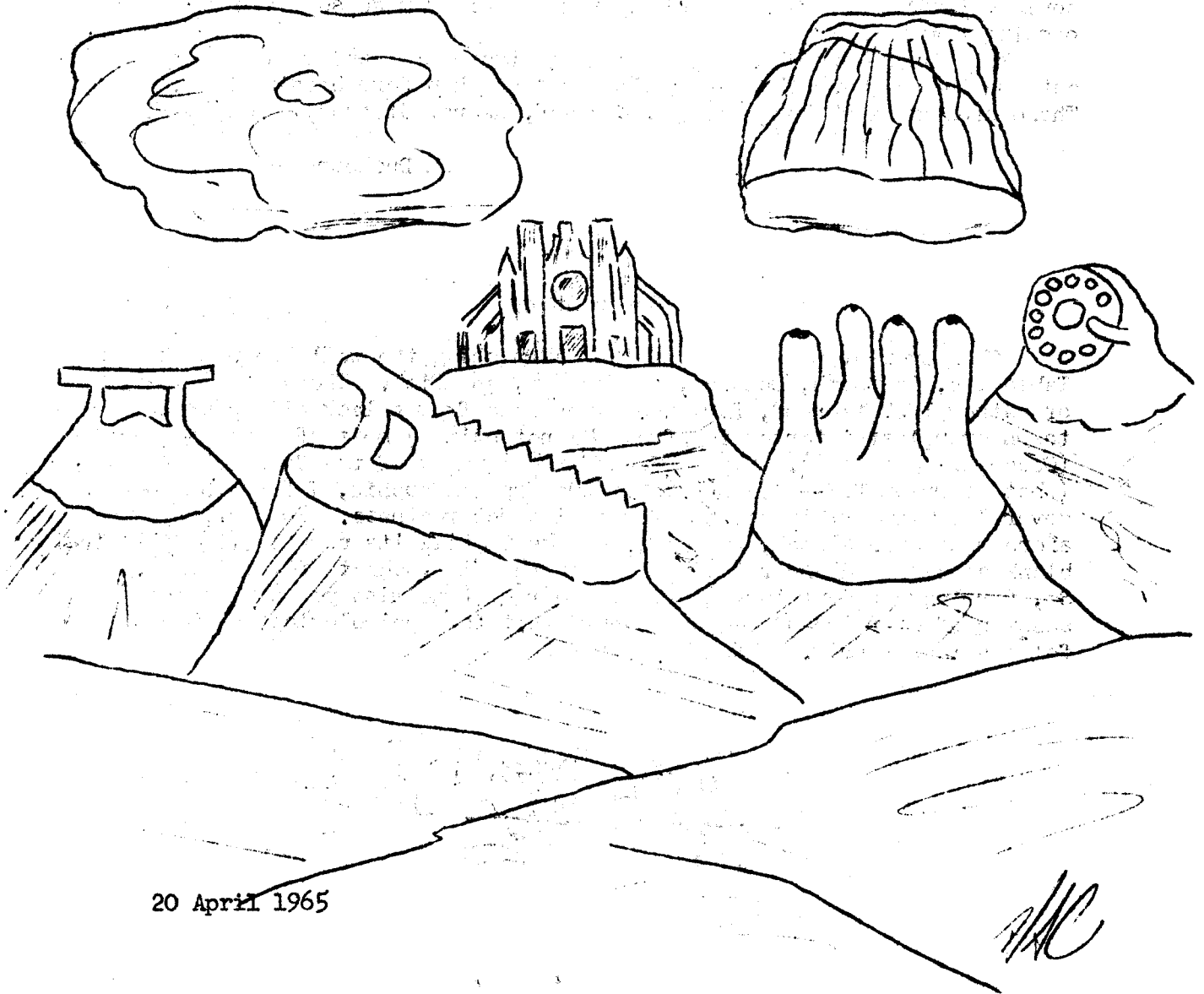




# THE ROC CAIRN



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



20 April 1965

Come on Wayne, We've Got to Meet Taft at Duncan's!

After Taft got tired of waiting and came after us at the Kneehold, all six of us took off for Sampson Lodge, unused (at the moment) Institute property, to see if the main lodge building might be something which the ROC would want to try to obtain for use as a club cabin.

After looking over the abandoned equipment which the Physics Dept. has left in the surrounding fields, we looked over the two buildings. The smaller building, which the Physics Dept. has full of electronics equipment, doesn't appear to be in too bad a shape, although it could use a general cleaning.

The main lodge, on the other hand, needs a very good cleaning, a good dose of rat poison applied, and many general repairs, some major repairs might be in order, also. This building is used for the moment only to store a fifteen inch refracting telescope as far as we could see,

It is a shame that this property is being allowed to deteriorate as it is and I hope that something can be done to keep it in good repair whether we get the use of it or not.

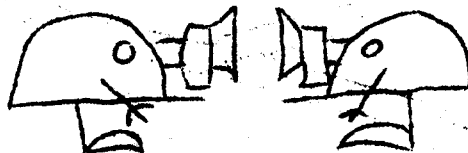
After leaving the lodge we took a hike down a road cut during a recent lumber operation. Its a nice area. Wildlife was scarce on our visit but we did meet up with one porky who headed up a tree before we could get him. We didn't find any sign of his damage so maybe he's just passing through.

We returned to the cot the same way (more or less) that we went out and then adjourned to Duncan's for a snack before heading home. Those present were Taft, Duncan, Jackson, Akers, Stetson, and myself.

Tom Duchesneau

#### Cover Story

The cover of this issue of the Cairn shows the well known peaks Table Top, Sawteeth, Gothics, Nipple Top, and Dial. The general idea, or rather lack thereof, for this cover came from a lack of pictures taken over last intersession from the not quite summit of Couchsachraga, (Couchie, long form). Since none of the members of the Cairn Staff (What Cairn Staff?--ed.) have ever been up on Couchie, I fear that the cover lacks a certain amount of detail and correctness. However, the afore mentioned sketch, the cover, seems to fill its purpose (it fills that blank space found under the heading on the first sheet of the Cairn). So, for lack of anything else to add here let me wish you a pleasant session of Cairn reading--you'll note that the speleological section follows immediately. hac



## BALL'S CAVE

ON FRIDAY EVENING, MARCH 19, AT 6:15 A HARDY BAND OF ROCK SPELUNKERS CONSISTING OF LEE MITCHELL, JIM DRAKE, DICK ANDREWS, HANK CHARY, VIC BAKER, BOB FROESE, DICK GRAMLEY, AND NICK ZAPANTIS SET OUT FOR BALL'S OR GAGE'S CAVE IN SCHOHARIE, NEW YORK. UPON ARRIVAL AT THE ROAD LEADING TO THE CAVE WE CHECKED IN AT THE FARMHOUSE NEAR THE ROAD AND THEN DECIDED THAT THE ROAD WAS NAVIGABLE. THIS TURNED OUT TO BE TRUE, BUT JUST BARELY; HANK'S FIAT SCRAPED FLOORBOARDS ON SOME OF THE BUMPS AND VIC REPORTED COMING CLOSE TO GETTING STUCK IN A FEW PLACES. WE WERE FINALLY STOPPED BY A FOOT OF HARD CRUSTED SNOW. FROM THERE TO THE CAVE WAS ABOUT A HALF MILE HIKE. THE LADDER INTO THE SINK WAS NEGOTIABLE BUT THREE RUNGS WERE ICED IN, SO HANK CHOPPED THE ICE OFF WITH HIS MACHETE TO MAKE COMING OUT EASIER. THE CAVE WAS WET BUT NOT FLOODED; IT WAS POSSIBLE TO EXPLORE ALL OF IT EXCEPT THE LAKE PASSAGE. NOBODY GOT MORE THAN HIS LEGS WET EXCEPT FOR FEARLESS LEADER CHARY WHO MANAGED TO FALL INTO THE WATER AFTER HAVING SUCCESSFULLY BRIDGED MOST OF IT ON THE WAY OUT OF THE CAVE. (DUE TO HIS SHORT LEGS HE WOULD HAVE GOTTEN WETTER THAN ANYONE ELSE ANYWAY.) IT SEEMED THAT THE WEATHER HAD COOLED DOWN, SINCE WET GLOVES FROZE TO THE LADDER ON THE WAY UP. THIS IMPRESSION WAS CONFIRMED BY A BRACING CHANGE OUT OF WET CLOTHS IN A TWENTY DEGREE BREEZE. THE TRIP ENDED AT ABOUT 1:30 AM IN TROY.

DICK ANDREWS

## SPELUNKERS ON THE ROAD

BRIGHT AND EARLY (10:45 TO BE EXACT) AFTER A NIGHT OF EXPLORING BALL'S CAVE, LEE MITCHELL, HANK CHARY, GEORGE MACDONALD, AND DICK ANDREWS SET OUT ON A CAVE-LOCATING TRIP INTO SCHOHARIE COUNTY AND SURROUNDING TERRITORY. OUR FIRST STOP WAS ONEWQUETHAW CAVE, WHERE HANK TALKED TO DR. HARGRAVE ABOUT THE POSSIBILITY OF ADOPTING THE CAVE. THE REST OF US EXAMINED THE ENTRANCE WHICH SHOWED EVIDENCE THAT THE CAVE WAS INHABITED AT THE TIME BY MEMBERS OF THE MANLIUS OUTING CLUB (EVER HEAR OF THEM?). IT APPEARED THAT THE GROUP WAS NOT CO-ED SO WE DECIDED TO IGNORE THEM. WE NOTED WITH REGRET THAT NO WATER WAS FLOWING INTO THE ENTRANCE.

AFTER LUNCH AT THE FRIENDLY NEIGHBORHOOD TAVERN, WE LOOKED INTO THE ENTRANCES OF END OF GULCH AND FOX CAVE. END OF GULCH CAVE WAS EASY TO FIND AS ITS ENTRANCE WAS A SINK AT THE END OF A GULCH. FOX WAS A LITTLE HARDER TO FIND, BUT WE FINALLY LOCATED ITS ENTRANCE IN A CRACK NEAR AN OVERHANGING ROCK IN THE SAME GULCH. THIS UNCOMPLICATED LITTLE CAVE WAS COMPLETELY EXPLORED IN ABOUT FIVE MINUTES BY HANK AND GEORGE.

WE THEN JUMPED INTO THE CAR FOR A TRIP TO THE TOWN OF THOMPSON'S LAKE WHERE WE FOUND THE ENTRANCE TO CHURCH CAVE, RIGHT WHERE THE TOPO MAP SAID IT SHOULD BE. GEORGE WENT A LITTLE WAY INTO THE CAVE AND REPORTED THAT IT WAS FULL OF ICE UP TO THE CEILING A SHORT DISTANCE FROM THE ENTRANCE. OUR NEXT DESTINATION WAS THOMPSON'S LAKE CAVE WHICH WE DISCOVERED ON THE SHORE OF THE LAKE NEAR A SUMMER COTTAGE. EVIDENTLY THE LAKE DRAINS INTO THE CAVE AND IT MIGHT BE A LITTLE WET. SINCE 'NO TRESPASSING' SIGNS WERE PROMINENTLY DISPLAYED, HANK TOOK THE TROUBLE TO GET THE NAME OF THE OWNER FROM A NEIGHBOR FOR THE CLUB FILES.



BACK IN THE FIAT ONCE MORE WE HEADED FOR SHUTTERS CORNERS CAVE JUST OUTSIDE OF GALLUPVILLE. BY THIS TIME IT HAD BEEN SNOWING FOR ABOUT AN HOUR, AND WHEN THREE INCHES OF SNOW PREVENTED US FROM MAKING IT UP THE STEEP HILL ON THE FIRST ATTEMPT, WE DECIDED TO HEAD BACK TO TROY. THE TRIP FROM THEN ON WAS UNEVENTFUL AND WE ARRIVED IN TROY AT 4:30 PM.

DICK ANDREWS

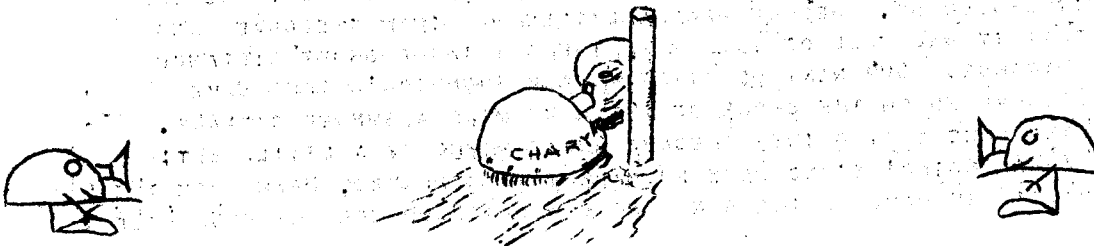
### SHUTTERS CORNERS CAVE

THURSDAY EVENING I AM SITTING IN THE SAGE DINNING HALL DIGESTING SUPPER AND TRYING TO THROW OFF A COLD. I SEE HANK CHARY, DICK ANDREWS, AND LEE MITCHELL BUSTLING AROUND AND BUTTONHOLING PEOPLE. IT TURNED OUT THAT THEY WERE TRYING TO COLLECT A GROUP OF ROGERS FOR A SPUR-OF-THE-MOMENT CAVING JAUNT. AGAINST MY BETTER JUDGEMENT, I VOLUNTEERED.

WE LEFT FOR HAILE'S CAVE IN THATCHER PARK AT 7:00 PM, AND WENT THE LONG WAY VIA ALTAMONT. WE GOT TO THE PARK AROUND 7:45 AND HAULED OUR GEAR OUT TO CAVE CREVICE (ED. NOTE: CAVE CREVICE IS THE AUTHOR'S NAME FOR A CREVICE LEADING DOWN TO THE CAVE.). THE VIEW WAS GREAT FROM THE EDGE OF THE CLIFF, BUT THE VIEW DOWN THAT CREVICE TO HAILE'S WAS A BIT SCARY. THERE WAS SOME SNOW STILL IN THE CREVICE, SO THE CLIMB DOWN WASN'T TOO BAD. WE COULD HEAR LOTS OF WATER ROARING SOMEWHERE, SO DICK AND HANK WENT DOWN TO TAKE A PEEK WHILE LEE AND I HUNG BEHIND ABOUT HALFWAY DOWN THE CREVICE. HAILE'S WAS FLOODED BUT GOOD-- A GREAT ROARING CATARACT! WE DECIDED TO TRY SHUTTERS CORNERS CAVE. ONCE AGAIN OUR NAVIGATOR MISSED THE TURNOFF TO THE PLACE, BUT WE GOT THERE AFTER DRIVING PAST A LOT OF NUTNIN'. WE GOT TO THE LITTLE BUILDING NEAR THE MOUTH OF SHUTTERS CORNERS ABOUT 9:00 AND CHANGED.

JUST INSIDE THE CAVE WE SAW MORE SIGNS OF DEVELOPEMENT--MORE BOARDWALKS AND A BIG BRAINPIPE. LOTS OF WATER! YOU COULD EASILY SEE THE DAMAGE DONE BY THE DYNAMITE BLASTS (ED. NOTE: JIM GAGE THE OWNER OF THE CAVE IS PRESENTLY COMMERCIALIZING THE CAVE, THEREFORE THE BLASTING). GREAT FORMATIONS WERE COMMON, AND SO WAS MUD! FINALLY, THE BOARDWALK GAVE OUT. WHILE SOME STALWART SOULS TRIED BRIDGING, I PLUNGED INTO THE STREAM, FIGURING WE ALL WOULD GET OUR FEET WET SOONER OR LATER. THE WATER AND THE THICK GOOEY CLAY GOT AS MUCH AS CROTCH DEEP. THERE WAS ONE GOOD GLIMB-OVER AND ONE GOOD CRAWL-UNDER. OTHERWISE, IT WAS A WALK-IN CAVE. I FIND THAT I DON'T MIND WATER OR COLD AS MUCH AS I MIND MUD! TRY WALKING A TWO BY FOUR CATWALK WITH YOUR CLASSES STEAMED AND MUDDIED UP! IF THE OWNER COULD ONLY PASTE UP ALL THE FORMATIONS THE BLASTING KNOCKED DOWN AND HOSE THE MUD OFF THE WALLS HE WOULD HAVE A FINE CAVE FOR TOURISTS. WE LEFT THE CAVE ABOUT 11:45 AND GOT BACK TO TROY AT ABOUT 1 AM. THE TRIP WAS FUN, AND ALL IN ALL, A GOOD THURSDAY NIGHT OUTING CLUB TRIP.

SANDY MESCHKOW



COME ON, GUYS--IT GOES!

SHUTTERS CORNERS CAVE - AGAIN?

YES, AGAIN. ROD AKERS AND JIM DRAKE, HEARING OF THE BEAUTY OF THIS CAVE, DECIDED THEY WANTED TO SEE IT, AND HANK CHARY WANTED TO GET SOME PICTURES OF THE FORMATIONS WHICH COVER THE WALLS OF THE CAVE. THESE THREE, ALONG WITH LEE MITCHELL AND DICK ANDREWS, MADE UP A TRIP WHICH FILLED A FIAT ALMOST TO BURSTING. NOBODY WAS DISAPPOINTED, FOR SHUTTERS CORNERS CAVE HAS MORE FORMATIONS THAN ANY OTHER CAVE I HAVE EVER SEEN, INCLUDING HOWE'S.

THE TRIP DEPARTED AT 5:50 FRIDAY EVENING, 8 APRIL, AND ARRIVED AT THE CAVE ABOUT AN HOUR LATER. THE FIRST ORDER OF BUSINESS WAS TO RETRIEVE MY BOOTS, WHICH HAD BEEN LEFT THERE THE NIGHT BEFORE AND NEEDED WASHING OUT, DUE TO THE PREVIOUS NIGHT'S USE. ALTHOUGH THE CAVE HAS A SCAFFOLDING AND A CATWALK FOR SOME OF ITS LENGTH DUE TO THE PROCESS OF COMMERCIALIZATION WHICH IS GOING ON, THERE IS MUD OVER KNEE DEEP IN SOME PLACES.

A LEISURELY TRIP TAKING PICTURES AND GENERALLY ADMIRING THE SCENERY BROUGHT US TO THE END OF THE CAVE, WHERE THERE IS A POOL WHICH IS THE SOURCE OF THE STREAM WHICH FLOWS THE ENTIRE LENGTH OF THE ONLY PASSAGE IN THE CAVE. THIS STREAM, INCIDENTALLY, ISN'T TOO GOOD TO DRINK; WE NOTICED DETERGENT FOAM IN SEVERAL PLACES AND THE WHOLE CAVE HAD THE FAINT BUT UNMISTAKABLE AROMA OF A BARNYARD. THE PASSAGE IS REMARKABLE IN THAT IT IS IN THE MOST PLACES TWENTY FEET HIGH AND EIGHTY FEET HIGH IN ONE PLACE.

THE TRIP WAS QUITE SUCCESSFUL AND A LOT OF FUN. IT TOOK MUCH LONGER THAN NECESSARY TO GET THROUGH THE CAVE, BUT AT LEAST A COUPLE OF THE PICTURES TAKEN SHOULD TURN OUT. THE TRIP ARRIVED BACK IN TROY ABOUT 11:00PM.

DICK ANDREWS

MORE THAN TWO-THOUSAND SCIENTISTS ARE EMPLOYED BY WEST GERMAN PHOTOGRAPHIC FIRMS FOR RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT.

THE BALTIC SEA HAS ONLY SEVEN PARTS OF SALT PER THOUSAND OF SEA WATER AS CONTRASTED WITH FORTY-TWO IN THE RED SEA.

WARDS!, GREGORYS!, AND THATCHER PARK(?)

AT 1015HRS ON SATURDAY, 10 APRIL 1965, A GROUP OF GUNG-HO SPELUNKERS, DICK ANDREWS AND HIS BROTHER CLIFFORD, LEE MITCHELL, DICK SMITH, AND HANK CHARY, AND A NEW FACE IN THE ROC UNDERGROUND IN RECENT TIMES, ARMAND CATELLI--YES, THAT'S RIGHT--ARMAND CATELLI!!!--LEFT FROM IN FRONT OF THE 15TH ST. LOUNGE AND HEADED FOR WARDS CAVE IN CLARKSVILLE, N.Y.

HANK MANAGED TO MISS A TURN AND THEREBY DELAY HIS ARRIVAL AT THE CAVE BY ABOUT TEN MINUTES. HOWEVER, WE ALL WERE READY TO DESCEND INTO THE DARK WONDERS OF THE UNDERGROUND AT ABOUT 1100HRS.

ONCE IN THE CAVE WE PUTTERED AROUND WHILE ARMAND TRIED, UNSUCCESSFULLY I MIGHT ADD, TO COAX MORE THAN A 1/8 INCH FLAME OUT OF HIS CARBIDE LAMP. WELL, WHILE DICK, CLIFFORD, AND HANK WERE OBSERVING OBSCURE CORNERS OF A NEAR BY SIDE PASSAGE, AN ELECTRIC HEAD LAMP WAS SECURED FOR ARMAND.

WELL, SOON WE WERE UNDER WAY AT LAST. AS WE ALL HEADED TOWARD THE SMALL BUT DEEP POND AT THE END OF THE CAVE, DICK AND HANK WERE THE ONLY ONES TO PUSH ALL SIDE PASSAGES. WE ALL REGROUPED AT THE POND--

ZZZZZ  
①

AND IT SEEMS THAT HANK, WITH HIS RUBBER BOOTS (THEY WERE LOW BOOTS!) AND ALL, MANAGED TO GET HIS FEET WET--DID ANYONE ELSE WITH RUBBER BOOTS GET WET FEET? OF COURSE NOT--DON'T BE SILLY--ONLY LEADERS CAN GET AWAY WITH A STUNT LIKE THAT--AND DICK ANDREWS DIDN'T FEEL LIKE GETTING HIS FEET WET.

WELL, THE GROUP THEN PROCEEDED TO THE OTHER SIDE OR RATHER TO THE OPPOSITE LACK OF SHORE OF THE SMALL POND OR RATHER POOL, AND INTO A SMALL PASSAGE ON THE OTHER SIDE. DICK AND HANK PUSHED ON INTO A SMALLER PASSAGE LEADING OFF FROM THE SMALL ROOM, ONLY TO FIND THAT EVENTUALLY THIS SMALL PASSAGE ENDED SANS EXCITEMENT AND SANS ELBO-Room. THE REST OF THE GROUP STUCK THEIR RESPECTIVE NOSES INTO THE PASSAGE ALSO--THEY TOO FOUND THAT IT ENDED.

WE THEN ALL HEADED BACK INTO THE MAIN PART OF THE CAVE AND UPON REACHING THE "MAIN ROOM" (?) OR THE FIRST OR ENTRANCE ROOM, WE RECHARGED OUR CARBIDE LAMPS BEFORE PROCEEDING INTO GREGORY'S CAVE.

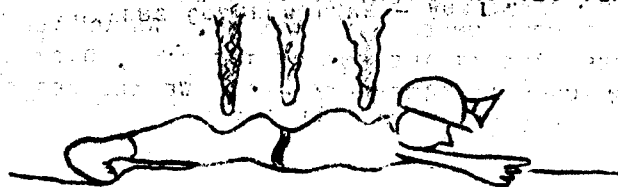
THE GOING BECAME SLOW AS WE FED OURSELVES THROUGH A FEW NOT TOO TIGHT SQUEEZES. THEN WE GOT INTO THE MAIN PART OF THE CAVE--SPLASH--OF COURSE THE WATER'S DEEP, HANK'S LEADING THIS TRIP (!). WELL, SOON THE GOING AGAIN BECAME SLOW AS WE TRIED OUR BEST TO LEVITATE OVER THE ALMOST INFINITE NUMBER OF BEAUTIFUL RIM-STONE POOLS.

AFTER MANY DOHS AND AAHS CONCERNING THE POOLS, AND MANY ARGHS, ETC. CONCERNING AWKWARD POSITIONS--WE MANAGED TO COME TO THE BIG POOLS--OF COURSE WE HIT MORE WATER EN ROUTE, REMEMBER THIS IS ONE OF HANK'S TRIPS. THE BIG POOLS ARE REALLY FABULOUS. SOME ARE AT LEAST A FOOT AND A HALF DEEP AND SOME ARE AT LEAST SIX FEET LONG, REALLY BEAUTIFUL, AND THANK GOODNESS, THEY HAVE NOT BEEN DISTURBED OR BROKEN BY CARELESS SPELUNKERS TO ALL WHO MAY FOLLOW OUR FOOTSTEPS INTO THE CAVE, ON BEHALF OF ALL--PLEASE, BE VERY CAREFUL--THE POOLS MAY MAKE GOING SLIGHTLY MORE DIFFICULT, BUT DO NOT BREAK ANY OF THESE POOLS, NO MATTER WHAT!!! WELL, NOT TOO FAR BEYOND THESE POOLS WE CAME TO A DUCK UNDER UNDER WHICH WE DID NOT DUCK. THIS MARKED THE END OF THE CAVE FOR US THAT DAY.

WE THEN JUST TOOK A LOOK AT ONESQUETHAW WHICH WAS FOUND TO HAVE A SMALL STREAM (YES, THERE WAS WATER IN IT--REMEMBER, HANK'S TRIP!) FLOWING INTO IT. AFTER CHECKING ON ONESQUETHAW WE PROCEEDED TO THATCHER PARK TO SHOW CLIFFORD THE SURROUNDING COUNTRYSIDE AND THE CLIFFS, WATERFALLS, ETC. ALL THE WHILE WE WERE PLODDING ABOUT THE PARK, A MEMBER OF THE PARK KOP KORE (CORPS) KEPT US UNDER CAREFUL OBSERVATION--HE MUST HAVE THOUGHT THAT WE WERE OUTING CLUBBERS, OR SOMETHING! IT WAS A GREAT TRIP; WE GOT BACK TO TROY AT ABOUT 1800HRS.

HANK CHARY

THE REAL NAME OF THE FAMOUS INDIAN CHIEF POWHATAN, WAS WAHUNSONACOOK. THERE ARE NOW MORE THAN 800,000 CARS IN YUGOSLAVIA IN CONTRAST TO ONLY 90,000 SIX YEARS AGO. ACCORDING TO MARINE BIOLOGISTS, FISH CACKLE, YOVL, BARK, GROAN, HONK, SNORE AND WHEEZE. THE LITTLE AMERICAN BOX TURTLE MAY LIVE AS LONG AS 120 YEARS.



## A TRIP TO KNOX-OR-HE'S A TRIP LEADER?

A TRIP WAS SCHEDULED TO LEAVE FOR KNOX CAVE ON FRIDAY, APRIL 9, AT 6:30 PM. HOWEVER, DUE TO CIRCUMSTANCES BEYOND SOMEONE'S CONTROL, OUR DRIVER AND TRIP LEADER, VIC BAKER, DID NOT ARRIVE EXACTLY ON TIME. AFTER HE FINALLY SHOWED UP, WE PUT OUR GEAR INTO THE CAR AND HEADED FOR THE CAVE. THE TRIP WAS NOT TOO RAPID, BECAUSE THE CAR HAD PRACTICALLY NO GAS AND WE SOON STOPPED TO GET SOME. THEN VIC TOLD US THAT HE HADN'T EATEN, SO WE STOPPED AT A CARROLL'S STAND; AFTER SEEING THE AMOUNT OF FOOD WE ATE, I QUESTIONED WHETHER OR NOT ANYONE HAD EATEN SUPPER.

FINALLY, AT ABOUT 9 PM WE ARRIVED AT THE CAVE. THREE OF US HAD NEVER BEEN IN THE CAVE BEFORE, BUT VIC HAD ASSURED US THAT IT WAS A DRY CAVE. WE RATHER DOUBTED THIS WHEN HE PUT ON SOME SORT OF RUBBER COVERALLS. WHEN WE APPROACHED THE CAVE ENTRANCE, WE SAW THAT THERE WAS A SMALL HOLE THAT HAD BEEN CHOPPED IN THE ICE SO THAT ONE COULD ENTER THE CAVE. AFTER SECURING TWO ROPES ON THE OUTSIDE, THE FIVE OF US LOWERED OURSELVES INTO THE CAVE.

AT THIS TIME WE PROCEEDED TO THE LARGE CAVERNS. THERE WE LOOKED AROUND FOR A FEW MINUTES BEFORE PREPARING TO ENTER THE MAIN PART OF THE CAVE. HAVING HEARD ABOUT THE ALMIGHTY CARBIDE LAMPS, I EXPECTED ALMOST ANYTHING. WE GOT ONE OF THEM STARTED RATHER QUICKLY, BUT VIC WAS NOT AS LUCKY WITH HIS. HE GOT A RATHER NICE FLAME QUITE A FEW TIMES, BUT IT ONLY LASTED FOR ABOUT TEN SECONDS AT A TIME. WHEN HE REALIZED THAT HE WOULD NOT BE ABLE TO GET HIS LAMP GOING, VIC TOOK THE ONE THAT WAS WORKING, WHICH HAPPENED TO BE HIS ROOMMATE'S.

NOW WE PROCEEDED TO THE GUN BARREL, OR AT LEAST WE THOUGHT WE WERE. IT SEEMS THAT VIC TOOK A WRONG TURN AT ONE POINT. HE STARTED INTO ONE HOLE WHICH HE THOUGHT WAS THE GUN BARREL, BUT WHEN HE GOT ABOUT TEN FEET HE SAW THAT THERE WAS NOTHING BUT MUD AHEAD OF HIM, SO HE RETREATED.

WE THEN TURNED BACK AND SOON FOUND THE REAL GUN BARREL. SINCE SOME OF US HAD NEVER BEEN THROUGH IT BEFORE, IT TOOK QUITE A LONG TIME BEFORE ALL OF US HAD MADE THE TRIP. IT SEEMS THAT ON HIS TRIP THROUGH THE BARREL, VIC HAD LOST THE TIP TO HIS CARBIDE LAMP. ONE OF THE GUYS SAW IT IN THE BARREL, BUT BY THE TIME VIC HOLLERED BACK AND TOLD US WHAT HE HAD LOST, WE HAD ALREADY PASSED IT AND NO ONE HAD PICKED IT UP.

AFTER ENCOUNTERING ALL OF THESE SITUATIONS AND SURVIVING, WE HEADED FOR THE ALABASTER ROOM. AT ONE POINT IT BECAME NECESSARY TO CHIMNEY UP AROUND A POINT OR ELSE GO THROUGH A SMALL HOLE. THE EXPERIENCED GUYS CHIMNEYED AROUND THE PLACE, WHILE THE REST OF US TRIED TO GO THROUGH THE HOLE. WE HAD ANOTHER PROBLEM WHEN ONE OF THE GUYS DIDN'T FIT THROUGH THE HOLE. VIC TOLD HIM HOW TO CHIMNEY AROUND THE POINT SO THAT HE WOULD BE ABLE TO PROCEED.

NOW WE PROCEEDED WITHOUT ANY FURTHER INCIDENTS TO THE ALABASTER ROOM. WHEN WE ARRIVED THERE, VIC LOOKED AROUND FOR THE LEGENDARY PASSAGE INTO SKULL CAVE, BUT COULDN'T FIND IT. AFTER RESTING FOR ABOUT FIFTEEN MINUTES, WE STARTED BACK. TWO GUYS FOLLOWED THE LOWER PASSAGE, WHILE THREE OF US USED THE UPPER PASSAGE. WHEN WE ARRIVED BACK AT THE SMALL HOLE, RON POLLOCK, THE ONE WHO COULDN'T COME UP THROUGH THE HOLE, WAS ABLE TO GET DOWN THROUGH IT.

SINCE WE HAD BEEN IN THE CAVE FOR A LONG TIME, WE DECIDED THAT MAYBE IT WOULD BE BEST IF WE HEADED BACK FOR TROY. ON THE WAY BACK THROUGH THE GUN BARREL, I GUESS VIC PICKED UP THE TIP THAT HE HAD LOST EARLIER.

THE FIRST TWO PEOPLE THROUGH THE GUN BARREL WENT INTO THE LARGE CAVERN WHERE WE HAD LEFT OUR EQUIPMENT. THE LAST THREE GUYS WENT TO THE CAVE ENTRANCE, WHERE WE PROCEEDED TO CHOP STEPS IN THE ICE TO MAKE IT EASIER TO GET OUT.

WELL, VIC DECIDED TO GO OUT FIRST. WHEN HE REACHED THE SMALL OPENING IN THE ICE, HE PLACED A CARBIDE LAMP ON A FLAT PORTION OF THE ICE SO THAT HE COULD SEE SOMETHING.. ONCE AGAIN THOUGH, VIC HAD HIS TROUBLES. WHEN HE STARTED OUT THE OPENING, VIC KICKED HIS LAMP, SO IT SLID DOWN THE ICE AND LANDED IN A WATER PUDDLE. AFTER THIS WE ALL GOT OUT OF THE CAVE, PICKED UP OUR EQUIPMENT, CHANGED CLOTHES, AND HEADED FOR TROY.

ON THE WAY BACK, WE STOPPED AT ONE OF MIKE'S SUBMARINE SHOPS. FOUR OF US WENT IN, AND WE ALL LOOKED RATHER GRUBBY. TWO OF THE GUYS WERE IN THEIR BARE FEET, AND WE GOT A RATHER ODD LOOK FROM THE MAN WHO WAS WORKING THERE. IF HE THOUGHT WE LOOKED BAD, HE SHOULD HAVE SEEN THE GUY WHO STAYED IN THE CAR--HE COULDN'T GET ONE OF HIS SNEAKERS OFF, SO HE WAS WEARING ONE SNEAKER AND ONE SHOE.

BOB JUDD

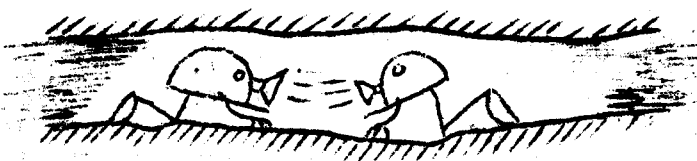
THE EUCALYPTUS TREE GROWS FASTER THAN ALMOST ANY OTHER TREE. VISIBILITY RANGE FROM THE SUMMIT OF PIKE'S PEAK IS SOME 125 MILES EASTWARD AND WESTWARD.

HERE IS A LIST OF THE PRESENT ROC ACTIVITIES CHAIRMEN, AS APPOINTED BY THE ROC EXECUTIVE COUNCIL AT ITS MEETING OF 7 MARCH 1965:

|                         |                  |
|-------------------------|------------------|
| ROCK CLIMBING           | OPEN             |
| WINTER MOUNTAINEERING   | WAYNE TAFT       |
| CYCLING                 | RICHARD FURHMAN  |
| HIKING AND PEAK BAGGING | VIC BAKER        |
| CAVING                  | HANK CHARY       |
| SKIING                  | GEORGE MACDONALD |
| PUBLICITY               | RICHARD ANDREWS  |
| SQUARE DANCING          | RICHARD FURHMAN  |
| EQUIPMENT               | DICK STETSON     |
| CANOEING                | ERIC DURLAND     |
| FILING                  | LEE MITCHELL     |

THE CAVING CONTINGENT OF THE ROC IS CONSIDERING MARKETING A DEHYDRATED MUD FOR THOSE CAVERS WHO INSIST ON WASHING THEIR CAVING CLOTHES AND YET ARE ASHAMED TO SHOW UP AT CAVING FUNCTIONS LOOKING TOO CLEAN. SIMPLY ADD WATER TO OUR DEHYDRATED MUD AND PRESTO YOUR CAVING GEAR ONCE AGAIN ASSUMES A MORE NORMAL APPEARANCE. PLEASE LET US KNOW IF YOU WOULD FIND SUCH A PRODUCT USEFUL.

THE WORLD'S WIND SYSTEM REACHES UP SOME 22 MILES.





U. MASS. AND MT. HOLYOKE SQUARE DANCE.

HOW I LEARNED TO STOP WORRYING AND LOVE CLEAN ICY STREAMS.

ON MARCH 12 THE FIRST PART OF THE R.O.C. CONTINGENT CONSISTING OF DAVE RAYMOND, GEORGE MACDONALD AND MYSELF GOT OFF TO A LATE AFTERNOON START IN ORDER TO PARTICIPATE IN THE FRIDAY EVENING FESTIVITIES AT THE UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS IN AMHERST. A SHORT STOP IN SOUTH HADLEY TO GET JEAN TAYLOR OF THE MHOC AND THEN TO U. MASS.

WHEN WE ARRIVED THE INFORMAL DANCE WAS IN FULL SWING AND SO WE JOINED RIGHT IN. AFTER DANCING FOR MOST OF THE EVENING A FEW OF US LUCKY ONES CORNERED PETE LQUNSBURY OF U. MASS. WHO WAS RUNNING THE WHITE WATER CANOE TRIP ON SATURDAY. AFTER A FEW QUICK ARRANGEMENTS AND RE-ARRANGEMENTS OF THE TRIP LIST PETE FOUND ROOM FOR THREE OF US. A SHORT WHILE LATER THE DANCE BROKE UP AND AFTER A QUICK TRIP TO SOUTH HADLEY TO LET JEAN OFF WE HEADED TO THE HOLYOKE CADIN.

WHEN WE ARRIVED AT THE CADIN EVERYTHING WAS FINE EXCEPT ONE MINOR THING, THE KEY CONTAINED IN BOB STARR'S POCKET HAD NOT ARRIVED. ONCE BOB ARRIVED, THINGS STARTED HAPPENING. WITHIN TEN MINUTES THE CABIN WAS AN ABSOLUTE JUNGLE OF DISORGANIZED COTS, PACKS, SLEEPING BAGS AND PEOPLE WITH MORE ARRIVING EVERY MINUTE. THE CRUSH BECAME TOO GREAT FOR SOME SO THEY WISELY DECIDED TO SLEEP OUTSIDE. AFTER 45 MINUTES OF CONFUSION THINGS SETTLED DOWN TO A LOW RUMBLE SO WE ALL SACKED OUT.

AT SEVEN SATURDAY MORNING DAVE AND I WERE AGAIN ON OUR WAY TO HOLYOKE TO GET JEAN AND SOME BREAKFAST. THEN IT WAS OFF TO MARLBORO, CONNECTICUT AND THE SALMON RIVER. ON THE WAY WE PASSED SEVERAL CARLOADS OF CANOES HEADING IN THE SAME DIRECTION AND WONDERED IF THEY WERE ALSO DOING THE SALMON. AS IT TURNED OUT, IT WAS THE REST OF THE GROUP FROM THE AMC THAT WAS ACCOMPANYING US. THE GROUP FORMED IN MARLBORO AND THEN WE HEADED DOWN TO THE RIVER TO UNLOAD THE CANOES AND CHECK OUT THE EQUIPMENT. THE DRIVERS THEN LEFT IN ORDER TO LOCATE THE RECOVERY CARS DOWNSTREAM. BY 11:00 O'CLOCK WE FOUND OURSELVES ON THE RIVER IN TWO GROUPS OF FIVE CANOES EACH. THE RELATIVELY EASY PACE OF THE RIVER ALLOWED ALL OF THE BEGINNERS ON THE TRIP TO PRACTICE A LOT OF BASIC TECHNIQUES.

AFTER AN HOUR OF TRAVEL WE ROUNDED A SHARP BEND AND SAW THE CLEAR WATER TURN INTO A MUDDY ORANGE. THE POLLUTION FROM A NEWLY BUILT PAPER PULP FACTORY CONTAMINATING THE ENTIRE RIVER. NEVER ONCE IN THE REST OF THE TRIP DID WE SEE ANY FISH NOR DID THE DILUTION FROM COUNTLESS OTHER STREAMS REMOVE THE COLOUR FROM THE WATER. ANOTHER RIVER IS RUINED.

PETE AND I HAD AN UNEVENTFUL TRIP UNTIL THE CANOE IN FRONT OF US BROACHED IN A SMALL CHUTE. IN ORDER TO AVOID HITTING THEM BROADSIDE WE WERE ALSO FORCED TO BROACH. NOW I DON'T MIND CAPSIZING BUT STEPPING OFF A NICE DRY (SLIGHTLY LEAKY) CANOE INTO A FOUR FOOT DEEP CHUTE ISN'T MY IDEA OF FUN. AFTER PICKING THE FRONT CANOE UP OFF THE ROCK AND SETTING IT BACK IN THE WATER (WITH PEOPLE STILL IN IT) I CLIMBED BACK TO THE BANK AND SHIVERED. CERTAIN AREAS OF THE RIVER STILL HAD THAWING ICE ON IT. PETE MANAGED TO GET ALMOST AS WET PULLING OUR CANOE OVER TO THE BANK. WE SET OUT AGAIN AND IN SHORT ORDER REACHED THE RECOVERY CARS. AT JUGGLING OF CARS ENSUED, THE CANOES WERE THEN PICKED UP AND AFTER A CHANGE TO DRY CLOTHES WE HEADED BACK TO U. MASS.

IN OUR ABSENCE THE NUMBER OF RED SHIRTS HAD INCREASED BY TWO CARLOADS AND A FINE TIME WAS HAD BY ALL AT THE SQUARE DANCE AND SONG FEST. U. MASS. IS TO BE COMPLIMENTED ON THEIR EXCELLENT MAPLE SAP PUNCH AND EXTENSIVE RESERVE SUPPLY OF COOKIES. AT THIS TIME I MIGHT MENTION ONE OF THE SLICKEST EXAMPLES OF TROPHY ACQUISITION I HAVE EVER SEEN. IT SEEMS



THAT A YALE OC FLAG WAS ATTACHED TO A BACKBOARD FOR BASKETBALL IN THE GYM WHERE THE DANCE WAS HELD. PETER CATELLI SEEING IT UNGUARDED TOOK ADVANTAGE OF THE SITUATION AND CAUGHT THE YOC BY SUPRISE. PETER JUMPED UP AND THEN PULLED HIMSELF UP INTO THE PIPE NETWORK SUPPORTING THE BACKBOARD. HE THEN CALMLY SAT DOWN ON THE PIPES FIFTEEN FEET IN THE AIR, REACHED OVER THE FRONT OF THE BOARD AND DEFTLY REMOVED THE FLAG. AFTER FOLDING THE FLAG HE ROLLED DOWN THE MUKLUKS HE WAS WEARING, WRAPPED THE FLAG AROUND HIS LEG, ROLLED THE MUKLUK BACK UP AND TIED IT. HE THEN JUMPED DOWN AND SWIFTLY DEPARTED LEAVING NO LOOSE ENDS FOR ANYONE TO GRAB.

MY CAR CAME BACK TO TROY THAT NIGHT WITH THE REST OF THE R.O.C. STAYING OVERNIGHT IN A CABIN AT U. MASS. AND THEN COMING BACK SUNDAY MORNING. IT WAS AN EXCELLENT WEEKEND.

OH, ABOUT HOW TO STOP WORRYING ABOUT GETTING WET; SIMPLE; JUMP IN THE WATER BEFORE YOU START THE TRIP.



SMOKEY

IN MODERN FARMS, COWS ARE NOT CONFINED TO STANCHIONS BUT ARE FREE TO ROAM IN A LARGE OPEN SHED CALLED A LOAFING OR LOUNGING BARN.

#### ELDON'S AT EASTER TIME

YES, ITS TRUE--HANK LEAD ANOTHER CAVING TRIP BEFORE HE MANAGED TO PUT OUT THIS ISSUE OF THE CAIRN (IT'S AMAZING WHAT A CAIRN EDITOR WILL DO TO GET STORIES, EVEN IF HE HAS TO WRITE THEM HIMSELF). THIS TIME THE TRIP LEFT FROM NORTHAMPTON, MASS., HOME OF SMITH COLLEGE. IT SEEMS THAT FOR SOME NOT EXACTLY UNKNOWN REASON HANK WAS OUT AT SMITH. WITH HIM WAS ANOTHER REPRESENTATIVE OF THE R.O.C., DICK ANDREWS. IT WAS DECIDED BEFORE HANK HAD LEFT FOR NORTHAMPTON THAT HE WAS GOING TO LEAD A TRIP. AS A MATTER OF FACT, I THINK HE DREAMED UP THE IDEA HIMSELF.

WELL, ANYWAY--ON SUNDAY 18 APRIL 1965, EASTER SUNDAY, AFTER HAVING DINNER AT SMITH, THE TRIP BEGAN TO TAKE SHAPE, SLOWLY--HANK AND DICK SUDDENLY DISAPPEARED FOR A FEW MINUTES AND WHEN THEY REAPPEARED THEY WERE NO LONGER DRESSED IN TIE AND JACKETS BUT IN PRE-CAVING GEAR. THE FEMALE COMPONENTS OF THIS GRAND EXPEDITION WERE NOT QUITE AS RAPID IN PREPARING TO DEPART. BUT AFTER SUFFICIENT WAITING HAD BEEN DONE BY DICK AND HANK, FAY KENNARD, BARBARA HAZEN, AND DEBBIE STONE MANAGED TO GET READY TO LEAVE TOO. WE LEFT FOR ELDON'S CAVE IN THE MIDDLE OF THE AFTERNOON. WELL, THIS EASTER PROVED TO BE A WHITE ONE AS WE WEREN'T FAR OUT OF NORTHAMPTON BEFORE IT BEGAN TO SNOW.

WHEN WE ARRIVED AT THE CAVE THE SNOW WAS STILL COMING DOWN. OUT AT THE SINK HANK DETERMINED THAT THE CAVE WOULD BE WET (IE. THERE WAS WATER RUNNING DOWN THE STREAM BED INTO THE CAVE. THIS USUALLY INDICATES A POSSIBILITY OF MOISTURE IN THE CAVE).

WELL, DISPIE HANK'S WARNINGS ABOUT GETTING WET, SOON THE PARTY WAS READY TO DESCEND INTO THE DAMP DARKNESS OF NEW ENGLAND'S MOST BEAUTIFUL CAVE. AS SHE WAS ABOUT TO ENTER THE CAVE, BARBARA SUDDENLY HAD SECOND THOUGHTS AND EVEN THIRD THOUGHTS AND DECIDED AGAINST GOING CAVING THAT DAY. SO WHILE DICK AND BARBARA STAYED OUTSIDE AND TRIED TO STAY WARM AND DRY IN THE SNOW, HANK, FAY, AND DEBBIE PROCEEDED INTO THE CAVE. HANK, HAVING BEEN IN THE CAVE BEFORE, MORE OR LESS, MOSTLY LESS, KNEW WHERE TO GO TO STAY DRIEST. THE GIRLS, HOWEVER, SOON FOUND OUT THAT

COLD CAVE WATER CAN MAKE FOR COLD FEET--ESPECIALLY IF YOU WEAR SNEAKERS. WELL, THE GIRLS FOUND THE PART OF THE CAVE VISITED QUITE INTERESTING. THE CAVE IS CARVED OUT OF BLACK AND WHITE MARBLE AND SOME OF THE COLOURED SWIRLES AND BANDS ARE MOST BEAUTIFUL. SOON, HOWEVER, JUST PAST THE FIRST SIDE PASSAGE IT LOOKED AS IF FEARLESS LEADER CHARY WOULD HAVE TO GET WET IF THE PARTY WAS TO PROCEED FURTHER. THEY DIDN'T.

AS THE PARTY EGRESSED INTO THE COLD, DULL, GRAY DAYLIGHT OF A SNOWY EASTER, WE WERE JUST IN TIME TO SEE DICK AND BARBARA HEAD OFF FOR THE CAR AS DICK HAD JBT FINISHED CHANGING OUT OF HIS WET COVERALLS AFTER CHASING AFTER HANK TRYING TO FIND OUT WHERE HE HAD LEFT HIS CAR KEYS. HANK HAD MANAGED TO GET THROUGH THE CAVE GETTING ONLY HIS KNEES AND ONE HAND WET--NOT BAD CONSIDERING SOME OF HIS PAST PERFORMANCES. IT WAS A GOOD TRIP AS FUN WAS HAD BY ALL.

  
HANK CHARY

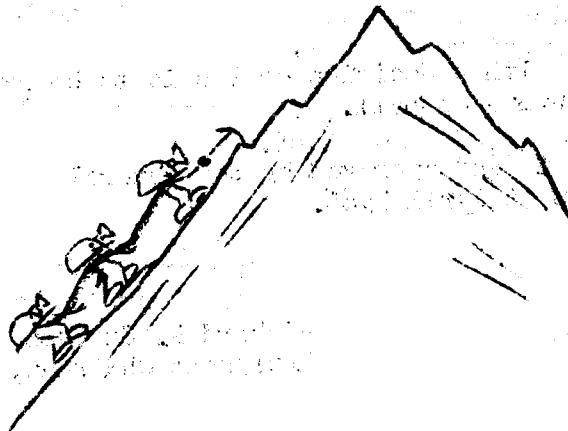
#### MISCELLANY:

WHILE I HAVE BEEN WORKING ON THIS ISSUE OF THE CAIRN, I HAVE FOUND IT TO BE QUITE AMUSING THAT MANY OF THE ROCK AND MOUNTAIN CLIMBERS OF THE R.O.C., WHO HAVE SEEN PARTS OF THIS CAIRN IN ITS PREPARATORY STAGES, HAVE COMPLAINED ABOUT THE APPARENT EXCESS OF SPELEOLOGICAL ARTICLES AND OTHER CAVING MISCELLANY TO BE FOUND IN THIS ISSUE OF THE CAIRN. WELL, LET ME SAY THIS: IF THOSE WHO DESIRE TO SEE OTHER ARTICLES TAKE PRECEDENCE AND MOVE AHEAD IN NUMBER IN FUTURE ISSUES OF THE CAIRN WOULD ONLY WRITE ARTICLES ON THEIR FAVORITE SUBJECTS AND SUBMIT THEM TO ME, I WOULD GLADLY PUBLISH THEM. BUT AS I HAVE SAID BEFORE, IF I DO NOT RECEIVE ARTICLES FROM OTHERS I WILL SEE TO IT THAT A SPELEOLOGICAL CAIRN WILL BE PUBLISHED.

AS THE SUMMER APPROACHES AND MORE AND MORE PEOPLE TAKE TO THE OUT-OF-DOORS FOR RECREATION, MAY I ASK ALL OF YOU TO USE YOUR INFLUENCE, WHATEVER IT MAY BE, TO HELP PRESERVE THE NATURAL BEAUTY OF THIS LAND, WE ARE PRESENTLY ABOUT TO EMBARK ON ANOTHER SUMMER WHICH PROMISES TO BE PLAGUED WITH DRINESS AND FOREST FIRES, ETC. LET US ALL DO OUR BEST TO HELP KEEP THESE DEVASTATING FORCES IN CHECK.

HAPPY OUTING!

HAC



Equipment Policy of the Rensselaer Outing Club

- 1) The equipment chairman shall be general custodian of the equipment of the ROC and will have charge of the care and loaning of all equipment, except as follows:
  - A) He may not loan equipment to be used for spelunking, rock-climbing, canoeing, or winter mountaineering without the express permission of the chairman or a class "A" leader of that activity.
  - B) Chairman of spelunking, rockclimbing, and canoeing will be responsible for the maintenance of equipment used in their respective activities.
- 2) Equipment belonging to the club shall be loaned only to members. The equipment chairman may make exceptions.
- 3) All equipment must be returned CLEAN!!!!
- 4) All equipment must be returned at the first opportunity!
- 5) Any member who keeps equipment out for excessively long periods of time may be denied the right to borrow equipment by the equipment chairman.
- 6) Any member who abuses equipment may be ~~denied~~ denied the right to borrow equipment by the equipment chairman.
- 7) In general when a shortage of equipment arises new members will be issued equipment first. Patch members will be considered old members.
- 8) Small fees for damage caused through negligence may be set by the equipment chairman. Small fees are less than or equal to ten (10) dollars.
- 9) Large damage or replacement fees will be determined by the executive council in accordance with the following policy.
  - A) If the damage or loss can be determined to be accidental, then the member involved will be under no obligation to the club, but should, if possible, aid in the repair or replacement of the item involved.
  - B) If the damage or loss can be determined to be through negligence, then the executive council will determine payment of fees.
- 10) Any dissatisfaction with a decision or fee is to be expressed in writing to the executive council.

Submitted to and approved by the general membership, 6 April 1965.

Richard M. Stetson  
Equipment Chairman, R.O.C.