



VOLUME 33

DECEMBER 1974

NO. 3

"THE GOOSE IS HANGING HIGH"

Old World Christmas Potluck - December 14, 6:30 p.m., at the lodge. Bring an old world concoction with its name printed on a card for the tasting table or one of your favorite mouthwatering potluck dishes. Gift exchange, not costing over \$1.00, label your gift HIS or HERS or CHILD. GOOD FOOD - ENTERTAINMENT - SINGING - SANTA CLAUS - VISITING WITH FRIENDS - DON'T MISS THIS OLD FASHIONED CHRISTMAS PARTY!

NEW YEARS PARTY

The party will start about 8:30 p.m., Tuesday, Dec. 31, and after an evening of games, music, "Bob Cox Special", and some interesting slide shows, AND the Annual Liars Contest, AND some good eats, we will usher in a brand new year - 1975! Another highlight will be Gerry Fehly's fabulous climb of Mt. McKinley! PRIZES TO BE AWARDED FOR BEST COSTUMES.

PLEASE BRING something for the midnight snack, such as cookies, cake, nuts, crackers, cheese, sandwiches, etc. We'll serve coffee and punch. PLEASE BRING about 10 of your best winter scene slides. Thank you, from the committee.

COMING EVENT

January 25 - Geothermal Power slide show by Al Prigge from the W.N.F. office. At the lodge, 6:30 p.m. potluck dinner first.

BOARD MEETING NOTES

Board members present were: Don Payne, Dorothy Hayes, Merle Traudt, Charlotte Mills, Dave Zevenbergen, Helen Smith, Stuart Baldwin, Marriner Orum, Committee Chairmen: Mary Carr, Clarence Landes, Dorothy Leland, Bea LeFevre, Gerry Fehly, Frank Moore and a guest Al Gamache.

Treasurer reported as of 11/30 we have in the checking account \$2,416.05 and in

reserve \$373.98. Bills paid were: \$58.22 to Mishlers, \$17.03 to Bob Medill and \$30.00 to E.W.E.B.

Trips chairman reported that from now on our trips will be announced in "The Weekender" a newspaper printed by the Springfield News.

Climbing committee reported a climb of Diamond Peak scheduled for February 15, 16.

Outing chairman reported dates set for Summer Camp, August 9-24.

Building chairman was allowed \$50.00 to purchase large rocks for a fence around the gravelled entranceway. This will replace the present rope barrier.

Publications chairman was allowed \$15.00 to mail the bulletin and turned in \$2.00 for a subscription to the bulletin from Mae Hishon, 1601 Olive St. #705.

Membership chairman presented two new members for acceptance. Cheshire J. Nichols, 2785 Oak St., #5, Eugene, 97405, and Mrs. Nelle Cline, 1510 Lawrence St., Eugene, 97401, both associates.

BOARD MEMBER RESIGNS

Charlotte Mills, one of our newly elected Board members, has resigned for personal reasons. She was also our secretary and will be missed.

Paula Vehrs has consented to fill the vacancy and we shall be pleased to have her with us.

TWO MEMBERS LOST BY DEATH THIS MONTH

"CHIEF BIG STICK" - Henry Jeppesen was injured in a car accident on the evening before Thanksgiving and died Thursday evening. He had been an active Obsidian member since 1949 and had completed his climbs of the Three Sisters in 1951. He was an ardent hiker and climber and we shall miss him.

VEOLA WILMOT died Friday, November 25. She had been an associate member since 1968, and enjoyed our bus trips and social evenings.

The Obsidian Bulletin is published monthly by the Publications Committee at the Obsidian Lodge. Committee members are: Helen Smith, chairman, Mary Bridgeman, Mary Castelloe, Gerry Fehly, Sue Riemer, Thelma Watson and Bob Medill, Editor Emeritus.

EDITORIAL

VOLUNTEER PROJECTS FOR W.N.F.

Each Ranger District in our Willamette National Forest has a list of projects which volunteers can do. One such project was the Obsidian work trip last spring to Little Cowhorn Mtn. in the Lowell district where we repainted the old lookout house. The maintenance of structures which they no longer use can be done by volunteer groups or individuals if there is an interest in seeing them remain in the forest as emergency shelters or historical sites. The F.S. will leave them as long as they are safe and as long as they do not have trouble with people wanting to take up their seats for too long a period. Such structures as lookout houses, guard stations and shelters are in this category.

This past summer Mary B. and I have done considerable work around the four shelters remaining in the Lowell district and one which we thought was in their district but turned out to be in the Umpqua N.F. We visited them every month, cleaned up trash, rebuilt fireplaces and replaced shakes. We also visited a guard station in the Blue River district, cleaning up and repairing it. We are looking forward to more work of this type next summer and hope to have the assistance of some Club work parties again to mend shake roofs and repaint walls.

Construction of new trails and reconstruction of older trails are other projects which volunteers can help with. Groups of young people such as Scouts can do this work very well under the supervision of more experienced hands. Under this category the Club hopes to reconstruct the lower portion of the Little Cowhorn trail soon where it goes thru an old cutting area.

If you are available or know of some other group which could do this type of work, contact the Ranger stations and volunteer to help. Watch for Club work trips next season and sign up. By doing this work we will be helping ourselves

to have more and better trails to hike. The F.S. has funds to maintain their present trails but when it comes to building new ones or reconstructing old ones their funds are very meager.

LITTLE COWHORN TRAIL

Four members with the able assistance of two Forest Service men worked on the relocation of the lower part of this trail on Thursday, December 5. It is being reestablished up through an old cutting and across an old skid road. We have been climbing up an old very steep and muddy (when wet) road to get to our trail. This work will give us a good well-graded trail through the shrubbery and new timber which will be a lot more enjoyable. We also took up three new shutters to protect the windows in the lookout house for the winter. Those on this work party were: Clarence Landes, Merle Traudt, Helen Smith, Mary Bridgeman and from the Forest Service station at Lowell: Denny Truesdale and Barry Keller.

NOTES FROM THE TRIPS CHAIRMAN

- 1) All future hikes will depart from 19th & Patterson Sts., unless the leader arranges for another departure place.
- 2) If you are a leader and have to cancel your hike, try to find a substitute leader to take your place. If your hike is cancelled because of snow, MAKE A SUBSTITUTE HIKE.
- 3) If you want to lead a hike and haven't been called to lead one, contact the trips chairman.
- 4) The '75 trips schedule has many open day hikes in June and July.
- 5) A special thank you to a person for work well done was omitted by the trips chairman this year and also last year. THE THANK YOU GOES TO LINDA ZEVENBERGEN, WHO CALLS ALL THE HIKES IN TO THE REGISTER-GUARD EVERY MONDAY, and now to the Springfield News, which publishes the hikes in their Friday paper . . . MANY THANKS!

PASCHELKE BARITE MINE 11/30

We left Springfield at 9:45 a.m. and arrived at the mine around 10:45 a.m. Leo showed us his upper mine and where the present mine is. We all hiked into the mine and explored two crystals there. After the mine tour, many of the hikers walked around down on the reservoir bottom looking for artifacts. At 1:15 p.m. all left for home. Very fine weather

and a good group of hikers. Those on the trip were: Mrs. Lee Hatch, Bev Juilfs, Rick Juilfs, Boyd Morgan, David Morgan, Natalie Morgan, Leo Paschelke, leader, Lar Rosenbolm, Leann Thompson, Merle Traudt, Cheryl, Dave, Linda, Mark and Mike Zevenbergen.

EEL CREEK DUNES TO OCEAN BEACH 11/2

A beautiful day, a good group and the 10th time this trip has been made. Nineteen members, 15 non-members (over 12 yrs. of age) and 3 non-members (under 12), total 37. Louise Berkey, Mary Bridgeman, Maude & Debbie Caldwell, Duchess Cox, Jack, Betty & Jane Dengel, Loene Ellickson, Opal-Lee Forrester, Gladys Grancorvitz, Dorothy Hayes, Delores & Chuck Haddad, Clarence Landes (leader), Dot Leland, Dorothy Lematta, Margaret Markley, Charlene Marshall, Ruth Nichols, Teresa Nutt, Palma Nyberg, Sue O'Renicks, Barbara & Don Payne, Hank Plant, Aubra Pongelly, Kelly Roach, Lauri Rogers, Lois Schreiner, Sue Riemer, Helen Smith, Tim Trombley, Merle Traudt, Suzie Turner, Nancy Sue Turner & Paula Vehrs.

PRINCESS NEWS

Annual Christmas Party with gift exchange will be at the home of President Lois Schreiner, 336 Ventura St., on Monday, Dec. 16, 7:30 p.m.

Annual initiation was a very successful party held at a remote retreat known only to the Princesses. The two newest Princesses are: - Marianne Sandstrom, Princess Gazelle, and Annette Miller, Princess Lichen. President Lois, Princess Monadnock, officiated at the ceremony.

CHIEFS INITIATION NOV. 9

Eighteen were at the "Chicken Delight" dinner at 6:45, at the Lodge, for the start of the 1974 Chiefs initiation, on November 9th. Pie was also added.

As the evening progressed, it was a pleasure to welcome John Elliot Allen, Professor at Portland State, who had not been with us for 42 years, the year he came in.

At the end of the initiation, Bud Proctor was named "SLEEPY BEAR" and Merle Traudt, Chief "CAN DO".

The evening ended with cider and doughnuts and the singing of the Obsidian song. Later, Dick Moffitt showed his many "Bicycle trips" on the screen to the pleasure of all.

Those attending: Bob Medill, Mac McWil-

liams, John Allen, Alvin Lynch, Don Payne, David Zevenbergen, Wes Prouty, Glenn Meares, Dick Moffitt, Keith Brunig, Art Johnson, Bill Beaman, Bob Wilson, Parker Riddle, George Korn, Bud Proctor, Merle Traudt and Ray Sims.

Eight also stayed overnight and had a very nice breakfast prepared by the "new Chiefs".

THANKSGIVING DINNER

Fifty people signed up for this event, but five either cancelled their reservations a day or two before the dinner, or just failed to show. And the usual 5 or 6 persons who show up for the dinner that fail to make reservations didn't show up this year.

Two 21 pound (and 1 twelve pound) turkeys were served and delicious they were just done to a turn; 1 roasted by Mary Castellloe, 1 by Nellie Harmon and 1 by Dorothy Medill.

The tables were set up to form a T in the spirit of Thanksgiving or maybe the T stood for turkey. White linen table cloths were used and the decorations all done by Helen Weiser and Mary-Douglas Stovall and Gerry Fehly. And what decorations they were!!! Beautiful!

There was far more food than we could eat account of having 45 people instead of the 55 expected, but at that we took in clear enough to pay for the electricity above the cost of the turkeys and trimmings.

THE MAZAMAS INVITE US

They are scheduling a 21 day trek called: Mountaineering Outing to Norway Hiking & Climbing Fun!! July 19-August 1975. For more information contact: Linda Wagner, P. O. Box 8386, Portland, Oregon 97207 or The Mazamas.

BOOKS

The fourth edition of "Oregon Geographic Names" by the Lewis McArthur, father and son is now available from the Oregon Historical Society, 1230 SW Park Ave., in Portland, 97205 for \$17.50. This would be a most interesting reference book to own as it gives the origin of place names in our state, thus revealing a dramatic panorama of Oregon History.

An interesting book is off the press entitled "Treasures of the Oregon Country" by Maynard C. Dawson, in two volumes. Published by the Dee Publishing Co., 1020 Terrace Dr. N.W., Salem, Oregon 97304. Each volume costs \$5.95.

SOLAR ENERGY PRAISED

The solar energy in sunshine, wind and water, etc., is clean, abundant and inexhaustible. Its use diminishes no natural resources. The cost of developing it to the point of commercial use is about a fifth the cost of a present project for developing a new type of nuclear power plant to the same stage..... In proposing to continue with a \$5.1 billion program to develop new "breeder reactors" for atomic power plants---hopefully to be ready by 1986---the Atomic Energy Commission recently reported to the President that there was no hope of solar energy becoming an alternative major source of commercial power in the foreseeable future.

There is probably not a responsible expert on solar power who agrees with that. In fact, at the time the AEC issued its dim view of the future of solar power, it had in hand a report of a panel of ten distinguished scientists headed by Alfred J. Eggers, Jr., of the National Science Foundation, saying that for \$1 billion spent over five years starting in 1975, solar energy could start providing commercial power and heat by 1979, and steadily increase it thereafter.....

Let's make no mistake. The daily input of energy from the sun is there for the taking. More than we can ever use. The Eggers Panel reported that the sunshine falling on 4% of the U.S. continental land area could provide our current total national energy needs if tapped at 5% efficiency. Maybe we can't cover 4% with solar collectors. On the other hand, maybe we can tap less of it with more efficiency.

A conceivable, extensive windmill system in the U.S. and Alaska could generate about as much electricity as we used in 1973.....

What is there about the enormously expensive, complex and roundabout approaches to electric power---based on atomic energy and coal, with their pollution and the eventual exhaustion of their fuels---that makes them "logical", if we can get all the power we need from the eternal winds?

And should we completely dismiss windmills on the basis of ANY objection to our getting ALL of our power from the

wind? What is the objection to getting 25% or 10% of our power from the wind? Even 10% is twice what we are getting from nuclear power plants today.....

No one form of solar energy is an all-or-nothing proposition, any more than coal or oil or gas or atomic power are all-or-nothing choices.....

Congress ought to convene a committee of solar power experts and tell it to stop talking peanuts and instead advise the government on the possibilities of solar power in the next 25 years based on expenditures of \$10 billion, \$25 billion, \$50 billion, \$100 billion, \$250 billion. This is the kind of money already being considered not only for atomic power development, but for crash programs in coal and oil.....

Perhaps it should be made clear to conservative spenders (who certainly have a point regarding federal spending in general) that by all indications, larger expenditure on developing solar energy could well save us a fortune, now and forever.....(Condensed from the June issue of the American Legion Magazine with permission of Robert Pitkin, editor.)

ROCK MESA

The mesa has not yet been mined, but if U.S. Pumice Co. has its way, mining will begin in 1975 on at least some of the 10 claims the company holds at the base of the South Sister. Mining in the 3 Sisters Wilderness area seems unthinkable, but the request of U.S. Pumice to bring in a front loader and dump truck for its annual assessment work this past spring suddenly brought the unthinkable closer to reality. The request to bring in mechanized equipment was denied by the Forest Service and there was no further action, in spite of threats to ignore the Forest Service denial. However the company intends to file its operating plans sometime this year, after which the Forest Service will prepare an environmental impact statement---a process which could take up to 18 months.

The claims in question date back to 1962, before enactment of the Wilderness Act, and therefore can be patented, with title to the land reverting to the claim holder. The pumice block to be mined is used primarily by the Armed Services for scouring kitchen grills, and for construction of backyard barbecues. Although

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the Forest Service recognizes the legal right of U.S. Pumice to hold a claim in the Wilderness area, there is still some question whether it is a commercially valid claim. Several persons, including Frank Barry, professor in the U of O Law School, and Henry Richmond, OSPIRG attorney, intend to contest the commercial validity of the claim on the basis of an independent geological evaluation, should that course become necessary. On the political front, Senators Hatfield and Packwood have submitted bills which would halt the activities and compensate the company for expenses to date, but there is no possibility of action before the end of this season. The Forest Service has had its own study team in the field and has conducted a tour of the area for news representatives and others interested in the controversial site. Anyone who might wish to present testimony is urged to visit the area now before snow blankets the area--Pat Noyes (From the Sierra Club Bulletin, Vol. X, No. 9, 10/74)

REMEMBER THE GAS LINES?

Have you forgotten the dismal skies and four-block long gas station lines of last February? Have you returned to thoughtless patterns of unrestrained consumption of petroleum products? Though manipulated by oil companies into accepting big price increases, the hard fact remains--as King Hubbert reported to the Oregon Academy of Science--that the world is rapidly depleting its petroleum reserves. It is a fact! Don't buy gas guzzlers. Don't indulge in "50 gallon weekends". Don't set up a retirement location dependent on long-range commuting. Do leave a little gas for your grandchildren to conduct their essential business in the convenience of a private automobile! - William G. Loy. (From Oakridge Audubon Society "Quail Quips & Quotes")

OAKRIDGE AUDUBON SOCIETY

The Society has a very active chapter in Oakridge and they publish a most informative bulletin entitled "Quail Quips & Quotes". A subscription to this bulletin may be obtained by sending \$2.00 a year to the Oakridge organization. Send it to Joanne Ralston, 77095 Westridge Ave., Westfir, Oregon 97492.

PERSONALS

MARY CARR lost her sister, Lucy, this month. She was married and lived in Seattle but had been born in Irving, just north of Eugene.

HAZEN & LORENE BRESSLER, after stuffing themselves more than they should have at the Obsidian Thanksgiving dinner, left the same evening for Hong Kong in case they had need of a doctor. They heard that the doctors were much cheaper there than at home.

LLOYD PLAISTED, we do not know whether his house has a road thru it or whether it even looks like a road but anyway a heavy dump truck ran into it. Maybe the driver was cross-eyed.

MARGARET MARKLEY'S name was somehow left off the list of names on Clarence Jander's list of donors to the Rockwall Fund in the November bulletin. We are sorry about that. Now, Margaret, you get separate billing.

FLORENCE FULTON will have a new address starting December 16. She will be residing at the Willamette Lutheran Homes, Inc., 7693 Wheatland Rd., N, Salem, but her mailing address will be P.O. Box 169, Salem, Oregon 97308.

TERESA NUTT one of our newer members and a very good hiker is looking for new living quarters. She would like to have a room with private bath. If you have such a room or know someone who has call her at 746-4326.

BUD PROCTOR one of our newest Board members and the Climbing Committee chairman is available to lecture to groups on "Mountain Search and Rescue" and "Wilderness Survival".

HELEN SMITH has stainless steel Sierra cups to sell at \$1.15, collapsible plastic wash basins for \$1.25 and plastic water buckets \$1.50. These are especially good items for backpackers to use, so how about a Christmas gift for one of your hiker friends. Just ask her and she will see that you get them. Phone 343-0648.

GENE RENARD an active member who now lives in Honolulu, Hawaii has sent his dues in with this greeting "Aloha, everyone! Please give a ring when you're in town (Phone 808/988-4939)". He offers to lead short trips on Oahu.

HISTORY OF THE OBSIDIANS

by Ray Sims

While on the trip to the top of the creek and falls from Velma Lake, there is "Dicks Lake" just over the ridge, besides being beautiful, it seemed to have an answer to all. Mrs. Baldwin went swimming, Wayne went fishing, but the many hikers camped on the vantage spots.

This beautiful country of Granite is so easy in which to hike, even "White Heatner" was found. The mountains nearby stretched their snow fields to the lakeshore.

On a trip to Middle Velma Lake, Dr. Ewert Baldwin was the leader and in a hillside of crystals was found a foot long vein of "Feld-Spar". With its many uses, it was photographed from all angles.

While at Lake Tahoe we read a Sunset magazine which listed the 3 most beautiful lakes "In the world". CRATER LAKE in Oregon, LAKE TAHOE in California and LAKE BAIKAL in Russia.

The green plastic above the table was used this year instead of the "heavy" tarp we have used before, so as to save weight in packing.

On coming down the trail, Mary B. and I visited "South Tahoe" which is the city in this wonderland.

WORLD BIKE RECORDS

EARLIEST - a two kilometer race on velodromes at Parc de St. Cloud, Paris, May 31, 1888 won by James Monroe.

SLOWEST - 1965 Tsugunobu Mitsuishi, age 39 of Tokyo, Japan stayed stationary for 5 hrs. 25 min. this virtually ending records for slow cycling.

FASTEST - (Paced)* 127.243 mph by Jose Melifret, age 49, on July 19, 1962 in Freiburg, West Germany. Using a 275 in. gear cycling behind a Mercedes sports

car fitted with a wind screen. On first attempt he crashed while traveling in excess of 100 miles per hour.

FASTEST - (Unpaced) 12.21 mph (200 meters in 10.6 seconds) by Antonio Maspes (Italy) on August 28, 1962.

EARLIEST DISTANCE - (One hour paced) 76 miles, 604 yards by Leon Vanderstuyft, (Belgium) Montlhery, France, Sept 30, 1928 (24 hours paced) 860 miles, 367 yds. by Hubert Opperman in Australia in 1932. (One hour unpaced) 30 miles, 214 yards by Ole Ritter (Denmark) at Mexico City, Mexico, October 10, 1968. (24 hours unpaced) 507 miles by Roy Cheshire, England, July 26-27, 1969. (non-stop) Miller (USA) 2,125 miles in 144 hours at San Francisco in 1899.

In the early day races the riders literally rode for 6 days and 6 nights non-stop. After Miller had won in San Francisco, beating his old record of 2,018 miles set two years earlier he had to be wrested from his bike, as he was by then pedalling on and on like an automaton. Even when they finally put him to bed his legs kept up a circling motion.

*Paced means that a motor cycle, car or in one case a train fitted with special wind screens precedes the rider.

(Sent in by Marriner Orum)

COST OF EMBLEMS

Inflation has hit the cost of our emblems as in the future they will cost us 45¢ for those extra ones instead of 25¢.

BETTY CPOCKER COUPONS EXPIRE DEC. 31
All coupons should be turned in by mid-December, as they will not be valid after the 31st. Bring them to the Lodge.

DUES ARE DUE

If you haven't already paid them be sure to send your money to MARY CARR, 1601 Olive St., Apt. 407, Eugene, Oregon 97401 as soon as you can.

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