



Go Rope

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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COMING EVENTS

- 18 March - Rocks State Park, Md. Leader: Chuck Wettling
- 21 March - MEETING. Jim Maxwell will show slides on Yerupaja in Peru and of expeditions in Alaska. Meeting will be at Ray and Suzy Moore's home, 301 W. Myrtle St., Alexandria, Va. (OV-3-1437). Directions: go over 14th Street Bridge, follow U.S. #1 to Monroe St. (US 1 turns left here and goes over railroad tracks). Turn right and follow to end. Turn left onto Russell Road and go six blocks to Myrtle Street. Turn right and go 2/3 of a block to their house on right.
- 24-25 March - Hermitage Cabin, Pa. Climb on the cliffs right outside the cabin or hike. Commissary will be by individual cars. Call Jane Showacre (UN-4-0535) for rides, etc. Cabin will be open Friday nite. Go via Fredrick, Thurmont and Blue Ridge Summit to Rouzerville, Pa. (about 3 miles E. of Waynesboro on Rt. 16). At west end of town turn north (zero point) on Antietam Road. At 5.5 m turn left onto Swift Run Road and ascend to Monument Rock turnout at 6.4m on a sharp left turn in road. Park here. Go right on the blue blazed trail at the turn in the road (not one beyond) 0.2m thru woods and down slope to cabin.
- 1 April - Carderock, Md. Belay practice with Oscar.

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THE INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION

The Industrial Revolution has finally touched UP ROPE. We have eliminated much of the hand work associated with the production of UP ROPE. The crankerous 35 year old mimeograph machine in the basement of the PATC was replaced by a Rex Rotary mimeograph machine bought by the PATC, assisted with a small contribution from UP ROPE. The machine operates on the offset principle for better reproduction and incidentally, for ink-free fingers. Our envelopes have a new appearance as some of you may have noticed with the previous issue. The envelopes are addressed by Addressograph and the return address is printed in lieu of being hand stamped.

UPS AND DOWNSJanuary 8, 1956 - Carderock, Md.

John Christian	Robb Heinemann	Jim Willard	Blondie Worrell
Jim Hawkins	Earl Reed	Eddie Willman	Bill Youden
Erich Heinemann	Joe Ryan	Ed Worrell	

Joe decided that Blondie should learn to lead, so she led the Chris-Wex-Don while he seconded her for a long cold climb. Jim W. and Ed worked on Herbie's Horror with little success. There were other climbs made by other climbers but my memory has failed.

EAW

February 12, 1956 - Slight delay in this report.February 19, 1956 - Great Valls, Va.

Libby Brown	Leo Horowitz	Ike Nicolson	Kathy Teunis
Mac Brown	Don Hubbard	Mike Nicolson	Tommy Tucker
Paul Caron	Ernie Huber	Pete Peterson	Freda Weber
John Christian	Andy Kauffman	Earl Reed	Ted Weiss
Jackie DuPont	Betty Kauffman	June Schneider	Chuck Wettling
Arty Firkins	Sue Levy	Chris Scoredos	Arnold Wexler
Jim Hawkins	Marcia Michaelson	Ted Schad	Jim Willard
Erich Heinemann	Gay Michon	Jimmy Shipley	Eddie Willman
Robb Heinemann	Dave Nicolson	Jane Showacre	Tad Wimbush

The large number of climbers made it possible to give most of the named climbs a considerable amount of attention, and several of the unnamed had a fling at popularity, as well. At Romeo's Ladder, with Jane officiating, Arnold made the climb first and then did the others verbally, assisted by Jackie, Jim Hawkins, Jim Willard and Mac. Lawrence's Last was led by John. Chuck W. did the Bird's Nest and was followed up immediately afterwards by Dave. Dave's remark that it wasn't really so hard almost resulted in his being forced to climb back down. Several of the newcomers distinguished themselves, as well. The Corkscrew was climbed by Marcia Michaelson; and Sue Levy, Freda Weber, Leo Horowitz and Ted Weiss practiced rappelling at Juliet's Balcony.

AF

February 26, 1956 - Great Falls, Maryland

Libby Brown	Leo Horowitz	Mike Nicholson	Freda Weber
Mac Brown	Chuck Izard	Pete Peterson	Ted Weiss
John Christian	Peg Keister	Louis Post	Chuck Wettling
Arty Firkins	Sue Levy	Mary Post	Arnold Wexler
Jim Hawkins	George McGee, with	Earl Reed	Jim Willard
Robb Heinemann	1 goat hair wine bag	Joe Ryan	Eddie Willman
Erich Heinemann,	and Jaguar (4 wheel)	Jim Shipley	Blondie Worrell
with one Road Cootie	Dave Nicholson	Jane Showacre	Ed Worrell

and assorted little people and others whose names were missed.

The 25th of Feb. was a great day for tests, development of new ideas and the misuse of old ones.

It was decided to set up a traverse from the shore to the island, near the Red Overhang. The first step was to put an assault party across the raging Potomac. This was done via the Earl Reed Memorial foot bridge, a couple of dead cedar

splinters. Earl, Jim, John, Erich, and Chuck constructed this engineering marvel using methods that haven't even been invented yet.

When the traverse was finally set up and the engineers were convinced it would probably hold at least one crossing, H.E. Heinemann of the Bureau of Traverses and Expansion Bolts swung out over the gorge. The ropes were too loose so Erich treaded water with his Low Ground Pressure boots (soles by Holubar) until finally hauled to dry rock. Numerous people made the crossing and the spectators along the canal were provided with many a thrilling sight.

John, Erich, Arty, Dave and Mike put another traverse across a smaller channel of the river by legitimate means - lassoing a rock on the far shore. From all reports it was perilous traverse, less than 1/2" from the water and at times beneath the surface.

Arnold has developed a test for determining if a traverse was successful. It has something to do with an increase in vocal pitch with the length of traverse.

The "intrepid" leader and the "hardy" band retired to Ma and Pa Jongs for a supper of Flies and One Ton soup.

JH

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SUBSCRIBER'S LIST CORRECTION

BENNETT: "PO-2-4930" should read "Gaithersburg 216-J3".

NEW SIERRA CLUB BOOKS

The Sierra Club's book program has three selections to be released this spring.

"A Climber's Guide to the Tetons" by Leigh Ortenburger, \$3.00, due in late June.

"Belaying the Leader: An Omnibus on Climbing Safety" with contributions by Morgan Harris, Richard M. Leonard, May Pridham, Will Siri, Charles Wilt and Arnold Wexler, which have appeared in the Sierra Club Bulletins. \$1.35, due in March.

"Going Light - with Backpack or Burro", 4th edition. A lighter-hearted but informative treatment of equipment and techniques. \$2.00.

These can be ordered from the Sierra Club, 1050 Mills Tower, San Francisco 4, California.

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SUMMER CAMP

The Iowa Mountaineers 1956 summer outing will be at Mount Assiniboine Park (August 14-24) and at Lake Louise (August 25-31) in Banff National Park. The Mount Assiniboine Basecamp will be located on a meadow beside Lake Magog (elevation 7,200 feet) in the heart of a high, wild and rugged region surrounded by a cluster of rugged peaks, eleven beautiful lakes, six glaciers and mighty Assiniboine itself, the Matterhorn of the North American Continent. During the third week a Basecamp will be erected at the Lake Louise Campground. Many of the world famous hiking and climbing attractions along the Banff-Jasper Highway can be reached from this Basecamp. Nearby will be the famous Moraine Lake-Ten Peak region; the spectacular Lake Louise-Lake O'Hara region; within easy driving distance the Emerald Lake-Yoko Valley region; the Columbia Ice Field-Athabasca region; and other scenic areas. Climbing

possibilities include the traverse of Mt. Edith Cavell, Mt. Athabasca, Mt. Victoria, Mt. Lefroy and others. Groups may return to Basecamp each day or devote two or three days to hiking and climbing trips.

Write to John Ebert, Leader, Summer Outings, Iowa Mountaineers, P.O. Box 163, Iowa City, Iowa, for details or see the brochure on the bulletin board at the PATC, 1916 Sunderland Place, N.W., in the evenings.

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INCIDENTAL INFO

The masthead of the February issue of "The Social Climber" is in color. Plaudits to the patience of the new editor, Marilyn Nicoson. Sayre Rodman was elected president of the "Social Climbers".

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THEY RISK THEIR LIVES FOR FUN

The Saturday Evening Post (February 25, 1956) has a mistitled article by Hal Burton about rock-climbing in the United States. Weissner is quoted at length in the article but from his first few words one could get the impression that climbers might more aptly be on a psychiatrist's couch than a rock pinnacle. He continues, "to be a good rock climber, you have to put everything into it -- to figure out your moves as you would in chess, except that on a cliff you are playing with the biggest queens, bishops, rooks and pawns on the planet. Even on the smallest cliff, there is something sophisticated about the delicate movements imposed on a climber. The mechanical stuff -- the pitons and bolts -- you can enjoy for a while, but in the long run you get your values from your closeness to nature, the realization how small we humans are compared to the big mountains. It is something you can enjoy with the eye, the brain and the whole body. And it is an escape from the pressures of the world. When those great walls of rock arch out above you, it is like sitting in the quiet and calm of a Gothic cathedral.

"The man who leads a rock climb must recognize that there is danger involved, and he must keep it in mind, but if he has the talent, he can win through. He needs judgment as well -- the ability to know what one ought to be able to do in a difficult spot. A good man climbs up and down such a spot a few times, always a bit higher, until he knows how he can safely get through it. Many men, not strong or patient enough, try to rush a cliff, and those are the ones who fall. They take chances and they lose. The leader has to be able to fight against his own ambitions; be able to turn around and to go home if the climb is too much for him. There are those who race to climb the big faces or who hunt for notoriety, but in five or six years you don't see them around any more. Most of them quit. The real climber sticks with it all his life. When the big ones are too difficult for him -- well, he can always do the smaller cliffs and be just as happy."

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