

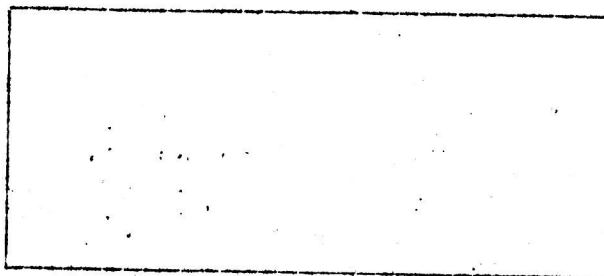
NEWS OF THE WASHINGTON ROCK CLIMBERS

Vol. 5, No. 17

May 25, 1949

Schedule

STUDIES IN WHITE NO. V



Trips and Meetings Scheduled
for the Month of June by the
Washington Rock Climbing Club

Apparently we're all so busy with our plans for the coming summer's activities in far away parts with jagged horizons, snows, odd languages, and other non-Washingtonian effects, that we can't work up any concerted enthusiasm about a local trip. And so our schedule is, as you see, blank.

May 22nd Meeting

A jolly group met at the Dawsons' to see color slides on Local Climbing and Allied Subjects. Chairman Arnold Wexler made a few announcements, and brought up the suggestion that the Club select a Sunday meeting place which would permit earlier starts than the Hot Shoppe used at present. Since the Hot Shoppe doesn't open until 8:00 A.M., it isn't practical to leave there before 8:30. The Howard Johnson and Hubbard House at Friendship Heights, upper Wisconsin Ave., were suggested, and also places in Georgetown. Some members seem quite satisfied with the present arrangement and averse to rising any

earlier on Sunday. And some feel that our long association with the Van Ness Hot Shoppe, its benign generosity regarding our use of its facilities, and the difficulty of making known a change to visitors from out of town who are accustomed to finding us there, are not worth the extra hour or so gained in the morning. Anyway, the suggestion will be opened for discussion at a future meeting.

Color slides were shown by Arnold Wexler, John Meenehan, Eleanor Tatge, and Art Lembeck. The climbing pictures included fine views of climbs, rappels, aerial traverses, and ice step cutting, at Great Falls, Carderock, Thurmont, and Skyline Drive. Arnold showed some excellent cave shots taken in Clark's Cave. John exhibited photographs of mushrooms and flowers taken with a portrait attachment; velvety petal textures, and exquisite dew-drops were particularly effective. Art concluded the showing with photographs taken during his Wartime stay on Guam, and also views of the Minaretttes in California which he and Win visited.

The meeting was terminated with punch and very delicious cookies home-baked by Mrs. Dawson. We thank the Dawsons very much indeed for the use of their screen and projector, and for their gracious hospitality.

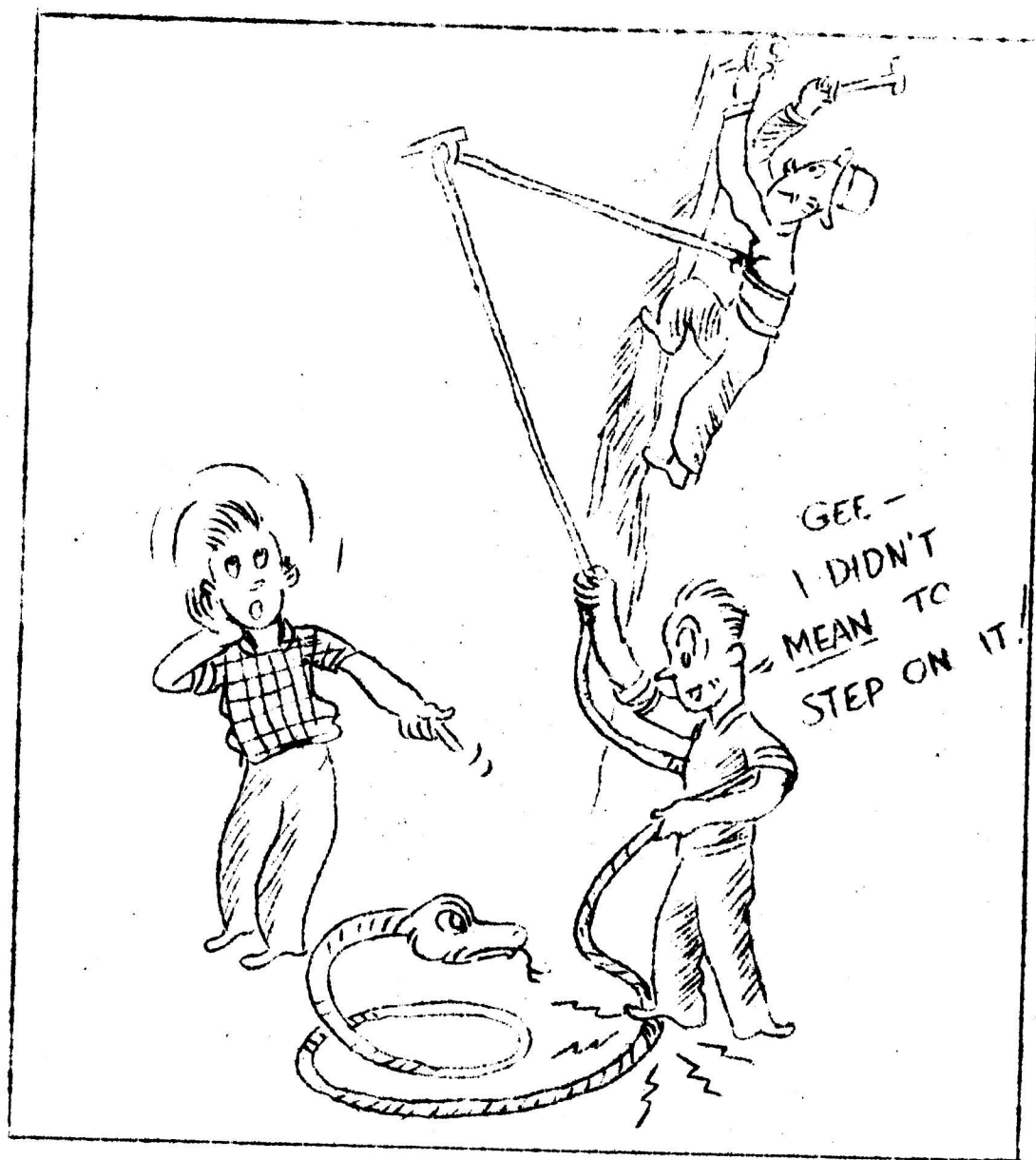
Ups and Downs

Arnold Wexler	Chris Scoredos	Andy Kauffman	Theodor Benzinger
George Kamm	Helen Scoredos	Betty Kauffman	Rolf Benzinger
Bernard Weitz	Eric Scoredos	Mary Neilan	Art Lembeck
Irene Posner	Eleanor Tatge	Peg Keister	Win Lembeck

Sunday May 15, 1949--Bull Run Mountains. Sixteen ambitious climbers (well, most of them were ambitious) arrived at the Throne of Zeus, uncoiled ropes, tied in, and disappeared below the summit. Arnold and Andy led teams on the Throne. Art Lembeck led his on the first outcrop to the north. As all assembled for lunch, it was found that Helen Scoredos was still at the bottom of a cliff making little progress towards her lunch at the top. A great deal of craning of necks, a little ribbing, and a special demonstration by Chris, brought her up safe & sound. After lunch all assembled at Charlie's Crack, on which Helen worked up the farthest, altho no one succeeded in making the top. A thunder storm brought the climbing to an early conclusion.

Arnold Wexler	Betty Kauffman	Ted Schad
Chris Scoredos	Andy Kauffman	Eleanor Tatge
Lois Barnes	Don Hubbard	

Sunday, May 22, 1949. Altho a misty, moisty morning brought an unusual turnout for such weather at the Hot Shoppe, not much was done about it. Arnold & Don returned to their respective homes, and the die-hards went for a walk on the towpath upstream from Anglers Inn. Wild strawberries were in the pink of condition, and were indulged in freely and ravenously. If six cases of hives don't appear in Washington this week it isn't because we didn't try! Chris claims he led one climb up at Great Falls, even if he did almost lose his second man, who got mixed up in her poncho. We haven't heard any further boasts. The return to the cars was just plain damp.



KARCHER KAPERS

Our Enquiring Reporter finally caught up with the Karchers a few minutes, long enough to hear a word or two about their new activity, Night Climbing. The first excursion took place on Tuesday, May 10. Ken, Pim, Eve Russel, Gabby Rosenberger, and Dick Gaylord after dinner at the Pentagon took off for Carderock. While Gabby led the Chris-Wex-Don with Ken & Eva on her rope, Pim and Dick climbed the Golden Stairs and then heckled the other team. It finally got too dark for Gabby to pound her pitons, and so the team rappelled down. One by one the entire group then climbed the Beginners' Climb in the pitch blackness--a most interesting experience, it is reported.

On Wednesday, May 18, a repetition of the above murky behavior resulted in a trip to Carderock by Eva Russell, Dick Gaylord, and Pim Karcher to struggle with the Buckets-of-Blood Chimney, Barnacle Face, and the crack in the middle of the Chris-Jex-Don rising vertically above Don's Piton Lead. After dinner, in the pitch dark the Barnacle Face was given another massage.

Inside Corner

The Further Adventures of Mary Neilan: "Nipped in the bud. I note in the last UP ROPE you announced my invitation for a fellow prospector. All, alas, is doomed. I was deported at the border last week, as a "person likely to become a public charge." I had thought I'd spend a few days in Canada going up around Kirkland Lake to see what it looked like, and ask around about the proper equipment. Had my pack and ice axe along on the off chance that I might get to see Lake Chibougamau or even Lake Mistassini, if the plane fare weren't too much--and I find an ice axe invaluable for leaning on, poking the fire, and digging dry wood out of wet logs. It was open to serious misinterpretation; the immigration man seemed to think I was starting off on a prospecting trip that minute, armed with my ice axe. I told him that I'd gathered that stuff up to go to B.C. last year with some friends who were going thru some unexplored country, and he said, "Did it ever occur to you that we'd rather explore our own unexplored country?" When I offered to leave the pack here, being sort of hurt and miffed at the idea of being tossed out as an undesirable alien, he said he thought I was just going into Canada to get a man! A sort of female Bondage, I suppose, wild-eyed and panting, drifting tremendously across the Pro-Cambrian shield, armed with an ice axe! Probably felt he was protecting his countrymen from a fate worse than death.

"After I got over being mad I was embarrassed. I've gone up there year after year thinking I was welcome. They actually resent such a trip as we took last summer! I appealed the deportation notice, but decided to withdraw it--I just wouldn't have the face to go back."

Gabby Rosenberger is off on a two-weeks jaunt to Paris. Ho-hum.

Equipment

LeRoy Holubar, 1215 Grandview, Boulder, Colorado, writes that he has for sale "a good plastic air mattress 25" by 48" which weighs less than 2 pounds. I tested it at 3 degrees below zero F. and it proved very satisfactory" and "a supply of the Army's latest light backboard with the light well-designed frame." Air mattresses \$8.00 plus postage; backboards \$3.50 plus postage.

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