

FOUNDED BY
JAN AND HERB CONN

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

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COMING EVENTS

March 4-5 Cave trip led by Ted Schad. Ted wants to limit the size of the group to between 12 and 15 climbers who have had caving experience. Please call our Chairman, Harold Kramer, HA 2-7942; or Vice Chairman, Alan Talbert, PO 2-2611, for details.

12 CARDEROCK, Md.

19 CAMP LEWIS, Md.

26 POTHOLE, Va.

28 MARCH MEETING, Ken and Pim Karcher will present a Peru travelogue. The meeting will be at 8 p.m. and will be held at the Sterling Hendrick's, 1118 Dale Drive, Silver Springs.

Directions: Go out Colesville Road to Mrs. K's Toll House (Dale Drive), turn left--1118 is on the left at the bottom of the hill

April 2 CARDEROCK, Md.

The Mountaineering Committee meets each Sunday morning at Howard Johnson's restaurant, Western and Wisconsin Avenues, at 8 a.m. A note is left behind the southeast drainpipe so latecomers may know where we have gone should it be necessary to change the scheduled trip. There will usually be a Sunday trip on the out of town weekends. Please do not phone the restaurant for information.

TRIP REPORTS

CARDEROCK, February 5: Forecast, snow, and there was plenty. Thanks to a certain Johnny Adams, Al Klov Dahl encountered a veritable avalanche as he valiantly climbed the unnamed area between Ronnie's Leap and the Beginner's Crack. However, not all of the activity was concentrated on climbing. Alice Lane managed to recall enough Eskimo lore to construct an igloo; whether running through the snow in her bare feet has any connection with the ritual of snow-house building is a question we leave for her to answer. The Canal ice was not quite up to supporting Joe Nolte, as he found out to his frozen surprise.

Others braving the elements were: the Adams family, Al Barbour, Frank Herman, Harold Kramer, Chuck Wettling, Karl Edler, Alan Talbert, Bill Vetter, and four new climbers who hail from Germany--Dietlinde, Jutta, Suse, and Walle. Our apologies if anyone was left off the list, the only record of this trip exists on the back of a paper plate and was compiled after refreshing beverages at Tuohey's.

PURPLE HORSE, MD., February 12: Purple Horse hearts go to Harold Kramer, the four Adamses, Bob Mole, Chuck Wettling, the Als (Barbour and Klov Dahl), Joe Nolte, Bill Vetter, Frank Herman, Alice Lane, and Hardy Hargreaves and three of his four lively German wards, Suse, Dietlinde, and Walle. Nobody climbed the Barn Roof, but the Forty-Years-In-The-Wilderness trek proved a true test of fortitude. One surveyor lost a bet (Excuse: "We measure all directions from south."), and the trail-breaker, Joe Nolte, suspected, until the end, of false propheteering, lucked out and found the climbing site.

Abe's name came up only once, and the big birthday excitement was for Suse. Congratulations were in the form of a loaf of Geburtstagsbrot (score one for Bob Mole), and admonitions were gently administered by Johnny Adams.

The day was successfully terminated at Tuohey's with a unanimous vote not to look at anybody's slides.

AL

BOUCHER ROCK, VA., February 19: At breakfast we were treated to the first copy of the Nolte (the Hardware King) Mountaineering Equipment catalog. This illustrated booklet of vitally important mountain equipment will undoubtedly become a classic in its field.

Don Hubbard pioneered through the worst of a mud-to-the-navel trek both inbound and outbound from the climbing site. Prusiking and Bulgari rescue techniques were practised with a view to the forthcoming cave trip, and Karl Edler did some work with expansion bolts.

True to our experience at Tuohey's, a planned trip to Great Falls to view the falls by night remained just that.

The good-sized group included Harold Kramer, the Adams family, Ralph Havens---visiting the Adams from L. A., Bill Vetter, Jim Shipley, Mike Rosenheimer, Mike Kennedy, Chuck Wettling, Bob Mole, Al Barbour, Al Klov Dahl, Mr. Gaylord and sons, Frank Herman, and Alice Lane. Hardy Hargreaves managed to make it for breakfast.

WASHINGTON'S BIRTHDAY TRIP

Wednesday, Feb. 22: Six loyal climbing addicts paid a visit to Sugarloaf Mountain on this damp day.

From the top of the cliffs one could barely see the bottom through the fog, and an intermittent rain fell on us.

In spite of the meteorological hazards, Al Klov Dahl led Bill Vetter and Frank Herman on a team climb, and Al Barbour ascended two practice routes.

To cap the day's activities, Al Klov Dahl climbed the Butterfingers.

Where were the rest of you?

CRW

NEW YEARS AT MILES BURN CABIN

These two reports were submitted to reflect two long-debated versions of New Year's weekend. The participants finally have agreed to submit their versions.

Editor

PLATOON I: The Adams family, Bill Vetter, Al Klov Dahl, Joe Nolte.

Milesburn cabin may be a great place to go in the summer, but in the winter with a foot of snow on the ground it loses much of its appeal. This past New Year's weekend a small group went there with hopes of climbing on the nearby Hermitage Rocks. We had rumors that another contingent would also attempt to make the trip but were doubtful of their ability to succeed.

Bill, Al, and Joe were the first arrivals. They arrived at 1:30 Saturday after spending two hours in a fruitless search for White Rocks. Since no one else had arrived they left for Hermitage Rocks with the hope of doing a couple of climbs. Unfortunately, Hermitage Rocks were a mass of ice and snow and they returned to the cabin struggling over the "good weather route." On their return they found that the Adams family had arrived. This was most welcome, as Kate is a marvellous cook and they had all the food. New Year's Eve was spent listening to Bob Adams play his slide trombone--a rare treat--and trying to outwit the Adams family--card sharks all--at poker and blackjack. The New Year came, but those in the cabin snored through the event, having retired for the night about 10 p.m.

Most of the morning of January 1 was spent cutting firewood and cleaning the cabin. Before leaving for the Hermitage we decided, after a long debate over the propriety involved, to leave some food in case we couldn't get back to the cabin that night and some other luckless souls did make it to Milesburn.

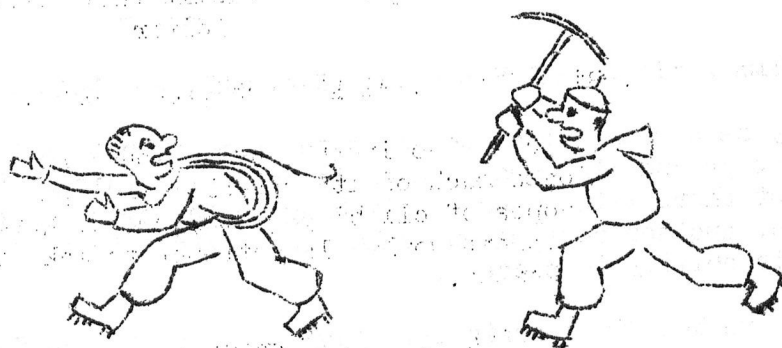
We surveyed Hermitage Rocks but they were even icier and colder than the day before and no successful climbs were made. Attempts to return to the cabin were abandoned due to the bad condition of the roads and the fact that we saw no other tracks leading into Milesburn. Assuming no one else had reached the cabin, and taking into consideration our generosity in leaving some food, we decided against hiking to the cabin and left for home.

JN

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PLATOON II: or Volkswagen Über Alles.

On the stroke of noon New Year's Day, Alice Lane, Frank Herman, and Chuck Wettling departed Washington in Chuck's VW sedan. As dusk was falling we put chains on the rear wheels and started up the last $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles of snow-covered road to the cabin. The inherent superiorities of VW design and construction soon manifested themselves and we slowly but uneventfully crunched our way up the hill. Upon arriving at Milesburn, we found nary a glimmer of light, but there was a note from the advance party stating that they were climbing at the Hermitage and would return, if possible. A couple of hours later, feeling like Mother Hubbard's hound, we partook of a stew brewed from cans of cream of asparagus soup and corned beef left behind by the advance section in lieu of the sumptuous banquet we had been led to expect. A beverage composed principally of hot water and gelatin served as dessert. The following morning's breakfast was more varied, consisting of chicken noodle soup, popcorn, cheese, figs, slim jims, string beans, and instant coffee. After replenishing the woodpile, we returned to Washington, stopping off at the Southern Restaurant in Frederick for a welcome supper.

CRW



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N. W., Washington 6, D. C.

Printer's Devils: Alice Lane, Chuck Wettling, Al Barbour, Joe Nolte.