



THE ROC CAIRN



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

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FIRST

To the few people who read the CAIRN and to the even smaller group who expect it, I wish to apologize for the lack of an October issue. There was an issue in September, but was of interest to our Freshman only and it was not sent out.

CHH

IOCA LAKE GEORGE TRIP

All sorts of trip reports of this trip have been written and it seemed as if everyone in the IOCA was there this year so a lengthy report won't be given here. The following is a short story of the trip from a somewhat different viewpoint:

"Two ROC extroverts, Dick Miller and Fred Evans, attempted on the ninth of October to prove the superiority of man over mountain, by cycling from Troy to Lake George. After six hours and two boxes of Kleenex we finally made it, but judging by our square dancing on Mohican Island the next night, the contest only resulted in a tie.

"The Fall scenery was beautiful and by some act of the Great Cyclor from Above, we didn't get caught in a downpour. Deciding, however, that 72 miles of cycling and various amounts of canoeing, mountainclimbing, and squaredancing were enough for one week end, we swallowed our pride and came back by car.

"Would anyone like to buy a prettygreen 22 lb. bicycle?"

Dick Miller

LOST!!!!

Seven ROC life jackets were loaned out on the Lake George trip and were not returned. These Mae West style jackets are important in our white-water canoeing program. They are marked: ROC Nos. 1, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, and "Jack Hershey". Please see that they are returned. Thanks.

A VOICE CRYING IN THE WILDERNESS

As the ROC has its CAIRN, the RMC has its RENSSELAER MOUNTAINEERING. The following letter came into the ROC office the other day and shows how eagerly all RMCers look forward to their RMC newsletters. The letter is printed here exactly as received.

Messeurs;

I am being victimised. I am being persecuted. Yea. verily and forsooth I am the recipient of every known form of that inhuman humanism known lightly as the practical joke. My pitons rust to nothing on the wall; my rope is used to tie together old newspapers; my bramanis are become door stoppers; my packboard is holding an open window open; my self respect is shattered like the rock chips upon a second while a careless leader admires the view.

When I practice chimney tenecque in a doorway people hold lighted matches to the portion of my anatomy which at that moment has the lowest altitude; they scoff at my guitar; they put me on academic probation for working on building faces; the other day some misbegotten fool drove a nail with my piton hammer; they build chimneys jutting out these days; the drain piped no longer hold me; they object to driving pitons in between the bricks; they even go so far as to build unclimbable walls today, leaving out the handholds; the dense air of these lower altitudes has dried out my portable-paste-on-piton-cracks; and, oh, those abject burblers, they even have the audacity to laugh at my hat!!!

I am become as the withering sunflower that no longer holds its head high to view the mountains, I am boughed low by the weight of books and clean white shirts, in other wordswhere the hell is my copy of RENSSELAER MOUNTAINEERING???

SUNFLOWER

(Sunflower, alias H. Q. Benzwanger, alias Harry B. Ledyard, is a former ROCer who is "continuing his education elsewhere" at the Michigan State Normal School. There has been some discussion as to how Harry qualified for the above type school, however we should not criticize one whose grammar and spelling is of such high quality. - Ed.)

NAME CHANGE AT GRAFTON

In memory of John Kingsley, who is reported missing in action in Korea and presumed dead, the "Corner" route at Grafton cliffs will now be called "Kingsley's Corner". John Kingsley was one of the pioneers of the route and an active outing clubber. The name change was suggested by Dick Bailey (ROC Pres. in '49) and passed unanimously by the club.

HUDSON VALLEY CONFERENCE

Halloween week end was also the week end of the annual Hudson Valley Conference. On Friday night, a mysterious group of pranksters invaded Sampson Lodge taking the generator and plugging the chimneys. Somehow a dead horse seemed to figure in the scheme (really!). A trial the following night brought out that the raiders were fellow OCers and not Troy Urchins and ring-leader Hershey was sentenced to a quick dip in the cistern.

Five minutes of Saturday was spent in conferring and the result was that the VCO's Hilda was elected to be new Hudson Valley Region Secretary. From all indications, we may have a regional secretary who will accomplish something this year. Good Luck Hilda! The remainder of Saturday was spent hiking and working on Project X. The day was topped off with one of the greatest square dances ever and although there were only three sets, the square dance caller seemed to enjoy it more than we did. Bunny-hopping through the windows was the order of the day.

The conference and the gas tank of Project X ended with a bang on Sunday. A movement has been started to extend IOCA principles to include acetylene filled gas tanks.

Sorry we didn't check your school schedule, Skidmore. It was really a great week end and we missed you. Let's plan the H-V Ski Trip well in advance, OK?

CHH

MIDDLE-OF-THE-WEEK-TRIP COMMITTEE FORMED

In the past week, the middle-of-the-week trip committee was formed. Rules state that trips must not be planned more than 24 hours in advance, destination must be at least 75 miles away, and at least ten must participate. Trips last week went to Sage (distance ruling waived), Vassar and Smith. For information on any middle-of-the-week trip, contact drivers Smith and Hershey not earlier than 5:30 PM on the day of a trip.

NOTICE

In view of the fact that a trap-door was recently discovered in the floor of the outing club office, spelunking practice sessions will be held in the evenings following meetings.

"The Climber" by a nonOCer

When a climber goes tramping off through the woods,
With his pack full of pitons and tons of canned goods,
The mountains look down and say to each other,
"Brace yourself, boys, here comes another!"