

FOUNDED BY  
JAN AND HERB CONN

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

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### COMING EVENTS

May 7 CARDEROCK, Md., Belay practice with Oscar.

14 BULL RUN MOUNTAIN, Va.

21 THURMONT, Md., Climbing permitted on Wolf Rock but not on Chimney Rock.

27-30 CHAMPE ROCKS, West Va.

Directions: Assemble at the triangle at Seneca, West Virginia, at 9 a.m. Saturday for departure to Champe Rocks. Drive 5 miles north towards Petersburg. Park on highway just before reaching dirt road leading to a farm house on the right. Walk east to the river along the dirt road and past the farm house. Turn left near the river; go north until an open pasture is reached; cross river at this point and walk through the meadow to the climbing area.

NOTE: Most climbs at Champe Rocks are difficult and loose rocks and snakes may be encountered.

For further information contact the trip leader, Mike Nicholson (UNION 4-9025) or Harold Kramer (HARRISON 2-7942).

June 4 CARDEROCK, Md.

MAY CLIMBER'S MEETING -- Tuesday, May 23, 8 p.m.

The program will be to Antarctica via Hawaii and New Zealand with pictures and commentary by Larry Lepley. The May meeting will be at the home of Dr. and Mrs. Francis Silsbee, 2620 Quebec St., N.W., Washington, phone WO 6-3457. DIRECTIONS: From the intersection of Connecticut, Porter, and Quebec, go east on Quebec, 2620 is the last house. Park uphill near the bend in the street so that the driveway is not blocked.

TRIP REPORTSPOTHOLES, Virginia, March 24.

A somewhat windy and cool day, but the intrepid climbers were out in sufficient force to tempt the icy fingers of the rain and snow swollen Potomac. We won. Those present were the Adams family (we are getting used to only three), Alice Lane (with a new fashion in patched glasses---taped like a window), Chuck Wettling, Joe Fain, Al Barbour, Hal Kramer, Hardy Hargreaves, Walle, Suse, Jutta, Arnold Wexler, Mike Nicholson, Karl Edler, the Brutons, Ruth Johnson, John Broom, Tom Marshall, Ed and Bob Goodman, Marty Maricle, and Fred Barker.

CARDEROCK, Maryland, April 2.

A full Easter Sunday including that intrepid member of the climbing committee, Oscar. Chris Scoredos rigged up an Alpine traverse which proved to be quite a test, especially for the ladies -- it must have something to do with weight distribution. Hal Kramer, the Adamses, Chuck Wettling, Jim Shipley, Marty Maricle, Alice Lane, Rod Sterling, Betty Johnson, Merv Oleson, Joe Nolte, the Worrells, Mary Vincett, Hardy Hargreaves, John Spillane (no, he isn't -- we asked), Dave Varmette, Ed Goodman, and Arnold Wexler were out to enjoy the spring air and the climbing, of course.

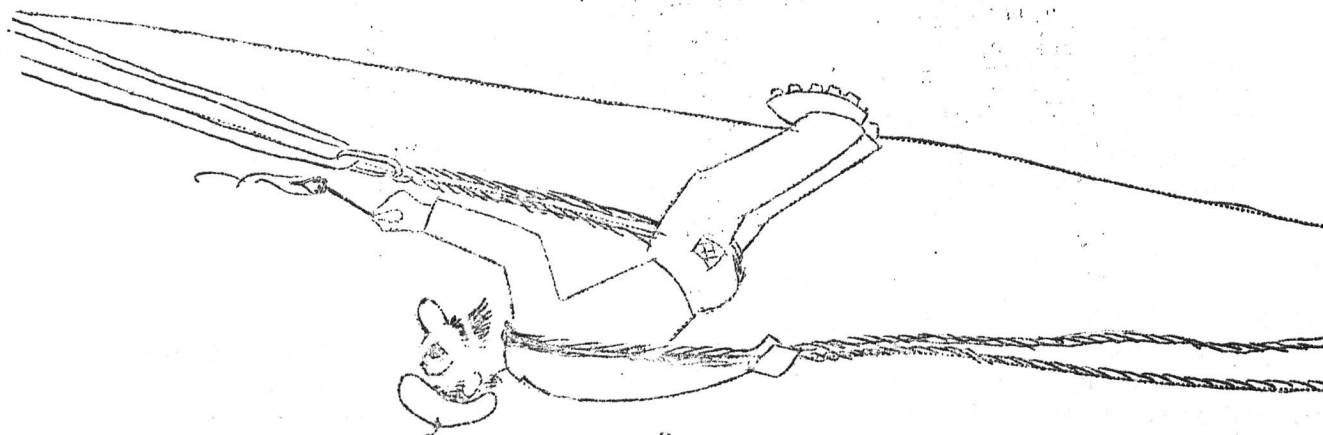
GREAT FALLS, Virginia, April 9.

A somewhat rainy Sunday, but not quite damp enough to keep Jimmy Shipley from conquering the Armbuster. ~~Walle's~~ Ladder was besieged by numerous climbers and, of course, Bob Adams had no particular difficulty, but Kate Adams and Hardy Hargreaves were chagrined when Walle Schwarz achieved success after their failures. Alan Talbert, Alice Lane, Chuck Wettling, Joe Fain, Al Barbour, Hal Kramer, Dietlinde, Suse, Joe Nolte, Al Klov Dahl, Arnold Wexler, Bob Mole, and Ben Johnson also braved the misty winds.

LETTERSTO THE EDITOR:

Just before the summer 1960 climbing trip I inherited I inherited remnants of a surplus parachute. Included were a good many yards of flat  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch wide strap of tubular construction which looked just like the nylon straps I have seen employed by other climbers as slings. This strap seemed ideal

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for use with descending rings for rappel points to be used once and then abandoned.

Subsequently, I left slings made of this parachute material on several peaks of the Bugaboos in British Columbia, possibly on Devil's Tower in Wyoming, and on Shiprock in New Mexico. After Shiprock I happened to apply a match to a piece of the parachute strap. It was not nylon, it burned, it did not melt.

The moral of the story is never assume that sling material purchased at a surplus store is nylon until it is tested. It is dangerous to leave material that looks like nylon where others, relying on nylon's resistance to weathering, may use it. Similarly, do not trust the sling you find on the rocks, even though it appears to be nylon and seems to be nearly new.

Sincerely,  
Alan J. Talbert



LOOK! HE TOOK A SWIG  
OF YOUR COFFEE,  
CHUCK.

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Readers of Up Rope continue to suggest articles ranging from descriptions of climbing areas to how to back-pack a baby. We would be only too glad to publish these. How about sending some articles to Up Rope!

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EDITOR: Hardy Hargreaves

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

SUBSCRIPTIONS: Send one dollar for twelve issues to the Editor, address on page one.