



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

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COMING EVENTS

MEETING: Tuesday, 23 April

Bob Schnauss will show pictures of last summer's Sierra Club Trip down the Green River and through Dinosaur National Monument. The meeting will be at the home of Ray and Suzy Moore, 301 West Myrtle St., Alexandria, Va. Telephone - OV-3-1437. Directions: Go over 14th St. 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 on Russell Road and go six blocks to Myrtle St. Turn right and go 2/3 of a block to their house on right.

April 21 - Boucher and Eagle Rocks, Va.

April 27-28, Old Rag. Call Earl Mossburg at EM-3-1746. Commissary will be by individual cars and as the Lean-to may be occupied, come prepared to sleep in the open.

May 4-5 The Pittsburgh Social Climbers are coming down for this weekend. Sunday will be reserved for belay practice with Oscar at Carderock.

May 12 - Harper's Ferry

May 19 - Cupids Bower

May 25-26 - Shawangunks, New York. NO BEGINNERS.

The March 26 meeting was held at the home of Sterling Hendricks, with Pete doing most of the talking about last summer's trip to the Northern Selkirks. Thanks again to the Sterlings for their hospitality.

NEW BUSINESS AND PRODUCTION MANAGERS

Bob Adams has taken over the job of Business Manager. Bob Spindler will be our new Production Manager and will wrestle with that formidable monster, the mimeograph machine. The two Bobs would appreciate volunteers for help in their jobs, either permanent crews or temporary assistance now and then.

10 April 1957
MOUNTAINEERING COMMITTEE
POTOMAC APPALACHIAN TRAIL CLUB
SAFETY REGULATIONS

1. No one will take a team on any climb under any circumstances unless he has the permission of the trip leader. The leader of the team may not necessarily be the first man on the rope, but he will be the one who is responsible for the safety of his team.

2. No one will untie and descend or go on alone. The team must remain intact at all times.

3. There will be no climbing of any kind without a safety rope. No matter how easy a climb may be, or how competent the climber, it sets an extremely bad example for beginners to see people climbing without a rope.

Chuck Wettling
Chairman

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SAFETY IN THE MOUNTAINS

Federated Mountain Clubs of
New Zealand

This interesting 96 page pamphlet, in its 4th edition, was distributed to the over 10,000 members of "mountaineering, stalking, skiing and tramping clubs in New Zealand". Some succinct thoughts are related on several subjects. Mountain Manners includes comments on approaches to the mountains, such as closing gates, climbing over fences without straining wire; keeping huts clean and replacing cut wood; avoiding unnecessarily rough clothes in public; and not using tourist hotel facilities unless one is a guest (have you been tossed out of the Chateau Lake Louise recently?). "Climbers and trampers, as a whole, will be judged largely on your behavior". Leadership. In the main a leader's functions are precautionary rather than corrective. Party size is closely related to efficiency and I agree rather completely with one paragraph, both as to pleasure and safety: "What constitutes a safe number for a party will depend on the nature of the country to be traversed or climbed in; the economical use of tentage, rope and primuses will also be determining factors where much pack carrying is involved. As a guide it is suggested that for trips of an exploring nature in remote and difficult country a party of six should be the maximum number; for trips that are principally of a climbing nature four is undoubtedly the best number. In easier tramping country parties of eight or ten may be taken with safety. A leader should know thoroughly the capabilities of his party and in difficult or high climbing country the party must be hand picked." Strength and Conduct of Parties praises the party of four for rough country trips. If one man is injured, two men can go out to obtain required assistance while the third man stays with the patient. The idea of four on one rope being "the wisest maxim" is odd, especially when a preceding paragraph suggests two ropes of two for faster movement and safety, while a later section has specifications for rope length in a party of three. Equipment is somewhat heavier than we usually suggest although the lists are useful for checking purposes. The lists are based upon a 4-man party, each with an initial pack weight of 64 lbs., for a 3 week trans-alpine trip. The snow and ice character of New Zealand climbing is evident from the exact ice axe specifications (to 1/8" in some dimensions, 3½ to 4 lb. weight and no glide ring or wrist strap), poles for tents and 80 foot ropes. Food is treated only

in a very general way but a figure of $1\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. per man day is reasonable. A 2-3 lb. pressure cooker is considered a necessity and actual weight saving is claimed for long trips because of supposedly less fuel being used. 6-8 pints of fuel for 4 men for 14 days seems much too little and must presume liquid water sources. Air mattresses are not even mentioned.

Eight pages are devoted to methods for River Crossing and should be studied even by our non-ice-axe-losing colleagues. Rock Climbing and Falling Stones is good standard information except for one unfortunate adjuration, "to protect the leader on a difficult pitch use the shoulder belay to spring the rope and allow its elasticity to come into play..." By all means substitute "dynamic" for "shoulder" and carry on. Strangely enough the "buttock..." belay is recommended as an upper belay. Glaciers and Crevasses, Snow and Ice Craft, Avalanches, and Snow Caves is written conservatively and well. However, body belay techniques for snow climbing which have appeared in the literature during the past 3 years are not mentioned. Snow caves have proved a life saving measure on recent very high climbs and have been preferred to tents on the upper slopes by several expeditions. They should be added to every mountaineer's bag of tricks.

The last 34 pages of the book is spent describing the National Search and Rescue Organization (SAR) of New Zealand. The police department is responsible for all land search and rescue. The Federated Mountain Clubs of New Zealand has furnished the man power since 1935 and since 1951 has had active liaison with military services and other government departments. Search procedure is highly organized with procedures for aircraft use, distress and communication signals, code panels for ground-air signalling, air drops, accident investigation and reporting.

Nearly 200 climbing huts are listed by name, location and elevation; a map index and a two page subject index complete the pamphlet.

Interested persons may obtain copies of this reference by addressing the Secretary for Internal Affairs, P. O. Box 8007, Wellington, N.Z.

Art Lembeck

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GRUNTS AND GROANS

Feb. 22-24, Seneca, West Va.

Tom Beasley
John Crowder
Betty Johnson

Tommy Marshall
Ted Schad
Bob Spindler

Alan Talbert
Dick Usen
Chuck Wettling

This was a weekend to remember! There was climbing, caving and a jam session on Saturday night. The nights were cold but the days warm and mostly sunny. We were actually sunbathing Sunday at the lunch spot.

Friday morning Chuck led Betty and John up the Skyline Traverse to the lunch spot. Dick usen followed taking Alan and Tom up a slight variation from the standard route. At lunch time a broken strand was discovered in Chuck's rope so they were temporarily grounded. Ted, Bob, and Tommy arrived later and having had their fill of climbing, gave their rope to Chuck and retired to the local bistro. That afternoon Dick led the Cockscomb via the Pine Tree (Up the Pine Tree in fact). Chuck's team had time only to reconnoiter the Cockscomb Overhang. An attempt to reach Dolly Sods that night was a terrible fiasco because of snow on the roads. We ended up eating at a restaurant and camping at the pavillion.

On Saturday under Ted's leadership we went into Hamilton Cave. This is an easy one, just right for beginners, which about six of us were. Some of the neophytes were indifferent, while others were delighted at exploring possibly new passages and finding fossils, bugs, bats, and bones. Ted succeeded in showing us the fascination and challenge of caving. Saturday night after supper (with Betty in charge of

commissary we really ate!), we rendered (literally) folk songs to the accompaniment of recorder (Betty), trumpet (Bob), and guitar (Alan). Dig that crazy combo!

On Sunday Ted, Bob, and Tommy investigated an outcropping of rocks near Lost River. Only Chuck, Betty, John, and Alan remained to climb at Seneca Rocks. Chuck led the Cockscomb Overhang, and so on to the South Peak. We came back down the Old Ladies Route to end a wonderful weekend.

AJT

NEW CLIMBING AREA

Feb. 24, 1957, Lost River Crag, West. Va.

On the way home from Seneca, Tommy Marshall, Bob Spindler, and Ted Schad investigated an outcropping of rock which is located just above Lost River about a mile downstream from the Route 55 bridge. (The river was anything but lost on this occasion) The rocks are visible from several places along the highway when coming down Highway 55 from the summit of Sandy Ridge, which is several miles west of Wardensville, W. Va. They are reached by a walk of about a mile down the west bank of Lost River, along poor trails, or more easily, by a walk of $1\frac{1}{4}$ mile from the Pinnacles 4-H Club Camp.

The rocks extend about 200 ft. above the river and appear to furnish a number of challenging routes. Tommy led us up a route on the southeast corner, the lower reaches of which were well guarded by brambles and hornets. Several pitches near the summit afforded pleasant exposure. The rock seemed reasonably solid, and if we can get permission to leave cars at the 4-H Camp, this should be the local of future trips. The very summit of the rocks is easily reached by scrambling from the mountain side behind the outcrop, and is marked by a large cross.

Ted Schad

3 March 1957, Carderock, Md.

R.F. Barquist	Craig Mathews	Lowell Bennett	The Cardons
Betty Johnson	Bob Spindler	Joan Pittman	Chris Scoredos
Peg Keister	Chuck Wettling	Shirley Krauthausen	Arnold Wexler
Art Lembeck	Jim Shipley	Ellen Davis	Jackie Dupont
Bob Murray	Shirley Jackson	Dottie Higginbotham	Earl & Eddie Reed
Johnnie Reed	Dave Nicholson	Ted Schad	The Adamses
Alan Talbert	Charles Harmon	Ted Osgood	Tommy Marshall
Pete Peterson	Mike Nicholson	Earl Mossburg	Bulent Ertumen
John Sater	Jim Stongle	Dan Fingers	The Willards

and tons and tons of kids, all sizes, shapes and ages, with a couple of dogs for good measure.

This beautiful spring day seems to have turned out everyone. The days main activities were eating, sleeping, eating, loafing and eating. Despite these attractive pastimes, a few dared to actually set foot on the rocks. J. Reed was seen teaching several people the art of climbing in the rain - via his little black water pistol, which he could never find when it was his turn to demonstrate. However, due to Johnnie's foresight, I have invented a pair of climbing boots with soles of calcium chloride.

MN

There are still plenty of copies of the Mountaineering issue (Jan-Mar. 57) of the PATC Bulletin. John Reed is responsible for gathering much of the pertinent material, and the cost is only 25¢ at club headquarters.

10 March 1957, Carderock, Md.

Gregory Goncharov	Peg Keister	Louise Winslow	Mata Battyo
Betty Johnson	Bob Adams & Family	The Worrels	Rose Giese
Bob Murray	Ted Schad	Shirley Krauthausen	Shirley Jackson
Dick Barquist	Johnnie Reed	Lowell Bennett	Bryan Isacks
Rose Barquist	Arnold Wexler	Gordon Samson	Jim Shipley
Victor Petrukhin	Dr. France Avcin	Jim Stengle	Dave Nicholson
Bob Spindler	Fred Silverblatt	The Heinemanns	Dan Finger
John Christian	Martin Gardiner	Art Eisenberg	Earl Mossburg
Joan Broomfield	Jay Covinton	Ernie Durham	Chris Scoredos
Art Lembeck	Jerrold Dulin	Jane Showacre	Ellen Davis

If anyone notices mistakes in the above list let it be an object lesson, to wit, never wait two months before attempting to translate the Howard Johnson Placemat Roster. It's particularly difficult the night before publication.

We were fortunate to have with us, Dr. France Avcin from Slovenia, Yugoslavia, who for years has been a prophet in Europe of the dynamic belay as developed in the United States. He demonstrated his technique by catching Oscar from the platform. He had with him a pair of unique crampons of his own design. These are adjustable to any size and may be folded or bent into a very compact package. In addition they are easily disassembled. Arnold and Art showed us how easily they could be used in scrambling over the rocks. Dr. Avcin also demonstrated the Modoc-Double-Pulley technique, a type of tension climbing for difficult pitches.

Robb and Erich had come down for the weekend with 12 Columbia University students, so belay practice was the featured item of the day, although Erich managed to instruct a group of novices on the Chris-Wex-Don.

: B.S.

17 March 1957, Stony Man, Va.

Bob Adams and boys	Shirley Jackson	Bob Spindler
John Crowder	Bob Murray	Alan Talbert
Betty Johnson	Jane Showacre	Chuck Wettling

There was plenty of activity on the rocks this fine, sunny day. Chuck, Jane, Betty and Alan (and possibly others) led various climbs, including the Chimney and some unnamed climbs. We trust that Paul Bradt, watching from the valley through binoculars, was not disappointed.

We had lunch with Johnnie Reed and his Geology Class. Some of the climbers audited a lecture on the geology of the cliffs there, while some of Johnnie's class watched us climb.

A minor accident occurred when the younger Adams boy was struck by a falling rock. This emphasizes that we all must be extremely careful not to dislodge rocks in any climbing area.

AJT

17 March 1957, Great Falls, Md.

Jan Conn	Ken Egerton	Ed Worrell
Herb Conn	Caroline Egerton	Blondie Worrell
Lee Egerton	Dave Waddington	Frank Worrell

Independent climbers: Henry Francis, Richard Hubley, Robert Mason and Alison Wilson.

Those folks who didn't go to Little Stony Man flexed their muscles on the Pags Progress area at Great Falls, Md.

Being strangers to the area ourselves we can't give many names (printable, that is) of the routes climbed. There was considerable warming up activity just upstream

from Pegs Progress. Ed Worrell showed the Conns how to climb the Bulge, and under his expert tutelage they made the ascent too. Downstream from the Bulge most everyone climbed a good climb with an overhang in the middle and lost a lot of good holds. They joined Pegs Progress on the ledge.

Between this route and the Bulge the Richards found a new climb which they rated as more difficult than the Bulge.

As ropes were being coiled at the end of the day it developed that the four independent climbers had been looking for a fabulous place called Carderock when they found our group and joined us. They still wanted to know where the place was and before they knew what had happened they found themselves on a guided tour.

We met Bob Stephens, Ted Osgood and friends just leaving Carderock. From their snail-like pace and disheveled appearance we judged they had a good day of climbing.

J & H Conn

CHANGES AND ADDITIONS TO ADDRESS LIST

Changes:

Marcia Newell - 3803 33rd St., Apt. 3, Mt. Rainier, Md.
 Thomas Smyth, Jr., Dept. Zool. & Ent., Penn. State Univ., University Park, Pa.
 The Explorer, Ben M. Nelson, 261 S. Winebiddle Ave., Pittsburgh 24, Pa.
 Edwin R. Schnauss, 5333 Sepulveda Blvd., Culver City, Calif. (After May 1)
 John C. Reed, Jr., U.S. Geological Survey, Newland, North Carolina
 Joseph H. Walsh, R.D. #1, Doylestown, Pa. - Phone FI-8-7529

New:

Jay Edwards, 1759 Hastings Mill Road, Bridgeville, Pa.

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The staff goofed and sent several empty envelopes last month. So sorry! Please let us know if this happened to you or if you received nothing at all.

We are losing two of our most active members, Bob Schnauss and John Reed. John is already living in Newland, N. C., while Bob will leave around the end of April for Culver City, Calif.

The Columbia Mountain Club from New York sends their thanks to all those who gave so much of their time on March 10 instructing them in climbing and belaying.

EXCHANGES

Please send copies of exchange papers to UP ROPE, 1916 Sunderland Place, N.W., Washington 6, D.C.

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