



*Go Home*

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

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

FOUNDED BY  
JAN AND HERB CONN

PRICE  
5 CENTS PER COPY

Volume IX

October 7, 1952  
COMING ATTRACTIONS

Number 11

October 18-19 Old Rag - Leader: Gerry Morgan. Plan to camp at or near the Leanto. Commissary individual or by cars. For rides or riders, call Gerry, WO 1581 or ext. 608 at the Bureau of Standards.

October 26. Echo Cliffs, weather permitting. Leader: Jane Showacre.

November 9. Bull Run Mountain. Leader: Peg Keister.

November 15-16 Wolf Gap Shelter, climbing at Devil's Gardens and/or Big Schloss --  
wo hopo. Leader: Betty Muollo.

\*\*\*\*\*

### UPS AND DOWNS

August 9 - Libertytown Rocks. (Ancient History)

Paul Bradt

Jerry Jankowitz

Felix Peckham

Bernard Frank

Jimmy Lane

Marion Harvey

Ray Moore

The six males arrived at the Hot Shoppo, each expecting that the continuing rain would turn all others away. Yet, having arrived and been caught there, they felt obliged to go somewhere. Felix said he knew some rocks that would be nearly as good in the rain as in the dry because they weren't much good anyway.

Accordingly a very vague note of instructions was left with the cashier (because Felix's description was vague) and we headed out the Frederick road to Hyattstown then north through New Market (Md.) and about three miles beyond New London to some rocks in the trees above the east side of the road.

The rain ended en route and the rocks were dry. They resembled those of Bull Run in inclination and texture, and were accordingly interesting, but were not extensive enough to interest a much larger group. Just as we were agreeing that this would be a trip without late comers, whom should come over the hill but Marion Harvey! As a welcoming gesture she was escorted over all climbs worthy of her mettle and a few others. Some of the climbers, not exhausted after the climbs were, left for the Dickerson swimming hole; others returned directly to Washington.

Don't blame the Editor for the delay in the above earth shaking news. Your reporter, cutting off his telephone and having no forwarding address, went on a flatland vacation. Somehow managing to suffer a broken rib under these surroundings, he requests that anyone seeing a man wandering around Indiana cornfields with a safety rope around his waist will please stop and greet yours truly.

P.B.

September 7 - Grand Caverns and Natural Chimneys

|                 |               |                 |
|-----------------|---------------|-----------------|
| Dolores Alley   | Pat Moore     | Gayle Remington |
| Billy Alley     | Mike Moore    | Bruce Remington |
| Jerry Jankowitz | Gerry Morgan  |                 |
| Ray Moore       | Ann Remington |                 |

A very wet Sunday morning at the Hot Shoppe discouraged any attempts at rock climbing, so after a brief discussion, it was decided to tackle a cave. At Ray Moore's suggestion, the group started off for the Grand Caverns, near Elkton, Va. Arriving there in an unusually short time, the two carloads of people ate lunch while Ray and Gerry made inquiries at the one of the three caves which is at present commercialized. All three of the caves have been commercialized at one time or another. The owner of the cave very kindly showed Ray and Gerry through part of the cave, after which they agreed with the owner that it had an unusual variety of formations. After obtaining permission and finishing lunch, the group went into one of the remaining two caves, which turned out to be fairly extensive. The children in the group proved to be very handy for investigating holes too small for the adults (or unseen by them). An interesting feature of the cave was a very green lake at the bottom of a moderately steep clay slope. The adults were continually expecting an involuntary bath for some of the children, but the threat failed to materialize. After leaving the cave, an attempt was made to visit the 3rd cave, but the owner refused permission because of some vandals which had "removed armfuls of formations" from the cave two months prior to our visit. It was too early to return home, so at the suggestion of the latter owner, the group started off for a rumored cave in the vicinity of Mt. Solon, 20 miles west of the Grand Caverns. Ray was also interested in the possibility of climbing the Natural Chimneys near there, since the weather had cleared up. On arrival at the Natural Chimneys, which it developed were also commercialized and not open to climbers, inquiries resulted in our heading for a small hill in the vicinity where, it was said, there were both cliffs and caves. There were, but the former were uninteresting, and the latter (of which there were 3) were mostly too small to get in to. One had a small, very muddy crawlway which no one followed, since it was unlikely that it would develop into anything interesting. Accordingly, the group piled back into the cars, and headed back to Washington.

September 21 - Herzog Island, Md.

|                   |                       |                       |
|-------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Susie Broome      | Jerry Jankowitz       | Tom Morris            |
| Lois Brown        | George Kamm           | Isabelle Pylo         |
| Joe Costello      | Andy & Betty Kauffman | Johnnie Reed          |
| Dorothy Davenport | Peg Keister           | Ann, Bruce and Galeyn |
| Tom Gray          | Kim Massie            | Remington             |
| Shirley Jackson   | Ronald May            | Arnold Wexler         |

In view of a general indecision the chairman decided that the group would visit Herzog Island. The river was found to be at a fairly low stage so the crossing was negotiated with a minimum number of casualties -- Andy and Betty, and Ronald May and Isabelle Pyle who decided to visit Carderock instead. Most of the morning was devoted to instruction on the Mubble Face and adjoining regions. Following this the Up-Side-Down climb was tackled with varying degrees of success. Those who finally succeeded in arriving at the top right side up included Ann, Jerry, Kim, Joe, George, and Johnnie.

Later in the afternoon the majority of the gang moved down to make disparaging remarks while some of the more enthusiastic (or less sensible) members of the group worked on the Chairmans Chimney. Johnnie succeeded in defending his official dignity, although he was soon put to shame by Anns much more graceful ascent. The rest of the attempts fizzled out amid cries of "Oh sob" for one reason or another somewhere in the lower ten or fifteen feet.

J.R.

28 September - Carderock, Md.

Barbara Black

Jim Bullard

John Fortna

Andy Grisco

Huntley Ingalls

Shirley Jackson

George Kamm

Andy &amp; Betty Kauffman

Peg Koister

David Michael

Gerry Morgan

Arshed Munir

Mary &amp; Betsy Neilan

Johnnie Reed

Ann, Gayle, &amp; Bruce Remington

Jane Showacre

Bob Stevens

Ray VanAken

Arnold Woxler

Jim Willard

Denna Willman

Whether due to the fine Indian summer day, with the colors of turning leaves, and cloudless blue skies, or whether due to a desire to show our visitors the wonders of Carderock, there was a large turnout for the day and the rocks received an unusually good going over. The visitors this Sunday included Ray VanAken who lives a mile from Art Lembeck at Inyokern, California, in town on business, and David Michael, "from Georgia", who has just returned from a climbing trip in Peru, where his party made the ascent of Sulccantay (21,000 ft.). Also with us was Mary Nielan, from Somerset, who brought down her charges Betsy and Barbara (?) to show them "where they make the laws."

According to the Chairman, while in the whole of last year, UP ROPE recorded a total of 17 "A" climbs made, on this one Sunday, 14 were conquered. And it wasn't any ballot box stuffing with the same individuals running up and down the same climb repeatedly. The Spiderwalk fell first to John Fortna, as a warmer-upper, but later it was also climbed by Arnold, Jimmie, Johnnie, and Ann. Sterlings Crack was made by the two Andy's, Ann, Johnnie, and Ray VanAken (called Yar - Ray spelled backwards, to differentiate him from numerous other Rays in Sierra climbing group). Leonards Lunacy was tackled by several, and climbed by Andy Kauffman, Ann, and Johnnie.

In the afternoon the troupe moved upstream to the next outcrop of rocks to tackle the Lembeck Crossover. Once again the same result - it fell to Arnold, Ann, Ray, and Johnnie. What's the answer to all this? Perhaps as Ann suggests, the climbs should be down-graded - that is, all except Horbics Horror, which many tried, but only Jim Bullard mastered.

G.K.

\*\*\*\*\*

26 September 1952

Whether because of the balmy Fall weather or because of the reputation of the Grosses as spaghetti chofs, a huge gathering (33-1/2 by actual count) of assorted friends, neighbors, and rock climbers turned up at the 2nd Annual Spaghetti Dinner of Joel and Phyllis Gross. (The 1/2 refers to the smallest of the numerous small fry.) After our hosts reputation was justified, the rock climbers (and any others who were interested) were treated to a description by David Michael of the ascent by his party of the 21,000 ft. peak Sulccantay, in Peru. The talk was illustrated

UP ROPE, published semi-monthly by the Mountaineering Committee of the Potomac Appalachian Trail Club, 1916 Sunderland Pl., Washington 6, D.C.

UP ROPE STAFF

Editor: Gerry Morgan  
Business Manager: Joan Burnstad  
Crow: S. Jackson  
Heading Designer: Tom Culverwell  
Reporters: Johnnie Reed  
Paul Bradt  
George Karm

Subscription: \$1.00 for 20 issues.  
Send now subscriptions and renewals to:

Miss Joan Burnstad  
204 E. Capitol St.  
Washington 3, D.C.

Please make checks payable to Joan Burnstad.

by some spectacular color slides which David modestly assured us were due entirely to luck. Arnold Wexler, who has a slight reputation of his own as a mountain photographer, was overheard saying that he hoped a little of that "luck" would rub off on him. Onlookers of the slides were amused by Davids description of an unusually precipitous part of the climb as a "cute little ole pitch". Many thanks to our hosts, and let us hope that there will be a 3rd Annual Spaghetti Dinner come 1953.

Tuesday 30 Sept. - Talk by Ray VanAken

Anyone who was interested in Art Lembocks description of the Alpine Club of Canada camp at Assiniboine would have enjoyed seeing some slides of the trip shown by a visitor from the West Coast, Ray VanAken, at Arnold Wexlers apartment. Among the more memorable features of the talk was the appearance in practically every slide of immense quantities of exceedingly rotten rock. Following the slides of Assiniboine was 2 series of slides illustrating the climbing our California friends enjoy. Those of us who have to reserve our climbing on Seneca Rock for three day weekends were particularly envious of Rays description of a peak very much resembling two Senecas piled one on top of the other within 100 miles of his place at Inyokern. The talk was followed up by some recordings of Jan Conns, courtesy of Don Hubbard and George Karm, and coffee and cookies, courtesy of Arnold and Susie Broome.

\*\*\*\*\*

Heard from Walt Kane, who is currently getting a big bang out of a trip to the balmy South Seas, Eniwetock Atoll. (Pun) To quote Walt: "Had some good mountaineering before coming out here. We tried to climb the Lizards Head - a peak in Colorado with a rather difficult summit pyramid, picked a poor route the first time, beamed a girl with a rock the second, had to turn back. She's doing all right, was not badly hurt. My companions made the summit a week later, wearing riggers hard hats."