



# THE ROC CAIRN



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RENSSELAER OUTING CLUB 87 GYMNASIUM, TROY, NEW YORK

VOLUME IV, NUMBER 1.

APRIL 14, 1948

## ROC ELECTIONS - BOB WOODBURY NEW PRESIDENT:

On March 31 at a special Club business meeting the election of ROC Officers for the coming year was conducted. Assuming the position of presidency was Bob Woodbury, a C-2 EE from Dunkirk, New York. As Trips Director and member of the Executive Council for the past year, Bob brings to his office a complete understanding of the activities and organization of the ROC. Through his association with other campus organizations -- charter Vice President of Phi Delta Rho, charter member of Alpha Phi Omega, and member of the R.P.I. Band for two years -- he has become known for his insight into business and executive matters. His long and thorough background of administrative offices will, without doubt, prove of great value to the Club.

Canny Clark, last year's Editor of the ROC Newsletter, is the new Vice President, and Dick Peters has become the new Recording Secretary. The seven elected officers of the Executive Council and those appointed to committee positions are as follows:

### EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

President .....	Bob Woodbury
Vice President .....	Canny Clark
Recording Secretary .....	Dick Peters
Corresponding Secretary ...	Steve Randolph
Treasurer .....	Dean Borden
Members-at-large .....	Cliff Ostergaard
.....	Dick Bailey

### COMMITTEES

Trips .....	Cliff Ostergaard, Director - John Kingsley, Dick Rhyins, Dick Bailey.
Publications ....	Dick Bailey, Editor - Al Ragati, Asst. Editor - Dick Yoder, Les McHarron, Jerry Shea.
Publicity .....	Dean Woodward, Chairman - Don Bentham, Rog Buzzard, Dick Orr, Harry Van Dyke.
Membership .....	Bud Jaderlund, Chairman
Equipment .....	Al Ragati, Chairman
Campson Lodge ...	Dean Borden, Chairman
Social .....	Canny Clark, Chairman - Dick Rhyins, Al Hartheimer, Dick Peters, Art Leak, Ted Rising.

SPECIAL

THE ROC CAIRN - A NEW NAME FOR THE OLD ROC NEWSLETTER:

With a new staff of officers and a new club year comes a new heading for the wonderful newsletter put out by Canny Clark, Al Ragati, and others this past year. For some time the Club has been considering such a new title, but it has taken the artistry of Cliff Ostergaard to whip the matter into suitable shape. To Cliff the Club is greatly indebted for his superior job of design.

A cairn, for public information, is a small pile of rocks used to mark a trail, especially above timberline.

SALE OF CROW LODGE:

To the delight of the ROC Executive Council word has been received from Al Barry, representing the New York Ski Club, that his organization has voted to purchase Crow Lodge -- property owned by the Rensselaer Outing Club since 1937. To be included in the terms of sale are the dishes, mattresses, and other small pieces of equipment that the Club has possessed and had only small use for in recent years.

We believe that both parties have benefited by this transaction. We also are glad that our friend and ROC Alumn, Al Barry, will be among us with his Ski Club associates in the future. To them we extend a cordial invitation to participate in our activities.

IOCA BULLETIN ENDS UP "IN THE BLACK:"

To a crowd whose enthusiasm was indeed heartening Deane Woodward succeeded in "auctioning off" the last 160 copies of the Winter-1948 IOCA BULLETIN at the IOCA Conference this past Sunday, April 11. Such an accomplishment bears not only on the product itself but on the interest and support of what appears to be a very keenly IOCA-conscious group of Outing Clubs. To the staff it was a dream often only dimly seen through the maze of problems and high costs; finding it a reality is indeed a great source of pleasure.

In an attempt to acquaint next year's editors with as many of the problems confronted this year as possible, a get-together is being arranged between Dick Bailey, Deane Woodward, Al Hartheimer, and the MITOC group.

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COMING TRIPS  
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TACONIC TRAIL, APRIL 18:

An ROC-RSOC hiking trip along the crest of the Taconic Range 20 miles east of Troy. Length about 6-7 miles. Trip to end at Charlie Hine's Cedarbrook Leanto where wieners and coffee will be furnished by the ROC. 20 Sage girls invited; ROC limited to about same number. Bring lunch in pack. Bus leaves '87 Gym at 8:30 AM. Advance deposit \$2.00.

HELDERBERG MOUNTAINS, APRIL 25:

Cave exploring, climbing, and hiking at Thatcher Park with girls from Albany State College for Teachers. Unusually find cliffs and waterfalls. Panoramic view of Hudson Valley. Bus to leave '87 Gym at 8:30 AM. Advance

deposit \$2.00 Check in ROC Office for details.

PICO-KILLINGTON CAMPING TRIP, MAY 1-2:

Long Trail weekend trip to inspect land suitable for ROC Ski Cabin. Land adjacent to ski area and near Long Trail desired. Trip limited to four fellows and car. Check Trips Log in ROC Office for details or contact Bob Woodbury, Church I, G-1.

LAKE GEORGE CANOE TRIP, MAY 1-2:

Spring canoe trip with Russell Sage. Three-mile paddle from Bolton Landing to Big Turtle Island. Sunday trips to Tongue Mountain and up Northwest Bay Brook. Musical instruments needed for songfest and square dance. Trip leaves '87 Gym at 1:00 PM Saturday and returns 8:00 PM on Sunday. Approximate cost \$6.00. Sign-up and deposit in ROC Office. Check for time and date of organizational meeting.

INDIAN OVEN CAVE TRIP, MAY 1-2:

Three-college spelunking trip with ROC playing host to MIT and Dartmouth. Sampson Lodge to be used Saturday night after ROC Square Dance in '87 Gym. Cave exploring to be done Sunday morning at Indian Oven Cave south of Hillsdale, New York; early afternoon to be spent at Bash-Bish Falls. Old clothes, change of clothes, sneakers, and flashlight with spare set of batteries and bulb required; ROC to furnish rope. Trip limited to 1 carload of ROCers. If interested, attend Spelunking Meeting at 4:40 PM on Friday, April 16, in ROC Office.

CORNELL IOCA WEEKEND, MAY 8-9:

Gala IOCA weekend at Ithaca College Camp, Danby, New York. (8 miles south of Ithaca) Lunch Saturday to lunch Sunday at \$.50 per meal and \$.50 for overnight lodging. Sleeping bag or blanket roll only equipment required; musical instruments desired. Chaperones provided by the Cornell Outing Club. Local COC Alumni have room for 6-8 fellows and/or girls in their cars. Most of them leaving Friday evening and returning Sunday. Great chance to get to know OCers from Cornell as well as other colleges. Leave name in ROC Office by April 23 if interested.

POSSIBLE INSTRUCTIONAL ROCK CLIMBING TRIP TO KEENE VALLEY:

Recent correspondence between Dick Bailey, ROC, and Jim Goodwin, Keene Valley Chapter of the Adirondack Mountain Club, has revealed the possibility of rock climbing instruction being given to a very small group of ROCers. Mr. Goodwin has written to Fritz Wiessner of Burlington (long-time prominent member of the American Alpine Club and undoubtedly America's outstanding mountaineer) to see if the latter could spare a weekend before the close of school at R.P.I. in which to direct rock climbing activities. Bob Woodbury and Dick Bailey report they are particularly interested in this trip as it would enable them to more fully enjoy the Tetons and Colorado peaks this summer. If interested, leave a note for Dick Bailey in the ROC Office.

(Note: IOCA BULLETIN readers will recall that Fritz Wiessner wrote the very excellent survey of rock climbing in New England in the recent Winter-1948 issue.)

## SOCIAL CALENDAR

### ROC-IFC "CAMPUS CARNIVAL," APRIL 17:

From 8:00 to 1:00 AM on Saturday, April 17, students and faculty of R.P.I. and other local colleges, guests, and the Capital District populace will have an opportunity to enjoy and participate in one of the gayest, most colorful and exciting evenings in R.P.I.'s illustrious history. That date will find the '87 Gymnasium magically transformed into a gigantic "Campus Carnival" with circus decorations, music, dancing, refreshments, special acts, and a score of booths with their barkers and hawkers. Jointly sponsored by the ROC and Interfraternity Conference, the Carnival is being staged to raise money for the R.P.I. Olympic Lacrosse Team Fund.

The general program of the evening will be full of hilarity, gags, free shows, and entertainment of a superlative degree. A faculty pie-eating contest has already been arranged; no less than two big bands have been secured for this grandiose occasion: Bill Carroll's Rhythm R's for really smooth round dancing and Jed Prouty's famed Hoysceders for polkas and square dancing; a door prize of a combination radio-phonograph has generously been donated by the Book Store; and Alpha Phi Omega is building and providing labor for the refreshment stand for which the Polywives are preparing food.

Along the walls of both gyms will be approximately 22 booths, each set up and operated by a different fraternity. These will feature a wide range of games of skill and chance -- a kissing haron, sponge throw, horse racing, shooting gallery, tests of strength, and many others. Additional booths will feature a fortune teller, portrait sketchers, and other familiar figures at every carnival and side show. Overhead the ROC is stringing 10,000 feet of bunting and crepe paper to give a circus tent effect.

The general admission ticket, priced at \$.50 per person, entitles its holder to enter the "Carnival Grounds" and to take advantage of the fine dance music. Admission to practically all the booths will be limited to ten cents.

Originator of the Carnival idea and capable chairman of the Carnival Committee is ROCer Al Hartheimer. Assisting him from the ROC are Dick Peters, Deane Woodward, Dick Bailey, Cliff Ostergaard, Bob Woodbury, and Dick Rhyins. Representing IFC are Frank Hoos of Theta Xi, Frank Clancy from Phi Mu Delta, and Herb Fishman, Phi Sigma Delta.

No effort is being spared in attempting to attract as many as possible to this forthcoming Campus Carnival. Through Bill Case of the R.P.I. Public Relations Department news is being released to the local papers and radio stations and to the local colleges.

The Campus Carnival Committee, on behalf of all those donating their services, urges you to "Save the 17th" for this memorable occasion. Get a date now to take to the season's outstanding social success!

### R.P.I. OPEN HOUSE TO INCLUDE ROC EXHIBIT, APRIL 23-24:

This week will see Dick Peters, carrying over in his position as last year's Social Chairman, get together the ROC Exhibit for the Open House program sponsored by the Institute. This will be Rensselaer's first annual Open House since before the war, and no effort is being spared by any of the Departments and participating organizations in presenting to the invited dignitaries, businessmen, executives, parents,

and interested spectators as complete a picture of the school as possible.

Urgently needed for the ROC Exhibit are snapshots taken on Club trips or at Club functions. Dick has requested that these be turned in to him this week properly marked so that next week may be exclusively devoted to the actual setting up of the displays.

#### SQUARE DANCE, MAY 1:

Exclusive of the square dance at the "Campus Carnival" this Saturday evening, April 17, the dance on May 1 will probably be the last one of the year sponsored by the ROC. It brings regretfully to a close an activity in which the whole school has joyously participated. Those fall and winter Saturday nights were truly one of the high spots of campus social entertainment.

The Club finds it difficult to express satisfactorily to Jed Prouty, Bill Haselton, Jack McLane, Ed Egan, and the others in the Haysceders how much their services have meant. All of us are greatly indebted for the outstanding performances these fellows have consistently given.

#### PAST TRIPS

#### MT. GREYLOCK, APRIL 4 - OPTIMISM PAYS OFF:

The New York Times carried no ski report on Saturday, April 3. It had carried none for a week. Skiing was over, everyone said. There just wasn't any snow left within 100 miles.

Thus it was amid gentle raillery and joshing that an ROC bus shoved off from Troy on Sunday, April 4, with a small number of "diehard" skiers among the ROCers and outing clubbers from Russell Sage who made up the group. The last laugh, however, was on the skeptics, for high up on the shoulder of Mt. Greylock enough snow was found to more than satisfy those hardy individuals who had ascended the Thunderbolt Trail with skis over their shoulders. Down beautiful corn snow the small group skied all afternoon -- happy in the knowledge that one more glorious day had been added to their skiing season. The climb with skis had been fairly short but extremely steep; the presence of skiable snow was complete gratification -- and a lesson too for those who are prone to laugh too soon.

Those who preferred to climb without skis spent the afternoon exploring the mountaintop -- wandering around the monument, Bascom Lodge (boarded up for the winter), and along the Appalachian Trail. Snowball fights were about as frequent as the click of camera shutters; it was a beautiful day for both.

To the girls from Kellas and Slocum Houses, who composed the Sage contingent, the ROC crew says: "Hope to see you on the canoe trip May 1-2. We are personally asking Hank Wells to conduct 'Careless Love' at that time."

Dick Bailey  
Trip Leader

#### CRANE MOUNTAIN, APRIL 11 - BLIZZARD OVERTAKES CHUBBERS:

Twenty-two hikers from the ROC and nine girls from Skidmore started for Crane Mountain last Sunday, April 11, with a favorable weather report and itchy feet. Turning off Route 9 at Warrensburg the gang went as far

By a very narrow margin Mary "Link" Neidlinger, Mt. Holyoke OC, defeated Dick Bailey of the ROC for the position of IOCA Executive Secretary. Bob Rock, Springfield College OC, is the new College Week Chairman; Rog Brown, DOC, the new Senior Alumni Secretary. MIT volunteered to publish next year's IOCA BULLETIN and was given a hearty vote of confidence. By vote this Bulletin was designated to be printed and similar in design to the Winter-1948 issue published by the Rensselaer Outing Club. Next year's IOCA Conference will be run by the Mt. Holyoke Outing Club at the Ravine Camp.

### PAST SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

#### MOVIES AND SLIDES OF CANADIAN ROCKIES, MARCH 31:

Following the ROC Business Meeting of March 31 Professor Leroy Clark, Department of Rational and Technical Mechanics, showed technicolor slides and movies taken on recent visits to Canada during summer vacations. The trips were made by auto amid the beautiful mountain ranges of the Canadian provinces of Alberta and British Columbia. In Prof. Clark's opinion this area contains some of the most picturesque and romantic scenes he has ever been privileged to witness; his colored pictures were ample proof that this area is indeed a beautiful one. Among the many scenes projected upon the screen were the magnificent green waters of Lake Louise; "Angel's Wings," a massive glacier whose icy form as it continues its very slow progress down a mountain side resembles a gigantic white statue with outstretched wings; Mount Edith Cavell, a lofty and majestic peak standing in bold relief against a sky the bluest of blues; and Kicking Horse River whose turbulent progress through narrow canyon passages reflects the spirit of untamed wilderness. Fauna in these areas have no fear of people; they never learn to fear man. A wild moose, a water-fight between two ducks, and a hibernating bear waking up after a long snooze were some of the highlights recorded in the wild life department. Although he has already covered several thousand miles in these regions, Prof. Clark feels that Canada still has much more to offer him. He heartily recommends it to all who enjoy the scenery and beauty of the outdoors.

### MISCELLANEOUS ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### ON CAMPUS:

Considerable campus interest is being shown in the Spelunking Exhibit set up by Dick Rhyns in the lobby of Russell Sage Lab. In addition to acquainting many students with spelunking as an ROC activity, the exhibit has caused over two dozen interested students to appear in the ROC Office desirous of learning more about caveing. Dick has announced a Spelunking Meeting for all interested parties at 4:40 PM on Friday, April 16, in the ROC Office.

Currently to be seen conspicuously posted in the ROC Office is a cartoon from the latest issue of "The Pup." Entitled "2.0 Joe - ROC Ski Trip," the cartoon will be considered as one trip toward membership for artist Bob Renfrow.

as possible with the bus, noticing that the ponds along the road had a skim of ice and that there were still patches of snow as a reminder that winter was not long past.

The hike to the ranger's cabin at the foot of the mountain was a couple of miles along a woods road. At the cabin a startled porcupine scampered up a tree, but when reinforcements arrived, he slid back down and waddled away. The trail was steep but well marked and good time was made by all. A few intrepid souls left the trail and scaled the cliffs near the summit by hand -- and in some places with the moral support of a rope. When the main party was several hundred feet from the top, it started snowing and got colder rapidly. In a few brief minutes everyone was in the midst of a howling blizzard. A quick bite to eat was had in the lee of the ranger's tiny shack on the summit, and the trip down was started immediately before the rocks became too slippery. Most of the party was ill-equipped for such severe weather, and not a few hands were numb when the cabin was reached.

Back at the bus early the group of 31 found themselves quite damp physically but entirely undampened in spirit; the songfest lasted all the way back to Saratoga.

Bud Jaderlund  
Trip Leader

#### IOCA CONFERENCE, APRIL 9-11 - DOC HOST TO 30-ODD COLLEGES:

This past weekend, April 9-11, at the Moosilauke Ravine Camp, Warren, New Hampshire, the Dartmouth Outing Club was host to delegates from 30-odd college outing clubs gathered together for the 16th Annual Inter-collegiate Outing Club Association Conference.

Delegates from the ROC included Bob Woodbury, Deane Woodward, and Dick Bailey, the latter two also representing the IOCA BULLETIN staff of the past year.

For the most part the Rensselaer delegates were impressed and pleased with the seriousness of the Conference program. To the DOC and Dave Hitchcock, Conference Chairmen, in particular, goes ROC's admiration for a brilliant job of program planning that was in no small way responsible for the tremendous success of the Conference.

Highlights of this program included colored slides and comments on the Moosilauke area by Al Gustafson, DOC; Ross McKenney's talk on his philosophy of nature; a talk by the Dean of Freshmen, Dartmouth College, on the historical trends and social significance of movements having their origin in an appreciation of nature; delegate discussion groups on OC programs, IOCA trips, publicity, and the raising of funds; a brief but excellent talk on Club organization by John Rend, permanent Director of the Dartmouth Outing Club; films and slides on botany, geology, and orinthology by the Dartmouth College Naturalist, Doug Wade; and a long and spirited discussion of the IOCA BULLETIN at the delegate business meeting Sunday morning.

A spokesman for the alumni reiterated the unwritten laws of IOCA -- that there should be absolutely no drinking or carrying of firearms on any IOCA trip and that group spirit and participation is of paramount importance, above and beyond any personal desires to couple off. The trust and confidence placed in the hands of IOCA trip chaperones by college authorities must be preserved at all costs. Successful compliance with these few but important unwritten rules will insure a continuation of the unblemished record of which IOCA has thus far been so proud.

## FISHING AN ROC ACTIVITY?

In the past several of the Club Officers have been approached regarding fishing as an ROC activity. Heretofore the answer has been that not enough interest has been shown to warrant placing this sport in that category. Of late, however, such interest has been steadily increasing, and in response Cliff Ostergaard, Trips Director, is anxious to talk to and get the names of those who would like to have fishing classed as an ROC activity.

## PROGRAMS OF OTHER ORGANIZATIONS

### ADIRONDACK MOUNTAIN CLUB, ALBANY CHAPTER:

For ROCers who are members (or desirous of becoming members) of A.M.C., word has been received that the Albany Chapter is holding an "Informal" on Tuesday, April 20, at 8:00 PM in Channing Hall, Albany. William D. Mulholland, Superintendent of Camps and Trails of the New York State Conservation Department, will deliver a talk on "New Trail Developments in the High Peak Area." It might be wise for those who plan to attend College Week to run over to this meeting. For details contact Dick Bailey.

### DANA NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY OF ALBANY:

This 80-year old organization is currently presenting a series of four lectures to be held in the auditorium of the American Humane Association, at Washington Avenue and Dove Street, Albany, at 8:00 PM. Admission is free and all nature lovers are invited to attend. The first lecture was on April 12. Those remaining are:

- April 26 - Bird Studies - Mrs. Dayton Stoner, Ornithologist
- May 10 - The Heavens As We See Them - Professor Benjamin Boss, Director of Dudley Observatory
- May 24 - An Adventure in Invertebrate Fossils, Dr. Rousseau H. Flower, Paleontologist, New York State Museum