



FOUNDED BY
JAN AND HERB CONN

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

1916 Sunderland Place N. W. Washington 6, D. C.

Volume XVI Number 4

April 1961

COMING EVENTS

April 2 CARDEROCK, MD.

9 GREAT FALLS, VA.

16 CUPID'S BOWER, MD.

23 ROCKS STATE PARK, MD.

APRIL MEETING AND SUPPER AT THE WORREL'S.

Directions for Rocks State Park: Take Washington-Baltimore Expressway and go on US 1 --Harbor Tunnel and Erdman Avenue-- to Bel Air, bear left on Maryland 24 and continue 8 miles to the park.

Directions for Ed and Blondie's: 1912 Tadcaster Road, Baltimore 28 (RI 4-5114) supper at 6:30, meeting at 7:30, Earl Mosburg is presenting a program on the Alps-1960. Please let the Worrels know by Friday, April 24 if you expect to be there.

1) From Washington via US 20: bear right 1 mile north of Maryland 100 on Ellicott City Road, go right at stop sign in Ellicott City, cross bridge and go right on Frederick Road (Maryland 144) two miles to Hilltop Place, right to Tadcaster Road, second road from Hilltop, right to 1912.

2) From Washington via Baltimore-Washington Expressway: take Baltimore Beltway north to Frederick Road, go west about 2 miles, turn left 100 yards past 5-oaks Pool and Candlelight Lodge on Hilltop Place, proceed as above.

29-30 DEVIL'S GARDEN, WOLFGAP SHELTER.

May 7 CARDEROCK, MD.

NOTE: On the evening of the 16 of April there will be a long awaited showing of Johnny Menehan's movies. The place will be announced later.

TRIP REPORTS

SUGARLOAF, February 26: One of the best weather days we had the pleasure to experience so far this year. Adventurous as ever, the climbers forsook their usual haunt by the stairs--no tourists to watch us anyway--and tried out the cliffs that run along the road at about the third level on the mountain. Chuck Wettling, Alice Lane, and Kate Adams did, however, visit the pinnacle by the stairs in order that Chuck could do a lead climb.

Don Hubbard undertook to instruct several young visitors from Montgomery Junior College in the fundamentals of rock climbing, and from all appearances they were quick to learn.

Betty Johnson spent most of the day rigging a rope ladder, and someone suggested that this might really be just an attempt to find an acceptable substitute for cloud watching. Nevertheless, she did get the ladder finished, and Bobby Adams gamely climbed it.

The day was marred by an accident in which Joe Nolte took a bad but fortunately, as we learned later, not serious fall. Last winter's first-aid course proved its value, and to be on the safe side Joe got an ambulance ride from the Hyattstown Volunteer Rescue Squad, which was summoned by a passing member of the Citizens' Mobile Radio organization.

It should also be noted that the Adams family made their first appearance with their Volkswagen Microbus, a vehicle immanently suited to such a roving family.

Other climbers were Al Klov Dahl, Johnny Abramson, the Nicholsons, Jim Shipley, Joe Fain, Frank Herman, Hardy Hargreaves, Hal Kremer, Alan Talbert, Al Barbour, Bill Vetter.

ANNUAL CAVING TRIP, March 4-5: With everybody watching for speed traps, the climbers-turned-cavers made their way down through Virginia to the N.S.S. cabin near Williamsville. Our valiant leader, Ted Schad, accompanied by John Meenehan, arrived early and cleaned up the cabin. Next to arrive were Bill Vetter, Betty Johnson, Jim Shipley, and myself, and a hasty scramble for the remaining bunks followed. The Adamses, Alice Lane, and Al Barbour arrived shortly after, and we all went to bed early. Group by group the rest of the climbers came in late at night and each succeeding group found themselves stepping over (and on) more and more sleeping bodies to look for less and less floor space. Chuck Wettling courageously decided to pitch his tent and sleep outside in the Arctic forty degree temperature. Karl Edler, who arrived at 4 a.m. and who must have known what he would find in the cabin, slept in his car.

Rising early Saturday morning, we had a quick two-hour breakfast before driving the short distance to Breathing Cave. After being photographed in our clean, unsoiled coveralls and multicolor hats, the mob descended the short snow-covered slope to the entrance of the cave.

Once inside the cave we divided into two groups. Ted Schad led one group into the old historic section of the cave; Jim Shipley, who had been in the cave on other occasions, led another group through the maze of passages to the back part of the cave. On the way out Shipley's group, which included Hal Kramer, Chuck Wettling, Karl Edler, Johnny Adams, Bill Vetter, and myself, met Ted's group made up of most of the rest of the people. Ted's group (at least those who didn't get lost) had finished exploring the historical section and was on its way to see the rest of the cave. The two groups and all the strays wandered out into the drizzling rain between 5 and 6 p.m. Although few would admit they had been lost in the maze-type cave, many did admit that they were "extremely puzzled."

Supper consisted of ham, sweet potatoes, and Johnny Meenehan's salad. The salad, consisting of everything from cashews to cooking oil, was the subject of much controversy while it was being "prepared" but the talk died out as most of the victims rushed back for seconds--even those who had watched John make it. Supper ended with some of Kate's delicious chocolate cake for dessert.

After supper the people in the kitchen listened to a concert given by Chuck Wettling (harmonica) and Bob Adams (trombone), while the others attended a meeting of the Cultural Committee in the living room. As usual, the Committee (Betty Johnson, Alan Talbert, and Jim Shipley) brought up many subjects, debated all of them, and decided nothing--I think. Before long, people started crawling into sleeping bags and in about two and a half minutes everybody was fast asleep.

After an early breakfast (before 11 a.m.) the cabin was cleaned and the long caravan of cars started off toward Sinnit Cave, which is located in West Virginia. At noon the long line of climbers filed into the dusty cave. To save time, Ted asked Jimmy, who had previously explored the cave, to lead the way to the Hall of the Mountain King. Jimmy managed to avoid all the side passages and dead ends in the multi-level cave and soon we reached our objective. This auditorium-sized room is thirty feet high, one hundred and fifty feet wide and eight hundred feet long. After exploring the huge room, we started slowly back toward the entrance. About 3 p.m. we entered the humid surface air, to be greeted by Frisky, who had been waiting outside the cave and who stayed at the entrance until the last member of the Adams family crawled safely out. More than one climber hoped that he could spend a whole day in Sinnit Cave sometime in the future. After cleaning up we started back toward Washington.

The trip back to Washington would have been uneventful had not Alan's Porsche stalled. Those climbers who were behind Alan (just about everyone, as usual) stopped to see what was wrong. It turned out that his fuel pump wasn't pumping enough fuel and Alan solved the problem, just as he had done on the way down, by connecting a rubber hose from the gas tank to the cockpit. Ruth Johnson, who was riding with Alan, then proceeded to blow air (via the hose) into the gas tank to provide enough pressure to force the fuel past the fuel pump into the carb. Anybody who has ever seen Alan drive realizes that it must have taken a great deal of blowing to provide fuel as fast as Alan uses it. We then continued on to Warrenton, where twelve of us stopped at the Frost Diner before proceeding the rest of the way home. By that time Chris Scoredos and sons and Karl Edler, who had gone on far ahead, were surely already home.

Thus ended the annual caving trip, and we are all looking forward to the one that Ted Schad is planning for next year. Not all of us, myself included, got a chance to thank Ted for leading this very enjoyable cave trip. But better late than never--thanks, Ted!

--Al Klovdehl

Editor: Hardy Hargreaves

Printer's Devils: Alice Lane, Chuck Wettling. Subscriptions: Send \$1.00 for 12 issues to the Editor, address on page 1.

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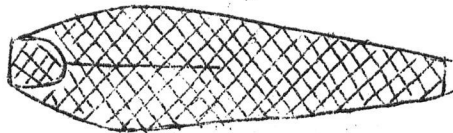
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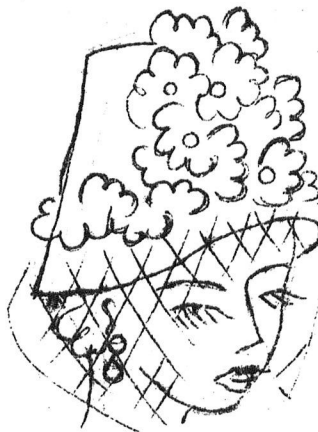
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Director, Research & Development: Bob Mole

CARDEROCK, March 12: Another fine pre-Spring day and the climbers were out in force, including a few we hadn't seen since the first snow fell. Art Lembeck, in Washington on business, was welcomed back by the old members and he and Peg Keester showed everyone that they were not at all rusty. Arnold Wexler, Hal Kramer, and Bob Adams--among others--gave considerable time to instructing beginners who included two newcomers, Shirley Holton and Polly Kromer. Chuck Wettling conquered the Swayback Layback while Hardy Hargreaves and Betty Johnson groaned chimneying Buckets of Blood. Not all of the day was given up to climbing and German songs courtesy of Dietlinde and Suse wafted through the air while Peggy Bruton, Betty Johnson, and Walle played delightful old tunes on recorders.

Other participants included Al Demot--who has departed for two years duty at the American Consulate at Port-of-Spain, Trinidad--Joe Nolte, Al Klov Dahl, Alice Lane, Kate and Bobby Adams--Johnny is still chasing golf balls--Johnny Abramson, Joe Fain, the Brutons, Mike Nicholson, Alan Talbert, Al Barbour, and Carmen Torrey.

CAMP LEWIS, March 19: Though still reeling under last week's shock, that Johnny Adams had renounced climbing in favor of work--picking up golf balls--the climbers had yet another to face this Sunday. A somewhat saddened Adams family trooped glumly in behind Chuck Wettling announcing that their jaunty VW bus had quit cold. Alan Talbert hopefully assured them that such things "fix themselves" in a VW.

The expedition of the week was to Camp Lewis, where the major problem of the forenoon was discouraging the "we-know-enough-to-go-in-out-of-the-rain" crew from doing just that. Along about noon a ray of sunshine brightened prospects. Art Lembeck, Joe Nolte, and Alan worked on an as-far-as they-knew unclimbed face a little way upstream, while Al Klov Dahl, swung from the near-by grapevines outdistancing them all.

Betty Johnson, Arnold Wexler, and others concerned themselves with the latest beginners, Shirley Holton and Dick Robinson, and checked out John Ackerman on belaying. Chuck Wettling, Bob Mole and Bill Wetter spent a lot of time falling off the East Face. Bob Adams, Joe Fain, and Hal Kramer made it, though it took a lot of effort. There to cheer were Peg Keester, Kate and Bobby Adams, and Alice Lane.

To conclude the day Arnold Wexler threw a delightfully refined post-Touhey's party, even extending his welcome to a few delinquent climbers who didn't quite make it out to the site that day.

UP ROPE and all the Mountaineering Committee extend congratulations to Sterling Hendricks and Bob Adams for honors they have recently received.

Sterling is one of six outstanding career civil servants who have been selected to receive the 1960-61 Rockefeller Public Service Award.

Bob has just been made a Fellow of the Institute of Radio Engineers in recognition of his work in Navy research and development.