



The

OBSIDIAN

Obsidians, Inc.
P.O. Box 322
Eugene, OR 97440

VOLUME 60

FEBRUARY, 2000

NUMBER 5

CALENDAR

Sunday, February 20: **BY-WAYS** by **BUS RALLY**, Lodge, 1:30
Friday, February 25: **POTLUCK**, Lodge, 6:30
Wednesday, March 1: **BOARD MEETING**, Lodge, 6:00

WINTER TRIPS:

FEBRUARY

19 Sat. — **Cone Peak**, 5m.Int. B.Hoyland **SNOWSHOE**
20 Sun. — **3 Creeks Lake**, 12m.Int+. A.McLucas
26 Sat. — **Fawn Lake**, 6m.Int. D.Jeffcott
26 Sat. — **Maiden Peak**, 12m.Adv. H.Thompson
26 Sat. — **Midnight Lake Loop**, 7m.Int. S.Larsen
27 Sun. — **Maiden Peak**, 10m.Adv. G.Baitinger

MARCH

TBA — **Tahoma Trails**, Int. L.Lindstrom
TBA — ?, J.Mowat
4 Sat. — **Rosary Lakes**, 6m.Int. M.Landes
4 Sat. — **Maxwell Butte**, 6m.Int. R.Seitz
5 Sun. — **Ray Benson Lp**, 5m.Adv.Beg. S.Ritchie
11 Sat. — **3-Fingered Jack**, 12m.Adv. S.Goins

COMMITTEE NEEDS YOUR HELP AT POTLUCKS

Speakers for the entire "Potluck Year" have been contacted by the Entertainments Committee; details appeared in the December, 1999 *Bulletin*. We are hoping that all Obsidians will be aware of our programs and of our well-deserved reputation for Obsidian hospitality and fine cooking!

The Committee invites anyone interested in helping to set-up before the Potlucks — or helping with the clean-up afterwards — to come forward by phoning a Committee member or by showing up at the Lodge around 5:50 on the last Friday of the month.

If you have a suggestion or recommendation of a speaker or program topic please let us know . . . we want potluck programs to reflect Obsidian interests.

Committee members are: Gayle Berge (Chair, 345-9984), Norma Johnson, Dorothy Turner, Vera Woolley and Margee Wright. — G.B.

Obsidian Princess News . . .

Nine Princesses met for lunch at The Grape & Grain on Monday, January 31. Members discussed the book "Ghosts of Everest" and the television program Nova on the 1999 Mallory Irvine expedition.

Seattle Christmas greetings and photographs from former Obsidian Christine Ligneau were shared.

Dot Leland will organize the February 28 luncheon meeting in the Santa Clara area. After lunch we will visit Mary Gillespie at the Oak Tree Residential Home. She was initiated in 1939 and is 99 years old. — J.J.

WHY DID THE BOARD INCREASE NON-MEMBER TRIP FEES AND MILEAGE FEES?

Several members have inquired about the rationale for these two Board Actions —

Non-Member Trip Fees were increased from \$2 a day to \$4 a day — except for bus trips, where the increase was to \$3 a day. Climb Fees for non-members were increased to \$10 a day.

The major reason for these increases was to create a higher disparity between Member and non-member fees in order to motivate more people to join our Club.

The Board felt that the prior fee structure did not provide sufficient incentive for becoming a Member. In contrast, the Potluck fee was increased from 50 cents to one dollar to produce more revenue and because that fee had not been increased for a long time.

Mileage reimbursement fees were increased to 5 cents a mile (from a suggested 2-4 cent range) to better reflect the costs of operating a vehicle and to help compensate for the stress and strain of driving.

The Board decided on a fixed rate — instead of a range — because we felt that stating a range would result in most drivers charging the minimum and we did not think this was fair.

Any questions or concerns about these changes should be addressed to Ed Lichtenstein (telephone: 683-0699; e-mail: <ed@ori.org>).

SCHOOL CLUB NEEDS CAMPING GEAR

Dear Obsidians:

Do you have items of camping equipment you don't use anymore and which you'd like to donate to a worthy cause?

I teach at Cottage Grove High School, and started a backpacking club recently. Some of our students can't afford gear.

We are trying to build an inventory of camping equipment. Most needed are backpacks and light-weight tents. Also rain gear, especially pants and jackets.

A receipt for tax deduction purposes can be written for any items donated.

Your help will be greatly appreciated. Please call me at 345-7788.

Sincerely,

J. Scott Howis

The Safety Committee requests all Members to complete and return the attached Liability Release Form to Lenore McManigal, or give to the Trip Leader on your first Obsidian activity.

Year 2000 Membership List is included with this issue



Welcome!

New Members:

- Sheila Dempster (Active), 55 Madison St.,
Eugene 97402; 485-6243
- Giselle Garrity (Active), 26355 Valley View,
Cheshire 97419; 998-1667
- Ruth Romoser (Active), 650 Harlow Rd. #231,
Springfield 97477; 726-8134
- Richard Speelman (Active), 1496 W. 28th Ave.,
Eugene 97405; 344-3019

Reinstated:

Herbert Lee, 3460 Donald St., Eugene 97405; 683-3283

Phone/Address Change/Corrections:

- Benton Elliott, 1965 1/2 Jackson St., Eugene 97405
- Marc Hansen, 1601 Olive St. Apt. 805, Eugene 97401
- Pete Suttmeier — 346-2956
- Janet Towar, 1038 Ellsworth, Eugene 97402

e-Mail Additions/Changes/Corrections:

- | | |
|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| Bates, Dan | wdanbates@home.com |
| Romoser, Ruth | ruthr@efn.org |
| Schlenker, Kathleen | kis@compunet.com |
| Seitz, Ruby | rubyseitz@hotmail.com |
| Speelman, Richard | richardspe@aol.com |
| Suttmeier, Pete | petesutt@oregon.uoregon.edu |
| Tressler, Jon | jont@efn.org |

DONATIONS TO CLUB FUNDS

Unspecified Fund: Ewart & Margaret Baldwin \$75, Joan Bradley \$5.

OUTDOOR STORE GARAGE SALE, MARCH 7

Returns, discontinued items, excess inventory, used rental gear and other deals will be flying at this unique gathering of Eugene's most popular outdoor gear store, Tuesday, March 7, 7:30 p.m. in the EMU Ballroom.

These folks are here to get rid of stock at bargain prices. This is a great opportunity to buy clothes and equipment for your next grand outdoor adventure. Free admission.



CROSS-COUNTRY SKIS & POLES

Size 7 BOOTS

Contact Gerry Roe, 746-0614



Published monthly except August. Dated news items will be accepted through the first Wednesday of each month.

Editor — JOHN CECIL

Rose Marie Moffitt, Sylvia Harvey, Vera Woolley, Ardyng Ringsdorf, Vi Johnson, Bob Devine, Sig Otto, Arthur Golden, Gene Thaxton, Lenore McMangal, Dorothy Turner, Bep Fontana & Truman Grandy.

2/7/2000

Address all correspondence to 64836 Starwood Drive, Bend, OR 97701-8417

THREE SAWTOOTH SAGES BULLETIN

The Sawtooths sound better every day! Everyone is ecstatic about a return to this granite range in Idaho. The "been there, done that" attitude just does not exist. Apparently, there are just too many opportunities for adventure (road trips, hikes, packing, kayaking, swimming, etc.). Those with Sawtooth experience and those living close to the site (e.g., Gary Marx) rave about sites very close to the Sawtooths. Some say that White Cloud Mountains are more isolated and prettier.

In any case, the Summer Camp Committee met on Sunday, January 30 to finalize the camp's organization. As a result, many Responsible People positions are now filled. However, we still need more volunteers for some very key positions — no experience necessary! We are an Equal Opportunity Organization. Think you can help? Please contact Sylvia Harvey (e-mail: <sylvias@uswest.net>; phone 688-4550; address: 3571 Poplar St., Eugene 97404). She, thank heavens, is this year's Most Responsible Person (the person who makes life easy for the Responsible People as they direct the rest of us in camp duties).

We are still accepting applications (mail all forms to John Jacobsen at 150 East 3rd Ave., Eugene 97405). At this point, although still rather early in the year, about 30 slots have been filled. We will, as in the past, accept up to 100 campers. So, if you wish to join us for the fun this summer, please fill out the following forms included with this issue of the *Bulletin*:

- a) Camp Application (one per family)
- b) Liability Release Form (one per Member)

We need both of these completed forms, plus your deposit (\$30 per person).

Also reviewed was the Liability Release Form. We have decided, in order to simplify our lives, that everyone must fill one out for camp. Having one on file is not workable. Why? a) We do not have time to go through all the records to find out who does or who does not have one on file; and b) We decided to add some questions to the backside ("Safety Information") of the form.

The extra questions ask for the license plate numbers and a description of the cars you are bringing to camp. Either send the Liability Release Form along with the application or, if you have already sent in the check and application form, mail it to John Jacobsen with your balance.

Summation — Great camp; great people; great volunteers needed for Responsible Person slots; camp is filling; new Liability Release Forms are necessary for every camper; and the Camp Membership Chairperson is John Jacobsen.

Thanks to all.

— GEORGE JEFFCOTT



SNO-PARK PERMITS REQUIRED

Between November 15 and April 30, people parking in any of about 100 designated "winter recreation areas" in Oregon require a valid SnoPark permit on their windshield (or face a \$30 fine).

Seasonal SnoPark permits cost \$15, a three-day permit is \$7, and a daily permit is \$3. Permits are available at local DMV offices, retail and sporting goods stores and at USFS Ranger District offices.

MT. PISGAH ARBORETUM EVENT

Saturday, February 12 (10-noon): WINTER TREE IDENTIFICATION (botanist Judith Manning). Practice indoor identification. Bring a hand lens, pocket knife and ruler. Fee \$10 (MPA members \$7). Pre-registration required, call 747-1504.

THREE SAWTOOTH SAGES APPLICATION FORM

Each person must fill in a separate Application Form. (Just photocopy this one).

Send it to **John Jacobsen, 150 East 43rd Avenue, Eugene 97405.**

Include **CHECK & LIABILITY FORM** with this application.

Applicant's Name (last first)

Phone number; e-mail address

Mailing address

*Check appropriate boxes: A deposit of \$30 must accompany this application. (Balance due June 3).

Obsidian Member \$125

Non-member \$155

Child (under 10?) \$65

If the check covers more than one person, then list their name or names below:

.....;

.....;

.....;

* Each person must submit a "Camp Liability Form". ***This is not negotiable.***

*Daily Roster. Do you have any limitations which should be considered when the duty roster is made up (e.g., bad back, etc.)

.....

.....

*Is this your first Obsidian Camp? NO YES

If YES, are you an experienced hiker, camper? NO YES

*This section is intended to aid the cook, the food buyers, and in the construction of the duty roster. You may not have the exact dates. But please tell us if you will *not* be at Camp during the whole week. Please remember that the campers are expected to aid in the Camp take-down on Saturday. If you will be at the Camp the whole week then please leave this section blank.

When would you arrive and when would you leave?

Arrive Leave

BOARD NOTES

FEB. 2

Compiled by

Sharon Ritchie

Obsidian
Secretary

President Ed Lichtenstein opened the February 2 Board Meeting. Present were Board Members John Jacobsen, Gayle Berge, Ardys Ringsdorf, Lenore McManigal, Kris Kennedy, Margee Wright, Anne Dhu McLucas and Doug Nelson. Also present were Sheila Ward, Sharon Ritchie, Gerry Roe, Bob Dark and Ben Jeffries.

The minutes of the January 5 Board Meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report: The Finance Committee is now in place consisting of Sheila Ward, John Jacobsen, Diane Jeffcott, Catherine Jones and Rick Ahrens. Expenses approved were: Winter Trips \$13,066, Trips \$125,422, Treasurer \$33,633, Secretary \$52, PCT Assoc. (membership) \$75, Publications \$400, Lana Lindstrom \$35, Entertainments \$16,533.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Winter Trips: Gerry reported on December trips (2 trips reported, 2 unreported; total trip fees \$16) and January trips (5 trips reported for a total of 37 Members and 13 non-members; total trip fees \$97).

Safety: Ben discussed an audit that was taken of the Sign-up Sheets and Release of Liability forms on file after a trip takes place. Committee heads are asked to look into ways that could be used to improve completion of these documents. Ed asked Board Members to think of someone who would take over chairmanship of this Committee.

John reviewed changes in the new Trip Sign-Up sheet, which the Board approved unanimously.

Membership: The following Active membership applications were approved: Sheila Dempster, Giselle Garrity, Ruth Romoser, Richard Speelman.

By-Ways by Bus: A list of trips was presented to the Board; the annual Bus Rally will take place at the Lodge on Sunday, February 20.

Lodge/Historian: Lenore reported all document filing up-to-date.

Climbs: Climb schedule is almost complete. It will include 20-25 climbs, a climb school (again in conjunction with the River House) and a crevasse rescue school.

Summer Trips: Committee met on January 21 and will finalize Trips Schedule on February 17. Hikes during the winter were discussed, and Gerry said she would add this to her responsibilities next year.

Entertainments: Trip fees of \$41.50 were collected at the January Potluck.

Science & Conservation: Ed asked Herm to talk with the BLM concerning development of 15,000 acres near Triangle Lake.

Publications: Production stats. for the January *Bulletin* were \$304 (435 10-page issues printed, 393 mailed).

OLD BUSINESS

Following discussion, the Board unanimously approved the Lodge Rental Policy as presented.

John distributed a notice of motion to change the Club's By-Laws to reflect new Lodge rental policies.

John is looking into various avenues the Club could take in setting up a web site, costs etc. Subject was tabled to March Board Meeting.



Next Meeting at the Lodge
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 1, 6:00
Board Meetings are open to all Members.

January 28:

DOUGLAS LORAIN: "BACKPACKING OREGON"

Douglas Lorain treated the Obsidians to an animated and often humorous review of his new book, "Backpacking Oregon", interacting frequently with an appreciative audience.

Differing from the many guide books that have been written for hiking in Oregon, this book exclusively covers back-packing hikes (27 in number) of three to seven days' duration, from all around the state. It is the culmination of having hiked about 15,000 miles in Oregon (starting at about age five). He has also hiked nearly that many miles in the rest of the American and Canadian west.

Detailed information and advice is given for each hike, drawing from the author's experience. A second book, "Backpacking Washington", is due out soon.

Douglas has sought out many little traveled trails that offer rewarding solitude. Not surprising, some of the hikes may not be for the faint of heart. He has endured deep river fords, black bears (which he considers to be not a problem), trekking through a poison oak thicket, avoiding elk-seeking bullets and sometimes breaking trail to points of interest. He once sat out a rattlesnake bite for three days until his swollen leg subsided enough to withstand the hike out! Douglas has mostly hiked alone, which he admits is not a good idea.

Douglas has, in general, not found the GPS (Global Positioning System) receivers to be consistently useful, and prefers to rely on the old reliable map and compass. It is easy to imagine that, if born some 200 years earlier, Douglas Lorain would have been a Davy Crockett-type frontiersman.

Incidentally, on learning of our pending Summer Camp in the Sawtooths, he highly recommended the area.

BY-WAYS BY BUS RALLY SET FOR FEB. 20

The By-Ways by Bus Committee will host its traditional Bus Rally at the Lodge on Sunday, February 20 at 1:30 p.m. All interested Obsidians and their guests are welcome.

As usual, a short slide show will highlight some of the previous places visited. The Rally Sheet, which describes in detail the year 2000 trips, will be available. Trip leaders will add more information and will answer questions.

Please refer to the January *Obsidian Bulletin* for a brief list of trips and dates.

A large turnout is expected at the Rally; the sign-up tables may be crowded. Please be patient so that we may serve you efficiently. Members of the Committee will furnish refreshments. We are looking forward to an enjoyable afternoon.

NOTES:

- The Sacramento trip (March 30-April 3) has an early sign-up and payment schedule. Call Marian Borchardt (343-0976).
- The Willamette Shore Trolley-Champoeg State Park trip is set for Thursday, August 31.
- The North Idaho trip (June 21-27) is six nights, seven days.

— RAY JENSEN

Hike/Climb, March 19-25:

DEATH VALLEY-TELESCOPE PEAK

This trip will be a combination 4x4-vehicle drive, hike and rugged rock scramble of approximately 16 miles each way during the week of March 19-25; starting at the bottom of Bad Water Basin, Death Valley (282 ft. below sea level), and ending on the summit of 11,049-ft. Telescope Peak.

If interested contact trip leader Chris Miller (phone: 541-670-5666, e-mail: <chris@harborside.com>) for full details and itinerary.

XC-SKI REPORTS

MIDNIGHT LAKE December 12

Rain combined with snow flurries made an adventurous ski tour to Midnight Lake. Following a path already made in the heavy, wet snow, we accidentally skied past the lake turnoff but were rescued by the more astute explorers of our group who recognized we had gone too far and retraced our tracks for about a half-mile. Once at the lake, greeted by other early season skiers from Eugene, we all rested on our skis, still standing, huddled against the cold, and rather quickly consumed our lunch for energy. We made it back to our cars in time to beat the rain and stormy weather in the mountains but drove full ahead into early winter rain storms and darkness on our way to Eugene. Although the weather is more unpredictable on November and December ski trips, it provides great adventure close to home on a day outing. Thanks to all who contributed to a fun trip. Sharing the early season trip were Colette Govan, Doug McCarty, Anne Dhu McLucas, Bob Lemon, Max Vollmer, Sue Wolling, Mel Zadovsky and David Roderick (leader).

GOLD & MARILYN LAKES December 18, 1999

On a warm Saturday while many were battling the crowds Christmas shopping, three of us went skiing and had a great time. We left Eugene at 8:00, stopped at the coffee hut in Oakridge (Mrs. McGuillicuddy's has closed), parked at the Gold Lake SnoPark, hiked a mile across the parking lot to the trailhead, then began skiing. We made it to the lake in 50 minutes, then headed to Marilyn Lakes for a lunch break. It snowed lightly throughout the day. We (Janet Hall, Ed Lichtenstein and Diane Jeffcott, leader) were back in Eugene by 3:00. Our driver, Ed, charged us the new rate of 5¢ a mile. We were glad to pay, cause we got to enjoy the comfortable car without having to stay alert and drive; 5¢ a mile is a breeze for all the riders. Anyone who objects can drive their own car!

BECHTEL SHELTER December 21, 1999

Good news: after having had to cancel last week's scheduled Paulina Lake trip for lack of participants I found four people had signed up for the Fuji Shelter trip. Bad news: two people called to cancel because of icy conditions. Same icy snow persuaded me to change the destination from fairly steep Fuji Shelter road to the more level road to Bechtel Shelter. Hwy. 58 was largely dry, and there were few other cars in the Gold Lake-Pengra Pass SnoPark. We made it to the shelter without falling, although I had a strenuous run back out trying to snowplow without any loose snow to plow. At the parking lot a large group of teenagers were seated on the pavement taking turns using the outhouse. They had just returned from three weeks of backpacking in the Waldo Lake area. They were so pleased at the comfort of the outhouse (they should have seen the heated one at Ray Benson; see Trip, Report for December 28!) To make up for the disappointingly short outing, I treated my passengers to a free ride. Good sports were non-member Nicole Ryckenbusch and Obsidian Josh Ladau, home on vacation from Cornell. — Helmut Plant, leader.

BIG LAKE December 28, 1999

I had written on the sign-up sheet for this XC-ski trip that unless there was new snow the destination would have to be changed from the shady Potato Hill trail (one mile of the four-mile Hashbrown Loop being rated "difficult") to the wide-open, level trail to Big Lake. There was no new snow. There

was also only one person signed up, laid-back John Hudson who — experienced Nordic skier that he was — didn't object to this switch from a challenging XC trail to a "kiddy" trail. Apropos kiddy: Ray Benson SnoPark was full of them, to our initial surprise(after all, it was a weekday). But then it was vacation time, too. Which means lots of snowmobiles, including a kiddy model with a little kid driving it in circles in front of the outhouse. Apropos outhouse: it had a heater on the wall, making it so toasty warm that one was tempted to linger longer! Skiing in proved more challenging than coming back out a few hours later when the snow had softened. The sun in an almost cloudless blue sky cast a golden hue over the dark green ("Oregon green") trees. It gradually faded when we got to Belknap Hot Springs (thanks, John, for the treat!). Several young men, women and children were in the pool speaking a language that had many high front rounded vowels. "Excuse me, I am curious about your language. It has a lot of ü-sounds. Is it Turkish, by chance?" "Yes, how did you know?" Time passed quickly. A hot pool can be a great international conversation pit (Albright, Barak and Arafat take note!). Mom of The Village Café was on vacation, so we drove straight through to Eugene and to John's house where I signed his Obsidian membership application form. — Helmut Plant, leader.

MAXWELL BUTTE-MT. VIEW LOOP January 8

It snowed the whole way around Mountain View Loop, an 8-mile route that starts and finishes at Maxwell Butte SnoPark. Needless to say, there were no mountain views. But it was beautiful. At one point the sun even poked through to give the landscape a fantastic and wonderful glow. A great group, consisting of Andrew & Tom Bonamici, Deb Carver, Gary Griffin, Doug Quirk and leader John Pegg.

ROSARY LAKES January 8

Five skiers fit snugly into the leader's vehicle for the drive to Willamette Pass. It rained most of the way but turned to snow near the Pass. Lots of snow and a good track enabled us to reach the first lake in good time. After a short lunch break we continued on to the other two lakes, breaking track part of the way. Variable snow showers kept the weather interesting. The slick snow made for a fast return but also led to falling — by some of us — though the snowy trail was forgiving to our bones! After a warming rest and hot beverage in the lodge we returned to Eugene before dark. Enjoying the fine conditions were Bob Burnett, Bea Fontana, Clare Tucker, Nicole Ryckenbusch and leader Ed Lichtenstein.

ODELL LAKE January 12-14

Five feet of snow in the previous 48 hours and it snowed all weekend. Dry powder, great people, too much food. — *Sharon Ritchie*. The Danish dynamo did it again... waist-deep snow! — *Clare Tucker*. Great books read, despite electricity going out: *The Secret House of Death*, *Furthermore*, *Long Walk to Freedom*, *Ahal's Wife Court*, *Down the River*, *Lava*. — *Jan Jacobsen*. Eat, ski, sleep, eat, ski, sleep. It's a tough job, but someone has to do it. — *Normu Lockvear*. How much melted snow does it take to fill a toilet tank? A lot! — *Leona Devine*. Trees declaring war on the cabin. Heavy snow bombs from laden branches dropping on metal roof, exploding! No need for a rooster to wake you in the morning. Timbered cabin, waist-high fresh snow. Obsidian story-telling and communalism at its best. Candlelight and quiet breakfast with a view outside picture window in which to lose yourself. — *Helen Liguori*. It is an easy task to be a so-called leader of a group of great leaders. When we did not have light or water

• Continued on Page 7

Clear 'round all Three Sisters ...

By MARGARET THOMPSON

Found, the perfect hiking or riding trip! Clear 'round the Three Sisters by base trails that keep you within four miles airline of the nearest summit at all times. Something new and interesting in every mile, and a mental picture of the great peaks that cannot be obtained in any other way. At the end of the trip you are back where you started, with only a few miles of retracing to do, and that well worth seeing twice.

The Forest Service informed us that so far as they know, no one had ever made the base trip completely around before, much less by horseback, much less three girls alone — Cleo Bennett, Clea McCormick, and me.

We had a swell time, and you can believe it or not, there were no mosquitoes! We didn't even open our bottles of oil of citronella, and our mosquito netting was just excess baggage. And the weather was swell — the second week in August.

Every Obsidian will be glad to hear that the old Scott Trail has been completely reblazed and maintained to junction with the Skyline, and from there clear to the summit. We rode from Belknap Springs all the way up to the summit on a trail that was the equal of the Skyline — but steeper, folks, much steeper.

We didn't bother with the Scott Trail on the east side. We just took off easterly from Little Matthieu Lake at Scott Pass, and compassed out to the Trout Creek Road right through the brush. Try it sometime with a packhorse — never a dull moment! We hit the road right at Trout Creek Camp, a bullseye for two little ten-cent store compasses.

South of Pole Creek Camp, on the east side of the trip, following the Green Lakes Trail, we ran into a blowdown, several miles of dead trees with a jump or a step-over every five feet of trail on the average. A few miles farther we said good-bye to the North and hello to the South and Broken Top — wonderful views of both peaks.

Green Lakes was swell but cold at night. Then we went on to Sparks Lake and saw our first human since the trip started — a Californian tourist. Camped at Devil's Garden and got a terrific urge for orange marmalade. The longer we did without it, the more we suffered. Strawberry jelly and blackberry jelly and syrup didn't help a bit. So we just had to go to Elk Lake and get some orange marmalade. We ate dinner there, too, and the waitresses called out the cook from the kitchen to watch us eat!

At Horse Lake they told us Eileen Baker and Mandy Hicks and Bryan Ryan had been there a short time before. After this little side trip, we returned to the Wickiups and took up our loop trail again. This trip would be improved by cutting through on the Moraine Lakes Trail instead of going out to the road. It would cut off some miles and add a lot of Grade-A scenery.

For the rest of the way, the Skyline was just as grand as ever. A couple of miles south of Sunshine Shelter, instead of dropping down to Linton Meadows, you will soon be able to keep right on at about 6,000-ft. elevation, around the slopes of the Middle, on the new trail which they are building this summer. It isn't done yet, however.

We saw quite a few deer, all on the east side. At Devils Garden a mule deer came right into camp. We saw quite a few tracks of elk, deer, bear, and what have you.

At James Creek Shelter we met a hiker from The Dalles who fills his frying pan, a good half-inch deep with hot cake batter, hesitates a few seconds, and then flips it with one motion. He never misses. And by actual count, we saw him eat eight of these giant hot cakes, besides two eggs and a whole plate of fried spuds and bacon. We wished the cook at Elk Lake could see him. His name is Orville Williams and he was hiking from The Dalles clear to Crater Lake, with a 50-lb. pack. He may come to the U. of O. this fall.

Reprinted from the SEPTEMBER 1938 *Obsidian Bulletin*

Contributions to *Obsidian "Bulletin"* columns are invited from readers. Send in your original poetry, a favorite recipe, a book review, an historical note, a short essay on a facet of Club life or Summer Camp experience, or a climb, hike or bus outing anecdote you'd like to share with fellow-Members. Black and white sketches may also be submitted.

— Editor

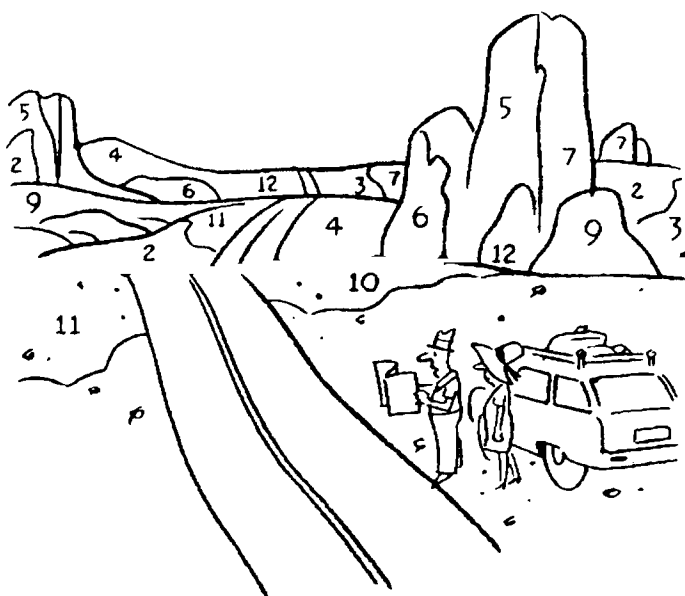


DRIVE SLOWLY ON SPRING BLVD. — Club Potlucks and other Functions: Members are asked to drive slowly and with extreme care when approaching the Lodge. This road is very narrow and winds tortuously ... the potential for accidents is always present.



"The morning hour has gold in its mouth."

—Benj. Franklin



"Here it is on the map ... The Unpainted Desert"

TRIP REPORTS — Continued from Page 5

my greatest contribution was "When it's yellow, let it mellow; when it's brown flush it down", and then start collecting snow in all available containers. We did well and became more and more inventive. Candlelight makes everything gentle and cozy. A very special treat was the "resident" male, unfixed wolf who was so shy last year, but had gathered a lot of confidence. It was sheer delight to see this magnificent, dignified wolf play joyfully in obvious friendship and almost constant company of the little female pug, "Honey" as it is called, and even let P.J. pet him. Participants were Leona Devine, Jan Jacobsen, Norma Lockyear, Helen Liguori, Chuck Mitchell, Patricia Neis, Sharon Ritchie, Clare Tucker and Birgitte B. Williams, leader.

MAKLAKS LOOP January 22

Four non-members, no complaints about the \$4 fee. All eagerly working toward their third trip so they can join. Total of 10, in three cars: Absolutely no complaints about 5¢/mile gas fee. Anne pointed out that a bus ticket to Willamette Pass is \$13. This was approximately 7 miles further and cost \$7.50 (and we met at 8:30, not 7:15 a.m.!). Two inches of snow overnight helped, but the hard stuff was still there. The sky was blue, the sun was warm, and a great, compatible group made even the falls fun. Barb Bruns snowshoed along with us (that lady can *really* move!). Thanks to Barb for helping me. After lunch the group explored the nearby knoll, then headed back to the cars, arriving at 4:00. A quick stop at the Dairy Queen for hot chocolate/coffee rounded off a perfect day. Non-members were Wendy & Peggy Dame, Dianne Bass and Nancy Harrington. Obsidians: Carol Armstrong, Barb Bruns, Peggy Lee Mathes, Royal Murdock, Ann Montgomery and truly leading from the rear, Sharon Ritchie.

MIDNIGHT LAKE January 23

We started at 8:30 with eleven eager skiers and three people happy to drive. By 10:30 it was snowing and we were skiing

February 25 Potluck:

DAVID RODERICK: "EAST AFRICA SAFARI"

At the Friday, February 25 Potluck at the Lodge, David Roderick, retired president and founder of Nature Expeditions International will speak to us about one of his favorite destinations: Mt. Kenya and the Northern Frontier.

David's slide presentation will take us on a nature/photography safari exploring the Northern Frontier of Kenya by visiting Samburu National Park, the Great Rift Valley, Marsabit National Park and Lake Paradise, and Lake Rudolph (Lake Turkana), followed by a hiking adventure through the forest, moorlands and alpine zone to the top of Mt. Kenya's third highest peak, Mt. Lenana, 16,355 ft.

David first traveled to Africa in 1967, a few years after Kenya and Tanganyika (now Tanzania) achieved independence from Great Britain. He has traveled to Africa numerous times while leading scouting locations for wildlife and photography safaris, and is an accomplished speaker, knowledgeable traveler and fascinating raconteur.

The potluck begins at 6:30 and David's presentation will follow at about 7:30. Diners are asked to bring their usual gourmet food items and provide personal table utensils.

March 24 Potluck. Speakers: Chuck & Sandy Reul



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on the trail to Midnight Lake. We soon discovered we had a good ice base and there were many deep tree wells. The sky was clear as we ate our lunch and skied around the lake. As John and Sid provided hot beverages to anyone with a cup I began fretting as I never ski with a cup! I did however have a plastic sandwich container which quickly emptied and used as a cup for some delicious hot chocolate. There was a multitude of dogs on the Pengra Pass road out having a great time stepping in ski tracks. We went the slow way in on the trail and the fast way out on the road. After a beautiful day skiing we arrived to a downpour in Eugene. Try to get Sid and John on your next ski trip... and always pack a cup just in case they are along. Skiers were: Nancy Harrington, Mari Baldwin, Helen Liguori, Janet Hall, Clare Tucker, Lew Bowers, Bob Bennett, Sid McGee, Marriner Orum, John Lucachick and Diane Jeffcott (leader).

BECHTEL SHELTER (Skijor) January 30



Three primates and two canines set out in almost perfect powder from the Gold Lake SnoPark at about 10:00 a.m., bound for the Bechtel Shelter area and beyond. This trip was a bit unusual, as it provided a chance for participants to harness themselves for the first time to a Siberian Husky and get a little octane into their kick steps. Stormy, the silver Husky, provided pulling services for all comers, and we paused only long enough to switch harnesses. After lunch at the shelter, we skijored deeper into the woods, played in the powder in a couple of bowls and then made our way back to the cars. Participants were non-members Anne Hollander and Marcia Trotter, dogs were Stormy and Mocha, and Doug McCarty led this first Obsidian skijoring trip.

- **TRIP LEADERS:** First-aid kits and extra Indemnity Forms can be found in the green Obsidian storage box in the YMCA office.



Conservation Column

More Reflections on the WTO in Seattle

The teach-ins were excellent! There were plenary sessions followed by a variety of interesting workshops. The largest one I attended was held on *Environment and Health Day*. It featured a tribunal of political leaders who heard testimony from two international panels about the health and environmental impacts of the World Trade Organization. Included was U.S. Rep. George Miller (moderator), M.P. Bill Blaikie from Canada, Magda Aelvoet, Belgian Minister of Consumer Protection, U.S. Rep. Maxine Waters, and our own Peter De Fazio.

Panel No. 1 topics included forestry, invasive species, sea turtles, energy and climate, and the WTO's impact on culture and indigenous population. Speakers were from Mexico, Malaysia, Canada, the Philippines, the Caribbean.

Panel No. 2 topics included the expansion of hazardous industries, maquiladoras, asbestos, mining and the WTO's impact on access to essential medicines. Speakers were from the Philippines, Pakistan, Mexico and the U.S.

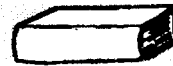
At the end, political leaders responded to the panels. The huge crowd gave standing ovations... and a particularly enthusiastic one for Peter De Fazio.

The day after the big rally and march (*Labor and Human*

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BOOK REVIEWS



Backpacking Oregon, by Douglas Lorain, 1999; Wilderness Press, Berkeley, 206 pp., \$16.95.

Backpacking Oregon sticks to overnight or longer hikes. For day trips an abundance of other guides is available. Topics cover the entire state, from the Kalmiopsis to the northern coast, the Willows and Steens and Owyhee, and of course the Cascades.



Nor does the author bog down in minutiae. I don't care for the ultra-precise mileage subdivisions or route details, only to have the "facts" prove miserably wrong. *Backpacking Oregon* keeps the details a bit more general, but still seems to provide key directions as expected in a guidebook.

really critique the accuracy

I confess I haven't used this book in the field — so I can't of its details. Wilderness Press

books have generally impressed me though (yes, even their detailed guides).

My only major beef would be that the author assigns a "solitude rating" to each trip. This is too bad. Such ratings virtually promise that a now-private "10" will soon be trampled by privacy-seeking mobs into a busy "1".

• BERT EWING

* * * *

Longitude: The True Story of the Lone Genius Who Solved the Greatest Scientific Problem of His Time, by Dave Sobel, 1999; Penguin, \$13.99 (paperback).

For anyone interested in history, navigation, clockmaking, astronomy, and problem solving, this narrative is a great read. In 1714 England's Parliament offered a fantastic reward to anyone who could find a way to successfully measure longitude.

Galileo, Sir Isaac Newton and others of the scientific establishment believed that the answer would be of a celestial nature.

It was John Harrison who came up with a mechanical solution, a clock that would keep precise time at sea. Find out how Greenwich mean time came to be.

• JANET JACOBSEN

CONSERVATION — Continued from Page 7

Rights Day) was *Women, Democracy, Sovereignty and Development Day*. The plenary speakers were from Tanzania, St. Lucia and Mexico, and topics included the Caribbean banana case, maquiladoras and the privatization of land — with workshop topics too numerous to mention. Out of one workshop, the women decided to walk peacefully to make a statement. The police would only allow it if they walked in

single file, were silent and carried no signs. So . . . they creatively put tape across their mouths and went out!

My experience in Seattle was very moving. However, the expression of concern that took place in Seattle was just the beginning. A new set of WTO talks was initiated — the Millennium Round. In this new phase, the corporations that support the WTO intend to expand their power and reach even further.

— SHIRLEY CAMERON



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