

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 XVII Number 7

July 1962

COMING EVENTS

- July 15 GREAT FALLS, Va. Fish Ladder Ave.
22 SUGAR LOAF MOUNTAIN, Md.
28 and 29 OLD RAG MOUNTAIN, Va. Camping at the lower shelter.
- Aug. 5 CARDEROCK, Md.
12 SENECA ROCK, W. Va. Camping at Spruce Knob or the Pavillion.
19 BULL RUN MOUNTAIN, Va.
26 WOLF ROCK, Thurmont, Md.
- Sept. 1, 2, and 3 SENECA ROCKS, W. Va. Camping at Spruce Knob or the Pavillion.
9 CARDEROCK, Md.

The Mountaineering Committee meets each Sunday morning at the Howard Johnson at Western and Wisconsin Avenues, fairly promptly at 8 a.m. Bring Lunch, water, tennis shoes for climbing, and your bathing suit. A note is left behind the southeast drainpipe so latecomers may find out where we have gone. There will usually be a Sunday trip on out-of-town weekends. The ideal time for beginners to join the group is on Carderock Sundays.

TRIP REPORTS!

June 3 -- Most active local climbers met at Howard Johnson's on Sunday, June 3, for refreshment before a day of climbing at Carderock. A few of us ate a dismal mixture of cereal and dehydrated dates (testing) at the fairground, Mouth of Seneca, West Virginia.

The morning was threatening and overcast after a torrential night rain and provided deviationists Alice Lane and the Edlers with a fine excuse for not climbing at all. Nevertheless, Alice, Karl, Barbara, Fritz, and Hilde (in a Sport-O-Babe carrier) panted through rain-soaked laurel and smilax to the bottom of the "Old Man's Route". With Alice leading, the crew emerged at the top of the climb to give Hilde (21 months) some kind of record. Fritz, 8 years, came in for some exultant back-pounding because he managed, mostly unassisted, to climb with a broken and splinted left forefinger.

On Saturday, the day before, Karl and Alice had traversed the Skyline from the valley to the Gunsight via the Coxcomb Overhang, under a brilliant sun. Sayre and Jean Rodman, Barry Bishop, and several others performed on the Old Man's Route while Joe Faint and John Kerr raced up various airy cracks. Saturday evening was spent in a successful search for home-made butter to complement a meal of steak and dried vegetables (still testing).

It would be hard to decide whether the cold swim after the hot Saturday climb or the fine meal at Hedrick's after the damp Sunday scramble highlighted the deviationist weekend.

K. E.

June 9 - 10 -- "Just like Schoolhouse but not so scary"

The long-awaited Ted Schad Cave Trip of 1962 finally materialized on the weekend of June 9, with four cars of intrepid adventurers setting forth to the distant reaches of Virginia and the little-known village of Low Moor (alias Lamar). Ted was truly prophetic when he described the camping area at the cave and then recommended that we sleep "elsewhere". Despite many trials Betty and Ron joined forces with the three Adamses for a civilized breakfast in Clifton Forge. Then back into the wilderness. Shortly thereafter this group was joined by Ted, John Meenehan and "Ackey", and finally by Arnold, Marty, and Lois.

The cave entrance is halfway up the hill, nearly concealed by luxuriant vegetation -- mostly Poison Ivy. The cave itself is thoroughly enjoyable, reasonably dry and adapted to walking, though a few crawlways were noted. At the very end of things, Ackey and Bob explored a series of parallel horizontal crevices that were separated by very tight passageways sloping down at 45 degrees.

Emerging from the cave, we wandered through the adjacent limestone quarry. Much of the mountain has been removed, leaving a chain of dimly-lit rooms, high and spacious.

Ackey knew of a wonderful place to swim in the Cow Pasture River, underneath a bridge on Highway 12. After cleaning up we camped in the George Washington Forest. The more conservative members of the party had supper and went to bed early. But another element was observed singing and climbing trees by the light of the moon.

Herbie's Horror, although still a nice little excersize for the balance artists and a literal pain to the pull-uppers, has had to be downgraded. Alice made it on the first go-round. Soon, we anticipate, the only Horror that counts will be a controlled descent of the face, a trick that Al Klovdahl has come tantalizingly near to turning.

Lunch break was cheered with the appearance of several familiar faces from far-off places, including Earl and Edwinnie Reed and Jim and Donna Willard, both with offspring.

It's only fair to warn strangers that a new diversion has appeared. It's all the rage now to learn to drive a VW, with lessons going only to the Persistent, coming only from the Brave. Anyone planning to park in the lot right behind Carderock might think twice.

After the tea-tipping and sugaring-down was concluded at Tuohey's, ten die-hards went on to Glen Echo for a little guts practice. The roller coaster is recommended for leaders who wonder how it feels to fall from 30 feet above his last piton. The centrifuge is not recommended for anything. But bump-um cars showed fine possibilities for the driver-training contingent's running-the-rush lesson. Only Bob Adams looked bored; no cops.

Incidentally, it might interest some of the ladies to know that not one of the men could get beyond the "sissy" category in grip-testing without pointers from Chuck. The Kiss-O-Meters were all out of order.

A L

Wednesday, JULY FOURTH! -- Though there was a lot of talk about a day trip, things never did get organized, with the result that several climbing areas were honored by skeleton crews of climbers in attendance. Cupid's Bower peace was disturbed by groans and sighs as Alice, Chuck, and Harold Kramer furthered their educations. Carderock, meanwhile, sported Al Klovdahl, Betty Johnson, and Ron Bell hanging from the rocks. Any more splinter groups care to report in?

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

29 June 62

Dear Hardy:

The readers of Up Rope should be informed of the chrome-moly piton failure described in the June, 1962, issue of SUMMIT. While Doody, the author of the article, confines himself to discussion of a Gerry angle piton, it seems that we will have to regard all chrome moly with suspicion until more information can be obtained on tempering and standards for hardness. Effective immediately, the Gerry Chrome Molybdenum pitons will not be sold at PATC headquarters until a safe standard for ductility has been set and the pitons can be properly tested. In the meantime, I am contacting Gerry re his offer to refund or retemper the pitons. Club members may get in touch with me for more information.

Karl Edler, Chm.
Camping Equipment Committee

Ron Bell has issued an invitation (interpreted by some as a challenge, by others as a regrettable symptom) to anyone interested (able?) to walk up the stairs on the inside of the Washington Monument of an evening. Ron estimates that the first ascent will take 9 minutes, the descent 5. Followed immediately, of course, by a second ascent at the more liesurely pace of 11 minutes. The monument, as noted in the May issue of SUMMIT, is 555 feet 5 1/8 inches tall. Its exterior remains the last unsolved problem of mountaineering in the East, much to the relief of the Park Police.

Bob Adams recommends the following excercise for fitness: Lie on your back and breathe.

A. K. Lovedoll has solved the backpacking problem: Lady Sherpas. Mr. Lovedoll was very specific about the plural form.

SENECA TRIP

Mouth of Seneca, West Virginia, July 7 - 8

- | | | | |
|----------------------------|---------------|----------------|-----------------|
| Bob Adams | Joe Nolte | Arnold Wexler | Christl Scherer |
| Kate Adams | Ron Bell | Marty Maricle | Alice Lane |
| Bobby Adams | Betty Johnson | Jean McKeithan | Michael _____ |
| Larry Fowler | | Frank Sauber | Danny _____ |
| Bill Allnutt and 2 friends | | Bob Mole | Chuck Wettling |

Saturday was a pleasant day and there were people and blueberries all over the rocks.

Bob, Kate, and Bobby were on the Breakneck; Ron and Betty preceded Arnold and Marty up from Gunsight Notch to South Peak; Joe and Bill traded leads on the Coxcomb Overhang and No Dally Alley; and Alice led Chuck and Bob Mole up the Old Man's Route and down the rappel off the Griffon's Beak.

After supper, those who had excess energy called on the Pittsburgers at their home in the hills and then traipsed off to the outdoor dance in Harman.

Sunday found Bob and Ron climbing Thais, Joe, Larry, and Bill on the Breakneck, and Bobby doing his first lead up the Old Man's Route, followed by Kate and Betty.

Bob Mole led Alice, Christl, Danny, and Chuck on a hike through half of the Smoke Hole Valley. The trail crossed the stream several times (Christl counted some thirteen fords) and a heavy rain fell on us as we approached the end of the trail, but the scenery was worth the drenching. (The beauty of the Smoke Hole is soon to be destroyed by a dam to be built in Royal Glen.)

Anybody not mentioned in the foregoing report (see page 5) must have been watching clouds.

C R W

Supplementary report: Bobby Adams made his first lead, the Old Man's Route on Seneca, with Betty Johnson and Kate Adams on his team. His intelligent handling of the rope and his judgment used at the various belay points was excellent, and we were proud to go along with him. Bobby took us up to the South Peak in plenty of time for a luncheon reunion with Bob and Ron, who did a two-hour quicke climb of Thais.

B J

Karl Edler, Equipment Chairman, reports that the 1962 supplement to the PATC Equipment Bulletin is available. Please get in touch with Karl to get a copy. Meanwhile, a complete revision of the Bulletin is in process.

SUBSCRIPTION MISCELLANY

New subscribers:

Richard B. Fallgren -- Coast and Geodetic Survey, PO Box 377, Aberdeen, Md.

PFC Robert Marvos -- US 56342388m HQ & HQ CO 1st Bn, USAECR, Fort Belvoir, Va.

Dr. W. G. Banfield -- 15715 Avery Rd., Rockville, Md.

Shirley Jackson -- 223 Wolff St., Oxnard, Calif.

John Oosterwyk -- Cool Spring Level Farm, River Road RFD #2,

Changes and corrections: Rockville, Md. EM 5-2488

Ed Worrell's correct telephone number is RI 4-5114. (The incorrect listed number just happens to be that of a pet shop. This explains why people calling in the evening get no answer. The Worrells are tired of complaints that they are never at home.)

Peg Keister's phone number is 949-0992.

E. Thomas Pierce -- (new address) 1578 Lee Highway, Apt. 203, Falls Church, Va.

Albert N. DeMott -- (back in town for a while) 1820 Clydesdale Pl, N.W., Apt. 410, Washington 9, D.C.

James N. Shipley -- PFC, RA 13741260, Hqts. Co. U.S.A.G., Du/W PIO, Fort Ord, Calif.

Alan Mole -- Apt. 302, 2295 East Asbury Street, Denver 10, Colo.

This honourable publication is edited by H. Hargreaves, Esq, assisted by Walle Hargreaves. It is messed up by typist Alice Lane, and the whole thing is made immortal by printer Chuck Wettling. Anyone at all can secure a one-year subscription by sending one dollar to Hardy at PATC headquarters (address on masthead).

last page!

Volume XVII Number 8

August 1962

SCHEDULE

Aug. 5 Carderock, Md.

11-12 Seneca Rock, W. Va. Weekend trip; camping at Spruce Knob or the Pavillion. For information, please call Alice Lane, RE 7-5328.

19 Bull Run Mountain, Va. Walk in the long way!

26 Wolf Rock, Thurmont, Md.

Sept. 1, 2, and 3 LABOR DAY WEEKEND Seneca Rock, W. Va.

Weekend trip; leader Ed Worrell (Area code 301, RI 4-5114). Camping at the Pavillion or at Spruce Knob. See note about Saturday Night Gala Supper below.

9 Carderock, Md.

The good news has arrived that the Riverton Methodist Church is cooking up its annual supper for climbers and cavers on Saturday evening, September 1. If you plan to be in the Seneca area, you'll surely not want to miss the fine country cooking. Please telephone your reservations to Susie Moore, OV 3-1437, BY SATURDAY, AUGUST 25.

On Seneca trips, it is advisable for beginners to consult one of the regular climbers before leaving town. It is helpful to know who will be there in order to make up teams, and unexpected participants sometimes have to be disappointed.

DO YOU NEED A WILL?

While a few climbers shy away from the subject, saying it is "too morbid" or that it "scares the folks", many others have found that the answer to this question is an emphatic "yes". For some, their will has become an item of equipment scarcely less important than their rope in ensuring the safe, successful completion of climbs. Others have found theirs handy in securing attentions and benefits from other individuals in the climbing group.

When a discussion of wills comes up, there are two points on which opinion seems unanimous. First, a will is never regarded as a source of vast monetary gain to the beneficiary. It is a generally accepted fact that no rock climber has any wealth to dispose of, particularly in view of the high cost of carabiners. Second, a will is not a tool for the perpetuation of sentimental regard after one's demise. It is rather expected to serve one in one's own lifetime, and has frequently been observed to do just that.

Choosing the proper time to make your will

Obviously, it is pointless to make your will unless there is an immediate reason to do so. Situations in which it is advisable to make one may be divided into the following: climbing, other.

Imagine this scene: Climber A is desperately clinging to a fingertip crack, his left foot barely caught on a nubbin, his right flailing in the void. As he glances for reassurance at B, his belayer, he perceives that B looks altogether too comfortable, and he has a panicky suspicion that B's averted eyes are closed.

A: "I say there, Bertram, do you have me on belay? I should hate to fall before I change my will to give you that copy of The Bobbsey Twins on Nanga Parbat that you've been wanting to read."

whereupon B springs to immediate attention, A completes the climb successfully, and the two go off arm-in-arm to see a lawyer.

Using similar methods, the climber may secure unmentioned tension or permission to use out-of-bound holds. The technique must be used with caution, however. A slip of the tongue may mean your downfall, as it did in the case of Mortimer F., who injudiciously promised his belayer, in the presence of witnesses, 28 carabiners and a chocolate bar while doing a tricky maneuver on Jam Box.

(more)

Fortunately, Mortimer landed on his softest part and was scarcely injured. From this the conclusion may be drawn: while on a climb, it is safer to disinherit non-belayers than to bequeath anything to your belayer.

The category of "other" may be subdivided into "under duress", "under the influence", and "whimsy". Duress is well illustrated by an incident which occurred a few years ago when one of our group undertook to sample a mushroom of doubtful reputation. As his eyes glazed, his companions listed their claims, only reviving him when he had promised them all that they desired.

The only comment to be made on will-making while drinking is that it is inadvisable unless everyone is imbibing as much as or more than you, and you are drinking plenty. In that case, you have a reasonable hope that they will forget everything you said by morning.

As for whimsy--making a will for frivolous reasons, such as a preference for fried chicken over slim jims, can be overworked, and in general degrades the entire institution.

Making your will flexible

The advantages to having a will which can be altered as the situation changes must be apparent. The biggest decision in making your will is whether to write it or to entrust it to oral tradition. A WRITTEN WILL is relatively inflexible, which can work to your advantage in one way--if you only promise to change your will, it may allow you time to reconsider or otherwise wiggle out of it before you actually sit down with pen in hand. Unfortunately, a written will is not very practical, as few climbers can preface their remarks with the necessary statement as to being "of sound mind".

On the other hand, an ORAL WILL can be quickly altered in case of emergency. However, you must choose your witnesses carefully, or else the estate may be tied up in litigation for years. It has been suggested that this may be avoided by making all the witnesses beneficiaries. While it is frowned upon by jurists, it seems quite practical, as long as your possessions divide up neatly into as many portions of equal worth and desirability as there are witnesses. A little forethought as you furnish your home and equip yourself can help with this.

The selection of witnesses

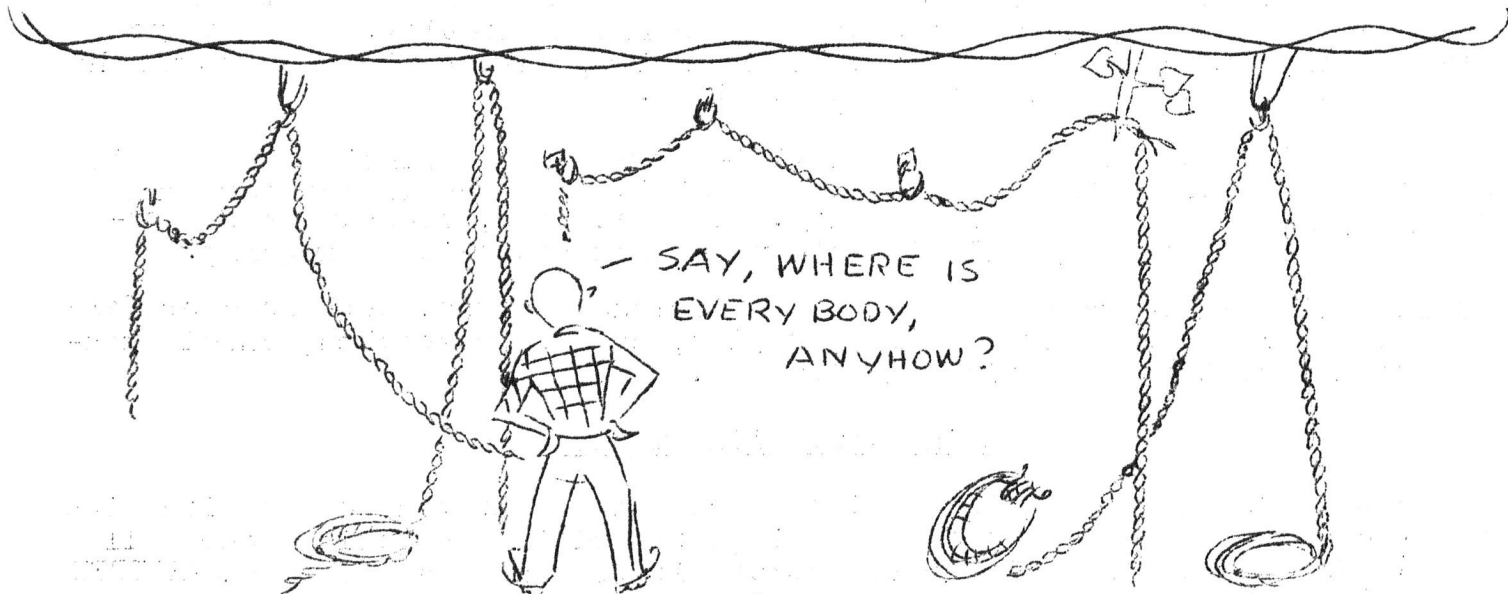
You can't always choose just the people you want, but any discrimination that you are able to make will surely be to your advantage. First, the fewer the better. Obviously. Second, select people notable for poor memories. This will be of use when it comes time for alterations. Some climbers prefer senile witnesses for this reason. As there are none in this class in our group, the next best choice would be of transients who will surely leave town within a few weeks. Above all, avoid incorruptible witnesses, or liars whom you cannot control.

(more)

...you have just completed page three

If you wish to be a beneficiary

Up to this point we have devoted our attention to the willer. There is, unfortunately, another aspect to be considered--the viewpoint of the willee. Surely it is not necessary to point out the opportunities for the volunteer beneficiary--in other words, the sleepy belayer, et al.. It should suffice to warn all climbers against these devious individuals. And if you are one--don't get caught!



Arnold Wexler, Marty Maricle, and the Rodmans are in the Wind Rivers until mid-August.

The Adams family, Betty Johnson, Ron Bell, Karl Edler, Bill Allnutt, and untold millions will swarm over the Tetons in August.

Don Hubbard and Pete Peterson are on a trip with Dr. Faberge to the Caribous.

Chuck Wettling is in Greenland, working!

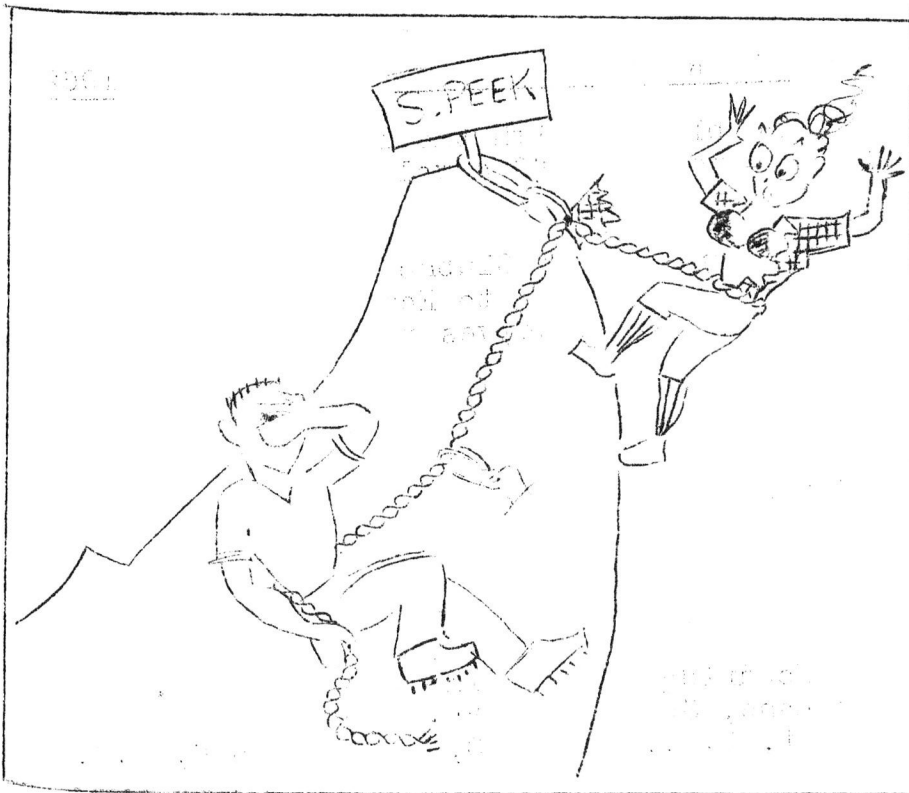
The rest of us went swimming.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

There is a small possibility of a real danger arising from the use of slings tied with a ring knot or a fisherman's knot and with the ends taped or otherwise fastened to the standing part of the sling. The knot can become loose and move around the sling until nothing but the tape or other whipping is holding the two ends together. I found a sling tied with a ring knot in just this condition in my pack. This is less likely to occur with a fisherman's knot, since both overhand knots would have to come loose and then move in opposite directions.


Slings should be inspected before each use. Perhaps it is not a bad idea to carry slings untied and to tie them anew for each use.

Alan J. Talbert



SNAPSHOT ON
SOUTH PEAK
JULY 8, 1962

Film: Oculochrome LIVE
Speed: Most rapid
Exposure: Rather

KEY:  Bob Mole's
shirt

TRIP REPORTS

July 15 Great Falls, Va. Fish Ladder Area

Bright and early this Sunday morning a group of intrepid--or more appropriately, insipid--climbers met at Howard Johnson's. Due to bad weather and a somewhat less than gung-ho attitude toward a trip to Great Falls, many other alternatives, ranging from climbing the Monument to picketing the White House to going to the movies, were debated. Finally, however, we were "persuaded" to go to Great Falls.

The usual climbs were set up and Bob Adams led the Ringbolt Climb and was followed by Ron Bell, Karl Edler, and Joe Nolte, after which a cloudburst arrived, stayed for a few minutes, and was followed by blue skies. A small group left to eat lunch at the Pavillion and returned just in time to see Bob, Kate, and Bobby Adams beating a hasty retreat from a climb due to hornets, which had most unoblingly built their nest in the middle of the climb. Chuck Wettling then proceeded to test his pet theory--that some people are less attractive targets to bees than others--and to destroy the nest.

Most of the afternoon was spent on a ridiculous climb suggested by our Vice Chairman, or Chairman of Vice*, which for lack of a better name I will call Lovedoll's Lunacy. Some tourists at the park and

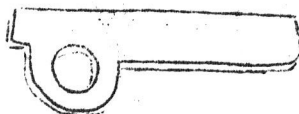
(more)

* Which title the reader prefers to use is up to his own judgement.

a few startled fishermen were blessed with the spectacle of climbers swinging over the water after peeling off a wall no self-respecting fly would land on.

After climbing and dining we went to the Clubhouse with the hope of seeing Harold Kramer's slides of his trip to Ecuador. But since no projector was available, we limited ourselves to a two-hour debate on climbing equipment.

J N



NEW SUBSCRIBERS:

Jacqueline Dupont -- 3504 Woodridge Ave., Silver Spring, Md.
 Roger Foley -- 108 Melody Lane, SE Vienna, Va.
 Bill Leo -- 1514 17th Street, N.W., Apt. 600, Washington 6, D.C.

ADDRESS CHANGES:

Theodore M. Schad -- 4138 26th Road N., Arlington 7, Va.
 Jim Wilkerson -- if we interpret the post office's rubber stamps correctly, he is now at the C & O Hospital in Clifton Forge, Va.

We have no new address for Lois Holtgren yet. Please, if anyone hears where she can be reached, let us know.

PLEASE GIVE YOUR SUGGESTIONS FOR THE FALL CLIMBING SCHEDULE TO CHAIRMAN ED WORRELL, IN BALTIMORE ON CODE 301 - RI 4-5114.



THIS IS KNOT RECOMMENDED
 FOR TYING IN THE LEADER

After some discussion, Alice Lane agreed to take the responsibility for this issue. Hardy Hargreaves managed the monkey business. The faithful staff, Joe Nolte, is in no way to blame. Address complaints and cancellations to 1916 Sunderland Place. \$1 will secure you 12 months of this nonsense.