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News of the

Washington Rock Climbers

Founders

Jan & Herb Conn  
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### Geography

Often I am asked something like this: "I'm going to be near Skeezi rocks next week. What kind of climbing may be found there?"

Perhaps I remember that Jo Blow, who used to go out with us, said he was there once but I've forgotten what he said. Something like this has happened so often that I've resolved to do something about it. It seems that someone in the local climbing group should have information of this sort available.

I hereby resolve that from now on I'm going to keep data about climbs on maps. When I see an outcrop, I'm going to designate it on a map with a reference number, say 6S589. On an attached sheet I will list its characteristics as follows:

6S589. Name: Skeezi Rocks; Material: Shale; Greatest continuous height: 50 ft.; Strata dipping outward: 10 degrees; Width of cliff: 100 ft.; Dominant angle with horizontal: 80 degrees; Climbing: Mostly Class Six, pitons needed for direct aid; Comment: Some sort of digging tool is needed in the rotten rock at the top. Climbed in 1798 by George Washington.

Of course I won't know this much about some cliffs, but I propose to put down what I do know.

Contributions of information by anyone who thinks this is worth the trouble will be welcome if accompanied by sufficient data to enable me to locate it on a designated U.S.G.S. sheet, a Trail Club map, on a map sent with the data, or any map I am known to have.

While I think of this compendium as limited to this general area, perhaps it should be expanded to cover the Southern Appalachians. Under no conditions will I list anything west of the Mississippi. The country out there is too good to classify.

Sterling's North Twin, (B-23)  
and Sterling's South Twin, (B-24)  
both at Carter Rock.

Looking down from the top of the cliff onto the lowest portion of the Chris-Wex-Don traverse beyond its circuit, one has the North one of these twin cracks on his right hand and the South twin on his left.

To reach the foot of these climbs one can scramble down past the cedar tree along the Chris-Wex-Don to the seam in the rock above the willow tree.

From this point, the climb up the North Twin is started a few feet to the left. By face work one is able to reach the obvious lay-back holds seen above and thereby reach the crack proper. The crack provides jamb holds for one hand and foot while the other hand and foot use face roughosities.

The climb up the South Twin is begun a few feet to the right of the willow tree, using face holds where necessary to supplement those in the crack. One feels this necessity particularly at the small overhang two-thirds of the way up.

\* \* \*

This is the last of the series of descriptions of so-called qualifying climbs. Boss Scoredos was asked if they could be counted when climbed down instead of up. He said "No". In his own opinion they should be climbed both ways to count! Sounds like an argument coming up.

Descriptions of various other climbs of less official standing will be inserted now and then when the editors feel that the readers can stand them.

### Historical Data

A questionnaire list of qualifying climbs was mailed out before the election last year. All have been returned excepting from the following:

Lowell Bennett	Morton Churchill	Tom Culverwell
Don Jacobs	Eleanor Jacobs	Sam Moore
Mary Meilan	Cliff Proctor	Bill Schlecht
Leo Scott	Steve Yurenka	Betty Kauffman
	Andy Kauffman	

It is anticipated that this data is sufficiently interesting to publish, and we would like to complete the data for this purpose. If your name is on this list, please send in a statement of those you have made. If you want another copy of the questionnaire, please ask to have one sent you.

### News Notes

Herb Conn is still cooling his heels at Camp Lee, Va., waiting to be shipped out, as Sam Moore expects to be shipped home from Guam about the 15th of April. They still go and come.

Bill Kemper was talking to Paul and said that he had seen Mary Meilan skiing in Pennsylvania, and that she was an excellent skier. Mary was talking to Jan about having seen Bill and that he was a very fine skier. What is this - a conspiracy?

Morton Churchill is now in Muehlheim, Germany, spending his leisure time studying German. What, no rocks!

Chris now owns part of his '46 car - one tube and one tire - We'll see him out climbing with them.

Goal skating - Chevy Chase Ice Palace April 26-27-28! Hope Dawson says that she fills a place in the 2nd row of the 32-member military ballet.

The rock-climbers have just lost a very good friend in the person of Mrs. Riley. Donald Hubbard's landlady has taken very good care of many of our climbers at breakfast, and her cheerful voice on the phone has endeared her to others of us. She passed away during the past week; we will miss her.

## U P S   A N D   D O W N S

Don Hubbard  
Paul Bradt  
Jo Bradt  
Alan Bradt  
Herb Conn  
Jan Conn  
Paul Smeltzer  
Lee Dierdorff

Sally Chamberlin  
Arnold Wexler  
Pat Abbot  
Eleanor Tatge  
Marion Murry  
Dolores Alley  
John Krasny  
Betty Kauffman

Andy Kauffman  
Sterling Hendrichs  
Robert Gridley  
Harold F. Stinson  
Mrs. H. F. Stimson  
Edith Stimson

Sunday, March 10, 1946. The beautiful, sunny, almost-spring day was started by one group with a short visit to the Camp Lewis rock, where that famous artist-among-other-things Herb Conn drew the following sketches locating the Willy-Nilly Traverse and Crawford's Crash, mentioned in a previous number of UP ROPE. The "multitude assembled" then wended its way to the Carderock cliffs, joining Club members already there. Paul Bradt and Arnold were exploring Sterling's Twin Cracks. Jan and Herb dropped a rope over the Barnacle Face and started off with Herb's friend Lee on a series of beginner's climbs. Don led a party to Arthur's Traverse where he set up a piton lead for which some sort of a record was set by the large number of times a large number of people (including the leader) fell off. Don's persistence won, however, and in the end he got his entire party from one end of the climb to the other despite a few ignominious flounderings en route. Another group tackled the Jackknife Climb and the "unclimbable" route a few feet to the left which Herby had often tried and today succeeded in making amidst great applause.

Jo, after a morning of dragging Alan away from the fascinating river went on a three man rope team with Alan and Paul. They scrambled on the rocks above the fire place and Jo went up the beginners Crack as the Stimsons came along. She belayed Robert Gridley, a guest of the Stimsons, on Ronnies leap and on Wexlers worst and while Paul and Stimmy kibitzed.

After lunch the Kauffmans and Sterling led the way to the Friction Layback cliffs, while Don's party worked on the upstream end of the Chris-Wex-Don Traverse and the vertical climbs crossing it. Sally Chamberlin made voting membership today in one fell swoop by climbing Arthur's Crossover (A14) and Arnold's Arduous Ascent (B-22). She has previously climbed Jan's Face (B-17). Dolores Alley chalked up another also when she crossed Arthurs Traverse. (To keep the record up to-date, Jan, Herb, and Don also made Arthur's Crossover. If you made an A or B climb unrecorded here, please let us know!) Crawford's Crash is less than 1/2 way to the top of the rock "Start."

Chris Scoredos  
Helen Scoredos  
Don Hubbard

Sally Chamberlin  
Helen Baker  
Miscellaneous Boy Scouts

Arnold Wexler  
Eleanor Tatge

Sunday, March 17, 1946 The day started with a faint drizzle which very gradually and very slightly increased all day until by night it was practically thick enough to be called rain. The Carderock Diehards were out in force, particularly in the matter of soup. Arnold, Don, and Helen Baker made an even larger collection of native vegetables than ever before, and spent most of the remainder of the morning hunting dry wood and preparing lunch. In the afternoon most of the group moved to the Jam Box rocks where they all climbed Jan's Chimney, and where several attempts were made on the Jam Box itself. Don was held up, however, by the Miscellaneous Boy Scouts several of whom he taught to rappel, belay, and climb. Later Sally led a rope on the first part of the Chris-Wex-Don including one of the Boy Scouts, who proved he had learned his lesson well. The day ended hilariously on a double rope Chris and Arnold put up between two trees for practice traversing. Intentional and unintentional acrobatics produced untold volumes of mirth.

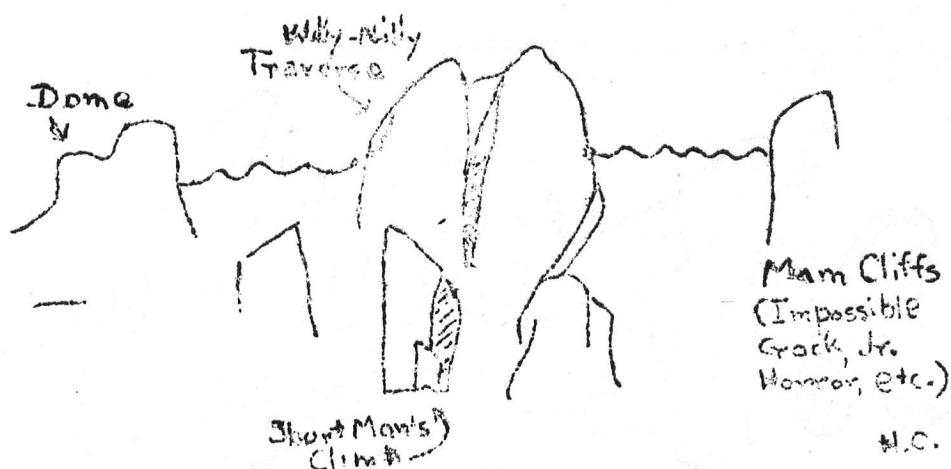


Fig. A. A general sketch of the Camp Lewis rocks showing the location of the Willy-Nilly Traverse with respect to other climbs in the area. The approximate route is dotted.

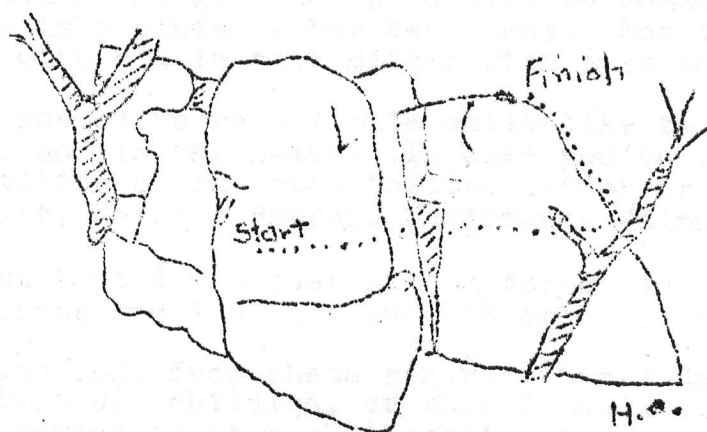


Fig. B. A detailed sketch of the Willy-Nilly route, facing the left side of the rock showing the traverse in Fig. A, with one's back to the Dome. Crawford's Crash is less than 1/2 inch to the right of the word "Start."