



FOUNDED BY
JAN AND HERB CONN

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

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April 1, 1958

COMING EVENTS

- April 6 -- Carderock, Maryland. Belay practice with Oscar.
April 13 -- Great Falls, Maryland.
April 11-13 - BUSHWHACKERS: Old Rag with Paul Bradt as leader. Friday night will be spent at the Old Rag Leanto and Saturday night in the cave in the Reflector Oven area. This trip will not include rock climbing but the plan is to cover parts of the mountain not usually visited. If you are interested in joining the trip, call Jeannette Fitzwilliams, HO 2-5491 or ST 3-9200 (Code 112) Ext. 2662 before 5 P.M. Wednesday, April 9. She will notify those going where to meet transportation and the community requirements on food and equipment each is to bring.
April 20 -- Open
April 24 -- Thursday evening, 8:00 P.M. Monthly meeting at Joan & Phil Carden's. 2209 Parker Ave., Wheaton, Maryland. LO 5-4325. Please phone Joan for driving directions. The program will be given by Barry Bishop on "The 1956-7 Argentine Antarctic Expedition to the Palmer Peninsula". Barry is currently in the Air Force, attached to the staff of Rear Admiral George J. Dufek as Scientific Advisor on Operation Deepfreeze.
April 27 -- Echo Cliffs, Virginia.
May 4 -- Carderock, Maryland. Belay practice with Oscar.
May 10-11 -- Shawangunks, New York. NO BEGINNERS. Leader, Jane Showacre. Call her at UN 4-0535 no later than May 4 if you wish to stay at the Inn. There are camping grounds near the cliffs for those who wish to stay outdoors.
May 18 -- Sugarloaf Mtn., Maryland.
May 25 -- Little Stony Man, Shenandoah National Park, Virginia.
May 30,31, June 1 -- Seneca Rock, West Virginia. Please call Leader Bob Adams at CH 8-4523 if you plan to go on this trip. Individual commissary.

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John Christian has added a "king size" carabiner to Oscar's equipment. This item has greatly reduced the wear and tear on the belay rope.

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"Ropes more than any other subject are a test of a man's power of exposition in prose. If you can describe clearly without a diagram the proper way of making this or that knot then you are a master of the English tongue."

Hilaire Belloc

It was just like old times at the Bradt's Tuesday evening (March 25) with the front room packed to capacity along the floor and up to the ceiling via the staircase with attentive personnel to hear Globe Trotter Lembeck report on intimate scenes behind the scenes with Lowell Thomas. Apparently it takes a lot of doing by a lot of people to get enough fact and fancy accumulated to present General Motors starting with Delco Batteries. Scarcely an icicle went unturned last summer between Anchorage, Alaska, Point Barrow, Ice Island, the North Pole, and Thule, Greenland with glaciers, crevasses, mountains, paramedics, plane wrecks, pressure cracks, helicopters, Specter of Brocken, and synthetic fog thrown in for interest items.

Obviously the success of the trip was greatly enhanced and augmented by the presence of three intrepid members of the local PATC group viz., Art Lembeck, Erich Heineman, and Joel Gross. (Ed. Joel was a "behind the behind the scenes" man and stayed in New York to do his share.)

After Art had put us across the Top Of The World, Pete Peterson, substituting for Malcom McGregor, took us Down Under for a quickie of some of the white water and rock climbing possibilities; and a view of Southern Australia from a high point near Peak Pigeon House, so named by Captain Cook, circa 1770.

And then, Jo Bradt took over with enough homemade cookies and things to supply the Salvation Army and the USO indefinitely. If YOU weren't there, that's just too bad!

D. Hubbard

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UPS AND DOWNS

March 1-2, 1958. Doyle River Shelter, Shenandoah Nat'l. Park.

Ellen Davis
Bernadine Dunfee
Forest Harris

Peg Keister
Malcolm McGregor
Elsa McGregor

Bobbie "Little
Nipper" McGregor
Pete Peterson
Johnny Reed

The above party took over the mountains when Chuck's Pocosin Trip was abandoned for lack of manpower.

Johnny had heard about a wounded soldier in Brown's Gap and we set out to locate him. Finally caught up with him on Sunday, but we were a little late. He was a Confederate soldier in the War Between the States. Injured in an engagement in the Shenandoah Valley, he had died as the troops moved eastward through Brown's Gap and was buried there. The brush has been cleared away from the marker stone and at present it is easily found. It is close to the old Brown's Gap Road, a third of a mile east of the crest and it is 25' or so north of the roadway, up a small bank.

The McGregors introduced us to a potent delicacy which they called Roaring Wind Mountain Brew. It was invented of necessity in a howling gale on a cold August night in the dead of winter one year. The McGregors, you see, are Sydney Bushwalkers from Down Under. They find our Blue Ridge country quite different from their Blue Mountains.

Another high (?) spot of the trip was our flushing of a flock of about 20 wild turkeys. (Don Hubbard argues that these cannot be found outside of a farmyard. Can anyone set him straight?) Non-rarities of the week-end were two skunks, several deer and a flock of waterfalls that were at their wettest best.

AEP

We see from the American Alpine Club Newsletter that Andy Kauffman is going to be one of the members of the 1958 Karakorum Expedition in the Himalayas, which includes Nick Clinch, Bob Swift, Tom McCormack, Tom Nevison and two Pakistani climbers.

March 2, 1958. Purple Horse, Maryland.

Bob Adams & family	Doug Haigh	Bob Mole	Ted Weiss
Karl Edler	Betty Johnson	Dick Osgood	Arnold Wexler
Rod Glascock	Betty Kaufmann	Ted Schad	The Worrells
Don Hubbard	Sue Levy	Alan Talbert	Bea Howell

Several of our members who haven't been out all winter made it today in order to greet Bea Howell who now lives in Switzerland. She maintains that she keeps in climbing condition by wielding a pick axe in the garden. Well, maybe we'll give it a try this spring. (Maybe you wives of climbing men could have them try their ice axes instead?) The weather was fine and the climbing was all over. The rocks, that is. No one wasted time watching others fall off the Purple Horse or trying to climb it themselves. Fortunately, it was covered with water.

BJ

March 9, 1958. Camp Lewis and Carderock, Maryland.CAMP LEWIS:

Karl Edler	Don Hubbard
Barbara Edler	Betty Johnson
Fritz Edler	Bob Mole
Jan Edler	Alan Talbert
Doug Haigh	

CARDEROCK

Ina Dolnicar	Jane Showacre
Art Lembeck	Arnold Wexler
Magda Mulhber	Chuck Wettling
Kurt Mulhberg	Blondie & Ed Worrell
Dick Osgood	"Chirpie" Worrell
Members of Balto. Spoleol. Grotto	

If any one thinks there's not much climbing around Camp Lewis, try it with Don some time. He kept us so busy that there was scarcely time to eat lunch. The Willy Nilly Traverse, Short Man's Climb and, of course, the East Face were all worked over, in addition to several this group had never tried before. We were especially impressed with Fritz's fearless climbing.

Meanwhile, back at the old homestead, the members of the Baltimore Grotto were being instructed by Art and Chuck. Oscar had a real workout. Arnold took over with our newcomers and Jane, who arrived late in the afternoon after many weeks of absence, "didn't do any climbing, just talked", or so we were told

BJ

March 16, 1958. Bull Run Mtns., Virginia.

Bob Adams & family	Betty Johnson	Bob Mole	Alan Talbert
Ina Dolnicar	Art Lembeck	Dick Osgood	Chuck Wettling
Don Hubbard	Toby Lynch	Pete Peterson	Arnold Wexler
			Ed Worrell & family

We had forgotten how cold it could be up on the mountain. Ina, Art, and Arnold did Zeus' Throne, and the usual number of attacks were made on Charlie's Crack, with Don nobly holding forth on a cold, slippery belay spot. Later on, the Quartz Slab was climbed by Alan and Bob Adams. This was about all we could stand, and we left for home.

BJ

March 23, 1958. Shenandoah Nat'l. Park, Va. and Carderock, Maryland.SHENANDOAH PARK

Ina Dolnicar	Bob Spindler
Don Hubbard	Alan Talbert
Betty Johnson	Arnold Wexler
	Chuck Wettling

CARDEROCK

Bob Adams & family	Bob Mole
John Christian	Chris Scoredos
Doug Haigh	

Some of us arrived at Howard J's at 7:30 in order to leave for Thurmont at a

reasonable hour. We found Don already there with ice axes and crampons, so the ice climbing set again left for the Park. When it was found that we would have to walk up the Drive to the ice, two deserted the party and climbed up to Mary's Rock instead. The rest found plenty of ice in the tunnel and a fine, crumbly, dynamited rock face to play around on. Bob Spindler demonstrated his new safety helmet by covering it with his hands every time he heard a rock fall. No scratches on this helmet, says he.

BJ

Meanwhile, down on the farm, Bob Adams reports that "we worked on Meenehan's Staircase, Jan's Edge Face, and the Spiderwalk as a group. Our Bobby (age 8 $\frac{1}{2}$) had a particularly good day doing the Staircase, Spider Walk, Golden Stairs (straight from the bottom), Nubble Face, and Herbie's Horror. Doug and Bob Mole worked very hard on the Spiderwalk and got most of the way up but didn't quite finish it. There was a waterfall on Sterling's Crack and I couldn't make it."

RA

Guess it's obvious who the climber was in that party!

March 29-30, 1958. The Hermitage, Pennsylvania.

Bob Adams & family	Doug Haigh	Bob Mole	Alan Talbert
"Dee" Bauer	Betty Johnson	Jim Shipley	Arnold Wexler
Gene Atherton	Peg Keister	Jane Shawacre	Chuck Wettling
Ina Dolnicar	Art & Win Lembeck	Bob Spindler	Ed Worrell & family

From Shaffers Rocks outside the Hermitage to Mt. Rainier is a "fur piece" but this note writer was reminded of an ascent of Rainier a few years ago by the climbing this weekend. At one point on the Rainier climb, my Californian companion had quite a struggle on something new to him - a mean patch of wet lichens, and it was on such lichens that the Hermitage die-hards spent Sunday afternoon. It was an exhilarating sight though to find two upper belays in operation in the intermittent drizzle, complete even to a half-dozen spectators waiting their turns.

The fortunate four who came up Friday night were the luckiest, since they had the earliest start on a sunny Saturday morning. But it wasn't long before the first of the short weekenders joined them. As more people arrived, the weather deteriorated a bit, but most of the simpler climbs were worked over. The rocks, damp from the heavy snow, which was still a foot deep in the forest below, were a grade or two more difficult than in dry weather and made the rope leaders cautious.

Evening high lights for Saturday were many -- Blondie's recipe for curried chicken and rice so ably followed by Arnold with kibitzing by Peg & Win, the song fest which went on and on into the night, Arnold's pina-punch, no traditional mid-night hike to the fire tower, Lucky Jane whose air mattress just covers a table top when all the bunks are filled.

Sunday morning, the group went all out, especially the late Saturday-early Sunday arrivals, and with good cause. By noon, the race with the rain was lost and the climbing became more arduous.

We'll remember though, the rapid progress Doug is making as a rope leader; Alan's lead of the critical pitch on the new climb, the Welkin, (after that airy stretch from stirrup to foot(?)hold); Betty's proudful three climbs in one day; Ed Worrell, trussed up and suspended head down by the Adam's boys.

Too bad we had to do without the Pittsburghers who at the last minute were forced to cancel their tentative reservations.

ACL

The February issue of Summit Magazine is especially interesting to the mountain photographer. There is even an article, with pictures, on converting one's ice axe into a tripod.

THE WELKIN CLIMB -- Shaffers Rocks (The Hermitage), Penna.30 March 1958

Two different times, Ed Worrell tried a deceptively easy appearing lead on the gully side of the Swiss Guide climb. Once he was with Chuck Wettling, the second time with Art Lembeck. Both times the teams got no higher than an almost reachable layback flake a quarter of the way up.

This time, Alan Talbert and Art tried it. The start was a balance onto a narrow ledge. After numerous tries, a C&T angle piton was put in a short crack about six feet above the ledge. With this protection, rounded footholds permitted one to balance up and insert a short thick horizontal piton under an inverted shelf of rock where a quartz vein is weathered out.

A sling was now snapped into the angle piton and in a maximum straddle a sloping foothold could barely be reached by stabbing with the left foot. This gave Alan enough purchase to drive in a piton behind and above a projecting flake which could be used for a double handhold. In a semi-layback with friction only for the feet, he essentially re-tabled up behind the flake. Upper holds could then be reached and the way to the short tower above the flake gained easily. To the top of the main Tower was a scramble.

Without the sling a dozen attempts to cross the critical point were failures, although the damp lichens were no help, to say the least. Perhaps a dry day will change matters. The upper piton is still in place but should be well tested before use. ACL

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The American Alpine Club's Safety Report for 1958 will be ready before too long. It will cover 44 accidents in 1957 and is worthwhile reading for the hiker as well as the climber. Individual copies sell for 25¢ and UP ROPE will try to have a few on hand to sell as soon as it is published. This will be for local distribution only.

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In the current issue of the Newsletter of the Chicago Mountaineering Club, there is an article by Arnold Lunn, one of the first to introduce ski mountaineering to Europe, called "Yesterday Many Years Ago" in which he discusses early ski expeditions to the Faulhorn from Grindelwald. Mr. Lunn has always felt that there is a great difference in emotional satisfaction between the lone skier getting ready for the "umteenth" time after getting off the ski lift for a run down hill and the mountain skier, who with his companions, has climbed the mountain and must now make use of all the skill previously learned in judging snow conditions, line of direction, type of turns, etc., all the while going down at a fair clip over unknown terrain.

UP ROPE has exchange programs with numerous Clubs and groups and the various publications are available for local members at all times. See the Editor if you wish to borrow any.

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