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WASHINGTON 12 D.C.

News of the  
Washington Rock Climbers

Founders  
Jan & Herb Conn  
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Notes

We all want to go to the Tetons more than ever since we've seen Roger Morrison's kodachromes and we also know what we should take for camping equipment, from Andy Kauffman. Roger and his wife spent two months in the vicinity of our Alps (Tetons), and the pictures he has are enough to make anyone want to go and stay and stay.

Possible sources of equipment:

Leo Scott  
5013 Wakefield Road  
Friendship Station, D.C.

Army sleeping bags; types of equipment released by the Army.

William R. Latady  
37 Gray Gardens East  
Cambridge, Mass.

Sleeping bags; manila rope; felt boots; parkas; pitons; and other general equipment.

Yadgi & Co.  
See Chris Scoredos  
1717 R Street NW  
Washington, D.C.

Nylon rope

Abercrombie & Fitch  
Madison Ave. at 45th St.  
New York City

Nylon rope at \$24.75--white, in 120-ft. lengths.

Dave Cooke  
Sporting Goods  
Denver, Colorado

Bermani boots at \$9.75.

Asa Osborn & Company  
3 High Street  
Boston, Mass.

Mountain tents, and all kinds of winter equipment.

Schoolhouse Cave Trip January 26-27, 1946, by Chuck Haworth.

Saturday, January 26 at 6 A.M., Clyde Holiday, Arnold Wexler, Don Hubbard (his alarm clock didn't work and he required special attention), Tom Culverwell, and Chuck Haworth took off from Washington for Schoolhouse Cave on a photographic expedition. There were a lot of paraphernalia and people for Clyde's Chevy coupe, but Tom made some magic passes, learned no doubt in a crystal-gazer's establishment in Calcutta, and room became available for everything! The trip west was uneventful, except for Tom's stories about Kunming (ask him why some of the officers are trying so hard to stay in China, Kathleen!). On arrival at the cave, we set up camp in the small anteroom near the entrance, frequently used for this purpose. Tom then went back to the entrance spring to chop some water, while Don, Clyde, and Arnold proceeded on into the cave and made the necessary rope preparations for the descent into the grotto and the nick of time. Except for stopping to admire the jack rabbit ears of the one bat of the species observed, the descent to the Nick was unexciting. Clyde didn't even take advantage of the newcomer's prerogative of accidentally swinging out over the North Well, nor did he drop his 4 x 5 Graflex camera into its depths. A stop at the Nick was made while flash bulbs twinkled merrily, and the pressure spring contact for the synchronizer disappeared. This was found, all three little pieces of it, so you

can see that the trip was destined to be a success from the first! Further picture taking included the Sand Room, Dome Room, and climbing in and out of the Cascade Pit. Chuck talked Don and Tom into a descent thru the Rib Fiddle accompanied by the usual ripping of clothing. After investigating the considerably diminished flow of the Grind Canyon stream, the party of three climbed again into the Cascade Pit, where Clyde and Arnold had been making some very appealing close-ups of Arnold, a candle, and the knobby protuberances so abundant. On regaining the vicinity of Peak Bradt and the Big Room, Clyde made a number of photographs including the Guillotine, and the mud wall where Leo made his immortal ascent. Incidentally, whoever would now follow should bring a suitable digging tool. The steps so laboriously cut by Leo are pretty well filled with mud and dirt. At this point, Arnold tried to organize a climbing side trip into the Inner Wells but he was promptly outvoted on the basis that this was a photographic trip only, as well as the fact that some sleepy customers were involved. Don reminded him that the trip of the 22nd was to be for the more (!) strenuous purpose, and that he shouldn't miss it. The climb out was uneventful, altho Clyde made a few more exposures, including a blonde centipede's view of the seat of Chuck's pants, mostly missing, as the latter lurched up the cedar pole. Following a mere 8 hours' sleep, the party ate, and then drove to Dolly Sods at the top of the Allegheny Front, about four thousand feet above sea level, where a 40-mile wind was blowing and the temperature must have been about 10 degrees below zero. In fact, Chuck and Arnold were reminded of their Operation Muskox Jr. with Sterling Hendricks to Shaver Hollow, Hawksbill Mt., and White Oak Canyon the weekend before Christmas. Experience in putting on chains in 6 inches of snow was gained by all members and beautiful views, including North Fork Mountain, were enjoyed while Tom pointed out landmarks with which he had become familiar while working in the region with the Forest Service.

The return drive was interrupted by a stop for steaks and ham at a restaurant in Petersburg.

And what of Clyde's photographs, you ask? Well, the samples he brought to the meeting at the Vos' apartment Thursday evening were classified as "the best" by the experts and comprise an excellent addition to the groups taken previously of Schoolhouse Cave, where taking photographs becomes a touchy business whether you "shoot" with pinholes or Tessars, magnesium ribbon, or Wabash Press 40's, Brownies or Graflexes!

#### Ups and Downs

Chris Scoredos	Jan Conn	Eleanor Tatge
Helen Scoredos	Sally Chamberlin	Dolores Alley
Ralph Reasoner	Ruth Anderson	Mary Neilan and friends

January 27, 1946. The ice at Carderock unfortunately and unexpectedly was not thick for skating because the Canal level had been lifted about two feet during the week. A rather short session of climbing was held at the cliffs during which it was discovered that the Beginner's Crack provided an excellent A climb. Cold rock, ice, and snow combined to make even the best of climbers treat the climb with respect.

\* \* \*

Chris Scoredos	Bob Bates	Margaret Balcom
Helen Scoredos	Clinton Morrison	Jan Conn
Hope Dawson	Steve Dawson	Some Stimsons

The rocks at Carderock were frigid and forbidding, but the ice on the canal was wonderful enough to make up for it. Chris, Helen, Jan, and Margaret skated on and off most of the day, with occasional excursions to the cliffs to shudder at them. Bob Bates and Clint Morrison exhibited a little--very little--climbing spirit. Everyone else concentrated on enjoying the superlative skating. It is rumored that Hope and Steve Dawson, and the Stimsons were skating also on the canal.

Don Hubbard	L. H. Maxwell	Ruth Anderson
Mary Heaton	Sally Chamberlin	Eleanor Tatge
Pussy Behrenberg	Roger Morrison	



February 3, 1946. A select party to Great Falls started its climbing day directly at the brink of the Falls itself. After a glorious view had been observed from the top of the Lookout Tower, everyone climbed down to the lip of the Falls and one by one roped in for a short climb up a slanting block. While Sally, Ruth, and Eleanor walked up towards Washington's Canal for a bit of skating on the part of the canal that had frozen over, the remainder of the group clambered over the rocks downstream to the Straddle Climb. Only Max and Roger achieved the feat of reaching the top. The entire group assembled for lunch near the skating pond at the Indigestion Climb. After lunch everyone skated with gusto and abandon. Even Mary was persuaded to don skates for the first time, and had her picture taken. For the benefit of her movie camera a realistic scene was portrayed involving the precipitate headlong fall of three skaters to whom Don threw a rope, and then proceeded to drag them to the bank. Later Don tied loops in the rope and made a practice loop ladder. It is said that Max made a most spectacular ascent of this, due to a certain reluctance of his habiliments to stay met in the middle. After most of the group went home in Max' car, Sally and Eleanor finished up a perfect day with a few extra climbs before they too departed.

Your Ups and Downs reporter wishes here to unmarry Bob Bates. Ups and Downs of January 9 unfortunately mis-reported Mrs. Coles and Mr. Case of the American Alpine Club, as "Mrs. Bates and Clint Morrison." Too bad, Bob. You'll have to send the wedding gifts back.

#### Herbie's Horror, Carderock. (A-18)

The first climb that one passes as he follows the blue-blazed trail from the canal at Carderock to the Potomac is Herbie's Horror. (Generally he passes it, too.) It has been climbed by only three people to date.

To find this famous climb, one should look for a face that leans back about 15 degrees from the vertical and extends scarcely 25 feet in height. As you look up at this smoothish face, you have on your right an easy chimney with a chockstone at its top. At your left is a slight ridge that separates the Horror from the possible routes to the left.

History: The Horror was first climbed April 19, 1942 by Herb Conn. On January 3, 1943, an essential foothold near the bottom came off. The first ascent after loss of the necessary foothold: Dick Leonard on June 25, 1944. First woman climber: Jan Conn, April 14, 1945.

#### Friction Layback, Carderock. (B-20)

The main line of the Carderock Cliffs would run into the Potomac if it did not make an offset downstream at Leonard's Lunacy. If you face the cliff just upstream from this offset portion, you will see, a little above your head, a doubtful layback hold. This is formed by a sort of cusp of rock standing about 8 inches out from the cliff very much like the front of an ocean breaker. If the hands get enough friction on the edge of the concave face and the feet don't slip, one can gain enough elevation to reach the holds.

This is one of those things Sterling Climbed, way back when. The first ascent in historic times was made by Arnold Wexler in the summer of 1940.

#### News

Name Geraldine Valera Clark  
Arrived January 25, 1946 at 1:05 P.M.  
Hair Brown  
Weight 7 lbs. 12-1/2 oz.  
Height 21-3/4 inches  
Parents Geraldine and Fitzhugh Clark

P.S. Fitz now fixes radios.

## U P S   A N D   D O W N S

Chris Scoredos  
Helen Scoredos  
Ray Yadgi

Donald Hubbard  
Arnold Wexler  
Bob Stephens  
Florence Stephens

Mary Neilan  
Ruth Anderson  
Eleanor Tatge

Sunday, March 24, 1946. Chris' group started the climbing.

Chris' friend, Ray Yadgi, made a good showing on his first climbing trip by successfully accomplishing several of the elementary climbs. Don's group collected herbage, of which a record of 16 different kinds of edible plants were found, at least one of which proved thoroughly objectionable. While Ruth and Eleanor rounded the Cape of Good Hope in the afternoon, Chris climbed the unbelievable affair that looks like an upside down staircase with unusually narrow treads and wide risers, located near the Jackknife Climb; Herby had made a first ascent the previous week. After Ray had his first rappelling lessons, the party wended its way merrily on to dinner.

Chris Scoredos  
Helen Scoredos  
Don Hubbard  
Sterling Hendricks  
Helen Baker  
Bill Cohen

Pussy Behrenberg  
Leonard Bolz  
Dolores Alley  
Billy Alley  
Betty Alley  
Friends of the Neilans'  
Eleanor Tatge

Andy Kauffman  
Betty Kauffman  
Arnold Wexler  
Mary Neilan  
Mrs. Neilan  
Ruth Anderson  
H. F. Stimson

Sunday, March 31, 1946. On this brilliant early spring morn the climbers Sink-Stoppered over to Herzog Island, which had been pretty much neglected through the winter months. The morning was spent on the nubble face climbs on both sides of the V. After a lunch topped off by Don's and Arnold's wild vegetable concoctions, Sterling and the Kauffman's moved downstream, Chris and the two Helens started at the V and traversed the face of the cliffs downstreamward, while Don led a traverse across the next face upstream with Sally and Dolores as his team. As part of the homeward trip, Don and Sally shot the Stubblefield rapids, leaving the river at Camp Lewis to meet the group at the Model Basin.

Sterling adds that to him the feat of the day was Arnold's climb up the overhang below Jan's Lead. Other accomplishments were the ascent of the crack beside the Upside Down Climb, by Stimmy, Betty, Arnold and himself; and the climbing of The Hornet's Nest Layback (or whatever that climb Don fell out of, is called) by Betty, Helen Scoredos, and Sterling.

Oh Pshaw! No one used any alliterations to make my railing look justifiable. -- Paul.

The Mountain Club of Maryland has scheduled a trip to Sugar Loaf Mountain April 7. They plan to do some rock climbing.

The P.A.T.C. has scheduled a trip to Old Rag May 12. Paul Bradt as leader guarantees there will be rock climbing.



Steve Yurenka is leaving shortly to attend M. I. T. in the furtherance of his education. We hope they teach you some good rock climbing tricks up there, Steve.

Library: Don't forget that Art Lembeck and Herbie Conn have left some climbing books at the Bradts' to inspire members of the Rock Climbing group.

The Bradts hear from Art Lembeck as follows: "I flew up here from Saseko and had a pleasant trip through moderately heavy clouds. Fortunately some of the bombed out cities were visible through the cover and we could get an idea of how the B29's treated the area before we arrived. From our altitude the entire sections were in view, and we could see the bombed areas in sharp contrast to the portions still standing--something that isn't so evident from the ground level. But all the other sections were forgotten when we were still a half hour out of Tokyo. Fuji was looming up ahead, a dirty gray truncated cone in the haze. We made a half circle around the peak and cones/and from our 80 or so mile viewpoint we could see the 50-80 degree difference in slope on the different sides. There are long slide marks (old eroded lava flow paths?) down the sides and the snow apparently reaches three-fourths of the way down the mountain side. Perhaps further--there are foothills intervening, and I have since seen photographs of snow all the way to the base. January is the coldest and snowiest month. So far in the absence of the Fleet Medical Officer I have not been away from the base and only left the ship to check some nearby activities."

"The area seems more interesting than Saseko, or anywhere on Kyushu. Fuji is supposed to be about 70 or so miles from here, and the Jap Alps about 120 miles north of Tokyo (15 miles from here).. Whether or not I can do anything about it is another question. I have hopes, of course, and decided ones, but too many unknown factors as yet to have an answer."

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