



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

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### Coming Events

November 15 - Bull Run Mountain. There may be a group from the Explorers Club of Pittsburg down this weekend; if so, climbing will probably be local instead of at Bull Run. Those not familiar with the way to Bull Run Mountain had better show up at the Hot Shoppe on time - road directions are simple, but the mile or two hike to the climbing area is on an easily missed trail.

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### Oct. 10-11 - Seneca Rocks, W. Va.

John Christian  
Bob Hinshaw  
Shirley Jackson  
Jerry Jankowitz  
Peg Keister

Nicholson Family  
Johnnie Reed  
Remington Family  
Jane Showacre  
Sopka Family

Bob Spindler  
Bob Stephens  
Al Webb  
Chuck Wettling  
Donna Willmann

Old Seneca got quite a thorough going-over on this fine fall weekend. Thanks to the excellent job of organization done by co-leaders Johnnie and Jane, there was a minimum of the confusion which has characterized some of our previous large trips to Seneca. Although this was billed as a "beginners' trip", perhaps it could better be called a "Seneca initiation trip," since we had no complete tyros, and our "beginners" all performed like experts. We not only initiated some to climbing on Seneca, but others as leaders and as second men.

Most of the familiar routes were climbed in part or in toto during the weekend. On Saturday, Johnnie, seconded by Donna, took Bob Stephens, Ike Nicholson, John Sopka and Al Webb over the Cockscomb, then down to the Gunsight Notch, where the gendarme was topped by most of the party. John Christian, with Jane as second and coach, led the Skyline Route and Cockscomb, with Bob Spindler and Mike Nicholson completing his team. Peg took Bob Hinshaw and Dave Nicholson up the Old Woman's Route and down the Old Man's. Chuck accompanied a Pittsburgh team who placed a fine new brass register cylinder among the wasps on the South Peak.

The Saturday night campfire was ringed by some thirty Washingtonians and Pittsburgh Climbers, who entertained themselves and each other with folk songs, climbing songs, and an Irving Cobb story appropriate to the occasion (The Young Nuts of America).

On Sunday, teams were reshuffled and once more swarmed over the rocks. This time, Jane led a team consisting of Mike, John Christian, Chuck and Bob Spindler over the Old Woman's Route and into the Gunsight Notch. Ann and Jerry worked on the Skyline, after looking over the east face. Peg, seconded by Johnnie, led Donna, Al, and Bob Hinshaw up the Skyline Traverse and over the Old Man. At this point the only traffic jam of the weekend occurred, when Jane's and Peg's teams, a rope of three climbers from Charlottesville and a team from the Explorers' Club of Pittsburgh all converged at the base of the Cockscomb. Jane's team continued on its way, while Peg's group paused for lunch and a conversation with the other groups, before descending.

We were very pleased to have the opportunity to meet the members of other groups here, and made plans for seeing them again in the Washington area.

P. K.

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### Carderock, Md. - 11 Oct. 1953

#### Boy Scouts

Jerry Bentington  
Tommy Berdeen  
Don Dickson  
Johnny Johnson  
Dave McBride  
Jimmy Whitney

Marian Harvey  
Andy Kauffman  
Betty Kauffman  
Alice Lowry  
Alice Marshall  
Wade Marshall

Hans Scheltema  
Jim Willard  
6 young Wilsons  
and Lowrys

On arrival at the Hot Shoppe, 7 boy scouts were found piled more less comfortably in Hans's black hearse. On arrival at Carderock the boy scouts climbed and practiced rappelling and belaying on Ronnie's Leap and the Beginner's Crack. Marian Harvey showed up at 10:30 and promptly disappointed everyone by whizzing up Sterling Crack in no time flat. In contrast to it's usual condition the crack was bone dry, which may have had something to do with it. Jim Willard was next up it, though not with Marian's ease.

After lunch, Alice Lowry, Alice Wilson and their 6 little girls tried the Beginner's Crack. One Lowry climbed it and one Wilson got half way up but then ran into trouble. "Rabbit" Wilson started up the climb like a small monkey. Half way up she developed "altituditis" and didn't hesitate to let the onlookers know it. After Hans rescued her though, she wiped her eyes and said she wanted to try the Bloody Thing again.

After Alice Marshall and Jim Willard climbed Jan's Face, everyone went home.

A.M.

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### Old Rag Mountain - 17-18 October 1953

Paul Burroughs  
Bob Burchell  
Bob Burchell, Jr.  
Roger Foster  
Marion Harvey  
Bob Hinshaw  
Shirley Jackson  
Betty Kauffman

Peg Keister  
Bill Kemper  
Ruthie Laud  
Alice Marshall  
Louise Marshall  
Tommy Marshall  
Wade Marshall  
Gerry Morgan

Bernie Nebel  
Mabel Nebel  
Johnny Reed  
Ann Remington  
Gayle Remington  
Bruce Remington  
Chuck Wettling  
Wallace Haynes Walker

Two perfect days on Old Rag allowed so much time for climbing that it is hard to catalogue all the accomplishments. After arising practically with the dawn, seven hardy souls got to the rocks by ten A.M. and started climbing. Chuck led Gerry and

Marion across the Hollywood climb, while Johnny with Peg and Bill pioneered a new route, which was appropriately christened Johnny's Jungle. Johnny recommends sling ropes for the laurel trees on this climb. Saturday afternoon saw two teams, led by Gerry and Tommy, climb the Beginners Climb, while a sizable audience made nasty remarks at the various friction techniques which were applied to the top pitch.

Other miscellaneous activities of the day included the usual number of attempts on the Finesse Climb, and a new climb, shorter and possibly more difficult than the Finesse Climb, which is now known as the Five Foot Piffle. Bill Kemper led an expedition to find a raven's nest that was reported to be occupied by duck hawks in 1945, but there is no longer even a sparrow there. That evening we all hopefully offered to help out Bernie Nebel by going along on next year's K-2 expedition in various capacities. It seems he is scientific adviser to the expedition and needs recruits who are familiar with such things as the technology of snow caves.

Sunday saw some people on the rocks by 10 AM and much subsequent frantic activity. Bob Hinshaw took a team across the Hollywood Climb while Marion took Gerry, Chuck, and Ann up Johnny's Jungle to retrieve pitons. She accidentally took a different route which bypassed the jungle and one piton, and progress halted while Ann Remington went back for the lost piton. While waiting for her team to finish the climb, Marion pioneered a new climb next to the Jungle. This climb is now called the Meat Grinder, because you come out hamburger, unless you do it as a very airy layback, as J. Reed recommended but did not demonstrate. It includes a fine Old Rag-type narrow chimney, and we defy anybody - but anybody - to do it gracefully. The climb was also done by Johnny, Ann, Bob, Chuck, and Bill. Chuck stole the show by getting stranded when the rope was caught under a nearby rock while being flipped. An elaborate and successful rescue operation was rigged while the cameramen ground and clicked busily.

The last climbing activity of the weekend was the Hollywood climb done by Ann Remington followed by Marion, Gayle Remington, and Bruce Remington. Gayle did a beautiful job of crossing the delicate pitch without being able to reach any of the good handholds. That more or less completed the day, and most people ate at the leanto while waiting for the Sunday sightseers traffic to dissipate.

M.H.

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#### Sugarloaf Mountain, Md. - 24 October 1953

Alan Buck

Peter Buck

Peg Keister

Elisabeth Buck

Susie Buck

Jill Reed

John Buck

Carol Carpenter

Johnnie Reed

Judy Buck

Shirley Jackson

Frank Sauber

Not knowing what to do with a free Saturday afternoon except to climb, Peg and Johnnie joined the Buck expedition to Sugarloaf, with Jill and Carol completing the proper ballasting of the family carryall. While Peg escorted various of the small Bucks up one of the local Matterhorns, their pappy amazed himself - and doubtless everyone else - by inching up the Butterfinger (Johnnie belaying). Not to be outdone by her boss, Peg then repeated the process, with the grace and speed of a snail\*, Johnnie in the meantime leading a procession of six small fry up the tunnel chimney. Johnnie then led the little traverse, trying out successfully a double-carabiner for the upper corner belay, to reduce the drag on the rope. He was followed by Peg, Judy and Elisabeth, and then by Frank, who, together with the rain and Shirley, had just arrived. While the kids and Shirley retreated to the car, the last scene showed John huddled at the top of the Butterfinger, while Johnnie - incredibly - made the ascent of the wet rocks, and Elisabeth and Peg shivered in the frigid bale belaying Frank, who was keeping himself warm with the sparks he was striking in trying to recover Johnnie's piton. All revived, however, in the presence of hash-heaped plates before the Buck fireplace.

\*Well, thank you, Boss! - P.K.

John Buck



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Herzog Island, 25 Oct. 1953

John Christian	Shirley Jackson	Tommy Marshall	Earl Reed
Joel Gross	Andy Kauffman	Wade Marshall	Johnnie Reed
Marion Harvey	Betty Kauffman	Gerry Morgan	Ann Remington
Mrs. Harvey	Peg Keister	Mary Neilan	Frank Sauber
H. Hayashi	Bill Kemper	Ike Nicholson	Hans Scheltema
Huntley Ingalls	Alice Marshall	Mike Nicholson	Chuck Wettling
			Arnold Wexler

While the continued dry Fall weather was causing considerable concern among the farmers & foresters, it made for a very pleasant day's outing on Herzog Is. - wading across was a cinch, and in spite of a light rain the night before, the climbs were all thoroughly dry. On arrival at the rocks, Arnold sent Johnnie and Earl upstream hunting for one of Arnold's interesting little climbs. To quote Arnold's "directions" "When you come to a vertical face which looks as if it can't be climbed, that's it." Known as the "Fingertip Balance Climb", it includes two especially delicate steps, with a conspicuous absence of reasonable holds. In spite of it's hazards, however, the climb was leveled by Johnnie first, then after a long series of falling bodies, Arnold, Marion and Tommy made it.

In the meantime, a less ambitious group tackled a knubble face downstream from the Fingertip Balance. It was climbed by the Nicholsons, Gerry, Chuck, Frank, Wade and Hans. Next climb on the agenda was an unnamed crack just around the downstream corner of the Knubble Face. This was another of Arnold's selections, but not quite as formidable as his earlier one. Those climbing it included Johnnie, Earl, Peg, Arnold, Andy and Marion.

After lunch, the group headed further downstream, meeting Ann Remington and John Christian on the way. Ann and John had crossed the river near Carderock, missed the main body of climbers, and were doing some traverses on the way up. They continued their traverse while the rest of the group found seats for the feature attraction - the Chairman's Chimney. Numerous folk managed to get off the ground, but the crucial triangular handhold at the beginning of the chimney was not reached by anyone. Finally Johnnie, who is apparently bucking for Chairman for the coming year, proved himself qualified for the job by just managing to make it up the chimney.

Next item on the agenda was the Upside Down Climb and Arnold demonstrated how to do it right side up. There were jealous whisperings on the sidelines, however, that Arnold missed the most interesting pitch. No one volunteered to demonstrate the correct route, though, so the group followed Arnold on down to a final "interesting little climb" - Jan's Semi-Chimney. Arnold again demonstrated how it should be done, but no one profited by the demonstration before failing light forced a reluctant retreat to Washington.