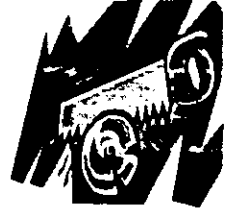




The Axe and Saw '97



Grove City College Outing Club Alumni Newsletter

Compiled by Co-Alumni Secretaries:

Corrie Mitchell and Max Hopkins



Note from the President...

What do you say to sum up a year's worth of activities and happenings. Outing Club is still alive and remaining healthy. Our previous president, Jason Cooper, graduated in December and joined the Navy. The club membership has decreased from the last couple of years, but the present members are active and committed.

Outing Club has become my second life here at school, next to my major. Every weekend, I am doing something with the club, be it running the concession stand last semester as V.P. (ugh!), or camping or anything else this semester. The cabin has become a home away from home, the perfect place to forget the stress of school, or just plain catch-up on sleep.

Nothing beats hiking through the moonlit woods at midnight, or sitting in front of the fire talking about ... machines? I think we need to get a few more non-engineers in the club.

Life begins when you leave campus and enter the wild world God has created.

Betsy Pluss '98
President

New Member Outing Jocelyn Andrel '99 (Secretary)

September eighth was a beautiful, sunny day, perfect for the New Member outing. Around 60 people turned out for an afternoon of hiking, fun and real food. When everyone arrived at the cabin, Jason Cooper, our president, gave a short speech about the basics of cabin usage and the Outing Club in general. Following that, two hikes were led down to the Allegheny river. One went down the Cascades and the other alternated between climbing and sliding down the bluffs. Once at the river, many people decided to go wading or swimming, or just socialize and enjoy the natural beauty around them. We hiked back to the cabin for a dinner of hot dogs, spaghetti, and plenty of junk food. A terrific time was had by all.

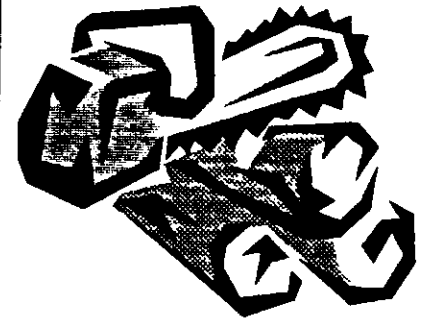
Pig Roast '96 Corrie Mitchell (Alum. Sec.)

On October 26, 1996 a dedicated group of Outing Club members prepared a large pig and many chickens for the annual pig roast. Members stayed up through the night rotating the pig (who remained nameless this year) and it's roasting buddies-the chickens. The light rain showers didn't hinder our success at making "one tasty pig." Jason Richwine thought a

potato would spice up the pig so he used his handy potato gun and shot the pig in the rear. Richwine was mighty proud upon finding the potato the next morning when we removed the meat from the bones.

The meal consisted of pork, chicken, mash potatoes (not from the pig's rear), corn, and apple, pumpkin, and cherry pie.

We had a full house this year. It was really packed. We hope to have as much fun next year.



January Work Outing Daniel Wiley '99 (Historian)

With the election of new officers, the Outing Club got off to a great start for the spring semester. Henry Limmer, the new cabin manager, led a work outing at the cabin where over twenty people were in attendance. Also, seven out of the ten new officers showed up to exercise their leadership, and to get some work done. Under Henry's expert supervision, the tools in the work room were organized, the heater in

the men's wing was made operable, and tons of wood was chopped.

Some of our more motivated freshman members, Megan Arzt and Bethany Smith took every single dish out of the cupboards and cleaned the mouse crap and any other crud off them. Jeremy Mekinnis, the new vice-president, and Brian Noftsier, the new treasurer, led the charge to cut and stack the wood. Our new president, Betsy Pluss organized the storage underneath the cabin, freeing up some much needed room and getting rid of a lot of unsightly junk.

Carved ham and perogie lasagna was the entree of choice for the evening, courtesy of former president Sarah Otto. Overall, it was an extremely productive work outing. A lot of work was accomplished, a bunch of outing club members were there, and we all had a great time.

Sledding Olympics

Betsy Pluss '98 (President)

After convincing Henry Limmer that a night at the cabin was much better than Saturday night on campus, a group of us went on a quest of the perfect sledding hill.

The cabin was our starting point. After many attempts, we ended in the gravel pit. Under a bright moon, we had a competition of who could go the farthest. At the tail end of the evening, Henry

and I flew past the record previously set by Sarah Otto and Dan Wiley. Can this record be beat?

Back at the cabin, we feasted on pizza, mountain pies and s'mores until 2am. In the bunk room, laughter continued as Max entertained us with his plethora of jokes.

The following day, after a feast of bacon and chocolate chunk pancakes, the competition continued. Sarah and Dan set a new record for doubles tubing while Henry held the record for singles. The style award went to Max Hopkins for his surfing ability.

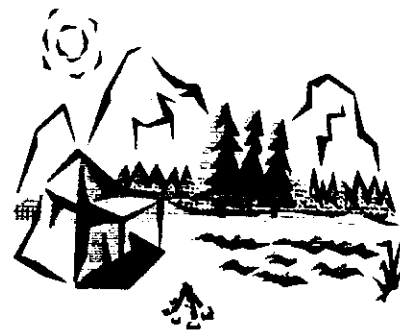
Late in the afternoon, we headed back to campus through the new fallen snow. Back to the books and the bubble (UGH!).

Square dancing

Andy Gaydos

On a cold, Saturday evening in February, Lee and a small group of six went square dancing near Sandy Lake. We were not very experienced, and hoped that we would be able to follow the caller well enough to have a good time. When we first arrived, the two guitarists and the accordion player played a couple of ballroom dancing-type tunes. Then we were told to assemble in groups of eight. We were soon at ease as the friendly couples pulled us this way and that as we learned to swing out partners and to do-si-do.

We learned a variety of square dances and everyone had a good time.



February Camping Trip

Daniel Wiley '99 (Historian)

It was the time of year when most boring people were settling down for a long winter's nap. Just the perfect time for a snowy Outing Club camping trip! After warning everybody thoroughly about the cold, the camping group ended up to be several very cool people, namely: Henry Limmer, Jason Richwine, Jeremy McKinnis, Betsy Pluss, Sarah Otto, and me. Our main objective was to get as far away from campus as we could. We ended up at Sarah's "secret" camping spot overlooking the Allegheny River.

Jason, Dan, and Henry instantly set to work finding dry wood and starting an aesthetically pleasing fire. Top honors in that department goes to Henry, who not only constructed the perfect fire,

but also used only one match the entire trip!

Sarah, Betsy, and Jeremy set up camp, making sure that there was plenty of snow packed under the tent to provide a good sleeping cushion. The rest of the evening was spent enjoying the fine steaks and baked potatoes (yes we know how to camp) and each other's company. Then next morning, we arose to sunshine and the realization that this fun was to be replaced by classes the next day. However, it is only a matter of time before we strike camp again!!

Ski Trip Gone Somewhat Awry

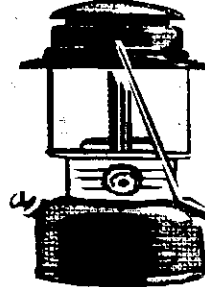
Corrie Mitchell '98 (Alum Sec.)

We planned to go to the lovely ski resort in New York called Holiday Valley with a group of at least 18 but ended up with a group of four. I was the only official Outing Club member there. Other members backed out because the weather was bleak. My three friends and I, however, were feeling quite adventurous and were more than ready to hit the slopes. The drive was a lovely 2 hours and 45 minutes but worth while. My two friends skied and Jeremy Brown (former OC member) and I used our snow boards. We skied/boarded for about six hours until the men on skidoos came zooming by,

signaling us to make our last run. We were all set to go down the last slope when I noticed a piece of my binding was missing. I am not talented enough to go down on one foot so Jeremy offered to take my board and let me use his to get down the slope. I thought for a second about his offer, but I couldn't let my chance to use my board as a sled and shoot down the mountain escape me.

I went about half way down the slope sitting between my two bindings but my board kept heading for the ditch on the right side of the run. I began walking down the slope and a skidoo guy came skidding up to me. He asked if I wanted a ride and I said sure. Being from good ole Oklahoma, I had never been on a snowmobile and did not want to miss my chance. I got on and he took off so fast I nearly flew off the back.

About a quarter of the way from the bottom of the slope a man stopped us and wanted the skidoo guy to give his daughter a ride down because she just could not ski any more. I saw my chance to get off and took it. I would rather slide down the hill on ice than ride with that crazy maniac. All in all, everyone had a good time. Thus concludes the February ski trip.



Return to Harlansburg Betsy Pluss '98 (President)

It was time to revisit a much talked about Outing Club location., the cave in Harlansburg. Two years ago was the last time this cave was visited. It is remembered for the mud and water.

The second weekend of April, three members climbed down into the cave with a desire to ruin cloths and get muddy. We were not disappointed. The day above ground was dark and rainy, so being in the dark and wet underground was more desirable.

Soon after leaving the cave mouth, any attempt to keep dry feet was abandoned. We plunged into puddles and sank into mud knee deep. As we traversed deeper into the maze, we learned not to stand in one place. If you stopped, you had to work 2 minutes before you could get your foot out of the mud, and hopefully your shoe was not left behind.

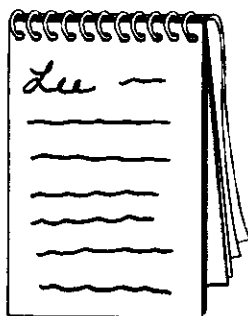
Although, not a weekend getaway to be advertised in *Vacation* magazine, the Harlansburg cave is the ideal

location to forget about the Bubble for a few hours.

Carwash-Our Last Attempt at a Work Outing

Corrie Mitchell '98 (Alum Sec.)

May third was the date of the club's last work outing of the semester. We thought a car wash at Pennzoil gas station (across from Grove City Factory Shops) would attract shoppers and GCC parents-since it was parent's weekend. The weather was very spastic, ominous and rainy at times and cheerfully sunny at others. But with the charm of Laura Otto, Andy Gaydos, Betsy Pluss, Jason Richwine, Megan Arzt (and her father and brother), and me, we convinced drivers to have their car washed even though it was going to rain. We even had a few people drive up when it was raining and request our service. In three hours we raised approximately \$80 purely by donations. We left a bit earlier than planned because of the rain and high winds, but overall the event was a success.



A Letter From Last Fall that Says it all . . .

As I complete the last semester of my long college career, I am thinking a lot about the people who made the "college experience" great. I have studied under terrific professors, and have enjoyed many great friendships. I met most of my closest friends from college through the Outing Club. These are the friends I will have for a lifetime. I could spend a long sunshiny day basking in my memories of great times with Outing Club friends. I hope to continue to make such memories.

One of the truly great friends I have discovered through years with the Outing Club is someone who has been with the club the whole time I have been there, and a lot longer. He is supportive, insightful, and honest. I have never heard him complain or say anything negative.

This man is the backbone of the Outing club. His knowledge and wisdom have given credibility to the whole group; and he is probably responsible for keeping the Outing club together. His humor and stories are well known by anyone who has spent time with him sitting in front of a worm stove in Canada (or accidentally resting his head on it). He also notices things the rest of us would probably miss. He notices natural beauty and loveliness of the soul.

When I was a very young faculty kid at a pig roast, I heard him talking about preserving the natural beauty around us, planting trees, and the dangers of gypsy moths. When visiting the cabin for afternoon hikes, I have often found Lee there working alone, and ready to share stories and knowledge about local history. Anyone who has been on a Canada trip knows about the sextant, the story of the girl who didn't really go through the ice, and about how many romances blossom from the Outing Club.

On behalf of the Outing Club, present members, and alumni, thank you Lee for all you do for us.

Sarah Otto '96.5

(Former President, VP, Alum Secretary, Cabin Manager)

Summer Cabin Usage

Lee McCoy (Alum. Pres.)

The use of the Outing Club cabin during the summer of 1997 will be the same as in the past years. During the summer months Outing Club alumni, Outing Club members, and faculty can use the cabin for a weekend or vacation free of charge. Reservations are made in the following order: Outing Club alumni have first choice, Active Outing Club members have second choice, college faculty have third choice, and then rental groups have fourth choice. If you stop by the cabin on a week day, the chance of someone

being there is small, but the weekends must be by reservation only. If you happen to reserve the cabin and someone in our Outing Club family stops by, remember it is a big cabin and make them welcome as you would any friend. Call or write to Lee McCoy for information on available dates and arrangements for keys.



Lee McCoy
247 Nicklin Road
Grove City, PA 16127
(412) 458-7003

Summer 1997 Canoe Trip

Lee McCoy (Alum. Pres.)

The Outing Club alumni will be taking a summer canoe trip in August. The trip is for Outing Club alumni, members, and friends. The trip will be to Algonquin Park in Ontario, Canada. If you are interested, contact Tom Morris at the following address or phone number. Tom has organized many summer and winter trips to Canada. If you can make this trip, wonderful. You should not miss this week long high adventure with Tom.



Tom Morris
1693 Second Street
Thorofare, NJ 08086-3087

(609) 848-6945

Proposed ATV Trail

Lee McCoy (Alum. Pres.)

The Pennsylvania bureau of forestry was considering establishing an ATV trail on the land in the Kennerdell area near our cabin. During the summer of 1996, several public hearings were held for all persons interested in the proposal. This included local landowners and user groups and anyone interested in how this beautiful and unique area should be used. Representatives from the U.S. Forest Service, PA Game Commission, and Bureau of Forestry were also present. In the fall, the Bureau of Forestry, through news releases, provided the opportunity for people to write the District Forester to express their views for or against the proposed ATV trail. Over six hundred people were in favor of the trail and less than one hundred against it. Much of the opposition came from Outing Club alumni. Our views ranged from no objection to the trail, depending on where it was put, to totally against it.

The Bureau of Forestry reached their final decision in December not to allow the development of an ATV trail, based their Environmental Impact Statement. This subject has been of great interest and concern to many people. Many of the views presented on both sides were well expressed and openly discussed at

great length. The gentleman who represented the ATV interest was a very concerned and responsible person. He has done a great deal of trail maintenance on his own in the area on the hiking trails.

I would like to thank all of you who took time to write, and send copies of your letters to me, expressing your concerns about the trail.

It was good to see both sides in agreement on the environmental uniqueness, frailty, and delicate nature of the whole area.

We will keep you posted on any future events or happenings on the ATV trail.

Alumni Mailing List

Lee McCoy (Alum. Pres.)

Our mailing list is constantly changing and we make every effort we can to keep it up to date. The mailing list is maintained by Tom Ronksley, our treasurer. If you have any new address changes or know of anyone who has moved and have their address, please send them to Tom. If you would like a copy of the latest mailing list, you can get one by sending \$2.00 to Tom for postage and handling at the address below:

Tom Ronksley
4946 Simmons Drive
Export, PA 15632
(412) 327-7214

Joint Student ~ Alumni ~ Friends Summer Outing August 8,9,10 1997

Pending any crisis projects, the plan this year is to rehab the kitchen and old warming room in the left wing.

Since the water damage two years ago, the kitchen, as a whole, has not been really cleaned top to bottom. We have also acquired the usual list of neat kitchen junk that needs to be sorted. Better storage of the extras (plates, bowls, spoons, etc.) needed for big events would reduce rewashing before use - add in some shelf paper and maybe new vinyl flooring-you get the picture. The usual grass, weeds, windows, floors, and road projects also never go away.

A good turnout, and we can probably get this done easily with lots of time for a hike or swim. We start setting up Friday and start early Saturday, and a little later on Sunday. Even a 4-5 hour commitment will help.

For those who no longer find the old mattresses and lack of hot water alluring, Marsh has found a nice, affordable Days Inn in Barkeyville at Rt. 8 and Interstate 80, but call early. It fills up fast.

No special tools are needed at this point except perhaps some rubber gloves and dish towels.

Meals will be available as noted below. If you have and special requests or want to bring something, let me know and we'll discuss the meal count.

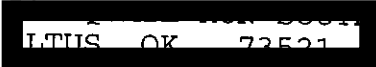
Thanks!

Mark (Alumni Cabin Manager)

Send correspondence and returns to:
Corrie E. Mitchell
4309 S. Butternut Ave.
Broken Arrow, OK 74011



MR MICHAEL P SMITH



73521>9793



Mark Place
134 East Bruceton Road
Pittsburgh, PA 15236

Voice Mail: 412/877-0050
Office: 412/892-2000
E-mail: mp306@aol.com

Meal times are guesstimates for ref. **Deadline Aug 5th please.**

Friday Dinner (7pm)	___	adults	___	kids under 10
Sat Breakfast (7am)	___	adults	___	kids under 10
Sat Lunch (12:30)	___	adults	___	kids under 10
Sat Dinner (6:30pm)	___	adults	___	kids under 10
Sun Breakfast (8am)	___	adults	___	kids under 10
Sun Lunch (12:30)	___	adults	___	kids under 10

We are continuing last years experiment that the Association will pick up the cost of the meals as a token of our thanks for pitching in.

Please note your meal and snack beverage preferences and any special requests.