

FOUNDED BY
JAN AND HERB CONN

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

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The mountaineering achievements of the 1968 Bell-Adams Rockies Expedition have received little notice. In fact, they have not even been mentioned in Royal Robbins' list of worthwhile climbs of the year. And so, it is with some hesitation that we offer this account to UP ROPE. Still, it may be worth a few lines of small print.

The principal participants in this exercise - Ron and Betty Bell and Kate, Bobby and Bob Adams - were joined at times by three other families of Adamases and on one occasion by Bob Munger of Boulder. We also had a delightful visit with Margaret Lee and Larry and Sallie Griffin.

The trouble with Boulder wasn't so much the rain - which was fairly continuous - as it was those twin attractions, the Holubar store and the University of Colorado Hippies. Both occupied an inordinate amount of time until Bob Munger dragged us up to the Amphitheater behind No. 1 Flatiron, where Bob, Ron and Bobby did a long chimney climb, and Kate, Betty and I did the Juniper Tree. On another day we drove up Lookout Mountain to the practice climbing area, where we found a vertical face-climb of nearly the same difficulty as Cripple's Delight. Our plans to climb the Maiden were lost to an all-day downpour, and we departed for the Long's Peak Campground.

In our experience the weather on Long's Peak has always been bad, and this was no exception. In the campground that evening the wind was strong enough to flatten most of the tents and cold enough to bring out all the sweaters. The ranger assured us that on the mountain the winds were in excess of 100 mph and that the temperature was below freezing. We met a paratrooper next day who had spent the night at the Keyhole and had not enjoyed it.

We packed up to the Chasm Lake Shelter with plans to climb Long's Peak by two routes. Ron, Bobby and I would follow Stettner's Ledges; Betty and Kate the Cables Route. But a mouse kept us awake most of the night, running back and forth to the food, and the wind blew with such ferocity that we feared for the roof. We were up at 3:30 and had a miserable breakfast, but at the hour of decision it seemed entirely too cold and gusty to attempt an East Face route. So the Stettner's party took to the Cables, and the Cables party went back to bed. As it turned out, the cables themselves were covered with an inch or two of clear ice, as were the steep slabs beneath. This 100-foot pitch was a very strenuous layback, and slightly unnerving. When we returned from the summit an hour or so later, we found a large group of hikers milling around the base of this pitch.

We left the next day for the Tetons and a rendezvous with brothers Bruce and Wally and sister Elizabeth. Passing Pinedale, we saw dark clouds and new snow in the Wind River Range to the East, where we knew Bob Robinson was camped. From here on, it rained day and night. Contrary to expectation, there was no difficulty whatever in finding a campsite at Jenny Lake, where it had been raining for two weeks and camping is restricted to tents.

We stood around under our tarps from Sunday till Friday - cooking, eating and discussing the state of the Nation. The rain stopped long enough one day for us to sign out for a

climb on Nez Perce. Then it started again and was still going strong when we left on Friday, amid predictions that the next four days would be about the same. And so we left without having seen the Tetons. That night at Dinosaur National Monument (where it never rains) we were hit by a thunderstorm just at supper time. The weather at Bryce Canyon was absolutely beautiful, and so, having short memories, we headed back to Rocky Mountain Park for another four days of nearly continuous rain.

The Long's Peak Ranger tipped us off to an enjoyable climbing area that may not be widely known - Twin Owls. This granite peak, located two miles north of Estes Park, is seen prominently on the skyline as you approach from the South. It is Park property and available to everyone, but you must sign out for climbing at Park Headquarters, which is just inside the main gate. There are fine routes on three sides of Twin Owls and an easy descent route on the North. Bobby led Ron and me up a fairly thin (5,8) route on the East Face. It is good solid granite, but the holds and piton cracks are far apart at times.

We learned that there are some good routes on Hallett's Peak - all quite difficult - and were signed out for one of them, only to be rained out again.

After that we retreated to Devil's Tower, where we were able to squeeze in a memorable climb between an over-night rain and afternoon showers. Bobby claimed to be bored with the Durrance route, having been over it three times, and insisted on doing some other free-climbing route. Other possibilities were the Sundance (5,8), Pseudo-Wiessner (5,9) and Wiessner (5,8). We selected Sundance because it is only three columns away from the Durrance, and leads to the familiar platform at the top of the Vertical Column.

The heart of the Sundance Route is a 130-foot vertical pitch on a featureless granite column, 6 to 8 feet wide, with a deep 10-inch-wide chimney at the left and a shallow, rounded groove at the right. There is a fairly good piton crack 20 feet up, and an ancient rusted piton at about the 90-foot level. This is a great lead for those who spurn protection and disdain handholds. Bobby started with his left knee jammed in the chimney, later stemmed between the chimney and groove, then moved into the groove when the separation became too great. Finally he had to traverse left across the column on the thinnest of holds. Ron and I followed with some effort, greatly relieved that Bobby had reached the belay ledge safely. Then it was an easy pitch up to the step-around to the Meadow. We came down in four rappels directly from the summit, but by that time most of our gallery had left.

In spite of the fact that we had not written ahead for permission to climb, the Superintendent was exceedingly kind and helpful, taking a personal interest in our work as well as in our climbing. We were also privileged to hear a very fine fireside talk by a young ranger who had assembled an extraordinary set of slides of the Wyoming wildlife.

Bob Adams

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Hanging Around

Cupids Bower
Nov. 24

Bob Robinson - Trip Leader

A tremendous turnout, a truly enormous gang of climbers, camp followers and children arrived, with wet feet, wet trousers, some with wet bottoms. Great feats of heroism were performed by intrepid mountaineers strong enough to carry their charges through the Potomac's icy waters and survive paralysis from the knees down. The more energetic followed the Billy Goat trail and boulder hopped to the Bower.

Unfortunately, so many came that your leader found it impossible to record all their names.

The rocks were soon festooned with ropes, Oscar was rigged and cries of the energetic fighting their way up PhD, post-PhD, even Jangers boulders echoed across the river. The paddlers visited us to see the goings on. Many willing hands made Oscar a success and at least four climbers pitted their strength against his aim of returning to earth at terminal velocity. Boxy, the sly triggerman, kept the catchers on their toes. The euphoria of success and expectations of sipping Tuohey's beer on the hot afternoon were dashed when we lost our grip on Oscar's hoist rope and it ascended rapidly to the pulley and became jammed at the safety knot. Initiative saved the day. Ten willing bodies hung on the rope and it snapped at a weak point near the knot. We have lost only a few feet. Our president did not have to repeat his ascent of the tree, to our great (and his) relief.

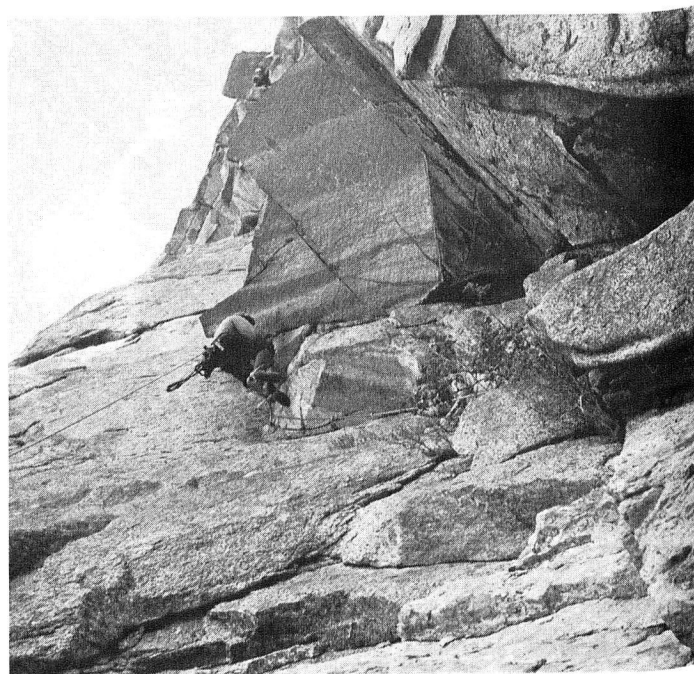
We all enjoyed Mark Carpenter's presence, may we see more of him.

The day ended with a large party at Tuohey's

Up Rope

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.

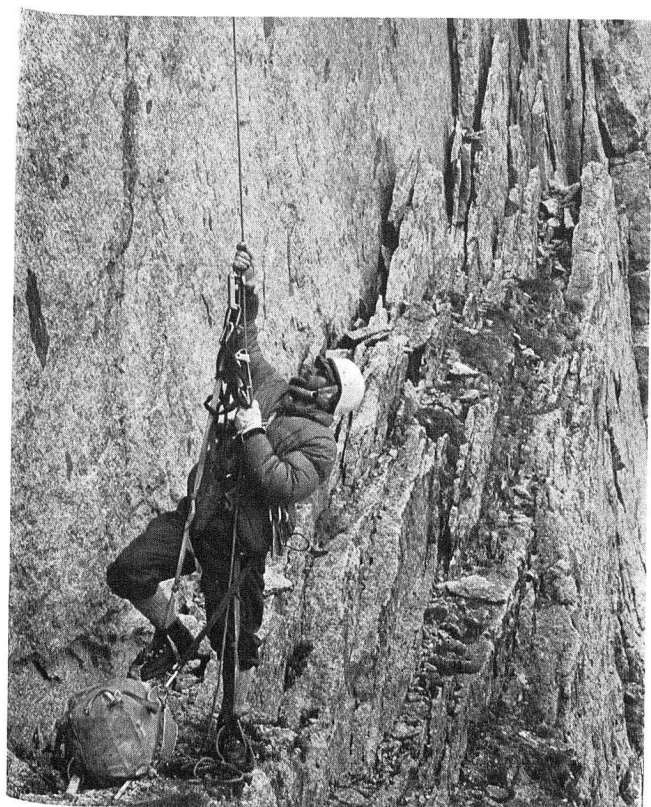
Extra copies of UP ROPE are generally found at the information Desk of the PATC should anyone wish one or two for pass-outs. Please do not take any more than are necessary. These are primarily for use by the Information Desk.



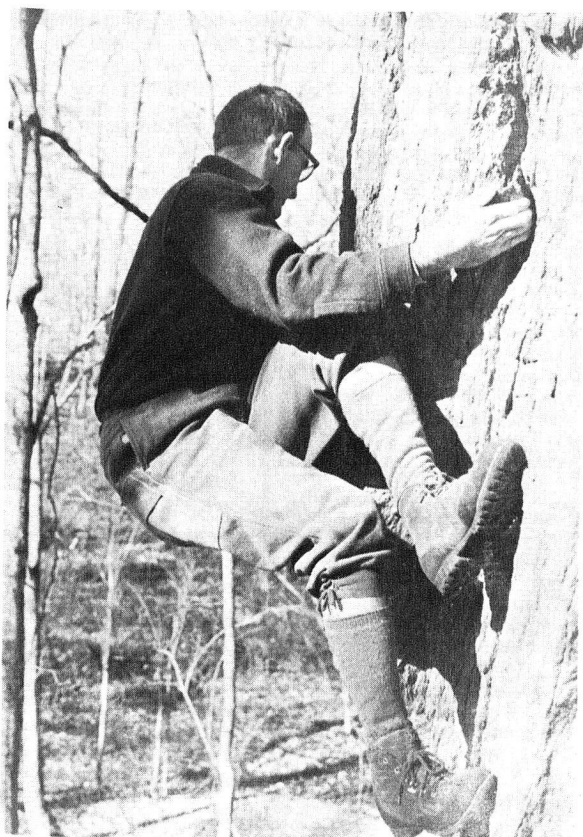
Robbins on Upper Yosemite Fall, East Side Route



Robbins at Carderock



Royal Robbins on Half Dome Direct



More of Robbins at Carderock

Carderock
Dec. 8

Don Mulligan and family
Ed Goodman
Joe Nolte
Chuck Sproull
Mike Hill
Jim Aldrich
Sallie Greenwood
Tom Evans and Kitten
June Lehman
Bev Johnson
Dick Sideman and Friend
Bob Douglass
Don Schaefer
Stewart Udall
Dennis Udall
Bill McCullough
Art Wilder
Others

Bill Deutermann
Bob Robinson
Lanny Hughey
Merv Oleson
Marie and Lubos Postifil
Bob Lyons
Bob Waldrop
Tom McCrumm
Jack Rucker and children
Matt Hale
Penny Pierce
Al Goldberg
Bob and Kate Adams
Harold Kramer
George Kramer
Linnea Stewart
Frank Dahlmaus

Considering the weather forecast for a cold, cloudy Sunday with snow flurries, there was an impressive turnout. Not too much else can be said except that time was shared by climbing and hand warming around the fire.

Royal Robbins at Carderock

On Tuesday morning, after giving his presentation on climbing in Yosemite Valley, Royal Robbins and his wife went to Carderock to see "our" local practice climbing area. Both Mr. Robbins and his wife were very much impressed by Carderock. They remarked that it was an excellent practice area due to the variety of types and difficulty of climbs, and the close proximity to metropolitan Washington. Royal, who came prepared to climb a bit, climbed the lower parts of Spider Walk, Butterfly, Shipley's and Impossible. He did all of Fingernail, but that was the only one he climbed to the top since he was climbing unroped and at an unfamiliar area on very cold rock. Mr. Robbins said that it was no wonder that the Washington area has some very fine rock climbers considering the nearness of practice areas and our enthusiasm leading us to climb every weekend and in the evenings in the summer.

It was indeed a pleasure to observe such a fine climber as Royal Robbins climb with such grace at Carderock.

Tom McCrumm

Climbing Chef

For obtaining a tasty meal on an economy budget, this recipe was sent by our Swiss correspondent after sampling it on a gastronomic ascent of the Eigerwand.

Gedämpfter Rindsbraten mit Pilzen
a la Eiger

1 lb. lean boneless pot roast	$\frac{1}{4}$ stick butter or margarine
beef	
$\frac{1}{2}$ lb. sliced mushrooms (not	1 small onion
canned)	
Salt	Fendant du Valais or other
Pepper	dry white wine

In a pot the size of the larger pot in a Tourist Cooker, melt the butter and brown the beef on a high flame. Add the mushrooms and onion and continue cooking over high heat for two minutes. Lower the heat to the smallest possible flame and add the salt and pepper and enough wine so that the pot has about $\frac{1}{2}$ inch of liquid in the bottom. Drink one can of your favorite beer. After crushing the beer can, check the Rindsbraten to see if it still has liquid covering the bottom. If not, add more wine. Continue this process for one hour and then serve the pot roast over boiled potatoes or noodles. Then climb the Eiger again.

Al Goldberg

CLIMBER'S CALENDAR

Interested individuals are invited to participate in our activities. Please call the Leader for information and to inform him of your plans.

Date	Place	Leader
Jan. 5	Carderock	Joe Nolte (836-6650)
Jan. 15	PATC Headquarters Meeting, 8:00 PM	
Jan. 12	Annapolis Rocks	Tom McCrumm (527-6272)
Jan. 18-19	Seneca (Training)	Bob Robinson (356-4584)
Jan. 26	Camp Lewis	Al Goldberg (593-8124)

Trip Leaders are reminded of their responsibility to arrange for a report and, if a leader is unable to make his assigned trip, to appoint a substitute leader.

NOTICES

The North Carolina Outward Bound School has staff positions open for the summer of 1969 as Crew Instructors, Assistant Instructors, Sherpas, and Rock Climbing Specialists. For details see Tom McCrumm.

People interested in the Mountaineering Section's Third Annual Mt. Washington Trip on Washington's Birthday weekend, please contact Al Goldberg (593-8124). If interested in chartering transportation, please let me know.

Members are reminded that officers will be elected at the upcoming business meeting on January 15. Candidates are:
Chairman: Bob Robinson
Vice Chairman: Lanny Hughey

Book Review

THE MOUNTAIN OF MY FEAR by David Roberts.
The Vanguard Press, New York, 1968. 157 pages, 12 photographs, maps and technical appendices. \$5.95.

This brief but poignant book has much to say of both men and mountains and their interaction in this world. THE MOUNTAIN OF MY FEAR is the account of the first ascent of the west face of Alaska's Mt. Huntington, but equally it is the vivid account of the thoughts, hopes, and depressions of the four men who made the ascent.

The author has a very pleasant style - he flows so smoothly from mind to matter and back again. From the technical description of how a certain pitch was done he will flow into the climber's or the belayer's mind recording his thoughts, then back onto the rock once again. In this way, Mr. Roberts has successfully left the reader a better understanding of both the difficulty of the ascent and the emotions of the climbers. One will soon recognize, however, that this book is not a book of the mountains, but of men. Roberts has presented to us a simple thing - life - and he tells it "like it is." The whys, the wherefores - he does not attempt to answer these, only to prompt us into thinking deeper for an answer of our own. The question is not "why do you climb?" but rather "why do you live?" - and Dave Robert's answer - "Beyond the neatness of any rationale for life lies its untranslatable glory, the elemental courage of wanting to live. Climbing is serious, because it is like life for us who do it, not like a sport; perhaps we betray it by trying to explain our reasons."

As an account of a mountaineering accomplishment, the book is well supplemented with equipment lists, maps, and a very detailed route description. This description shows their camps and individual pitches, the latter being described as to pitch number, terrain, length, difficulty rating, date led, and the leader. These descriptions, in addition to Bradford Washburn's well known and excellent photographs, round out THE MOUNTAIN OF MY FEAR to an account of a marvelous achievement that will please even the arm-chair climber.

Tom McCrumm

The following persons have been nominated for membership in the PATC Mountaineering Section.

Name	Sponsors
Stewart Udall	Bill Deutermann Joe Nolte
Dennis Udall	Bill Deutermann Joe Nolte

Nominees should be present at the next scheduled business meeting so that their applications can be voted on.

Up Rope

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