

NEWS OF THE WASHINGTON ROCK CLIMBERS

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June 8, 1949

Ups and Downs

Don Hubbard

George Kamm

John Reed

Jane Showacre

Irene Posner

Eleanor Tatge

Sunday May 29, 1949. From the Hot Shoppe Jane's coupe, loaded with three in the front seat and three in the baggage compartment, landed the rock climbers at Great Falls, Maryland. The Park bridges were all crossed safely and prosaically, no one working up determination to reach the Falls by aerial traverse alone. At the Falls Irene was given a rappelling lesson. Then while Don, Jane, and George practiced Prussic knots, John, Eleanor, and Irene roped up for a traverse upstream. Two pitches including a wasps' nest led to the climax of the traverse, a broad horizontal crack which offered John everything his heart desired in the way of handholds and not even so much as gentle pressure for footholds--his feet actually dangled in the air. Eleanor eventually screwed up enough courage to follow. Although Don's team followed John's, the members elected to use the crack as a footwalk and perform a neat feat inchworming themselves down to the belay point. The route proceeded down to stream level, downstream to a high-angle crack, and up to the starting point again. This part of the route Don's team did not follow, preferring to look after their stomachs; John's team were fairly ravenous by the time they ended the last pitch, after 1 o'clock.

After lunch Johnny enthusiastically talked up an aerial traverse for his team across one of the foaming, boiling river gorges to a bare rock island. The first step of setting the ropes required a water traverse. John lassoed a low pointed rock, then swam the torrent hooked between the two ropes by carabiners. He shifted his end of the doubled rope, looping it over the top of the island. Don came down to take charge of the shore end of proceedings; Eleanor, then Irene, Jane, and George made their passage on the aerial highway. Inspired by a

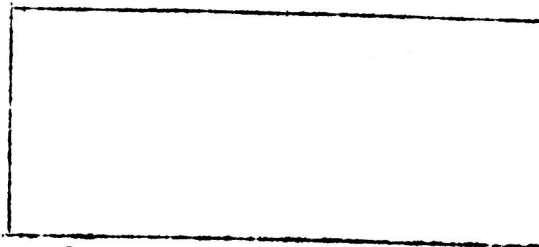
fine waterfall on the upstream side of the island, Don shifted the lower end of the traverse so that the return trip was made directly over the falls, some of the travelers getting more or less wet en route.

The return to the car was fairly slow because of the mass of people out sightseeing. Milkshakes at the Hot Shoppe terminated a most satisfactory day.

Sunday, May 29, 1949--by Pim Karcher. Andy, Betty, Ken and I left Saturday morning early for the Seneca Rock area, West Virginia. We went to Sugar Knob (name somewhat uncertain) and then to Gandy Sinks. The water was very high. We camped at Sugar Knob, and Mary Neilan joined us

morning we climbed Old Women's Route, the Old Men's then climbed up to the west side the north end of Gun Sight we went and came back by spent the night

STUDIES IN WHITE NO. VI



West Virginia. Sun- A diagram showing the key the road with the handhold on A-5 The Little scrambling around Handhold That Isn't There the bridge across No scrambling. So we bid goodbye to Marie Neilan, who started off for Elkins. It really was a beautiful week end, cool, but invigorating.


for dinner. Sunday Seneca via the and descended by Route. Ken and I the Gun Sight on starting toward the rock. From the to the north peak the trail. We somewhere near Job, day we drove down intention of Champe Rocks, but the river is down.

Arnold Wexler	Andy Kauffman	Ken Karcher	Art Lombeck
Donald Hubbard	Betty Kauffman	Pim Karcher	Chris Scoredos
John Heenehan	Irene Posner	Gaby Rosenberger	Helen Scoredos
Dolores Alley	Peg Keister	Eva Russell	Eric Scoredos

Sunday, June 5, 1949. At Carderock Peg, Irene, and Arnold teamed up for the Chris-Mex-Don, Betty, Don, Andy, and Gaby set out up the Golden Stairs, John, the Karchers, Art, and Eva assailed Wexler's First and The Stretch, and Chris and Dolores started off at the far end of the Chris-Mex-Don, then went over to the Easter Egg climbs. Before lunch the Spiderwalk, Beginners' Climb, Barnacle Face, and Herbie's Horror were also worked on, and Art made Sterling's Crack. Some Prussic knot practice was indulged in near the Barnacle Face.

In the afternoon a young man and girl turned up with a 3/4 inch sisal rope which didn't quite reach the ground from the top of the cliffs, so Ken gave a belay for the Buckets-of-Blood Chimney, which the young man did without a shirt, and was pretty well scratched up. Chris later demonstrated the Spiderwalk, and Helen led a 7 and a 9 year-old up the Kindergarten Climb. Climbing was also done in the Lombeck Crossover region. And we hear rumors of Swimming by Women in spite of a Dearth of Bathing Apparel, but naturally we are keeping that a secret.

Altogether it was a full day!



WE MADE IT!

Inside Corner

UP ROPE has just heaved a huge sigh of relief upon reading in the Mugelnoos of the Sierra Club's Rock Climbing Section that the rock climbing equipment of the Section, recently lost, has been found. We were worried.

We hear that June Mosburg has a recently acquired driving permit. She and Andy should get together and celebrate.

The Scoredos' spent the Memorial Day week end at Virginia Beach, where they indulged in a sport known as Seawall Climbing.

INVITATION TO A WALK

Save the last week end in June for a walk across the Appalachian Trail in Maryland. The last printed schedule of the Mountain Club of Maryland lists a repeat of 1940's MCM Marathon--38 miles from PenMar, Pa. to Harpers Ferry, W. Va. PATC promises a clear trail for the event on the 26th of June. If a lack of registrants cancels official sponsorship by MCM, a group of Washington Rock Climbers is figuring to carry on.

Tentative plans call for placing cars in the gaps across Maryland so one may walk any distance from about 9 miles to the full 38. All persons will meet near the PenMar end of the trail, sleeping out, until the about 3 AM reveille. Breakfast will be probably at Raven Rocks Loan-to, and lunch at George Washington Monument.

This is no race, just a chance for a longer-than-usual hike. Interested persons please call Art Lembeck, OLiver 2500, Ext. 455 in the daytime, or SHEpherd 0421 in the evening.

Letters to the Editor

From the Conns, besides this week's Studies in White suggestion, we have the following juicy titbit regarding their amulatory activities:

"Then we leave here next week we're going on a little expedition with some of the local climbers to northeastern Arizona. More about that if and when we climb our objective. Then we'll come back to Phoenix for a few days, principally so Jammy can finish her courses at night school. After that we're bound for South Dakota in a slow round about way that we hope will take in some worth while climbing in Utah and points north.

"The man who started an interest in rock climbing here, Ray Garner by name, is now a lecturer and photographer, and we have just seen his masterpiece, a climbing movie taken on the Grand Teton featuring Paul Petzoldt, Glenn Exum, and Ray's wife Virginia. It's a wonderful film--you can imagine what the possibilities are, and he's made the most of them. He has some particularly good close-ups of glissading, which make it look every bit as thrilling as skiing. This summer he's going to be photographing in Arches National Monument, Utah. He learned to climb with Fritz Wiessner, so I guess he's good. Last summer he made a first ascent of a terrific looking peak, Mt. Brussels, in the Canadian Rockies. It was written up in the American Alpine Journal.

"We were much interested in the account of the new Old Man's Route on the west face of Seneca. That dead tree certainly sounds like our dead tree. That these old men won't do next!"

Our most recent subscribers, the Holubars of Boulder, Colorado, sent us the attached price list chock full of equipment items, and in the accompanying letter Alice Holubar tells us: I had wanted to put in little introductory remarks here and there, such as

When you hang by your teeth and toes,
Our rope and stuff will soothe your woes.
and, You don't care if someone's lookin'
With our stuff to do your cookin'."

Equipment Expert Art Lenbeck has also information to offer on Holubar supplies. With regard to a plastic air mattress he says:

"The mattress is composed of sections 24" x 24" which snap together in any length. Thus, two sections snap together to form a so-called "half-length" and three sections a "full-length" mattress. While four would suffice for Pete Peterson! Each section weighs a little less than one pound. There are eight tubes funning across each section.

"Incidentally, Holubar is considering importing some of Molitor's hand-made climbing boots in case anyone is interested in luxury items. And his new Army plywood packboards are the usual 4 lbs. plus (nearly 5 lbs.) variety complete with nylon cord lashings at \$5.50, postage additional." ("Nylon lashings," says Art, "are not so good. Too stretchy.")

Eleanor Tatge, Editor 5811 14th Street NW Washington 11, D.C. Randolph 8066
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Brerani-type black rubber lug soles.
Send boots for guaranteed job \$5.25
Pitons Strength
1/8" wafer, blade 2" to 2 1/2" 1800# 30¢
3/16" wafer, blade 2" to 3" 2900# 35¢
1/4" wafer, blade 3" to 4 1/2" 3100# 45¢
5/8" angle, blade 5" 3300# 55¢
7/8" angle, blade 6 1/2" 3300# 60¢
Swiss horizontal or vertical 55¢
Bhend ice piton \$2.25

Bhend piton hammer \$3.35
Piton keeper, spring snap 10¢
Expansion bolts (write for details)

Karibiner, plain Swiss oval \$1.15
Manual of Ski Mountaineering \$2.50
Delaying the Leader Booklet 55¢
Mountaineers' Handbook \$3.00

Nylon Rope Strength
7/16" x 120 ft. 3750# \$22.20
3/8" x 120 ft. 2600# \$15.60
1/4" any length 1040# per ft. 3¢
3/16" braided cord 550# per ft. 2¢

Mountaineers' hat made of durable
preshrunk felt that will withstand
weather. Green & gray. Size? \$4.75

Saf-T-Sheath knife, safe for climb-
ers, yet of a design for real ser-
vice. The handle folds to form the
sheath. Fine tool steel. Open 3 1/2";
closed 4 3/4". Wt. 4 oz. \$2.95

Swiss Ice Axes

Mischabel axe, hand-forged head
with straight-grained ash shaft
weight about 2 lbs. \$20.00

Bhend axe. Andre Roch states that
this is the best Swiss axe \$16.00
Ice axe sling, slide ring \$1.15
Leather guard for head \$2.00

Crampons (send boots outline to fit)

Attenhofer or Andennmatten, hand-
forged 10-point, wt. 2 lbs. \$11.00

Bhend 8-point, beautiful, Swedish
steel, wt. about 1 3/4 lbs. \$15.50

Bhend 10-point 17.70

U.S. Army 10-point with leather har-
ness, sizes 9, 10, 11 \$5.75

Face mask, wool double felt 85¢

Face mask, chamois skin 55¢

Swiss aluminum pt. fuel bottle \$1.35

" " fork & spoon set 70¢

" " salt & pepper shaker 55¢

SHIPPING COSTS EXTRA

HOLUBAR, 1215 GRANDVIEW, BOULDER, COLORADO

U.S. Army good used rod frame \$3.50
Same, need repairs 1.75
U.S. Army new packboards, best kind
light tough ply-wood frame \$3.50

Packsack, good inexpensive climbing
pack. U.S. Army 16 oz. duck; size
14"x14"x4". Double vertical parti-
tion on the inside forms 4 pockets;
one outside pocket. New \$1.95

Air mattress, excellent plastic
24"x48". Wt. 29oz. \$8.00

Double arctic sleeping bag, used
but excellent. 40% down 60% feath-
er filling. Water-proof carrying
case. Outer rectangular zips open
completely; inner is mummy with
zipper. \$32.50
Outer only \$16.00; Inner, \$16.50

Poplin outer cover for mummy \$3.20
Sheet liner for mummy bag 95¢

U.S. Two-man mountain tents
New nylon double entrance tents
with sewed-in floor, insect netting
poles, & stakes. This is the Army's
latest model. Wt. 95 lbs. \$19.75
New single entrance tents without
poles & stakes. Wt. 55 lbs. \$12.50
Used tents, need minor repairs,
according to condition \$6. to \$9.00

Minimum bivouac tent, complete prot-
ection, for "Going Light" \$14.00
4-section pyramidal tent \$12.75

Gasoline stoves

Primus pocket stove, model 71L.
Used by mountaineers everywhere.
Folds to 3 1/2"x3 1/2"x5 1/4". 1 pt. burns
about 1 1/2 hrs. Wt. 23 oz. \$6.50
Raykit pocket stove. Monel metal cas-
forms sturdy grid & folds to 2"x
4 1/2"x5". Burns about 1 1/2 hrs on one
filling. Wt. 26 oz. \$6.75

Swiss Alpine Cooker. Best for "Going
Light". Consists of small gasoline
stove, two 1 3/4 pt. pots, plate, &
2-section shield for stove. Size
7"x3 1/2". Wt. 22oz. \$11.75

Aladdin, the real C.I. \$10.50

Mountain troopers' cook kit, two
nesting aluminum pots & stainless
steel skillet-cover. Wt. 1 1/2 lbs.
7 1/4"x4 1/2" \$13.50