



THE ROC CAIRN



RENSSELAER OUTING CLUB, INC., — 15th ST. LOUNGE, R. P. I., TROY, NEW YORK

SPECIAL FRESHMAN ISSUE

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WELCOME TO THE ROC RALLY!

Hi, Men!

I'd like to say a few words to you about the ROC — what it is, why it is, and how you can become a member.

The ROC is a rather loosely connected group of individuals who have a single purpose in life — to have fun out-doors. The ROC runs a trip every week end during the school term and more extended trips over the vacations. These range in size from two-person rock climbing trips to 250-person canoe trips. They range in scope from square dances to two-week winter mountaineering trips at Mt. Katahdin. Many of the trips are co-ed; we run trips with Sage, Skidmore, Vassar, and Mt. Holyoke.

Don't feel that you're inexperienced — I had never square dances or climbed a mountain before I joined the club. You can pick up most of the "woody lore" just by going on a few trips. Of course, we do conduct training and safety lessons in some of the more hazardous sports such as rock-climbing.

How to become a member? Just fill out a membership application and pay the man \$1.00 for initiation fee and \$2.00 for the year's membership. You are then eligible to go on any ROC trip. After you have been on three trips, you are presented with a patch — making you a truly noble raunch!

Drop into the office anytime you're around. There are always trips to sign up for and people to talk to.

Ca - oooo - wah!

Jim Butler

Jim Butler
President

NOV...

Take a look at the equipment displays here at the Rally tonight and when you get time look over the other side of this here little scoop sheet.

Now let's take a closer look at some of the ROC's activities:

HIKING

Hiking seems to be connected with almost every phase of outing clubbing in one way or another. Being just a few hours from the Adirondacks (the number depending on who you ride with), many of the club's hiking trips are held in this region. Lake Colden in the Adirondacks is annually the scene of College Week when all Northeastern outing clubs get together for a mad seven days away from civilization. The White Mountains and Mt. Katahdin in Maine have seen many ROCers on longer vacations.

CANOEING

One of the largest inter-school outing club affairs of the year is the canoe trip that the ROC sponsors on Lake George each Fall. Last year over 300 persons attended. In the Spring, small Lake George trips are held with nearby schools. Last Spring the white-water canoeing bug bit the club so this next year should see even more fast river running in canoes and Folbots.

ROCK CLIMBING

Stranger as it may seem, RPI is one of the leading producers of good rock climbers and mountaineers. Training sessions are held in the Fall of each year at the Grafton cliffs near Troy and next week's meeting will be devoted to basic instruction and slides of rock climbing. This and a little experience in camping, hiking and winter climbing soon has one ready to tackle the best of Western peaks. This last summer saw ROCers in the Cascades, Grand Tetons, Rocky Mountains, and even Alaska.

SKIING

No list of outing activities would be complete without skiing. When good snow finally comes to this region in the winter, day and week end ski trips are planned. The big ski trips of the year are the between terms trip to Canada and the Easter trip to Tuckerman's Ravine. The Canada trip is mainly a beginners trip for there is no better way to learn than to ski every day on nearly vacant hills.

WINTER MOUNTAINEERING

Adirondack trails are quite a bit different under ten (yes, ten and even more) feet of snow, but by no means useless. Snowshoes and skis are the means of transportation and winter camping in sub-zero weather is an art in itself. Usually the Thanksgiving vacation is used to get beginners used to snowshoe climbing. Christmas vacation means a week at Winter Camp in the Adirondacks, however last year we went to Mount Katahdin in Maine as a tremendous substitute.

OTHERS

I see that I have rambled too much and the end of the page is coming up so I'll have to briefly mention our Spelunkers or cave explorers who are experts at their underground work, square dancers which includes everybody, and those earnest peddlers or cyclers. Everybody can find an outing club activity he enjoys and many of us enjoy them all.

IN PASSING...

There is no hazing or any such foolishness on ROC trips although monster practical jokes are standard. Equipment is always available either from the club or from individuals. See you on the next trip!