

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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CLIMBING SCHEDULE

- May 8-9 - Two Day Trip to Old Rag Mountain, Va. - Leader: Ted Schad. .
Try to be there not later than 10 A.M. Saturday, so we can get in two full days of climbing. Come in from Syria; park cars at the chain across the fire road (about 1 mile from the leanto). Camping near the leanto; individual commissary.
- May 16 - Carderock.
- May 23 - Wolf Rock, Thurmont, Md.
- May 29-31 - Seneca Rock. Three-day camping trip to our most spectacular climbing area. Come prepared for camping, climbing and swimming.

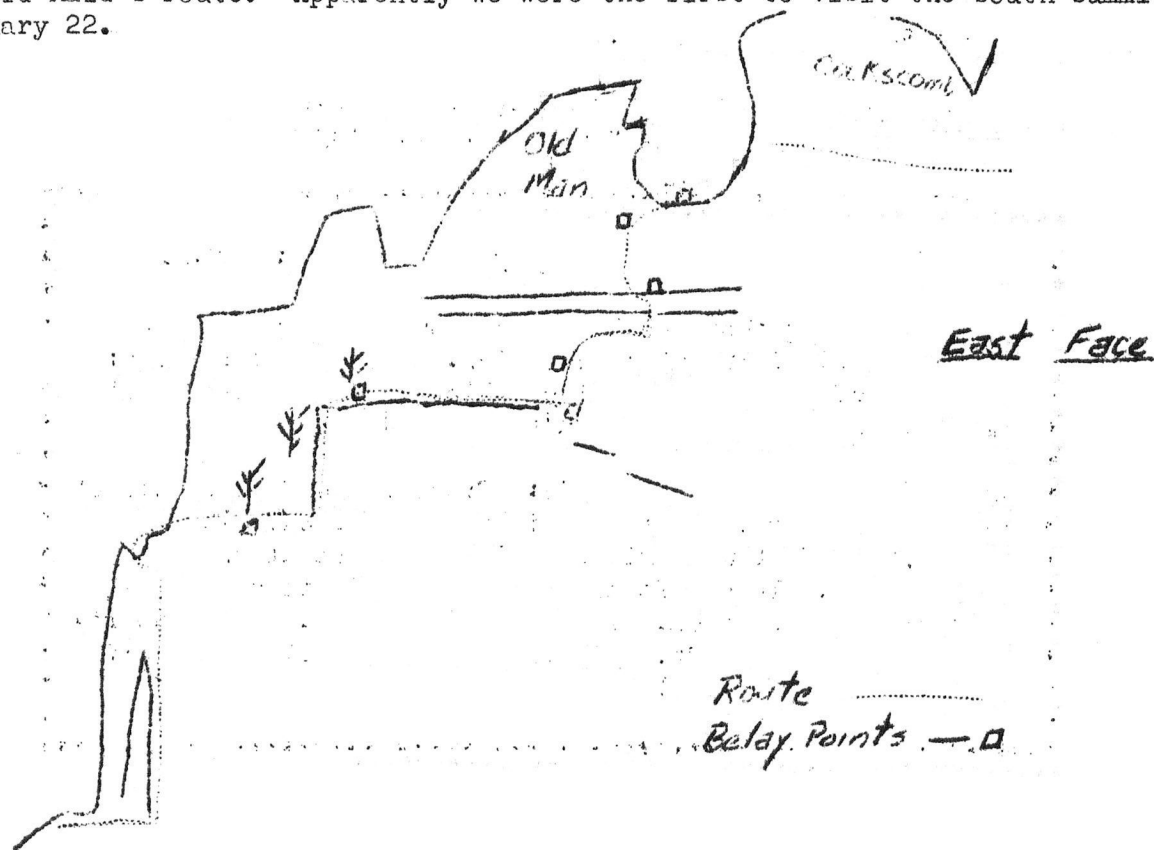
*		*
*	May 14	MEETING 8:00 P.M.
*		*
*	Social get-together and Kodachrome show at Kay and Ted	*
*	Schad's, 3000 Gainesville St., S.E. Feature attraction:	*
*	Pictures of caves and local climbing by that master photo-	*
*	grapher, John Moenchan. Don't miss it!	*
*		*
*	Directions for reaching Ted's: Cross South Capitol Street	*
*	Bridge and bear left at end of bridge onto Suiteland Park-	*
*	way. Proceed about 3 miles to intersection at grade with	*
*	Naylor Road. Turn left and drive approximately 0.4 miles	*
*	to first intersection. Turn right and park. Ted's apart-	*
*	ment faces on 30th St. at corner of Gainesville just off	*
*	Naylor Road. First floor, left.	*
*		*

A NEW, OR AT LEAST DIFFERENT, ROUTE ON SENECA

by Andy Kauffman

Our party consisted of four: Joan Ascher, Betty Kauffman, Phil Cardon and myself. April 3 found us starting up Seneca Rock from the road at the south end of the cliffs. Our plan had been to traverse the cliffs by the classical route along the skyline. However, the temperature was close to freezing, and, despite clear skies, a very high wind was blowing across the cliffs from the west. When we reached the traverse into the chimney on the south face which leads to the base of the Old Man, I decided it would be better for comfort and morale if we tried to traverse the east side of the cliffs and climb up to the base of the Cockscomb. In this manner we would at least stay in the sun and be out of the wind.

From the buttress which separates the east and south faces, at the point where a traverse is made onto the South Face Chimney, we cut across easy ledges perhaps thirty feet along the east face, to the base of a tree. We next traversed diagonally upward across a narrow gulley, thence onto a highly exposed buttress and up to a good ledge with another tree. This lead is the key to the climb. It is easy but very exposed, and the last twenty feet are without piton protection. From the tree we traversed horizontally about 60 feet along easy but none-too obvious ledges, thence vertically another 60 feet of good climbing (one has here a choice of routes and we took the hardest) to the big ledges below the Old Man. Here we had lunch. We then climbed a highly enjoyable vertical section (2 pitons) and ended up at the base of the Cockscomb, where we were literally knocked down by gusts of wind. Earlier, we had hoped to continue over the Cockscomb and along the skyline, but this was out of the question because of wind and cold. So we climbed the South Peak by the Old Maid's route. Apparently we were the first to visit the south summit since February 22.



UPS AND DOWNSMarch 21, 1954 - Wolf Rock, Thurmont, Md.

Ray Moore	Ted Schad	Linda Cook
Mike Moore	John Moonchan	Buddy Finson
Shirley Jackson	Ike Nicholson	Lee Lowinger
Pim Karcher	Mike Nicholson	Bob Hinshaw
Ken Karcher	Dave Nicholson	

Leaving a sizable contingent at the Hot Shoppe, those of us who were foolish enough to attempt to climb on this blustery cold March day headed for the hills west of Thurmont through swirling snow flurries, which ceased before we left the cars. Most of the morning was spent following the Chairman on a hike through the woods in search of the rocks. -- Oh well, it was too cold to climb anyway, we found out, when we finally found Wolf Rocks. A few climbs in the sheltered crevices between the rocks were made. All attempts on the technical climbs on the gendarme at the north end of Wolf Rocks failed because of cold hands.

Most of the afternoon was spent in a continuation of certain scientific experiments begun two weeks ago between certain ladder rungs in the Williamsville cabin of the N.S.S. The results of these experiments having been questioned as lacking merit because they were not conducted under actual field conditions, a careful search was made for passages of small dimensions leading between the various crevices, in which the experiments could be continued, toward the end of convincing a certain rotund individual of his true girth. After many attempts, Marion (Snake Hips) Harvey pioneered a route, and was followed by Ted and Ken, through a narrow cleft between two rocks that will forever after be known as Moonchan's Cul de Sac.

Results of the experiments were duly recorded by photograph for posterity, and an early halt was called to the day's activities, as soon as John could be disengaged from the rocks.

-T.S.-

March 28, 1954 - Great Falls, Virginia

John Christian	Ken Karcher	Lee Lowinger	Andy Kauffman
Ed Leonard	John Fillien	Chuck Wettling	Chris Scoredos
Tommy Marshall	Ted Schad	Huntley Ingalls	Eric Scoredos
Alice Marshall	Ed Worrell	Maira Armstrong	Johnny Scoredos
Pim Karcher	Blondie Nouhaus	Betty Kauffman	

The first eight named above proceeded to the rocks across from the fish ladder just below Great Falls. Several traverses of the Ringbolt Climb were made, as well as several unnamed climbs. John Christian, Tommy, and Ken climbed the Reverse Chimney, after which, with complete disregard for tradition, we moved on to the Indigestion Climb. This yielded to Ken, John and Tommy. After lunch, most of the group went across the Flatiron and up the Straddle Chimney.

What happened to the rest of the crowd that day?

-T.S.-

April 4, 1954 - Range View Shelter, Shenandoah National Park

Haynes Walker	Ellen Davis	Ike Nicholson	Ed Worrell
Arnold Wexler	Johnnie Reed	Mike Nicholson	Chuck Wettling
John Christian	Peg Keister	Dave Nicholson	Blondie Nouhaus

Fired with enthusiasm (from his last journalistic endeavor), Haynes rose at day-break Sunday, April 4 at Range View, intending to prepare breakfast for Old Dad, Ellen, John, Johnnie and Peg, and then to lead the way to Little Devils' Stairs, there to conduct demonstrations in lashing loads to packboards with the diamond hitch. But

alas! the snow had tiptoed in on silent wings, and was even then up to Range View's chimney fireplace and still falling. A conference on arctic survival methods was speedily held, at which it was unanimously agreed that the little devils could climb their stairs all by themselves. After a hearty breakfast of Dad's succulent bacon and sherried peaches, lots were drawn to decide who would undertake the almost hopeless task of trying to get out through the snowdrifts to civilization in the slim hope of recruiting a rescue party. Drawing the shortest straws, Haynes and Ellen set forth through the howling blizzard, while the other four crept back into their bunks to conserve body heat and energy while awaiting rescue.

Succor came from the other direction, however, when shortly after noon a rescue party consisting of three Nicholsons, Ed, Chuck and Blondie plowed through the blinding snow from the north, with food and encouragement. Ellen and Haynes finally returned with a fantastic story of having followed for hours the sound of a motor sled, only to find that the sound was made by a big chicken (obviously a grouse - Ed.) which would strut along a log and thump its wings.

Supper and cookies at the Warrenton Coffee Shoppe tasted good after this narrow escape from becoming snow bound in the Blue Ridge. -W.H.W.-

April 11, 1954 - Carderock, Md.

Moir Armstrong	Huntley Ingalls	Tommy Marshall	3 small Scoredoses
Jerry Bloch	Ken Karcher	Wade Marshall	Jimmy Shipley
Mrs. Bloch and 3	Pin Karcher	Gorry Morgan	Jane Showard
chips off the old	Andy Kauffman	Felix Peckham	Bob Stevens
Bloch	Betty Kauffman	Louis Post	Chuck Wettling
John Christian	Peg Koister	Johnnie Reed	Arnold Woxler
Ellen Davis	Bill Kemper & friend	Earl Reed	Jim Willard
Jeannette Fitzwilliams	Lee Lowinger	Frank Sauber	Donna Willmann
Julia Griffith	Alice Marshall	Ted Schad	Eddie Willmann
Bob Hinshaw	Betty Marshall	Chris Scoredos	Ed Worrell
Bill Hooker	Louise Marshall	Helen Scoredos	

Perhaps an appropriate way to begin this account of the day's events would be to assure the many scattered readers of Up Rope, who are not able to check for themselves, that the fabled rocks at Carderock have not been mashed into the Potomac River bed by the sheer weight of rock climbers. At one point, though, the area became so crowded that Chris took John Christian and Bob Hinshaw and headed for Camp Lewis. Hats off to John Christian, who made the fourth recorded ascent of the East Face. Andy Kauffman went to work immediately and finished a climb started the day before. Just to the right of Sterling's Crack can be seen a number of expansion bolts marking a completely impossible route up a vertical and in some places overhanging face. Andy made this climb entirely on his own, standing in slings and anchoring himself to the rock with carabiners attached to the expansion bolts. Later in the day John Christian climbed Andy's route. Meanwhile, there was a good deal of activity in the vicinity of the Beginners' Crack, with Johnnie Reed offering knot-tying instruction and coaching to all comers. The crack was climbed by Lee, Ellen, Jeannette and Earl. Ronnie's Leap was climbed by Ellen and Earl. Johnnie Reed, by some form of Hypnotism, induced Frank to lead an unnamed crack just downstream from Sterling's Twin Cracks. Peg and Johnnie followed. By this time, Oscar was rigged and in full swing. One of those days some public-spirited female type with a handy sewing machine will fashion a padded apron for the nether quarters of Oscar's subjects.

Arnold's Arduous Ascent got a workout from Arnold, Ken, Tommy and Jane. Andy led Bob Hinshaw over the ChrisWoxDon. Jan's Face was climbed by Johnnie, Jerry, Ed, Bill Hooker and Bill Kemper. A number of others worked on the right side of the face. Tommy waltzed up the Spiderwalk, while Andy, Ed, and Bob Hinshaw climbed Sterling's Crack. The Nubble Face was climbed by Ted, Ken, Bob Stevens, Bill Hooker, Chuck and

Frank. Jerry climbed the Buckets of Blood Chimney reaching the top amid sighs of relief from the spectators who had been wondering how they would ever get him down in the event that his cave hat became wedged between the chimney walls. Ed Worrell and John Christian disappeared in the direction of the Easter Egg climbs and haven't been heard from since. The day wound up at Ellen's place with steaks a la Reed-Wexler.

-F.S.-

April 17, 1954 - Bull Run Mountain, Va.

Marion Harvey
Ken Karcher
Pim Karcher
Lee Lowinger
Alice Marshall
Tommy Marshall

Connie Nicholson
Dave Nicholson
Ike Nicholson
Mike Nicholson
Paul Post

Ted Schad
Johnny Svitak
Chuck Wettling
Jim Willard
Donna Willmann
Ed Worrell

Easter Sunday found a motley crew assembled at Bull Run Mountain on a perfect climbing day. Alice, Tommy, Marion, Ted and Paul started things off by climbing an overhang in the vicinity of Zues' Throne. While this was going on, Ed, Johnny, Chuck, Marion and Ike climbed the cracks south of the Bull Run Overhang (right above the briar patch) using several variations between the two cracks. Lee also tried this but only managed to land in the aforementioned briar patch. The Bull Run Overhang was climbed by Ed, Jim, Mike and Tommy, with Alice, Lee and Johnny peeling off in various places. Charlie's Crack met its downfall (or downgrade? Ed.) when it was climbed four times in one day. Chuck pioneered, reaching the "whoops point" by use of layback technique. Marion then showed how it was done by straddling another nearby crack as well as the main one. She too came to grief slightly above the "whoops point". Ed, the next victim, using the "Marion Harvey technique," reached the top, followed by Mike who also proved victorious. Alice, Dave and Ike peeled, but Tommy also made the climb. Ed repeated his success to wind things up (we call this ostentation - Ed.)

Time was taken out for lunch followed by snoozing and loafing on the rocks like true rock climbers. Finally becoming ashamed of their laziness, two parties went back to the rocks. Chuck, belayed by Ed, climbed the Little Quartz Slab from the bottom, and Ted led up a chimney below Zues' Throne, followed by Tommy, Alice and Lee, chimneying, and Paul scrambling.

-L.L.-

MISCELLANY

There is a new supply of channel irons in the equipment cache at PATC HQ.

Have you seen the Conns' latest Leathercraft literature? All printed up nice and neat - and with pitchers.

Gerry Mountaineering Equipment also has a new catalog in circulation. We note the addition of various items of caving equipment. Some spelunker been doing some missionary work? We'll be glad to show you underprivileged folks our copies of these catalogs on request.

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April 23, 1954 - Great Falls, Va.

Moir Armstrong	Tommy Marshall	Davey Nicholson	Buster Svitak
Merion Harvey	Johnny Meenehan	Ike Nicholson	John J. Svitak
Bob Hinshaw	Eleanor Moxness	Mike Nicholson	John T. Svitak
Ken Karcher	Blondie Neuhaus	Ted Schad	Molly Svitak
Pim Karcher	Connie Nicholson	Jim Shipley	Chuck Wettling
	Jim Winchester		

Time: 8:15 - 9 am, EDT. Place: the usual Hot Shoppe corner booths. Weather: dull. Climbers: very few. We had arrived early for a change, fully expecting to find our breakfast spot mobbed by miscellaneous characters, but none was there. We had remembered to set out clocks correctly--could everyone else still be on standard time? They were--departure time from Hot Shoppe, 9:30 EDT.

Feverish activity opposite the fish ladder more than compensated for the tardy start. Ted led Blondie & Chuck led Jim S. & Moira on the Ring Bolt climb. Moira plans to spend her next climbing session at Great Falls, Va. with bathing suit, flippers and aqua-lung. Ted's 2 aluminum carabiners which she retrieved & hooked on her "belt" gave a tinkle & a splash as she loosened her bowline and unroped. Meanwhile various individuals struggled up or fell out of the Reverse Chimney, Tom, Mike, Bob & Jim S. reversing in the conventional manner, & Ken & Chuck taking the chimney straight.

The layback crack below attracted Ted, Blondie, Chuck, John T. & Davey, supposedly proving that anyone from a tall heavyweight to a short flyweight can make the climb. Tommy discovered or rediscovered the overhand just left of the layback crack, punctuated his efforts with grunts & groans & shortly appeared on top in sneakers, followed by Mike with bare feet. Tommy's suggested name for the climb will not be repeated at this time. The face opposite Tommy's overhand fell to Ted, Tommy & Ken, and the Spraddle to Davey, Chuck, & Blondie, as just a little more before lunch exercise. By now, almost everybody was finishing lunch & wandering downstream, but Blondie apparently hadn't had enough for with some encouragement, advice, and a belay from Chuck, she returned to & climbed the Reverse Chimney.

Lunch finished, we regathered at the Bird's Nest & enjoyed a sun bath as Mike, Bob & Tommy made successful efforts. Being too warm & lazy as well as wary of the poison ivy dotting the downstream climbs, we gave in to spring fever & inertia & called it a day. MLN

Your editor, in one of his infrequent bursts of enthusiasm, recently purchased a genuine Swiss piton hammer from the Seattle Coop. Aside from the fact that the head is cracked and the handle broke after driving two pitons, it was a fine instrument. We conclude that the Swiss better stick to making watches, and we will stick to our old American made geologic pick.