial, a remote community on Rogue River, where we were to camp at Tucker Flat Campground, maintained by BLM. As we descended into the Rogue R. canyon we understood why Marial is usually visited by boat rather than vehicle! After a night's rest, entered Siskiyou Nat. Forest at Powers, made a loop trip through and departed at Glendale. Interesting contrast to Cascade or Coast Range scenes. Some sightings of deer and bear. Ernie Drapela, ldr., accompanied by H.F. Ayer, Robert Bell, Valerie Drapela, Barbara Durchanek and G.M. Wannier.

LITTLE BROTHER August 14, 1971

Followed White Branch to tree line up slope to ridge. Down the scree to Sunshine Shelter and home. G. H. Wannier, leader, accompanied by Greg Wannier, Rolfe Anderson, Ralph Barnhard, Jeannette, Ken, Mitch & Steve Daletas and Marshall Pallett.

MARY LAKES August 1

Found perfect weather on the trail and the lakes. Found that it was good to be well fortified with mosquito repellent. Explored the other lakes and part of group hiked to base of Rosary Peak, others hiked around the lower lake and found a very cold delicious spring at the rock flow. Reluctantly we left the clear mountain air and were back at the cars in about an hour. Members on trip along with leader Bette Back were Keith Brunig, Bob Capron, Dorothy & Ronnie Leland and Ray Martin. Nonmembers: Becky & Tom Lockart, Judy Porter, Lynn Schneider, Tom Thompson, Nancy Durfee, Mary Ellen & Teri West.

PETERSON ROCK GARDEN August 1

A most interesting trip up the picturesque McKenzie, stopping to see the lava beds at summit. Near Sisters saw a large potato farm under irrigation; at Sisters stopped to see Santa's reindeer ---also the display room, and the sleds filled with presents for good children at Christmas...aren't all children good at that time of year? Drove on to the Rock Gardens, lunched in the shade in the garden. A pea hen was concerned as she was sitting on some eggs, hoping guests wouldn't get too near to frighten her. Henry Oswald led the trip with Mary Carr, Marie Schmitz and her mother Mrs. John Darrington, Loree C'Connell and Gertrude Oswald.

OLALLIE MT. LOOKOUT August 14

All arrived for lunch by 1 p.m. A beautiful view down French Pete Creek to the west, and toward the Cascades 20 miles to the east (Mt. Hood to Crater Lake Rim).

Ate, napped, identified all of the major and minor peaks, drainages, roads & trails, and headed down 2 p.m.

Leader and three oldest Moffitt children drove east to catch other Moffitt family (Richard L.) at Green Lakes to join 25 other climbers on top of South Sister next day. Great view of Olallie Mt. Lookout to the west. Seven Moffitts (Robert A., Clara, Mary Ann, Larry, Mike, John, Rea) were accompanied by Helen Smith, Dow, Jane & Mildred Wilson. Robert Moffitt, leading.

COLLIER VIEW VIA MATTHIEU LAKES Aug. 7-8

Arrived at South Matthieu Lake in time for a quick swim before cooking suppers. Water was warm, brisk breeze kept mosquitoes away. The lake sits on a little plateau

and afforded a beautiful view of the sunset and a rising full moon whose light the glaciers and snowfields on the North and Middle Sisters reflected. Moon so bright that complaints were heard both from a few insomniac campers and some coyotes. Nancy Durfee was lucky enough to see a beautiful huge deer come down for a drink.

Next morning, climbed up to Collier Glacier Viewpoint; were able to trace entire course of glacier and see the higher markings on N. Sister and Collier Cone from which glacier has retreated.

On the way back part of the group hiked out Scott Trail. On the hike were: Dick, Paula, Alice & Bobby Moffitt, Bob, Clara, Mary, Larry, Mike, John & Rea Moffitt, Ellen Newell, Marianne Sandstrom, Eugene Reynolds, Nancy Durfee, Steve Munson, Karen Lowery, and Rose Marie Moffitt, leader.

CANYON GLACIER MEADOW August 21-22

Campsite near head of Canyon Creek below glacier on 3-Fingered Jack. Just got tents and shelters erected when it started to rain. Poured rain all night so the camping was somewhat miserable. Rain eased up about 8 a.m. Sunday.....started cross country toward Skyline trail..met Clarence Landes about 4 miles from the new parking area for Pacific Crest (Skyline) trail. Low clouds blocked most of the good views on Sunday but it was a trip we will long remember. Arne, Hank, Pat & Petreena Clow, Bill Engs, Clarence Landes, Charlotte Mills, Warren Morgan, Marshall Pallett and Wes Prouty, leader.

BOHEMIA TRAIN TRIP (The Goose) August 28

Met group at depot near the Village Green at 9 a.m. The early morning fog was soon overcome by sunshine for a perfect day. A pert young lady conductress dispensed information, collected tickets, narrated special features of the journey and told us about the train itself. The engine was of 1914 vintage and formerly used in Mexico; commuter cars came from the Bay area; a lounge car and observation car completed the train.

Thirteen Obsidians and three guests enjoyed the ride and lunched near the historic church at Walker. On the adventure were: Robert Capron, Mary & Bailey Castelloe, Mary Couch, Clara, John & Rea Moffitt, Aaron, Marcia, Melara & Nereo Park, Ada & Helen Smith, Mary-Douglass Stovall, Helen Weiser and Dorothy Medill, leader.

HISTORY OF THE OBSIDIANS

No. 87 by Ray Sims

Several 'firsts' were happily made in 1961 in our new lodge. On November 11 and 12 the Chiefs held their first reunion. They had a total of 45, many of whom had not been to the annual meetings for years.

Then a fine turkey dinner was served to members and their wives by the Princesses. The turkey was roasted by Florence Sims. It was called Pioneer Christmas Dinner, but it was held at the lodge on December 17 at 1:30 P.M. It was well attended and had 'all the trimmings'.

The Ribbon Trail, which skirts the eastern edge of our property, was also born in December of 1961. The name was not that in the beginning, but we met with representatives of the City of Eugene, to build a trail from Hendricks Park to Spencer Butte, following the south-eastern hills.

This was all brought about because members saw what was happening in California. Ridges around the cities were being bull-dozed flat for buildings. I am pleased to have represented the Obsidians on this committee all of these ten years.

LOO-WIT That is the name of the Mt. St. Helens Club lodge on Spirit Lake, snuggled in the trees facing Mt. St. Helens on the other side of the lake. Ever been there? Did you know it is available to you as FMOOC members? Cost is \$1.25 per night. Access to it is either by 4½ miles of good trail around Spirit Lake, or by high speed launch. For boat service, the phone hangs on a tree, just like in the funnies (no kidding). The lodge sleeps thirty comfortably, has a large fireplace, running water, gas refrigerator and gas stove. Electric lights even, by power generator. For more info, contact your editor or the Mt. St. Helens Club directly, Longview, Washington.

For Sale - Large Cruiser pack-and-frame combination. Snap side pockets, zip front pocket. Padded straps. Also two army pack-and-frame combinations. Contact your editor if you are interested.

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FIRST CLASS MAIL

