

# UP ROPE

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1967

NEWS OF THE PATC  
MOUNTAINEERING SECTION

FOUNDED BY JAN AND HERB CONN



ESCALADE DU MUR DE LA CÔTE

FROM THE STORY OF MONT-BLANC, BY ALBERT SMITH

1853

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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 (530-0007). 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.

UP ROPE PUBLICATIONMOUNTAINEERING SECTION  
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UP ROPE is the newsletter of the PATC Mountaineering Section, founded by Jan and Herb Conn in 1944. Publication is on the last Wednesday of each calendar 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.

Extra Copies of UP ROPE are generally found at the Information Desk of the PATC SHOULD ANYONE WISH ONE OR TWO for passouts. Please do not take anymore than is necessary for your aims as these are primarily for use by the Information Desk.

"There is a Long Trail goes from Maine to Georgia  
The Appalachian Trail  
We call it the A. T."

The above remark could conceivably have been made by a backpacker, a day hiker, a rock climber, an eastern mountaineer, a bird watcher, a geologist, a forester, or any one of a number of people—each with a particular interest of an outdoor nature. It is directed at the members of the Mountaineering Section to call attention to the fact that we are part of a larger plan; that our hopes, desires, interests and activities are commingled with other hopes, desires, interests, and activities in this organization we call the PATC.

There are several arms, committees, or sections, as you will, in the PATC. Each does not always know what the others are doing, not through deliberate design, but by nature of the intense interest the members of each arm invest in its particular activities. My interest is mountaineering or rather, at the moment, rock climbing. But, by virtue of earlier activities in the PATC, which extend to the present, I and other members of the Section are aware of what is done in other parts of the PATC which is to our benefit. I don't think we communicate this knowledge properly. Therefore, starting with this issue, UP ROPE will carry a series of articles on the PATC which will present the history, structure, activities, and aims of each part and the entire organization. These will be written, hopefully, by individuals immersed in the particular activity and by anyone who wishes to contribute an article on his interest or interests.

This month we would like to call attention to an extract from the PATC Constitution. It is the following:

The name of this corporation shall be the Potomac Appalachian Trail Club. Its objects shall be to build and maintain a portion of the Appalachian Trail; to open, develop, extend, and maintain other trails for walkers, mountain climbers, and nature students in wooded and mountainous regions; to construct and maintain camp sites; to open shelters and permanent camps along the Appalachian Trail and other trails; to encourage the use of those trails by organizations and individuals; to collect data of interest to users of these trails concerning scenery, history, geology, botany, forestry, and wild life; to prepare maps, guidebooks, and camping data; to test hiking, camping, and mountaineering equipment for better enjoyment of the out-of-doors; to educate the public in proper camping methods and safety in hiking, camping, and mountain climbing; and to foster public appreciation and use of national and state parks and forests and other natural areas.

The above states the aims and purposes of the PATC. It illustrates one of the reasons for our constitutional demand that our primary officers be members of the PATC. This membership is \$7.00 per year with a \$5.00 initiation fee for an individual. The dues entitle the member to a yearly decal, reduced cabin fees, being on the mailing list for club literature, and a subscription to the monthly publication, FORECAST, and the quarterly publication, "THE BULLETIN". The initiation fee covers introductory literature and an arm patch. Applicants must be sponsored by a member with at least one year tenure.

Next month we will go into the general structure and history of the PATC.

## TRIP REPORTS

## Seneca Rocks, W. Va.

Ann Williams	Ken Spitzer
Art Williams	Larry Unger
Ed Roach	Herman Buhl (Guest)
Chips Janger	Tony Soler
Tom Evans	Ray, Susan, & Jerry Moore
Mike Nicholson	Bob, Kate, & Bobby Adams
Trudy Turner	Els Litjens
Tom Elevins	Bill Thomas & Family
Bob Norris	Sally & Larry Griffin

## Labor Day Weekend

Joan & Dave Templeton
George Livingston
Thais Weibel
Hal, George, Charley Kramer
June Lehman
Grey & Frank Thompson
Sue & Bob Broughton
Hal Swift
Phil Singer

A typical eleventh hour arrival to Seneca on Labor Day weekend found the rocks swarming with climbers. Unfortunately, all parties in view were climbing down. Taking a close observation via binoculars, we were pleased to find we did not recognize anyone in the retreating parties. However, a number of PATC "Wildmen" were observed on the summit of South Peak.

Although the weather was perfect, a very rainy summer prevented a lot of climbing and many people were in sub-normal climbing condition. As a result, many of the difficult climbs were untouched - the "face of a thousand---", for instance. If course, climbing on "1000" has nothing to do with the weather. Many of the standard routes were climbed frequently. Traffic on "Old Ladies" was incredible.

On Sunday, two parties of two attempted first assaults on the East and West faces of the Cockcomb: Tom Evans and friend and Chips Janger and Ed Roach, respectively. Simultaneously, the fearless leaders, Janger and Evans nailed up weird cracks (in direct aid) only to find them disappear near the summit. Janger retreated without mishap, but Evans was not as fortunate. As he was climbing down, cleaning his own aid pitch, a shaky pin pulled out under the strain of his enormous weight. As all those in the valley that eventful day recall, a tremendous earthquake reverberated round the world as that gigantic mass catapulted through space (somewhat arrested by a perfect dynamic belay) and crashed "seat" first into a small ledge. The tremendous inertia behind this behind was almost too much for ordinary Tuscarora sandstone. Fortunately Seneca was not completely pulverized by the violence of this split second (which measured a mere 5.5 on the Richter Scale.). Evan's classic comments were "I hardly felt it" and (about the dynamic belay) "Nice freeze, Lyon". It may be interesting to note that this fall of about 8 to 10 feet was caught on a rotten Army webbing "hero" loop which tests only 500 lbs new. From this one of two conclusions may be drawn: (1) with a good dynamic belay, even shaky protection is adequate, or (2) any protection will do if the belayer allows the falling climber to hit the ledge below. Recommendations from the above: I suggest the use of chrome-moly pins, new 4000 lb-test webbing, new 7/16" rope, etc, etc.

Bob Lyons

## Carderock, Maryland

November 5, 1967

A great horde of people were out to enjoy a day of balmy weather. Oscar was rigged sans noisemakers by Joe and Dave Ney, Chuck Sproul and Dave Templeton. After a short demonstration by Tom "Davy Crockett" McCrumm, several parties tried their hand at catching Oscar, until they found climbing more delightful. Bill Kemper's Boy Scouts earned a merit badge of some sort hauling Oscar up into the



tree. Steve Smith from the Great Falls Park Service dropped into the area for a visit and to compare our facilities with those he is use to in the West.

Mark Carpenter and his crew were seen here and there looking for someone to be rescue. Mark would like a trained nurse to follow his crew around. They suffered one smashed thumb and finger (Mike Hill put his hand outside the basket) and a sanded face (The basket turned over?) in the process of the day's work.

Tom McCrumm and Jerry Archibald checked various people out on overhead belay.

These were some of the high points of the day. People were seen climbing everywhere. This trip leader forgot to get a list of names, but had he done so, it probably would have been too long for inclusion here.

Dave Templeton

## OFFICER'S CORNER

The Chairman has found it difficult to carry out his duties for a short period and has asked the Vice-Chairman to take over these. In this capacity, I wish to remind you that we are hosts to the PATC on the 3rd of December. The size of the group is indeterminate at present, but I will probably call on several of you Sunday morning, if not before, to assist me in the capacity of tour guides. I will need to call on someone to handle dynamic belay training in the afternoon so I will be free to coordinate. I will need various climbs set up and people to serve as belayers for those PATC hikers who will wish to climb. Those of you who wish to act in these capacities are asked to be at Ho Jo's at the usual time Sunday morn at which time I will present you with my schedule for the day.

At the business meeting this month we wish to vote on admittance to our membership of Bill Thomas, Jr. and Bob Lyons.

## BUSINESS MANAGER BUSINESS

As mentioned in last month's UP ROPE, memberships and UP ROPE subscriptions (for Members) begin in September. Dues are \$1.00 for PATC members, \$2.00 for others: UP ROPE is \$1.50, for overseas - \$2.50 until postage goes up. If you haven't paid yet for this year, make checks out to Mountaineering Section, PATC, and send to same, 1718 N St. N.W., Washington, D. C. 20036 or give to treasurer (Art Wilder). Old membership cards should be retained until the information on the back can be transferred.

## EDITOR'S CORNER

An old adage I have just invented goes "Never try to impose order on the universe. It fouls things up". It's an adage I am forever ignoring. My latest attempt is the UP ROPE files. Among the excess are back copies of UP ROPE. These may be obtained from me upon request up to 31 January 1968. The issues are:

1966	Nov.	20	1967	April	35	1967	August	22
"	Dec.	56	"	May	25	"	Sept.	10
1967	Jan.	33	"	June	21	"	Nov.	9
"	Feb.	6	"	July	3			

I am negotiating with the PATC librarian, Margery Barkdull, as to the procedure by which our exchange publications and particular publications of interest to us will be maintained by her offices. I would appreciate return of any issues of any such items to her, or to me, by the borrowers, if such there be. She and I wish to make our exchanges available at the club to everyone for perusal. Her policy, at present, is No Borrowing of magazines and journals.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Extracted from a letter to Ed Goodman, Chairman:

"Some imposter is publishing and distributing an imitation Up Rope. His first issue had a rather well-drawn copy of one of Whympers sketches on the cover, with our title in block letters. Fortunately, the copy is sufficiently different to prevent any confusion with the original."

Talbot Bielefeldt

Ed. Note: I'm not sure how to take that, but Trudy loves you.

## COMMITTEE ANNOUNCEMENTS

## NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Nominating Committee has fulfilled the tasks assigned it by the Chairman and is pleased to announce that it has selected Joe Nolte for its nomination for Chairman and Penny Pierce for its nomination for Vice-Chairman for the coming year. We believe the membership will concur in our belief that both Joe and Penny will perform well in their combined duties and will act in the best interest of the club.

Al Goldberg  
Tom McCrumm

## PATCH COMMITTEE

The long awaited patch is still in the process of being bid on. Hopefully, three bids will be in by the next business meeting. If not, the patch will soon be in its third year of gestation. Likely, by the time a bid is decided upon, we will have sufficient gold in our coffers for its payment.

Dave Templeton

## RESCUE COMMITTEE

Glen Cannon, Al Goldberg, Pete Hackett, Mike Hill and myself spent most of November 5 practicing rescue techniques using the basket stretcher. We had Linnea Stewart as victim for part of the day.

Since then, we have gotten word from the Park Service that we will be called on for rescues in the Great Falls area. This is a good spur for our efforts and we'll be out there on December 3rd going through more of the same in case any of you are interested.

Mark Carpenter

## TRAINING COMMITTEE

The dulcet tones of the motor, the perfumed air, the balmy baths of oil—all these were missing as Oscar did encore after encore on November 5. Replacing the winch and motor were three pulleys: a double one at the limb and a single on the trigger gave a differential type rig while another single was used to allow direct pull on the rope. Recruitment of sundry slaves from the aspirant victims gave power to the assembly.

Two difficulties were encountered with this system. The gain in mechanical

advantage in hauling Oscar up is balanced by a loss in the same when pulling the trigger down. This loss is not disadvantageous but it leads to a bite from the thin trigger cord. This may easily be remedied by a cord of larger diameter. The other disadvantage lies in the fact that the slave crew finds itself viewing Elsie's Edge Face when Oscar is run to his topmost point. There's nothing intrinsically wrong with E.E.F. (unless you're D.E.E.F., i.e. dangling on E.E.F.) but with such a separation of slave crew and trigger puller lines of communications are impaired. On the other hand, did you ever try discussing Existentialism with the guy at the winch?

These two difficulties, one of which is soluble and the other of which is minor, are more than countered by one's not having to mess up one's cloths and psyche and the area in general with the winch and the motor.

As a result, we will gladly have Oscar rigged on December 3rd and will accept all comers as long as a crew of four can be maintained to pull Oscar up.

Dave Templeton

## GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

### MEDICAL MANUAL

A handbook for the treatment of accidents and illnesses in remote areas, such as those encountered on mountaineering expeditions, has just been published by The Mountaineers, Seattle.

Titled "Medicine for Mountaineering," the text goes beyond the principles of first aid, to cover cases where a victim must be evacuated to a doctor, often two or three days away, or where no doctor is available. Special illnesses caused by high altitude or a hostile environment are covered, as well as the necessary treatment of an accident victim under these conditions.

Designed as a textbook for mountaineering medicine courses, the book also serves as a reference during actual treatment of medical disorders on a climb, so is small enough to fit into a standard climbing pack.

The book contains 350 pages, 100 drawings, and is hardbound. Available from the Mountaineers, P.O. Box 122, Seattle Washington 98111. Price is \$7.50.

### FOR SALE

Pivetta Cortinas, 11-A, almost new	-\$18.00
Goodyear rain parka, rubberized fabric	- \$4.00
Pants for above	- \$4.00

Call: Talbot Bielefeldt at 881-7409.

### SNOW & ICE CLIMBING

Plans are in process for a George Washington Birthday trip to the Mt. Washington area in New Hampshire for the purpose of practicing snow and ice climbing techniques. All parties interested are asked to contact Al Goldberg at 552-2378.

### ILLNESSES

Syvonne Goodman entered Northern Virginia Hospital on November 28th, for an operation. She expects to be there about a week.

### ADDRESS CHANGES

Matt Hale  
332 2nd St., N.E. Apt. 202  
Washington, D.C. 20002  
Phone: 544-0407

George Livingston  
9010 Old Georgetown Rd  
Bethesda Md., 20014  
Phone: 530-6186

John C. Reed, Jr.  
708 College Parkway  
Rockville, Maryland 20850

Charles R. Wettling, General Delivery, Anchorage, Alaska, 99501.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- December 3            Carderock, Maryland  
                      Leader: Ed Goodman (281-4126)  
                      We will be hosts at 1 PM to the PATC Hikers.
- December 10           Juliet's Balcony, Great Falls, Virginia  
                      Leader: Larry Griffin (560-8831)
- December 14           Business Meeting. PATC Club House, 3rd Floor Conference Room  
                      8 PM.
- December 17           Great Falls, Maryland  
                      Leader: Lanny Hughey (530-0007)
- \*
- December 24           Ho Jo's and ?  
                      Leader: S. Claus
- December 27           PATC Christmas Party, PATC Club House, 3rd Floor Conference Room,  
                      8 PM.
- December 31           Carderock, Maryland  
                      Leader: Dave Templeton (424-7997)
- January 7            Camp Lewis, Maryland

\* This is not the ordinary trip and it is suggested only qualified reindeer consider it. Those who have been checked out for dancing, prancing, donnering, and blitzing may be considered to be qualified. Special attention will be given anyone with a red nose.

## DIRECTIONS TO CLIMBING AREAS

## Carderock, Maryland

Refer UP ROPE, Vol. XXII, No. 6 June 1967, Page 7

## Juliet's Balcony, Great Falls, Virginia

Refer UP ROPE, Vol. XXII, No. 7 July 1967, Page 9

## Great Falls, Maryland

This area, located a small distance below Great Falls, has several practice climbs of good caliber and offers several pitches for the lead climber. Refer to any Washington area map and John Reed's map of climbing areas along the Potomac Gorge.

Proceed to the Great Falls, Maryland parking area. Take the tow path down river to the remains of the old footbridge. Just above this point, the Billy Goat Trail comes in from the right. Follow it to a T-intersection. Go right a few paces to a scramble down to water level. Climbs are in this area.

## NOTICE

UP ROPE **deadline** this month is December 11. Publication date is December 15.

## NEW SUBSCRIBERS

A. Lewis Licht, 17234 New Hampshire Ave., Ashton, Maryland 20702

\* \* \* HERMAN BOHL HAS BEEN FOUND ALIVE IN A BISTRO \* \* \*