



# THE ROC CAIRN



RENSSELAER OUTING CLUB — '87 GYMNASIUM, R. P. I., TROY, NEW YORK

VOLUME IV, NUMBER 7

FEBRUARY 10, 1949

## "SKIS OVER EUROPE"

Would you like to turn back time and be a front seat spectator at one of the most inspiring and thrilling winter sports programs ever held the 1948 Winter Olympic Games? Would you like to experience the atmosphere of eagerness and excitement characterizing competitive events and witness at first hand the color, pageantry, sportsmanship, and theatrics accompanying international athletics? The opportunity will be yours on the evening of February 17 when Johnny Jay will present his latest and best technicolor movie, "Skis over Europe", in the '87 Gym at 8:00 PM.

Visit the picturesque, old-world town of St. Moritz, Switzerland, with its streets thronged with skiers and sleighs all journeying to the Olympic Arena. See the colorful parade of the world's top flight sports men passing before you in majestic splendor. Thrill to the spine tingling bobsledding races around ice-banked curves, the daring ski jumpers gracefully soaring incredible distances through crisp, cold air, the downhill, slalom, and cross country skiing events with each participant exercising all the skill and endurance at his command to outdo his rival and the rough and tumble hockey games with the players banging each other as well as the puck. The movie camera shows you Gretchen Fraser flashing home to capture first place in the slalom event to become the heroine of the American team.

If you revel in scenes of wild natural beauty and scenic panorama Johnny Jay supplies that also. Additional footage taken in Switzerland and Italy depicts expansive ice fields, glacial crevasses, and wide sweeping slopes of unbroken whiteness, the answer to the skier's prayers. Experience the thrill of the long fast shuss of the expert skier as he flashes through fresh powder snow at breakneck speeds in the very shadow of the Matterhorn. Witness the beautifully executed turns and jumps, the masterful control and smooth ability of the skiing artist. And, of course enjoy the awkward antics and helpless fumbblings of the "snow bunnies", the fledging skiers trying with admirable determination to master the secrets of the hickory slats.

Johnny Jay has many years of experience in capturing the thrills, the action, and the excitement of winter sports events on celluloid. He is a master of color photography. The ROC feels confident in guaranteeing one and all an extremely enjoyable and satisfying evening. You have a date with sheer enjoyment Thursday, February 17th, at 8:00 PM in the '87 Gym. The general admission price is \$.90. Students may purchase tickets at the reduced price of \$.75. Tickets are available at the ROC office in the 15th Street Lounge, and at the following ski shops and sporting goods stores in the tri-city area: Cahill's in Troy, Goldstock's in Schenectady, and the Beaver Ski Shop in Albany. Tickets will also be sold at the door. Johnny Jay's films are always in terrific demand. Get yours early! Cahill's will display a door prize and set up an equipment display.

## WINTER WEEKEND, FEBRUARY 25-27:

To make RPI's first Winter Weekend a grand and glorious affair, an elaborate program has been originated to insure a most entertaining time for all. To begin the weekend's activities, Lounge 15 will be the scene of an informal dance, the "Ski Jump." Murals and other decorations have been designed to transform the lounge into a ski lodge, a cheery fire in the fireplace will create a cozy atmosphere, refreshments will be served, and the Campus Serenaders will give forth with their familiar and ever popular music for the dancers' enjoyment. Informality will very definitely be the keynote. Ski togs, slacks, or any other comfortable clothes are the order of the day. You can even dance in your stocking feet if you want to! Concurrently there will be ice skating with music and floodlights on an outdoor rink adjacent to the tennis courts.

During the evening, a queen will be chosen to reign over the entire weekend's activities. At intermission an elaborate pageant and coronation ceremony will see the queen honored in the manner befitting her position. The Glee Club, carrying torches, will serenade the lucky miss and escort her to a huge ice throne where the coronation will take place under the spot lights. For the further entertainment of her highness Barbara Pyrrell of Russell Sage College will give an exhibition of fancy figure skating.

Saturday afternoon will bring the climax of what promises to be a very gala event -- the snow sculpturing contest. A trophy has been procured and will be presented to the organization constructing, in the opinion of the judges, the best creation of ice and snow. This trophy is now on display in the bookstore. Thus far nineteen entries have been received including one from the Sage Outing Club. Hiram Dormitory has even been invited to participate. Perhaps we'll see John L. on skis! The more the merrier. Why don't you try your artistic skill and help create a truly winter atmosphere at the same time? All who wish to enter please sign the entry list posted outside the ROC office in the 15th Street Lounge. Cliff Ostergaard will supply any desired information. The theme is "Winter" and there are no limitations on the manner of erection.

Also scheduled for Saturday afternoon are a number of participant and spectator sports. One of the local slopes will be the scene of keen competition as campus organizations and fraternities strive to win the prize for first place in a ski race. A simulated bobsled run is being constructed on campus and, while it won't rival the Lake Placid development, it will provide a lot of fun for you and your date. A two-person, three-legged snowshoe race is a sure fire guarantee for a couple of laughs. If you desire indoor recreation the bowling alleys will be available. And for those who like the milder type of exercise, the lounge will be open all afternoon for pingpong, bridge, or just plain "lounging."

Splendid cooperation and enthusiasm has been shown by all school officials whose aid has been enlisted to help provide this entertainment program. Don't miss out on the fun! Enjoy Winter Weekend and the Snowflake Saturnalia!

## ALUMNI -- A SMALL BUT SIGNIFICANT BEGINNING

Among the many black-robed figures that crowded the '87 Gymnasium on January 29 were three who, before the day was over, became the nucleus of a new phase in ROC activity -- alumni. For on that day the Club lost as undergraduates three distinguished members who had given their best toward furthering its aims. The diplomas read George S. Prouty, Junior, Stephen B. Randolph and Albert S. Hartheimer. As Jed, Steve and Al they had all seen yeoman service in various Club activities.

It is significant to note that along with Al Barry, George Kugler and Lew Hill, this trio now composes in totality the ROC Alumni. As the years roll onward and succeeding graduations come and go, it seems inevitable that this noble group will grow in size. Though its members be scattered it is fervently hoped that they will want to make possible alumni reunions of ever increasing importance.

To Jed Prouty, Steve Randolph and Al Hartheimer the Club extends its heartiest congratulations on having so successfully completed their courses of study. And to that is added a sincere wish for their success in whatever great ventures lie ahead.

## SKI MOUNTAINEERING TROPHY ANNOUNCED

From the Winter Activities Committee of the Adirondack Mountain Club comes word of another award -- the Robert Marshall Memorial Trophy -- for the year's outstanding feat of ski mountaineering by a college team of four, five or six students. A definite route is prescribed, starting at Adirondack Loj, climbing Mt. MacIntyre, and returning by the same route. Judging will be based on percentage of the party completing the trip, hardships encountered, safety precautions taken, skill in equipping and preparing the party and a written account of the entire trip. Competition will close March 20. Complete information is available in the ROC office. All college or other outing clubs interested in competing should notify the Chairman of the Winter Activities Committee of the Adirondack Mountain Club by writing to Kim Hart, Adirondack Loj, Lake Placid, New York.

## ROC PIN

ROC members can now sport a small pin picturing the club's emblem, with the seal in red against a gold background. They are about the size of a quarter and are available at the ROC office for \$2.75.

## NEW CLUB OFFICERS

Jerry Shea has assumed the duties of corresponding secretary replacing Steve Randolph who graduated this past January. This office handles all correspondence connected with the club's official business.

Frank Sacken has recently been appointed equipment chairman. Frank has charge of all Outing Club gear and is the man to see for all equipment rentals. He can be contacted by leaving a note in his "pigeon hole" in the ROC office.

\* continuing over this peak one mile along the ridge to Iriquois Peak

## COMING ACTIVITIES

### BUSINESS CALENDER

- February 10 - General Club Business Meeting.  
February 13 - Winter Weekend Committee Meeting. 8:30 P. ROC Office.  
February 15 - Executive Council Meeting. 7:15 PM. ROC Office

### SATURDAY SKI INSTRUCTION FOR NOVICES TO START FEBRUARY 12

For students desiring basic instruction in the sport of skiing the ROC currently conducts a weekly class for novices and beginners. A number of Club members who are competent skiers have volunteered their services for this program, which has been set up by Ski Chairman G. H. Perry.

The class will convene at 1:30 PM every Saturday afternoon when snow is available, in front of Lounge 15. It is the sincere wish of the Chairman and the ROC that the many students who have inquired about such an instructional program for themselves and their wives and dates will take advantage of this opportunity.

### WEEKLY SKI TRIPS, FEBRUARY 13 TO MARCH 27

For the convenience of its members and the student body as a whole the ROC has chartered a ski bus for each of the next seven Sundays. (one trip having been run this past week) Books of 4 tickets, guaranteeing their owners a seat every other Sunday, have already been sold to the bus capacity limit. Tickets so purchased are transferable and anyone desiring to sell or buy single ticket(s) should leave word with the Office Watch in the ROC Office. A number of girls from the Russell Sage Outing Club have bought seats on the bus, contributing to the usual gay and cheery atmosphere to and from the ski area.

Special Notice - the ski bus leaves from in front of Lounge 15 every Sunday morning at 7:30 sharp.

### UNION IOCA SKI WEEKEND, FEBRUARY 18-20

As guests of the Union College Outing Club Cliff Ostergaard, Dick Peters, Dick Bailey and one other ROCer will spend the weekend of February 18-20 at Union's ski cabin at North Creek. To be discussed with representatives from Vassar, Russell Sage, Skidmore, as well as Union, will be the now almost legendary idea of a Hudson Valley Conference of Outing Clubs. With unexcelled company, superb skiing facilities, a worthwhile topic and such gracious hosts, it is difficult to imagine how the weekend can be anything but eminently successful.

### JOHNSON STATE TEACHERS COLLEGE WINTER CARNIVAL, FEBRUARY 25-27

To the practically limitless "connections" of one Johnny Liese, the ROC is indebted for an opportunity to send 8 men to the Winter Carnival Weekend of Johnson State Teacher College, Johnson, Vermont, on February 25-27. Unbelievably tempting is the knowledge that the girls are providing all meals and accommodations and that the weekend includes two dances: one informal and one semiformal. At present several car owners able to leave school Friday afternoon are urgently needed.

## RPI'S FIRST ANNUAL WINTER WEEKEND, FEBRUARY 25-27

A fun-packed, wintery weekend that you can't possibly want to miss. From the "Ski Hop" Friday evening to the parties on Sunday there will be more activities than you ever thought could be fitted into one short weekend. See page 2 for complete details.

## JOHN JAY'S PERSONAL PRESENTATION OF "SKIS OVER EUROPE", FEBRUARY 17

Without doubt the best movies coming out of the '48 Winter Olympics. John Jay at his best - his superb movies, his superb presentation. Feature article on front page.

## OTHER COMING ACTIVITIES

Winter Mountaineering - ascents of Whiteface, Ester, Cascade and Porter Peak Ridge in the Adirondacks.

Ski Mountaineering - ascents of Marcy and the Algonquin-Iroquois climb for the Robert Marshall Memorial Trophy.

## PAST TRIPS

### "INNOCENTS ABROAD"

The McGill Outing Club very graciously extended an invitation to the ROC to use its facilities at Shawbridge, Quebec, as a base of operations for skiing trips to the various nearby slopes. The ROC was quick to accept the MOC's generous offer, knowing that a mid-term vacation in the best skiing country in Eastern Canada couldn't be equalled. Eager groups of chubbers skied the slopes of St. Saveur, St. Adele, Mont Gabriel and, of course, the king of the Laurentians, Mont Tremblant. Slopes and trails were covered with a foot of fresh powder by two moderate snowfalls during our 4-day stay, creating superb skiing conditions.

It is unfortunate that the terrific spirit of humor which characterized this vacation cannot be recaptured on paper for all to enjoy. None of the gang will ever forget the auto trips from Mont Tremblant Lodge to the main highway which somehow always detoured into someone's back yard, or Canny Clark and Cliff Ostergaard's frustrated efforts to balance the budget for the trip, or the ride home over Canadian highways "Closed for the Winter" by snowdrifts, to name but a few of the comical situations which arose. Seldom has such a thorough atmosphere of enjoyment been exceeded on an ROC affair.

The convenient location of MOC House to a large number of skiing areas, the opportunity afforded the group to cook its own meals, plus the very reasonable "rent" added up to what the college chubber is forever seeking--economical outdoor recreation. The ROC and its members extend a very sincere "Thanks" to the MOC for their spirit of comradeship which made this vacation possible.

## WINTER MOUNTAINING:

Ever wake up in the morning with "small tabular and columnar crystals" of frozen water ON your sack? Better still, did you ever spend the night with a pair of L.L. Bean boots, a frozen parka, and a set of fur-lined knickers IN your sack?

If you did, chances are you're one of the boys, one of those characters, we mean, that spent their midterm vacation in the Adirondacks. Spurred by a love for high adventure and true fellowship, factors that become a reality with winter mountaineering, 15 ROC chubbers took to the land of Tahawus from January 27 to February 2.

Split into three groups, this expedition constituted the major ROC drive of the winter to cop the Adirondack Loj Trophy for winter mountaineering. With two groups operating in the high peaks region around Mount Marcy and a third to the west in the vicinity of Mount Seward, the boys climbed a total of nine peaks. Six of these were virgin winter ascents, and because of formidability, count twice as much in competition.

Mounts Cascade, Porter, Wright, Street, Nye, Phelps, Tabletop, Seward, and Seymour were climbed, the latter six as first known winter ascents. All told, the expedition can be definitely termed a success, both in regards to competition for the trophy and in knowledge gained in winter camping.

Climbing was the prime thought in everyone's mind; thus personal comfort often took a back seat. Meals were designed to be light, rich in energy and simple to prepare. Practically every evening meal featured glop with specially designed variations, Kraft dinner and hamburg, rice and hamburg, or spaghetti and hamburg.

So far Franz Mohling leads as being the outstanding ROC winter mountaineer, having climbed a total of 10 peaks under winter conditions during the past two years.

It is hoped by many that it will be possible to publish a pamphlet or booklet in the near future, giving particulars of the trip in regard to equipment, menus, technique and conditions observed on the trip.



# THE ROC CAIRN

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEES

### WINTER WEEKEND COMMITTEE

- General Chairman -- Bob Woodbury
- Finance -- Warren Cavanaugh
- Publicity -- Rog Buzzard
- ROC Cairn Programs -- Dick Bailey
- Friday Events -- Canny Clark
- Saturday Events -- Dick Peters
- Skating -- Don Sears
- Ski Jump -- Ed Dill
- Snow Sculpturing -- Cliff Ostergaard
- Skiing -- Ted DeFreiz
- Snowshoeing -- Fris Coffin
- Bob Sled Run -- Al Ragati
- Open House -- Dick Bailey

### SNOWFLAKE SATURNALIA COMMITTEE

- General Chairman -- Bob Koch
- Finance -- Tom Fritschi
- Publicity -- Howie Bursch, Pete Viemeister
- Decorations -- Jerry Ellsworth, Chuck Chase
- Tickets & Programs -- Jack Green, Dick Searest
- Band Arrangements -- Chris Christopher, Frank Godola

## RPI'S FIRST WINTER WEEKEND

SPONSORED BY THE RENSSELAER OUTING CLUB & CLASS OF 1950  
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1949

- P 7:30P.M.—GENERAL ICE SKATING TO MUSIC
- 8:00P.M.—"SKI JUMP," DANCE IN LOUNGE 15
- R 11:00P.M.—CORONATION OF QUEEN, ICE RINK
- 11:30P.M.—CONTINUATION OF DANCE IN LOUNGE
- O SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 1949
- G 10:00A.M.—GENERAL ICE SKATING ALL DAY
- 2:00P.M.—OPEN HOUSE, LOUNGE 15—GAMES
- R 2:30P.M.—JUDGING OF SNOW SCULPTURING
- DOWNHILL SKI RACE, PROSPECT PARK
- A —SNOWSHOE RACE, FOOTBALL FIELD
- BOB SLED RUN, OBSERVATORY HILL
- BOWLING, GYMNASIUM BASEMENT
- M 10:00P.M.—SNOWFLAKE SATURNALIA,'57 GYM,

WITH PRESENTATION OF TROPHIES

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 25

**Ice Skating** - Music and lights will bring a carnival atmosphere to the ice skating rink near the tennis courts. The rink is available for general skating until the coronation of the Snow Queen at about 11:00 P.M. Skaters are asked to stay out of the roped-off section in the middle of the rink.

**Ski Jump** - Bob Wassung's Campus Sereaders bring smooth rhythm to Lounge 15, which will be decorated to resemble the interior of a ski lodge. A cheery fire and refreshments will be available. Ski togs, slacks or any other informal mode of dress is the order of the evening. The dance will last until 1:00 A.M.

**Coronation of the Queen** - An elaborate ceremony to honor the lucky miss chosen as the weekend's Snow Queen will be held on the ice skating rink. The Glee Club, carrying torches, will serenade the Queen and escort her to a huge ice throne where the coronation ceremony will take place under spotlights. For the entertainment of her highness Miss Barbara Pyrrall of Hussell Sage College will give an exhibition of fancy figure skating.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 26

**Open House** - For those desiring a mild type of exercise Lounge 15 will be open all afternoon for card playing, ping pong or just "lounging." There will be a fire in the fireplace, and if enough people are interested, a few KOOERS will conduct a song fest.

**Judging of Snow Sculpturing** - Starting early in the afternoon the quintet of judges will make the rounds of the campus and nearby fraternities to select the outstanding creation of snow and ice. Their job will not be an easy one, for over 20 organizations are competing for the beautiful trophy given by the ROC. Members of the judicial body include Mrs. Warren, Dean Welt, Professor Wiltes and Professor Haney.

**Downhill Ski Race** - The highlight of the day's activities will be the thrilling downhill race held at Prospect Park. A large number of fraternities and other campus organizations have long since selected the five men to represent them in this all-important event. For participant and spectator alike this race should be an exciting one.

**Snowshoe Race** - For participation by all will be the three-legged, two-person snowshoe race held on the '86 field. It is guaranteed to produce laughs as well as good technique.

**Bob Sled Run** - A simulated affair, not exactly rivaling the Lake Placid development, will be conducted on the Observatory Hill and will provide a lot of fun for the student and his date.

**Snowflake Surnama** - With the imported music of Bart-mouth's *Harbary Coast Orchestra* and unique decorations, KPI ushers in its big, mid-season dance. Semi-formal in character, it marks a significant deviation from the formal, expensive affairs of bygone years which always had low attendance. This year everything has been done to make possible a better, more pleasant dance that will appeal to the student's pocketbook as well as to his other tastes. The dance will be highlighted by the presentation of trophies and other awards for the various weekend sport activities.

As long ago as 1946 members of the Renaissance Outing Club had visions of a festive weekend of winter pageantry here "on the hill." To them the famous carnivals of Dartmouth, New Hampshire and Middlebury served only to make all the more desirable a similar affair at Kearsarge.

A year ago the success of the all-campus ski meet held Junior Prom Weekend hinted at the possibility of future elaboration. Last spring the organization of the tremendously successful "Campus Carnival" proved the capabilities of ROC personnel. Now, as a result of both these activities and from a desire to have a winter carnival for the whole student body, the ROC has joined forces with the Junior Class to give KPI its first Winter Weekend.

Winter Weekend "hasn't just happened . . . . . " It is the product of a great deal of hard work by a great many people over a long period of time. Sufficient recognition can never be given to all those who have so willingly given their time and services. In this issue there is room to list only the various committee chairmen, upon whom has fallen the task of supervising the necessary work.

It cannot be denied that the inclusion of such activities as bowling strikes a somewhat incongruous note, as contrasted with the rest of the outdoor program. It has been included only as a "reserve" activity in case of unsuitable weather. The caprice of winter -- or rather, the lack of it -- has deemed such action advisable. The same may be said of the Open House in Lounge 15 on Saturday afternoon.

For whatever success this Winter Weekend may achieve the ROC is conscience-bound to mention the fine support and willing cooperation it has received. Especially is this true of the Snowflake Surnama Committee whose forward-looking members, slashing past conventions with a keen sense of propriety, have made possible many of the attractive features of the weekend. Recognition must also be given to Professor Van Velsor and Mr. Louthan for their fine help in the erection of the ice skating rink.

Whether this Winter Weekend will be the first of many is a matter for future officers and committeemen to decide. It can be -- very easily -- provided the same hard work, planning and cooperation are successfully welded into a single, common goal. Though neither this year's nor next year's committees have had or will have anything that might be termed a "wealth of information" to draw upon, each succeeding committee -- with an accurate and complete record of past carnival operations -- will find its tasks simpler.

To further Winter Weekends this issue of the ROC CAIRN is dedicated.