



FOUNDED BY
JAN AND HERB CONN

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

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

Vol. XX No. 2

February 1965

COMING EVENTS

February 7

Carderock, Maryland

February 14

Great Falls, Maryland

February 20

Weekend cave trip, Williamsville
Virginia (bring cave gear and
extra "old" clothes)

February 28

Bull Run Mountain, Virginia

March 7

Carderock, Maryland

Sunday meeting place is Howard Johnson's restaurant, Wisconsin and Western Avenues. Climbers leave for the rocks at 8:00 a.m., so come earlier if you want breakfast there. Climbing lasts all day, and groups of climbers usually stop for supper on the way home. Bring lunch and water and wear suitable clothing to climb in. (If the Canal is frozen over bring ice skates)

Any interested person, whether PATC member or not, is invited to join in the Section's activities. If you are completely new to climbing you are invited to learn to climb and belay capably and enjoyably; or, if you already know a kletter-schuh from a chimney, you are invited to enjoy using and improving your current climbing skills in the company of like-minded people.

If you arrive late at Howard Johnson's check behind the southeast drain pipe for a note designating a change in destination. This is especially important during the winter months when bad weather can be a factor.

UP ROPE ANNOUNCES THE NEW OFFICERS FOR THE COMING YEAR

Chairman: George Livingstone EM 3-7161
4930 Rodman Street, N.W., Washington, D.C.

Vice Chairman: Christopher Buckingham 736-0871
3226 Sycamore Lane, Suiteland, Maryland

VIN HOEMAN'S LECTURE ON HIS TRAVERSE OF MT. MCKINLEY

On Wednesday evening, January 6, in the auditorium of the Museum of Natural History of the Smithsonian Institution J. Vin Hoeman gave an illustrated lecture on his 1963 travers of Mt. McKinley in the Alaskan Range between Ankorage and Fairbanks.

In 35 days he and three companions made the 250-mile trip with only three days lost because of bad weather and with no serious accidents. Their traverse was a first in that no one else had ever gone in one side and come out on another. Specifically, they entered Mt. McKinley National Park at Wonder Lake on the north, ascended the Muldrow Glacier and climbed both north and south peaks (20,300 ft.); the latter in company with the Harvard group which had just come down from the north peak. Continuing south, they climbed Mt. Foraker (17,000 ft.) (a second ascent) but had to give up a planned climb of Mt. Hunter which would have been another second ascent. They finished the traverse by descending the Kahiltna Glacier and found civilization again at the one-house town called Petersville.

For supplies they had two air drops, one going in and one going out; otherwise, it was strictly a backpack trip. Their usual load was about 50 pounds each. Clothing seems to have been adequate as was their acclimatization by the long climb up the Muldrow Glacier for they did not suffer from cold or altitude effects even though the temperature went to zero and below on the high peaks.

The total cost of the venture was an almost unbelievable \$80 each. This, they achieved by hitchhiking in and out and by carrying little more than was required by National park regulations for such ventures. This traverse is a good example of what can be accomplished by people who know what they are doing--know their terrain and know their equipment and their own abilities--and, who have sufficiently good luck with the weather.

The lecture was illustrated with color slides, many of them strikingly beautiful shots of mountains, glaciers and snow, snow, snow. All to soon it was over but the question period afterward lasted almost as long and elicited from the speaker many interesting comments on their experience and on the history of the region.

Everyone was impressed by the two beautifully shaded drawings (in chalk on a blackboard) of Mt. McKinley and neighboring regions, which served as a map during the lecture. These were done by the future Mrs. Hoeman, whose name we regret to say, we did not catch. She is an illustrator at the Smithsonian Institution.

Among the audience we noted a very good representation of our currently active climbing group: President Chuck Wettling, Harold Kramer and two sons, Larry and Sally Griffin, George Livingstone, Helena Clarke, Joe Nolte, Karl Edler, Bob West, Frank Zahar, Charlie Raposa, Pinky Wheatley, Maggie Teel, Talbot Bielefeldt, Mark Carpenter, Bob Eddy and yours truly,

Phil Eddy

CARDEROCK, MARYLAND -- December 6, 1964

Wally Goodwin
Bob Eddy
Jimmy Eddy
Phil Eddy
Bob Craft
Julie Goodman
Pete Stoller
Roger & Cindy Eubanks
Timothy Schoechle
Frank Zahar
Charlie Raposa

Bob & Kate Adams
Ed Goodman
Sylvone Eason
Chris Buckingham
Chuck Irwin
Helena Clarke
George Livingstone
Mark Carpenter
Eric Oberbeck
Tom McCrumb
Joe Nolte

Robin Faith
Ginger Green
Tom Blivens
George Rawling
Chuck Wettling
Pete Stevenson
Robin Bamblon
Harry Clarke
Billy Glosser
Barbara Holmberg
Karl Edler

We had a nice turnout Sunday. By the end of the day I'm sure we all were well satisfied---and cold.

Two reporters from the "Baltimore Sun" were out taking pictures, notes and interviewing one and all. Their article appeared in the Recreation Section on Sunday, December 20.

We all had fun freezing our fingers on the rocks. Bob Eddy was pleased with himself for doing Spider Walk; and, Joe Nolte was equally pleased in climbing Barnacle Face---with no hands--and Beginner's Crack---with one hand (the big showoff). Robin Faith tried four times (unsuccessfully) to do Menahan's Staircase. (we understand her hands were cold???) We had a new climber out with us---Chuck Irwin---who climbed like a "pro". He almost did them all. Another newcomer--Julie Goodman (not related to our Editor) did a fine job on Beginner's Crack and Kindergarten Corner. Cindy did Beginner's Crack and Nubbleface; Roger did Menahan's Staircase and the Golden Staircase. Giner and Tom did Jan's Face. Helena did Ronnie's Leap and made two attempts at Swayback Layback. Sylvone did Beginner's Crack and Nubbleface. Just as we were leaving, Ed, Chris and George did Jambox.

After the usual dinner at Thoney's, we were off to the Club House for the auction of some excess equipment belonging to Barry Bishop. ----Eric Oberbeck (age 11)

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

A recent trip to the cliffs at Carderock has served to increase my concern about the possible effects of the impending influx of people into the soon-to-be-opened Carderock Recreation Area.

The official opening of this newly constructed sanctuary of solitude will, in all likelihood, bring a large number of people into contact with one of the rock climbers' most valuable local climbing areas.

If this impending influx of picnickers--of all ages, and with varying endowments of common sense--does not constitute a potentially serious threat to our continued use of the area (as rock climbers) then I am not sure that I know what would constitute such a threat.

I suggest that a special committee be formed, as quickly as possible, in order to attempt to anticipate and resolve some of the problems which are likely to arise as a result of the impending influx of people into the Carderock area.

Letter to the Editor cont'd.

It would also seem to be a good idea for us to seriously question some of the notions which we might hold about the inalienability of our "right" to climb at Carderock.

----A.S. Klovall

CARDEROCK, MARYLAND --- January 3, 1965

Bob, Kate, John & Bobby Adams
Tom Abercrombie
Tal Bielefeldt
Chris Buckingham
Barry Bishop
Mark Carpenter
Phi, Bob & Jimmy Eddy
Robin Faith
Larry & Sally Griffin
Rod Glascock
Tony Harp
Don Hubbard

Harold Kramer
George Livingstone
Jim Lewis
Joe Nolte
Charlie Raposia
Sayre & Jean Rodman
Bill Schaaf
Dan Stone
Dave & Jean Templeton
Mary Vincett
Chuck Wettling

The first official climbing trip of the new year was ushered in by blue skies, blustery winds, and cold rocks.

Most of the routes from the ease of "Beginner's Crack" to the very difficult "Cripple's Delight" were tried with success.

We were pleased to greet a couple of newcomers and some seldom seen friends.

At the end of the day, almost everybody jammed into Chris' VW bus for quick transit to the main road.

---Chuck Wettling

FROM THE EDITOR

The Mountaineering Section has certainly received it's share of publicity lately. The December 20th article in the Baltimore Sun was quite impressive (more than a full page); and then, to be followed up so closely by the excellent story in the Washington Post. Merv Oleson wrote this story at the request of Post reporter Aubrey Graves. Maybe I can con Merve into becoming a regular member of the UP-ROPE staff if he ever returns from California.

It seems as though our new Vice-Chairman, Chris Buckingham, has been up to enough mischief lately to merit some watching by his friends. Chris hurt his foot (a slight fracture) when he took a leader fall at Harper's Ferry. As some of you may recall, twas not a fit day for man nor beast, but there was Chris trying a straight up ascent just left of where the sign used to be. Also, I hear that he has all but dethroned "Joe Nolte the Hardware King". Chris' supply of biners is second only to Chouinard's. He has 52 1/3 miles of sling material, a supply of pitons equal to all the rest of the club's combined, a collection of miscellaneous equipment that staggers the imagination, and rope enough to rig a Tyrolean Traverse from the Washington Monument to Seneca Rocks.

Again, I would like to remind UP ROPE readers that UP ROPE exchanges publications with many other mountaineering organizations. If any are interest in

obtaining any of these please contact me (the Editor) and I will make them available to you. The American Forestry Association's publication, American Forests, ran an excellent article on the Appalachian Trail in its October 1964 edition. The Association very kindly supplied me with two copies of the magazine for any who might be interested.

George Livingstone, our newly-elected Chairman, is no longer a member of Uncle Sam's finest (Marine Corps). He has now joined the ranks of the unemployed, and is really enjoying a well-earned rest. (But George, you are going to get a job sometime, aren't you?) Helena Clarke gave him a surprise "coming out" party---a real success.

Recently, I have communicated with Grant Conway, ex-president of the PATC, and am real pleased to announce that he seems to be recovering nicely from his recent heart attack. The one bit of unfinished business that Grant seemed most concerned about was following up on the question concerning climbing at Great Falls, Virginia. The problems we face with the National Park Service and the general public could be quite serious if we let them get out of hand. Some of the points in our favor are our excellent safety record and our sincere cooperative attitude toward conservation. Keep up the good work. UP ROPE will follow up on this problem when there is something more definite to report.

The Mountaineering Section is considering changing its Sunday meeting place to the Hot Shoppe at 4110 Wisconsin Avenue. If you have any thoughts along this line, please come forth and bring them to the attention of the Chairman. Maybe you know of a better place?

UP ROPE has not as yet received any response to its offer to help readers "Sell or Swap" equipment, etc. It seems that Chris is willing to swap his wife, Sallie, and two kids for some more Chouinard Carabiners, but I thought I had better not put that in UP ROPE. I have a sixteen foot fiberglass run-about with a 90 hp Evinrude motor that I would like to sell, but since it has nothing to do with mountaineering I thought I had better leave that out too.

All UP ROPE readers (and anyone else for that matter) have an open invitation to submit material for publication in our newsletter. Come on group, contribute.

UP ROPE is now being typed on a twenty year old IBM proportional spacing electric typewriter that your editor picked up for \$5. Since servicing IBM electric typewriters and dictation equipment is my profession I am able to keep it running (just barely), but it still is quite unsatisfactory. The typestyle is too bold to cut a good stencil, the type itself should be replaced (parts are no longer available), and the poor old machine is suffering the pains of old age. Therefore I am appealing to UP ROPE readers to assist me in procuring another IBM typewriter (not necessarily proportional spacing). It need not be in operating condition, but it must have been made after 1948. I will pay a fair price, but not over \$100 for it. Any assistance along these lines will be much appreciated by me, my typist, and by your fellow UP ROPE readers.

ED GOODMAN - EDITOR
Jefferson 4-3853

REMEMBER WHEN?
(Excerpts from past UP ROPES)

February 4, 1945

Chris Scoredos
Eleanor Tatge

Jan Conn
Herb Conn

Rock climbing and skating were of equal importance today. The skating was divided between the canal and a stretch of ice as smooth as plate glass on the Potomac near the Carderock Cliffs, where fancy maneuvers and fancier spills were indulged in throughout the morning. Scrambling and rappelling were also in order at Carderock until lunch, which was eaten on the "swimming rock". Jan proved that skating and eating can be done simultaneously, by munching sand-wishes tossed to her by her husband as she demonstrated her latest skating



"Daddy's practising for the Jam Box"
April 18, 1945

triumph, the "Figure 11".

The group crossed on the ice--much solidier than last week--to Herzog Island. Various new climbs were found on the faces, immediately downstream from Don's Low Water Traverse. Of particular interest were Eleanor's Cave Descent and the "Overhang--Ice--Nasty" inside corner. Back at Carderock the group ended the day with some ropeless scrambling above imaginary 3,000-foot drops while a light rain froze to the cliffs.

Song from UP ROPE -- February 15, 1948

Herb Conn writes Arnold that Janny has a new song, inspired by Irvin Davis of the Boston Climbers. Tune "Dark Town Strutters Ball."

I'll be down to get you with a blotter,
honey,

A nut-pick and a spare canteen,
Cause where you're trying to lead
There ain't a foothold, handhold to be seen.
That old "thank God" is high above you
And I don't want to follow when you make
the lunge.

Though it's not the thing to do,
I'm going to cut that rope in two,
And I'll meet you at the bottom with a
sponge.

February 20, 1946

Donald Hubbard sends in the following contribution to Ups and Downs for Sunday, February 10, 1946:

I have been asked to give an account of last Sunday's rock climbing activities in six lines or less. Here is the whole story in a nutshell, including the personnel:

(cont. page 7)

REMEMBER WHEN? cont'd.

It may sound absurd
 But, Alley and Sally
 Climbed Willy and Nilly
 While Donald and Arnold
 Looked chilly and silly
 Cooking a potherb.

"For those who do not know the Willy-Nilly traverse, it includes two sections, the first being the old familiar 'Crawford Crash' or 'Sally's Silly Slip,' while the second part involves a tension traverse which terminates at the Lizard Ledge. It occupies the entire upstream face of the rock outcrop which lies between the 'Little Horror' and the 'Skull.'

Your Ups and Downs reporter recognizes a few of the above climbs as being located at the Camp Lewis Cliffs, which places the general locale of operations within fairly narrow limits, the cliffs not permitting much latitude in that respect. For those who find some difficulty in accurately locating the individual climbs mentioned above, the Editor-In-Chief has been promised an attempt at mapping them when and if further information can be procured.

Donald Hubbard
 Arnold Wexler

Dolores Alley
 Sally Chamberlin

Directions to Williamsville, Virginia - February 20, 1965
 (Ed Goodman - Trip Leader - JE 4-3853)

From Harrisonburg, Virginia, travel southwest on Route 42 to the intersection of Route 250 near Churchville. Turn right and procede west on Route 250 to McDowell, Virginia. Just as you enter McDowell turn left on road to Williamsville. Goat Falls (turnoff) is approximately 15 miles from McDowell just before you get to Williamsville, and is on the left-hand side of the road. Look for Bob Roller's name on the mail box. Should you miss this turn, you will find yourself in Williamsville; turn around and retrace your path, again looking for Bob Roller's mailbox. As there will be group commisary, it is requested that you contact Syvone Eason (931-2912) or Helena Clarke (337-3169) with regard to food suggestions, etc., not later than February 14. Also, if further directions are needed, contact Ed Goodman. If cabin reservations cannot be secured, the destination will be changed to Seneca Rocks where we will stay in the motel and eat at the restaurant.

The UP ROPE staff wishes to extend its sincerest apologies to Willie Unsoeld for misspelling his name in the last edition.

FROM CHUCK: At the annual business meeting the leadership of the club was formally transferred into the capable hands of George Livingstone and Chris Buckingham. They and others have actually performed the major share of the Chairman's duties during my long absences during the past year.

I want to express my sincere thanks to them and to all of you who helped to keep the club going and supported its activities with your attendance during fair and foul weather.

Chuck Wettling - Retired Climber

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The low price of \$1.50 sent to UP ROPE at the Clubhouse (1916 Sunderland Place, N.W., Washington 6, D.C.) entitles you to twelve glorious issues of this informative paper.

Please make all checks payable to Phil Eddy since this will make cashing them so very much easier.