



# THE ROC CAIRN



XV 5026  
RENSSELAER OUTING CLUB, INC. — 15TH ST. LOUNGE, R. P. 1, TROY, NEW YORK Sept 3, 1958

## COLLEGE WEEK

S. Razin

In northern Maine, the wall of the Appalachians ends abruptly in the tower of Mt. Katadin. Standing on Baxter Peak, you can see Chimney Pond below, three-quarter surrounded by a bowl of rocky walls. The curtain of the knife edge, ending in Chimney Peak, curves on the right. On the left is a plateau with steep walls building up to into Hamlin Peak, and dwindling into Hamlin Ridge, completing the bowl. Descending towards the pond over a trail which is mostly rocks piled on larger rocks, the ever-present wind snatches at you with sharp gusts. In the bowl, on the shore of the pond, is the ranger's cabin, eleven well-distributed lean-tos, and a bunkhouse. This was the site of College Week, the place to which 150-odd outing clubbers came from all parts of the U.S. and Europe.

They spent the days hiking up the rock-cairn mountains and over the high, dry jetty of the knife-edge, and rock-climbing the walls of the bowl.

At night, many people cram into one lean-to for a song-fest. Soon the sound of singing all but drowns out the sound of the wind-driven rain on the metal roof, transfusing into a camping trip the fellowship of College Week.

One morning, the sound of the moose horn echoed from down the trail. Soon Dwight Deal appeared, carrying a watermelon on his packboard. Bob Gilmore, having lost his melloon the day before, approaches him, saying, "That's my watermellon! Where did you find it?"

Dwight (chuckling): "Two little green men were burling it down the trail."

Bob (disbelief): same question.

Dwight: same answer.

Only days later was the truth revealed: Bob had carried that mutton all the way to Chimney Pond, only to have it secretly removed from his pack while he was registering.

Then our stay was over, and we prepared to leave Mt. Katahdin as rain-fed cataracts roared down its slopes. The rain stopped, and a bright rainbow appeared as we packed. But as we drove away, our last view was one of a brooding mountain, its summit enveloped in clouds.

### CAVING

W. Lipton

It happened! For the first time in months a spelunking trip got off within half an hour of its proposed departure time. At 8:30, Sunday morning (9/20), 5 ROC'ers, 1 Poly-wife and one COC'er (Cornell) left for South Bethlehem Cave and points west.

South Bethlehem Cave contains the most numerous formations of any of the easily traversable caves in the area. After crawling through several hundred feet of passage and ~~the~~ rooms, one enters the main room. Here tufa dams and drip-stone formations are abundant, and two small crawlways lead off for those who would like to test their compressability. The bats normally found in the cave during winter were absent. After a bit of rock-climbing in the cave, we emerged from the second entrance, a small hole in the cliff, where one can look down 70 feet to the place where he first entered.

We started off to lunch, but were diverted by a small sink-hole in the side of the road. This yielded a small, tight cave, upon exploration. Since not every one could get through it, it was affectionately christened "Thin Man's Cave".

Our third cave for the day was Ball's Cave. The entrance is a 40 foot vertical shaft, which is descended on a strong, permanent ladder. The cave has two sections, known as the wet

and the "dry". The "dry" section features the "big" and "broken" rooms, large clusters of bats, and several crawlways .

We returned to the second section, through which flows the "Charm River". A boat has been built for this passage by the cave's owner, and all seven were ferried across in this craft. The passage contains 14 natural dams forming a series of little lakes. Dams this size are unique in this state, and possibly in the country. (The largest is about 6 feet across and 4 feet high, made of natural rock deposited by the water. We returned to Troy at 10:00 P.M., just as a search party was being readied.

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PRELIMINARY:

Columbus Day Weekend . . .

It was dark, that night of October 11, as the boat approached land. The crew heard strange noises, and could occasionally see the natives dancing before the roaring fire. But was Columbus there? No! -- He wasn't even there. This was FALL LAKE GEORGE -- the biggest, funnest, bestest, canoe trip, hiking trip, camping trip, square dance trip held all year. And naturally it's held by the R.O.C., which plays host to some 40 other schools (Russel Sage, Skidmore, Mount Holyoke, Cornell, to name a few), all members of the Intercollegiate Outing Club Association.

This annual fall fest will once again be held on Turtle Island, in Lake George, from October 10 - 12. Should history once again repeat itself, the 40 to 50 ROC'ers going will find some 300 to 350 other outing clubbers sharing the fun, festivities, and cider.

Saturday will offer such diversions as canoeing, climbing Black and/or Tongue Mountains, swimming, eating, hiking, water skiing, etc. Night will find all on Mohigan Island, about 100 yards from Turtle Island for a square dance, called by Ray Dwyer. The evening will also feature the tapping of the cider keg, and a songfest before the campfire. . . Most people filter back to Troy by Sunday afternoon.

Because of problems in arranging transportation, all interested people must come to the ROC meeting on Tuesday, October 7, at 7:30 in Lounge 15 to sign up and get the details

of the trip. Further information may be obtained from: the t

Trip Co-ordinator Andy Monjan As.2-9535  
 Transport. Co-ord. Mike Rosenheimer Ar.3-2893

See ya there!

Andy Monjan

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<u>Office</u>	<u>Officer</u>	<u>Address</u>	<u>Tel. No.</u>
President	Andy Monjan	Hearne Dorm, Rm. 5	As.2-9535
Vice. Pres.	Dave Noyes	903 People's Ave	As.2-7052
Treasurer	Wayne Taft	261 8 St.	As.2-5946
Secretary	Jerry Schrauf	1807 7 Ave.	As.2-5932
CAIRN Edit.	Mike Rosenheimer	86 Eagle St.	Ar.3-2893
Member-at-Large	Dick Terryberry (one vacancy)	1807 7 Ave.	As.2-5932
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Trips Direc.	Dave Noyes	903 People's Ave.	As.2-7052
<b>Chairmen:</b>			
Canoeing	Bob Gilmore	1807 7 Ave.	As.2-5932
Rock-Climb.	Dave Noyes	903 People's Ave.	As.2-7052
Skiing	(vacancy)		
Spelunking	Walt Lipton	1816 7 Ave.	As.2-7832
Square Dance Liv.	French	1816 7 Ave.	As.2-7832
Winter Mtn.	Andy Monjan	Hearne Dorm, Rm. 5	As2- 9535

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Classified Ads:

1. FOR SALE: A.B.Dick, model 90 mimeo machine  
 automatic paper feed  
 good condition  
 just rebuilt  
 \$35.00  
 Contact Mike Miller - Fr.7-0837 (Schenectady)
- 2.WANTED: One (1) polar sleeping bag with 30-inch zipper.  
 Please return at Fall Lake George.  
 No summer rental!  
 One (1) pair Kastinger climbing boots, strayed  
 at last Spring Lake George  
 Please return at Fall Lake George.  
 No summer rental!  
 Contact Andy Monjan

After waiting a day for the rain to stop and some snow to come, we headed for ADK Loj. Arriving at three AM we found most of the other group in the bunkhouse. The next morning we took stock of the men and equipment that had been able to endure the wait and found that we were missing only the trip leader and the cooking pots which he was supposed to bring. After a small discussion that only lasted until three that afternoon we decided on a plan for the next two days. The rest of that afternoon we would climb Mount Phelps. There are rumors that the appointed trip leader was Cub Schafer (this has been both confirmed and denied by two different very reliable sources.)

The trip up (almost) to the top of the mountain was useful in finding weaknesses in the snow shoe bindings and other things.

The next day dawned bright and clear and we left along the train to Marcy Dam after breakfast. Both the trail to Marcy Dam and the Indian Falls ski trail were broken but part way up the ski trail we had to leave the trail and bushwack up the rest of the way to the summit. On top we enjoyed the view and some frozen sausages. We arrived back at the Loj after dark and packed our gear and returned to civilization.

#### NOTICE

An order to Black and sons will be sent out the 31st of March. The Black sleeping bags costing \$27.00 and \$32.00 respectively compare favorably with domestic bags of \$50.00 to \$80.00 in cost. We are able to offer Black's equipment in this country at European prices because we receive excellent discount rates for all orders over \$300.00. It takes 2 months for goods to be delivered so the order must be sent by March 31 in order to be delivered so the order must be sent in by this time, so that the equipment will arrive before summer. To obtain the latest catalog and price list, write immediately to:

R.O.C.  
c/o Bob Gilmore  
1807 7th Ave.  
Troy, N. Y.

#### COMING TRIPS

March 23	West Virginia IOCA Spelunking
April 4-18	Cabin
April 25	IOCA Conference
May 1-3	Spring Lake George
May 9-30	Cabin

ADVANCED FIRST AID COURSE starts MARCH 4 at the Red Cross building, 1712 5th Ave., Troy.