



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

Vol. XX No. 4

April 1965

COMING EVENTS

- April 4- Carderock, Maryland
Business Meeting- 7:30 p.m. at HQs
- April 11- Sugar loaf Mt. Maryland.
- April 17-18 Seneca Rocks, West Va. Chris Buckingham-Trip leader
Call 736-0871 for information.
- April 25- Great Falls, Va.

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.

Any interested person, whether P.A.T.C. 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.

SEN. GAYLORD NELSON (D. WISC.) INTRODUCED BILL S-622 TO PROMOTE AND PROTECT THE AT. SINCE THIS DIRECTLY AFFECTS US AS A SPECIAL INTEREST SECTION IN THE P.A.T.C. WE SHOULD GIVE HIM OUR SUPPORT
ED.

CARDEROCK, MARYLAND -- March 7, 1965

Don Stemper	Wilbur Thrasher	Jim Kennedy
Dan Withers	Ferry Cuthbertson	Ed Goodman
Syvone Eason	Lan Stone	Don Hubbard (breakfast only)
Ralph Stockhausen	Bob Eddy	Phil Eddy
Chuck wettling	Bob Adams & Family	Chris Buckingham & Family
Helena Clark	Leo Scott & Family	Carol Scott
Fal Bielefeld	Mark Carpenter	Joe Landowne
Frank Thompson	Fina Abbott	Ed Wilmer
Larry Griffin	Sally Griffin	George Livingstone
Joel Gross	Bob Keyser	Walt Snyder & Family
Hans Froelicher	Dave & Joan Templeton	Mary Berthiaume & Family
John Boren	Howard & Chris Johnson	Lisa Crowell
Bob West	Tom Blevins	Ivan Mbagintao (from New
Bob Croft	Mike & Joan Nicholson	Barry Bielsker Guinea)
Lyla Matteson	Joe Weber	Tim Schoechle
Frank Zahar	John Schelling	Vic Novac
Joe Bishop	Moose Remington	Paul Kirby (from Brisbane
Kerry & Lois Cain	Joel Rosenthal	Joe Nolte Australia)
Rubin Faith	Andre Kaufman	Bob Curtiss & Family
Phil Cardon	Keith Kerney	Jim & Donna Willard
Bob Mole	Gerald Frederick (NSS)	Chris & Jane Scoredos
Dave & Andy Head	Mary Vincett	Jim Lewis
Walter & Emma Downs		Stephen Hill

For a change, the weather promised to be pleasant this week end, and an unusually large crowd of about 20 had assembled at Ho Jo's by take off time. In spite of verbal pleas, and an announcement in the last UP ROPE, to push departure time back to 8:00 A.M., we were still unable to leave before the long customery 8:30 or so. Can't we get this show on the road earlier?

Arriving at Carderock, we found the Potomac River to be unusually high due to heavy rains earlier in the week. In fact, Nubble Face and other climbs downstream from it were not available because of the flooding. This caused us to pay more attention than usual to the climbs upstream from Swayback Layback: Sterlings crack Jans face, etc.

Since Chris Buckingham had received only one or two requests in advance for practice in dynamic belaying, he did not bother to bring along the winch and engine with which to rig Oscar. It was just as well, for Oscar's usual landing field was a sea of mud and the usual belaying stance by the big tree was definitely awash.

As the day wore on, the balmy weather brought out more and more climbers, both old timers and newcomers. Just logging them in made me feel, at times, as busy as a small dog on a circus lot. The list above accounts for over eighty people. In addition, there were seven members of the Terrapin Trail Club of the University of Maryland plus a group of high school students not otherwise identified. In all, there were about a hundred people, not counting casual spectators, who were

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interested in climbing at Carderock that fine day. No attempt was made to keep track of who climbed what - - that would have required a whole squad of snoopers.

- - Phil Eddy

GREAT FALLS, MD. Feb. 14, 1965

Chris Buckingham	Tom Blevins	George Livingstone
Helena Clarke	Phil Eddy	Bobby Eddy
Three Adams'es	Joe Landowne	Mary Vincett
Jim Lewis	Feri Cuthbertson	Will Thrasher
Bill Cox	Dan Stone	Chuck Wettling
George Bishop	Steve Hill	Mark Carpenter
Talbot Bielefeldt	Art Wilder	Dave & Joan Templeton
Dudley Smith	Tom McCrumm	Mike & Joan Nicholson
Harold and Charles	Pete Stoller	Larry & Sallie Griffin
Kramer	Tim Schoechle	Kathy Maine
Joe Nolte	Robin Faith	Whitey & Cindy Eubank
Ed Goodman	Syvone Eason	Mike Young
Barbara Holmberg	Ralph Stockhausen	

Well, the required three week minimum period has elapsed and I can finally sit down and write the article I volunteered for. I probably would have put it off longer, but UP ROPE came in the mail today and sort of shocked me into action. I arrived at Great Falls early and found that the rains, which had fallen heavily the week before had inundated about two-thirds of the climbs and made the channel uncrossable. Not knowing for sure what to do, I decided to walk back toward the car and wait for the rest of the group. As it turned out, had I taken a closer look, I would have found Ed Goodman and a couple of other people already working on one of the climbs which could be reached. When everybody arrived and surveyed the lack of climbs, there was some talk of moving to Sugarloaf or to Carderock. After several unsuccessful attempts to get enough people to stand in one place long enough to take a vote to decide whether or not to move on, we decided to stay.

About six climbs were rigged, but unfortunately, I don't remember their names or who did them. Since we had such a large turnout, it took almost all day to work the six climbs, and just about everybody got a full day in. A few hardy souls decided to supplement the days' climbing by a walk along the tow path.

At various times during the day, I looked over the cliff from the top and saw Bob Adams belaying from a boulder protruding from the water below. This impressed me as a rather unique place to belay from. Everytime I looked over, there was Bob and I began to think maybe he was stranded there and couldn't get off. When we were packing to go to Touhey's, someone remembered that Chuck had headed downstream by himself looking for a climb he remembered from years back. No one had seen him return and his pack was still where he had left it. A search party was formed and headed downstream to look for him and although we passed several people along the way, none of them had seen Chuck. I think we were all a bit relieved when we

spotted him coming toward us. He didn't find the missing climb by the way. As we headed toward the cars, it started to snow and by the time we got home, a couple of inches had accumulated. Fortunately, the weather had been clear up until then and everybody enjoyed themselves! Oh yes, before I close, I remember someone mentioning that Joe Nolte did a wicked overhang. I didn't see it, but I am sure it was worthy of mention.

HARPER'S FERRY January 10, 1965

The north wind doth blow
And we shall have snow
And what will the climber do then?
He will depart in his car
To climb as before
Regardless of the snow and the wind

This Sunday's ventures returned us to the rocks where we had worked so diligently to cover the Mennen's Toilet Powder sign. This day's weather was not so balmy, for it was characterized by heavy snowfall and trickles of water streaming off the rock into one's face. We arrived late none the better for a slight accident and the bleakness of the day.

Upon arriving we all did a quick, easy scramble and almost decided to go home but Chris wanted to climb the Toilet Powder sign (ex-Powder sign). Mark, Talbot, Ed, and I followed him to the base of the rocks. While some others went to climb Sam's Pin, still others went hiking.

Ed and I chose an easy route but because of the snow, it turned out to be quite a wet and miserable climb. Meanwhile, Chris decided to try a hard climb in his boots. After falling two or three times, he had climbed almost fifteen feet, (we learned later, much to our regret, that he had broken his ankle in one of these falls). Chris was willing to go on but Mark was complaining of a frostbitten finger so Chris obligingly conceded and slithered his way down those fifteen precious feet.

Ed and I reached the top and saw the hiker's tracks and some other climbers off to our right. Arriving at the cars, we contemplated awhile but without too much delay we drove back to Touhey's and later to Ed's to watch a football game. All in all, everyone had a good day's exercise climbing or engaging in diversionary sports connected with climbing.

Bobby A.

LOST, BUT FOUND

From Williamsville Caving trip: ONE pair of Army black leather glove shells with wool liners.

LOST: 100 foot climbing rope, 1 year old, white tape on ends, orange mark 30 feet from one end. Left at picnic table at Carderock, Md., 7 March 1965. If found, call Talbot Bielefeldt at WH 6 4375.

MOUNTAINEERING IN THE NEW YORKER MAGAZINE

Some of our readers may be interested in an article on mountaineering which ran serially in the March 6, 13, & 20, 1965 issues of the New Yorker Magazine. It was titled "Ascent", appeared in the department called "A Reporter at Large", and was written by Jeremy Bernstein.

The first two instalments could best be described concisely as an extended historical account of the rise of modern mountaineering in the region of its birth: the Mont Blanc massif near which France, Italy, and Switzerland come together. The historical account is at times quite detailed, is full of anecdotes, and evidences considerable research into the literature. Particular attention is given to the first ascents in the mid 1780's, and to the personalities, competition, lies, and myths associated with them. The "Golden Age of Mountaineering" - the mid 19th century - also gets quite a bit of attention. This was the period when the bulk of the great first ascents in the region were made, culminating in Whymper's conquest of the Matterhorn in 1865 and Mummery's conquest of the Grépon in 1881.

In the last instalment we finally learn the author's credentials. He is a physicist (Ph D, Harvard, 1955) who took advantage of climbing opportunities while serving a hitch at CERN, the international nuclear physics research center in Geneva, in the late 1950's. Prior to that he had done only a little climbing; perhaps his most interesting previous feat was a midnight ascent of Memorial Hall on the Harvard Campus. He and his companion timed this forbidden pleasure to come after they had passed their doctoral final exams since "it was quite unlikely that the University would throw us out only a few days before we were admitted to the community of scholars".

Most of the last instalment is devoted to an account of the author's experiences climbing in the Mont Blanc region. In the process he gives a vivid description of the people and culture of the Chamonix Valley - climbing capitol of the world - and a good account of the life and fortune of the guides. His literary style is typical New Yorker Magazine: rambling and discursive, chasing up all sorts of intriguing byways, but never dull. I thoroughly enjoyed reading this rather lengthy article, and expect to reread it again.

- Phil Eddy -

NOTICE: The Mountaineering Section of the Potomac Appalachian Trail Club wishes to express its sincere appreciation to Mr. Malcolm Allen, Recreation Editor of the Baltimore Sunday Sun, for the favorable publicity which he has given to our activities. This seems to have stimulated appreciable interest and encouraged several people to join us in our weekend outings.

Note: He receives UP ROPE, thanks to Mary Vincett.

FOR SALE: 50% off Frame rucksack with aluminum frame. 2 side pockets, 1 front. Map pocket under top flap. Olive drab canvas. \$4.00 or make offer. HIMALAYAN pack frame, Everest model. Aluminum with canvas straps and backbands. Collapsible shelf. American made. \$4.00 or make offer. For the above items call Talbot Bielefeldt at WH 6 4375.

Your Editor loaned his extra pair of kletterschuhe to one of his fellow climbers and hasn't seen them since. Would who ever has them please call Ed Goodman at 534-3853 and I will come pick them up. Thank you.

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NOTICE: Our chairman has a new address (above) and a new phone.
GEORGE LIVINGSTONE 462 - 8869

SUBSCRIPTION: The low price of \$1.50 sent to UP ROPE at the Clubhouse (1916 Sunderland Place N. W.) entitles you to twelve glorious issues of this informative paper. Please make checks payable to Phil Eddy since this will facilitate cashing them.

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