
THE AXE AND SAW

Volume 61, Issue 1

Fall 1999

Grove City College Outing Club



A Note From The President

Well another semester has passed with the blink of an eye. I find it amazing how rapidly time flies, and I know that it is only going to get faster. This semester started out with the annual canoe trip up in Canada. Many of the 17 people on this year's trip were actives of the club. It was a great time for actives and alumni to interact and get to know each other better. We could not have asked for a better week for the trip either: it was warm and sunny everyday, everyone got along great, and the scenery was absolutely fantastic!

This semester has proved to be just as fun. We started out the semester with a backpacking trip in Allegheny National Forest and concluded it with the club's annual Christmas party - hunting, killing, and eventually hanging a tree from the ceiling of the cabin. Amongst all of this activity the club has also helped the alumni finish repairing the roof of the cabin, held the annual Pig Roast for faculty and staff of the college, had a successful season of concession stands, and participated in other exhilarating activities.

Megan Arzt '00 (President '99)

"Opportunities are like sunrises. If you wait too long, you miss them." -William Arthur Ward

Tim Archer and Kaitlin Domanoski



Fourth of July

For the fourth of July a bunch of us headed up to Megan's lakeside cottage in Connecticut for a weekend of fun. We spent most of the time playing in the water and with Megan's super-fun boat. We water-skied, wake boarded, and went tubing. We also did some regular old swimming and, of course, the inevitable king of the dock competition. We even got time in for a very amateur volleyball game.

On the fourth of July we went to see a fireworks display which was extremely entertaining but which rained down ash on us the entire time. The fireworks display also afforded lots of good people watching. After the fireworks we had to get on a shuttle to get back to the cars. Oddly enough the wait for the shuttle took longer than the entire display had, but outing club members are innovative folk and we kept ourselves well amused.

Mostly what I remember about the weekend is the great food and getting completely fried. I think that everyone was looking a bit lobsterish but Stef definitely took the cake for being the crispiest. All in all it was a great weekend, thoroughly enjoyed by all.

Kaitlin Domanoski '02 (Alumni Secretary '99)

Let us cross over the river,
and rest
under the shade of the trees.

-Stonewall Jackson

Roof I July 14-18, 1999

What a great weekend!

95+ degrees, 200+ pounds of ice, hundreds of quarts of juice and ice tea, great dinners thanks to Frank Ramsey, evening swims at Glen McMunn's cottage in Kennerdale...

Roof: Working until 8:30 PM on Sunday, we got the roof completed as far over as a temporary seam on the Girls wing. We planned on finishing, but the heat and structural repairs simply slowed down the best efforts of all crews. All of the sheeting on the rear side was replaced with OSB. This change should improve the stability of the roof and last many years. The front side will be evaluated during the next roof project in 2025! What is complete looks great. The lighter green shingles with white flecks will help keep the roof cooler in conjunction with the ridge vents. A cool roof will last longer in most cases.

Gutters: The new white aluminum gutters and downspouts look super also. The old gutters had rotted through in places from the acidic pine needles. As the pines are removed, that problem should be reduced. A major clog on the living room downspout drain line was excavated and cleared with a much-needed new cleanout installed.

Windows: After much discussion over the past couple of summers, it was decided to start replacing the original 1938 windows with new thermopane units. The main reason behind this decision was that the rotted mullions made glass repair almost impossible. Added factors were the deteriorated condition of the screen inserts, a lack of stormwindows and the generally poor operating condition of the sashes. Dan Young our window doctor got the new thermal pane windows with screens installed in the living room and the dining room after a minor measurement crisis. We are back to white like in the old days before creosote over-spray. The smooth operation and screens that fit are really nice. With the reduction in

drafts, those rooms should be much more livable in the winter.

Kase Memorial Service: A moving part of the weekend was a short memorial service conducted by the 3rd President of the Club, Rev. Frank Ramsey. Frank was a student and friend of Doc's in the early 40's and has just recently retired for the 2nd or 3rd time. Saturday night at dusk we gathered in the yard for Frank's moving presentation. Frank used material originally prepared by Doc over 50 years ago. For those of us who had heard his sermons prior to his stroke, it was a voice from the past.

Awards:

- * farthest travel, Jason Cooper from Bahrain
- * longest drive, Rick Givens from Maine
- * golden hammers, Henry & Chuck Limmer
- * most dead wasps, tie between Chris Young and Scott Theal
- * biggest sacrifice, Sara Otto who totaled her van on the way home
- * body & soul, Rev. Frank with great dinners, great stories and
- * moving Kase memorial service
- * everyone who helped!

Mark Place, (Alumni Cabin Manager)

Canada Canoe Trip

Very early in the morning on August 22nd a group of students and alumni began their thirteen hour journey to Hunter's Point, Quebec for a five day canoe trip. I was one of the privileged and here is my account. We did well over 60 miles paddling over the sometimes glassy, sometimes choppy waters of Canada. Unfortunately, the waters did not always connect well enough, so portages came into play. Now, most of the portages aren't too long, several hundred yards at the most, but we had to carry our 60 pound packs and our 80 pound canoes over somewhat rough terrain. All this physical activity influenced our eating habits and quality of sleep. Each night we would set up camp on islands, eat freeze-dried food or MRE's, and sleep under the

stars. The weather was great--not one drop of rain. It was too warm for comfortable sleeping, but perfect for lots of swimming. Certain of us swam quite a lot. On our layover days people swamped canoes, went cliff jumping, explored the surrounding area, or simply relaxed.

Highlights included the Northern Lights, unexpected waterfalls, and a midnight paddle. The first two nights we were blessed to experience the Northern Lights, many of us for our first time. Some tried to explain them, talking about light waves from the sun and some crazy scientific stuff this Christian Thought major just doesn't get. Ron Lang had the best response by far though. "It's God," he said matter of factly. Amen. Talk about a powerful worship service in the heavens! White and pink light, dancing for their Creator, awing the humans below. Thursday we came upon a pleasant surprise. A small series of rapids and waterfalls was what we found. We each took a flume ride into one of the pools. This was a much needed refresher. At 1:00 AM Friday morning we shoved off for our midnight paddle. It was a cool night with the wind blowing against us. The light from the heavens did quite well to illuminate our path. Some of us fair skinned folk even claimed to get a little moonburned.

What was amazing about the trip was the purity of sight and sound we experienced in the Canadian backcountry, or the 'bush,' as the Canadians call it. Sunsets seemed more powerful, reflections were clearer, the water was not only as smooth as glass, but as clear as glass too. There is no glow polluting the horizon from nearby cities or towns. Megan and I paddled out into the lake one night, sat silently on the water and soaked in the lack of noise. There is no roar of jet planes flying above, only the sound of natural air born creatures. We didn't get to see the moose, but beaver, loons, and other native species were enjoyed.

Many fond memories were birthed throughout that week in the Canadian backcountry. Life-loving friends were made, character-building lessons learned, and a fresh appreciation for life was gained. This was truly an adventure for the soul as well as the body.



Brian Vare '99 (VP '99)

Labor Day Camping Trip, Sept. 6, 1999

Instead of running home or hanging around on campus for the long Labor Day weekend, Megan Artz, Brian Vare, Sarah Ristow, Cory Gibson, Sarah Erdos, Chrissie Scott, and Jeremiah Otto took to the trail at Allegheny National Forest. We started out at Heart's Content on an absolutely beautiful, but hot, Sunday afternoon. We hiked a little more than half of our approximately 11 mile loop before setting up camp next to a "stream". The sky had become more threatening throughout the day, but we managed to set up our tents and make a fire before the rain came. Funny how it seemed to rain only until we got our rain coats on. Despite the cloudburst, we managed to partake in an impressive feeding frenzy. We had to take full advantage of our brief escape from Bon Appetite. We turned in fairly early to retreat from the rain in our tents. Being that we had a fairly short hike out, we actually got to sleep in a bit in the morning. After our trek back to the car, we headed to the swimming hole to cool off and enjoy a lunch reminiscent of the canoe trip (cheese, bagels, and pepperoni). According to the men in our group, the water was pretty cold, but with a little help from Sarah Erdos, everyone eventually got in. After cooling off considerably and enjoying a bit of the local color, we headed back to campus.

Chrissie Scott '02

New Member Outing, Sept. 12, 1999

The new member outing this year was a great time. Though there was a relatively small turnout of Freshmen we still had many new faces at the cabin. God could not have given us a more

beautiful day to be out in the woods. It was a perfect temperature and the sun was out and the sky was blue. Upon arriving we gave a tour of the cabin and surrounding areas for the people that went on the one to the natural bridge. The rest of the afternoon was spent just relaxing and eating (spaghetti, of course) and just having good fellowship together.

Jeremiah Otto '03

White Water Rafting, Sept. 19, 1999

This fall the about 25 members of the club went white water rafting for the second year in a row. Our voyage began with our departure at Ohiopyle. From there we rafted four hours down the Youghiogheny River. We indulged in cliff jumping, swimming, and good old horseplay during stops along the river. We also put in some hard work when the rapids came. The journey contained three class four, and four class three rapids, which were challenging. Three of the five rafts made it successfully through all of the rapids. The other two rafts recovered to enjoy the rest of the trip. All in all we had a great time again this year. This could become an annual event.

Josh Chapman ("Chaplain" '99)

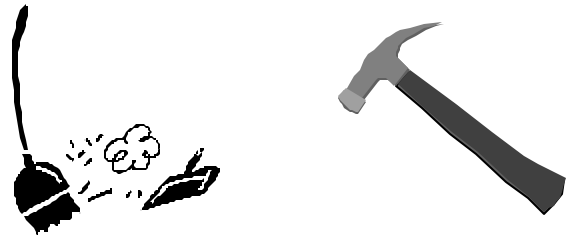
Gateway Clipper Dinner and Dancing Sept. 17, 1999

On a beautiful Saturday evening in October a group of four gentlemen were accompanied by a group of 11 lovely ladies, making a very favorable ratio for the gentlemen. The entourage was dressed in their finest attire, topped off with roses for the ladies and MAP carnations for the guys. We were all smiles as boarded the Liberty Belle. After a barrage of flashes from the ladies' cameras (the guys didn't bring one camera), our eyes finally cleared and we enjoyed the wonderful sunset over Pittsburgh. Then finally, we sat down for a very nice dinner.

Eventually, after all the food was done and gone we all enjoyed the gorgeous weather on

had never been there. Afterwards, there were several different hikes led to all of the major attractions. There was one to the Iron Furnace, one to the Bluffs, one down the cascades, and I the top deck but with the loss of the sunlight the gentlemen lost their jackets willingly to the cold ladies. The music finally got started and we all boogied down to the live band on board. All of the old folks on board enjoyed watching us young 'uns dance the night away. As the night was concluding and we were getting ready to dock, a brilliant surge of colored fireworks went off from the baseball game at Three Rivers Stadium. The ten-minute show was an excellent way to top off a great night.

Mike McElhaney (Popcorn Maker Extraordinaire)



Roof II September 24-26, 1999

After a bit of rain, say 3 hours Friday Afternoon, the balance of the weekend was Indian summer perfect.

Thanks to Active President, Megan Artz, and Cabin Manager, Erin Lyon's, extra efforts, the actives had the scaffolding set up and all of the supplies distributed by Thursday night.

Friday:

With the rain coming on and off, and a room full of willing hands we went to a long list of reserve and secondary projects that we were only going to start if we got the roof done first.

- outhouses were cleaned thoroughly
- a new hearth was cast in the living room fireplace
- the basement was cleaned up
- the small woodshed was filled
- spare lumber and roofing was racked in the basement
- Henry's shop-vac was given a workout

As the clouds cleared we started on the front of the women's wing and the old shingles flew. After a quick dinner, we worked until almost 9 under lights. A tarp was spread and we were set for a fast start Saturday morning.

While the shingle crew was at work, the carpentry 'A' Team of Henry Limmer and Mitch Brown started the installation of a new front door. The new door is insulated steel with a steel frame and jam. It has magnetic door seals and a sweep threshold for a windproof seal. Erin Lyon the 1999 Cabin Manager and Lee McCoy are the point of contact for obtaining a renter set of keys for the cabin. In the near future, we hope to have a backup for Lee in place. If you have a key now, contact Mark Place regarding a replacement. A final distribution policy has not yet been adopted.

Saturday:

After an early breakfast, we started on the roof before 8:00. With a great turnout from the active club, we had nearly 20 pair of hands at work. By early afternoon, the flashing, ice guard and felt prep work was done and shingles started to go down under Henry's watchful eye. While that was going on, new OSB sheathing was being applied to the back side, as was done with the rest of the cabin and Mike McCarty and his gutter crew started to install the front gutter. As the group got up to speed, it started to look like Amish barn raisers on steroids!

In the mean time, we identified the need to do a major repair on the small deck located at the end of the men's wing. New wood was acquired and installed. Julie Brown and her crews assisted Mitch with final door installation details and painting. Working through to almost 8PM, the entire roof was done with the exception of the caps and vents. What a crew! Saturday night brought a chance to hike, share tales, look at the Kase memorial stuff, view the video and photos from July (nice to have a generator, hard to crank a TV) and proof reading the new cabin manual draft copy.

Sunday:

With the end in sight, we slept in until almost 7! After breakfast we got started on the remaining

roof and gutter work, installed the door locks after a fast second coat of paint, put Henry's shop-vac to the test again, and generally cleaned up. Time was also spent reviewing the operation of various devises in the cabin and on gas light repair.

Another great effort! Thanks to all those that contributed financially as well as through their hard work.

Mark Place (Alumni Cabin Manager '99)

Ministers Creek, Oct. 2, 1999

This year's freshman camping trip was to Ministers Creek in Allegheny National Forrest. We had a plethora of freshman, well, one, Josh Poulette. Amanda Adams took charge of this outing and organized a great trip. The company of Megan Arzt, Cory Gibson, Stef Bubeck, Josh Butler, Erin Lyon, and Megan Foley joined her. We got to the parking lot, grabbed our packs and headed off on the trail. The weather was beautiful and the hiking was great. Shortly we came to a spot on the trail where we decided to get dinner started and set up camp. Most of us ran off to climb on the gigantic rocks and peer out at the wonderful landscape. Dinner was hot dogs and green beans roasted over an open fire and of course there were S'mores. Butler went out on his own and made a new creation out of bananas, chocolate and marshmallows. They were yummy. Then it was off to bed – we thought that we could sleep out under the trees, but a little shower changed our minds. The sleep was good, except for that darn rock under my back. The next day we hiked out on a different route, stopping to climb on more rocks and to take photos to document the trip.

Erin Lyon '02 (Cabin Manager Fall '99)

Last night I lay in bed looking up at the stars in the sky and I

thought to myself, "where the heck is the ceiling?"

Oink, Oink (Pig Roast, Oct 9, 1999)

Silas and Vern are two birds perched in a tree over in the woods nearby the GCC Outing Club Cabin when all of a sudden...

ACT 1

SILAS: Hey, Vern, look at that over there.

VERN: At what over where?

SILAS: Over there. That smoke.

VERN: What about it?

SILAS: What is it? Don't you want to go find out?

VERN: Aw, come on, Silas. It's raining. We're gonna get all wet.

SILAS: Come on!

(a flurry of feathers)

(In the pine tree by the fire pit)

SILAS: Look at that poor fellow there.

VERN*(in disbelief)*: Pigs really do eat everything. Who are these people? What are they dumping water on its head for?

SILAS: Don't ya know? They're the veterinarians. Swallowing trees is a serious business. Like a tick bite. All you can do is burn 'em out. They've got to keep him cool somehow.

VERN: I guess humans aren't so bad after all, helping the poor sucker that way.

ACT 2

SILAS: Hey, Vern! Wake up!

VERN: Aw man, Silas. I was having the best dream about... Hey, it's not even morning yet.

SILAS: I know, I know, but just look at 'em. The humans have been watching over that pig all night. By its side every minute, waitin' for it to pull through.

VERN: Doesn't seem to be getting any better.

SILAS: That's not the point, Vern. It's about making a connection. It's about unity. It's about... *(Elton John and the Circle of Life blasts from a surround-sound stereo nearby.)*

VERN: You think it's gonna make it, Silas?

(Silas looks off in the distance still pondering his philosophical break-through.)

ACT 3

KNOX(a.k.a. bird-brain, IQ-3): Hiya guys! Watcha doin'?

SILAS*(distracted by the bustling scene about the fire pit)*: Hey, Knox.

KNOX: Where are they taking that pig?

SILAS*(sighing)*: He didn't make it through the night.

KNOX: What's wrong with 'im?

SILAS: Just look bird-brain. He was trying to swallow that pole and the humans were trying to help burn it out. He couldn't take it. The heat was too much for him.

VERN*(with solemn resignation)*: Yeah. He just couldn't take it.

KNOX: How come they don't look too sad?

SILAS: It's not about being sad. It's about understanding that to have life there must be death. It's a natural progression. A thing of beauty. Something to be dealt with and triumphed over. A VICTORY!

KNOX: What are all them other people comin' for?

SILAS: They're here to join in the celebration of life! Let's take a closer look.

VERN: Aw, hey, Silas. Can't we see just as well from here?

SILAS: Come on!

(a flurry of feathers)

(on the window sill of the front room)

VERN: It looks crowded in there and hot.

SILAS: Just look at them celebrate.

VERN: *(starting to feel dizzy)*: Very crowded...and...hot.

SILAS*(in admiration)*: What understanding. They're just eatin' away like the pig had lived. Not a tear among them.

VERN: So crowde.....

(Vern faints off the ledge of the window)

SILAS: We could learn a lot from these humans. They did their very best for that pig.

Kate Terpening '02

Work Weekend, Nov 13, 1999

The weekend started off with work. The work was divided, some stayed inside to clean while others went out to chop wood. Dan Wiley



put on a chainsaw clinic. He is not as good with a chainsaw as Ron, but what can you expect? Erin Lyon headed up cleaning the cabin. Dinner consisted of grilled chicken, broccoli, and potatoes. We got quite a bit of wood chopped and hauled away almost all of the roofing leftovers. We also washed all the windows and cleaned the cobwebs off the front of the cabin. Saturday night we watched The Shawshank Redemption, and if you have not seen it, you should. Afterwards, we all went to King's and had ice cream, compliments of Cory and Dan. It was a productive and enjoyable weekend for all.

Josh Poulette '03

Caving at Harlensburg, Dec 6, 1999

One beautiful Sunday afternoon, three guys (Josh Butler, Tim Archer, and John Lumen) and three girls (Megan Arzt, Kaitlin Domanoski, and Erin Lyon) forsook the world above and ventured deep underground in search of the lost treasure of...oh, nevermind. Really, we were just in search of a good time, and a little excitement. While we did have a good time, what we really found was mud. Lots and lots of mud. And a few bats, and some cool looking rocks, and some stalactites. But mostly just slimy, squishy mud. At times we were wading through mud and water that was up to our knees, as we fought our way through the cave. Several hours later, after many exciting adventures (and a few mud fights), we emerged, blinking into the bright sunlight. After washing in a nearby stream, we rode back just in time for vespers. Good times were had by all.

Tim Archer (Alum. Sec. '99)

Camping At Ministers Creek, Dec. 6, 1999

Good friends, good fire, and good food. That would summarize the camping trip we took on Dec 4 – 5, 1999. Megan Arzt, Josh Poulette, and I met up with Megan Foley, alumni Dan Wiley, his brother Andrew, and five of Andrew's friends from Geneva College at Minister's Creek. They had arrived about two hours earlier and had hiked up to an overlook and then down to the river, where they said they would meet us. Since they were unsure of how far they were at that point from the parking lot, they did not travel far along the river before stopping. When we arrived we simply followed the river until finding them. We hiked a whole 35 minutes before finding them. As Josh said, "It's a good thing we didn't hike any farther, we might have gotten tired." Despite the wet wood, we were able to build a roaring fire. It was a peaceful evening of sitting around the fire, broken only by occasional attempts to throw Megan Arzt into the river. In the morning the three of us promptly packed up (after breakfast of course) and headed back out to where we left Bob (my '85 VW Vanagone). As to what everyone else did after we left, I don't know, since I wasn't there. Overall it was very relaxing and a good time was had by all.

Sarah Ristow '01 (Treasurer Fall '99)

Handel's Messiah

On December 13, 1999, some members of the Outing Club decided to expose themselves to a little culture. Of course, what outing would be complete without someone getting lost on the way there? Eventually everyone made it and we settled down to listen to the symphony. The Pittsburgh Symphony Orchestra and the Mendelssohn Choir of Pittsburgh performed Handel's Messiah at Heinz Hall. We had tickets for the Gallery (or "nose bleed section"), but, this being the symphony, there was nothing all that exciting to watch on stage so we didn't miss anything. Everyone seemed to enjoy themselves and, other than a minor fire emergency near the

parking garage, there were no other problems. All in all it was a very good time.

Bethany Cauvel '02

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