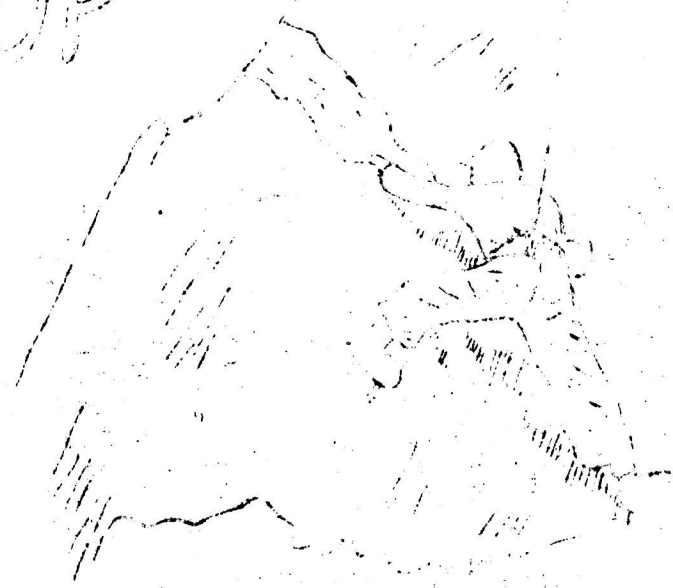


UP

ROPE



Elmer's Log Cabin
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NEWS OF THE WASHINGTON ROCK CLIMBERS

Vol. 5, No. 11

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Schedule

March 6, PATC trip to Bull Run Mountains; Rock Climbers cordially invited.

March 13, Thurmont, Maryland. Ted Schad and Arthur Lembeck coleaders.

Our Movie, "Up Rope"

At the Meeting of February 26 the members of the Rock Climbing Club arrived in droves at the Culverwells' rumpus room to see the premier showing of the movie "Up Rope." The movie has been two years in the making, and a truly gorgeous production, all in color, was presented to view. The title was given and the cast introduced by colored sketches prepared by Tom in his own inimitably uproarious fashion. Three climbs were shown, one by Dolores Alley, Marion Jackson, and Pim Karcher on Juliet's Balcony, below Great Falls, Virginia; one by Don Hubbard, Chris Scoredos, and John Reed on Donalds' Ducks, farther downstream; and one by Chris and Arnold Jexler on Old Rag Mountain, Shenandoah National Park, Virginia. Some of the Donalds' Ducks sequence was a little dark, but generally the photography was exquisite, helped, of course, greatly by Mother Nature's scenic background in these areas. John Meenehan, Arnold Jexler, Fitzhugh Clark, and Andy Kaufmann all contributed to the technical staff producing this masterpiece. (We are

still a little incredulous that no one fell from Donalds' Lucks. It was named because both Donalds Hubbard and Jacobs were ducked there in the Potomac, you know. (We suspect trick photography!) The visual entertainment was concluded with an "unveiling" of the black draperies covering a colored drawing or painting some six feet tall, by Tom Culverwell, of a mountain peak with the movie personnel sketched in various typically wacky attitudes, the drawing which had been photographed piecemeal by the movie camera as an introduction for "Up Rope." After delicious refreshments of cake and orange juice, and much greeting of folks we hadn't seen for umpteen years or more, we thanked Tom and Estelle for their pleasant hospitality as we took our leave from this delightful evening.

At the beginning of this meeting Earl and June Kosburg and Joan and Doug Price were elected members. This makes a total of six new members this year, since Dave Waddington and Harold Drowes were made members at the Annual Meeting. The election was made despite the suggestion of Don Hubbard that the proposed members' financial condition be first looked into. We trust these new members can all afford their fifty cents dues and will give or send them to the treasurer, Mrs. Dolores Alley, 1276 Morse Street NE, Washington, D.C. Dues sent to the UP ROPE editor along with a subscription will be cheerfully forwarded.

* * *

For the benefit of our members in or near Washington who were unable to see the recent showing of the movie "Up Rope," we have the cheering news that it will be shown some time in April to the Potomac Appalachian Trail Club; we'll announce the exact date as soon as we know it. Incidentally, the producers have agreed to make "Up Rope" available to any person, club, or organization who wishes to see it and has \$5.00 for the rental fee, a low fee calculated only to defray expenses.

Ups and Downs

Don Hubbard	Andy Kaufmann	Dick Goldman
Chris Scoredos	Betty Kaufmann	Eleanor Tatge
	Dolores Alley	

On Sunday, February 20, the climbing group went from the Hot Shoppe to Thurmont, Maryland, except for Chris who had only time for a morning trip and so went to Carderock alone. At Thurmont everyone practiced first at Wolf Rock throwing a rope across a chasm and over a horn with intent to set up an aerial traverse. The women did some ineffectual but fancy throwing, including a skyward loop by Dolores described as due to a tail wind with an up-draft; finally Betty saved feminine reputations with a masterly throw which eventually she looped properly over the target horn.

In the afternoon the party set out for Chimney Rock. A roped team led by Andy climbed one of the "chimneys," where Don set up a rappel made very interesting by the facts that A) the rappel face was vertical and very slippery because of the dampness, and B) Don wasn't too sure of his pitons supporting the rappel rope and was prepared to catch it with his hands if they failed! All went well, however, and as the last

man down Don threw one end of the rappel rope across the chimney for Dolores to hold below while he rappelled off the other end. It was a good idea, but the rope stuck and couldn't be pulled down afterwards. The trip back to Washington was fortified by cokes, True-Aid, and ice cream cones.

On February 19 and 20 a group of 15 people under the leadership of Paul Bradt, aided by Johnny Meenehan and Arnold Wexler, visited Clark's and Porter caves in the Allegheny region of Virginia. Rock Climbers, Trail Club members, and a group of Speleologists, some from Richmond, others from nearby Covington, participated. On Saturday the group investigated Clark's Cave, breaking up into small parties to explore the many passageways and mazes, and saltpeter diggings. Saturday night was spent in the elegant berths made by Paul in Porter's Cave. On Sunday the rooms and formations of Porter's Cave were explored. An interesting, hitherto unclimbed, well was ascended by Arnold and Fitzhugh Clark. In the afternoon the group piled into the truck and cars and motored back to Washington, stopping on the way in Charlottesville to enjoy an "eat-as-much-as-you-can" dinner.

Arnold Wexler	Chris Scoredos	Donald Hubbard	Richard Goldman
Peg Koister	Ted Shad	Roger S. Foster	Sally Lindsley
John Meenehan	Eleanor Tatge	Andy Kaufmann	Ken Karcher
Jane Showacre	Bob Tieman	Betty Kaufmann	Pim Karcher
Gaby Rosenberger	Maryland Mountain Club Members		

A joint trip was held on Sunday, February 27, by the Mountain Club of Maryland and the Washington Rock Climbers at the Bull Run Mountains. The Rock Climbers engaged in warming up climbs in the morning on Zeus' Throne, where most of the beginners congregated under Don's tutelage, and on the face opposite the Throne, where the experts held forth. The MCM arrived about noon, and after lunch Chris and Arnold each formed teams which worked on Zeus' Throne, while Don and his amateurs set up an aerial traverse from the top of Charlie's Crack to the cliff opposite, a distance so long that two climbing ropes (120 feet each) were necessary to span it doubled. The amateurs and a few stragglers from the Zeus' Throne activities heartily enjoyed sliding across harnessed to a carabiner, Tyrolean Traverse style. Those who know of the sweat and blood that have been lavished on Charlie's Crack were particularly thrilled to have the only personal contact they will probably ever have with the upper portion of that famous A climb.

Notes and News

Helen Baker, 800 N. Broadway, Baltimore 5, Md., writes that she and Clara Lee are dreaming of a summer trip to New England and the Gaspe Peninsula--dreaming when they should be studying.

Pim Karcher wears a new look suggesting that prize-fighting might have been included in her repertoire on a recent visit to Lake Placid. It's a tough life, kid.

From Harold Drewes, 7135 Northmoor Drive, St. Louis 5, Mo., we hear: "Please tell Chris that a few days ago we had a Washington U. Math Professor for dinner who seems to know him and his climbing prowess. Van Scott is his name.... You know, there are quite a number of cliffs near St. Louis; they line the Missouri and Mississippi Rivers for miles. However, it didn't take long to discover that one could take any hand-hold away that one wished. Perhaps I'm just spoiled, what with that usually reliable gneiss and granite and quartzite of the East. But then maybe limestone is just unreliable stuff. So all I have to do is get real desperate for the feel of hard rock and aching muscle, desperate enough to travel some sixty or seventy miles to Graniteville in the St. Francois Hills. Here there are numerous huge granite boulders with an impressive array of cracks and chimneys. Besides I have also gathered information on over sixty caves within 160 miles of town in Missouri alone...."

Two weeks ago the Lembecks visited the new PATC Hermitage Shelter near Thurmont, Md., and they highly recommend nearby Schaeffer's Rocks for good climbing. Last week they went to the National Sportsmen's Show in New York and spent considerable time in various equipment supply houses in that city. The discovery of most interest for climbers was the Camp & Trail Outfitters version of the angle piton. According to Art, "Don Hubbard's idea so often expressed in private has at last been independently developed by Ben Siminow. The eye is incorporated in the body of the piton instead of forming a loose ring. The piton is made of a mild steel instead of the dead soft steel used in the Colorado Gerry Mountaineering copy of the Army model." Specimens were brought back for testing. The price will be quite high until the initial dies are paid for. A sample is being sent to Arnold.

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