

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

Vol. XIX No. 4

April 1964

COMING EVENTS

- April 12 Sugarloaf, Maryland  
April 19 Rocks State Park, Maryland  
April 26 Bull Run Mountain, Virginia
- May 3 Carderrock, Md. - Business meeting in PATC headquarters after climbing (about 8:00 p.m.). Arnold Wexler will show slides of the Logan Mountains, Northwest Territories, Canada.

NOTE: The PATC Mountaineering Section meets every Sunday at the Howard Johnson's at Wisconsin and Western between 8:00 and 8:30 a.m. Newcomers are welcome (girls especially). Bring rain gear, sneakers or other climbing shoes, lunch and canteen. Late arrivals should check the note behind the S.E. drainpipe to be sure of the destination.

*Congratulations and best wishes to Larry Griffen and Sallie Cromwell who were married on March 14, 1964.*

Mount Everest Expedition Lecture

Barry Bishop's lecture on the American Mount Everest Expedition was a complete success. His slides and commentary were excellent. The descriptions of the march in and multiple climbs to the highest point on earth were extremely interesting and thrilling for all of us.

CRW

March 15, 1964 - Thurmont, Md.

George Livingstone  
Chris Buckingham  
Bob and Kate Adams  
Mark Carpenter  
Talbot Bielefeldt  
Robert Eddy  
Jimmy Eddy  
Phil Eddy

Joan Templeton  
David F. Templeton  
Charlie Fahl  
Bill Koehler  
Achim Falinke  
Anne-Marie Scheler  
Joseph Landowne  
Knut Paul

Ray Hair  
Dick Curtin  
Ed Goodman  
Kelly Kelliher  
Jean McBee  
Glenn Cannon  
Mary Vincett  
Bob Curtis

Ho Jo's, as usual, was the starting point on this slightly overcast morning. Joining the club for breakfast were Don Hubbard and Chris Scoredos.

Due to unavoidable circumstances, Kelly, Mary and I were somewhat late in getting to Thurmont. After a brisk 1 1/4 mile hike we arrived at the rocks to see everybody busily engaged in man's favorite sport. (Climbing, of course!)

A set-up was rigged on the Wolf's Head and many were eager to try their luck. Achim Falinke, a newcomer, made a praiseworthy ascent of the north face.

A variety of climbs were offered during the afternoon. However, some of us were attracted to a cozy little fire some kind soul had built in a shelter among the rocks.

Two intelligent, well-liked members were observed as they contested to see who could do Birch's climb the greater number of times. They prefer to remain anonymous so I will keep Chris and Ed's secret.

Others who were out with us for the first time were Glenn Cannon, Anne-Marie Scheler, Joseph Landowne and Knut Paul.

A good day was ended with supper in Thurmont and a lively discussion of burglar alarms. (?)

Jean McBee

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Bob Mole has been heard from. His new address is:

Canyon Creek Apts., #433  
2915 Baseline Road  
Boulder, Colorado

He sends a big hellow to all his friends, and I'm sure he would appreciate a word or two.

## From Carderock to Katmandu

On Sunday, March 22, and again on Saturday and Sunday, March 28 and 29, the Mountaineering Section of the PATC was host to 56 lively Peace Corps trainees who are soon to leave for duty in Nepal. The George Washington University faculty members responsible for the training of the group felt that they should have an introduction to rock climbing. Thanks to a record turnout of climbing instructors, most of them received a full two-day course, covering such varied phases as knot tying, rapelling, belaying, prusiking, ladder climbing, an aerial traverse, and several rock climbing techniques.

At the beginning of each day the group was divided into units of two or three people and assigned to individual instructors, in the hope that everyone would receive personal attention and be kept busy. Toward the end of the day, a few people were seen to congregate around the picnic table, but it is believed they were more likely exhausted than neglected.

Carderock was humming with activity on all three days, and no one person can report all the accomplishments of the group. But, as an example, I saw Bruce climb Spiderwalk on his first try and John master Sterling's Crack, while Harold and Sue negotiated the Ceiling Climb (on stirrups) like veterans. There was enough enthusiasm and initiative in the air to encourage the belief that some converts had been made.

Professor Reuben Wood, who was in charge of this phase of the training program, has asked me to express his appreciation to all the members of the Mountaineering Section who devoted their time and energy to making these two week-ends a real success.

As these fine young people go off to work in the shadow of Everest, our best wishes go with them. And, who among us is not a little envious?

RJA

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*Special recognition goes to Lee Lestock, for her achievements. She averaged one pair of pants per trip. It is rumored that Chris Buckingham has been trying to contact Bruce for help in solving the mystery of Spiderwalk.*

Editor

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Sugarloaf Mountain

High water made Spitzbergen unavailable, so the trip to Sugarloaf mountain was pushed up one week. We spent the morning teaching the beginners and were commencing to climb ourselves when the first rain shower descended from above. We huddled in the shelter of the cave but became restless and soon were one by one chimneying up the back of it and out through the narrow (for me) opening at the top. We were about to climb again when the rain clouds joined together and spilled out their watery contents in full force. We accepted defeat and

retreated to the refreshment stand near the parking area where the undaunted spirits of the group were revealed. Climbers were seen swinging from one rafter to another like monkeys in the zoo; climbing up the inside of the cross beams on one side, crawling through the narrow triangle formed at the top and back down on the outside; traversing the outside of the shelter about three feet above ground; attempting to circumvent a side pillar using feet only; and finally traversing the ceiling of the shelter on a single cross beam using a rope and a belay. Dinner at Tuohey's was followed by a game of chess using pieces of paper for men, a bridge game, and ping pong at Cindy's

CFA

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### Hen House Rocks, West Virginia

April 1, 1964

This may be a propitious time to inform our readers of a promising new climbing area that Gherman Rofenstofer and I discovered last Saturday while cruising through the West Virginia hills in our Army surplus half-track. We came upon these rocks in a rather round-about way, but the following directions should be followed when approaching from Washington.

Turn off Route 29 at Gainesville and follow Va. 55 to Chancellorsville. Turn right on obscure dirt road, taking left fork at grazing brown and white cow. Continue one-half mile to ford across Ramsey's Branch, and make hard right turn into barnyard. Park behind hen house - hence name of rocks.

This unusual rock formation is ideally suited to lead climbing, since it overhangs some 20 to 40 degrees on all sides. We put up a most enjoyable climb in the prominent diagonal crack on the Northwest side, and had planned to leave our pitons in to mark the route. Unfortunately Gherman slipped just before reaching the top and pulled out all the pitons on the way down. There are doubtless many other fine routes here remaining to be discovered.

Augenblick von Rundschau

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### New Subscribers

Mark Carpenter  
6307 Huntover Lane  
Lux Manor  
Rockville, Maryland

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### Change of Address

Lois H. Groblicki  
2055 The Plaza  
Schnectady 12, New York

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Correction of Address which appeared in February issue of Up Rope:

Kent Straat  
650 Queen Anne Terrace  
Falls Church, Virginia

Request from the Editor:

Hardy Hargreaves, after three years of faithful service to UP ROPE, wishes to resign as Business Manager. Anyone wishing to fill this position, or otherwise help with UP ROPE, please contact me or Hardy.

Ed Goodman  
JE 4-3853

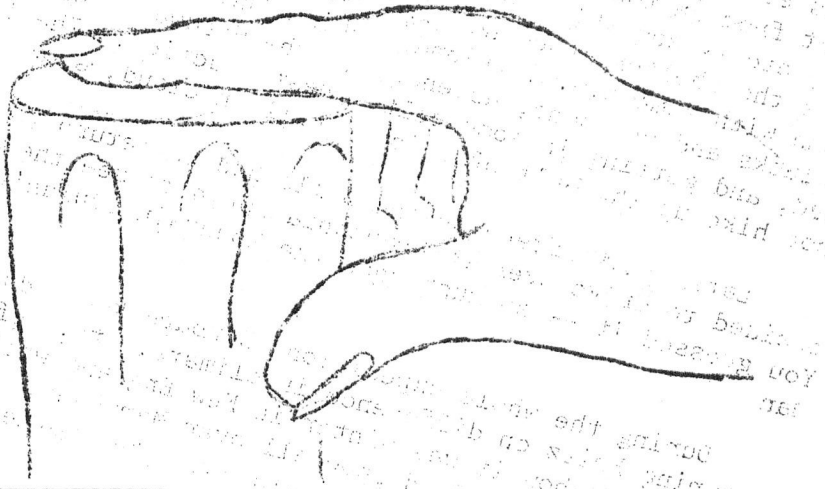
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PASS THE BOTTLE WHEN IT GETS DRY

While waiting to be served at Tuohey's, some of the morons in our group have discovered a new exercise to develop finger muscles for those hard-to-adhere-to hand holds.

Pick up an empty beer bottle by placing your forefinger on the top and your thumb on the side. Keep passing the bottle on to the next fellow as rapidly as possible. The penalty for the first one to drop the bottle is to climb Beginner's Crack without any hands.

What good are hands anyway, if you can't hang on to a beer bottle?



I must take exception to the descriptive noun moron used in above article. I learned this trick in a gas station in Front Royal, Va., while returning from a caving (BAH!) trip. The bottle in question was a coke bottle.

Editor

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Thought For Today

Help stamp out brake bars. Rapell 'til it hurts!

Chuck Wettling

March 26-30, 1964 -- Mt. Washington, New Hampshire

Karl Edler  
Barbara Edler  
Fritz Edler

Ron Bell  
Betty Bell

The 1964 Edler-Bell Mount Washington Easter Expedition, continuing a tradition begun in 1963, consisted of getting sufficient inspiration from crisp and snowy mountain air to last us city types another year.

With our new VW panel truck, laborously converted into a camper, and 10-year-old son Fritz in tow, we drove 13 hours through traffic, rain, and snow to spend the night parked in Peter Limmer's yard in Intervale (wanted to see him first thing in the morning).

Big plans were to pack up to the shelter in Tuckerman Ravine and camp two nights either there or over in Huntington. First morning we read the weather report from on top of the mountain -- wind 113 miles per hour, visibility 50 feet, etc -- and this served to calm the plans down to hiking in a snowstorm up to the shelter. Second day, the Bells went for an all-day snow and ice climb with some A.M.C. friends, while the Edler contingent, with Fritz in mukluks and crampons, ascended to the Headwall and part way up toward Lion Head, and getting in some self-arrest practice. The last day featured a snowshoe hike up the Gulf of Slides Trail in cloud, snow, etc.

Later that afternoon the Bells had to return to Connecticut and the Edlers decided to drive over to Franconia Notch to see the Old Man of the Mountains. You guessed it -- so much snow the Mountain couldn't be seen, let alone the Old Man!

During the whole expedition, Barbara kept educational purposes in mind by lecturing Fritz on difference in climate, etc., of the parts of our country, pointing out how it was winter in New England while Springtime in Maryland. Then we arrived home to find snow all over Maryland. Pfui on being educational! Next year we'll have to go again and make another stab at the "high camp."

BFE

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Editor: Ed Goodman

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Printer's Devils: Bob and Kate Adams

Chuck Wettling

Subscriptions: Send one dollar for twelve issues to the Editor at the PATC club house.