

News of the Washington Rock Climbers

Editors
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September 11, 1946

U P S A N D D O W N S

Don Hubbard
Arnold Wexler
Willis Armstrong

Joe Davis
Jim Davis

Marion Murray
Eleanor Tatge

Sunday, August 25, 1946. The Nubble Face Climb (which includes the sloping ledge above and to the left of the actual Nubble Face) took priority in the day's proceedings as Eleanor, 9-year-old Marion, 7-year-old Jim, and his dad, Joe roped up into a team and successfully completed the ascent, followed by Willis, who was a little late arriving (Don and Arnold were still collecting mushrooms and toadstools). The Beginner's Climb and the Barnacle Face were successfully ascended by each and everyone, including Jim and Marion (Don and Arnold were busy identifying toadstools and mushrooms). Joe and Willis struggled up the Buckets-of-Blood Chimney to the top. Intermittent rappelling lessons were carried on all morning as Joe, Jim, and Marion performed their first attempts. In the afternoon Don, Joe, and Willis worked on the Cape of Good Hope and the Golden Stairs while Eleanor and Marion went swimming.

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Don Hubbard
Arnold Wexler
Jimmy Maxwell

Bill Welsh
Mary Evans

Jack Wilson
Eleanor Tatge

Saturday to Monday, August 30 and September 1 and 2, 1946. Jimmy Maxwell was able to get down from Boston for a 3-day holiday, which he spent with Arnold and Don on a spree of almost continuous climbing. On Saturday he climbed Herbie's Horror (A) and Sterling's Twin Cracks (B) at Carderock. On Sunday, accompanied by Arnold and Eleanor he tackled the best Herzog Island has to offer, and made successful ascents of the Fingertip Balance Climb (A), Chairman's Chimney (A), the face downstream of Jan's Chimney, and the Upside-Down Climb. Monday he, Arnold, and Don worked on some probably first ascents at Harper's Ferry, on the Maryland shore, did some piton practice work there, and climbed the Flagpole.

While one group was busy on Herzog Island on Sunday, another was struggling at Carderock, where Dr. Welsh led a team of Mary, Jack, and Don across the Chris-Wex-Don Traverse, complete with the pounding of pitons, thus making, we believe, his first (B) climb.

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Don Hubbard
Andy Kauffman
Dolores Alley

Jack Wilson
John Meenahan

Russell Volckman
Marion Murray
Eleanor Tatge

Sunday, September 15, 1946. After Russell and Marion had a lesson in rappelling, and one in climbing on the Beginner's Corner, under Don's tutelage, they roped up with Eleanor for a successful ascent of the Nubble Face Climb. Don and Andy kibitzed the more advanced climbing downstream, where a major feature was some piton leading by Jack Wilson on the Chris-Wex-Don, followed by Dolores and John. After lunch the group worked upstream on various of the well-known climbs. John had a somewhat difficult recovery from the Buckets-of-Elwood Chimney; when next seen he was held together chiefly by a HUGE safety pin! Quite an ordeal.

THE TETONS, 1946
By Eleanor Tatge

Chris and Helen Scoredos met Dawn and Eleanor Tatge at the Jenny Lake camping ground in Grand Teton National Park, Wyoming, on Thursday, July 25, as had been prearranged. On Friday the Scoredos' made an attempt on Teewinot, but the unusually bad weather and poor visibility drove them down by noon, soaking wet. In the afternoon they met the Tatges, who had lunched at Hidden Falls on Cascade Creek, and all went for a swim (br-r; chilly) in Leigh Lake--in the bright sunshine. No climbing was undertaken Saturday, and on Sunday camp was moved to the upper part of Garnet Canyon. Monday the entire group climbed Middle Teton. The Canyon was unusually full of snow patches this year, which facilitated the climbing. At the top of the mountain a light rain was encountered, so that little time was spent admiring the scenery.

Tuesday the Scoredos' climbed Grand Teton, while the Tatge's scrambled on the north Canyon wall. The Scoredos' set out at 5:30 A.M. for the skyline on the saddle beyond Paul's Cave. At the upper saddle they could see the clouds settling on their peak. Soon it blew aside and they started for the Cooning Place. They made a direct rock climb from the Cooning Place to the summit, to the left of the usual route. A few minutes after arriving at the summit the fog settled on the peak again. On the way down a terrific hail and lightening storm came up. Three times the lightening bolts struck the cliff, ricocheted and hit Chris' arm, twice striking Helen also. They were back in camp about 5:30 P.M. after twelve hours of strenuous climbing. Judging from the happy expressions as the pair came into camp, a successful ending meant it was all fun.

Wednesday the Scoredos' climbed Nez Perce, upon which they did probably the largest amount of straight rock climbing of the entire trip. A route was followed overlooking Garnet Canyon, which provided a strenuous and exciting day. Thursday our four adventurers climbed up to Teton Glacier, one of the highlights of interest of the trip. The day was sufficiently hot to make the cool streamlets on the surface of the glacier taste undoubtedly like heavenly ambrosia--refrigerated. After Chris' and Helen's Grand Teton climb the weather had cleared and was perfect all the time.

Camp was broken Friday, and the long walk down to Jenny Lake was finished off by a row on the lake in the Sink Stopper, and a swim in Jackson Lake. Saturday the Scoredos' set out for Yellowstone and Sunday, after more Sink Stoppering and swimming, the Tatge's left for Chicago.

NEWS NOTES

Jan and Herb are off again. When climbing the East Face of Long's Peak they decided to leave the Boiler Plate to a younger generation or a new technique. When last heard from Herb was in Santa Fe and Jan to follow him later from Colorado.

Andy Kauffman, back from Alaska and Mt. St. Elias, promises us pictures and stories when he has time. Betty is still lingering in British Columbia.

From Chris and Helen we hear that "Chris and I saw Bryce Canyon after leaving the Yellowstone and are now at Zion. We haven't done anything terribly strenuous except take several long hikes. We climbed a small mountain--the Lady Mt.--here in the park (elev. 6929 ft. It was fun to read the comments of the various hikers. One gal wrote that that mountain wasn't no lady."

We have a card from Tom, Estelle, and Kathleen Culverwell, who are at Mt. Desert Island for a while. The card indicates the presence of good rock climbing but not its utilization. Tom, we want photographs to prove it.

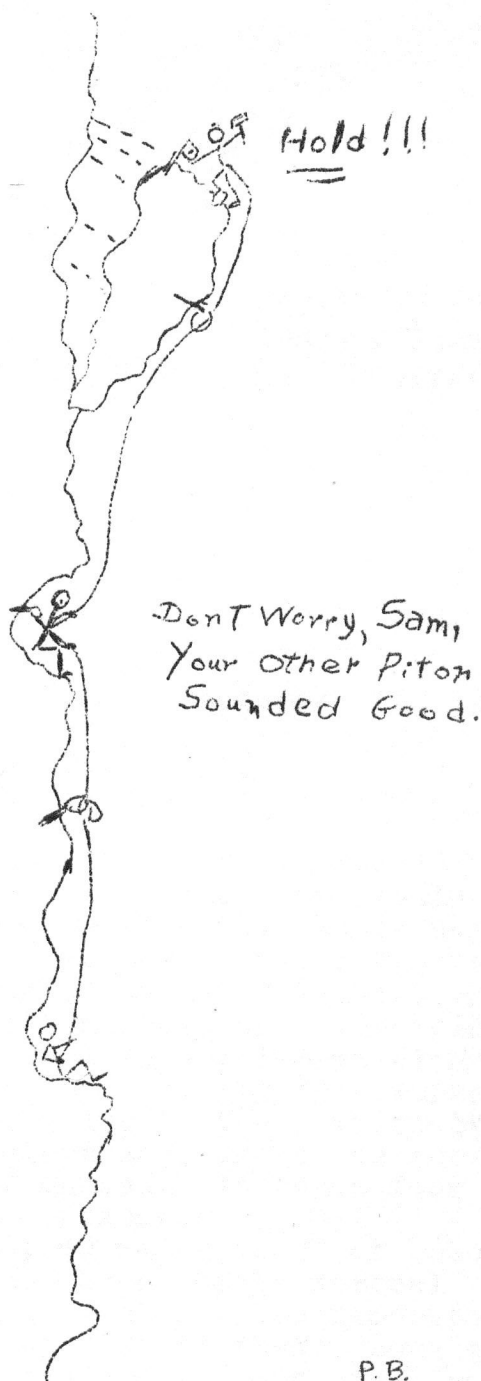
The Desert Magazine, El Centro, California, is sponsoring a Rock Climbing picture contest. This announcement is a little too late for submitting pictures since entries are now closed, but winning pictures will be published in the October issue, and will doubtless be well worth looking at.

EDITORIAL RUMINATIONS

Apropos of the last news item, it seems from the sheltered point of view of the editorial office that a picture contest is in order among Washington Rock Climbers. We defy any suggestion that we haven't among us some of the best picture takers ever, and we're all ready to suggest Elizabeth Vos and Laurence Curl for judges. How about an Exhibit for our January Meeting?

TRIP SCHEDULE

Paul Bradt is sticking out his neck by scheduling a trip for Bull Run Mountain climbing on September 21 and 22, and a trip to the Smoke Hole area Thanksgiving week end, November 28 to December 1. If you can provide transportation on one of these trips, please let him know, or if you want it. Phone Georgia 3917.



P.B.