

# U.C.H.C. bulletin

Vol. 9, No. 2 March 5, 1953 U. C. HIKING CLUB Rm. C. Eshleman Hall

## Progressive Dinner This Saturday Butano Redwoods Trip

Oh goody! we eat again. It's progressive dinner time. We'll start progressing about 6:00PM Sat. March 7, to the various houses where we'll eat our fill.

"Soup at Searles" is slated for the first course, then on to Ellie's for the salad (one of them thar tossed kind? I think).

Betty Jo and Ann have put out the welcome mat for us and so at their apt. we'll get into the meat of the meal--as well as the potatoe and vegetable parts.

Dessert is something special--believe me, it's gonna be just super-do! No one wants to miss that ---so I'll clue you where we're having it; at the Senior Women's Hall.

And just to do things up right, we'll wind up the evening by folk dancing. Them of you peoples who are folk dance enthusiasts, here is your chance to shine. And as we have plenty of novices among us, the learners will have lots of company.

Oh yes--almost forgot--there'll be a slight fee to cover costs of the dinner and fixin's.

For gosh sakes--don't miss this chance of the semester to get a real terrific meal! Come along even if you didn't sign up.

Emy Johannson

## General Meeting

This first General Get-together of the semester will be Thursday evening, March 12. Time and place will be announced on the UCHC Bulletin board.

For entertainment the highlights of the Baja California trip will be described and demonstrated on the screen. Come in to the office to find out what else will be on the agenda.

This is a good chance to meet the old and new members of the club.

## "Beware the Ides of March---"

This year to commemorate the "Bumping off" of G.J. Caesar (March 15), the U.C.H.C. will travel down the Sunny (we hope) Peninsula and visit the Butano Redwoods.

This forest is one of the beauty spots of the Bay Area. Its natural beauty is enhanced by isolation from that infernal machine, the automobile. There is not even a dirt road into the area.

It is the great hope of many Californians that this forest will be preserved as a hiker's retreat. Therefore, it is appropriate that we explore Butano as a conservation day project.

Our first glimpse of the area will be from a lofty perch on Butano Ridge (known to some as "Get-Losted Ridge"). After enjoying the view, we will descend to the North Fork of Butano Creek. If the leader isn't lost by now and if he finally catches up with everybody, we will visit a little tumbled-down cabin. After relieving our hunger pangs here, we will hike alongside a stream which is surrounded by Redwoods, ferns, and other botanical finery. There will be no particular destination. Exploration and enjoyment will be our only goals.

SO--- for a wonderful day in a beautiful place, remember these immortal words, "Et tu, Butano!" P.S. See the Bulletin Board for Details.

Paul Sorenson

## Golden Gate Park

Thirteen UCHC'ers got acquainted with one another and with Golden Gate Park on this semester's first event. They met each other at West Gate, where as the circle of members increased, and the roster of names was again and again repeated everyone started out properly confused. The day in the park included a variety of activities. The day in the park.

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YOSEMITE

Amid the dismal darkness of the morning, cars were leaving the Berkeley campus, one by one, each following the one before it, and all headed across the valley toward Yosemite, that never-never land of skiing, hiking, climbing, ice skating and folk dancing. Pete Watson, his car bulging with girls (this aspect of the trip was carefully worked out well in advance by Pete himself) arrived early Saturday morning at Badger Pass eager for an afternoon on the slopes...only to discover that no one had thought to bring ICE SKATES! Alas, they were forced to resort to skis:

Here we go down the slippery slopes

Slippery slopes, slippery slopes,

Here we go down the slippery slopes,

Not with a schuss, but with a lurch & a thump.

As others arrived through-out the day, they too found that skis were not quite the right instruments to use on the Badger slopes. However, most of us were having a great time despite poor snow conditions and after driving back to Camp Four (where we cooked and had dinner) we were off again to Camp Curry's giant Barn-hall to participate in a gala evening of energetic folk dancing. The hours danced by with the rest of us and after dancing one last hambo we attached ourselves to various parts of Harry's car and headed back toward camp. As we climbed into our sleeping bags and gazed up at the stars, we wistfully reflected on previous Sierra trips and wondered what the next day would bring that was new and beautiful.

Sunday morning found us wanting to do many different activities but by ten o'clock a group of us had started up toward Half Dome...a leisurely and curious group who wanted merely some of the wonderful changes from the noisy city life... some of the silence and serenity which one finds so much in the mountains. The way led up toward the "Mist Trail", and as we came around a bend in the trail and then stepped out on a rustic wooden bridge, we saw a beautiful view of Vernal Falls, completely bathed in sunlight against the background frame of the darkened trees and cliffs... We did not linger too long, however, and soon we found ourselves climbing the icy steps of the "Mist Trail", under gardens of sparkling icicles and on up to a lunch spot at the top of Nevada Falls. After lunch there was some thought of climbing Liberty Gap,  
(Con't Next Column)

## YOSEMITE (Con't From Left Column)

but we decided to go as far up Half Dome as we could. Onward we climbed, through snowy meadows & finally up the back side of the snow covered shoulder of Half Dome. Then, almost as if by magic, we found ourselves on top the shoulder, and before us was a wondrous and beautiful view of the Sierra peaks and ranges rising in their grandeur all around us. Put it was getting late and rather than go on to the top of Half Dome we decided to head back down. We took off in a mad race down the snowy mountainside and in short order we were all back in Camp Four cooking dinner.

Did I say all? NO! That is, all but three of us who were back on Washington Column. We had spent the day labourously climbing up the face and now it was early evening. The sky was still blue as the first stars shone. The massive bulk of Half Dome cast a great shadow that slowly slid down the opposite canyon wall as the bright moon rose. Gusts of strong chill wind brushed across the sheer rock of Washington Column. We watched our shadows dance on the silvery granite face while descending the vertical wall. Over the last twenty feet we swung free from the overhanging rock and landed on the ledge below. A few minutes later Bill had reached the ledge and Dick Searle was on the way down. It was chilly but the moon seemed to give us a friendly light while the shadows were dark and cold. Dick reached us; we pulled hard to recover the rop and eventually had it set up off the other end of the ledge into a dim light below. It only took a matter of minutes to make the trip down where it had taken us to come up during the long day (of course, one mis-step going down and we could have been down even faster...say, in no time FIAT!) One at a time we roped off below, the others rubbing their hands to keep them warm while they waited. To be sure, there was some cursing now and then as ropes tangled but the trip was otherwise rather still and certainly simple and beautiful...the rock wall, looming Half Dome... and the moonlight (Editors Note: we hikers are a romantic bunch at heart!) But all this is just one of the answers to why climbers climb even if they don't reach the top.

The next day was a day of rest, relaxation, and general loafing for most of us (we had earned it). Cars were leaving during the day, one by one, but some leaving in  
(Con't On Page 5)

SENIOR GATE PARK (Con't From Page 1) EDITORIAL - Bob Shephard

included a variety of activities. The major one, as certain some muscles later testified, was bicycling; however along the way there were many interesting side trips.

The first of these was a short session at the swings, slides and other playground equipment. Next came a survey of animal husbandry at a small model barn. It was behind the Academy of Sciences that Leader Pete Scott gave a rendition of a xylophone on the ribs of a huge whale skeleton. At the Japanese Tea Gardens the riders tried their mounts long enough to stroll thru the grounds and to discuss cameras and photography with a Cal alumnus. A view was even included in the trip for the members rode (some pushed) their bikes up the hill near Stow Lake for a magnificent view of the Pacific. At Stow Lake, the Hiking Club became amphibious for an hour through the medium of canoes ...oh, yes, and also "water-bugs".

Lunch came next, and the group found a site that was very pleasant and relatively secluded. From there the group headed for the beach, not missing the opportunity for a fast "Loop-the-Loop" presented by a bicycle race track. Roller Coaster rides, refreshments and the Pacific Ocean wind greeted cyclists at the Playland-at-the-Beach. Here there were things that attracted the bold (i.e. the roller coaster) and the meek (i.e. the merry-go-round.) Heading back to the bicycle shop the group traveled a unique route, better termed an obstacle course, through the park. Fortunately and amazingly everyone got to the same destination and then and there the Hiking Club took to another form of wheels (Ford, Chevy etc)

Betty Jo Hardison

HIKING CLUB SING - Amy Johannson

"Let me in, I (want to) hear music, let me in, open up the door!" was the cry of those early birds who arrived at the Senior Womens' Hall for the traditional Firside Sing. The door was open & the place swarmed with people. Dick Searle motioned everyone to be seated, welcomed the new members and introduced the new officers. A few words about coming events were put on the record and then Ernie showed his remarkable slides of the Alps (we didn't know we had such a terrific climber among us.)

Our brand new song sheets helped us remember the words to our old songs, and so we sang. If there was anything lacking in the quality of our voices, it was more than made up in the volume that filled the hall. Do-nuts and hot cider finished the evening.

With the next edition of THE BEAR TRACK, it's hoped we can all call it the "new streamlined edition." I am presently waiting for special letter guides and other equipment to arrive from back home in New York. Then THE BEAR TRACK will really be going full steam.

Incidentally, we need an artist very badly. With all the members we have in the UCHC, surely at least one or two must be talented at some sort of art and drawing ...we're not looking for an Al Capp...anyone proficient at doodling might very well serve the purpose. So please, if you draw or enjoy doing art work, let us know. Drop a note in the BEAR TRACK envelope in Eshleman Hall noting where we can contact you.

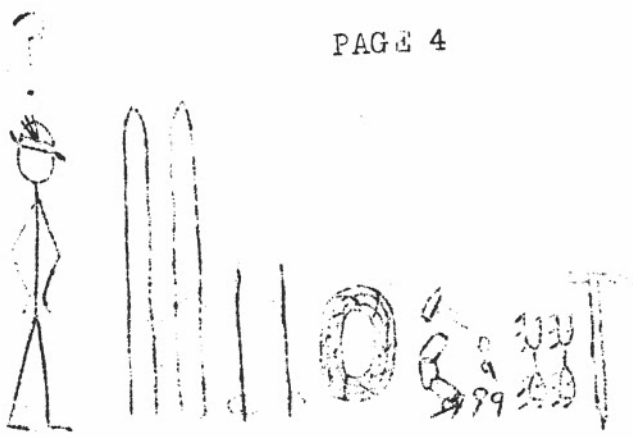
With the next BEAR TRACK edition, also, you will find a new feature — but the success of this feature will depend entirely on YOU! The section will be titled "Letters To The Editor". Everyone has their gripes or suggestions related to the Hiking Club or one of the club's committees. Here's your chance to state your views or ideas publicly. We will print your ideas and suggestions. Please sign your name to all such letters but if you request, such names will be omitted from publication. Let's have those suggestions and letters. You may find that one of your gripes or ideas has plenty of company, but no one ever got around to putting forth their views. Leave all letters in the BEAR TRACK envelope, in Room C in Eshleman Hall.

Here's a big welcome to a new section in THE BEAR TRACK... the UCHCMS — that's Mountaineering Section 't you. Dave Dows is this issues author. Any articles you may have relating to the Mountaineering Section should be turned into Don Matteson at the Eshleman office.

Finally, to each one who has contributed an article for this BEAR TRACK, we all appreciate your help...especially me! Thank you.

NOTE: Bob Shephard is the new editor of THE BEAR TRACK. He arrived on the Berkeley campus last June from the LA campus and although he was comparatively inactive in the UCHC last semester, he has thrown himself into plenty of activity this term. For some reason or other he is not unknown to Amy (Pistol Packin' Mama) Johannson who kept the poor guy at bay with her water gun during the whole return trip from St. Helena last Sunday! If you have any ideas or suggestions for the BEAR TRACK, talk to Bob about it.

MT'NR'N

MEETING  
MARCH 19

Vol I No 1 U C H C Mountaineering Section March 5, 1953

Comes The Revolution ~

At a meeting of the mountaineering section, Tuesday the 24th, the gathering winds puffed and blew mightily upon the sails of the good ship Alpine. With a new hull, constructed from many sound old timbers and many fresh new ones, the ship sets sail for greater mountaineering enjoyment. The new captain, Don Matteson, and the new helmsmen, Julie Boyd, Larry Williams, and Bill Adams, list many fresh and interesting ports of call, and hope for a greatly increased passenger list.

A RESOLUTION passed at the meeting changes the structure of the mountaineering section in several important ways. Perhaps the most important is that the section will in the future be dedicated to all fields of mountaineering instead of primarily to rock climbing. This corresponds to the opinion of many club members that the section was becoming too specialized. The first step toward reaching the goal of serving everyone interested in any aspect of mountaineering, from snow mountaineering to peak scrambling, from rock climbing to just sittin' by lakes, was to open the section to any interested member and to create a committee which can not become restricted to technical rock climbers. At present, needed on the committee, are a couple of members interested primarily in snow mountaineering or peak climbing. The old requirements of rock climbing skills have been placed in a minor position, and will serve mainly as a standard which a beginner in rock climbing may set for himself.

The new chairman and committee members listed above have had varied experiences in the mountaineering field. Chairman Matteson has done considerable peak climbing in Glacier Park as well as in the Sierra. Bill and Julie have done a deal of mountain exploring, and Julie sports the pin of the Stanford Alpine Club as well. Larry, of course, is known to all for his climbing on

(continued on pg. 5)

NEW MEMBERS  
OLD MEMBERS

EVERYONE !!

PRACTICE CLIMBS!

Cragmont Rock Practice Climb

MARCH 22

On Sunday March 22 between 1:00 and 5:00 p.m. Cragmont Park will be the scene of the second scheduled practice rock climb of the semester.

If you beginners don't get your first taste of rock climbing at Indian Rock, this climb will provide an excellent opportunity to "learn the ropes", well enough to really get some pleasure out of climbing. The "old timers" will offer special instruction on a personalized basis.

For transportation, meet at North Gate at 12:45 p.m. "Them that has cars" will pick up them that haint! See the bulletin board for sign ups and any other details.

D. S.

Indian Rock Practice Climb

MARCH 8

The time has come to revise the widespread, but erroneous impression that flst ground is preferable to vertical rock.

We can't explain to you why we like to climb, but we can invite you to come and see for yourself. The older U. C. H. C. climbers will furnish instruction in all phases of rock climbing and correct use of the rope at Indian Rock( in north Berkeley ) this Sunday, March 8th U. C. H. C. crs, including girls, who have never climbed before are especially invited to this climb. Although climbing thirty feet up a rock in the middle of town doesn't compare with a real mountain (one does, however, get a pleasant view of the Bay on a clear day), it is necessary to learn basic rope techniques in a relatively safe place before attempting (try to find the end of this!)

## SOLUTION (Con't From Page 4)

The granite of the Sierra, the ice and snow of Washington State and the glaciers of British Columbia. It is hoped that the members of the club experienced in skiing and touring will make their valuable experience available.

Plans for the future include dinners, slide programs and general get-togethers for mountaineers, local climbers, cave exploring and especially trips to the mountains of California. A trip to the region of the Sierras near Sonora Pass is planned, and one feature of the trip will be that although the group will camp together, there is enough country to handle many groups fanning out for trips during the day. There will be opportunity for cross country hiking and exploring, scrambling on the Dardanelles cones or other peaks and many other activity.

All members of the UCHC who are interested in any phase of mountaineering are urged to sign the section roster on the mountaineering bulletin board in Room C, Bohleman Hall. The more people that join us, the more people served. We need your names now so we can begin sending out information on the section. Also on the bulletin board you will find various bits of information concerning the new section.

All Aboard!

---Dave Dows

## INDIAN ROCK (Con't From Page 4)

real rope climbing. The time is 1:00 PM Sunday; meet at West Gate on campus...wear old clothes and tennis shoes.

After the climb we will have the usual mountaineering section dinner (cost is UNDER \$1.00, but the place is undesignated at this writing) giving everyone a chance to get together and talk mountaineering, philosophy, hiking, etc. Bring any pictures you have that might interest people (no "art" pictures, please, fellas!) In case of rain (none for about 45 days now, so let's hope it keeps up), local climbs are cancelled; the rock gets slippery.

---Don Matteson

## ST. HELENA CRATERS (Con't)

of how the early pioneers must have felt. The hiking started from the top of the pass on the highway to Middleton, up a telegraph maintenance road. Where the road ended, Dick and Jean led us down into the craters. The trail was well marked for quite a ways and then turned into brush-breaking for awhile. By noon, the sun seemed to be pretty much a thing of the past. After lunch (with picture taking between bites -- we looked more like the camera club than the UCHC...or was this a geology field trip?) we abandoned the trails for the most part and wandered over ridges and across ice crusted water rills. The scenery around us got plenty of attention. About 3:00 PM the snow began to swirl around the 29 of us on the trip...just to make us happy. Then we headed for Berkeley (one car came home via Muir Woods but they don't talk about that). The trip resulted in one idea to enlarge our membership. One visitor with us, Amad Azad from Persia (Iran they call it now) wants to join the UCHC...says he took quite a bit of weight off his "bay window". Anyone overweight and wanna' lose pounds???? Join the Hiking Club! And have fun losing those extra pounds.

---Lillian Pissott

EDITORS NOTE: When we received this article from Lillian, some inhuman monster (probably of the lowly "room-mate" genus) had added this remark: "Please add something to this...preferably a story, some wit, and a moral -- possibly that Lill shouldn't write" (unquote.)

DON'T FORGET THE UCHC GENERAL MEETING...THIS COMING THURSDAY EVENING, MARCH 12th. PROBABLY IN DWINELLE HALL, BUT CHECK THE UCHC BULLETIN BOARD FOR EXACT PLACE. SLIDES WILL BE SHOWN...7:30 PM

## YOSEMITE (Con't From Page 2)

opposite directions this time... some to keep appointments, some just lingering till later to soak up all they could of the beautiful Sierras...at any rate the trip was one of the most successful this year. May it linger in our memories for a long time. To help the memory, we took coloured slides, movies, etc that we'll all have a chance to share and see at the March 12th General Meeting. If you didn't get the chance to make the Yosemite trip with us, come to the meeting and you'll get a chance to re-live the adventure with us via the screen.

---Julie Bond  
Pete Scott  
Larry Williams

## ST. HELENA CRATERS TRIP

The St. Helena Craters offer thick brush, volcanic rock, tree crested knolls, good hiking and fortunately or unfortunately (all depending on how you look at things) few trails to follow. Last week they offered a little more...a mere occasional cold wind, black clouds threatening rain which decided to become SNOW instead, and a feeling  
(Con't Next Column)