



FOUNDED BY
JAN AND HERB CONN

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

Vol. XXII No. 6

1718 N Street, N.W., Washington, D.C., 20036

June 1967

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- June 4 Carderock, Maryland
Leader: Dave Templeton (424-7997)
See item inside regarding dynamic
belay training.
- June 7 Showing of Film "OUTWARD BOUND" by Tom
McCrum, PATC Conference Room at
8:00 P.M.
- June 11 Bull Run Mountain, Virginia
Leader: Bob Adams (292-1340)
- June 14 Business Meeting, PATC Conference Room,
8:00 P.M.
- June 18 Seneca Rocks, Virginia *
Leader: Lannie Hughey (652-8193)
- June 25 Edes Fort, West Virginia *
Leader: Larry Griffin (560-8831)
- July 4 Weekend Seneca Rocks, West Virginia *

(SEE INSIDE PAGES FOR DIRECTIONS TO THESE AREAS)

* These trips are to areas where lead climbs predominate. Climbers are advised to prearrange their teams for climbing, as anyone arriving solo may find teams already made-up. Novice climbers are urged not to attend these trips. Novices and climbers who desire information on an alternate trip should contact a club officer,

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THE PATC MOUNTAINEERING SECTION

The Mountaineering Section of the Potomac Appalachian Trail Club welcomes all interested individuals who wish to participate in its weekly outings and to share in the freedom of the hills. Sunday day trips leave from Howard Johnson's at Wisconsin and Western Avenues, N. W. at 8:30 am. Come early and have breakfast. If you are late, check behind the southeast drainpipe for any change in scheduled activities. Climbing lasts all day. Groups stop for supper on the way home. Bring lunch and water. Wear clothing suitable for climbing. For further information, contact the trip leader or Lanny Hughey (652-8193). For information about the Mountaineering Section, write to: Secretary, Mountaineering Section, PATC, 1718 N Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. 20036, or visit PATC Headquarters between 7pm. and 10pm. any weeknight.

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UP ROPE is published on the last Wednesday of each month at PATC Headquarters. Deadline for submitted material is the next to last Wednesday of the month preceding an issue. Material for inclusion, comments, or questions on editorial policy should be directed to: EDITOR, UP ROPE, c/o PATC, 1718 N Street, N. W. Washington, D. C. 20036. Subscription rates are \$1.50 per year. New subscriptions and changes of address should be directed to: Business Manager, UP ROPE, etc.

ATTENTION ZEALOTS

Extra copies of UR are generally found at the Information Desk of the PATC should anyone wish one or two for passouts. Please do not take any more than is necessary for your aims as these are primarily for use by the Information Desk.

EDITORS CORNER

During his five months as editor of UR, Vince de Santi performed this function well. His major contribution was publication of one of the best organized UR subscriber lists ever issued. Vince stated the reason for his relinquishing his post and for removing himself from our circle in the May issue. You will be missed while you are gone, Vince. Hurry back.

Your new horse hopes the old adage will prove untrue, that he will measure up to the standards set by Vince and his predecessors, and that he will carry on the traditions and spirit of UR. He looks forward to working with everyone to work through UR to further the well-being and interests of the Section in particular and climbers in general.

This column will be maintained as a regular feature throughout the present editor's tenure and will be used to reflect his opinions, policies, and general attitudes on UR, and MS, and MS activities.

Next month, the chairman will initiate a column to serve as a vehicle for his extra-business-meeting communications with the membership. We encourage the committees to use UR for informal status reports and we encourage the membership to use UR for their expression.

Other features being introduced this month include a tear-out sheet giving directions to the month's scheduled climbing areas and comments on various items of interest in the exchange publications.

Editorial policy at present is as follows:

- An item will be accepted for publication as long as it is in good taste, is reasonably well written, and is deemed news-worthy relative to UR's audience.
- Spelling and grammatical corrections will be performed as necessary. Revisions and rewrites will be done with the writers permission.
- Rejected items will be returned with the reason for rejection.
- Accepted items not making deadline of one issue will appear in the next issue.

For the information of would-be contributors, articles may be mailed to the address given on page 2 or may be hand-carried to the club and left at the front desk or the mailbox by the front door.

To go to another area, the PATC sends in answer to requests by would-be members several brochures and three months of the Forecast gratis. This is the function of the Information Desk. Since more queries about our activities are reaching this desk, why not authorize it to mail out our brochures and a three month gratis subscription to UR?

BUSINESS MANAGERS COMMENT

New subscribers to UR will be assured of receiving it each month only if they are directed to tender their \$1.50 together with their correct address to my offices as noted on page 2. Several instances in which the new subscriber missed the mailing list for several months because he gave his money and address to some helpful but absent minded member, could have been avoided by adherence to the above policy.

TRAINING COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN'S REPORT

That poor fall guy, Oscar is in bad shape. His corpus primum lies asleep in the deeps of the Potomac River awaiting rescue by the underwater contingent of the MS. Until the muddied waters clear, corpus primum will be replaced by corpus secundum, the rock of unknown weight used on the last training mission.

Oscar sinews too are loose and slack, feathered and broken. Too much oil and the weight of corpus secundum did them in. If you've a rope of suspicious status, Oscar will be glad to take it off of your hands. The sooner the better.

The plans for Carderock Sunday are as follows. The rock to which Oscar's winch and motor attach is to be realigned. This will require a pick and shovel crew, picks and shovels to be furnished. Attempts to spot Oscar will be made. Anyone who wishes to pass the deep submergence test may apply. Lastly, if we have ropes, dynamic belay training will be performed. Two ropes will suffice, one for belaying and one for winching. If you are interested in participating or contributing you will be gladly greeted at HoJo's Sunday Morn.

During the succeeding month, the Training Committee Chairman will attempt to sign the cards of those who have passed the various stages of training. If you're training was performed by someone other than the Training Committee Chairman, please obtain a statement to this effect from the individual who trained you. The Training Committee Chairman reserves the right to disallow any training by anyone he feels is unauthorized to do so.

Starting with next month's issue, UR will present to the club the Training Committee's recommended training program. This presentation will encompass several issues. Training Committee is composed of Ed Goodman, Tony Gray, Don Stemper, Dave Templeton, and Chuck Wettling should you wish to pass along some ideas while the report is being made final

Dave Templeton

NEWS FROM HERE AND THERE

Congratulations are in order for Sue and Bob Broughton who became the proud parents of a second girl, Carolyn, on April 13th of this year. We look forward to meeting Carolyn at Seneca on July 4.

Congratulations to Mr. Dana G. Dalrymple whose Mrs. is the former Miss Helen "Pinky" Wheatley. Our best wishes to you both.

Tony Harp writes from Shiraz, Iran and tells all sorts of things about Iran and its mountaineering facilities but nothing of what he is doing there. The letterhead being that of the Medical School of Pahlavi University we assume he is in residence there. Tony's letter appears in this issue.

Margaret Lee writes from Colorado as you will see when you read on.

Huntsville Grotto Newsletter for May-June, 1966 (Vol. VII Issue 5-6) contains an article by B. V. Varnedoe on hardhats, according to the May 1967 D.C. Speleograph. We may obtain a review on this for an upcoming issue.

Baltimore Grotto uses Carderock for their training area occasionally. Perhaps we can work out a deal to rent out our dynamic belay training rig.

The fight between W.G. Karras and the NSS goes one more round in the Baltimore Grotto News for March 1967. UR may do a coverage on this battle in the near future. On the other hand, it may not.

REGARDS FROM TONY HARP

To that old gang of mountain goats,

This is the voice from way down under and way out yonder re-establishing lines of communication.

Enclosed you will find a copy of a local english language newspaper.

The article on climbing may be of interest to you.

There are several mountaineering and rock climbing groups in Iran. Here in Shiraz there is one at the University and there are local chapters of the Iranian Mountaineering Federation (IMF) and TAJ. I have made contact with them and have gone on some trips. Also the last time in Tehran I visited the local headquarters of IMF. I would suggest to you that it would be good to make contact with them. Their address is: 20 KUCHE SEPAH, TEHRAN, IRAN. The Chairman of the University Rock Climbing team is Dr. Mahmood Sedeghee. At present he is an extern and may take a residency in the U.S. next year. I told him about you and should he locate in D. C. he will probably look you up.

The highest and best known Mt. in Iran is Demavend (). It is near Tehran. If you want a change from trips to Western U. S. or to Europe why not come here. I will be glad to guide you and act as interpreter. Iran is a fascinating country. About half is desert, $\frac{1}{4}$ mountain and the rest arable land. Four languages are spoken in Iran: Turkish, Kurdish, Arabic and Farsi; however, only one, Farsi, is the official language. I am making rapid progress learning Farsi and by the time any of you make a trip here I expect to be fluent.

Shiraz is the capitol of Farsi Province and is located at 5,000 ft. It is surrounded by mountains that rise still another 5,000 feet. Except where there is irrigation the land is dry and mostly barren. Shiraz has the best climate, drinking water, Hospitals and University in the area. I am fortunate in that I found a Western style apt. directly opposit Saadi Hospital and the Medical School. The apt. has a western toilet. A Persian toilet is nothing more than a hole in the ground moved indoors, equiped with modern plumbing minus an effective water seal and usually located in a room w/o ventilation.

Most of the mountains in this area are easy to climb. Because of the lack of precipitation the surface is course making for good friction. The worst part is the dash across the desert to get to the base of the mountain before it becomes too hot. Many climbs are so located that the race is nearly always lost unless one wished to start very early. It is advisable to have a local yak along. There are areas used as ammo dumps and perhaps for other purposes. The guards have been known to fire first and ask questions later. Some areas are infested with sheep rustlers and ocaasionally one of the tribes is on the reprise. Thus it is always best to have someone who knows the area.

No matter what, time is always allowed for drinking tea. The tea here is the most delicious I have ever tasted. The food is good and the Govt. has a good program for development.

Military service consists of 18 mts. After Basic training, many serve in the Literacy, Health or Agriculture Corps. Soon an arts and crafts corps will be started. Members are assigned to the provinces where they apply their talents.

Just 40 years ago each area had its own system of money. A traveler had to carry a bundle thus making him a good target. Now they are trying to establish a sense of national identity. Much progress has been made.

I am only 56 Kilometers from the ancient site of Persopolis. If you come to Iran, Persopolis, Shiraz, Tehran, Isfahen and the Caspian Sea should be on your list. I hope you put me on your mailing list and trust me until I return.

Note: The paper referred to by Tony describes a winter ascent of Mt. Towchal in Tehran. The paper is in the UR files and maybe borrowed by those interested. Good to hear from you, Tony. We shall look forward to meeting Dr. Sedeghee.

REGARDS TO ALL FROM MARGARET LEE

Dear Vince or Dave or whoever is now editing,

Report safe arrival in Boulder after a most interesting trip. In particular was most impressed by, and interested in New Orleans and New Mexico.

Installed in a semi detached bungalow, 2 bedrooms and 3 beds (not to mention 3 sleeping bags) so have plenty of accommodations to offer any visiting PATCMC-ers. Now frantically job hunting which is not much fun, salaries are miserable but cost of living no less. However, the weathers good and the mountains look great. Will be hiking on Saturday and climbing on the Flatirons on Sunday.

Please forward my May issue of UP ROPE.

P. S. Spent last evening with Jane Showaker and Mr. and Mrs Blinn(?) who were interested in news of the Old Timers.

Note: Good to hear from you, Margaret. We'll be right out.

A WORD FROM MARK CARPENTER

I would like to take this opportunity to put an end to any and all rumors concerning my fall at Edes Fort. I was 30 feet above the ground and fell about 20 feet, after pulling a rock out onto my head. Due to the rash of falls of this nature, I think a few suggestions might be made. Instead of criticizing accidents, we might use them to learn a few things. First, don't try to hang on. If you are going to be hit, you may as well jump and soften the blow. Keep your feet under you and your hands in front of your face whether you are wearing a hard hat or not. Second, when you stop, relax, wait for help, and analyze your situation. If you can remember these few things in those frantic seconds it may save you.

I would like to thank the people whose good judgement and first aid saved me serious injury. I am very lucky; but you can't depend on luck.

STEVE KOMITO, OUR APOLOGIES

I thank you for the kind mention of my repair services in the May issue of UP ROPE. However, since this notice was in error concerning prices, I would be very grateful if you could publish my letter in your June issue.

The \$5.00 re-soling price is for kletterschue resoled with either the Marwa standard or super klettersole. The re-soling price for boots is \$8.00 per pair and the customer has the choice of three brands: American Vibram, Swiss DuFour, or British Commando. All of these soles have been well accepted and vary from softer to harder rubber in the order listed. Additional repairs are at extra cost depending upon the work required. Restitching midsoles runs from 50¢ to \$2.00 per boot. Patching of worn uppers from 50¢ to \$1.50. The customer is asked to pay postage both ways. All jobs accepted for repair are guaranteed to be satisfactory.

I look forward to serving your readers.

Steve Komito

CARDEROCK, MARYLAND

Carderock, the site used by the MS for dynamic belay training, and the best local area for novice training due to its numerous and varied climbs, is on the Potomac River by the David Taylor Model Basin. Refer to John Reed's map of the Potomac River Climbing areas and to the standard Washington, D. C. Maps.

The best route to follow is to get onto the Washington Beltway and drive toward the Cabin John crossing of the Potomac River. At the Cabin John Bridge, exit onto Maryland's George Washington Parkway, and drive toward Great Falls, Maryland. In about one half mile, at the sign reading "Carderock Recreation Area", exit right from the Parkway up a ramp and take a left turn across the Parkway to a right turn which takes you under the C & O canal and up to another right turn. After taking this, drive to the furthest parking area, from which a well defined trail goes through a cluster of picnic tables to the cliffs.

SENECA ROCKS, WEST VIRGINIA

Seneca Rocks is the predominant area used by the club for continuous climbing. It is no area for a novice climber. Camping areas abound near the Rocks, among them being Spruce Knob Campground, Dolly Sods Campground and the Mouth of Seneca Campground.

The climbs at Seneca are described by John Reed in the July-August, 1965 PATC Bulletin., by a publication of the Pittsburgh Explorer's Club, and will be given complete coverage in a publication presently being compiled by members of the Mountaineering Section.

The best route from Washington leads from the Washington Beltway onto Route 66 in Virginia. Route 66 is followed to its exit onto Route 55-211 at Gainesville. Route 55 takes an almost immediate right and is followed through Front Royal, Va., Strasburg, Wardensville, and Moorefield, W. Va. to its intersection at the light in Moorefield with Route 4. Route 4 goes left to Petersburg, W. Va., where it intersects and follows Route 28 right. Take Route 4 and 28 to Mouth of Seneca. Mouth of Seneca is located at a "T" intersection, just before arriving at this "T" one crosses a bridge. Turn right before crossing the bridge, drive 100 yards and take the left fork for the campground.

BULL RUN, VIRGINIA

Bull Run Mountain is located near Haymarket, Virginia and has some extremely interesting climbs.

Proceed as for Seneca Rocks. After the right turn at Gainesville on Route 55, drive to and through Haymarket, Va., and past the light at US 15, 0.6 miles. Turn right on Route 681 (There is a SKLINE CAVERNS sign to left) and drive 3.6 miles to Route 601. Turn left (you are on a gravel road now) and drive 1.4 miles to a dirt road on the left, 0.55 miles past the county line. There is a stone house high up on each side of the road immediately before the dirt road. Park off the dirt road. Follow this road up a goodly grade to an old quarry. A white blazed trail takes off from the right prior to the main part of the quarry. The total hike from the road is roughly $1\frac{1}{2}$ miles.

EDES FORT, WEST VIRGINIA

Edes Fort is an area coming into prominence as a lead climbing area for the club. It is on the Cacapon River and picnicing and swimming may be done.

Take Route 70S toward Frederick, Maryland, and follow it to its junction with Route 40. Proceed on 40 west to Hancock, Maryland. At Hancock, take Route 522 south to Berkeley Springs, West Virginia (Alternatively take the Leesburg Pike,

Route 50 from the Virginia section of Beltway to Winchester, Va. Here, pick up Route 522 and go North to Berkeley Springs. From Berkeley Springs, take Route 9 West to Great Cacapon, W. Va. In Great Cacapon, take the second left after the bridge. Follow this road to within 150 yards of the Cacapon River, where a dirt road goes diagonally left to the rocks.

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