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News of the Washington Rock Climbers

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"UP ROPES" for UP ROPE

If you are discarding any old UP ROPE copies, please let us know about it. The former editors kept only one copy, and they or the UP ROPE files will be short of anything up to Vol. 2, No. 5.

ELECTION MEETING
Thurs. Dec. 13, 1945 8:00 PM
with Chris & Helen Scoredos
4718 1st St. NW Apt- 613

Ups and Downs

Chris Scoredos	Robert Reasoner
Helen Scoredos	Kathleen Culverwell
Don Hubbard	C. F. Karban
Paul Bradt	Eleanor Tatge
Jo Bradt	Marion Murray
Alan Bradt	Russell Volckman
Betty Kauffman	Roger Morrison
Andy Kauffman	Blair Wood
Arnold Wexler	Mary Neilan
Bob Stephens	Pussy Behrenberg
Dolores Alley	Monty Powell
Billy Alley	Mary Jane Kerr
Betty Alley	F. O. McCarty
H. F. Stimson	R. Anderson
Edith Stimson	Sally Chamberlin
Steve Dawson	Jane Paneh
Mrs. Dawson	Elaine Frankel
Hope Dawson	Edith Klimberg
Bill Kemper	Nada Sutton
Mary Heaton	Harold Deery
Alice Weddell	Ruth Deery
Ellen Dawson	
Others not caught up with by the Reporter-in-Charge	

with climbers trying all the well-worn, tried and true routes with varying degrees of success. While the Cape of Good Hope* was being rounded and the Golden Stairs* surmounted under Don's able guidance Chris was coaching an aerial traverse and Paul investigating the most interesting extensions of Wexler's Worst. These are but samples of the day's doings. Small fry too had their innings. Russell Volckman, and finally Marion Murray, found the secret to the Kindergarten Climb**; and your reporter's eyes nearly popped out of her head when she looked up to see little Betty Alley halfway up the Beginner's Crack.

*Cape of Good Hope and the Golden Stairs are the two major portions of the climb from the Nubble Face to the top of the cliff, traversing to the right.

**The Kindergarten Climb is the last climb on the left of the Billy Goat Trail before the trail reaches the top of Jungle Cliff.

Don Hubbard	Sally Chamberlin
Arnold Wexler	Mary Heaton
Roger Morrison	Eleanor Tatge
Jimmy Maxwell	

Editors

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Founders and Past Editors

Jan & Herb Conn
Now at:
Carlsbad Cavern

November 25, 1945. A chilly day was spent on the Virginia side of the Potomac near Great Falls. While Don coached beginners starting with Juliet's Balcony, which even Mary Heaton almost climbed, and worked upstream sampling various climbs at intervals, Arnold, Jimmy, and Eleanor made a traverse of the cliff face from just above the Corkscrew Climb upstream until they met Donald's crew. Jimmy climbed the Bird's Nest Climb (B-11), and he, Arnold, and Eleanor made the inside corner of the Flatiron (B-14). The party collected to view the spectacle of Great Falls, particularly glorious today because of the moderately high stage of the river, before leaving for home.

A Wandering Scout Reports

An interesting letter received from Laurence Curl regarding his vacation last summer reports on some good and bad climbing regions as follows:

1. Pinnacle Rock State Park: A rock formation along U.S. 52 a few miles west of Bluefield, W. Va. From the description in the AAA literature I thought it would be somewhat like Seneca Rock, but no. The rock is apparently similar but the strata are nearly horizontal. Maybe it's more like the Big Schloss but much narrower. I scrambled on the thing for an hour or so. There are probably some good climbs on it and there is a slight overhang on the east side which appeared to offer a free rappel of a good 100 ft. Not worth a long trip to visit probably.

2. Blue Ridge Parkway, N.C. line to near Boone, N.C.: Somewhat like Skyline Drive except country tamer. Follows eastern rim of plateau with many views to the east. Pilot Mt. near Mt. Airy looked quite interesting. Near Parkway not much exposed rock, mostly on Little Grandfather Mt.

3. Grandfather Mt.: Described by Charlie Thomas as three Old Rags put together. After all that build-up it was not at all disappointing. Abandoned toll road on SW side leads to a parking overlook in around 2 miles. Easy walking. A trail leads from here over five or six of the peaks of Grandfather. Highest cliffs start only 1/4 mile or less from parking

overlook; 150 to 200 ft. or so high, look very interesting. Many other cliffs along trail, mostly on west side of mountain. Rock is a hard (granite?), much finer grained than Old Rag. Looks like a lot of fine climbing here.

4. Table Rock: Near Linville Gorge. Very precipitous peak with fire tower on top, so must be a trail up from somewhere. Looks like worth an investigation.

5. Mt. Mitchell: Don't know where Prof. Mitchell found a cliff to fall off of; didn't see any on whole Black Mt. range.

6. Pisgah Mt.: Landmark SW of Asheville. Trail 1-1/4 mile; fine viewpoint (when not in fog as when I was there); no cliffs seen.

7. Looking-glass Mt.: near U.S. 276, N. of Bruard. Stated to be largest monolith in southern Blue Ridge. Apparently pictured in Lo-beck's Geomorphology, p. 65. A huge mass of rock, apparently an exfoliation dome. A Forest Service road appears to be a good access, but was closed when I was there.

8. U.S. 64: Bruard to Franklin. Many cliffs visible. Cliffs at Toxanay Falls look like good slab climbing. Whiteside Mt. has some very high cliffs on N. side not far from main highway, called Devil's Courthouse I believe. Looks very interesting.

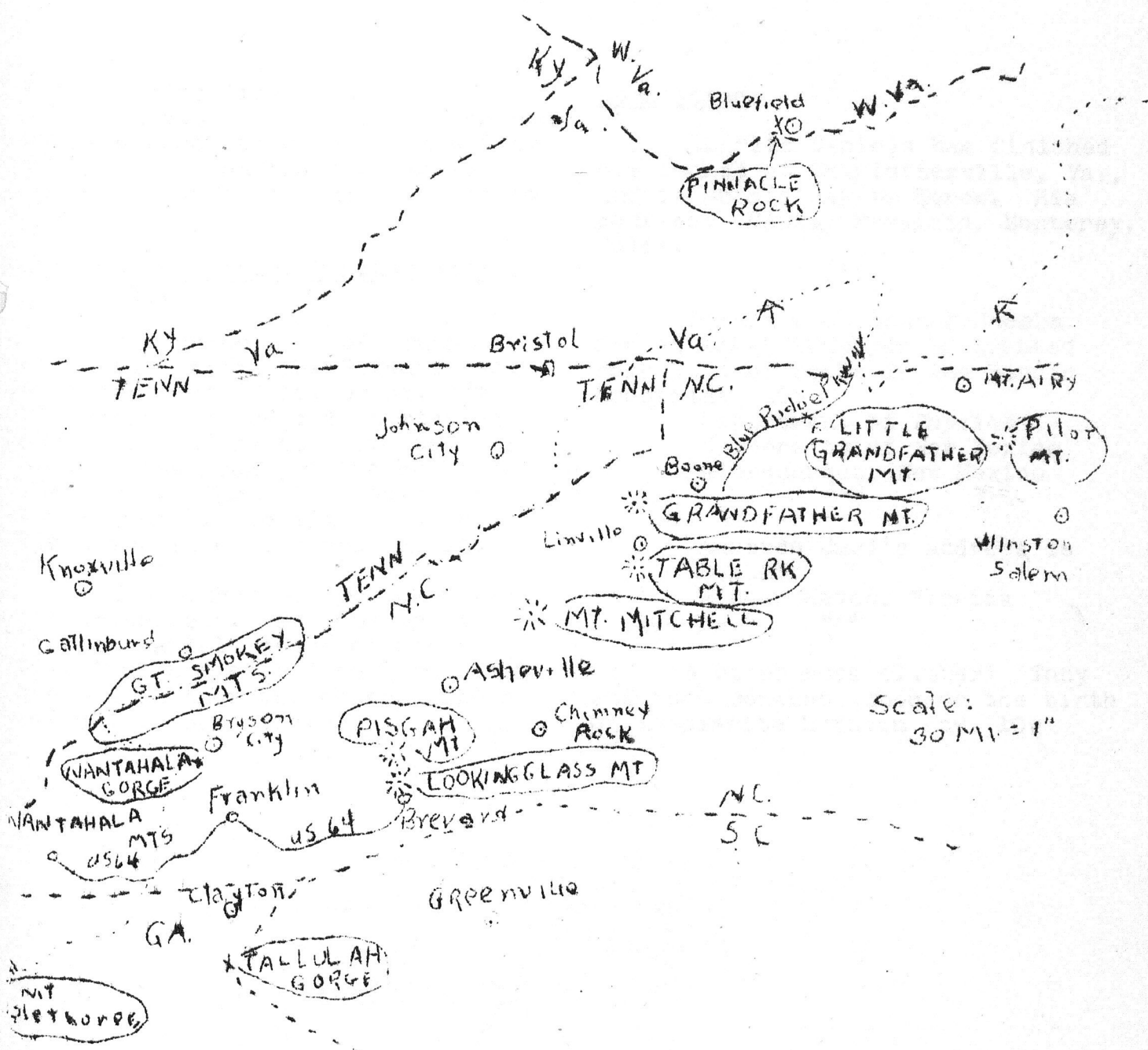
9. Nantahala Mts. (AT): Crossed by U.S. 64 west of Franklin. Heavily wooded, apparently cliffless.

10. Nantahala Gorge: SW of Bryson on U.S. 19. A much ballyhooed place which to me was a disappointment as it was cliffless, or practically so.

11. Great Smoky Mts.: Spent four days at Gatlinburg. Visited AT, Collins Gap over Clingman's Dome to Silers Bald, side trail to Andrews Bald. No cliffs, but those Balds are sure worth a visit. Cliffs in Smokies are mostly along streams at waterfalls. Little River Gorge (Tenn. 73) to Maryville was a narrow, deep gorge; cliffs actually overhung road in spots. Rock-climbing doesn't look unusually promising. Main attractions in Smokies beautiful mountain streams, magnificent forests.

12. Tallulah Gorge: S. of Clayton, Ga., on U.S. 23. A deep and narrow gorge, abounding in high cliffs. Probably some fancy climbing could be found.

On the whole I encountered a lot more exposed rocks than I had seen in three previous trips in the



Features of Rock-Climbing Interest Mentioned in Laurence's Account

area, undoubtedly a lot more I
didn't see.

Thanks for a good scouting ac-
count, Laurence. We appreciate it.

Lembeck's Crossover (A-14)

As the Maryland bank of the
Potomac swings away from the tow-
path toward Herzog Island it pre-
sents a series of cliffs rising
from the water level with a slope

backward from the vertical of about
15 degrees. The one farthest from
the towpath has an overhanging break
extending horizontally across the
center of its face. On June 22, 1940
Arthur Lembeck crossed the face,
left to right, just beneath this
break. The difficulty lies in ad-
vancing the hands far enough before
moving the feet between widely sep-
arated "almost" holes. The Cross-
over has been led (by Chris Scoredos
April 11, 1943), and traversed in

the opposite direction as well.

An extension to the climb can be made from its right-hand end by stepping out on the face again above the overhang and climbing to the top.

The Dancing Climb, Boucher Rock (B-15).

The upper part of Boucher Rock, Va., faces the Potomac from a distance of 60 ft. or so. At its downstream edge it meets, at almost right angles, with the main body of the rock jutting out from the river. The climb begins at the bottom of the angle made by these two faces and ends at its top.

The origin of the name is not understood. Perhaps by it Charles Daniels meant to imply that Paul had seemed to have first one end up then the other, like a measuring worm dancing.

News Notes

Charlie Daniels has finished his course at Charlottesville, Va., and is on his way to Korea. His address: CAHSA, Presidio, Monterey, Calif.

Donald and Eleanor Jacobs are at least temporarily located near lots of rocks in the Sandia Mountains, at:

Department of Physics
University of New Mexico
Albuquerque, New Mexico

Laurence Curl's address is
Box 288
Winter Haven, Florida

Another rock climber: Tony and Ruth Bonanno announce the birth of Antoinette Ruth on Nov. 10.

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