



FOUNDED BY
JAN AND HERB CONN

NEWS OF THE P.A.T.C. MOUNTAINEERING COMMITTEE
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July 1964

Coming Events

- July 11-
12 Carderock, Maryland
- July 18-
19 Seneca Rocks, W. Va. - Ed Goodman, Trip Leader
Camping-Individual Commissary. Contact Ed at
JE-4-3853
- July 26 Sugarloaf, Md. - George Livingstone, Trip Leader
- Aug 1-2 Carderock, Md.
- Aug 9 Caudy's Castle-Those who wish may make this a
weekend trip. Ed Goodman, Trip Leader.
- Aug 15-16 The Cove, Gore, Virginia - Chris Buckingham, Trip
Leader. There is a nominal fee for admission. Bring
swim suits and water skis. Call Chris at 736-0871,
for information, directions, and reservations.
- Aug 30 Little Stoney Man, Shenandoah National Park, Va.
Joe Nolte, Trip Leader. Call Joe at MA-2-0912.
- Sept 5-
6-7 Seneca Rocks, W. Va. - more information on this
trip later. Be sure to plan on being at Seneca
anyway.

NOTE: The PATC Mountaineering Section meets every Sunday at the Howard Johnson's at Wisconsin and Western between 8:00 and 8:30 am. Newcomers are welcome. Bring rain gear, sneakers, or other climbing shoes, lunch and canteen. Late arrivals should check the note behind the SE drain pipe to be sure of the destination.

Carderock, Maryland - May 3rd, 1964

Three Adams
 Barry Bielsker
 Bret Blosser
 John Poren
 Bob and Sue Broughton
 Larry Buck
 Mark Carpenter
 Helena Clarke
 Bob Curtis
 Cindy Dudley
 Three Eddys
 Cantu Pena Fausto
 Ed Goodman
 Ray Hair
 Don Hubbard

Daffy Ingrick
 Andy Kaufman
 Kelly Kelliher
 Harold Kramer
 Beth Livesidge
 George Livingstone
 Mike Nicholson
 Merv Oleson
 Therese Sebrechts
 Andri De Schutter
 Pete Stevenson
 Hal Swift
 Dave Warshawsky
 Chuck Wettling
 Jim Willard & wife

Your authors, after getting a late start, spent considerable time (1), determining that climbers had gotten to the rocks across the flooded canal, and (2), finding out how they had gotten there. As a result, this report is restricted to the goings on after lunch. It is suggested that in the future the Tyrolean Traverse be rigged across the canal in the vicinity of the rocks rather than in its usual place.

Our chairman spent most of the day doing an easy but arduous class 6 climb of a large sycamore tree in the vicinity of the Nubble Face. He was belayed part of the time by Bob Broughton and part of the time by Barry Bielsker. This climb was to provide rigging for Oscar, an inanimate climber whose function is to fall, in order that belayers may be trained to catch leaders gently. While Oscar was being rigged, Bob, Ed, Harold, Mike, and others practiced falling off the A-shaped overhang. Fortunately for everyone's self-esteem, no one made it.

Newcomers Therese, Andri, Helena, Daffy, Cantu, and John were all observed at various times climbing and/or struggling with various climbs. Glad to have you with us. That also goes for Pete and Beth from the Friendship Heights Cave Club.

A number of people practiced on the Nubble Face. For awhile it looked like Ray had been elected permanent belayer for that region of the rock. Around the very muddy corner was a group including, at various times, the three Adams', Mike, Harold, Hal, Merv, and others. There was much changing of shoes and walking on sticks and stones to keep mud and klettersshoes apart (sometimes a less than successful maneuver, as Bob Adams found out), and kidding of Mike for not being in his usual highly reputed climbing form. Someone climbed nearly every climb at that end of the rocks.

The climbing was followed by dinner at Touhey's and a business meeting at the club house featuring Arnold Wexler's very interesting talk about his expedition to the Logan Mountains, illustrated by some spectacular slides.

R.B. and S. B.

Mt. Washington, New Hampshire - April 2-5

Kent Straat
Joe Faint
Ed Goodman

Every step of this climb, we couldn't imagine Everest as being much different. We were packing 50-60 pounds and breaking tracks through 2 feet of new snow, freshly fallen on the 4-5 feet already on the trail. Alternately we became Gambo, Barry, and Tensing as we pushed the 2.4 miles to the Tuckerman Ravine Shelter on Mt. Washington. The conditions on this part of the climb were about what you might expect in such weather, except for the time I stepped off the trail to let a snow cat pass. I immediately dropped up to my waist, tangled my feet in some scrub underneath and said pleasant things as the snow cat rambled by, 18 inches from my predicament? My satisfaction was complete shortly, however. We passed the snow-cat completely floundered off the sides of the trail.

After making camping arrangements in the lean-to and just generally re-grouping our energies, we made a climb up over the little headwall and then up the Right Gully. The snow was alternately deep and hard wind swept, and the climb proved to be more of a challenge of stamina than skill. Ed and Joe practiced a few self arrests on the wind swept areas and I obliged by taking pictures. As all of us were relatively new to ice-climbing, it was surprising and extremely satisfying to see how easy it is to walk with crampons on what otherwise would appear as formidable pitches. As we climbed, fog periodically swept in isolating us from camp below.

It was about 3:00 pm when we reached the ridge. Again more pictures and the decision whether or not to attempt the summit directly over the ridge. The fact that we experienced very strong winds and again, waist deep snow (armpits on Ed), coupled with the lateness of the afternoon, made any further climbing a gamble. Descending, we used what might be called a seat-glissade. Ed made the first track, breaking loose all the surface snow, Joe went second and a bit faster and I came t third in what was now a pretty fast track.

A stand-up, mitten clad dinner; an hour of stomping feet in the snow waiting for Howard Johnson's to reopen; a brief warming spell, and we were again in the lean-to making the best of 5°F, 20 MPH weather.

Morning brought boots which were frozen completely solid. A little boot cooking, however, paved the way for sausages and breakfast in general. But it was the smell of sausage which caused Ed to stick his mouth out of the folds of his sleeping bag to accept the sausage we slowly dropped into it.

Gradually as we became more aware of our situation and realized that all the areas of the mountain were closed, and simply moving 50 pounds into the wind caused a near-numbing of the face, we decided that going to some other area might be rather wise.

SO OFF TO THE GUNKS!

KENT STRAAT

CLIMBING EQUIPMENT LOCALLY?

Oh happy day! Karl Edler reports that Edward "Moose" Remington is planning on stocking Gerry's climbing equipment. As it stands now Remington is moving to a new location at Chevy Chase Lake and should be in business near the 1st of August. Just think! No more waiting for weeks for equipment when we need it, NOW. Karl also reported that Bernard Cissel of Atlas Sports in D.C. is giving DISCOUNTS to Trail Club Members. He stocks Goldline rope, some biners, and a few pitons.

Editor

Seneca Rocks, West Virginia - May 29-31

Bob, Kate, Bobby, and John Adams
 Bob and Sue Broughton
 Chris Buckingham and family
 Cindy Dudley
 Joe Faint
 Bill Blosser
 Ed Goodman
 Larry and Sallie Griffin

Ray Hair
 George Livingstone
 Merv Oleson
 Harold Swift
 Pete Turin
 Dave Warshawsky
 Carol Scott
 (Girl who cut foot)

A weekend of perfect weather, mostly fair and cool, was the reward for those hardy souls who undertook the journey to the Rocks over the Memorial Day weekend.

Friday: The early arrivals started in right away. Larry and Sallie and Pete climbed a new route to the right of Conn's West which they called Les Gourmet. Joe, Merv, and Harold climbed both Conn's East and Conn's West. Bob and Sue climbed Conn's West and the Coxcomb Overhang.

Saturday: The crowd had swelled a bit. Bob and Sue got a fairly early start and did the Skyline including the Coxcomb Overhang. Since they were thus very thoroughly occupied, the following is a rather pieced together account of the rest of the doings. Ed, Merv, and Hal: Coxcomb Overhang, thence to Gunsight and up to the North Peak. Larry and Sallie: Conn's East and No Dally Alley with Bill Glosser; also the Gendarm. George and Chris: Lower Skyline to Lunch Ledge, South Summit to Gunsight and Gendarme. Joe: Coxcomb Overhang with two people we didn't know (one named Carl), thence to No Dally Alley and later in the day, Hell Hole Cave. Dave, Cindy, Pete, and Ray: Old Ladies' Route. Saturday was further enlivened by folk singing in the evening and, we are told, such goings on as swimming and climbing in the wee hours of the morning. We know of at least one person who was too tired to climb the next day.

Sunday: The catalogue for the final day reads as follows: Joe, Chris, and George did the Solar Route. Two groups did Thais, Larry and Sallie, Bobby and Hal. Bob Adams, Kate, and John did Breakneck. Ed and Carol did the Old Man's Route. [with an interesting variation at the top. ED.] The Broughtons did Conn's East. One final detail - the garbage detail. A crew composed of both Bobs, Chris, and Sue hauled the large garbage can and several smaller containers across the highway to the garbage cans in the state park on the tailgate of the Broughton's wagon. This operation could be avoided in the future if everyone took their own small accumulation of trash over the these state park containers which are emptied by state maintenance people, and we would have a cleaner campsite into the bargain.

This Memorial Day weekend will be remembered, by your aurthor, at least, as one of the best ever. It is hoped that the feeling is shared.

S.B.

The book "Caves of Virginia" has been published. Many of the climbers know the author, Henry Douglas, and have been looking forward to it's publication. There are descriptions of 1790 Caves including pictures and maps with topographical maps of the cave locations. This book will be of special interest to Cavers (ugh ED.) There are 768 pages and the price is \$7.50. Mail Check or Money Order to: Virginia Cave Survey, 626 South Washington Street, Falls Church, Virginia.

Unfortunately one of my new climbing ropes has disappeared. If you have a rope that doesn't belong to you - - - - - PLEASE!
 (120' Columbia Nylon from Chris)

RECREATIONAL RESOURCE SURVEY OF THE POTOMAC BASIN

This is the fifth of a series of articles which the P.A.T.C. Conservation Committee has been invited to contribute to UP-ROPE. These articles deal with developments affecting outdoor recreation and conservation of natural resources, particularly in the Potomac Valley.

When the Army Corps of Engineers makes a river basin survey, as they recently did in the Potomac Valley, they are required to enlist the assistance of other federal agencies having an interest in water resources planning in the particular basin. Each of these agencies makes a study in its own field of interest and evaluates the impact of the Corps' construction proposals on this field; and these agency surveys form parts of the total report.

Somewhat overshadowed by the Corps' reservoir recommendations and their supporting data, but nevertheless an important document in its own right, is SURVEY OF RECREATION RESOURCES, POTOMAC RIVER BASIN, which was prepared by the Southeast Region of the National Park Service and appears as Appendix I of the POTOMAC RIVER BASIN REPORT, released last spring.

After describing the characteristics of the basin and its present recreational resources, this Park Service study discusses factors to be considered in recreational planning and then outlines a plan for meeting the recreational needs of the Potomac Valley. The remainder of the report is a detailed evaluation, from the recreational point of view, of each of the 26 reservoirs under consideration by the Corps.

The Park Service inventory shows that there are now some 266,000 acres of public, non-urban recreational lands in the Potomac Basin in 49 areas. The recreational plan calls for acquisition (or designation) and development of 82 additional areas at various levels of government, totaling some 773,000 acres--- and even this will fall short of what is estimated to be needed by the year 2010.

On the national level the Park Service proposes establishment of 457,000 acres of new recreational areas in six units. Foremost of these is the Spruce Mountain National Recreation Area, embracing some 400,000 acres in the Monongahela National Forest and including Spruce Knob, Seneca Rocks, the Smokehole area, and associated mountains, forests, streams, and geological formations. The Service also urges the establishment of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal National Historical Park, enlarged and developed from the present C. & O. Canal National Monument. On the federal level also are included proposals for two parkways. The Allegheny Parkway would run diagonally across West Virginia from Harper's Ferry to Cumberland Gap, connecting numerous areas of scenic and recreational interest. The Appalachian Parkway would provide an extension of the Skyline Drive northward into Maryland and Pennsylvania and perhaps farther, utilizing a route along the Shenandoah River in northern Virginia.

Indicating that the basin is relatively well supplied with federally-owned recreational facilities, the report lays great stress on the importance of efforts by state and local governments to provide more recreational opportunities for their citizens. On the state level it is recommended that 48 new areas be acquired, embracing some 253,000 acres.

Of special interest is the proposal for the Potomac Basin Park, comprising a large area of about 125,000 acres in Maryland and West Virginia sometimes called the Paw Paw-Cacapon Region. It would include the present Cacapon State Park, the lower valley of the Cacapon River, the Paw Paw section of the Potomac

River and the C. & O. Canal, Ice Mountain, part of the Green Ridge State Forest, and Town Creek Reservoir. This area could be cooperatively administered by state agencies, or by an interstate agency.

Prominent among the state recreational areas would be 14 Corps of Engineers reservoirs, whose recreational facilities would be managed by state agencies. These include the Monocacy River Reservoir in Maryland; Brock's Gap in Virginia; Licking Creek, Tonoloway Creek, and West Branch Conococheague in Pennsylvania; and Back Creek in West Virginia. The Park Service states that of the 16 reservoirs recommended in the Corps' Potomac Basin Report, 14 would enhance the recreational potential of their areas, and only two (Seneca and Royal Glen) would do more harm than good. Many conservationists are surprised that the Park Service should accept these reservoirs as desirable for recreation, in view of the large draw-downs at most of them in late summer and fall and the resulting exposure of extensive denuded areas.

A substantial group of new state parks is recommended along the Potomac estuary, below Washington. In Maryland there would be the Mattawoman Creek, Maryland Point, and Medley's Neck Parks, while Virginia would have parks at Mason's Neck, Marlboro Point, Matthias Point, and Nomini Cliffs. A recreational area is proposed for the Zekiah Swamp in southern Maryland, another for South Mountain (which is traversed by the Appalachian Trail), and a third for the Savage River section in western Maryland. Two state parks, Furnace Run and Calme's Neck, would be established in the northern portion of Virginia's Shenandoah Valley.

Still another type of recreational area is proposed at the state level--- the recreational river. Substantial mileages of the upper Potomac, the Shenandoah, and the Cacapon would be placed in this category and protected from incompatible developments.

On the local or county level some 64,000 acres in 28 areas should be set aside, the report recommends. The most important of these would be the Bull Run Mountains Park in northern Virginia.

Of course it may be a long time before most of these recommendations are carried out and some doubtless will never be implemented. Yet the National Park Service has performed a notable service in projecting the recreational needs of the Potomac Valley and identifying the specific areas that might well be set aside. Let us hope that most of them will be acquired and preserved before it is too late!

---PHILIP J. STONE, Chairman
P.A.T.C. Conservation
Committee

NOTE: Some people have paid me personally for their UP-ROPE subscription. If by chance you fail to receive your UP-ROPE, just let me know. (Let's see now, where did I put that little piece of paper that was with the dollar I spent on beer!)

---EDITOR

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Subscriptions: Send one dollar to the Business Manager, Hardy Hargreaves

Note attached to a dollar for an UP-ROPE renewal---

"A little late, but don't hollar---here's my dollar."

ATTN: U. OF N.C. climbers would like us to supply leaders for a few of the more difficult climbs at Seneca this month. TRY TO MAKE IT!

---EDITOR