



THE BEGINNING OF FIRST-YEAR TRIPS

NOEL SIEGERT

BACKGROUND

- Dartmouth Outing Club first-year trips started in 1935
- Currently, about 90% of each incoming class participates on trips (according to the DOC)
- Personally, I really enjoyed trips
- Lots of stories about the “old trips”
- Decided to research the first few years of trips



APPLICATION FORM (1935)

APPLICATION

HANOVER, N. H.

MOONSLAKE TRIP.

Sept. 10th-16th 1935

I will be at the Cutting Club House at 2:00 P.M. Tuesday, September 10th, ready to start for Moonslake.

I will ask the Club to make baggage arrangements for me as follows:
(Specify number and description of pieces to be handled, and whether hand baggage, express or checked on railroad ticket. The Club assumes no obligation for lost baggage.)

I enclose \$2.00 as deposit for the trip (remainder \$8.00 on full payment)

Name _____
Home address _____
New college address _____

The above applicant is in good physical condition, has no heart trouble, and I endorse his participation in the trip.

(signed) _____
Parent, Guardian or Doctor

1 packack, packboard or rucksack
2 soap, small towel, toilet articles
2 wool shirts (sweaters not so good)
Underwear
1 suit long light weight wool underwear to use for pyjamas
3 pairs wool socks
Flash light
1 pair dungarees or old wool trousers
1 pair of shorts
1 pair of heavy boots, just above ankle in height
(Tall boots which bind the calf will be a hindrance rather than a help)

Hanover, N. H.

Dear _____,

In accordance with your instructions, we are holding a place for you on the special Freshman trip to the Moonslake region, September 10th - 16th inclusive.

The trip will meet and leave from the Cutting Club House, at the end of Hope Ferry Road, Ocean Pond, Hanover, at 2 P.M. Standard Time, Tuesday, September 10th.

Headquarters of the trip during the week will be at the Moonslake Guest Camp, cell address, 5/2 P.O. Box, at Brookfield, N.H., some forty miles north of Hanover. Men who are late can pick up with the group here, although this procedure is not recommended.

The trip will return to Hanover and disband at the Cutting Club House by 8 P.M. on Monday, September 16th.

By special arrangement of the Club with the superintendent of buildings, personal baggage can be placed in your dormitory room on Tuesday, September 10th. The room, however, cannot be used elsewhere until the night of September 16th. All such baggage should be clearly marked with your name, the dormitory and room number. The Club will have a trunk at the Cutting Club House to distribute it to the rooms. Trunks sent by express should be addressed direct to the room as usual, and notice left with the chief of trip so that he can sign for it should it arrive during your absence. Trunks checked through on your railroad ticket will go to White River Junction. If you turn over the checks on this to the Chief of Trip, he will arrange for the Club truck to pick it up at White River and deliver to your room - thus avoiding baggage charges. A nominal charge will be made in addition to the \$10.00 fee below for trips to White River Junction.

We suggest that you bring all your clothes and equipment for the trip in a packack, for it will not be possible to get into your trunk or other baggage before the trip leaves for Moonslake. Recommended equipment is as follows:

1 packack, packboard or rucksack
2 soap, small towel, toilet articles
2 wool shirts (sweaters not so good)
Underwear
1 suit long light weight wool underwear to use for pyjamas
3 pairs wool socks
Flash light
1 pair dungarees or old wool trousers
1 pair of shorts
1 pair of heavy boots, just above ankle in height
(Tall boots which bind the calf will be a hindrance rather than a help)

Sept. 13-19

Monday night - Spay 4:30 a.m.

Tuesday 2 1/2 hrs. untraveled
1/2 cabine around
morning
up and over from
Kennebunk - down to
Wednesday
Up to Lafayette
Kennebunk - edge
back to Spay - 4:30
Thursday
to Adirondacks - I.O.C.A.
into Colden
Return to Hanover - Sunday, Sept. 19

Partis food
blankets
poncho
hiking shoe

trip cost at \$ 10
8
80
20

1. Dackmouty article - Commence with mine
2. Supplement sheet - Dackmouty out of door
3. Paper sheet and 6 food interested
4. Hatch - see Hooding about
Tramcar



TRIP REPORT (1936)

TRIP LEADER'S REPORT



Include base, trails used, transportation mileage and cost, food cost, hotel cost per person, comments of permanent interest, (trails, cabins, shelters, stores, etc.) and comments on outstanding leaders on the trip.

1936 FRESHMEN TRIP-MT. MOOSILAUKE

Sept. 7-13

The summit camp on Moosilauke was the base of activity during the three day orientation trip for the class of '40. Will Brown and I met the freshmen at the D.C.C. House Wednesday noon and with me introduced to all the freshmen the list of names was returned to Feb. When we on the mountain we couldn't remember how many men were on the trip, which condition should be eradicated in the future and if you don't believe me ask Will Brown for the possible loss of one man had his pretty worried. Despite a few mechanical difficulties enroute to Moosilauke all eight freshmen showed up for supper on the summit. After a short sing by the fire and a discussion of the snow's plans we turned in for the night. Thursday dawned clear and were providing perfect atmospheric conditions for a half-work half-pleasure trip thru Tunnel ravine and back up Benton. Much pleasure was derived from the potential land slides in the ravine as well as from several axies and chute the chutes in the back. Altho every one was plenty tired that night they all were enjoying themselves. A deck tennis and horse shoe tournament provided occupation on the summit while waiting for meals and lunches to be put up.

Friday found the freshmen exploring Hell's Highway and Bysmy and later building a wood shed on Jobildunk cabin. The lumber for the woodshed had to be hauled from camp three and supplied a nice taste of cabin and trail work. Through all this and subsequent tasks the freshmen were helpful and in good spirits.

Due to bad weather we spent Saturday morning on the summit doing parlor tricks and fooling around. Despite the continued bad weather five of the gang dragged me down to Jobildunk to spend the night. Besides food we took along a block and tackle to remove the rocks out of Jobildunk's pool which was Joe Dunford's suggestion. Altho the water was too cold to allow much rock moving under water, the gang had a swell time cooking, singing, and everything.

We were all on the summit for breakfast and spent the morning sawing up the summit's wood supply, then chopping it up, and hauling it to third floor by dint of many devious devices.

With that survey of the trip out of the system we'll move on to other details. The week of Sept. 10-19.12 going for food and lodging and the rest for transportation. It would seem only fair that the private cars used on such a trip should receive recompense in the same ratio as other trip leaders.

If the trip is continued in the future I would stress the requirement of more than one junior leader. Altho I had a swell time with the gang I think they would have had a better time if there were more leaders around to take out small gangs. Also I would suggest a trip into the Presidentials and the only reason we didn't go up this year was because the weather wasn't suitable. Furthermore I would suggest that the freshmen be excluded from some of the work we did. This particular gang was swell and didn't complain about anything including the leader.

(over)

With the possible exception of Jack Fraize who had a bad cold, all men are good cabin & trail material at least in my opinion. The other men were: Whit Miller, Bob Castle, Joe Dunford, Cal Bowie, John English, Bill Bolson, and Steve Jewett. (Landed every one successfully)

If the summit camp has had a successful year it seems to me that the total cost of the trip could be easily reduced, especially when the freshmen did as much as this gang did.

Interesting projects such as building the wood shed on Jobildunk can do much to increase the interest and enthusiasm. Exploration trips with an eye to interesting terrain and good swimming holes go over very well. It's nice also to see that the summit crew puts up good lunches and not trail crew lunches. Tomato juice is very tasty along with sandwiches especially on a mountain top.

W. Joe Carpenter

Would suggest that some financial reimbursement be in order for the leader of the trip to cover postage & mimeographing



NEWS ARTICLE (1937)

- “DOC Plans Annual Frosh Mountain and Cabin Trip to Start on September 13”



TRIP GUIDE (1937)

FRESHMAN TRIP 1937

As possible the announcements of the trip should be on the mail before the first of August so that the club and leaders may know in advance how many to expect.

The leaders of the trip should be picked with an eye to their ability to mix with the freshmen. A "joker" or "funny-man" is indispensable when the spirits are getting low and an organizer or business head is a necessity.

In the line of preliminary arrangements we found it wise to check up on the equipment in the Spyglass Farm as well as with Ford Sayre, the owner, and the Tibbys who live on the farm. The menu should be planned so as to give a well rounded diet and still be convenient for packing if that is necessary. We got Herb Porter of the summit crew to do the cooking and the boys really enjoyed it a lot. However the cooking kept Herb from participating in the other activities of the trip. To make these arrangements it is necessary that at least one leader be in Hanover several days before the trip leaves. Furthermore he is therefore at hand to meet the freshmen who arrive early and answer the questions of fond parents.

Before the trip leaves one leader should check over each man's equipment to be sure it is sufficient and also check each man off as he leaves in a car, to be sure all at least got started.

After being on two freshmen trips I would say that the summit of Moosilauke is a better spot for a base camp than Spyglass mainly because there is more to do around the former in case of inclement weather. Horse shoes and deck tennis also can occupy the leisure time.

If the party is large we suggest that it's better to split it up into smaller groups when climbing for usually there are several distinct groups based either on climbing ability or speed.

In the line of itinerary the freshmen seemed to appreciate Hall's Highway more than anything else on Moosilauke. With that trip as a start they enjoyed the longer and harder climb up Lafayette immensely. If future freshmen trips plan to include college week and the Adirondacks they may well profit by our



TRIPS SURVEY (1939)

Survey and Suggestions For Freshman Trip Based on Trip Of September-1939.

Question #1- What made you decide to join the trip?
The majority took the trip with the desire to get acquainted with Dartmouth, the Outing Club, and their classmates.

Question #2- How does the real trip in its various aspects compare with the sort of thing that you expected?
On the whole it was a little more than most of them expected in all ways. They were for the most part pleasantly surprised.

Question #3- In your opinion was the trip

a) Too strenuous
The trip was a bit strenuous, especially the first day. Next year we should plan a trip centering around a more leisure type of hiking, with much time for general playing around and casual conversation for those who aren't hiking enthusiasts.

b) More leisure time
Yes, as suggested above.

c) Should you have liked more instruction
On a whole most of the men would have liked a little more general instruction such as that given by Professor Page. Another year we might have Dick Weaver and Ross accompany the group and conduct small group classes on the botanical, wild life, and general forestry of the area.

Question #4 -What are your comments on the Moosilauke Summit Camp.

a) General appearance and equipment
The fact that there were too many men using the facilities and living at the MSC made a bad impression. Had it been very cold up there we would have been looked. And eating in 2 shifts and the great number to feed was too much of a task for the crew. The whole trip should be limited to 60 men at the MSC for an overnight stay at such a time of the year. A comfortable bed and good food makes a big first impression. The lighting situation was unfortunate this year.

b) Quantity and quality of food
Need for a better quality of food. Also a greater quantity for the amount of exercise. On the whole the general opinion was that the food was good, but there were several requests that all the meals be as substantial as were the majority. Be sure of sufficient staples.

Question #5 - Possible suggestions for future trips

a) Casual side trips very favorable. Limited to 10 men.
b) Improve possibilities of meeting one another.
c) Canoe trips a little too long.
d)

COMMENTS ON THE 1939 FRESHMAN TRIP

Please answer and return to: Hans Paschen, 21 Robinson Hall, Hanover, N. H.

1. What made you decide to join the trip?

a. Our letter alone?
b. Advice of students who took the trip last year?
c. Desire to get acquainted with Dartmouth and the D.O.C. as early as possible?
d. Suggestion of your family?
e. Any other reason, (state):

2. How does the real trip in its various aspects compare with the sort of thing that you expected?
The trip was about what I expected except the mountain climbing was a bit of a task for me and I have never done any before.

3. In your opinion was the trip:

a. Too strenuous?
b. Should there have been more leisure time?
c. Would you have preferred less hiking and more instruction on forestry, botany, wild-life, or just more leisure time for casual conversation?
The boys this year was a little too strenuous for boys unaccustomed to mountain climbing.

4. What are your comments on the Moosilauke Summit Camp?

a. General appearance and equipment
An excellent camp.

b. Quantity and quality of food served?
Excellent food.

5. Any other suggestions to make future trips more enjoyable - -
The boys should have been given their choice as to taking the mountain trip or canoe trip. This would avoid general "griping" later on.



PHOTOS (1938)



CONT.



FOR THE PAPER

- The gung-ho and impulsive nature that the students brought into the wilderness
- Dartmouth's idyllic masculinity

