



## 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

15 April - Echo Cliffs, Virginia

21-22 April - Shawangunks, New York. Leader: Erich Heinemann. Camp out or stay at an inn. Call Erich for car pooling and the names of suitable inns.

Directions: Standard New York route to Exit 10, New Jersey Tpke; Garden State Parkway to end; N.J. US 17 North to Harriman interchange on New York State Thruway; North on Thruway to New Palz Interchange; off Thruway and left (WEST) on NY 299; continue to end of road and US 44; right on US 44 past switchback and over pass in mountain; continue approx. two miles past the pass to white painted concrete culvert. Turn right just before culvert to campground immediately off road. (This is first large culvert you pass.)

29 April - Sugarloaf Mountain, Maryland

5-6 May - Carderock, Maryland. Belay practice with "Oscar". The Pittsburgh Social Climbers will be here for the week-end.

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### UPS AND DOWNS

March 10-11, 1956 - Breathing Cave, Williamsville, Va.

John Drain	Todd Miles	Warner Peticolis	Bill Stephenson
Ackie Loyd	Ike Nicholson	Mrs. Peticolis	Bonnie Stephenson
Betty Loyd	Mrs. Nicholson	Ira Laby	Sandra Stephenson
Carol Loyd	Mike Nicholson	Ted Schad	Tom Tucker
John Meenahan	Dave Nicholson	Jim Shipley	Chuck Wettling

After a cold night at the N.S.S. cabin at Williamsville, the advance party met the group who drove down Saturday morning at the entrance to the cave. This was the

first cave trip for a number of the party, so a leisurely trip was planned through the easy part of the cave. At Lovers' Leap, Ike Nicholson led the inexperienced group back to the old salt petre workings in the left hand passage near the entrance to the cave, while Mike led the more experienced group on into the recently discovered maze of wells and fissures, the extent of which indicates that this may be the largest cave in the State of Virginia.

Sunday morning several waded the Bull-pasture for a look at Marshalls cave while a second group wandered over a hillside near Burnsville on an unsuccessful search for the entrance to Carpenter's cave, and Ted and Chuck explored the near-by Chimney Rocks, a large out cropping of rocks and pinnacles. Chuck led a short climb of the southern most pinnacle, which was the only one which extended above the hillside in the rear. While there may be some good climbing on the face of the outcropping, the shattered nature of the rock would make leading unusually hazardous. These rocks are located on the ridge above Dry Run and can be reached by driving about three miles up the secondary road which leads north from a point near the ruins of the old Bath Alum Springs. (See Williamsville 1/62,500 quadrangle map).

T.S.

March 18, 1956 - Carderock, Md.

John Christian	Robb Heinemann	Betty Johnson	Jane Showacre
Gert Christie	Erich Feinemann	Al Owyang	Donna Willard
Arty Firkins	Don Hubbard	Harold Plum	Eddie Willman
Mal Forbes	Pete Peterson	Earl Reed	Chuck Wettling

Three hardy climbers emerged from the snow flurries at 8:00 AM sharp, eager to head for Rocks State Park. At 8:02 AM the Hot Shoppe opened and at 8:03 AM we were examining the breakfast menu. More people and snow drifted in and by 8:45 Carderock was more inviting than the Rocks.

Leaving a few dachards to climb in the snow, we hiked along the river from Carderock to Canada's Tavern at Glen Echo. After lunch, the motly crew spent the afternoon laughing at an excellent English movie. Supper at Howard Johnson's finished the day.

C.W.

March 25, 1956 - Carderock, Md.

Mac Brown	Arty Firkins	Leigh Ortenburger	Harriet Shapiro
John Christian	Shirley Jackson	Ruth Schmidt	Howard Shapiro
John Drain	Todd Miles	Chris Scoredos	Eddie Willmann
Earl Reed and relatives			

Shirley and Ruth hiked down to Cabin John and returned while we did a wide variety of climbs from the Crossover to Jan's Chimney. Leigh and John C. attempted the Jam Box with the usual amount of success. John Drain, a climber from Oregon, limbered up his rock-climbing muscles on a number of climbs.

J.C.

24-25 March, 1956 - The Hermitage, Pa.

Jacqueline Dupont	Erich Heinemann	Jane Showacre
Jim Hawkins	Betty Johnson	Bob Schnauss
Robb Heinemann	Pete Peterson	Chuck Wettling

Spring should have been in the air but instead we had snow and cold weather. An advance party of four arrived in time for Chuck to lead the Swiss Guide with Betty tagging along.

This climb was accomplished with plenty of time out for warming hands and stamping feet. Pete and Bob became so cold waiting to climb that they went off to chop wood.

By six o'clock the shelter was warm and the coffee water hot, but the rest of the party and the food had not arrived. When, at nine o'clock, it began to seem that they had deserted us and gone skiing, Jane and Robb (followed by the rest of the crowd) burst into the cabin. To give them a chance to get over their guilty feelings, they were allowed to prepare dinner.

Sunday morning was bright and even colder than Saturday, but nothing could dampen this crowd's enthusiasm. By eleven o'clock we were again on the rocks, with Erich and Jim climbing the Swiss Guide. Later, Jim demonstrated his unique squirm-and-scrape method for going up a small section of chimney, and was followed by the admiring female contingent, each suiting the technique to the type of anatomy involved.

Jane discovered several new climbing possibilities and has suggestions for a new lead climb.

B.J.

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#### Report of the Stokes Committee

The Committee on the Location of a First Aid Cache at Seneca (TCOTLOAFACAS) having met in executive session and having duly considered all aspects of this problem wishes to submit its report to the Chairman.

We have proceeded on the general assumption that there is need for a first aid cache at Seneca. In view of the extent of the usage of the Seneca area by a wide range of groups with varying degrees of competence and hence the relatively high possibility (not probability) of an accident this appears to us a reasonable assumption. We fully recognize that a first aid cache is not a panacea and that it must be integrated into an overall program designed to make the group first aid conscious as well as first aid skillful. We feel that the following would represent a well rounded program which would effectively cope with the problem. This program is offered as a suggestion to stimulate discussion of this matter; not as anything fixed or final.

1. An informal first aid course to be given by a qualified member of the group organized around the Sunday rock climbing trips - particularly at lunch time (when people are sitting together anyway) and particularly at Carderock on Oscar weekends where there is already emphasis on safety practice. We feel that this would overcome the lack of interest problem which Andy Kauffman encountered when he tried to give a course for us last year. We feel that the group needs and desires first aid training; however, the primary demands of jobs were too much for an organized regular course on weekday nights. Naturally this would not be the regular Red Cross course but rather an adaptation of it for our needs. Also there would be included actual practice in moving a seriously injured person by means of a Stokes Stretcher. In general the types of problems which one might encounter with a serious accident either at Seneca or in the high mountains would be considered.

2. The construction of a cache in the back of the cave at the South End of Seneca Rock. (This location was decided upon after much discussion and appears to be the best compromise between all conflicting points of view.) The exterior of the cache probably can be best constructed from a heavy-duty galvanized garbage pail

with a special close fitting top. (The stretcher would be stored separately.) This would give a minimum cost as well as maximum protection for all materials stored in the cache. The problem of vandalism was discussed at length; the final conclusion was that this is an inevitable risk which must be taken. The dangers involved do not appear to be such that they would warrant locating the cache at a less convenient place - for instance all the way down at Mouth of Seneca. The actual content of the cache is still undecided other than blankets, stretcher, and splints. The remaining items would have to be decided upon through a discussion of both budgetary and medical considerations.

3. The purchase of a Stokes (or basket type) Stretcher. For those who are not familiar with this type of litter, it might be well to mention here that the Stokes Stretcher is considered standard equipment by professional rescue squads all over the country. A standard flat stretcher has generally been found to be inadequate where a seriously injured person must be transported over very rough terrain. Also it is next to impossible to lower an unconscious person unless you have Stokes Stretcher. The stretcher would ultimately be installed at Seneca in the first aid cache. Initially, if none other were available, it would be used locally for training. We feel that once it is actually installed at Seneca, our Pittsburgh friends might be asked, after due negotiation, to help bear some of the cost of this purchase as well as any other expenses incidental to the construction of the cache.

4. Finally the compilation of a list of all medical and rescue facilities adjacent to all areas visited by the group and the circulation of this list to all interested parties.

H. Erich Heinemann  
Edwin R. Schnauss

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#### Subscriber's List Additions and Corrections

BURNSTAD, Jean: Address changed to "3040 Luna Drive, Ventura, California"  
WETTLING, Chuck: Address changed to "70 Parkway, Greenbelt, Maryland"

#### Incidental Info

"Be a mountaineer on snow-tipped mountains - in playlands where alpine flowers border living glaciers" suggests an advertisement to the tourist of the Oregon Highway Department in the National Geographic magazine. Hope the Highway Department isn't making work for the Park Service mountain rescue teams.

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