

Red Cross Aquatic Course Starts at SOC Campus Today

Rogue valley residents will benefit this summer from the training their young people will be receiving at the Jackson county Red Cross youth aquatic course which will open this afternoon at Southern Oregon college.

Registration will be between 1 and 3 p.m. for students at Cascade hall on the campus. The program will be conducted through June 15, according to Mrs. Roy Wilkes, director of the course.

Forty students are enrolled for the program and will live on the campus for the week, during which time they will be given instruction in first aid, canoeing, basic boating, sailing, junior or senior life-saving, or training as water safety aides or water safety instructors.

Throughout the week of instruction, the students will be required to work hard. They will do their water work at Emigrant lake, with theory classes and written examinations being done in the evening at the college.

To Qualify as Volunteers

The training program was established in an effort to qualify youngsters to serve as volunteers at youth camps, pools and recreation areas throughout the community, and local officials have been advised that it is the only program of its type in the United States.

National aquatic schools are conducted throughout the country by the American Red Cross, but students must be 18 years of age before they are eligible for admission. The local chapter hopes to make Jackson county waterways safer by training young people 15 years of age and older.

The pilot program last year was conducted jointly with Klamath Basin chapter of the Red Cross; however, the distance between the two chapters made coordination difficult and the local demand for the training has increased to the extent where it was deemed advisable to sponsor the program individually.

Real Community Effort
This year's program has become a real community effort with support coming from private individuals and many of the United Crusade organizations who will be benefiting from having these youngsters trained and qualified to serve.

Dr. Elmo Stevenson, president of Southern Oregon college and Red Cross chapter chairman, made it possible for the program to be conducted on the campus. They are keeping the facility open for use during the week and maintaining the staff in the cafeteria and dormitory.

A bus to transport students back and forth from the campus to the lake is being donated by the Medford school district, with a volunteer driver, Bill Johnson, coming from the Ashland school district.

R. T. Johnston, of Johnston stores, is donating rowboats for use during the training session and these will be transported to Emigrant lake and back by Mitchell Brothers Truck line. The Boy Scouts of America are providing canoes and are bringing these down from their camp at Lake of the Woods. Canoes

also are being loaned by the Rogue Valley Girl Scout Council and will be transported from their campsite at Lake of the Woods through the courtesy of the Reter Fruit company trucks.

Will Patrol Area
The sheriff's safety patrol has been contacted and have offered their services by patrolling the area during the week of the course.

The cost of the program will be \$40 per student; however, the local Red Cross chapter will take care of \$20 of the fee, with the balance being paid by the individual student. This fee will cover the cost of room, board and textbooks utilized in the instruction. The instructors are all Red Cross qualified and are participating in the program on a volunteer basis.

Instructors will include Robert Dionne, instructor-trainer and Red Cross area representative in water safety, first aid and small craft; Robert Bennett, assistant professor of physical education at Southern Oregon college; Dan Lewis, student at the college; Mrs. Charles Darling, water safety co-chairman for the Jackson chapter; Clint Eckstein, of the Rogue Valley Snowmen; George Wooding, first aid instructor for Jackson county; and Miss Linda Wilkes, student at Medford High school.

Taught at Schools
Dionne has taught at several national aquatic schools and will be leaving at the end of this program for California where he will participate in the national aquatic school at Tulequia, near Fresno.

Mrs. Wilkes, water safety chairman for the Jackson county chapter of the American Red Cross, who was director of the course last year and will serve in that capacity

again this year, has attended two national aquatic schools and will serve her second year as director for the YMCA girls camp at Diamond lake in August.

Bennett is an assistant professor of physical education at SOC. He served as a water safety and first aid instructor last year and will be instructing a lifesaving course at this time. He will attend the Red Cross national aquatic school in Tulequia in August at which time he plans on becoming certified as a small craft instructor.

Receives Training
Lewis received his training during last year's youth aquatic course and is returning as a fully qualified instructor now. He will be waterfront director for the YMCA boys camp at Dia-

mond lake this summer. Mrs. Darling previously instructed for the Tualatin Hills park and recreation district, but is now a volunteer instructor at the Medford YMCA and co-chairman for water safety services in Jackson county. She will serve her second year as waterfront director at the August YMCA girls camp.

Previously Trained
Wooding, first aid instructor, recently completed a class for Girl Scout leaders and will be volunteering his services to instruct first aid during the week long course.

Eckstein, also a first aid instructor, is an active member of the Rogue Valley Snowmen and has been serving as instructor for that group throughout the winter. Miss Wilkes, the youngest

member of the staff, received her boating instruction during last year's aquatic course, but had previously been trained in life saving and as a water safety aide. She served as an assistant on the waterfront in the Y program at Diamond lake last summer and also volunteered her services at Klamath Falls Campfire girls camp and the Rogue Valley Campfire girls camp. She will be assisting instructors on the waterfront during the course.

Adults to Attend
Five adults will be attending this course to receive training as instructors. Three of these individuals already have definite plans regarding community participation. Two plan on volunteering at the Medford YMCA and the third

will be serving with the Girl Scouts in their summer program. Several students who participated in last year's course are returning for additional study. Among the returning students will be John Reid, Jr., who was responsible for saving a life within a week after his training last year.

Because water can be a good friend or a deadly enemy, the community will benefit by having its young people trained by specialists. This training is possible because of the community support given the various agencies involved through contributions to United Crusade. Every graduate of this school will go home more safety conscious and with the skills and knowledge to help train others.

making them capable of assisting others in trouble. They will be given training in the water as well as a thorough grounding in theory.

Students can earn Red Cross certification in these fields, thereby beginning their training to qualify themselves to serve in camps, playgrounds, pools and other summer activities of the community. Successful completion of the course provides a foundation for students to go forward to instructor status after reaching 18 years of age.

Dr. John Reid, of Ashland, will be the school doctor and will be on call to the school throughout the week. Purpose of this school is to train young people in safety skills for use in swimming and related aquatic activities

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THOMAS J. ADAMS
Receives Award

Crater Lake Park Foreman Honored

Thomas J. Adams, foreman at Crater Lake National park, received a superior performance award recently, Superintendent W. Ward Yeager has announced.

Recognition of the outstanding work was accorded by the National Park Service's Regional Incentive Awards committee.

The award was made for the period August, 1962, through March, 1963, when, in the absence of a park engineer, Adams assumed the management and technical duties of that position. Also recognized was the major role which he performed in training and assisting the clerical employee, entailing many hours of extra work.

Adams moved to Crater Lake National park in January, 1957, from Mt. McKinley National park, Alaska, where he was also a foreman.

A check for the cash award of \$300 was presented to Adams by Yeager at the park during a staff meeting attended by several of Adams' co-workers last week.

Break-In Reported At Local Drugstore

Burglars broke into a drugstore and an optometrist's office in downtown Medford Thursday and took more than \$300 in cash, according to city police.

About \$240 was taken from the Central Rexall Pharmacy, 134 East Main st. Officers said the burglars broke through a skylight on the roof to gain entry to the drugstore.

The cash was taken from the store's register and from a fireproof safe. Preliminary checks by store employees indicated that nothing else was taken, officers said.



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