

NEWS OF THE P.A.T.C. MOUNTAINEERING COMMITTEE

1916 Sunderland Place N. W. Washington 6, D. C.

FOUNDED BY
JAN AND HERB CONN

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LOOKING AHEAD

Feb. 22-24. G.W.'s Birthday. AN INVITATION TO ROCK-CLIMBERS AND SKI-MOUNTAINEERS.

Dick Goldman writes as follows: "Sally and I are spending Washington's Birthday at my mother's cabin in West Virginia. This is about 20 miles from the Davis ski tow. Any rock-climbers who wish to stay in the cabin are invited. Bring your own food or let us know. To reach: West on Route 50 about 165 miles to Red House, Md., continuing about 5 miles to Youghiougheny Forest. Park in cleared strip next to garage and proceed west on route 90 about 100 yds. till you cross a very small culvert. Right turn through bushes on faint trail about 100 ft. to cabin. Sign to Cathedral State Park, road signs at junction route 24, or Aurora means you have gone too far. Y.F. may be recognized by one or all of the following methods:

1. Stand of large virgin hemlocks and pine.
2. Blue convertible 1935 Ford.
3. Ask thereabouts for Archie Shaeffer. "

N.B. Jo Bradt's proposed family weekend at Pine Grove has been canceled.

ANNUAL MEETING, 1952

The annual business meeting of the P.A.T.C. Mountaineering Committee was held at the home of Ann Green, on Thursday, January 24. The first item of business was the election of a chairman for the coming year. Johnny Rood received the largest number of votes from a slate including Jim Bullard, Charlie Gallant, Ray Moore, Tony Soler, Jane Showacre and Peg Keister. Since Johnny was not there to defend himself (he had the measles!), the committee decided to elect a vice-chairman, Jane Showacre, to serve in the event that Johnny could not be persuaded to take the job, and in any case, to represent the committee on the P.A.T.C. Council when Johnny is unable to do so (subject to the approval of said council). We are very happy to report that Johnny has been persuaded.

Paul Bradt reported that Charlie Gallant has been investigating the cost of having Jan Conn's tape-recorded climbing songs transferred to disks. A New York firm will make not less than 100 two-record sets at \$3.00 a set. Since it is felt that \$300 is too large an investment for the club members to undertake on the basis of the number of people who have so far expressed their interest, it was decided that subscribers would be asked to pay in advance, the records to be made at such time as sufficient funds had been received to insure against a large loss. (You will shortly

Annual Meeting (cont.)

receive an order blank, giving full particulars.) June's first job as vice-chairman was to appoint someone to handle the business. Frank Sauber, bless his heart, volunteered!

The following new members were elected: Helen (Susie) Broome; John Fortna; Ann Green; Joel and Phyllis Gross; Sioux Hughes; Jerry Jankowitz; Walter Kane; Alice, Louise, Tommy and Wade Marshall; Gerry Morgan; M. Louise (Blondie) Newhouse; Frank Sauber; Bill Wright.

Arnold Wexler read us a portion of a letter from Stan Thomas, who is back in England. Stan wished to express his and Dorothy's appreciation to the group for helping to make their stay in Washington pleasant, and extended a very cordial invitation to any England-bound climbers to visit them.

Since the privilege of voting depends in part upon qualification as a climber, and since some of the new methods of qualifying depend in turn upon a list of "C" climbs, Paul was asked if such a list could be presented in order to clarify the status of some of the members. A tentative list drawn up by Art Lembeck, Arnold Wexler and Andy Kauffman was read, a few additions were suggested from the floor, and the list was then approved. (This, together with the established list of "A" and "B" climbs, will be published in a forthcoming issue of UP ROPE.)

At the conclusion of the business session, Ray Moore showed his movies of his summer trip to the Needles in the Black Hills, the Tetons, and the pioneering of the Soler Route on Devil's Tower. These were augmented by the Kodachromes taken by Tony Soler and Art Lembeck on the same trip, with the addition of Art's fine pictures of Bryce, Zion and the Grand Canyon. (Jean Burnstad spoke for us all when she said, "What pictures! What are we doing here!")

We want to extend our hearty thanks to Ann Green and her mother and aunt for their very kind hospitality during a most enjoyable evening. -F.S. and P.K.-

UPS AND DOWNSJan. 13. Great Falls, Virginia

Betty Alley	Charles Fort	Louise Marshall	Ted Schad
Dolores Alley	Abby Hammack	Alice Marshall	Chris Scoredos
Paul Bratt	Don Hubbard	Tommy Marshall	Eric Scoredos
Jo Bratt	Shirley Jackson	John Meenehan	Bob Stevens
Alan Bratt	Walt Kane	Gerry Morgan	Arnold Wexler
Peter Bratt	Peg Keister	John Reed	Spike Zywicki
Susie Broome	Wade Marshall	Rest of the Reeds	

Starting near Great Falls Park opposite the Fish Ladder, we gradually worked our way downstream to the Corkscrew during the course of the day. First laurels went to Johnnie Reed, the only one to climb the Reverse Chimney. Yes, even Paul fell off. The Spraddle Route, with its base under water, and the nearby layback corner, ditto, got some attention, and so did the Indigestion Climb. Johnny Reed made the latter, and we think that Chris did also. Forgive us if we missed anyone. We were busy persuading Snirley to borrow our sneakers and try the neighboring easy corner, and climbing it ourself in stocking feet. Meanwhile, our cayeman Charles was busy with some weird rigging - a very long single-rope aerial traverse with an amazing center sag, while a visiting newsreel photographer ground away.

Arnold, Johnnie Reed and Peg started the downstream trek, stopping off at the Flat-iron to climb the Inside Corner (Straddle Chimney) and the face climb in the same section. Paul and company (Ted, Walt, Gerry and John M.) shortly caught up with them and worked on the same climbs. Paul also led a traverse from around the upstream corner, and later took the Marshall family on it.

Moving on downstream, Johnnie, Arnold and Walt played Romeo on the Ladder, and Peg led Susie, Snirley and Walt (how did he get on the ladies' team?) over Juliet's Balcony. Charles and Spike followed on the latter. One more move brought us to the Corkscrew, which got well polished. The technical easiness of this climb was offset

by the zing of everything from .22's to .30-.06's whizzing by our ears. We shortly took to our hands and knees to get through the No-Man's-Land near the quarry to return to the cars.

By now our thoughts were all on warmth and food, so we accepted the hospitality of Walt's absent boss for supper, then dashed over to John Buck's house to see Bill Kemper's European movies and to prolong as much as possible a very pleasant day.

Jan. 20. Louden Cliffs, Harpers Ferry.

Paul Bradt
Susie Broome
Joe Costello
Dick Goldman
Sally Golaman

Marion Harvey
Walt Kane
Peg Keister
Wade Marshall
Tommy Marshall

Gerry Morgan
Felix Peckham
Bob Stevens
Arnold Wexler
Jonathan Wittenberg

A sunny but windy day found us clutching our caps - and losing them, too - on the exposed cliffs above the dynamited road edge. Paul and Walt divided up the beginners among them to take two terms on a tour of the more downstream group of pinnacles. Dick led Peg and Arnold up the Old Man's Folly, which, on this blowy day, had many of the aspects of high altitude climbing. Returning to the cars for lunch, we visited awhile with late arrivals Bob Stevens, Felix, and Wade and Tommy Marshall, before Bob set off on a solo hike, and Wade and Tommy departed to try to find the spelunkers at Whiting's Neck. We later heard that they failed to find the group, but went on to Winchester and found a cave of their own. Dick and Sally also took off on a hike.

After lunch, Arnold dragged Susie and Peg out of the nice warm car and up a couple of climbs on the far pinnacles. Paul started another long climb of several interesting pitches which occupied his team until after dark. Walt and Gerry went up to take a look at the Old Man's Folly, but decided that it was too nearly dark to undertake it. Startled motorists, suddenly confronted with two figures roping down the cliffs at the edge of the road, narrowly escaped smashing up or landing in the Potomac.

When we had gathered up the last climber, we headed for those good steaks in Frederick. Gathered later at Susie's house, the girls - and Arnold - enjoyed Shirley's delicious cake and coffee (Susie has the nicest roommate), while most of the boys got their heads together inside Shirley's record player and had a lovely time eviscerating it. Is it back together yet, Sairley?

Jan. 20. Whiting's Neck Cave, near Charlestown, W. Va.

Jim Bullard
Tony Bullard
Gilbert Haley

Abby Hammack
Jerry Jankowitz
John Meenehan

Ray Moore
Ted Sched
Lorraine Snyder

Being more pessimistic about the weather than the above group, the spelunkers went underground. After rendezvousing at Loudon Cliffs, they went in search of the cave. They got off to a bad start by turning off on the wrong dirt road, but after that luck was apparently with them, for, on stopping to ask directions, they met a boy, Jack Schakleford, who had been in the cave and consented to go with them.

Taking the upper of the two entrances, they encountered a short drop and crawl before entering the main passage. There were a few formations in this, but nothing remarkable. Farther back, there was a 45 ft. drop, down which the party rappelled. Beneath this drop-off, they found a room with very pretty formations. Elsewhere in the cave, they found nice rimstone pools, but seeing them involved getting very wet in a chimney approach. Another 150-200 ft. farther on, the explorers found mud-filled slopes. This cave is reported to have entrances on the river, but no one has recently succeeded in getting through. There was evidence of digging here, however. This cave, like others in the vicinity, has its legend about underground railroads and use by escaping slaves. It could be true, as there seem to be several filled-up holes along the river. However, the explorers on this trip came out the lower entrance too late in the day to accept Jack's offer to show them a river entrance.

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Notes and News

Reprints of Arnold Voxler's article, The Theory of Belaying, are available. Better get yours while they last.

Arnold has an apartment! New address:
5804 14th St., N.W. GE 8643

If you have not yet paid your dues, Dolores Alley (1254 Owen Pl., N.E.) will be glad to take your money (50¢).

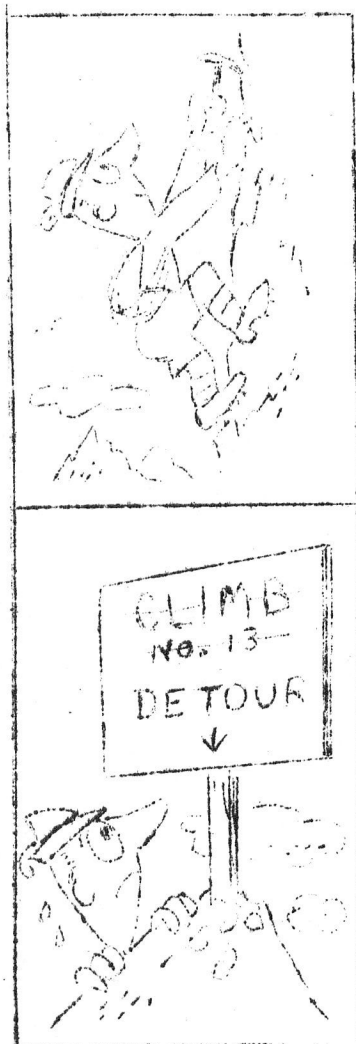
Blondie Newhouse is deserting us temporarily for that place high above Cayuga's waters. She hopes to be back with us this summer.

Charles Fort has returned to Louisville, so we'll doubtless get regular bulletins on Higgenbotham Cave.

Stan and Dorothy Thomas can be reached at either of the following addresses:
57 Pope's Grove, Twickenham, Middlesex
or
Chemical Research Lab., Coleshill Rd.,
Teddington, Middlesex.

The editor's profound apologies to Lloyd Richards, who seems to have appeared in UP ROPE several times as Lloyd Wright.

First statement from our new chairman, Johnnie Reed: "You see what happens to people who miss meetings? The rest of you had better take a warning from me."



This is for Jerry and Don, and any others who advocate painting or chiseling numbers on our named climbs.

(Adapted from the Evening Star, Jan. 24.)