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# NEWS OF THE P.A.T.C. MOUNTAINEERING COMMITTEE 1916 Sunderland Place N. W. Washington 6, D. C.

Volume XIV Number 17

August 1959

#### COMING EVENTS

August	2	CARDEROCK, Maryland
	9	CRESCENT ROCK, Virgi
1.	16	ECHO CLIFFS, Virgini
	22-23	WOLF GAP, Virginia -

CENT ROCK, Virginia

CLIFFS, Virginia

WOLF GAP, Virginia -- Jake Haun Leader. If you plan to go on this trip please let Jake know as there will be a general Commissary.

30 Sept. 5-7

GREAT FALLS, Maryland

ROCK ENON, Virginia. This is a new climbing area, and those of us who have visited these rocks can vouch for their excellence. Again, please let Jake know if you wish to go on this weekend.

\* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*

## HOW SAFTEY CONSCIOUS ARE YOU

The subject of "Am I my brother's keeper?" has come up again. On one of our recent Sunday trips, an extra rope was needed and the request was relayed in turn to other climbers and "lookers on" at the top of the cliff. A time lapse of 10 minutes (along with repeated requests) occurred before the rope Was produced. Have we as a group become so wrapped up in ourselves that we no longer are aware of what is going on around us? How was anyone to know that this was not an emergency? Any situation in which a rope is asked for should always be considered an emergency. When an entire group is so casual about such a request, then, in our opinion, something should be done about making this group saftey conscious. It is time to stop right now and take a good look at ourselves, and remember that as climbers we have a responsibility not only to ourselves but to those around us as well.

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The Editor wants to thank Jake Haun and Alan Talbert for putting out the last issue of UP ROPE. She is now back on the job and promises you UP ROPE more or less regularly. So please no more remarks about when does the annual issue appear. We also plan to get out the address list this fall so if you have a change of address or telephone number, let us know as soon as possible.

## UP ROPE

# SOME NOTES ON CAVE PHOTOGRAPHY

## Huntley Ingalls

My speciality, and most of my experience, in cave photography is unposed action in difficult caves. Posed pictures, except for modelling purposes, have always left me cold and my shortage of patience has not allowed me the time necessary for the beautiful multiple-flash pictures which I admire.

I always use a Leica with a 35 mm lens except for close-ups of small objects. This lens is, in my opinion, the optimum for cave photography. It's depth of field is such that the frustrations of attempting to focus with a range finder by the feeble light of a head lamp are completly eliminated. It is only necessary to make a rough guess of camera to subject distance. This is a very great advantage if one is interested in unposed action, since there is often no time for playing around with a range finder. In addition to the depth of field advantage, many places in caves are so confined that the angle of view of a wide angle lens is indispensable. Even in large rooms and passages a wide angle lens is preferable for indoor photography. On the other hand extreme wide angle lenses introduce undesireable distortion in subjects at average distance.

For lighting I have always used flash-bulbs. I do not know any stroke unit which is light enough and rugged enough to carry about in difficult caves for extended periods. For ordinary subject distances with kodachrome, GE No. 5, Sylvania No. 25, and Sylvania M5 are excellent. The latter are especially recommended for their size and ruggedness. When these small bulbs are used with super Anscochrome it is possible to take pictures of subjects at a distance of 50 feet at F4. Whenever possible, however, the larger bulbs and kodachrome should be used. The fine grain and the consistent quality of development ofkodachrome make the trouble of handling large bulbs worth while. For pictures in which the subject to camera distance is 100 feet or more, I have used a group of large bulbs set up in electric lamp sockets arranged in parallel. These can be fired with six volt battery; Aluminum foil makes an excellent reflector.

I doubt if any of these techniques are unusual. It is possible to use all of them and still get dull pictures. The most important thing is to have the camera available when there is something worth photographing. Hence if one is interested in obtaining unusual photographs of action in caves I recommend a rule which will probably appall most camera owners. Carry the camera open and ready for action even in the worst places. By all means do carry it over the ANGEL'S ROOST, through the CAT HOLE in Cass, and to the back end of AQUA. It's true you may ruin the camera, I have a couple of times, but if you take it to Sunday picnics that is the kind of picture you will get. There are a few things which can be done, however, to protect your camera from complete ruin everytime you go caving. One of the most usefull is to tape up as much of the camera body with masking tape as possible. This gives excellent protection from mud and dust and can be easily stripped off after the trip. Always wear a clear filter and a sun shade on the lens for mechanical protection. It may even improve the picture. If you are in an uninteresting part of the cave pack your equipment in a rubber bag. Very usefull small rubber bags can be obtained at the Army surplus stores for about 20¢.

But in any situation, if there is something interesting to photograph, use that camera! No matter how miserable or uncomfortable you may be or how soon you expect to die, - use it! And last, but not least, throw away the bloopers. Volume XIV Number 17

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#### UPS AND DOWNS

#### CARDEROCK 31 May (Stay at Homes)

Laura BinghamJohn & Dorothy PattenMr. CookeCub CatcherDave HorwitzDick OsgoodMr. Martin"Earl & Shirley MosburgChris ScoredosTed WillsBob MurrayTed WillsGeorge Spegel and innumerable Cub Scouts

Long-time-away Dick Osgood tried to stretch his return from Mississippi so that he could reach Seneca enrouteto his home in Massachusetts, but there just wasn't enough time to go all the way; he slept somewhere in Virginia and turned up at the Howard Johnsons.

Second surprise of the day was to find the Mosburgs camped at Carderock. They had come up river by cance on Saturday night and slept out in their custom built tent. The tent resembles Gerry's Yearround, but has a tunnel entrance at each side instead of an open end.

George Spiegal brought a flock of Cub Scouts and fought his way up the BEGINNER'S CLIMB as a demonstration for his charges. Sundry Cubs then scampered up said B.C. and so put the leader to shame that his adult assistants Wouldn't even tie-in.

With unusual things always coming in threes, we relate the observation of the rope of climbers crossing the Chris-Wex-Don, who had a balcony seat when a full-sized tree on the bank toppled into the stream a dozen feet from the rope. Nerves shattered, the climbers repaired to Tuohey's for his usual tonic, served with hamburgers and other sedatives.

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Art Lembeck

#### SENECA, West Virginia 30-31 May

		A		
The Adams Family	Don Hubbard		Carmen Torrey	r
Art Andraitis	Ruth Johnson	· · ·	Mary Vincent	
Bob Bruton	Bob Mole		Chuck Wettlin	ıg
Barbara & Karl Edler	Pete Peterson		> The Worrells	
Betsy Edler	Jim Shipley		Bruce Wald	
Ellen Fitzpatrick	Peg Smuck			
Jake Haun	Alan Talbert		· * 447	

The group was split between the camp grounds at Armentrauts and the Meadow at Spruce Knob.\*Quite remarkably, Chuck was again victorious over the Porsche team in the VIRGINIA ROAD RACE.

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Notable climbs of the weekend were the Soler Route by Jimmy, Chuck, and Jake and Thais by Jim and Jake. Art A. made his first lead - the lower Skyline, while Ruth and Alan climbed the Coxcomb Overhang, Gunsight to South Peak and the Lower Skyline.

Alan Talbert

\*(Apparently there was not much climbing done on this trip -- something about a party and eleven people in a two-man mountain tent. Ed.)

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#### BULL RUN, Virginia 13 June 1959

The Adams Family Laura Bingham Bob Bruton Kay & Hal Blinn Len Blinn Jack Doolan Karl & B arbara Edler Reinhard Ennulat Sam Goldin Walt Kuckes Dick Long Eric Mendelsohn Bob Mole Mike Nicholson Bobbie Neuhaus Peg Smuck Carmen Torrey Mary Vincent Bruce Wald The Worrells

## CUPIDS BOWER, Maryland 21 June 1959

Bob Adams & Family Laura Bingham Kay & Hal Blinn Len Blinn Bob Bruton Al De Mott Reinhard Ennulat Ellen Fitzpatrick Jake Haun Dave Horwitz & Family Betty Johnson Cousin Ruth J. Walt Kuckes Eric Mendelsohn Bob Mole Jane Showacre Peg Smuck Dr. Stimson (Stimmie) Bruce Wald The Worrells

The weekly Rock Climbers Reconnaisance and Cookout was held at Cupid's Bower. Before the climbers succumbed to the sunny weather and swimming, assaults were made on the Ph. D \* and Post Ph. D. climbs. As was appropriate on Fathers' Day, the daddies took the honors on the Post Ph. D. climb, with Bob Adams, Ed, and Dave Horwitz clawing their way up to the cheers of their off spring. Climbing enthusiasm then gave way to mid-afternoon languor, only to have group participation rebound to its peak when Blondie served a delicious picnic supper. All members having survived the multiple perils of windburn, sunburn, ropeburn, and heartburn, the outing was judged a complete success.

Dave Horwitz

## SUGAR LOAF, Maryland 28 June 1959

Don Hubbard Jake Haun Betty Johnson Carmen Torrey Dan Doody Bob Adams Chuck Wettling Al De Mott Joseph Faint Bob Mole M. Ellen Fitzpatrick Len Blinn Kay & Hal Blinn N ancy Mayland Art Andraitis Sam Goldin The Worrells Walt Kuckes Mary Vincent Mike Rosenheimer Philip Sidel The Worrells

This day was just too hot to do anything for most people, but there are always a few who manage to overcome the temperature.All the difficult climbs were at least tried. Ruth has suggested THE HATE JAKE CLIMB as a name for a new climb led by Jake of course. Write it up cousin and it's all yours.

Swimming at the Quarry was brightened considerably when a support party arrived carrying refreshments and those who were about to leave stayed on and One

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Sunday trips leave Howard Johnson's, Western and Wisconsin at 8:30 sharp. Bring lunch, water, and sneakers and you are ready to climb.

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SENECA, West Virginia	3-5 July 1959	
Detter Telever		
Betty Johnson	Al De Mott	Ellen Fitzpatrick
Art Lembeck	Phil Sidel	Sheri Poltser
Bob Bruton	Walt Kuckes	Arnold Wexler
Peggy Smuck	Carmen Torrey	Dick Smith
The Worrells	Jack Doolan	Jane Showacre
The Adams Family	Joe Faint	Jim & Donna Willard
Art Andraitis	Bob Mole	
Ted Schad	Allen Mole	

The weekend of July 4, (complete with No Work Day of July 3) gave us such idyllic weather conditions and rare perfection at Seneca Rocks that the UP ROPE spokesman can find little bizarre new that bears relating here -Except for a meager dozen who deserted to the depths of Mystic Cave ("So full of shapes ... that it alone is high fantastical ...W. Shakespeare) On Sunday, everyone spent a lovely three days on Seneca. Also, of course, there was swimming in the crystal clear river. ("This water's O.K. but I'm not getting my head under" --Art Lembeck)

Since there were no accidents to enliven these pages, hereafter is related The Story of Seneca's Creation, with a moral admonition at the conclusion.

Now, at the dawn of history's birth, When dieties still roamed the earth, Pa Zeus moved to West Virginnie, With his daughter, shy and skinny --Who soon grew up to be mountain belle (And the only girl in the hills, as well) And a-roving one day she met a swain And true affection found these twain, And in a manner not quite moral They gamboled there amidst the laurel.

But on this tryst old Zeus looked down. His brow contorted with a frown And belching fire, his rage he sang, (With proper West Virginia twang): "You're makin' free with my own daughter! I'll show you, man, you hadn't oughter." So Zeus, full caught in temper spasm Stomped his foot; a mighty chasm Y awned across the mountainside. He fetched his daughter, would-be-bride, And quick, before her beau could rally, Bewent with her down to the valley. But this young swain was undeterred Spanned the chasm like a bird. So Zeus had built a wall of rock, So grand, his jewels he had to hock To pay for labor by his satyrs, Install some private elevators, And deck it out for his own pleasure. Meanwhile with his little treasure Snickered smugly o'er his vict'ry, Heard her lover cursing bitt'rly, Pacing on the other side, Cnashing teeth with woe betide. Longing for his love sublime. Wildly he began to climb.

But, alas, forlorn was hope This swain climbed without a r

p e.

Peg Smuck

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#### FOUND

A pair of climbing boots were found at the Armentraut Campground the Weekend of July 11-12. Contact Ed & Blondie Worrell 1912 Tad caster Rd., Balto.282 ID 3-2874.

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