



THE ROC CAIRN



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"LET IT SNOW, LET IT SNOW, LET IT SNOW!"

All you shusoomers, grab your "slats" and get them waxed -- tonight's Rally marks the opening of the ski season, and with winter winds blowing in from the North, and news of improvements on eastern ski slopes, signs are pointing towards some good skiing with the aid of a little thing called snow.

The ROC, with the usual optimism, (it can't happen three times in a row), has planned some excellent trips. One of the biggest and best will be the mid-term trip to McGill in Canada with skiing on Mont Tremblant the highlight. For those who enjoy companionship on the slopes, there is a trip with Skidmore in February.

If thrills and competition are more your style, there will be another All Campus Ski Meet with the slalom races during Saturnalia weekend.

But more important, the ROC will again be running the weekly Sunday trips. This year the club will work together with the very active Troy Ski Club and run busses to the areas of best snow. In this way both clubs are assured a good crowd and low expenses. Speaking of expenses, all ROC'er's on these trips get a rake off on rates for most of the areas, with as much as \$1.25 off at some.

Those of you who would rather drive your own car, drop in the ROC office and a car pool can be arranged to allow benefit on the rates. Check the bulletin boards in the office for sign up lists and more information. All in all it should be a fun packed winter, so get out your sacred formula and start singing our theme song- "Let it snow, Let it snow, Let it Snow!" Ski Heil!

SPEAKER TONIGHT IS EXPONENT OF FRENCH TECHNIQUE

Alain Beligman, featured speaker at the ROC Ski Rally tonight is RPI's own exponent of the French parallel technique. A native of France, Al was fortunate enough to train under the personal tutorage of Emile Allais, the founder of the parallel technique. Since his enrollment here in 1940, he has served as an instructor during interims at Sun Valley in Idaho, and Timberlain in the Catskills.

MEET A CHUBBER, MEET A FRIEND!

Hannes Schneider, international ski great, claims that when you meet a fellow out cross country skier you meet a friend. The implication of such a statement is tremendous. It applies to outing clubbing where one acquires a true understanding of the worth of his buddy. It indicates the real meaning of atmosphere.

Where else but around a campfire can a person show his humility; his respect for others. The atmosphere which develops around a campfire is a direct result of leader and newcomer sitting side by side blending their voices in the harmony of old favorites. Smoke drifting up over glowing embers inspires chubbers to bring forth their repertoire of folksongs.

As each contributes his song to the songfest, newcomers move in closer and break the barrier of unfamiliarity. They sense the atmosphere which is strengthening old friendships and making new ones. They realize why it is that the outing clubber as well as the cross-country skier look forward to those interludes with nature; to those moments when everyone sits around the same fire.

Perhaps, soon you will come on a trip, lend your spirit to the atmosphere, and "meet a friend."

COMMON GROUND

We have met upon a mountain,
and our strength combined
To breast a hard-won passage through the scrub.

I have found you by a fire
when the springs were iced
and water for our pot was melted snow.

We have built ourselves a shelter,
and our separate thoughts
Lie as we do, close, against the cold.

COLEMAN RATES, FINE ACCOMMODATIONS

Monsieur Oakley, proprietor of the new, ultra-modern Indian Falls Leanto Ski Hotel has just released rates for the coming ski season. He promises fresh boughs, lots of fire wood, plenty of food, a Coleman Lantern and other incidentals on the American plan ready for your next trip up Tahawus.

(Editors Note;) Check in the ROC office for further particulars on the matter. Five fools packed all the junk up to Indian Falls leanto last weekend for future trips. We have no comment.

LOCAL HUNTING - (SMALL GAME, THAT IS)

How about laying the books aside for a few hours some weekend and getting out in the wide open spaces. The area about Troy affords a great variety of game for hunting in the fall.

You can sharpen your eye and do the game birds a good turn by doing some crow hunting, possible any time in the fall. October sees the opening of the season on pheasant, grouse, rabbit and squirrel. And if you want some big game, deer season opens in November.

One thing still ahead of us is the two week duck season, opening December eighth. Exceptional hunting can be had only ten miles from Troy, on the Mohawk River.

December just about ends the season for most gun toters around here, but during the winter months the stories of the hunts are retold at meetings of the Rod and Gun Club.

NOTE TO SKI ENTHUSIASTS

You can now join the USEASA (United States Eastern Amateur Ski Association) through the ROC. The ROC is a member organization of the USEASA which makes possible lower dues to the individual. The Association's main functions are the encouragement and improvement of skiing in general and the operation of scheduled ski competition. As a member you will not only be supporting these activities and receiving the two USEASA publications, but you will also be eligible to enter in organized ski meets.

RMC GOING SOCIAL?

No, not entirely, but this Friday Night, December 8, the Rensselaer Mountaineering Club will have dinner and a meeting with all members and future members invited. Discussion will be centered on future activities and policy. Undoubtedly the controversial issue of winter mountaineering will be hashed over. It is presumed that many weighty problems will be solved during the course of the meeting. Sounds like a good evening, but better check the ROC office for the exact time and place.

DON'T PLAN ANYTHING FOR THE 15th

Here's one date to definitely set aside for the Outing Club. Friday night December 15th out at Sampson Lodge there'll be slides, songs and lots of atmosphere at the big Stag and Buck party.

HOW TO SKI AND STAY ALIVE!

The skiing season is just beginning so we thought it would be apropos to print the latest rules on ski safety put out by the National Ski Patrol, who ought to know about such things. These rules make good sense and could easily mean the difference between a successful or an unsuccessful ski trip so read 'em over carefully. It would be a good idea to save a copy.

1. **ALWAYS SKI IN CONTROL.** Know what you are doing every minute on the slopes. If you get out of control, throw yourself on your side as soon as you can.
2. **TAKE SKI LESSONS.** Almost 95% of ski accidents happen to people who have never had a lesson. You'll get more fun out of skiing if you take lessons.
3. **CHECK YOUR EQUIPMENT.** Get a ski expert to go over your gear to make sure your skis haven't warped during the summer, that your bindings and edges are properly attached, that your boots fit properly.
4. **EAT A DECENT BREAKFAST.** Skiing requires great energy and you can't start the day on a glass of juice and black coffee. Carry some energy food such as candy or dried fruit with you while you ski. Take a salt tablet to reduce ski thirst and first day stiffness. Don't forget to eat your lunch!
5. **WEAR YOUR LONG DRAWERS ALWAYS!** Those long-johns have saved many ski accident victims from freezing to death! If you are a new skier, make sure that your jacket or parka is wind-proof and snow-shedding. Keep your clothing tucked in at the waist so it can't catch on tows. Wear your ski goggles to avoid snow-blindness.
6. **DON'T MAKE LIKE THE OLYMPIC TEAM YOUR FIRST DAY OUT.** Take it easy. Climbing or just walking on skis your first day will get your legs into condition and give you the "feel" of skis. Don't ski alone. Quit skiing as soon as you feel tired.
7. **FILL YOUR SITZMARKS.** Even if you have to climb back a few feet, fill in that dent in the snow...you may come that way yourself again! If you encounter hazards, remove them or notify the Ski Patrol.
8. **TAKE FIRST AID LESSONS.** Accident-consciousness helps prevent ski accidents.
9. **DON'T SKI IN POSTED AREAS.** Areas marked off by the Ski Patrol because of hazards, dangerous ice or possibility of avalanche, are marked thus for your protection. As soon as the area is safe for skiing, the Patrol will remove signs and barriers.