



E. W. Rogers

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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15 July 1956

COMING EVENTS

- 22 July - Cupid's Bower Island, Md. Leader: Alice Marshall (OL. 9-9066).
29 July - Great Falls, Va. (Juliet's Balcony). Leader: Betty Johnson (OL. 2-4717).
5 Aug. - Carderock, Md. Leader: Bob Schnauss (TE. 6-7970).

UPS AND DOWNS

10 June 1956 - Wolf Rock (Thurmont), Maryland

Bob Adams and Family
Gert Christie
John Christian
Joan Coles
Bill Coles
Jackie Dupont
Tom Holden
Betty Johnson

Andy Kauffman
Betty Kauffman
Peg Keister
Jim Koontz
Pete Peterson
John Reed
Bob Schnauss
Bob Spindler

Jean Swift
Alan Talbert
Elna Thiele
Chuck Wettling
Arnold Wexler
James Willard
and Family
Edwinnie Willmann

There was a little bit of a mix-up as to the meeting place (since the regular Hot Shoppe burned), but we did have climbers out on such a hot day. However, there were a few who preferred to hike so they went on their merry way, while the rest took the nice drive to Thurmont and found the rocks in good condition. The sun came out in full blast and the heat mounted in degrees. The rattlers also found it a hot day for sunning so hid in the rocks. Consequently, the climbers were somewhat hampered as to the choice of climbs. Some people prefer the snake bites not to interfere with their vacations so we tried to find a spot that would not hide so many snakes. The head of the wolf proved a very good spot for the active climbers. Late in the afternoon a third rattler was seen and we decided to depart from these parts. Supper was eaten in Frederick at the Southern.

E. W.

24 June 1956 - A Lost Sunday

1 July 1956 - Echo Cliffs, Virginia

Bob Adams	Mitchell Fletcher	Jim Koontz	Chris Scoredos
Bobby Adams	Eric Fletcher	Alice Marshall	Carolyn Treadway
Kate Adams	Erich Heinemann	M. L. Millgate	Bobby Willard
John Adams	Robb Heinemann	Earl Reed	Donna Billard
John Christian	Bevin Hewitt	Johnnie Reed	Jim Willard
Joyce Ann Clyde	Tom Holden	Rosemary Robbins	Eddie Willman
Don Feder	Betty Johnson	Ted Schad	Leigh Winslow
June Feder	Donald Julie	Bob Schnauss	

Climbing activities began with an apparently effortless ascent of the "Downfall of Socrates" by Earl Reed. Johnnie Reed, complaining of a game knee, spent most of the day instructing a promising group of new climbers in belaying and in the Bulgari rescue technique. Several "victims" emerged safely from the crevass into which they had fallen, with no cases of frost-bite reported.

Highlight of the day was the discovery, by our fearless girl leader, of a new water-level route on the Amphibious Traverse; Betty, Chris, and Don Julie combined climbing with swimming and diving in a most refreshing performance.

As the sun slowly climbed into the West, the beginner's climbs were abandoned for a shady slope adjoining the cliffs, where under Earl's guidance several enthusiasts attacked the Cow's Hoof and the Downfall without notable success.

B. A.

8 July 1956 - Herzog Island, Maryland

Joe Clarke	Bill Hooker	Joe Ryan
Duncan Eurchard	Betty Johnson	Ted Schad
Gert Christie	Pat Libbey	Chris Scordos
Chuck Davis	J. Ostergard	Allen Treadway
Don Feder	Earl Reed	Carolyn Treadway
June Feder		Eddie Willmann

This was supposed to be the trip to Herzog Island, but since the water was high and the mud for wading was not desired, plus other insignificant reasons, the group voted for Carderock. For a hot day there was enough activity for us bystanders to be entertained. The Chris-Wes-Don was worked over by two different teams, (I think, Joe Ryan can only do this climb). There were climbers on the Beginner's Climb, Ronnies Leap, Key Hold, and various nubble faces. There was other activity too, but I did not see or hear very much about these other climbs, so we have no written account. The group adjourned fairly early for Giffords for ice cream.

SUBSCRIBER'S LIST ADDITIONS AND CHANGES

Additions:

Michelson, Marcia, 514 Wyatt Building, Washington 5, D. C., EM 3-0114
Tucker, Tommy, 5807 N. 19th Street, Arlington 5, Virginia
Bullard, James W., Chestnut Lodge, Rockville, Maryland
Coles, W. J., 423 Thomas Street, Arlington 3, Virginia, JA 2-3653
Gottscho, Oscar A., 4909 S. 30th Street, Arlington, Virginia, TE 6-7048
Stephens, Marvin, 1605 Colonial Terrace, Arlington, Virginia
Denegar, G. Elizabeth, 1515 Rhode Island Ave, N. W. Washington, D. C.,
HO 2-9440

Changes:

Hewett, Bevin, (summer only): Hartnett Hall, 1426 21st St., N. W. Washington
Morgan, Gerry, 836 Hartford Road, Manchester, Connecticut
Lembeck, Arthur C., 217 Willow Avenue, Towson 4, Maryland.

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INCIDENTAL INFORMATION

The June issue of "Summit" Magazine should satisfy the rock climber. There is an article entitled "Using a Rope for Safer Climbing" and another, "The Lassie and the Gillikin" by "one of us", Alan Winslow. The latter has a fanciful explanation for why climbers fall and which acts as a vehicle for a boy-girl story with Carderock (more or less) as the background. Although it "bein' the history o' a romantic incident among the Washington, D. C. Rock Climbers, the names ha'e been changed to protect the innocent" one need not look too closely at the illustration accompanying the story in order to detect a resemblance to one of our fair lassies.

* * * * *

A small group of climbers in the San Francisco Bay area held an informal "Rope Seminar," the first of a number of equipment seminars. Ray deSaussure is directing. Some of their comments, extracted from the "Yodeler" (Vol. XVIII, No. 12, June 18, 1956) appear below:

"A brief summary of rope strengths appear below. Figures in parentheses indicate values for which further testing is desirable. The figures given for used ropes are the minimum values obtained for ropes which had been in actual climbing use prior to testing. In general, other available values gave higher figures, but in all cases, few enough ropes have been tested that the lowest value obtained has definite significance to the climber.

Tensile strength in pounds

<u>Rope diameter</u>	<u>Nylon (new)</u>	<u>Manila (new)</u>	<u>Nylon (used)</u>	<u>Manila (used)</u>
1/4"	(1200)	889	NR	NR
5/16"	(1900)	1336	(975)	-
3/8"	(2700)	1865	()	1176
7/16"	3869	(2472)	1400	-
1/2"	-	3156	-	2018
shroudline	(550)?	-	(248)	-

NR indicates not recommended for any climbing use; too many manila ropes of this diameter have broken in the field, and 1/4" nylon cuts too readily.

Recommended sizes for ropes are as follows: Climbing rope for individual use and club use - 7/16" nylon. Rappel rope for individual use - 3/8" nylon or manila; for club use - 5/16" and 3/8" nylon and 3/8" manila. Sling rope for individual use and club use - 5/16" or larger.

Testing was not completed on the flat-braided ropes and no recommendations are made at this time.

At a first approximation, nylon does not deteriorate with age, while damaged ropes retain a strength approximately proportional to the remaining cross-section. Manila, on the other hand, deteriorates rapidly due to such factors as bacterial action and should be replaced after one year. Storage depreciation occurs, although not as drastically as was believed formerly.

The results on orlon are at present ambiguous and further testing is required. Early results claimed a strength of 35-40% of that of nylon and elongation of 10%. Recent results from Loma Prieta give a strength of 2700 lbs. for a 3/8" rope and an elongation of 30%. Normal Nylon elongation is about 20%, and normal manila elongation about 5%. Although cutting and fraying properties for orlon appear to be far superior to nylon, the cost of orlon is still at least double that of nylon.

The possibility of checking the strength of climbing ropes by their elongation over a period of time has been suggested. Further information or experimental results would be of value.

The above results and figures have been assembled from notes, and do not represent formal minutes of the seminar."

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 typist ain't so dumb--she left town! Substitute typist ain't so dumb either
 cause she's leaving too!