
THE AXE AND SAW

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Spring 2003

Grove City College Outing Club
Garman

www.gccoc.org

Mindy Bodi, Tyler

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Hello Everyone,

My first semester as Outing Club president has been very enjoyable and I'm thankful for a chance to serve such a fun and unique organization. In addition to Cabin runs every weekend, with their numerous hikes, great meals, and excellent conversations, the club has been very active. The first weekend of the January term saw Cory Gibson and 24 Actives at the Cabin Friday night and sledding at SRU on Saturday night. We had a large work outing in early February where we split and moved wood in a foot and a half of snow and cleaned up the inside of the Cabin. In mid March, a dozen Actives braved a late snowfall and frigid temperatures on our winter camping trip, which took place along Dennison Run. Two weeks later around thirty Actives and Alumni celebrated the first nice weekend of the year by shooting, smoking cigars, hiking, raking the yard, and chopping firewood. Our most recent adventure was the Active/Alumni canoe trip on Saturday, April 24. Eleven Alumni and fourteen Actives in fifteen boats put in a few miles up the Big Sandy and completed a five hour paddle to the Rockland tunnel on the Allegheny.

Membership has continued to grow this semester and the club now has around 45 Actives, the vast majority of whom will return as Juniors next year. In conclusion, we've had a lot of fun with a great group of people, and I'd like

to thank the club members and Alumni for making the Outing Club the best part of my college experience.

Adam Neff '06, President '04

LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT? A NEW MEMBER'S PERSPECTIVE

When life at the Grove threatens to make quick work of your sanity and you feel the need to escape the pressures of academia, where do you go? This question was often on my mind freshman year until the earlier this year when enlightened fellow sophomores introduced to me to the Outing Club - a haven where midnight hikes are normal, pyromaniacs abound, sleep is but a passing thought, mud fights take the place of showers, the food is identifiable (unlike other options here at the Grove... can anyone say "party chicken"?), and students vent their academic frustrations by shooting M16s. What more could you want? I first ventured to the cabin in December 2003, and it was love at first sight. After joining officially in January, I've been at the cabin pretty much whenever I've had the chance.

Perhaps the very best thing about the Club is the people. These are the kind of people who enjoy just taking it easy, lounging in front of a roaring fire or smoking cigars while talking about philosophy or theology. These are the kind of people who specialize in fun - rock climbing, pig roasting, camping,

mud-fighting, hiking, playing card games, and just goofing around. These are the kind of people who make the most of each moment, eagerly looking ahead to the next adventure. These are the kind of people who help each other out and willingly share the burden of whatever task is at hand.

I've also got to hand it to the alumni – without them the actives would never be able to do half the cool things we get to do, like the day-long canoe trip down the Allegheny that a few daring alumni took a group of about 15 actives on last weekend. I've heard many devoted OC members testify that they would never have survived college without the Club. Though I've only been a member of the OC for a semester now, I already have so many great memories and am looking forward to all the adventures of next year!

Janelle Wilkie '06 New Outing Club Enthusiast



New members Janelle Wilkie and Ashley Knight enjoying the spring canoe trip

ICO SPAIN SOCCER TOURNNEY

The outing club sponsored a team for the indoor soccer tournament. It was a fundraiser for a mission trip to Spain over Easter Break. We played in the B-division (mostly for recreational

players) and came in second place out of eight teams. On the team were Mike Hinkson, Tyler Garman, Addison Smith, Brian Herbert, Dave Hathaway, Matt Reidenbach, Janelle Wilkie, and Jess Ridgeway. We played 5 players on the field and a goalie. Yet, we were shorthanded for most of the tournament due to a painful ankle injury to Dave Hathaway that kept him out after the second of six games. It was a good time and everybody seemed to enjoy themselves despite being exhausted by the end.

Matt Reidenbach '06

TCHAIKOVSKY CONCERT

The trip to the Tchaikovsky concert was a great time for all of us that went. For once it was actually sunny and warm in Pittsburgh. I know, I know. Normally I would think I was crazy, but the others all saw it too. The concert was amazing. The violinist was younger than all of us and we realized how mediocre we truly are. Yes, I'm sure I know what you're thinking. "Isn't Grove City College home to all the brightest and most talented youth in the world?" I'm sorry, my friends, but this guy was phenomenal. After the concert some of us walked around the city a little. We enjoyed the unusual weather and just relaxed some. Overall the trip was a good time to be had. Hopefully we can all enjoy more cultural experiences to enlighten us to our mediocrity in the future.

Megan Schoon, '06

SQUARE DANCING

The Outing Club ventured into new territory this semester and traveled all the way out to Franklin, PA for some fast-paced square dancing action. Four brave souls (myself included) set off on this adventure one rainy Friday night early in the semester. I am glad to report that there were no serious injuries and everyone had a good time. To put it gracefully, the experience surpassed our wildest expectations. Come to think of it though, there really wasn't anything graceful at all about four college students, two middle aged ladies and two very spry elderly gentlemen swinging around a square (don't ask me about the physics of this), colliding with each other more often than not, and working up a lot of sweat in the process. We embarrassed ourselves thoroughly, laughed like crazy, and returned to campus eager to share the joy that is authentic country square dancing with our fellow outing clubbers, many of whom turned out in subsequent weeks to experience this latest fad for themselves.

Jackie Bush '06



The fearless campers returning to the cabin after braving a camping adventure in the bitter cold.

A HAIKU TO SLEDDING

To Slippery Rock
We went, to sled, not to drink

Climbing the hill stinks

But sledding is fun
On air tubes and stolen trays
A cold trail we blazed

Watch Out! I see trees,
In the snow so deep and vast
Crash! We went too fast

Dave hit the forest
With Jen and Meghan and Kate
While others laughed, "Great!"

We made amoebas
Sledding in a human blob
Until Herb fell off

Someone hit the fence
Ashley and Adam just laughed
And Tiff had a blast

Then we all got numb,
The whipping wind was too cool,
And came back to school

Dave Hathaway '06, Historian '04

SMALL TOWN ADVENTURERS EXPLORE THE BIG CITY

On February 22, 2004 a group of well-attired and sophisticated OC members made the journey down to Pittsburgh for Michael Flatley's Lord of the Dance. Like any good OC member, we couldn't just stay in our seats before the show, we had to explore. The Benedum Center is a magnificent piece of architecture which appealed to our curiosity.

As the lights dimmed our excitement grew...and then it all started. The combination of traditional Irish

dance with more modern Irish dance, along with flashy costumes and enticing scenery left the audience, us included, amazed. After two hours of watching 40 high-stepping Irish dancers and exploring an amazing building, we were all inspired.

Ashley Nielsen '06
and Tiffany Narbe '06

OUTING CLUB'S GOT RHYTHM

One of the indoor outings of the year took place at Dowe's on Ninth, "Pittsburgh's premier jazz and supper club" in downtown Pittsburgh. Roughly ten to twelve actives set out for the Steel City taking heed to Tom Morris' collegiate wisdom, "never let college interfere with your education". The current president Adam Neff and secretary Alex Morrison were the active officers who attended the outing.

No one really knew exactly what to expect, and this fact soon became quite clear. Upon arrival, the place was empty, but at least it looked nice. Apparently we had missed the fact that the band was not to start playing until nine that night. So, we had nearly two hours of free time before that. The club decided to wait at Dowe's, and ended up getting the entire balcony for seating. The balcony really enhanced the night; girls arm-wrestled each other and men modeled for the digital cameras. What strange ways outing clubbers entertain themselves.

Notice, there has not yet been any mention of eating. Almost everyone had decided to eat dinner before arriving at the club in order to save money. This along with the fact that the club spent about four hours at Dowe's proves one thing: we are quite the frugal bunch.

When the band arrived and started playing, things picked up. They played some fun songs, including Brick House, and most of the members decided to grace the people of Pittsburgh with their fine dancing skills. If anyone reading this has ever wondered if a midget could play bass in a jazz band, then let it be known that the answer is yes. There was also a female vocalist who sang a few songs, and a neighborhood guy that seemed to go to Dowe's just to dance. He wore a striped suit and would go around to random tables and pull dancing partners from them onto the floor. He made the night just a little more interesting.

As the band was about to wrap up the club left with high spirits. To clarify for our readers these were not the kind of spirits that show up on a breathalyzer test, but the kind that come from a pleasant evening.

Jonathan Ferriera, '06



The club entertaining themselves at the jazz club.

SECOND WORK OUTING

Our second work outing for the year happened March 27th. A most

beautiful day allowed us to do a lot of work outside. Some of the guys, mostly Devon and Jon made toothpicks out of a tree just down the trail resulting in a large amount of fire wood. After filling the wood shed closest to the cabin with old wood, the fresh cut stuff was set in the farther sheds, which are still quite empty. Thanks to the huge Tupperware wheelbarrow, we managed to move all the wood fairly easily while taking time giving rides and killing ourselves by running over roots. Many of us were also employed raking the yard and removing the large branches that winter snows had felled for us. These jobs proved to take a while but the end result was worth it. Moreover, it was warm enough to break a good sweat while in a t-shirt for the first time this year.

Many hands made light work of most we wished to accomplish that day. Therefore, there was plenty of time to enjoy hikes with Cory, guns with Tom, and cigars with Dr. Gordon. Thanks to all who made this outing a great day!

Dave Hathaway '06, Historian '04



Steve Dunbar and Jonathan Ferriera hard at work moving wood.

ANNUAL HILL-CLEAN UP

Saturday, April 17th dawned clear and warm, just the right weather for the

annual hill-clean up at GCC. Starting at eight o'clock proved to be a little difficult for some of the members, but by nine we were in full force. Everyone enjoyed getting a little dirty while racking leaves and clearing out the brush. The machete proved to be the weapon of choice for several of the boys and sped up the work. We amassed a significant number of empty (and not-so-empty) beer/liquor bottles which we proudly lined up in front of the flag post for all the visiting high school juniors to see. The club couldn't resist chopping down a lone tree on the hill as well. The majority of the members came out to help and we made quick work of the daunting task, finishing up around noon. The club left the hill void of weeds and alcohol bottles providing a clear view of the beautiful Wolf Creek.

Melinda Bodi '06, Alumni Secretary '04



The Club taking a break from their hard work at the hill clean-up

NOT LETTING COLLEGE INTERFERE WITH OUR EDUCATIONS: STUDY DAY 2004

Study Day 2004 was a resounding success: not a book was cracked. Wednesday afternoon, prior to my arrival, Wes Bell and two friends from Houghton College, along with

Actives Kate Buckwalter, Sarah Gruen, and Adam Neff took a long hike in the area of the Ridge Trail and further north. Subsequently they consumed an excellent dinner of baked beans and grilled cheeseburgers with Jack Daniels Grilling Sauce. Wednesday night, Kate, Sarah, Megan Schoon, Luke Wagoner, Adam, Wes, and I went out the Christmas tree farm and watched the stars for an hour or so. Tuesday was a full moon so it was hard to see to many stars, even on such a clear night. Yet, we still glimpsed a few shooting stars. Thankfully, we got to bed before 1am. Some unnamed wimps decided to heat one of the bunk rooms. Some arose early and hiked to the overlook to watch the sun rise but I decided to sleep until 9:30. After a glorious breakfast of bacon, eggs with cheese, onions, and steak seasoning, and Adam-made monkey bread, we climbed to the roof to sweep and clean the gutters. This went quickly with five people. Taking a prompt from last year's Study Day hike, we headed to the natural bridge and went into the cave there. Thankfully my child bearing hips did not hinder to any great degree in the tighter passages. Lots of spiders, bats, mud, "mud", and evidence of a porcupine were the highlights. Alas, after this adventure we went back to campus to encounter the reality of impending finals and take the showers we so desperately needed.

Dave Hathaway '06, Historian '04



The annual senior dinner at the cabin...we should really add food to the "friendship, fellowship, fun" motto.

IN MEMORIAL

Red Gordon reports the loss of a legendary clubber David "Daveo" Robinson this past February 3rd. Dave was 78 and died peacefully at home on February 3 of pancreatic cancer.

David had a great love and respect for the nature and shared with many people the beauty of Algonquin Park where he spent many winters and summers "in the "bush" or cutting ice on Brule Lake with his long--time friend and mentor Doc Kase. Dave was known as an avid paddler and kept a cedar strip canoe at PrinGrove for many years. Those who spent any time in the 70's and 80's with Doc knew of his peace activist work and Daveo was a kindred spirit. A complete summary of his remarkable life and activities is available on www.GCCOC.org. If you do not have email please let Mark Place or Red Gordon know and we will be happy to mail you a copy

SUMMER OUTING

This Summer's joint student-Alumni-friends outing will be held July **15-18**. We try to rotate months every few years to accommodate different folk's schedules and we are back to July this year.

Plans for the projects this year are still in flux, but gas line repairs are near the top of the list as is laying out a potential service road coming in from the back for the proposed major renovation project. We will also address the normal Summer housekeeping projects. We will plan on attitude adjustment and a swim each night down at the river.

Meals will start with a late lunch on Thursday and run to lunch on Sunday. If you have any menu requests or wish to contribute a favorite dish or dessert, please let me know. There is no charge for the meals.

If you are able to participate this year, even a day or an afternoon, please call or email me before July 13th with the number of adults and children under 10 so we can plan the meals. If there is enough interest, we will try to plan a separate children's program on Saturday. That will require more notice to coordinate volunteers.

See you soon!

Mark Place, Alumni Cabin Manager
mplace@johnplaceinc.com
or 412-877-0050

USE OF THE CABIN

As noted in past issues of the *Ax & Saw*, due to the work in progress we have been forced to curtail use of the cabin by school and alumni groups. Several groups are planning day hikes and other events in the yard, and that is

great. We are sorry for the inconvenience, but until the floor, kitchen ceiling and gas line issues are resolved we must continue this policy. We will also be spraying for insects this summer at a date to be announced.

EMAIL MASTER

If you have a new email or are looking for a classmate's email, please drop me a note so that I can update our records or see if we can help. We are still running about 100 folks in the database. mplace@johnplaceinc.com

WEBSITE UPDATES

Hi everyone. Just wanted to get a quick plug for the website and inform you of some options that are available to the Outing Club in this *Ax* and *Saw*.

First, there is a picture gallery on the website that has pictures of some of the latest trips. Just go to <http://www.gccoc.org/gallery> for the latest pictures.

Next, if you have pictures you want to upload to the site to share with everyone, just contact me and I will get you setup to upload pictures and get the pictures on the gallery as soon as I can.

Finally on the email front we have some mailing lists / groups created. `student_officers@gccoc.org` _ emails all the current student officers `alumni_officers@gccoc.org` _ emails all the alumni officers `everyone@gccoc.org` _ Daily banter list. This list is for everyday chatter and announcements `zec@gccoc.org` _ List for talk concerning the Aug ZEC Canoe trip

To subscribe, send the following email to `imailsrv@gccoc.org` : `subscribe <list name> <your name>` If you need a

mailing list created for a specific trip, event, etc, just contact me at cgibson@gccoc.org and I'd be happy to set it up and help you out with it.

As always if you have any questions/comments/suggestions about the OC website or email / mailing lists, let me know!

Cory Gibson '99

PHOTOS FROM THIS SEMESTER

Below is a collection of photographs, in no particular order, of Outing Club activities this semester. They can be found in color on the Outing Club website www.gccoc.org which is run by Cory Gibson '99.

Adam Neff '06, President '04



Actives Jess Ridgeway, Andrew Cramb, Janelle Wilkie, Ashley Knight, and Jon Ferreira (all '06) playing cards on a cold January night at the Cabin



Actives Ashley Nielsen, Tiffany Narbe, and Kate Buckwalter (all '06) sitting on Inscription Rock, late April



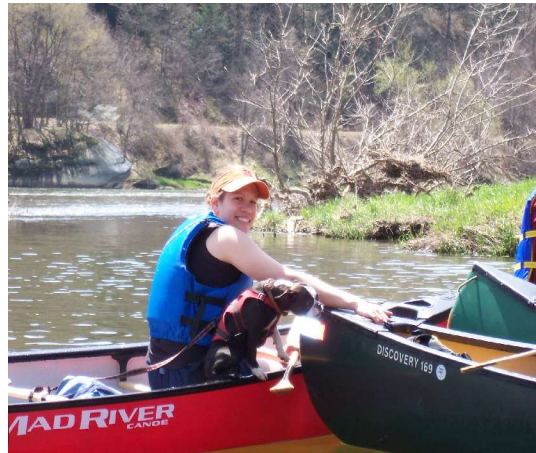
KK (the Kabin Kat)-the Cabin recently "acquired" a pregnant cat, or perhaps it would be more appropriate to say she acquired us. Either way she lives in the basement and is very friendly and very hungry.



Actives Hannah Mattingly '07 and Jackie Bush '06 climbing a grapevine during the Winter Camping Trip. Eleven Actives camped out on Dennison Run in mid March. We ate very well and had a lot of fun despite or perhaps because of the fact that it was only 15 degrees that night.



Alumni Erin (Lyon) and Josh Butler with their dog Cyrus and a truck load of canoes, April 24, 2004



Beth Hoover '05, Treasurer '04 on the Canoe Trip



Actives Ashley Knight '06 and Jon Ferreira '06 on the April 24 Canoe Trip



Actives Valerie Nyhuis '07, Sarah Gruen '06, Kate Buckwalter '06, and Megan Schoon '06 after a mud fight/hike to the Iron Furnace



Active Devin Stauff '05 cutting firewood at an early February Work Outing.



Actives Dave Hathaway, Adam Neff, and Kate Buckwalter (all '06) cleaning the Cabin roof and gutters on Study Day with special guests Wes Bell and Karla Mauro of Houghton College

GCC Outing Club

The Axe and Saw Spring 2004



Alumni-Active Alleghany Canoe Trip April 2004

Lee McCoy
992 Slippery Rock Road
Grove City, PA 16127-9889

ADDRESS CORECTION REQUESTED

Mailing Address
Street Number and Name
City, State 98765-4321

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