
THE AXE AND SAW

Volume 64, Issue 1

Fall 2002

Grove City College Outing Club

<http://www.gccoc.org>

Jess Dalzell, Dean Schuttner and Alison Wade

A Note from the President:

I cannot believe how quickly the time has gone by...not just this semester, but all my years here at Grove City College. I can still remember the first real adventure with the outing club. I went snow camping with Dan Wiley, Megan Artz, and Cory Gibson. Snow camping is adventurous enough, but these three captured me to go camping the night before study day. Now that's adventurous for a freshman, and so much fun that I did it every semester there after. My four traditional years in the club were great – I got to travel, try out my hiking legs, my paddling arms, and my greatly expanded sense of adventure. And this semester has been more of the same. I got to extend my time in the active club through my ninth semester. It has been hard to see many clubbers join the ranks of the alumni, but it has been a joy to see the now current clubbers step up to the plate, take action, plan trips, and take the club to new places. It has been a wonderful semester.

The outing club still means all those things it meant to you, it's just a different year and a different order of events. And it's still the people and the great times they share together out at the cabin, on trips, and many other adventures. The money made at the football games, though very profitable, does not begin to match the value of the camaraderie and friendships built during these times.

I want to thank all the Outing clubbers, actives, and alumni who made my time in this tradition such a wonderful one. Thank you.

Erin Lyon '02

Caving in Harlansburg

September 7, 2002. 14 club members traveled out to Harlansburg for some spelunking action. It was a beautiful fall morning- not too cool and very sunny. We arrived at the mouth of the cave around 11 am. Staying in one large group, we moved at a decent pace through the cave. As always, everyone had a great time- especially the first time cavers. There was only one flashlight whose batteries died, and it was quickly replaced by an extra. The mud was once again plentiful and everyone exited the cave nice and brown. Fortunately there were no mishaps- only the usual minimal bumps and scratches. This trip will be made again!

Ben Grubb '04
Treasurer '02



New Member Outing 2002

On a warm, sunny Saturday, September 21 to be exact, clubbers new and old ventured out to the cabin for the New Member Outing. For freshmen

Wes Bell, Kate Buckwalter, Andrew Cramb and Lars Miller, this was their first official Outing. More first-time visitors to the cabin included juniors Im-Young Cha, Drew Johnson and Ji Won Lee. 'Old' members present included Jesse Helms, Sarah Martin, Matthew Myer, Jeremiah Otto (and his girlfriend Bonnie Buxton), Josh Poulette, Dean Schuttner and Alison Wade. Mike McElhaney, Tom Morris and Trent Denison represented the alumni. A surprise visitor was Jennifer Beam, '96, one-time roommate of Sarah Lang (formerly Otto).

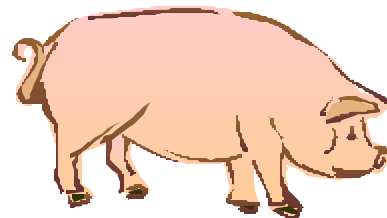
Upon arriving at the cabin, New Members got a tour of the facility, including basic instructions about how to light the lights and stoves, our methods of procuring firewood, how the water pump operates and where to look (the cabin manual) if they aren't able to figure something out. As Trent began cooking a Turkey by immersing it in 300+ degree peanut oil, club members took part in Plan B activities supervised by Tom as well as a hike down the cascades led by Dean. After eating the turkey (which was delicious), potatoes, corn, green beans and bread, most actives headed back to campus. For those that stayed, a midnight hike to the bluffs concluded the day. It was a good day.

Matthew Myer '03
Chaplain '02

Pig Roast

Once again the annual outing club pig roast was a huge success this year for the Faculty, Alumni and active club members. It took place the weekend of September 28th and 29th – two beautiful Fall days. The festivities actually started on Friday night when a few members (and a couple non-members) came over to my parents' house to bake the 30 pies. We had a great time with no major catastrophes. The next morning I woke up early and headed to Mercer to pick up a 150 lb. pig and a case of chickens. We started roasting the Pig around 1:00 on Saturday afternoon and took it off

of the fire around 2:00 on Sunday afternoon. It was cooked perfectly (it actually made it the whole way up to the recommended temperature this year).



Saturday evening was spent relaxing and fellowshiping with friends – this is generally the best part of the weekend. Throughout the night people stayed up to turn the pig and the chickens every 15 minutes to keep them from burning.

The meal itself mimicked last year. We had a canopy tent set up in the cabin's front yard with most of the tables underneath. Instead of serving all of the food to the guests, we had a buffet line which we found last year works very well and is a lot less work for us. In total, there were approximately 110 people there including the Faculty, Alumni and actives. I'm looking forward to coming back next year to enjoy the Pig Roast as an alumni.

Jeremiah Otto '03
Vice-President '02



*****BEGIN TRANSMISSION*****

Dean reporting, the Outing Club recently made a trip out to Crazy Dave's Paintball where 10 of us proceeded to shoot each other repeatedly. I was the only current active member in attendance; however the other 9 were all prospective freshman members. Paintballs flew thick and heavy as we repeatedly repelled the Huns, Viet Cong, Nazis, and every other potential bad guy throughout history. There were a few noteworthy war wounds such as the guy with the bleeding hand, shot 3 times in the same area. Then there was the game winning suicide run by

one of the freshman members. He ran end to end grabbing a flag with no gun and finished by diving head first to the enemies start point startling 3 enemies hiding at the start. All Guts and Glory, that was the theme of this outing. Dinner was pizza from dominoes and gallons of soda. All and all an excellent outing and a good time for the new guys who, and I quote "I am definitely joining the Outing Club." *Krrrcckkk....psstt...we've got tangos all over the place we need immediate fire support!, Dean come in!!* Well sounds like I'm needed back on the line*kkrrrrkkk....Dean over and out****

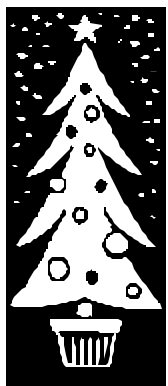
*****END TRANSMISSION*****

Dean Schuttner '04
 Alumni Secretary '02

Christmas Party

Saturday, December 7, 2002, dawned bright and sunny. Snow still blanketed the ground, but Grove City was sweltering in a heat wave, with temperatures reaching the mid-30's. Conditions were therefore ideal for the annual Outing Club Christmas party.

Approximately 25 alumni, actives and guests spent time at the cabin over the weekend. Alumni included Trent Dennison, Tom Morris, Kaitlin Domanoski, Tim Archer, and Mike McElhaney. Daytime activities consisted of excitement such as



snow hiking and tomahawk throwing. After a dinner of deep-fried turkey provided by Trent, we raided the local Christmas tree source. It only took a few minutes to locate the perfect tree, and Jesse Helms "helped" it fall very quickly. Then Jeff Willard and Wes Bell hauled it back to the cabin, where everyone participated in stringing popcorn and cranberry garlands and creating applesauce-cinnamon ornaments. A vision of wonder with its garlands, cinnamon stars, and angel made from a cup, paper plate, and

spoon, the tree also benefited from a string of lights powered by Tom's car battery. The evening was concluded with the singing of Christmas carols and many people staying overnight.

Alison Wade '03
 Alumni Secretary '02



Allison Savage dozes next to the fire

Kate Buck-walter signs into the journal to record her presence at the party



(Photos by Helms)

Making ornaments around the dining table



Alumni News & Views

Fall 2002

65th Outing Club Reunion

It is hard to believe it is about time for our 65th reunion. Our 65th reunion will be October 17, 18, and 19, 2003, at our annual homecoming. We will be making reservations with Howard Johnson at Mercer to have a dinner on Saturday night after the football game. We have block (?) a mix of rooms with ten on hold for Friday night and twenty on hold for Saturday night. The room rates are between \$60 and \$70 and include a continental breakfast. The rooms are blocked until October 1, 2003 for our group. Make your reservations with Howard Johnson by calling (724) 748-3030 and tell them you are with the Grove City College Outing Club Alumni group. The cabin will be open Friday and Saturday for those who want to stay there.

On Sunday morning we will meet at the cabin for a continental breakfast and lunch. We will plan a worship service, do some hiking and enjoy fellowship with current club members and older alumni members. Our annual business meeting will be Sunday afternoon.

We had our first reunion in 1978 after forty years and have had reunions at five-year intervals. This will be our sixth. Mark your calendar for next year and plan to join us.

Lee McCoy (Alumni Liason)

GCCOC Loses Two Founding Members

It was with surprise and deep sadness we learned this fall of the passing of two of our founding

members. Joan E. Goucher (76 of Seneca, PA) died at her home on October 30, 2002. Ralph W. Chilcott (75) died September 12, 2002 in Kalamazoo, Michigan.

Joan was our secretary for over twenty years and Ralph was treasurer for eighteen years and Vice-President for twenty or more years. They were part of the group who, along with Joan's husband, Bill Goucher (died 1976), formally incorporated our organization into a nonprofit group in 1963 and worked out the very unique land deal with the Pennsylvania Game Commission that saved the Outing Club Cabin. Those who know the Outing Club history know what we owe to that group. All who have enjoyed the cabin for the past forty years would not have been able to do so without what Joan and Ralph and their companions did. From a grateful Outing Club Alumni, thank you for all you did for us over all these years. You were always there for us.

Lee McCoy

Obituaries:

Joan Goucher

(*The Derrick*, Thursday, Oct. 31, 2002) Joan E. Goucher, 76, of 166 Biery Drive, Seneca, died at 5:15 a.m. Wednesday, Oct. 30, 2002, in her home.

Born Oct. 9, 1926, in Palmerton, she was the daughter of Homer Henry and Anita Hammond Dettmer. Mrs. Goucher graduated from Palmerton High School, Grove City College and from a medical technology school in South Bend, Ind. She retired as a medical technician in 1990 from Northwest Medical Center after 20 years of service.

Mrs. Goucher was a member of the Seneca United Methodist Church, the Oil City YMCA and the American Association of Medical Technologists. While attending Grove City College and as an alumnus, Mrs. Goucher was a member of the Grove City Outing Club. She enjoyed driving and exploring new roads and places in northwestern Pennsylvania.

Mrs. Goucher was married Oct. 20, 1951, to William S. Goucher, who died June 19, 1976. Surviving are seven children, Robin John Goucher of Oil City, Kathy J. Goucher of Polk, William D. Goucher of Carnesville, Ga., Eric A. Goucher, Christopher D. Goucher and Bruce D. Goucher, all of Clayton, N.C.; and Scott J. Goucher of Seneca; and one granddaughter, Ashley N. Goucher of Clayton, N.C.

Friends may call from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Friday in the Morrison Funeral Home. A memorial service will be held at 1 p.m. Friday in the funeral home with the Rev. Bradley Sickler, pastor of the Oil City Community Alliance Church, officiating. Interment will be in Brandon Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, the family suggests memorials be made to the American Cancer Society or to the Visiting Nurses Association of Venango County.

American Cancer Society
East Front Street
Oil City, PA 16301

Visiting Nurses Association of Venango County
178 East Bissell Avenue
Oil City, PA 19301

Ralph Chilcott

On September 12, 2002, the Lord called home his faithful servant, Ralph William Chilcott who passed away peacefully in his sleep after succumbing to complications relating to cancer in Kalamazoo, Michigan. Ralph is survived by his daughter Lori, his son Mark and Mark's wife Janet, grandchildren Mariah, Tabrina, Tiffani and Trent. He is also survived by his brothers Merle and Marvin, Merle's wife Joy and Marvin's wife Linda. Wanting to be close to his children, Ralph spent his last months in Michigan.

Ralph was born on December 8, 1926 in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania to Nathan and Vesta Chilcott and grew up in Forest Hills, Pennsylvania. A proud alumni of both The Kiski School and Grove City College, Ralph remained

active in alumni activities for both schools his entire life. Throughout his residency in Pennsylvania, he particularly enjoyed working to improve the Grove City College Outing Club Cabin through the Alumni Association. Also dear to Ralph was the Pennsylvania Trolley Museum located in Washington County Pennsylvania. He had lifelong love of trolleys and trains. With friends who had this same interest, he was one of the founding members of the Museum originally known as the Arden Trolley Museum. Ralph was blessed to be able to take one final trip to the Pennsylvania Trolley Museum in August 2002 to visit with lifelong friends and take one of his beloved trolleys for one last drive down the familiar tracks.

An army veteran of World War II, Ralph proudly served his country stationed in the Philippines during the end of the war. He continued to support fellow veterans throughout his life by service in several VFW' posts and in the American Legion. At his memorial service, he was given full military rights as he had previously done for his fellow soldiers in his position as VFW Chaplain.

On November 29, 1958, Ralph was married to Nina Mae Mack of Johnstown, Pennsylvania. Nina, a graduate of the Pitt School of Nursing, was a practicing nurse at the Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh. They set up residency in Forest Hills near to Ralph's parents. In 1963, they adopted their son, Mark Kevin, and in 1967 the adopted their daughter, Lori Ann. The family attended Forest Hills Presbyterian Church in which both Ralph and Nina were extremely active. Ralph held the position of Church Treasurer for over twenty years.

Ralph was an employee of the State of Pennsylvania at a purchasing agent. He worked in various institutions in this capacity, including Warrendale State Home, Marcy State Hospital, and Polk State Institution. More than just an employee, Ralph received many thanks and accommodations from families of the residents to whom Ralph showed many kindnesses.

Sadly, In May 1977, his wife Nina passed away suddenly after a diagnosis of acute leukemia. Ralph continued to raise Mark and Lori with family assistance and was actively involved in cheering them on through all their activities and accomplishments...

Due to a change in assignment with the State of Pennsylvania, Ralph relocated the family to Franklin, Pennsylvania in 1983. Always wanting to serve the community, Ralph quickly became involved in numerous organizations including the Venango County Historical Society and the Oil Creek & Titusville Railroad. In Franklin, Ralph first attended Congress Hill Church of God, then First Church of God... In 1993, Ralph decided to relocate to Mankato, Kansas. The Chilcotts have had a family farm for several generations just north of the town, and Ralph relished the idea of spending his golden years in this small, caring community. Ralph's brother Marvin also resided in the community. As in the past, Ralph immediately began volunteering in numerous community organizations such as the Golden Years Club, SCORE, Council on Aging and Pawnee Mental Health.... He was known to be a friend who would always be there to help another in need. Ralph was also active as a Deacon in the Mankato Church of Christ.

Although Ralph will always be best known as a generous giver of time and talents and for his strong faith in the Lord, he also had a passion for travel. His favorite way to travel was by train or car so he could see the countryside and experience meeting new people...In his journeys, he touched many lives in his selfless service to communities and churches, and many will feel the loss of his parting. Ralph's great faith gave him the comfortable knowledge that although he was leaving this earth, he was but beginning another journey. He knew he was going to a better place and his only concern was for those he would be leaving behind. In his last days, when asked if he was excited about going to heaven he simply smiled and said, "Yes...yes, I am. I'm happy to be seeing Nina again."

Memorial contributions can be made to: Pennsylvania Trolley Museum, 1 Museum Road, Washington, PA 15301; Hospice of Greater Kalamazoo, 301 West Cedar Street, Kalamazoo, MI 49007; or Mankato Church of Christ, Mankato, KS.

Alumni Cabin Manager's Report

Cabin Update- For those of you not on the email list, I am sorry to report that this Summer's outing found more serious damage to the cabin.

In addition to the structural damage caused by the powder post beetles and fungal rot in the basement area, the wall behind the sink has shifted to the East causing a ceiling separation by the serving window. Thanks to the efforts of past president and restoration carpenter Tom Parker temporary repairs were made. This repair will necessitate removing the entire kitchen ceiling according to Tom and Cabin Team member and lead carpenter Henry Limmer. We hope to have this repair done this Summer.

As we were cleaning up Sunday morning preparing to leave, we found a serious gas leak inside the wall near the girl's wing heater. The gas line was isolated back at the floor furnace. We have no heat in the girl's wing this Winter. We will start replacement of all the gas lines this Spring.

The **good news** from the Summer Outing was that we had a great turnout of all ages and got many meaningful items accomplished. The old chimney in the men's wing was removed and the wall repaired, the road drains were cleaned and regraded. As always wood was split and put into the sheds and the yard was manicured by Henry and Kade Limmer to within an inch of its life. The outside refrigerator was converted to propane using 20# grill bottles as a test. The small bottles are not convenient, but the fridge is working great. A used natural gas grill was donated and installed out back. This will be a big help during the

kitchen renovations when we have to shut down cooking inside.

Resolution? We are continuing to seek professional help in designing and executing a complete renovation/restoration of the cabin. With help from Tom Gregg, we have reached out to a restoration architect and are waiting for his reply. I have also discussed the “apparent” problems with several contractors. The summary to date is that this is going to be a very costly and long-term project. Our initial estimate of \$10-15,000 is not going to even be close. We will continue to do what we can each Summer, but a complete renovation is going to require professional attention and will probably take several years to accomplish.

Rentals Until we complete more of the repairs please do not plan on renting the cabin for school and church type groups. You are welcome to come up and picnic etc., but with the structural issues and the probability of repairs going on, we do not want to disappoint anyone. Questions? Please call Mark Place at 412-877-0050 or drop me an email at the address below.

June 26-29 has been penciled in for the regular Summer Outing. With all of the specialty repairs, that date may be shifted or another week added. Details will follow in the Spring *Ax & Saw* and by email.

Email and Web site We continue to have right at 90 alumni email addresses on file and we send breaking news and updates as things happen. If you are not getting a few emails a year from us and would like to stay in the loop in real time, please send Mark Place your current email info at mplace@johnplaceinc.com. If you used to get emails, and have not been I will bet that yours has changed. Feel free to send an update to me as a test. If you would like a copy of the email list in Excel to look for friend, just drop me a note. The web site is back up again after Web Master Cory Gibson relocated this year. The *Ax & Saw* makes it onto the web site when Cory gets caught up, so you can review old issues there. **Find us at WWW.GCCOC.org.**

Historical Note We received a note from Red Gordon recently with some lame excuses on why he did not make the Summer Outing after classmate John McMillan came all the way from San Francisco for the second year in a row. Red redeemed himself by noting that he had scanned hundreds of Outing Club pictures onto a CD and was attempting to match names and faces after 50 years. This is an outstanding idea! If you have club pictures etc. and the technology to scan them to disk, we will really jumpstart the history of the club project. Contact Historian Lynn Fogel at lfogel@insight.rr.com if you have anything for the club archives.

-Mark Place



Cabin in the snow
(Photo by Helms)

GCC Outing Club The Axe and Saw Fall 2002

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From the Outing Club