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Cat Tracks

Bates Outing Club

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Cat Tracks

of the Bates Outing Club

Editor: Sue Gangemi

Issue I

March, 1967

From Our President....

I was up on the St. John when I had one of those moods. You know, couldn't care what I did. Nothing seemed to have any reason or purpose. One of the Indian guides saw me moping and listened patiently to my mutterings.

He talked me into going canoeing on the river. Taking me to the bottom of a set of difficult rapids, he told me to pole my way up them. A challenge it was, so I went after it. After fifteen minutes of work probing the rapids, I finally made my way up them. Landing the canoe next to a large rock where the Indian was sitting, I waited for him to say something. He remained perfectly still for almost five minutes when I finally said, "So, what's that got to do with my problem?"

"How did you get up the rapids?"

"I poled."

"Would you have made it if you hadn't put everything into it?"

"No, don't suppose I would have."

"Why are you so pleased now?"

"Because I made it up."

"Isn't the pleasure you get out of it equal to the work you put into it?"

"Guess so. So?"

Picking up the canoe and setting it on his shoulders he walked back to camp mumbling something about the river of life.

Jim Downing

Publicity: Al Howard and Jane Woodcock

New Members

This year's freshmen all have a noticeable enthusiastic air about them. Massachusetts seems to be the best represented with six of the twelve coming from that State. New Jersey is next with two, followed by New York, Maine, Connecticut, and Washington, D.C. with one each.

Sue Gangemi is one of the ones from Massachusetts, hailing from Canton. She also has the dubious distinction of being this year's Cat Tracks editor - !

Linda Halleck is our Connecticut representative - from Stamford and most of the time she can be found in the Equipment Room repairing and reconstructing things like snowshoes.

Gretchen Holzhauer, who comes from Thornwood, N.Y. can also be found in the Equipment Room, possibly because she is co-director of it !!

Dottie Kinraide is another Massachusetts-ite who can be found most anywhere she is needed and finds skiing and Hickories right up her alley.

Sally Smith is one of the two from New Jersey - Demarest - and she has been appointed Scrapbook Girl.

Dottie Thompson, who comes from Danvers, Massachusetts, is bulletin board girl, a skier, and a willing assistant for anything that comes her way.

Steve Andrick, a Stoneham, Massachusetts resident, enjoys outdoor sports and is a promising ice fisherman.

Dave Baker, another Massachusetts-ite, from Braintree, is an avid sportsman and is on the track team.

Bruce Bates our only freshman Mainiac, is our official fireman, who has, at this point, only smoked us out two times.

Bob Janson, who hails from Buzzards Bay, Massachusetts, is an outdoorsman who enjoys skiing, snowshoeing, and mountain climbing.

John Klick, from Washington, D.D., is one of our enthusiastic members from Smith North and is Patchman of the year.

Richard Poole, who has represented WRJR faithfully all year is our second representative from New Jersey and he has been appointed Parliamentarian to help the Council in and out of the finer points of Robert's Rules.

Faith Ford

Director's Reports

Hikes and Trips

With a fresh saeson ahead, the new Hikes and Trips directors are looking forward to another year of exciting conquests, thrilling adventures, nervous frustration and maybe not so much financial

disaster in the true Batesie tradition. As a starter we will attempt the traditional Tuckerman Ravine climb. Then there is nothing planned until the fall when there is a crowded schedule of canoe trips, mountain climbs, beach walks and perhaps a few fishing trips. Some of the mountains which we are considering are: Chocorua, Old Speck, Washington, McKinley (the north face) and perhaps some of the hills in Acadia National Park. With a little luck and no chaperone problems we should have a good year.

Tim Reed

Cabins and Trails Report

The baton safely planted in my hands and those of my capable co-director, we start off on our uphill leg of the never ending race to maintain cabins and trails.

Sabattus will go without a new table, ladder, and repaired chimney until next fall, but Thorncrag is less fortunate. The Saturday of April 8 will see the isolated, now four sided cabin boarded up, a No Trespassing PLEASE sign put up, and all rubbish and fallen boards removed. Section 22 is still not fully painted and will be done either this short term, this summer by Steve and myself or on one of our many annex trips next fall. The A.T. conference, as usual, comes Sunday, April 16, during finals - all are welcome.

For five wonderful, mentally relaxing but physically taxing days next fall from September 1-5, Cabins and Trails is running, or being run by, the annual fall work trip. Section 20 will be covered and will be finished! Do you hear that Mr. Weatherman? The location of this section is along Sabbath Day Pond and is quiet scenic. All council members are invited to the gala event as is T.P. and his wife.

As a final note to Bruce and Judy, I for one feel that even after many rainfilled work trips, annex trips, and delayed council votes, they did some of the initiating of new ideas that was long needed. Hopefully, Meg and I can be the brawn to carry out these ideas.

Colin M. Fuller

Hickories

Skiing Up A Storm !

Winter finally came to the wilds of Maine by mid-February and ever since the descent of those heavenly white flakes, Bates ski-enthusiasts have stormed the slopes! As the new Hickories directors, Steve and I were ecstatic with the record snowfall that came after the turn-over of officers. (I could make a comment about a fresh beginning, but I wouldn't want any connotations of disparagement so Steve has an in with the snow-maker!) Just the first week of our directorship brought at least a few inches of fresh powder every two days, not to mention the biggest blizzard of the winter.

Successful Sunday trips have been run to Sugarloaf and Saddleback.

The snow was excellent (only a few ice patches) and the tow lines were minimal. (By the way, if anyone happened to notice a bright streak flash down the slope, it was probably just ski-whiz Fuller, Reed or Searles.)

Our great endeavors to run a trip to Wildcat met good response from the skiing side of campus. Unfortunately, the ski conditions were not as ideal as the previous weekends, but I've been told that the Gondola ride and scenic view were worth the trip.

A downpour today seem to indicate the approach of spring - but there will be spring skiing as long as there is snow on the slopes!

Ellie Master

Equipment Room

There are gum drops in the candy jar instead of Canada mints but the Equipment Room is just the same. It will soon be time to buy a few new pieces of equipment and we welcome suggestions. A tandem bicycle was one of K.C.'s ideas. Bruce asked about maps.

The water-proof glue is flowing even though there are no canoes going out, thanks to some skiers. I want to put a new sign over the door which would say, "Snow Shoe Hospital." They are all relaxed and varnished. Just to please Steve P. we stopped renting ski poles a month ago.

There is just one small problem. WE'RE LONELY!! No one comes in much anymore just to talk, just to take things out. Remember what the sign says, "OPEN, come on in."

Grettee

Rental Rates at the Equipment Room

Skis, etc.

Deposit: Skis, boots, and poles - \$1.00
Deposit: Skis - \$1.00
Deposit: Boots - \$1.00
Rental Fees: Skis - \$.25
Rental Fees: Boots - \$.50

Toboggan

Deposit: \$1.00 - no rental fee

Bikes

Deposit: \$1.00
Rental Fee: \$.50 a day, \$.10 an afternoon

Hiking Boots

Deposit: \$1.00
Rental Fee: \$.50

On all equipment, the deposit is refunded when the equipment is returned. If something is returned late, there is a fine of \$.25 the first time and after that \$1.00

Sincerely your friend,
Al Howard

Tramways, T-Bars....and Trivia

March, 1967

Dear Friends

This letter was originally intended to be an article on the Bates College ski team, which indeed is included in this rambling missive. Up home in the winter the long afternoon dusk and early darkness used to be used for a game called 'snow snake' a combine o' bowlin', curlin', javelin' heavin' and bobsleddin', sorta. The object was to slide this stick or snake down an icy runway further than anyone else. Today I guess the snowsnake is the guy at them skiin' places that waits 'til a bunny comes by an then pounces on 'er from outta the shadows, especial when she is with someone else.

In case any o' you skiers been wonderin' where the H--- that new skiin' hill, Enchanted Mountain is, you just ain't looked far enough. It's in Jackman, up beyond Bingham. Tha's even beyond The Forks, ain't it Bruce? Same neck o' woods though.

Have you seen the moonlight photo of Katadn in the winter - she's a beautiful hill. If you wanta a good picture, lookit the one by Paul Knaut. It's been in Downeast. I don't know what them filmers from California call a'man for all seasons but this fella has got a candidate. Anyone who's visited Baxter Park an' seen Pamola or Baxter or South sleepin' in the snow or gleamin' in the sun I'm sure will agree with me that if ever a man gave a gift to men of all seasons it Percival Baxter. PERCY FER MAN O' THE YEAR.

I know, since most o' you go th the College that you've read the results of how our ski team did durin' the winter. Fools that we are, we sat on mountains all over Maine and New Hampshire just to push our way through the darndest forests o' sticks that you ever did see. I'd like to say that I think F. Kent Bradford and the rest o' the guys did a crackerjack job of representing the College. We now have friends at many mountains and in amny schools. Not all of the year's problems resulted from racing as such. Trivial problems such as forgotten U.S.E.A.S.A. cards, lost socks, helmets that never showed up, Sawyers Home for the Aged and the fact that we once too often forgot to tell Bill Cassidy that we were racing, a great season was accomplished and with marvelous improvement after only a year since the BOC started the whole thing we are hoping against hope (and others) that next year or the year after we'll be a real team. It was very nice of the BOC to help us closeout our campaign by providing the funds that we lacked to complete our season. Hope we see more O.C.ers at the meets next year, getting their money's worth.

I noticed a Gnomie the other day 'bout 4 or a quarter past high-tailin' it lickity-larrup down Bardwell Street like a ridin' hoss comin' outta one o' them frames at the racin' track. I found out the next day though that the trip home must be the only thing in his life that he hurries for. In fact, for hours I was sittin' an' watchin' him replace a window that got snowballed when all of a sudden he stopped, put down his puttyin' knife and hauled out his watch. "Mon Dieu!" he cried in a panic. "I had better hurry up and get this job done and get back to the Palace so's I will not be late for quittin' time."

Did you hear the rumor that Marty Engstrom has applied for a full professorship in Speech and Acting for 1967-68? He might also provide a staff weather man and snow dancer for Hickories.

Maine-ly your friend,
Al Howard

Nuggets For Hikes and Trips Directors

As a former Hikes and Trips Director of sorts, I have noticed that the difference between a successful trip and an unsuccessful trip often depends not on the fact that it rained for the entire trip as much as on the fact that we put mustard on the ham sandwiches. The difference between what we thought we were doing and what we were actually doing usually depended upon various and sundry bits of trivia that nobody ever talks about until after they are bungled. So I will now expound upon various bits of trivia that turned out to make a difference.

1. If for some reason you should be running a Mt. Washington Climb, don't ever send all the lunches up the Boot Spur unless you wish to be verbally crucified when you reach the top. In the first place, the Boot Spur Trail is a very long trail. In the second place, after having gaped at the people who have come up on the cog railway and having come to the realization that it is possible to drive up Mt. Washington (and what were they doing walking up), Bates students will begin to inquire about the food they were promised at the bottom. Where is the food? Answer: Halfway down the mountain on the Boot Spur Trail. The fact that the food consists of compressed peanut butter sandwiches and soggy pickles is irrelevant. People will henceforth remember the Mt. Washington Climb as that trip when they were on top and the lunches were somewhere else.

2. Some people like ham sandwiches with mustard; some people like ham sandwiches with mayonaise; nobody likes ham sandwiches with both.

3. When 15 people volunteer on Wednesday night to make lunches on Saturday, expect two. If you need three people, ask for 25 volunteers.

4. When the busdriver says, "Acadia? Where's that?", get out your map--you're going to need it.

5. On a mountain climb bring every canteen you can lay your hands on. It is also helpful to fill them with water: it is distressing to discover that you have carried six empty canteens up the mountain. There is no better place to realize that peanut butter sticks to the roof of your mouth than on a mountain climb with no water.

6. On a mountain climb everyone expects that it will rain (a fact they will be blaming on the directors), but nobody expects to fall in a brook. People are prepared to be wet from above, but nobody is prepared to be wet from below. Bring socks.

7. After you have assured people that the mountain climb will be back in time for supper, prepare a good excuse for the Sunday night when it doesn't. The rumor about sauer kraut and pastromi for supper in Commons is always a good pacifier.

8. Never believe the United States Weather Bureau.

9. Don't tell people the Outing Club canoes never tip over right after you have told them to wear clothes they wouldn't mind getting wet. "Man who stand in middle of road get hit by trucks going both ways."

Brent Costain

Dates to Remember

September 1-5: Work Trip to Section 20
also in September, Pompan Beach and
the Mount Washington Climb.
February 8-11: Carnival

Note on Carnival - Again this year, Carnival will be a joint effort
of all the organizations on campus with the Outing Club
coordinating it.

Editor: Sue Garwood

Issue I

March, 1957

Poem

A sunken ship, men afloat
Pieces of wood, taken to land
Alas an island, where is here?
Each apart, on his own
Ran and looked, ate and hid
Days passed on, no rescue seen
Tired were they, the island drab
Each a canoe, to no avail
Futile working separately
Now decided to work together
Make a boat and sail away
This they did so successful
After that they worked together
Much more pleasing, the easier way
Let us not become
Men on an island
But work together
From the start

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Jin Downing

Faith Ford

Director's Reports

Hikes and Trips

With a fresh season ahead, the new Hikes and Trips directors are
looking forward to another year of exciting conquests, thrilling
adventures, nervous frustration and maybe not so much financial