

## NEWS OF THE P.A.T.C. MOUNTAINEERING SECTION

1916 Sunderland Place N. W., Washington, D. C., 20036

Vol. XX No. 8

August 1965

### COMING EVENTS

August 1 Carderock, Maryland

August 4 Business Meeting - 8:00 p.m. PATC Clubhouse

August 7 & 8 Baker Rocks, W. Virginia

Directions: Capitol Beltway to Rt. 66. Rt. 66 to Va. Rt. 55 at Gainesville, Va. Rt. 55 thru Front Royal; Strasburg to Wardensville to Moorefield, W. Va. Continue 7 miles beyond Moorefield on Rt. 28 to Harper's Central Dairy (on right) Turn left into lane (open gate) beside quonset hut. Follow lane back to rocks.

Note: This area is on private property. It is only thru the kindness of the owner, Mr. Sam Harper, that we will be able to camp and climb here. Leader: George Livingstone - EM 3-7161.

August 15 Sugarloaf Mountain, Md. - Leader: Ed Goodman  
Je 4-3853

August 21 & 22 Caudy's Castle, W. Virginia

August 29 Little Stony Man, Virginia

Sept. 4, 5, 6 Seneca Rocks, W. Virginia

Sunday meeting place and point of departure is the north side of the Chevy Chase Center--the shopping center just north of Howard Johnson's at Western and Wisconsin Avenues. Meet under the arcade between the Giant Food Store and Fanny Farmer Candy Store. Departure time--8:30 a.m. Note with day's destination will be left on right side of phone booth (652-9854) by entrance to Giant Food Store. 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.

(cont'd page 2)

Any interested person is invited to join in the Section's activities. If you are new to climbing you are invited to learn to climb and belay capably and enjoyably; or, if you already know a kletterschuh from a chimney, you are invited to enjoy using and improving your current climbing skills in the company of like-minded people.

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Wolf Rock, Maryland, June 20, 1965

George Livingstone	Helena Clarke	Bill Nichols
Al Webb	Andre de Schutter	Chuck Wettling
Grey Bennett	Valentine de Schutter	Tal Bielefeldt
Furn Walton	Chris Buckingham	Ed Goodman
Syvone Eason	Margerat Lee	Phil Eddy
"The Adams (Bob, Kate,	Bob Williams	Bobby Eddy
Bobby & Penny)	Bob West	Ted Vaill
David Warshawsky (& Jake)	Don Stemper	Meliore Ordish
Walter Snyder	Jim Baugher	Kerry Cain
Ralph Haller	Art Wilder	Lois Cain
Bill Jarrett	Nina ?	Richard Hall

It seems we now have to meet twice before setting off on a Sunday morning -- first at Ho-Jo's then at the Chevy Chase Center parking lot....However, a good crowd eventually assembled at Wolf Rock (suitably exhausted after walking a full three-quarters of a mile to the climbing area) and climbs were quickly rigged up. There only appear to be two grades of climbing at Wolf Rock -- very easy or very 'ard. The less experienced pottered up and down the vast choice of routes along the length of the rock and spent a considerable amount of time watching the efforts of the star performers near the wolf's head and on the far side.

Furn Walton, Bill Nichols and David Warshawsky were put through their paces in belaying a second, arresting a fall and securing a possibly injured climber. Chris Buckingham was amongst the volunteers on the end of the rope and it was suggested that his recent enforced inactivity had added a few extra pounds to the 165 to which he admits.

It was Meliore Ordish's first introduction to rock climbing. Wonder why her numerous instructors took her down a deep crack to show her the art of chimneying?

Minor diversions were caused by the occasional sight of a copperhead which disappeared rapidly from view when Talbot Bielefeldt or Ed Goodman approached it armed with stick and knife, and various "sightseers" who were intrigued by our performances.

To conclude the day, a leisurely dinner was partaken at the Cozy Inn.

-----Margerat Lee

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**NOTE:** The Firm of Suzanne and Robert Broughton announces the addition of a Junior Partner JOHANNA BROUGHTON, Effective May 31, 1965. Address: 6428 Darlington Road Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Statistical Data: Weight: 6.0 lbs., Height: 19.2 in.

**CONGRATULATIONS** to the Broughton's from the P.A.T.C. Mountaineering Section.

Seneca Rocks, W. Virginia, July 3-5, 1965

Maggie Teal	Brian Rennex	Grey Bennett
Tim Schoechle	Judy Peters	Chuck Wettling
Bill Nichols	Tom Blevins	George Livingstone
Aaron ?	Carol Scott	Helena Clarke
Bob Williams	Aspasia Neophytos	Tony & Meg Grey
Roger Craig	Chris Buckingham	Margerat Lee
Andre & Valentine de Schutter	Hal Swift	Rich Hall
Hester Ailes	Merv Oleson	Kerry & Lois Cain
Bill Jarrett	Don Fader	Larry & Sallie Griffin
Arnold Wexler and party	Bob & Sue Broughton	Bob and Dick Mole
Art Lembeck	Tom Abercrombie	Don Stemper
Henry Sterns	Cindy & Whitey Eubank	Joe Nolte
The Edler Family	Pinky Wheatley	Robin Faith
Dan Vadney	The Adams	Lee Evans
Buzz Jones	Tal Bielefeldt	

Over 50 strong, we made our annual 4th of July assault on Seneca Rocks, the Mouth of Seneca pavilion, Spruce Knob, and the 4--U Restaurant. Despite the rain and the hoedown in the pavilion, I think everyone would agree that it was one of the finest weekends ever, due to the many climbs done and the companionship around the campfire.

It's a bit difficult to attempt a description of the various climbs because of my one day climbing (George leading Simple J. Malarky, Brian Rennex seconding, and me, as usual, reluctantly taking up the rear), and trying to keep track of the assorted activities of 50 climbers. Hopefully, reasonable justice can be done to all.

As usual, the Adams family had a full weekend. Bobby led Ye Gods and Little Fishes, seconded by Tal, and followed up by Bob Williams and Pinky (I hear Pinky used only one piton for aid). Bob led bunches of girls up Soler Route, Thais, and Simple J. Malarky (including Maggie, Kate, and Grey at various times).

Tim Schoechle led a party up Green Wall (Robin and Lee). Ed Goodman, in the tradition of the MS's famous hospitality led Lower Skyline and Old Lady's for two members of the National Geographic Society. George led the Totem Sunday with Buzz Jones seconding and Brian Rennex taking up the rear. The interesting part of that climb (viewed from below) is the tension roof. Monday, George led Ship's Shivering Shimmy with Tom Blevins seconding and Bobby A, third. I understand from George that IT'S HARD.

Chuck, Bob (and son) and Margerat went on a 12 mile hike in the Spruce Knob area and surprisingly, they all seemed none the worse for wear. And the Eubank's went caving while Jonathon Twain slept in the care of Robin.

Special mention is due Bill Jarrett and Tom Grey who played their guitars and led a song fest down by the Cain tent Saturday and Sunday night. This is a great way to end a climbing day and I sure hope it happens again.

Monday, the climbing abruptly stopped due to a very hard sudden downpour and we all gathered on the pavilion (swiftly, due to Chris' chauffering) to change (some with less modesty than others).

Merv and Hal stayed behind for another day, while the rest of us started back to Washington late in the afternoon. End..another marvelous weekend at Seneca.

Helena Clarke

Old Rag Mountain -- July 9, 10 & 11

Bob, Kate & Bobby Adams	Tom Blevins
Harold & Charles Kramer	Buzz Jones
Furn Walton	Lucille Borgan
Chris Buckingham	Mark Schultz
Tal Bielefeldt	Brian Rennex
Barry Wallen	Frank Zahar
Bob Williams	George Perkins
Chuch Wettling	Lee Evans

And the cry went up from the rocks,  
 "Rain, Rain -- Go Away."  
 And the answer echoed through the heights--  
 "Baby, The Rain Must Fall!"  
 And it did!

Picture a handful of drenched climbers, and you can feature the above bunch; under overhangs, on climbs, in shelters, etc. Here's hoping no one comes down with pneumonia.

Saturday night our own Kate Adams had an uninvited visitor. It seems that a mouse liked the taste of her finger. But, not being a faint-hearted gal, our Kate was out on the climbs the next day.

Then there was the difference of opinion between the shelter-sleepers and the tent-dwellers. It seems that the former prefer to sleep instead of listening to the sweet sound of a piton hammer in the wee small hours of the morning.

Take one technically poor climber (who can't make a practice climb in her own tennis shoes), add the spirit of experimentation, Bob Adams' kletterschue, and Chuck Wettlings' wrestling sneakers, and the result is a difference of opinion. Unfortunately, the argument was not resolved, because Lee made the same climb in both types of shoes. Looks like Bob and Chuck will continue to defend their own opinions of which shoes are best for some time to come.

The climbs on the whole, did not seem to offer as much of a variety as was expected. The view also seemed to be "lacking" due to the fog and mist level, which at times gave the summit an eerie supernatural effect.

There were lots of complaints on the length of the hike up, especially from the late arrivals who missed the better climbing on Saturday. However, it must have been Tal's cup of tea because he made the hike twice in order to be in D.C. Saturday night.

Then there are those of us who can get lost following a blazed trail from the summit to Byrds Nest shelter--right Brian?

The trip ended with some good chow in Warrenton for some very deserving climbers.

-----Lee Evans

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NOTE: Your Editor hates people who hates snakes and is trying to arouse interest in the establishment of a "BE KIND TO SNAKES WEEK"! (Syvone objects!)

Juliet's Balcony, Virginia -- July 18, 1965

George Livingstone  
Helena Clarke  
Frank Zahar  
Clarence Jones  
Art Wilder  
Mary Neilson  
Sandra Nurmi  
Don Stemper  
Arnold Wexler  
Bill Jarrett  
D. Jan Black  
Grey Bennett

R. T. Hall  
Lee Evans  
Lucille Borgan  
Brian Rennex  
Alan Ogden  
R. Haller  
Gary Feichtinger  
Bob Mahoney  
Tony & Meg Gray  
Margaret Lee  
Chuck Wettling  
Maggie Teel

Phyllis Stanio  
Kiyo Kawahito  
3 Adams  
Andrew Kauffman  
Dave Warshawsky  
Phil Eddy  
Jimmy Eddy  
Bill Nichols  
Gene Webber  
Tommy Cross

We spent a strenuous day climbing in nature's reflector oven, the Potomac Gorge, sorely tempted by the murky waters below, but wisely resisting taking the plunge.

A park ranger inquired if we were an organized group and its name. This inquiry probably stems from our meeting with park officials earlier this summer when aspects of climbing in the Potomac Gorge were discussed. The park officials at that time had requested that we identify ourselves in some manner to aid them in distinguishing between responsible, experienced climbers and others.

Afterwards, a select, well-heeled (if not--they should have been!) group went to Trieste's for a sumptuous family-style, Italian dinner; a farewell dinner for the Adams family before their European trip, and a dinner long to be remembered for its sequential impact on the stomach and the hip pocket!

One of the memorable events of the day was Tony Grey's sales talk for his cod-coddling swami seat. It is so-o-o-o comfortable for climbing, for falling, or for just playing around. No bind, no squeeze, no YIKES! (Phil Eddy)

-----George Livingstone

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Dear Climbers:

Joan and I have received so many dynamic belays from all of you over the past few months, in the way of direct assistance at Petersburg, visits to the hospital there, visits at Doctor's Hospital, and cards bearing your best wishes, that we doubt that we can ever express our gratitude sufficiently. Please accept THANK YOU with the understanding that it symbolizes a whole host of grateful emotions.

We were sorry to hear that many of you came to Grant Memorial in vain. They had pretty stringent rules there on visits, but had we known of this, we would have endeavored to persuade them to relax the rules.

We will certainly be home for anyone of you who wishes to drop out this way. Within a month or so we hope to see you at the old haunts. I finally have found a good excuse for begging off the climbs, so I shall make much of this opportunity to laze around on the rocks.

-----Dave & Joan Templeton



Secessionist Trip to THE COVE --- July 24-25, 1965

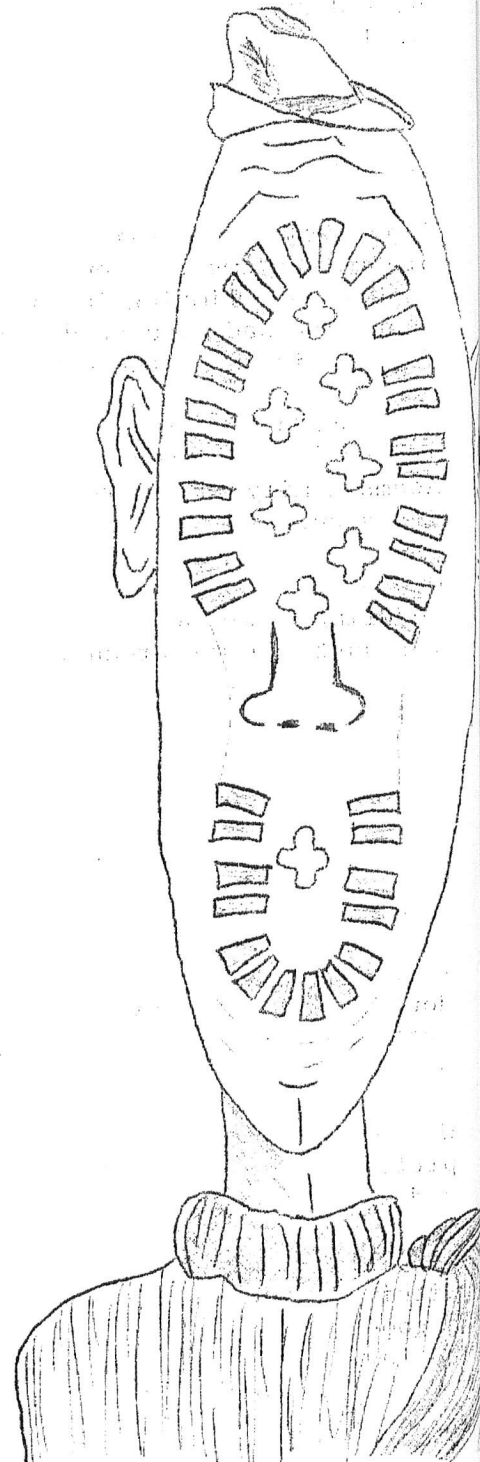
From time to time there seem to be secessionist or even deviationist tendencies within our group. That is to say, sometimes a few individuals pull out and go climbing by themselves elsewhere than at the scheduled destination. At other times they may even commit the heresy of claiming that some other activity is more fun than climbing.

These things actually happened on the weekend of July 24-25 when our irrepressible editor, Ed Goodman, led a secessionist-deviationist expedition to the COVE near Gore, Virginia, for the purpose of water skiing on the lake there. (He owns the necessary boat, skis, etc.) The following people were led astray into this venture: Syvone Easton, Furn Walton, Tom Blevins, Chris Buckingham, Brian Rennex, Bob Williams and Phil, Bob and Jimmy Eddy.

The owner of the COVE (Capt. Pete McDowell, U.S.N. (Ret.)), granted permission to use the lake for water skiing between 11 a.m. and 3 p.m., the remaining hours being reserved for fishermen. Everyone had his try at water skiing except ten-year-old Jimmy who felt that he was too small. The girls were experienced and did right well, but this was a first try at the sport for all of the fellows (except Ed, of course, who is an expert). Most of us found it very awkward to get started the first time and were grateful for Ed's assistance alongside. But, after that it wasn't hard at all and the unanimous feeling was that this sport is great. Everyone took a spill sooner or later; if not soon enough for Ed, then he made proper arrangements: he would maneuver the victim into taking a curve on the outside. The whip cracking speedup (augmented, if necessary, by speeding up the boat) in the turn was enough to spill each of us neophytes. The facial expressions on the people involved were a sight to remember: Ed's face would light up in a demoniacal grin and wierd lights would flash around his head as he maneuvered the turn and sped up to effect the spill. On the other hand, the victim, when he realized what was coming, usually assumed a horror struck expression which reminded me of a picture I once saw of some cavalymen in a charge when they realized that they were about to charge over a cliff. But, as one of the spillees, I must say that it wasn't bad at all even tho, as Ed observed, one could get a rather quick enema.

One more insidious deviationist-revisionist tendency must be noted: in a group dedicated to physical activity, the game of Chess, a mental activity (ugh!) seemed to have a strong hold. At times there were two or three games going on simultaneously. This tendency must be watched carefully lest it get out of hand. Can't you imagine Ed Trying a Knight's move

courte  
échelle



or being put in Check by Chris over on Leonard's Lunacy? And, don't think they wouldn't try it!

(P.S. Just in case you are wondering, the tone for this trip report was set by the reaction of our Chairman, George Livingstone, to my enthusiastic verbal account of the trip.)

-----Phil Eddy

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### Chouinard on the Use of Pitons and Carabiners

Most climbers can recognize a Chouinard carabiner at a glance; it is the only type for which we can tell at a glance "which end is up." But do most of us know that it was designed by Yvon Chouinard, one of America's great rock climbers? (For accounts of two difficult climbs in which he participated last year, the North American Wall on El Capitan and the South Face of Mount Watkins, both in Yosemite National Park, see the 1965 issue of the American Alpine Journal. The first of these climbs is also described by Royal Robbins in the July 1965 issue of Summit.)

His experience on these very demanding climbs has stimulated him, as many others who participate in such adventures have been stimulated, to improve the hardware upon which success and even life itself depends. He has made the following "hints on usage" of pitons and carabiners in a recent brochure describing the equipment which he has designed. This passage is reprinted here, not as advertising but as a service to readers of UP ROPE.

"Chouinard pitons and carabiners are the safest and most reliable of any hardware in the world. However, there are certain precautions that must be exercised if one is to get full benefit of these features.

The carabiner is intended for use with the small end in the eye of the piton. Caution should be used to make certain that the carabiner is not bound in the piton eye such that any unnatural torque or leverage could be put on it during a fall.

Pitons of alloy steel are actually much safer, because of their greater holding power, than those of soft iron. However, potential danger lies in their inherent low tolerance to bending or deformation. Whereas a good soft iron piton will deform and usually pull out of a crack before breaking, an alloy piton subject to a heavy load (i.e. a leader fall), will break if it has been improperly placed. To forestall disaster the following guidelines should be adhered to. Proper placement of Bugaboos, Lost Arrows, and Angles in horizontal cracks is eye downward and driven all the way in to the eye for protection during free climbing. For angles, specifically, this means open side down. Pitons that have been driven only part way in must be tied off with a sling to reduce leverage. RURPS and knifeblades are designed primarily for artificial climbing and cannot be relied upon to hold a fall. Alloy pitons wear out differently than soft pitons. Rather than becoming an unrecognizable blob of bent iron, they keep their shape for a long time, sometimes for hundred of uses. But when fatigue cracks develop--usually at the junction of the head and blade, or in the case of angles and Bongs, along their length--the piton should be retired." ----Yvon Chouinard

Chouinard Equipment for Alpinist

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UP ROPE extends its thanks to Tal for the cartoon appearing on page 6.

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