

FOUNDED BY
JAN AND HERB CONN

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

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

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March 1962

COMING EVENTS

March 4 CARDEROCK, Md.

11 Great Falls, Va.

16-18 SHAEFFER'S ROCKS, Pa (HERMITAGE):

Bring your own lunches. To sign up for Saturday breakfast and dinner and Sunday breakfast contact Ed Worrell by Thursday March 15. Phone RIt 5111--Baltimore--or write to 1912 Tadcaster Road, Baltimore 28, Md.

25 PURPLE HORSE and SPITZBERGEN, Md.

APRIL 1 CARDEROCK, Md.

MARCH MEETING: Sunday, March 25

7:30 pm at the PATC Clubhouse

The Worrells-Mt. Owens and Miscellany

NOTE: Other photographers, plan to show your previously unexhibited local pictures at the meeting.

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The Harper's Ferry Expedition

authorized chronicle

January 14, 1962

The farewells were brief as seventeen set forth on the week's epoch-making trek.

Chuck: How are you this morning, Don?

Don: Oh, no, I can't possibly go with you. You see, I promised Pete...

(Harper's Ferry, Cont.)

As with most major expeditions, even the start had its setbacks. Legal and financial difficulties had to be overcome.

Ed Goodman: Yes, officer, I know I went through a red light. I was just trying to keep up with...

Montgomery County Cop: That'll be \$11.45.

But the party kept moving, despite the failure of some essential equipment.

Bob Adams: We'll just have to park it here until...

Ron : Okay, pile in. But Penny has to sit in back.

Faster setting up base camp there was a little lightheaded relaxation.

Johnny Adams: It's a good half inch thick.

Bob Mole: I'll get my skates.

Kate: (already skimming) You're it!

The food enjoyed by the group was generally good, and no beverage stronger than coffee was needed.

Al Barbour: Trade you three sardines for a piece of cheese.

Alice: No, but I'll give you a vienna sausage for some of that tomato-soup-garnished tea that Bob Adams gave you.

Chuck: Anybody want a slim jim?

The assault on ~~Santa Placida~~ was first accomplished by a team led by Sir Robert Adams.

Betty: Do you mind if I use your knee as a hand-hold?

Bob: Just step to the rear so we can get the fifth man on top.

The triumphant party then placed a register (kodachrome can) on the summit and inscribed their names therein.

The peak was later reached by a second party under Chuck Wettling while Sir Robert pioneered a new route up the West Wall.

Several varieties of big game were seen. Capricornus gone-wild-us was identified, as well as a number of enormous specimens of American Locomotive.

The return to Washington was made in easy stages, with a testimonial banquet at the Dan Dee Motel near Frederick.

Members of the 1962 expedition were:

| | |
|-------------------------|--|
| Bob Adams and adherents | Mary Vincett |
| Chuck Wettling | Mary Lou something |
| Al Barbour | Bill something (a different something) |
| Arnold Wexler | Bob Mole |
| Marty Maricle | Betty Johnson |
| Christl Scherer | Ron Bell |
| Ed Goodman | and me, Alice Lane. |

CAVING 27-28-January-1962

After weeks of speculation and argument on the feasibility of lowering people into a deep cave and then hauling them out again, eleven of us turned out to test our theories. With 200 feet of 5/8 inch manila rope, a parachute harness and the Oscar pulley, we met at Harper's Cave near Riverton, West Virginia. The lowering procedure was extremely easy and efficient and was enjoyed by all. The last ravel, however, rappelled on a single strand of the manila rope, which was left along with the nylon belay rope to enable the first two out of the cave to prusik up. Once two were on top the remaining people were hauled out with increasing ease and rapidity as more manpower was available for each remaining "gang." It was quite a ride.

From the landing point in Harper's Cave we descended a 25-foot overhang on the cable ladder to a lower level where we ate lunch and explored the various side passages. Lack of time prevented extensive explorations.

After a comfortable night at Hendrick's Motel and breakfast at their 4-4 Restaurant we headed for Hellhole Cave. While Ron Bell, Bob Mole, Bob Adams, and Karl Edler went on to rig the ropes, the rest of us--Kate, Johnny and Bobby Adams, Ursel Wertz, Brigitte Schrade, Alice Lane, Penny, and I--stopped for a quick tour of the entrance rooms of Schoolhouse cave.

Upon arriving at Hellhole it was evident that time would prevent everyone from getting into the cave, so Bob Mole, Brigitte, Ursel, and I left for Russell's Cave. Russell's turned out to be a small but extremely beautiful cave, consisting of one main passage at a depth of about 40 feet. We used the ladder for the first 25 feet although, with a belay, it would not be a difficult climb. The main passage extends in both directions from the entrance and is decorated with an abundance of fine formations. At the extreme southern end are several rooms with column clusters in them and a deep well. We did not venture beyond the well but understand that the cave doesn't go much further.

Returning to the restaurant, we had dinner and awaited the return of the Hellhole gang.

Al Barbour

* * * * *

HELLHOLE, January 28, 1962

Bob and Johnny Adams, Alice Lane, Karl Edler, Ron Bell:

Our original plan to go into Hellhole with a large party, using our previously successful pull-out system, proved to be impractical upon examination of the complex entrance. It was decided instead to split the party leaving only five to go in.

We scrambled down the 70 feet from the East entrance hole to the ledge which is a thin-shelled remainder of the vaulted roof of the entrance room. From this point on it is only 110 feet to the cave floor and a good tie-in is available for the rappal rope. The descent from this scenic point went quickly with the aid of a parachute harness and the Nicholi Device brake bar-- both of which functioned well. After a cursory inspection of the entrance room periphery and the two radiating passages, we settled for the North

Hell Hole (continued) . . . passage for our main effort and quickly found our way to its end. All of us were impressed with the massiveness of the chambers, the vertical distances above and below the main level, and the bridge across a deep chasm some 200 feet from the passage entrance. Numerous comments were also passed concerning the consistency of the floor covering, particularly on the steep descent from the far end of the passage. We will call it the Glamo Glissade.

Prusiking out was accomplished without incident. But it was slow, hard work, and a cold night had fallen by the time the last head appeared over the top ledge. It was a happy group that then adjourned to Hedrick's Restaurant for supper and a chance to tell the rest of the party how greatly we were impressed with Hell Hole.

-- R. B. --

CARDEROCK, February 3, 1962

| | |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Ed Worrell & family | Al Klov Dahl |
| Bob, Kate, Bobby Adams | Dill Keasbey |
| Ron Bell | Merv Olsen |
| Betty Johnson | Arnold Wexler |
| Al Barbour | Ben, Marie, Peter, Marie, Jeffrey |
| Bob Mole | Beck |
| Alice Lane | Bill Smith |
| Marty Maricle | Dave Horwitz & children |
| Karl, Fritz Edler | |

This warm February day fooled many people into thinking that spring had arrived. A large party of skaters (later climbers) was not fooled and enjoyed themselves on the ice. A major feature of the day was a partial reinstatement of Oscar, using a new technique and thus allowing some dynamic belay practice which has been missed for several months. Among other desultory climbing, an unsuccessful instruction period was held at the Jambox.

Ed W

GREAT FALLS, MARYLAND, February 11, 1962

| | | |
|------------------------|---------------|------------|
| Ed Worrell | Don Hubbard | Bob Mole |
| Bob, Kate, Bobby Adams | Ron Bell | Al Barbour |
| Arnold Wexler | Betty Johnson | Karl Edler |
| Christl Scherer | | |

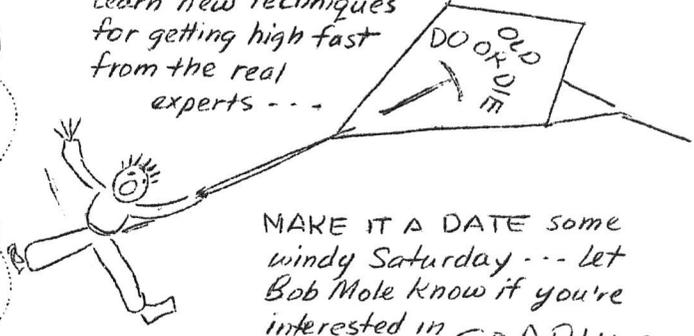
This week winter returned. Climbing began while the skaters located suitable ponds and Don hunted for ice climbing. The climbing consisted of the lunch face and the red overhang, followed in the afternoon by ascents of the corner on the next outcrop west overlooking the skaters pond and an easy chimney close by. The climbing was interrupted by ice axe belay practice on a pond. A crampon-cled climber would tow a hapless member across the ice, and this poor person would attempt to stop himself with the ice axe. Thanks to Don Hubbard for this fine ice practice.

Ed W

a CHALLENGE for the month

COME FLY YOUR KITE WITH THE PATC CLIMBERS!

Learn new techniques for getting high fast from the real experts - - -



MAKE IT A DATE some windy Saturday - - - let Bob Mole know if you're interested in SOARING

The PATC equipment shelves are stocked with a number of items of interest to climbers. Some of them are:

- Ice screw pitons \$1
- Chrome-moly welded angles 75¢
- Army surplus snow goggles 35¢
- Rubberized bags: large 95¢
- small 20¢
- G.I. can openers 10¢
- Etrier steps 45¢
- Books, all \$1 each:
 - Belaying the Leader
 - Fundamentals of Rock Climbing
 - Knots for Mountaineering
- Also various dehydrated foods

Dear Editor:

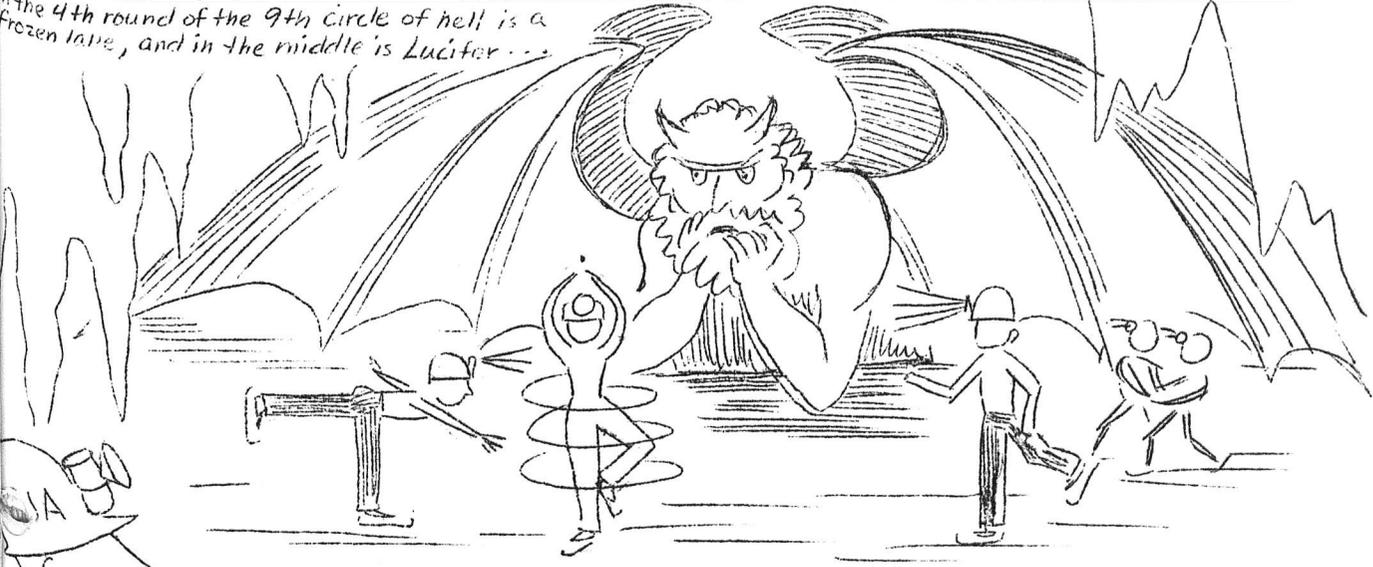
Once upon a time I had cold, wet feet. So I sat by the fire to warm them. I seemed to be a LONG way from the fire. Suddenly my big toe grew hot. I took off my boot. My toe cooled; so did the boot. When I put the boot back on, it pinched. This didn't get any better when I got it wet again. Two days later the shoemaker told me that there was no way to stretch the boot back to fit the foot.

Yours truly,

P. S. If you hear of anyone who takes size 7 on the left foot and 5 on the right, I have a fine pair of boots to sell CHEAP.



In the 4th round of the 9th circle of hell is a frozen lake, and in the middle is Lucifer...



"EVEN ON A CAVE TRIP THEY BRING ICE SKATES. THIS IS THE PROPER PLACE FOR ICE SKATERS - BUT SHOULD THEY ENJOY IT SO MUCH?"