



FOUNDED BY  
JAN AND HERB CONN

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

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### COMING EVENTS

- July 14 -- Carderock, Maryland
- July 21 -- Echo Cliffs, Virginia
- July 28 -- Cupid's Bower, Maryland
- August 3-4 -- Hermitage Shelter, Penna. SEE NOTICE BELOW
- August 11 -- Sugar Loaf, Maryland

### WORK TRIP -- ROCK CLIMBING STYLE August 3 and 4, 1957

Saturday and Sunday, 3 and 4 August, we will be going to Shaeffer's Rocks, just outside the Hermitage Shelter, to rectify a slight error on the part of Mother Nature. It seems that she obscured the fine practice climbing on the rocks by an assortment of odd trees, most of them scrawny growth of 3" to 6", but one a 15 inch specimen leaning at a 45° angle. When these are cleared away the rocks will be more impressive to spectators, provide more interesting compositions for photographers and remove temptation from those who in the past escaped rigorous routes via arboreal avenues.

The idea is to cut the trees into stove lengths and store the wood under the Hermitage for next winter. We hope there'll be a big turnout of axemen, sawyers, wood carriers and kibitzers. In addition to the woodsmanship there should be plenty of time to try old and new routes on the rediscovered rock after the greenery is removed.

Drive to the Hermitage Friday night, or Saturday --- or Sunday. The leader will be going up Friday evening so the shelter will be open from, say 9:00 P.M. Food by cars.

Call Art Lembeck, OLiver 2-7972, for details or transportation. Bring your favorite axe, or use the especially sharpened Club saws and axes.

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### A Plea Plied

Please, send in change of address promptly to Bob Adams, 7572 Livingston Rd.S.E., Washington 22, D.C. The new postal regulations penalize us 4¢ each to return copies they cannot deliver. UP ROPE will have to up price if new house numbers are not reported as soon as possible.

WANTED: One Bolt Fiend with Strong Right Arm!

This is the sad tale of a collegiate prank and the sorry plight of rock climbing in the scenic beauty of South Dakota's Black Hills.

The Sore Thumb is a 200 foot spire in the Black Hills Needles. It overhangs on all sides and sticks up like a you-know-what. Several attempts to climb it have been pitifully unsuccessful, including one high-powered attack by Tony Soler and Ray Moore a few years ago.

Word of this challenging "first" reached a party of college climbers, and for two successive weekends this spring they worked away at the Thumb. A portable grindstone was hoisted to a chockstone where one man did nothing but sharpen drills, while high above the leader hung in stirrups pounding hole after hole. Twenty-three bolts were used and an unknown number of pitons. So at last, in the gathering dusk on Easter Sunday, they reached the summit. The jubilant climbers had been so confident of victory that they ~~had brought with them what they considered a suitable marker for~~ such a hard-won peak --- an eight foot cross of steel pipe, set in an oil drum base with rocks and cement, the whole thing painted bright orange for good visibility!

This cross, they felt, was appropriate for Easter Sunday. However it is Easter no longer, and the Sore Thumb has become an Eyesore. Other climbers complain to us of the hideous scenery. We expect any day that the State Park authorities will order us to get that thing down. But we don't know how!!! The climbers pried out their bolts (1" long Rawl drives) before leaving, thus ruining the bolt holes for future use. College is out and the climbers have gone their separate ways. Our own arm muscles are good for only two or three bolts, at most, in a day's climbing.

So, we're hoping that among the climbers who visit us here this summer there will be at least one bolt fiend, helicopter pilot (with helicopter) or levitationist. In reward we offer an outstanding second ascent and a nice orange ornament for a souvenir.

Herb & Jan Conn

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UPS AND DOWNS

May 25-26, 1957. Shawangunks, New York

Mr. & Mrs. Duncan Burchard  
Skip Crosby  
John Crowder  
Erich & Robb Heinemann  
Pete Peterson  
Earl & Eddie Reed

Jimmy Shipley  
Jane Showacre  
Chuck Wottling  
The Worrells  
Dick Usen

PITTSBURGH SOCIAL CLIMBERS

Kay Thompson  
Gert Gazdick  
Rick Dill  
Bob Dufty

The people and the climbs on which they struggled are as follows (to the best of this reporter's remembrance): The Pony Express: Jane, Dick, Ed, Earl, Gert, Chuck. The Brat: Kay, Bob, Jane, and Rick. The Horseman: Kay and Bob. The Laurel: Blondie, Chuck, Rick, John, Ed, Earl. The Double Chin: Chuck and Rick. The Easy Overhang: Chuck, Pete, Gert, and John. The Yellow Ridge: Bob, Erich and Kay. Thockley's Coiling: Jane, Rick and Jimmy.

The Yellow Ridge (one of the more difficult climbs) provided a demonstration of the superiority of the dynamic belay. Bob took a 20' lead fall and Erich made a smooth catch. Bob reported that he felt no jerk or pain as his fall was stopped. CRW

June 9, 1957. Great Falls, Virginia

Bob Adams and family	John Crowder	Peg Keister	Chris Scoredos
Dave Arnold	Clara Daniel	Kerck Kelsey	John Reed
Mary Berg	Bevin Howitt	Art Lembeck	Chuck Wottling
David Berg	Betty Johnson	Bob Molo	The Worrells
Duncan Burchard	Bill Keasboy	Pete Peterson	

Despite the predictions of rain, a large group gathered to enjoy a fine day for climbing. Several people successfully climbed the face a few feet upstream from the Corkscrew, and after lunch, we moved up to the Juliet's Balcony area. Chuck attempted to put in a piton near the top of the Bird's Nest, but he couldn't find a suitable position. The purpose of this would be to provide a safe way to anchor in while waiting for the belay rope to be shifted. A lead climb was made with some beginners on the rope, and others made the Balcony traverse and Romeo's Ladder. Someone suggested that we should soon plan a beach party. Chuck, were you listening? BRH

June 16, 1957. Carderock, Maryland

Bob Adams and family	Ione Malley	Dick Osgood
Dave Arnold	Bob Molo	Tim Sanford
Betty Johnson	Bob Murray	Jim Shipley
Bill Keasboy	Betsy Nischl	The Worrells

By 8:30 AM the day was already warm and the temperature was climbing as fast as the sun that glared down on us. Not very promising for climbing but Betty saved the day by leading us to cool and shady Carderock. There was all the usual wholehearted effort expended on most of the familiar climbs and with the usual varying degrees of success. However, this was not the day for Homeric deeds and the impressions that linger are lesser ones, such as young Bobby Adam's cool, competent, climbing or Bob Murray's happy "Whoo" as he hurled himself off the Beginner's Crack to provide belay practice for Betsy Nischl. Then Bill, who liked a small hold on Sterling's Crack so well that he almost left a finger in it when he came down. Dick Osgood was the hero of the day with a gallon or so of cold fruit juice. At lunch time, the chatter was stilled and in awed silence everyone watched Dave Arnold and Ione shuffle about barefooted in the cool wet grass. Seems they hadn't heard about chiggers!! Blondie arrived with a new hairdo which stirred some comment---check with some of the feminine climbers for details.

Apologies to all others who thought their deeds were worthy of being recorded here, but these are all the memories that penetrated the heat haze. No comment on the haze caused by the Wurtzberger at the Bavarian later. B. Molo

June 23, 1957. Herzog Island, Maryland

Bob Adams	Betty Johnson	John Reed
John Crowder	Peg Keister	Jane Showacro
Gregory Goncharov	Bob Murray	Chuck Wottling
Bevin Howitt	Dick Osgood	

The male contingent moved off from Howard Johnson's leaving the girls to follow after they had finished breakfast, and that was the last we saw of them for the day. They claimed they were shanghaied into a canoe, but we suspect that it didn't take much to entice them away. Fun was had by all in wading through three feet of fast-flowing water to reach the island, but little climbing was done -- it was too hot and sticky. Three did an unnamed 'down, traverse, and up again' climb; several of us with

much sweat climbed the Fingertip Balance and we all enjoyed a swim. After lunch we were so wilted by the heat that we simply faded away.... . JC

### June 23, 1957. Class of '39 Reunion

A number of the "Ancient Ones" tried their failing reflexes in Schoolhouse Cave over the 23 June weekend. Grapevine was also visited as sort of a desert after the entree (and exit) of the mudslope below the Grotto in Schoolhouse. Several of the original explorers of Schoolhouse were on the jaunt including Paul Bratt, Don Hubbard, Leo Scott, Chris Scoredos, Arnold Wexler, and Art Lembeck, as well as Ray Moore, Tony Soler, the Youdens and Joel Gross, whose photographic endeavors sparked the enterprise.

### June 30, 1957. Bull Run Mountain, Virginia

Dave Arnold	Bevin Hewitt	Ione Malloy	Betsy Niehl
John Christian & friends	Betty Johnson	Wade Marshall	Dick Osgood
Clara Daniel	Doramay & Bill Keasbey	Bob Mole	John Reed
Lee Egerton	Peg Keister	Earl Mosburg	Harold Swift
	Dick Kenyon	Bob Murray	

Two teams crawled around Zeus' Throne while others worked on the two beginners cracks. Later John gave a demonstration of how to use your feet on the Overhang while Earl made Charlie's Crack look easy.

After supper at Vienna a lucky few were enticed into swimming in the quiet, secluded pools of Difficult Run. BJ

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### ADDITIONS AND CHANGES TO THE UP ROPE LIST

#### Changes:

Erich and Robb Heinemann, 5 North Street, Apt. 23, Edgewater, New Jersey  
Dr. George Magee, US Naval Hospital, St. Albans, Long Island, New York

#### New:

Harold M. Swift, 4209 Franklin Street, Kensington, Maryland

### PERSONALS

Shirley Jackson, who has typed UP ROPE for so long, is leaving for California in the Fall. We will miss her little specialty which we all looked for at the end of each issue. Win Lembeck, poor unfortunate, has volunteered to try to fill her place.

Speaking of coincidences, John Christian, on a recent trip to California stepped off the plane at San Francisco to be greeted unexpectedly by Dr. Bill Welsh. Later while hiking in Yosemite, he met Marian Harvey who now lives in Berkeley. She sends her regards to everyone.

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The Bedayn carabiners have finally arrived and may now be purchased at Club Headquarters. Also, stainless steel PATC type cups (but not stamped PATC) are in stock. Plenty of assorted pitons and Rawl bolts available, too.

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Editors: Alan Talbert and Betty Johnson

Typist: Win Lembeck

Business Manager: Robert J. Adams

Please send subscriptions, renewals and address changes to Robert J. Adams at 7572 Livingston Road, S.E., Washington 22, D.C. And, please, make your check payable to ROBERT J. ADAMS.