

NEWS OF THE WASHINGTON ROCK CLIMBERS

Vol. 6, No. 17

March 3, 1950

Schedule

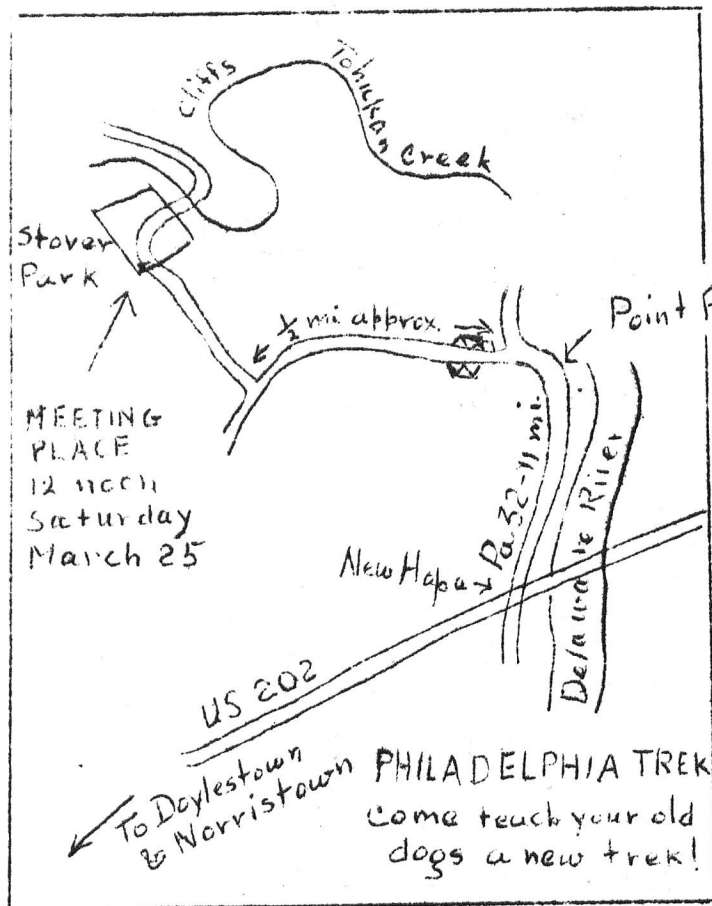
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| Mar. 4-5. Trail clearing and rock climbing on Old Pag Mountain with Paul Bradt. |
| Mar. 7 (Tuesday). District Building. Cariboo Mountains; colored slides by Arnold Wexler. |
| Mar. 25-26. Climbing near Philadelphia. Leader, Norman Goldstein. |

Paul Bradt's phone is GEorgia 3917. He will furnish details of the Old Pag trip.

We are told that the Board Room of the District Building is on the 5th floor. We have always got out of the elevator just when everybody else did and never noticed what floor. Arnold says we have the date and the day right, in spite of what any other news vendor may have to say otherwise!

Norman Goldstein gives us a build-up on the Philadelphia trip as follows: "Different rocks and new climbs are waiting for us at Stover Park, Pennsylvania on March 25 and 26 when we join the Philadelphia climbers in their favorite terrain. The word is that hardware will facilitate matters. We have a cabin reserved but there are probably no beds. A central commissary will be set up as for the last Rock Spring Shelter trip, so bring along a can of beef stew and two lunches. We plan to meet the Philadelphians at Stover Park (see map) about 160 miles from Washington at noon on Saturday, March 25. Please phone Norman Goldstein EMerson 6354 before or on Thursday, March 23 between 5 and 11 P.M. so that food and transportation can be arranged to best advantage."

Joe Walsh describes the climbing area thus: "The cliff itself is outside of the park, only 1/4 mile, and is about 3/8 mile long with a vertical drop from 50 ft. to 120 ft. Nearly all of the climbs are lead from the bottom with three to five leads. We have climbed about 20 routes and there are plenty more available. Also we would like somebody with a good imagination to christen some of them. As to getting there: You can find New Hope on any Pennsylvania road map; it is where U.S. 202 crosses the Delaware River--don't cross it! Turn left on Pa. 32 north 11 miles to Point Pleasant. In Point Pleasant the road makes an S-turn and crosses a concrete bridge--don't cross it!



There is a girder bridge straight ahead after the first half of the S turn. Cross it and go up the hill, take the first road to the right and it will take you to Stover Park."

VOS MEETING

The rock climbers invaded the home of Elizabeth and Bert Vos on Monday, Feb. 20. This is testimony to the accuracy of the complicated directions which appeared in the last issue of UP ROPE. Pictures shown varied all the way from local climbs to air views of the Grand Canyon area and the mountains of Hawaii.

The movie "Mountaineering in the Desert" made by Ray Garner and showing the Kachinas of Phoenix, Arizona, making an ascent of Pinnacle Peak were shown. This film was obtained as a swap for our movie UP ROPE, which is

at present in Phoenix. As we want everyone to have a chance to see the Kachina movie, the Bradts, 6626 First Street NW are planning to show it this coming Thursday, March 9 at 8:00 P.M. If you didn't make the meeting at the Vos' or would like to see it again, come on.

PLUG (by a certain Associate Editor): The highlight of the meeting (Hm--Ed.) was some Kodachromes of the Black Hills of South Dakota. Those who are familiar with the region were reminded anew of the stupendous character of the rock. For the others it was indeed an experience to see at last the rocks where Jam Crack Joe perfected his flawless technique.

Ups and Downs

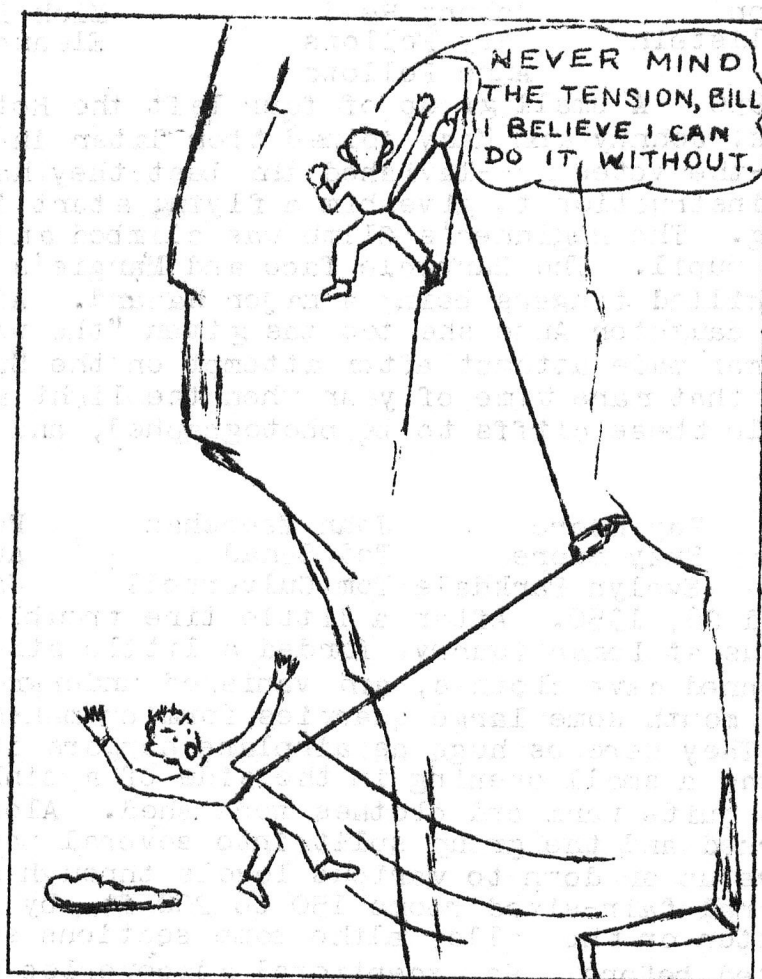
Win Lembeck
Art Lembeck
Skeet Rodger
Dick Goldman

Peg Keister
Arnold Wexler
Charlie Gallant
Andrea Oberman

Herb Conn
Jan Conn
Dolores Alley
Betty Alley
Billy Alley

Paul Eradt
Jo Bradt
Alan Eradt
Peter Bradt

Feb. 18-19, 1950. Hermitage Trip. A clear, cold Saturday with little wind and occasional sun made for a pleasant afternoon on a new route south of the Swiss Guide Climb. With Peg climbing second and Arnold "pushing the rope," Art led up the chimney just south of Monument Rock and, protected by an angle piton, crossed a foothold-less stretch to a projecting rock seat around a corner on Monument Rock. Peg joined him here and her long occupancy of the spot christened it



"The Mezzanine." A further traverse gave way to shallow piton cracks which angled sharply upward. A retablo to a narrow shelf furnished stance for two higher "psychological" pitons and access to a 10-in. ledge partially occupied by a small pine. The remainder of the route to the top of "Lembeck's Mezzanine Climb" was over a gentler slope with adequate holds.

Saturday night after popcorn and cider, half the party was in their sleeping bags when an urge for mountain air started a stampede to the Snowy Mountain Fire Tower. A freezing wind which tore the clouds from the sparkling stars chased the group back down to the warm cabin.

The Hot Shoppe crowd came in Sunday morning with a cold wind and overcast sky. Jan and Dolores spent most of the day in the area of Lowell's Chimney and Joe Walsh's climb, duplicating these and introducing variations. Dick and Herb cooperated on the "Hermitage Hoverhang," followed by most of the others. Herb finished the day by leading the Swiss Guide Climb--with pitons.

The gang was very enthusiastic about more trips to these cliffs, which offer fine leads on high angle rock, with interesting problems in route finding but usually with adequate piton cracks.

Jack Wilson
Norman Goldstein

Johnny Reed
Mary Fellows
Anne Fellows

Mick Lachenbruch
Eleanor Tatge

Feb. 19, 1950. A small group of four left the Hot Shoppe for a day at Carderock; Johnny and Mary joined them later in the morning. Three of these--the veterans--lavished the best they had to offer on Mick by way of instruction to give him a flying start in the noble art of rock climbing. The Beginner's Climb was climbed and rappelled from by teachers and pupil. The Barnacle face and Margie's Chimney were also climbed, chilled fingers being a major hazard. After Mary arrived with baby daughter Anne she too was given "the works." In between times Norman made attempt after attempt on the Spiderwalk, all futile. It was that rare time of year when the light and the absence of foliage enable these cliffs to be photographed, and cameras clicked right and left.

Art Lembeck
Tony Soler
Iovell Bennett

Ray Moore
Suzy Moore
Evelyn Barkdale

John Meenehan
Ted Schad
Tom Culverwell

Peg Keister
Arnold Wexler
Jack Wilson

Feb. 25 and 26, 1950. After a little tire trouble the group met at the rendezvous at Lomar Quarry, forded a little stream to get off the highway, donned cave clothes, and vanished underground. On the way to the cave mouth some large quarries forming man-made caves were investigated. They were as huge as airplane hangars inside. The cave entrance was a small opening in the side of a sink. Once inside the weather was quite warm and clothes were shed. Along about 100 ft. the passage forked and the group split into several parties. It was possible to move up or down to various levels through dry chimneys. There were several fair-sized rooms 150 to 200 ft. by 30 to 50 ft. Names were written on the walls, altho some sections seemed not to have been visited before. No exceptional discoveries were made. The group came out about 6:30 or 7:00 o'clock Saturday evening and split into several parties which went their own ways on Sunday. Incidentally, Saturday evening there was several inches of snow particularly enjoyed by Evelyn, a true southern belle who had never seen it before!

At the Hot Shoppe on Sunday, Feb. 29, Oliver Westfall, Norman Goldstein, and Eleanor Tatge met for a trip to the Bull Runs in Norm's new car. A cold and biting wind discouraged rope-work, and after a moderately sheltered lunch in a semi-cave, the group wended its way homeward.

HAND MAIDEN Courtesy MUGELNOOS

"I took 2 days to climb 3 feet," remarks Actress Valli, "The White Tower" star, in a recent hand-lotion advertisement. "Later, I had to claw my way up a 'chimney' bare-handed. Even when I rested, my hands were burned by the hot Alpine sun."

Ruthi, the MUGELNOOS Power Girl Editor, personally has investigated a number of characters who have "clawed their way bare handed" up assorted cliffs. Ruthi states unequivocally that it takes more than oceans of lotion to cure piton knuckles and a granite manicure.

Inside Corner

Helen Baker writes that she has a job in Colorado for this summer as doctor at a girl's camp in Bailey.

Mike Moore has been one pretty sick little boy, but it looks like he's out of danger and bids fair to be his own inquisitive little self again.

Sally Lindsley and Dick Goldman are a-gittin' theirselves hitched in Philadelphia come May 27.

Herbie Conn is burning up the asphalt on a new motor bike. It's quicker than walking, says Herb.

JOHN MUIR TRAIL TRIP. Four weeks "in the heart of the incomparable Sierra Nevada country...breathtaking Sierra mountain wilderness at its grandest." Two trips will be run, with parties of 20 to 35 each trip; one mid-July to mid-August, the other mid-August to mid-September. You may join either party for one, 2, 3, or 4 weeks. The 4-weeks period is \$205 hiking, \$345 riding; the 2-weeks period \$105 hiking, \$185 riding. For further information and reservations write: Joseph C. Kampler, Archeologist-Mountaineer, 1940 Hearst Ave., Berkeley 9, California.

HOLUBAR. Alice Holubar writes that their catalog should be ready in March, and that they are going to handle the boots of "Karl Molitor, the famous Swiss bootmaker.

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