



# THE ROC CAIRN



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RENSSELAER OUTING CLUB, INC. — 15th ST. LOUNGE, R. P. I., TROY, NEW YORK  
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## SPOUT FORTH, SPEAK YOUR MIND, MAKE NOISE, ELECTIONS ARE TUESDAY

Annual elections for the seven members of the ROC Executive Council are going to be held next Tuesday, March 20 in the 15th Street Lounge at 7:30 p.m. All members of the club with active standing are eligible to vote. An active standing signifies paid up dues, and participation in three ROC trips.

After hours of deliberation, the nominating committee has proposed the following slate:

President: Dick Opsahl, Pete Oliver  
Vice President: Don Bailey, Pete Oliver, Dick Opsahl  
Secretary: Jim Wells  
Treasurer: Fred Hochgraf  
Cairn Editor: Dick Shumaker  
Members at Large: Jerry Connor, Carl Henrickson

In addition to the above slate, nominations will be permitted from the floor. Those making nominations should be prepared to support their candidates with a few words of previous record.

## THE SCOOP FOR EASTER VACATION

Provided the avalanche danger is lessened, there'll be spring skiing at Tuckerman's from March 21 to 25. The ROC plans to use facilities at the University of New Hampshire cabin at Pinkham Notch. Expenses are assured to be at a minimum.

Grace Camp of John's Brook Valley in the Adirondacks has again been reserved for the ROC. The dates are from March 22 to 25, Jerry Connor is the man to see, and there'll be lots of climbing, snowshoeing, and possibly skiing.

Keep posted, watch that trip bulletin board in the office.

## A WORD FROM THE LING

Remember the '49 ski mountaineering trip over Algonquin and Iroquois? There WAS a trip, even though the wind registered 50 miles per hour and the temperature -15 degrees. That was quite a contrast to conditions the following College Week when we slogged into Colden in two feet of mud, still baked biscuits in our reflector oven, and square danced on Marcy's summit, the only dry spot in the Adirondacks. Things just never were bad enough for us to resort to the sleeping bag. Those few who tried, likely found themselves adrift in a canoe, with only a sleeping bag for clothing, and empty hands for paddles.

If you'll permit this brief reminiscence, I'd like to make a point, perhaps a moral to the story. Those memories with the accompanying friendships make outing clubbing what it is today. More important, the future and continued success all lies with your next Executive Council. Next Tuesday, you're entitled to cast your ballot for new leaders. Turn out en masse, make serious considerations, and then start right off, by supporting your new council.

Remember outing clubbing is open to anyone, and you have your chance also to build a real repertoire of memories.

*F. Mohling*

## JOURNALS, BULLETINS, MANUALS, ET AL

The Rensselaer Mountaineering Club has a library available now for all members of the ROC or affiliate organizations. Included are bulletins from many of the principle mountaineering clubs of the country and numerous manuals on all phases of climbing. Contact Franz Mohling at the TKE House on Highland Avenue.

## DID YOU EVER STOP TO THINK --

If all the men were one man, what a great man he would be?

And all the trees were one big tree, what a great tree it would be?

And all the axes one big axe, what a big axe it would be?

And all the seas one big sea, what a great sea it would be?

Now if this one great man, took the one big axe, and fell  
the one big tree in the one great sea,  
What a great splish splash there would be.

## HURRICANE, SPARE THAT TREE!

Many people have been wondering about timber damage in the Adirondacks after the hurricane of last November. Although reports of a general nature have come out, we intend to give here something a little more practical to the hiker.

Timber damage varies from extreme in some places to non-existent in others. On the ridges windfalls are few, probably because the trees are adapted to high winds. The only sizable windfall area on the range trail is on the east slope of Saddleback, but this should not present too great difficulties. John's Brook Valley has many complete blowdowns up to several acres in area which can easily be seen from the ridges. The trail between Bushnell Falls and Slant Rock Leanto passes through one of these areas and should be avoided if possible.

The Colden area was particularly hard hit. The shore trails are criss-crossed with fallen trees and Cold Brook Leanto is engulfed although it was not damaged. Between one-half miles and one mile from Lake Colden on the Algonquin trail, windfalls will necessitate relocation or extensive cutting.

The storm entirely missed some regions such as that northeast of Dix Mt. in which only the usual windfalls are to be found. Conifers comprise most of the down timber and the many deciduous trees in this region plus the natural shelter probably accounted for the small loss. It was reported that the Swards had 100% timber damage, but this seems to be an overstatement.

Trail clearing work has already begun in some regions. The Van Hoenberg ski trail has been cleared, the Big Slide trail from JBL has been cleared of major obstructions by the ROC, and some work has been done at Lake Colden. Many more trails are undoubtedly open by now, but windfalls should be expected for some time, especially on the trails less frequently traveled.

This report is based mainly on conditions encountered by the ROC and is therefore far from complete, but we hope that it will aid somewhat in Adirondack trip planning.

Carl Henrickson

## REUBEN'S INVITED US OVER GANG

That's right, the Albany Square Dance Club with Reuben Merchant doing the calling has proclaimed an RPI night for March 30. Admission has been cut to 50¢ a couple for all ROC'ers so show your appreciation and all show up.

QUICK MISTER THE KLISTER!

You've been shussing without pushing all winter kid, but from now on its going to be sticky unless you have the ticky. Here's our ticket to more skiing in the spring thaws ahead.

1. Fix those skis up, by refinishing the tops, Exposed wood leads to water logging and thense sprung and warped skis. Use two or three coats of quality spar varnish.
2. Apply a good base for wax adhesion. Experiment with some tar and resin mixtures or be safe with good commercial brands.
3. Grab the Klister for general climbing and downhill or use ordinary parafin for downhill.
4. Apply your wax in thick globs and smooth with the heel of the hand.
5. Be persistant, and really learn ski care. You'll never regret it. The effortless turns, long glides and confident steps in climbing will come more easily.

A SONG FOR YA LADDY, THE WEE COOPER OF FIFE

There was a wee cooper wha' lived in Fife  
Nickety, nackety, nue, nue, nue  
And he had gotten a gentle wife  
Hey willie, walickey, hey john doogle  
A-ling quarushitty, rue, rue, rue

She wouldn't a-bake, she wouldn't a-brew  
Nickety, nackety, nue, nue, nue  
For the speilin' a her comely hue  
Hey will.....

She wouldn't a-cart, she wouldn't a-spin  
For the shamin' of her gentle kin

The cooper has gone to his woo shack  
An put a sheep skin across his wife's back

I would not thrash ye for you gentle kin  
But I would thrash my aen sheep skin

Now ye who hve gotten a gentle wife  
Send ye for the wee cooper of Fife