

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

Volume XVII Number 4

April 1962

COMING EVENTS

- April 1 CARDEROCK, Md.
- 8 GREAT FALLS, Va., Fish Ladder area, park in the park.
- 15 RANGEVIEW CABIN, Northern Section of Shenandoah Park, Va. There will be climbing at Little Devil's Stairs and Big Devil's Stairs.
Contact Ed Worrell, RI4-5114 (Baltimore); or
Al Klovdahl, EV4-1712.
- 22 CUPID'S BOWER, Md.
- 29 WOLF ROCK, THURMONT, Md., NOTE: Parking is allowed only at the established parking areas at the end of trails. The Park Service has informed the Trail Club that they will prosecute anyone who parks on the road shoulders. This will mean at least a forfeiture of collateral and a session in federal court for violators of this regulation.
- May 6 CARDEROCK, Md.

APRIL MEETING, Sunday, April 22 at 8 p.m. at the PATC Clubhouse. The speaker will be Larry Lepley. His subject will be Along the Antartic Coast (with a diversion through the New Zealand Alps).

EDITOR'S NOTE: There may or may not be an UP ROPE published next month as your friendly editor is going to be on an extended journey which will include taking a wife. There will be, my faithful staff assures me, at least a schedule for the local climbers and if there is no May issue we will put out a double May-June issue.

A NON-CLIMBER'S GUIDE TO MOUNTAINEERING

For more than a century an aura of adventure has surrounded mountaineering. Newspaper accounts of the conquest of a great peak, books full of carefully exaggerated understatement embellished with photographs emphasizing dizzying perspectives, cigarette ads showing a virile mountaineer--all these have moulded a glamorous impression of mountaineering for the public. To be a mountaineer or a rock climber--the difference is not clear to the layman--is indeed to be a man of distinction.

A series of mountain pictures plus that treasure of treasures the ice ax--hanging on a wall at a casual angle--can give an apartment a rare atmosphere. Pictures of yourself in a Tyrolean hat, lug-soled boots, a coil over one shoulder, and odd bits of hardware dangling from your belt bring you the prestige and respect due a real mountaineer--fine sounding word that! Best of all, by a little study you can acquire the jargon of mountaineering and never be tripped up. The general public will never know that you are a phoney.

You may consider it simpler to be a real climber. This is muddled thinking! The glamour of climbing is not real, in truth it is painful, dirty, hard work. You finish a climb breathless, exhausted; suffering from abrasions, contusions, and muscular spasms. Worst of all your carefully built image of casual jauntiness is destroyed as your clothes are soon torn and mud stained. DON'T CLIMB! However, with care, you can associate with real climbers. Here again you are perfectly safe. Real climbers do not look the part. With their ragged clothes and worn old sneakers, you need never worry about losing your girl to one of them. Anyway, they are so concerned with their climbs that they seldom notice girls, unless they are good climbers. Furthermore, they are sincere, wild-eyed fanatics about their sport and cannot conceive of such a thing as a bogus rock-climber or mountaineer.

But, Beware--like a child who will offer you the taste of their sticky dirty lollipop--they will in sincere good will offer you the opportunity of climbing. Here is a crisis and fast thinking is required. The best ploy is to accept, but before tying in to the safety rope ask a simple question about equipment or technique. You will benefit by a fine lecture with a demonstration. A nearby climber will overhear some of this and drift into the conversation. Since his method differs somewhat from climber number one's, he will be glad to set you straight. The two real climbers soon become involved in a discussion that brings the rest of the climbers gathering about to express their opinions. When you are tired of listening you quietly walk away--you have avoided having actually to make a climb.

Another ploy is to learn the name of a difficult climb nearby. When offered a rope to tie in to you pretend interest but say

(Non-Climbing, Continued) that you are really saving your strength for that difficult "climb X" later. Then stay away from "climb X."

Excuses are lame--out of shape, wrong shoes, etc.-- and lies are always dangerous. Instead use ingenuity in devising stratagems and you can associate with climbers in perfect safety and comfort.

Neither the expert nor the layman can penetrate your perfect pretense but another non-climber can. However, he won't expose you as he is equally vulnerable. Be a non-climber, you are safe, you will enjoy prestige, status, and glamour among your peer group, and will experience no loss of comfort in the process.

- Bobbik Lelfw

Ed Worrell's Chronicle:

February 18, Echo Cliffs, Virginia.

Bob, Bobby, Kate Adams	Alice Lane
Ron Bell	Marty Maricle
Anne Braithwaite	Bob Mole
Jim Fox	Marlin Rickey
Betty Johson	Mike West
Karl and Barbara Edler	Arnold Wexler
Al Klovdahl	Worrell family
Marian Kniesner	

We descended on Echo Cliffs this relatively warm day to find much snow and no sun; while Spitzbergen across the river was dry and sunny. The Cow's Hoof, Socrate's Downfall, and an inside corner to the north were the major areas of activity. Bobby obligingly covered the climbs with smoke.

* * * * *

March 4, Carderock, Maryland.

Adams family	Joe Faint	Jim Shipley
Al Barbour	Lois Holtgren	Marlene and Walter Snyder
Fred Barker	Betty Johnson	
Beck family	Al Klovdahl	Harold Swift
Ron Bell	Alice Lane	Pete Tourin
Barry Bishop	Bob Mole	Worrell family
Peter Buck	Mike Nicholson	
Wayne Dutton	Merv Oleson	
Edler family	Larry, Joan and Kevin Lepley	

A large turnout and warm weather resulted in an enjoyable climbing day. The edge face by the Swayback Layback was ascended thrice. Except for the ascents of Jimmie's Climb the author is unaware of other notable climbing. A session of dynamic belaying as held with the improvised Oscar.

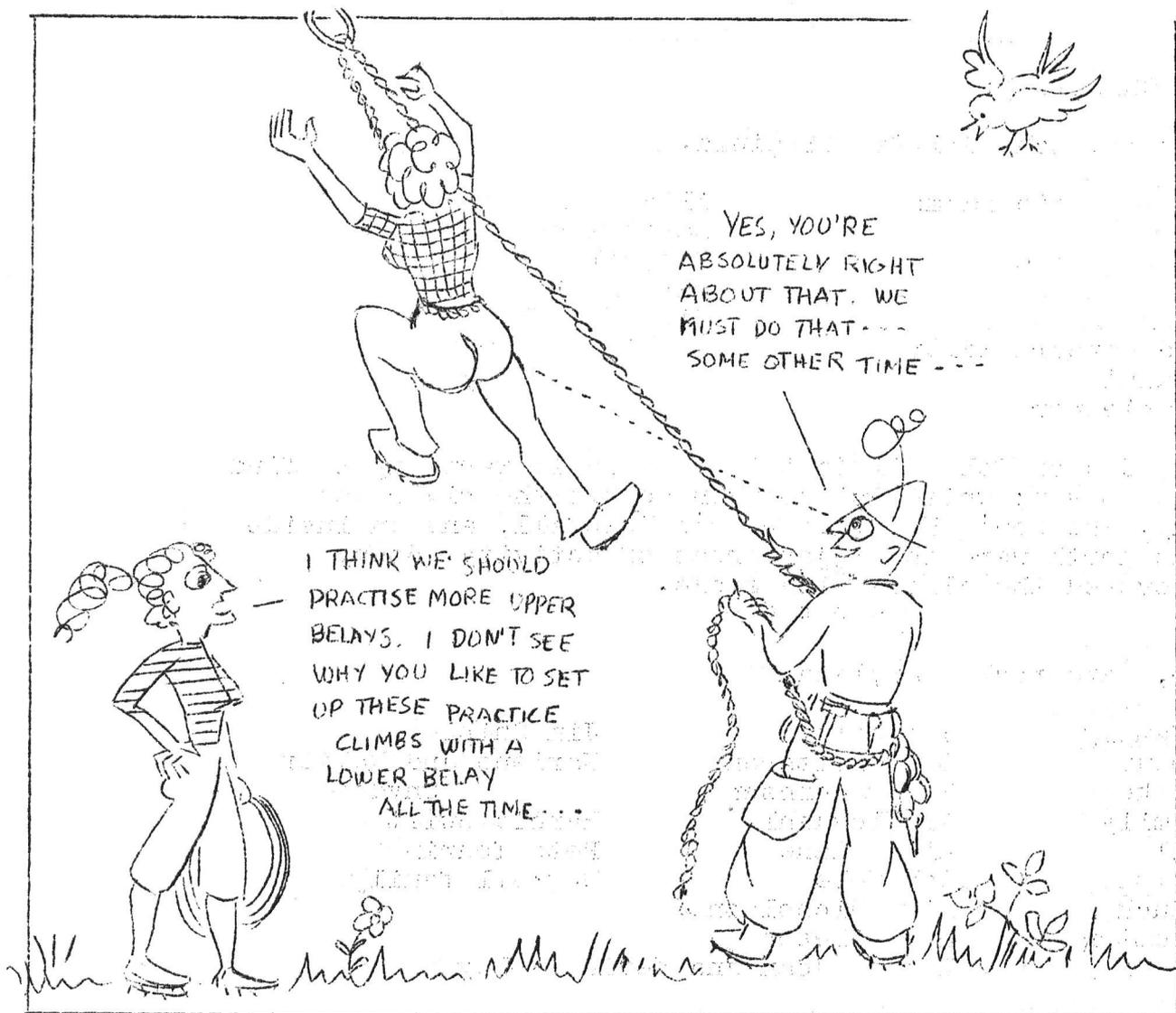
(Worrell's Chronicle, Continued)

March 11, Corkscrew Area, Great Falls, Virginia.

Don Hubbard (breakfast)
 Adam's family
 Al Barbour
 Ron Bell
 Karl Edler
 Betty Johnson

Lepley family
 Marty Maricle
 Bob Mole
 Scott Snow
 Arnold Wexler
 Ed Worrell

A very nice day for climbing that was only a little cool. The Corkscrew, its righthand skyline, the balance face, the Bloody Clutch, an exposed overhang, and an inside corner occupied the climbers. A difficult, slightly overhanging crack-face was tried with promise but no success.



EDITOR: Hardy Hargreaves

SUBSCRIPTIONS: Send one dollar to the editor at the PATC Club-house, address on page one, for a year's subscription to UP ROPE.