



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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April 17, 1955

COMING EVENTS

- 24 April - Old Rag Mt. Details below.
- 1 May - Carderock, Md. Oscar belay practice for all novices.
- 7-8 May - Devil's Garden. Details below.
- 15 May - Cupid's Bower.

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OLD RAG MTN. TRIP

Paul Bradt, leader, is going to set up camp in the Reflecting Oven area (SE of the spring atop the mountain) on Saturday morning. If you have car space or want a ride call Paul at RA 3-3917 before Apr 23.

Chuck Wettling, assistant leader, will be at the Hot Shoppe on Sunday morning to assist stragglers, etc. He will leave at 0800 so do not plan on having breakfast at the Hot Shoppe.

This is the fire season. Paul suggests a gasoline stove if any cooking is contemplated.

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DEVIL'S GARDEN TRIP

Leaders for this trip will be Blondie and Ed Worrel.

The Wolf Gap shelter has been reserved for Friday and Saturday nights. Because of the scarcity of guides we will meet at the shelter and then go to Devil's Garden. Directions will be left in the shelter for latecomers. DIRECTIONS to Wolf Gap shelter (101 miles from Washington, D.C.): Go 1.1 mile south of traffic light in Woodstock, Va. on US 11. This is the ZERO mileage point. Go west on Va. 42 2.9m, take R fork, go 6.5m and turn R at bridge at Columbia Furnace. At 8.9m take L fork, at 9.5m cross creek, at 9.65m take R fork, at 11.3m continue straight ahead, at 13m reach Wolf Gap, turn L into a wood road and park car. Walk S 250 yards.

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PATC DOYLE RIVER WEEKEND TRIP

Jeannette Fitzwilliams, leader (HO 2-5491), invites all rock climbers to come hiking around Doyle River over the Memorial Day week-

end. Camp will be at the Big Run lean-to.

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HARD TRAV'LIN'

I've been doing some hard trav'lin',
I thought you knowed.
I've been doing some non-stop drivin'
'Way down the road.
Washington to Jackson Hole,
Back by the Tower and home we go
And I've been doing some hard trav'lin', Lord

"Frank," the man said, "let's have a nice detailed account of your trip last summer for UP ROPE."

"Sure," I said, "That'll be a cinch. I'll knock that out in no time".

I could see that he was impressed-- no argument, no passing the buck, no stalling, nothing. I decided against taking up his valuable time explaining that Friend Chuck had kept a day-to-day diary from July 16, the day we left til our return Aug. 1. I had only to get hold of this volume and edit it. You wouldn't exactly call it plajerizing-only research.

Chuck seemed rather hesitant about producing the diary. I understood why as soon as I opened the cover. 'Way up in the top left-hand corner of the first page was the entry: 7/16 Left Wash 9:30 PM. That's all. The rest of the page was as blank as my mind. I had to go it alone.

Chuck was right as far as he went. There were five of us: Eddie Willman, John Christian, Joel Gross, Chuck Wettling, and myself, Frank Sauber. We turned the back seat of the car into a dormatory for two and found it worked out very well that way. But twenty-one hundred miles is a long way, and it was a five mighty people who finally stood at Togwotee Pass and looked out across Jackson Hole at the Tetons rising high above the morning mist. Thea Semmel, from Los Angeles, joined us later in the day and our party was complete.

For the non-purist type of mountaineer, the Tetons offer a number of advantages. It is possible to drive to the base of the mountains on modern paved roads, and walk up into the high canyons over trails maintained by the Park Service. We made arrangements for having our gear carried in by horses and started up the trail into Garnett Canyon. Our campsite was the same one used by Johnnie Reed's party last summer. It was very convenient: the campsite being flat and an arm's length distant from water, but it sure was no place for enjoying the solitude of the mountains. Dozens of people on their way up or down the canyon stopped in to visit.

Highlites of our stay in the Tetons were a mass assault on one of the walls of Garnett Canyon, a fine eyeball-over-elbows tumble on the part of Thea down a long snowfield ending in a pile of rock, a climb of Grand Teton by the Owen and the Exum routes and a fine mob scene on top (fourteen people reached the summit within ten minutes). Except for a few squalls from time to time the weatherman could have been our guardian angel. We backpacked down out of the canyon a little over a week after arriving. I doubt whether any of us will ever forget the wonder-meal we had that nite in Jackson.

The next morning Thea left for Los Angeles and the rest of us headed for Devil' Tower. We drove all day and all nite, passing through

Yellowstone Park and the Big Horn Mountains, and finally pulled into the Tower campsite at 2:30 in the morning. Setting up camp was a very simple matter. All you had to do was find a level spot for your sleeping bag and crawl in for a couple hours. When I woke up I found that my level spot was smack in the middle of the path to the women's outhouse. Mr. MacIntyre, the superintendent, gave us a pleasant send-off at 6 AM and we were on our way.

Thanks to the route descriptions furnished by Jane Showacre and Johnnie Reed, there was no trouble finding our way. We used the Durrance Crack route arriving at the top around 4 PM. John led the entire climb with Joel second, me third, and Chuck last. The only really bad moment we had took place just above the Durrance Crack. Joel was hauling up my knapsack which was loaded down with three cameras, four full canteens, lunch, first aid supplies, and a few other odds and ends. Just as he was about to hoist up onto his ledge this ancient and overloaded pack, it began to disintegrate. Only a wild grab on the part of John kept the contents from spreading themselves out over the eastern half of Wyoming. There were also a few occasions when climbers would curl up and fall asleep while waiting their turn, and we even had one belayer doze off while belaying. About the most interesting thing on top of Devil's Tower is the automobile axle that was dropped to the parachutist back in 1941. We lost no time getting down as there was a great bank of black clouds heading our way. As luck would have it we were able to reach the boulder field at the base of the Tower before the wind and rain hit us. By this time it was quite dark and with Eddie's flashlight to guide us we made port like sailors coming in from sea.

Next morning Mr. MacIntyre took us on a tour around the base of the Tower. We were very happy to do this since we had never taken a good look at it. We had arrived there long past dark, and there was no time to look at scenery the morning we climbed. Maybe it's just as well it worked out that way. What a tremendous chunk of rock. It seemed impossible that we had been on top just the previous day. A fast trip through the museum and it was time to leave.

We stopped in the Black Hills to visit the Conns. They took us on a tour of the Cathedral Spires area. What a place! If there's a rock climber's heaven it must look like this. Seems as if the whole country had been smashed to splinters and stood on end. It was hard to leave; none of us wanted to go.

The rest of the trip, except for a visit with Chuck's folks in Ohio, was uneventful--just driving and more driving. We packed an awful lot into two weeks. It could hardly be called a restful or relaxing vacation, but it sure provided a change.

Frank Sauber

B & W CLIMBING PIX NEEDED

Interesting black and white photographs are needed of climbing, both locally and in the Shenandoah Park area, for possible publication in a Shenandoah magazine and the Karokorum Club's (Lahore, Pakistan) magazine. Contact Jane Showacre, Chairman (UN-4-0535).

Mike Brady, a Colorado Climber, will return to Boulder, Colo., between May 28 and June 5 and he would like to take a passenger with whom he can share the driving. Call Mike at OL-4-7118 in the evenings.

There is an interesting account by Winnie Lembeck of Peg Feister and her trip on the Sierra Club High Camp trip last summer in the April-June issue of the Mountain Club of Maryland Bulletin.

Incidental Info from the Mouth of Seneca

The SELDOM INN cabin, located on the dirt road between the triangle and the rocks, is available for rent at \$5 per nite. The cabin is completely furnished, has three rooms, bath with shower, and a fireplace. There are 3 double beds and 2 Army cots with room on the floor for at least four sleeping bags. The lawn may be used for camping if the cabin is rented. Write - Mr. Samson Bland, Mouth of Seneca, W. Va. to reserve the cabin.

The wooden commode constructed by the Pittsburgh Social Climbers and installed at Armentrout's camp ground disappeared last fall. The efforts of some carpenter to provide a replacement would be greatly appreciated by all those using the camp ground.

The Explorer's Club of Pittsburgh have scheduled a trip to Seneca for April 30th.

A study concerning the strength of body components makes these interesting observations:

"Push is greater than pull for side to side motion with out 90 pounds maximum.

"Leg and arm pull strength reach their maximum around the age of 25 years and decline about 50% from 30 years to 65 years. Hand strength will decline about 16.5%" (Frescolm, L.D., "Range of Bodily Movements", Medical Times, vol. 57, 197-198-1929).

(Rock Climbing Retirement is optional at age 25, and recommended at age 30. Ed.)

DEADLINE

Attn: A.W., J.S., M.B., C.S., T.M., P.B., J.H., M.L.K., and M.L.N.W.
Deadline for material for the next issue of UP ROPE is April 24th.

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