

News of the
WASHINGTON ROCK CLIMBERS

Editors

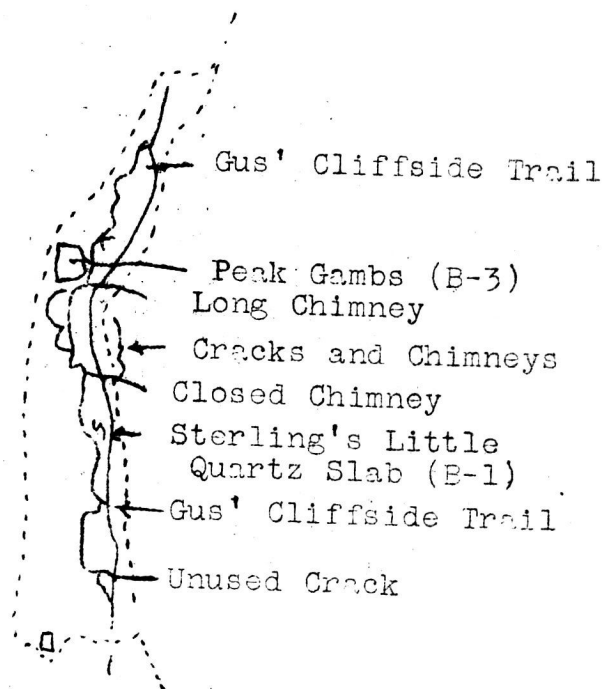
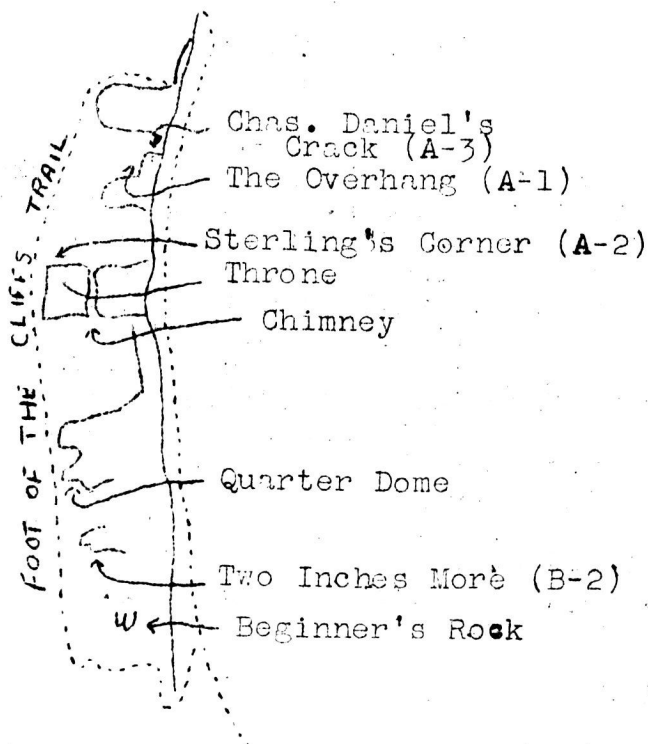
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Founders

Jan & Herb Conn
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March 30, 1947



BULL RUN MOUNTAIN

Throne of Zeus Section

Peak Gambs Section

The white quartzite of Bull Run is broken and weathered to provide climbing of greater variety than any equal area of cliff face near Washington. The low scale of the cliffs and the contrast of their pinkish white color with the occasional pine trees on them, combine to give the whole place a picnic atmosphere that attracts even hikers. For the climbers it is a real playground.

P.S. The "Unused Crack" has been used somewhat since it was named; but if you go up it you will understand why it was once unused.

UP ROPE HEADINGS

The editors would like to continue to use local climbs for the heading drawings; but having been lazy, photographically speaking, they lack a reserve of appropriate pictures. If you have some good views to offer for the purpose, they will be appreciated. While we are on the subject, it is worth noting that the days for photographing cliffs among trees are about over. Also, get your pictures for the forthcoming photo show and contest. Remember that entries close May 15.

SCHEDULED TRIP

Chris Scoredos reports that he will be at the Hot Shoppe at Wisconsin Avenue and Van Ness at 8:30 Sunday March 30 to lead a Bull Run Trip for rock climbers. Anyone planning to camp in the Bull Run Mountains Saturday night will be met Sunday morning at the rocks.

UPS AND DOWNS

March 16, 1947. Arnold Wexler, John Meenehan, and John Reed climbed at the Camp Lewis rocks. John Reed provided an outstanding news item by climbing the East Face (A-10), a most noteworthy achievement, for the climb has been completed previously only by Don Hubbard. Working upstream, the Jr. Horror was climbed by all hands. The climb on the face next above the Impossible Crack was worked on, and finally the group finished the day with the Dome.

Chris Scoredos and Sam Moore report climbing at the Bull Runs with two of Sam's friends, Bob Rivello and Bus Hello.

* * *

Arnold Wexler
John Meenehan
Bernie Frank

Dolores Alley
Ted Schad

March 23, 1947. A trip to Great Falls, Virginia, was packed with some of the season's most interesting climbing. The climbs in the region of the Flat Iron were tackled first. The traverse on the outside face, the inside face, and the Straddle Corner, or Inside Corner (E-14) were well dusted off, all present successfully mounting the qualifying climb. Opposite the fish ladder the well-known face with the slanting crack just wide enough to jam the body into was worked on, as well as the next inside corner downstream from it. Immediately below the Reverse Chimney a layback crack was climbed by Arnold and Dolores. All completed the George Washington piton climb, a horizontal chimney with a helpful piton--so-called--remaining from the days of George Washington out on a face directly over the river. Although not especially difficult, the climb has its thrills. The day's activities were brought to an end with the Reverse Chimney, by Dolores and Arnold. Chris Scoredos reports a short visit to Carderock.

LAST MEETING

At the meeting at the Bradt's last Friday John Meenehan proved to the gang that the beauty of color in caves isn't all put there by commercialism's colored lights. We definitely should have a sightseeing trip to Grapevine Cave, and John is hereby nominated for the leadership.

NEWS NOTES

Wm. Delaithiat Combs, 8 lbs. 4 oz., came last Sunday morning at 8:57 A.M. to live with Pussy and Rocky Combs. Quite a husky young fellow! His father has been transferred to the camp near Warrenton, Va. and about April 1 Bill and his mother will go there to be near Rocky.

Ruth Anderson is working as a Social Case Worker in Nassau County, N.Y. Her address is still 22 No. Poplar St., West Hempstead, N.Y.

Arthur Lembeck writes from Manila, "Before the War very few cars were seen in the back country. Now the excess jeeps, weapons carriers, everything on wheels (including Dukws, Tom!) has been 'procured' and some native, used to horse-drawn carts, is at the wheel. A trip is an experience--they stop anywhere and anytime, swerving in and out like Joe College and surprisingly enough the accident rate is quite light. The roads are disgraceful and speeds are--low."

The address of the P.A.T.C. since March 22-23 is 1916 Sunderland Place, N.W.

Sam Moore, Lowell Bennett, and Tom Culverwell are having a gay time boating in the spring freshets. Sam reports that they found the Shenandoah a week ago Saturday more exciting than they've ever found the Potomac.

March 7, 1948

Donald Hubbard
Kim Karcher
Pim Karcher

Clear weather spoils experiment! Donald, Pim and Kim had hoped to spend the day testing equipment for a proposed trip into the Selkirks, however, the rainy weather cleared early in the day putting an end to their experimenting. They practiced Prussic Knot climbing and Pim and Kim successfully climbed the Corkscrew Climb. After climbing around Juliet's Balcony they finished off the day with a hike.

March 7, 1948

Chris Scoredos
John Meenehan
Arnold Wexler

Nancy Curtis
Ted Schad

Leaving early in the morning in a heavy rainstorm, we drove to Tom Brooks, Virginia. There after consulting with Mr. Keller, we thoroughly explored the cave on his farm. The cave was small but there were several good climbs in it, later we went to Crystal Caves where a quarry, with walls over two-hundred feet high, was examined. Learning of a second cave in the vicinity, we drove to it and found one of the most beautiful rustic spots of the countryside. Near the cave was a lovely natural bridge. The group brushed up on their cave climbing technique after exploring the cave and bridge. On our way home we stopped at Warrenton for dinner.

March 14

John Meenehan
Ken Karcher
Jane Showacre
Pim Karcher
Arnold Wexler
Dolores Alley
Betty Alley

Billy Alley
Donald Hubbard
John Reed
Hale Bradt
Valerie Bradt
Earl Mosburg
Chris Scoredos

Midge Kangeisser
Felix Peckham
Jo Bradt
Paul Bradt
Alan Bradt
Peter Bradt

It seemed like old days with plenty of transportation for all. After parking the cars at the quarry the climbers made their way to the cliffs. There the group was divided into four teams. While Don was instructing the novices the other three teams were traversing along the river's edge. An all-girl's team was led across Juliet's Balcony where Valerie demonstrated some fancy rope work. Later an all-man team lead by John Reed traveled the same route. Photographers were almost as numerous as the climbers and the rappellers had to be especially cautious that they landed on terra firma instead of a luckless would-be photographer. The day's activities were finished practicing on the aerial bridge that had been built over a section of the canal.

NEWS

Mr. and Mrs. Bert Vos announce the birth of a daughter, Margaret Anne on March 2, 1948. Margaret Anne weighed 9 lbs., 6 oz. Congratulations Elizabeth and Bert!

* * *

We hear that Jan and Herb Conn will soon be back in Washington.