

UP ROPE

News of the
Washington Rock Climbers

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NEWS OF MEETINGS

Between-issue notification has arrived at the homes of all Club members, we trust, to the effect that the Meeting scheduled for Sterling Hendrick's home on Friday, November 15, has been postponed to Fricay, November 22, because of delay in receiving the Operation Musk-Ox pictures to be shown by Lt. Col. A. H. Jackman. Directions for reaching Sterling's house appeared in the last issue of UP ROPE.

Our December meeting is proposed for Thursday, the 12th, at the home of our Chairman, Chris Scoredos, 1717 R Street N.W. It will be a voting meeting. How are your voting qualifications? Have you climbed an "A" or "B" climb this past year? If it wasn't recorded in UP ROPE, you'd best let our Secretary, Arnold Wexler, know about it so that you find yourself in the running when the ballots are passed around. A photographic contest is proposed for the same meeting. Our Chairman has appointed Helen Scoredos, Jo Bradt, and Don Hubbard judges. So far the prizes suggested have been: one carabiner; one nylon hairbrush; one gallon of soap solution; one nylon climbing rope. Further suggestions are in order. Only a flood of contributions to the UP ROPE office, or to the Chairman will make the third suggestion feasible, since, apparently, our treasury is not up to such carryings on. Rules for the submission of pictures will be published in the next UP ROPE, or December 2. Suggestions are welcome.

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UPS AND DOWNS

- | | |
|----------------|---------------|
| Chris Scoredos | John Reed |
| Helen Scoredos | Eleanor Tatge |
| Arnold Wexler | |

November 10, 1946. A crisp clear day offered real inspiration to a rather small Carderock group. Arnold belayed for John on the Bell Ginn's Crack and neighboring climbs, while Chris and Eleanor moved over to the Ladder Climb, on the same face as the Jackknife, and struggled unavailingly on it. They both climbed the Jackknife, then moved to the Crossover, which Eleanor climbed belayed by Chris. After Arnold and John climbed the Jackknife, they too moved to the Crossover and Eleanor absolutely cinched her voting power for this year by repeating her crossing and continuing the ascent of the wall above. After Arnold's ascent, time was taken for lunch. In the afternoon the climbing was left for the men, who, among their activities, included the Chris-Wex-Don, the Easter Egg climbs, Jan's Chimney, and the Spider Walk.

* * *

Tom Culverwell Fitz Clark
Don Hubbard Lowell Bennett

November 9, 10, 11, 1946. The above foursome were out scouting on Droop Mountain, West Virginia. The caving, we hear, was superlative, especially notable for the fine fish diet. An article is promised for next UP ROPE.

* * *

Chris Scoredos Dolores Alley
Eleanor Tatge

November 17, 1946. All the world, including Carderock, was as wet as wet could be. Our intrepid climbers slipped and squirmed up Jan's Chimney, took themselves a hike on the towpath, then, since there was no sign of let-up, left to have lunches at home.

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THE SMOKE HOLE THANKSGIVING TRIP By Paul Bradt

Washington Rock Climbers have probably spent between 50 and 100 days climbing on the west slopes of North Fork mountain, on Seneca, Champe, and Nelson Rocks, and in Schoolhouse and Hellhole caves. The east side of that mountain has also rocks and caves, but they have been over there only once to climb. At that time four rope teams scrambled all over Eagle Rock. That was at the south end of the Smoke Hole, as the valley is called, where cars can be driven.

As the valley is followed northward one continually passes tempting rocks, both along the road and beyond the range of cars. Among the notable cliffs are Blue Rock and Green Spring Rock, toward the north end. These are by far the largest limestone masses anywhere near here. Blue Rock, apparently somewhat the smaller but more accessible of these two, received the attention of the Mountain Troops. They did some road grading to get jeeps in there for instruction purposes.

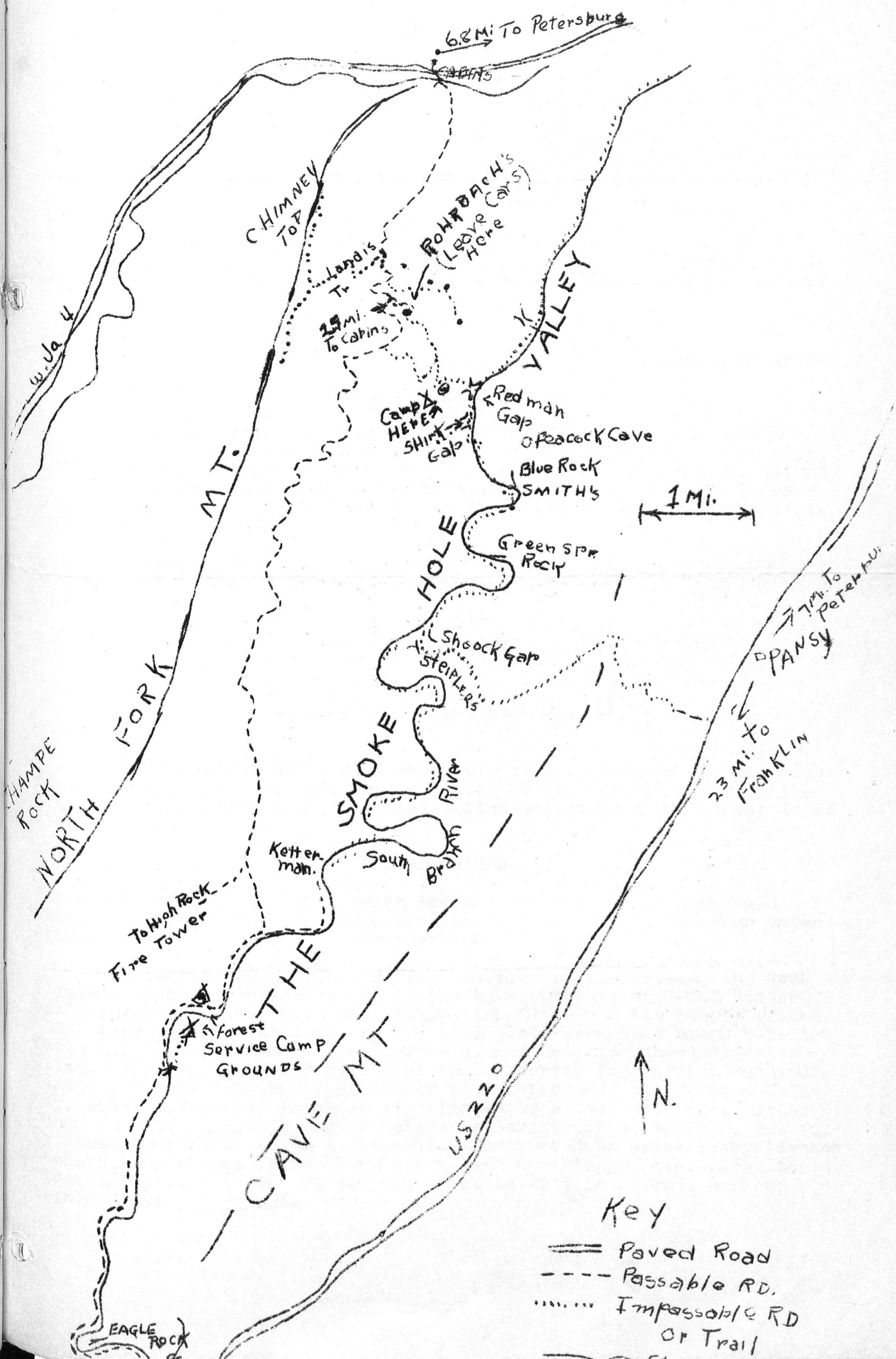
With the idea that I can use instruction too, I proposed a trip down there for the Thanksgiving week end. Our Chairman asked me to lead it as a scheduled Club trip. A camp site (see accompanying map) has been selected near good water and climbing. The Dark Horse (alias Sink Stopper No. 1) will be on hand for ferrying purposes. A cave will be available if the outdoor weather is too bad.

To reach the camp site leave Petersburg, West Virginia, on State Road 4. At 6.8 miles from Petersburg, turn left across the bridge onto the Smoke Hole fire road. Up this road 2.5 miles, at the very tip of a meander, turn left to Mr. Rohrbach's farm, where cars will be left. In following Mr. Rohrbach's drive, turn right through a gate and immediately left. The barnyard is just below. Caution: Cars cannot safely be left on the fire road. Food, tent and bedding will have to be backpacked along an old road and down a hill to the camp site near the sawmill at Redman Run. There is good climbing at Redman Gap and at neighboring gaps.

I will be there before noon Thursday and plan to stay at the same camp site until Sunday. Those who remember previous Thanksgiving trips will wear enough clothing.

FLASH--According to latest information Herb Conn parted with the Army at 2:30 P.M., Wednesday, November 13. At present the Conns are located at Carlsbad, New Mexico; that is, unless the panel truck has already moved on!

FLASH--The UP ROPE staff has been augmented by the addition of Mrs. Ethel Tatge, Eleanor's mother, visiting Washington. Editor Jo Bradt claims she's already indispensable.



Key

- == Paved Road
- - - Passable RD.
- Impassable RD or Trail