

BEAR TRACK



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December 4 '50

U.C. HIKING CLUB

Rm. C, Eshleman, Berkeley 4

ROSE BOWL? UCHC OUTING TO BE IN SOUTHERN CALIF. DEC. 26-31

A joint outing, the first of its kind that U.C.H.C. has ever had, will take place in Joshua Trees National Monument during the second week of Christmas vacation. Bears will join forces with Bruins for six days of desert hiking and camping with the hiking club at U.C.L.A.

The trip will officially begin on December 26 and will end on December 31, leaving just enough time to get to Pasadena.

The park is part of two great deserts, the Mojave and the Colorado. Although it

XMAS PARTY

This Saturday is the date for the last entertainment committee event of the term, the Christmas party.

Featuring both folk and social dancing, the shindig will be held in Senior Women's Hall, near Cowell Hospital.

Festivities start at 8:30.

There will be the usual (how spoiled can we get?) FREE REFRESHMENTS, and the committee asks that you sign up in Room C before the party if possible so they will know how many to expect.

SLIDE SHOW

Slides of the club's three summer '50 outings will be the "come-on" for club elections next Thursday, December 14, at 7:30 P.M. in 105 Cal Hall.

Besides the choosing of next semester's wheels, the program will include kodachromes of the Lassen, Mt. Waddington and Ritter areas. The trip leaders will narrate the highlights of each trip.

Nominations for officers are listed on the yellow sheet in Room C. All members are free to add to the nominations.

CONSERVATION

IN-OWNERS IN THE
NATIONAL WILDERNESSES

(by Laurie Rhoda)

A ranger in Lassen Park was telling me about a good hike, and he pulled from his pocket the usual muslin-lined topog map. But what a different map this was from the one I had in my pack! It was covered with dozens of carefully colored squares. I asked what they were. "Those," said the ranger, "are the private lands within the park."

I was shocked. Like most mountain addicts, I kept up with the current headline battles between "conservationists" and "commercial interests" and sighed in relief each time a park area was "saved from encroachment". But it had never occurred to me that large parts of some National Parks and Monuments might already belong to private persons. How can a superintendent successfully administer a park like Lassen which is chopped into innumerable patches of private and government lands? Lassen isn't the only pri-

meval park where private owners control a substantial part of the land. Ranier is plagued by "in-owners" who insist upon lumbering, mining, and the building of unauthorized concessions in the park. In Jackson Hole National Monument the differences of opinion between park officers and the homesteaders caused a national furor. In Yosemite, the Curry Company has built its tile swimming pool and dance floor on its own property - Curry is cited by the National Park Association as the classic example of "commercial invasion inconsistent with National Park standards". Mining is going on in Joshua Trees National Monument, while some of the groves of trees themselves are owned by private parties, who are able at any moment to sell every tree on their land for commercial fiber. In Lassen, it's cattle. Barbed wire fences encircle the herds which graze upon private land.

was established mainly to preserve the wierd and rare desert trees for which it was named, it contains other strange plants and animals and a varied terrain. Most of the hiking will be in the desert mountains within the Monument. Main camp will be at Cottonwood Springs. We'll also visit the Lost Horse Valley, where the best stands of Joshua Trees are found. Details of where to meet, etc., will be posted in Room C next week. Since hikers will be coming from their own homes, transportation can't be guaranteed, but it is quite possible that you can arrange a ride with another UCHC'er from your own part of the state. Be sure to sign up in Room C before you go home for Christmas.

Another special feature of this trip will be the coronation of UCHC's very own Rose Bowl queen. Nominees so far are Moose Webber, Bob Beeman and Lorraine Lackey. Other nominations will be accepted.

(conservation, cont':)

while the private owner of the Drakesbad area charges admission to park visitors who come to see the hot springs.

Some of these private owners are descendants of the original homesteaders. Some are business-minded men who exploit the fine resources such as grasslands and minerals which are found within the park's private lands. And some are hold-out opportunists who have the park management in a spot and know it. The congressional appropriation wasn't enough, in most cases, to pay the price that these owners demanded. So their properties
(cont' P. 2)

MILL VALLEY HIKE
(rehash by Jerry Smith)

While the stay-at-homes enjoyed the Berkeley drizzles, the intrepid UCHCers who journeyed to beautiful Marin Co. enjoyed...uh, well, at least it didn't exactly rain.

It was quite a hike, what with one individual turning back, and another still wandering around the Mill Valley bus depot for all we know.

Then it was "dirty, dirty Army" when it was discovered that the army had fenced off half of the top of Mount Tamalpais and a 45 minute detour was necessary.

One thing that all UCHC members should note: according to Sue Leppmann, who was watching Jorge Heller skipping down the road, "JORGE MAKES A GOOD SCHOOLGIRL!" How about it?

Another novel part of the excursion was a little 75 degree downhill slope jumping, necessitated by the disappearance of the trail (honest, gang, the leader wasn't lost!) Some eager beavers wanted to go up and do it again.

A fine ending to the excursion was the stop at Mary Shaw's home in Marin County, where everyone rested their hot dogs, ate cookies, drank...cokes, and read the funnies.

And so back to Berkeley, books and rain!

(CONSERVATION: cont' p. 1:)

have remained intact within the parks, a headache to the superintendents and their staffs.

The problem of what to do about it is a tough one. Even if the conservation forces could pressure congress into drastic legislation which would kick these private parties out or severely limit their activities, there would be much righteous resentment and sympathy for the honest homesteaders who would be



NEXT YEAR'S OUTINGS PLANNED

Outings Committee has announced a tentative outings schedule for next semester & next summer.

A between semester outing to Lassen National Park, including skiing and snow camping, is scheduled for the end of January.

The Spring Vacation outing, during the last week of April 1951, will be to Yosemite National Park.

An especially interesting trip is slated for the June summer outing. Property permissions are being obtained for a backpacking trip down the McCloud river from a point below the town of McCloud to the River's mouth in Shasta Lake, behind Shasta Dam.

Most of this country is virgin forest, and the river itself is "white water" most of the way.

A tentative summer trip into the Great Western Divide country (Sequoia National Park) is scheduled for the last two weeks of summer vacation.

(conservation, cont.:)

dispossessed. Yet if the situation continues indefinitely, part of the attraction and esthetic use of the parks will be destroyed. It seems to be the old story of rousing public opinion, the hardest chore a "conservationist" has. The best we can do now is make sure that everyone interested in the parks knows the situation and is ready to help remedy it when the chance arises.

CONSERVATION DAY
(rehash information furnished by R.L. Bower)

November 19 was a very wet day, but a dozen waterproof Bear Hikors turned out for our annual Conservation Day in Tilden Park.

First order of business was the leveling of an old CCC building.

Then, with Jack Parker, the Park Naturalist, and his 8-months-old pet deer Tony, we carried shovels for a mile and a half up the muddy Wildcat Peak road to plant seedling Douglas firs. With the cold wet fog swirling around us and the pet deer chewing on the young trees, our extra ponchos and jackets and the ranger himself, we finished the job in record time.

Back at the park nature area, we had lunch, saw movies of the park and fooled around in the nature museum.

Then most of the rugged UCHCers hopped in their warm cars and hurried back to Berkeley and dry clothes, leaving Bob Orser and Richard L. Bower to hike to Grizzly Peak.

ROSTER, CORRECTIONS AND ADDITIONS

- Ronald Abraham, 1812 Bonita, Berkeley 9, BE 7-0553J.
- Kenneth Faulk, 2705 Ridge Rd. Ruth Friedlander, 2527 Ridge Rd. Berk. 9, AS 3-5900
- Mary Lapez, Piexotto, Hillside & Dwight. BE 7-4780
- Lorraine Laskey, Piexotto, Hillside & Dwight. BE 74780
- Joan Manaras, 2714 Ridge Rd., Berkeley 9, BE 7-9005
- Richard Merritt, 836 Alma Ave, Oakland 10, Calif.
- Florence Rata, 2667 Parker, Berkeley, AS 3-1096
- Bob & Joan Rogers, 604 51st St., Oakland
- Eva Schohl, 2312 Ellsworth, AS 3-2957
- David Watson, 2420 Ridge Rd, Berk. 9, BE 7-8965

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