

# UP ROPE!

NEWS OF THE WASHINGTON ROCK CLIMBERS

Vol. 1, No. 10.

March 21, 1945

↔ MEETING ↔  
 Thurs. Mar. 22--8 PM  
 at Mrs. Simons' ☆ Chris' Sister  
 4809-46th St. NW

## We Meet Again

The above box announces another meeting of the rock climbers. Purpose of the meeting is to discuss and vote upon the questionnaire which has been drawn up by the Questionnaire Committee appointed last time. This questionnaire is proposed as a means for tapping the opinion of all climbers, active and inactive, members and non-members, on matters pertaining to how our club should be run.

Mrs. Simons' home may be reached via the N2, Wisconsin and Messenden bus. Get off at 46th and Massachusetts and walk two blocks north on 46th St. An alternate route is to take the N2, Westmoreland Circle, bus to 46th andsuma and walk two blocks south on 45th.

## Piton Palaver at PATC

Last Thursday evening the mysteries of rock climbing were explained to a group of climbers and interested but horrified novices attending the Open House at Mail Club headquarters. Chris Scoredos, in charge of proceedings, explained the use of rope, pitons, carabiners, nailed shoes, and other climbing accouterments which were on exhibit. Slides were shown to present to the uninitiated a picture of the weird antics of the rock climber in action. Also on display were photographic

studies of climbing, rappelling, and aerial traversing.

Chris maintained that rock climbing is unique among sports in that new problems and unexpected situations arise constantly. Asked the most important requisite of a good climber, he replied it is the willingness to climb.

Refreshments were served at the conclusion of the program. We sincerely hope that the PATC gathering has interested some people enough to bring them climbing with us soon.

## Ups and Downs

March 11, 1945

Chris Scoredos  
 Arnold Wexler  
 Jan Conn  
 Carabiner\*  
 Piton\*  
 Eleanor Tatge  
 Sterling Hendricks  
 Andy Kauffman  
 Betty Kauffman  
 Harriet Hubbard  
 Fitz Clark  
 Jean Clark  
 Margaret Clark  
 Elizabeth Vos  
 Bert Vos

Jo Bradt  
 Paul Bradt  
 Alan Bradt  
 Mr. Wubnig  
 Martha Wubnig  
 Judy Wubnig  
 Dolores Alley  
 Billy Alley  
 Steve Yurenka  
 Gus Gams  
 Bob Stephens  
 Mrs. Stephens  
 Marian Churchill  
 George Thompson

\*(Pete and Beaner are the canine portion of the Conn menage.)

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 Tel.: SLigo 2458

Scheduled Carderock trips proved a success, as demonstrated by the long list of names above. People were coming and going all day long. In the morning Chris taught the little Wubnigs a few climbing elements. Eleanor and Gus explored a little around the far end of the Chris-Wex-Don, where Gus found that he wasn't in such bad climbing shape after all, in spite of not having been out for some time. Arnold and Sterling's party worked on the Chris-Wex-Don. Jan, Herb, and Steve climbed Leonard's Lunacy.

Don Jacobs' letter, reprinted in the last issue of UP ROPE, gave rise to a sudden enthusiasm for climbing down. Chris made the first descent of the Spider Walk. Arnold backed down the Pink (inside corner) Easter Egg Climb.

A new inside corner climb (Suction Cup Corner) was discovered near the start of the Chris Wex-Don Traverse, where the gang congregated for hours watching numerous trials; but only Jan, Herb, and Paul succeeded in the ascent. Herb proved that the corner could also be descended.

To summarize this field day, climbs were made on every rock from Jan's Face to the Easter Egg faces. Three of the five A climbs at Carderock were conquered and a new climb was discovered. Today's mania for descending major climbs may foretell a trend which will develop into a new voting requirement. (But rapelling was such fun!)

March 18, 1945

At Carderock about 45 people came out to enjoy the beautiful day, most of them rank beginners, some strictly kibitzers, and a few right good climbers. Chris Scoredos was in charge of the climbing activities of a group of about 15 Youth Hostellers, part of whom Don Hubbard took under his wing. A group of about 10 Boy Scouts functioned under the leadership of Dave Appel. Four Trail Clubbers, including Charlie Thomas and George Betz, led the kibitzing. The Hostellers lent their usual color to the drab cliffs of Carderock, arriving in every conceivable variety of costume including horseback riding boots, and nibbling constantly from innumerable gastro-nomic temptations tucked away in brown paper sacks.

In general the climbing was restricted to the simpler routes.

The Beginner's Crack, the Beginner's Corner next to the Spider Walk, Ronnie's Leap, the Buckets of Blood Cave, the Barnacle Face, were given a stiff workout. The Boy Scouts did very well, and seemed to enjoy especially some piton work around the corner downstream of the Spider Walk. Some fancy work was done on the Beginner's Corner when Don assisted two young ladies in the ascent by furnishing courte echelles both at the beginning of the climb and again in the middle of it.

We trust no harm befell Leonard Bolz and a young lady named Helen who were lost on the return trip from Carderock. We understand Helen distinguished herself by some very good climbing; we're prepared to chide Leonard severely if he led her astray.

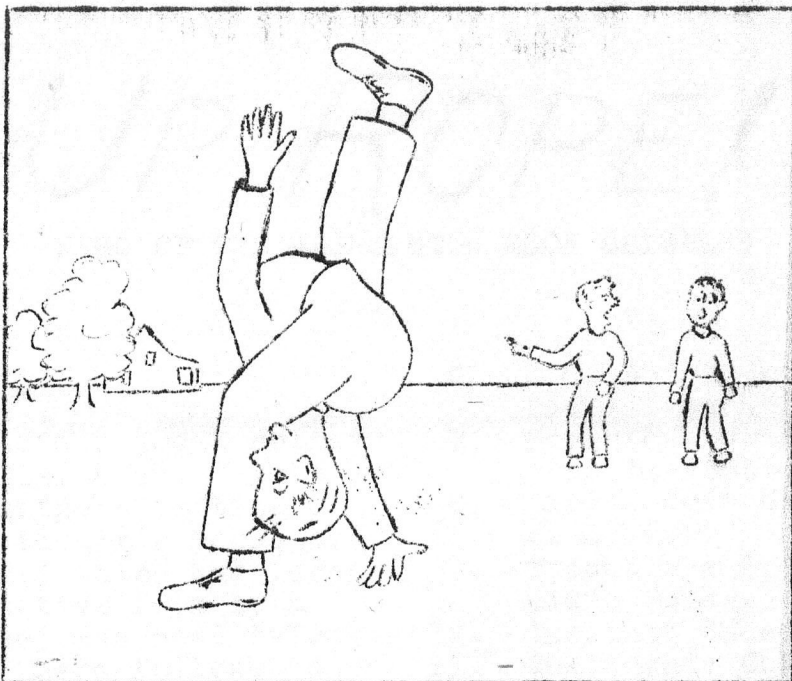
The same day Gus and Paul drove two carloads to Beverly Mill, and the following people were soon swarming upon the Bull Run rocks:

Gus Gambs	Sterling Hendricks
Paul Bradt	Arnold Wexler
Jo Bradt	Steve Yurenka
Alan Bradt	George Thompson
Elizabeth Vos	Marian Churchill
Bert Vos	Jan Conn
	Herb Conn

Descent as well as ascent was the order of the day once more, and this explains, perhaps, why for nearly the first time in our history a day was spent at Bull Run without even a glance at Charlie's Crack or the Overhang. The only qualifying climb attacked was Sterling's Corner, which was negotiated in both directions by Sterling, Herb, and Jan. Paul ascended and after climbing well over half way down retraced his steps to the top. His suggestion that he complete the climb by climbing halfway up from the bottom and down again was rejected.

Marian led Arnold up a good climb, a "Semi-Overhang," nearby, while others scrambled. Two roped parties of four each, led by Sterling and Paul, spent the rest of the morning winding in corkscrew style among the faces and chimneys of Zeus' Throne.

After lunch the group split, half remaining near the Throne, the others proceeding to a climb near the Little Quartz Slab, which was once called the "Unused Crack." Herb, Steve, Sterling, and Paul



"He's been like that ever since he climbed down Charlie's Crack!"

managed in four very different and difficult ways to use it. Pure "Mummery Crack" technique was demonstrated, followed by a display of strong-arm methods which ignored the crack. Paul made the swiftest ascent of the climb on record, spurred on by the calls of Alan from the papoose carrier above.

Back near the Throne climbing continued. Marian, Arnold, and Jo roped in for a traverse on the block north of the Throne. Thoughts (mostly Sterling's) of extending this traverse around the unclimbed western side of the block were abandoned due to the lateness of the hour.

Highlights of the day were Marian's discovery that her head was lower than her feet on one climb, Jo's dangling in the middle of an overhang with not enough rope from above to let her down, and George's sighing longingly while jammed high in a crack for "a spot of tea."

Gus provided an interesting sidelight on the origin of the name of the Throne: On the summit of Mt. Olympus is a massive and similar rock formation which bears the name "Zeus' Throne," and which provided Gus with the inspiration for naming the Bull Run rock.

#### Announcement

The scheduled trip to Car-derock for the month of April will be on April 15. It has been suggested that this outing might take advantage of the Sink Stopper for ferrying to Herzog Island.

#### News

Morton Churchill has entered overseas duty. He is doing photo-mapping work in the Engineering Corps of the Army. His address is:

T/5 Morton V. Churchill  
ASN 33383325  
2765th E. B. P. C.  
APO 18233, c/o Postmaster  
New York, N. Y.

#### Sneakers Repaired

Herb reports successful re-soling of a pair of sneakers by a Denver shop. The price \$2.50. The address:

Eagan's Serviced Boots  
1131 17th Street  
Denver 2,  
Colorado