



FOUNDED BY  
JAN AND HERB CONN

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

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UP ROPE

1 May 1955

### COMING EVENTS

- 15 May - Cupid's Bower.
- 19 May - Meeting at the Hendricks' home, 1118 Dale Drive, Silver Spring, Md.  
Speaker: Ken Karcher. Subject: The Lyell Icefields, Canada.  
Directions: Take 16th St. to D.C. Line and then Colesville Road to Dale Drive (Mrs. K's Toll House). Turn left two blocks.
- 21-22 May - Shawangunk Mountains, Gardiner, New York. Details below.
- 29 May - Surprise.
- 4-5 June - Seneca Rocks, W. Va. Details below.

### SHAWANGUNKS TRIP DETAILS

Leader is Arnold Wexler. All people who intend to go and climb with this group MUST notify Arnold (RA 3-8643). Plans are to stay at the Schlueter's on N.Y. Route 44, near the cliffs. If you plan on staying at the Schlueter's, contact Arnold no later than May 13th, and he will make reservations for the group for Friday and/or Saturday nights. Novices will be allowed to come only if there are enough qualified leaders. If you are going and will volunteer to lead climbing parties, please contact Arnold as soon as possible.

DIRECTIONS: Take N.J. Turnpike to northern terminus with U.S. 1. Follow U.S. 1 to State Route 4 (just this side of Geo. Washington Bridge). Take Route 4 to State 17 to Harriman, New York. Turn right approximately 1 mile onto New York Thruway. Leave Thruway at New Paltz exit. Take State Route 299 to U.S. Route 44. Turn left to Schlueter's (about 1 mile) or right to the cliffs. Traveling time: 7 to 8 hours.

### SENECA ROCKS TRIP DETAILS

Leader will be Jane Showacre. Assistant leader will be John Christian. Camping will be at the Armentrout's campground. Commissary will be by individual cars. Contact Jane if you have car space or need a ride.

LOST KARABINERS

The Worrells lost 3 karabiners around the top of the beginner's Climb on Old Rag on the last New Year's Day. They would appreciate all people who were there that day checking their hardware for some light blue marked karabiners.

\* \* \* \* \*

Don Hubbard (NEW ADDRESS) 4607 Chevy Chase Drive, Chevy Chase 15, Md.

Moirra Armstrong (NEW ADDRESS) 1018 29th St. N.W., Washington, D.C.

\* \* \* \* \*

UPS AND DOWNSMarch 12-13, 1955 - HERMITAGE, PENNSYLVANIA

Grace Bonnell	Erich Heinemann	Tommy Marshall	Charlene Smith
Ellen Davis	Robb Heinemann	Blondie (still) Neuhaus	Thea Welsh
Charles Dunard	Peg Keister	Johnny Reed	Chuck Wettling
Jim Hawkins	Alice Marshall	Frank Sauber	Arnold Wexler
			Ed Worrell

The most notable climb was Ed's lead up the "Hoverhand." The most notable case of poor aim was Johnny's disposal of old eggs from the top of the cliff. The most notable, almost most questionable, incident was Thea's LUNGE for Johnny in which he lost the rear of his pants. The most notable instance of applied learning was the construction of road blocks by the Army (Johnny and Jim) to delay the advancing Arnold and Company.

MLK-JC

March 13, 1955 - CARDEROCK, MARYLAND

Moirra Armstrong	Bob Hinshaw	Dave Nicholson	Phyllis Rosenberg
Mike Brady	Shirley Jackson	Connie Nicholson	Bob Spindler
John Christian	June Maienthal	Kim Nicholson **	Bill Welsh
Joan Crosby	Millard Maienthal	Gail Stewart	Jim Willard
Don Fader	Guy McIntosh	Louie Post	John Williams
Eric Fader*	Mike Nicholson	Mark Post *	Eddie Willman
June Fader	Ike Nicholson	Jean Rosenberg	(* Small Fry ** Dog)

A cool and sunny morning with the rocks in top climbing condition. Shoes direct from the path a little too damp for Jan's Face, which Mike Nicholson climbed with one hand in his hip pocket. He has made this climb blindfolded. Warm sun on the rock face in the afternoon, the cliff covered with cheerful climbers, John, Joan, and Mike Brady on the traverse, June F. and son Eric sleeping in a patch of sunshine and the wind wept the lost years.

W.W.

March 20, 1955 - JULIET'S BALCONY, VIRGINIA

Moirra Armstrong	Robb Heinemann	Dave Nicholson	Jim Shipley
Chuck Beard	Huntley Ingalls	Ike Nicholson	Roland Tabor
Art Belefand	Alice Marshall	Mike Nicholson	Bill Welsh
John Christian	Wade Marshall	Pat Pierson	Thea Welsh
Joan Crosby	John Meenehan	Earl Reed	Chuck Wettling
Steve den Hartog	Chen Mersereau	Ed Riffin	Arnold Wexler
Jim Hawkins	Jane Muzzey	Ted Schad	Eddie Willmann
Erich Heinemann	Blondie Neuhaus	Chris Scoredos	Ed Worrell

At least 3 parties went over the Juliet's Balcony Climb and 2 climbers made Romeo's Ladder by one means or another, after which the area was deserted. One party CONCENTRATED on the Armbuster, with Mike and Huntley reaching to within one handhold of the top before their armbusted. Another group looked at the Bird's Nest. A third group started the day in the old canal near the river on what is now known as the Ancient Hardware Climb. According to Ted, anything in the rocks over 100 years is part of the rocks and therefore legal. Avoiding the assorted iron from G. Washington's era made the climb more cricket. The Inclined Plane was negotiated by a couple of parties. Lawrence's Last was also climbed. The afternoon found nearly everyone in the Corkscrew area or either in, under, or above one of the three inside corners near Oscar's Leap.

By his own say-so, Huntley Ingalls is such an EXOTIC PERSON. We must get more details later.

MLN

MARCH 26-27, 1955 - CABIN MOUNTAIN, WEST VIRGINIA

Mike Brady

John Christian

Gay Michon

Rommy Vildzius

Drove through a snowstorm to get just a little more ski-ing in before spring. On the drive home we gained a convert (on paper) to rock climbing by the simple technique that a captive audience must eventually succumb.

JC

MARCH 27, 1955 - SUGARLOAF

Moira Armstrong

Bob Hinshaw

Blondie Neuhaus

Thea Welsh

Steve den Hartog

Peg Keister

Johnny Reed

Bill Welsh

Erich Heinemann

Tommy Marshall

Ted Schad

Chuck Wettling

Robb Heinemann

John Meenehan

Jane Showace

Arnold Wexler

Eddie Willmann

The climbers started their climbing day with a walk to the top of Sugar Loaf for a look at the view. No one appeared too anxious to climb, although Tommy made one on the buttress near the top of the trail, Ed and Chuck climbed the Butterfinger, and miscellaneous others, including Jane, Chuck, and Bob were freezing their fingers on the rocks to the left of the path. It was noteworthy that those who laid their hands upon the rock for any time at all frequently wound up with gloves on on the upper parts of the climbs they tried. I've heard of no subsequent hospitalization for frostbite or exposure, so the day may be presumed to have been successful.

MLN

(or LNW if you prefer)

APRIL 3, 1955 - LITTLE STONY MAN

Chris Scoredos

Bill Welsh

Alice Marshall

Jim Hawkins

George W. Moore

Bernie Jones

John Christian

Jim Moore

Tom Marshall

Erich Heinemann

John Reed

Ernie Strum

Robb R. Heinemann

Bill Tolley

Marjorie Strum

Jane L. Showace

Kim Marsie (?)

Peg Keister

Bill Hooker

Hugh Waters

J.C. Reed, Jr.

Marcia Newell

Rowland W. Tabor

Before reporting on the trip, I wish to disagree with the editor's statement of April 17, 1955 where he stated Rock Climbing retirement is optional at 25 and recommended at the age of 30. I think that retirement is optional at the age of 50 and recommended at the age of 95.



From the list of participants you will note that the trip was well attended. Numerous climbs were made successfully by many teams and there was much activity on the rocks. The outstanding performance of the day was Jane Showacre's magnificent belay, when she stopped her leader's fall on Donald's Lead. It was a clear example of putting into practice P. Bradt's Motto, "This is my life, take good care of it."

Another highlight of the trip was the testing of special lightweight equipment--especially infant carbiners and an especially constructed lightweight metal ladder. Judging from the successfulness of the tests, it would seem that the climber of the future need not be burdened with the present cumbersome equipment.

The day's climbing was ended with an especially fine dinner at the Coffee Shop in Warrenton.

#### APRIL 7-11, 1955 - SENECA ROCKS, WEST VIRGINIA

Mike Brady  
John Christian

Bob Hinshaw  
Rommy Vildzius

Blondie Worrell  
Ed Worrell

According to the cairn on South Peak a Chevy Chase Poet was there on April 4th. On Friday night, much to our surprise, the honeymooning Worrells dropped in. We celebrated their first week wedding anniversary the following night with some warm Bordeaux. The Worrells did the Skyline Traverse after introducing Mike and Rommy to the Traverse and the Old Ladies' Route.

Bob and I did a variation of the Conn's East Face Route. We went up the crack from the tree-covered ledge to the apex of the "V" between the first flake and the flake extending to the top. With the aid of a corps d'echelle and two stirrups, the first 20 feet and a small flake of doubtful security were circumvented. The remaining 15 feet was chimneyed to the intersection with the regular route which was then followed to the summit.

We also did an old Army route on the west face of the buttress SW of the lunch spot. The most interesting pitch was a wiggle up into a small cave and then a step out of it through another opening back onto the rock face.

The four bachelors made an interesting discovery--the keynote of which was "Only 15 and 1/2."

JC

#### APRIL 10, 1955 - SPITZBERGEN

Moir Armstrong \*  
Jeanette Fitzwilliams  
Jim Hawkins  
Robb Heinemann\*  
Erich Heinemann  
Don Hubbard\*\*\*  
Huntley Ingalls

Nicky Johnson  
Betty Johnson  
Peg Keister\*\*  
June Maienthal  
Millard Maienthal  
Alice Marshall  
Tommy Marshall

Ann McKnight  
Pete Peterson  
Johnny Reed\*\*  
Earl Reed  
Joe Ryan  
Frank Sauber  
Jane Showacre

Charlene Smith  
Wallace Haynes Walker  
and friend  
Bill Welsh  
Jim Willard  
Edwinnie Wilman  
Blondie & Ed Worrell\*

\* Dinner only

\*\* Canoists

\*\*\* Spectators

Tommy, Earl, Erich, and Hawkins did the Ducks. Erich, both Jims, Huntley, Johnny, Tommy, Jane, and Ann worked on and bypassed the Polished Handholes. Moira and Robb did prussic loop ascents of the Spitzbergen. Moira, Earl, Johnny, Ann, Jim, Erich, and Jane did the Spitz Chimney. (Ed: If this account is fouled up, it is because the Editor couldn't read the time-worn original).

JS

APRIL 17, 1955 - CHIMNEY ROCK, THURMONT, MARYLAND

Cornelia Abrams	Bernie Jones	Earl Reed	Arnold Wexler
John Christian	Alice Marshall	Joe Ryan	Jack Wilson
Jim Hawkins	Tommy Marshall	Jane Showacre	Lorraine Wilson
Russ Hudson	Mal McConnell	Rowland Tabor	Blondie Worrell
Shirley Jackson	Barbara Neuhaus	Bill Welsh	Ed Worrell
Martha Jennison	Pete Peterson	Ther Welsh	

Sunday was one of those days when the weatherman was a little uncooperative.

We arrived on the scene at Thurmont with fog horns sounding and radar sets in operation. Either the clouds were low or else Wolf Rock is high, anyway, the visibility was rather limited. The abundance of humidity didn't stop operations though, since the rocks were rather slippery for climbing it was a good chance to practice Tyrolean Traverses. Jane was the brave one who proved that the rigging was safe. She was followed by Jim, Bernie, Tommy, and Joe. Numerous stops were made in the middle of the traverse to pacify the camera enthusiasts.

Shortly afterwards, Earl broke things up by carrying various lunches and people (mostly females) down into the depths of a crevasse. Everyone then halted for lunch in the crevasse. Roland got things started again by inspiring some "cave crawling" through the crevasses and holes that seemed to go nowhere. Six of us succeeded in getting temporarily trapped underground when Arnold placed a large rock he "found" over the only entrance to our cave.

Rather warm free rappells were made off the nose of the Wolf's Head by John Mal, Roland, Jim, and Bernie. This was followed by a mass exodus as we left the rocks to the weatherman. On the way out we met Blondie, Ed and Barbara. They were determined to climb in spite of the weather.

JH

\* \* \* \* \*

#### ADDRESS CHANGE

Blondie and Ed Worrell are now residing at 4760 Belwood Green, Baltimore, Maryland.

\* \* \* \* \*

#### 35 MM COLOR SLIDES NEEDED

The 1st Engineer Arctic Task Force, Fort Belvoir, Virginia, needs 35 MM color slides of climbing on snow and ice for instructional purposes. If you have slides which illustrate the proper techniques, why don't you donate duplicates of these? Send slides to the Editor.

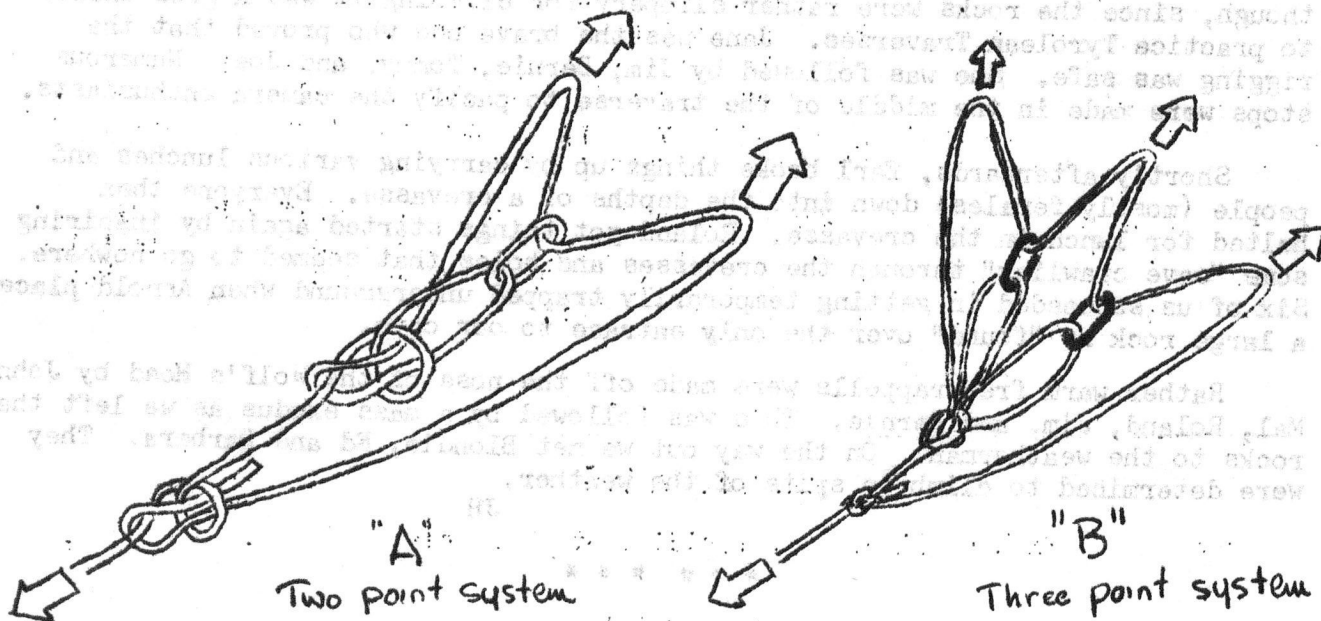
A USEFUL TIE

Here is a simple but versatile arrangement for dividing the force on a rope equally among two or more fixed points (pitons or nubbins). It also provides for instant readjustment of the weight equally among the remaining fixed points should one of the points fail. The bowline is the only knot used. The advantages of this system can easily be seen for: the belayer who wishes to tie in more securely on a poor belay position (assuming, of course, that there it is the best belay position available), anchoring a fixed rope or an aerial traverse, or to provide a sling from which a rappel rope may be hung.

The simplest form is pictured in "a" below. A loop is tied with a bowline in the free end at least five feet from the end. The free end is brought up to the fixed point (in "a" this is a karabiner in a piton), down, through a karabiner on the loop, up to the second fixed point and finally down and secured with another bowline to the standing end below the loop.

A modification using three fixed points is shown in "b." Two loops are needed and are made with a bowline on a bight. To go on, an arrangement using four fixed points requires three loops which are made with a double bowline.

To illustrate how the readjustment of weight occurs when one fixed point fails rig the three fixed point system using string and three of your fingers as the fixed points. With a pull on the standing end, slip one of your fingers off the string and watch the system absorb the string from the lost fixed point.



HOWARD SCHULZ  
PRETTY SHARP UP ROPE CREW

Jane Showacre, Audrey Fugitt, Francis Ashby, Cornelia Abrams, Gay Michon, Shirley Jackson, and Tom Ford.

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