

Winding Trails: by Al Hobart

Thursday, March 31, 1966
Illinois Valley News

March x-c skiing

If March continues much longer trying to maintain the image it created when it came roaring in like a lion, either a popular legend of long standing will be violated or the month will wind up looking more like a bedraggled, frightened old ewe than a happy, innocent little lamb, the way it should.

Something has happened to our weather that fails to meet with the approval of anybody in his right mind, and no one seems to be able to make up his mind which of the two popular villains is responsible, those "mad rooshins" or the atom bomb, both of which are still held accountable for any and all evils that beset the harried human race.

Outdoor winter sports are being interfered with at a time when, from past experience, we would expect to be still performing in high gear. We take to the mountains for a day of cross-country skiing and run into wet snow, rain, and gushing torrents everywhere. This time of year we should still be getting some cold nights, firm snow and acceptable winter conditions. These things we have a right to expect, and inasmuch as summer will soon be here, we refuse to submit calmly to having those rights interfered with. Everybody likes nice warm weather, in its place, and some of us even like weather that is admittedly nasty; but

when the weather, even the seasons, become unpredictable, then the situation has become intolerable, and doggoned if we'll stand for it.

Saturday was a day of varied and valued pleasures. First a nice home dinner with the Dotys, then to a wild animal show with the Pruitts, followed by a home slide show—and homemade berry pie. Intermingled with all this was the happy anticipation of a x-c ski tour the following day, this time in the Siskiyou to the west instead of the high Cascades to the east.

I spent the night at Dean's house, having brought all my x-c gear from home. Early Sunday morning we picked up Joe and Charles and the four of us went Volkswagening down the Rogue River Road, all set for a day of skiing, hiking, exploring — anything that might turn up to give us some exercise and fun.

We turned south into the mountains near Galice, following the Taylor Creek Road and climbing in the direction of Onion Mountain. We took to our skis when the Volkswagen refused to budge another foot either forward or back. Leaving the indignant little beetle bogged down in the snow we waxed up and skied merrily up the road toward the peak of Onion Mt. The snow was wet, but satisfactory—what there was of it. On the northslope we skied; when the road crossed to the south side we walked on dirt.

From up on the side of Onion Mountain we looked across to high Chrome Ridge, solidly covered with snow. So back we went to the car, rassed it out of the snowbank

and headed for Chrome Ridge. Remarkably, with a few more gray hairs but still intact, we drove to the very edge of the solid snow-pack—which was beautiful but still wet, and getting wetter by the minute as the occasional precipitation was rain instead of snow. However, we got in enough good exhilarating ski fun to compensate for our earlier mild disappointment.

Before we went back down Taylor Creek to the Rogue we decided to explore some of the higher roads to see how far we could get. In high Brigg's Valley who should we run into but Bill and Claudette with Bob and Mrs. Huff, out in the same area looking for a good ski-tour.

It beats all what a wonderfully vicious

appetite and thirst one works up on these invigorating ski tours. At Galice, a few miles down the Rogue from where our road debouched from the hills, we knew of a small establishment where such painful contingencies could be nicely taken care of. So we went there and had our contingencies looked after.

Back at Dean's, after depositing Charles and Joe at their respective igloos, we were further fortified with hamburgers, potato chips, cookies, and cold milk. After which, all aglow: with good exercise, good food and ditto companionship, Little Toot and I hit the trail for home sweet home.



Dean at Chas Camp, 4 mile Lk Rd.

ELECT RONALD A. SMITH COMMISSIONER pos 3 FOR JOSEPHINE COUNTY



American Values-Hometown Roots
Working for you and with you, together we can overcome the challenges we face in Josephine County working toward goals we can believe in.

- **Healthy Economy;** encourage economic development that creates family wage jobs, cut management waste in all depts, eliminate regulation and red tape stifling economic growth and job creation.
- **Healthy Forests;** To create forest restoration jobs that reduce the threat of catastrophic wildfire by thinning forest and removing debris
- **Healthy Community;** by finding solutions to permanently fund Josephine County law enforcement without raising taxes and address the crime, drug, and homeless problems with opportunities from a growing local job market.



FORIS WINERY

Visit our tasting room for selected wines at discounted prices.
Open daily for tasting from 11 AM - 5 PM

654 Kendall Rd, Cave Junction, OR

Stay at our 100 year old farmhouse on the vineyard. Call the winery at 541-592-3752 for rates and availability, or check our online listing at <https://www.vrbo.com/315296> for pictures, calendar, rates, and to book.

Nifty & Gifty Thrift

TUESDAY THROUGH SATURDAY
10AM - 2PM

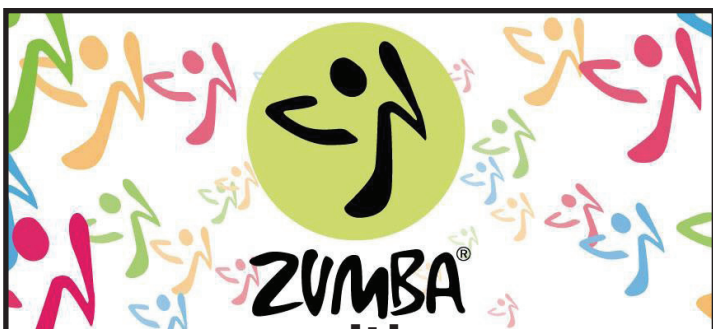
Immanuel United Methodist Church
200 W. Watkins, Cave Junction

ALL YOU CAN EAT BREAKFAST OR ORDER OFF THE MENU AT THE I.V. GRANGE



FIRST THREE SUNDAYS OF THE MONTH FROM 8 A.M. TO 12 NOON.

3763 Holland Loop
541-592-6045



Lisa Sherier

Mondays & Wednesdays

\$5 DROP-IN

6:15-7:15 PM

at Healthy U
535 E River St.

541-761-4342



WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THESE TWO HOMES?

HINT: IT HAS TO DO WITH SAVING ENERGY AND MONEY.

Though two homes may look alike, energy efficiency upgrades can make a big difference in terms of maximizing comfort while reducing energy use and cost.

Energy Trust of Oregon can help you find a trade ally contractor and provide cash incentives that help offset the cost of qualifying energy improvements. With upgrades to your insulation, water heater, appliances and lighting you could save up to 15 percent on your home energy costs while not having to scale back on comfort. And a house that costs less to operate is worth more.

+ Start saving on energy costs today. Call us at 1.866.368.7878 or visit www.energytrust.org/residential.

Serving customers of Portland General Electric, Pacific Power, NW Natural and Cascade Natural Gas.

