



FOUNDED BY
JAN AND HERB CONN

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

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PAGE 1

MOUNT WASHINGTON: Unforgiving; Unforgettable

Chuck Sproull

It was the night of January 27-28. We sped along the super highways, watching the scenery zip past, and had the hopeful illusion that our destination was just around the next turn. However, when we consulted our map of the Eastern United States, our progress seemed infinitely slow. During one of our conversations about something or other the radio blurted out that three students had been found lying roped together at the bottom of a New Hampshire ravine. Instantly Mark reacted, "Huntington!"

Light from the eastern horizon began to illuminate the higher summits of the Presidential Range, just to the north of us.

We arrived at Pinkham Notch at 6:00 AM, twelve hours after our departure from Washington, D.C. The friendly pink tint of alpenglow on the snow cap of Mount Washington and the headwall of Huntington Ravine had been replaced by a sinister shadow, as though Nature were warning us of her danger after having lured us with her beauty.

By noon, Wednesday, we had signed in at the AMC Camp and had transported all of our food and equipment to the Harvard Hut. We spent that afternoon in Huntington Ravine practicing ice ax handling, boot-ax belaying, and self arrests on the steep crusted snow below Central Gully. Evidence of the ill-fated three students was apparent.

Thursday morning, Mark Carpenter and I set out to climb Central. The gully was nine pitches (with a 120 foot rope) starting off with one full pitch of steep ice. The remainder of the climb was on about 50° crusted snow. Occasionally, while kicking steps, we noticed that we were climbing on a one to two foot thick shell of frozen snow with several feet of void below in the center of the gully. The void appeared as a result of poor bonding between the snow and rocks. We stopped for lunch at the top of the fifth pitch. While Mark was putting on his parka, his ice ax began sliding towards the foggy infinity below us. As we watched it sail and cavort at ever-increasing speeds, by some great stroke of luck it arrested itself in the loop of our rope some 60 feet below us. Mark untied with extreme care and began to descend with my ice ax while I held both ends of the rope. Many anxious, lonesome moments went by as occasional clumps of snow, dislodged from above by the wind, pelted the head of the ax making its hold on the rope less secure. Never before during my life, whether rock climbing, crossing busy streets or anything else considered dangerous by people, have I actually felt so involved with the powerful reality of DANGER. During those moments, my young life as a mountaineer began to mature while time seemed so insignificant.

Mark retrieved his ice ax and we continued our climb alternating leads to speed our progress. At the top of the eighth pitch, as I prepared to belay for Mark, my ice ax handle split and the head came off. Only good fortune allowed

us to arrive on the relatively flat Alpine Garden without further incident.

Meanwhile, Penny and Jerry Archibald, Bob Norris, and June Lehman had climbed the South Gully. The temperature was about +20°, wind was 40 mph, and the visibility fair. The time element alone kept us from climbing the additional 800 feet to the summit.

On Friday, we rode out an all-day ice storm by hiking to the medial moraine in Tuckerman Ravine. The rangers drove by in their snow cats and informed us that the ravine was closed due to danger of avalanches so we had a picnic and returned to the Hut. The full moon shone bright and clear that night as we stayed up later than usual and talked half-heartedly of climbing by moonlight while June and Penny hiked down to Pinkham Notch and back.

Saturday morning the weather was still clear and calm, so with an early start, we decided to try for the summit. While Penny Archibald kept the home fires burning, June, Bob, Jerry and I proceeded up South Gully and Mark and Don, a friend of Mark's, climbed the frozen water falls in Odell's Gully, between South and Central. The transient nature of the snow and ice made South seem quite different from what it had been two days earlier. Kicking steps was harder because of the ice storm. Just as we arrived at the top one of Jerry's crampons broke. He decided to head back to the cabin via the escape gully rather than to continue to the summit. Since he was experienced and Mark and Don were going back down, we shrugged our shoulders and walked on. By now the weather had really closed in on us. The visibility was about 30 feet and the temperature 15° with winds of over 50 mph. At 2:00 the three of us finally found the summit. After warming up in the weather station and devouring our remaining morsels of food, we began our descent.

Successfully climbing Mount Washington that day seemed like a fitting climax of our five-day venture, but, little did we know. Having crossed the Alpine Gardens on our way down, we approached what we figured was the head wall of Huntington. We contoured around to the south watching out for the escape route. Occasionally the visibility would open for a moment but nothing looked familiar. Once, while the wind briefly blew the fog away, a large mound appeared in the center of the bowl. This led us to believe that we were in Huntington Ravine. Gradually the snow became steeper and softer and the weather began clearing up. Two hundred feet of 60° - steep snow sloped down to the gnarled vegetation below us. We decided to glissade instead of walk down. A bit reluctant, I faced outward, leaned back and lifted my feet. Things went along nicely until my crampons caught in the snow. After 100 feet of bouncing and tumbling I managed to twist into arrest position and control my fall. Uninjured, I turned to see how June and Bob were doing. Just then a

cont. on p. 2

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Dear Editor,

Pid Gin Dung, a Far Eastern correspondent, has submitted an exciting Trip Report about the first ascent of Moo Goo Gai Pan, an abridged guano anticline 200 miles off an island somewhere in the Pacific.

The climb was characterized by gapo, poor protection, and spectacular glissades. Adding to the objective dangers was the presence of the Nauga, which is that ferocious beast whose luxurious hide is used for Bible bindings and Corvette upholstery.

Pid Gin has relatives in Harpers Ferry.

Norm Wallach

Mount Washington, concluded

200-foot long, horizontal line appeared above them. They disappeared in the whiteness. I tried to run but the rumbling liquification surrounded me and tossed me about like a puck being dribbled toward the goal. Fortunately, it was a small slab avalanche, not more than two feet thick and piled about four feet deep. We made the last half mile to the Hut quickly although Bob had some trouble walking. He had jabbed his calf with the point of his ice ax. On later examination of a map, we decided that we had descended a minor gully between Tuckerman and Huntington Ravines.

Back at the Hut we heard news of Jerry's broken leg. He had fallen more than 500 feet down the escape gully. Mark and Don found him shortly afterwards. The rangers were notified, and, aided by Mark, transported Jerry down the mountain and to the hospital. We packed as much as we could and took our gear down to the cars. Bob and Mark decided to stay up there a while longer. Jerry had no choice, so June, Penny and I headed to Washington, weary, but nevertheless much more aware of life and people than we were 5 days before.

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.

Hanging Around

Edes Fort
Feb. 16

Mary Eldridge - Trip Leader
Mark Carpenter
Roger Hammill

Chuck Sproull
Claude Pastre

Lanny Hughey, Bob Robinson, and Brutus were forced to retreat halfway to Edes Fort due to car trouble.

The weather report, which may have discouraged many climbers from making the trip, was wrong. There was little wind, a fairly clear sky, and the sun was almost hot on the belay ledges. We were greeted by a startled barred owl as we approached the first climb—a good omen for a beautiful day of climbing.

Chuck and Claude first climbed the sixty-foot route that starts down near the river and has a fairly large overhang about twenty feet off the ground. Next they worked on the "crumbly corner" area, where Chuck soloed up the middle. (He doesn't recommend this to anyone else, too much loose rock.) They finished their climbing by working on boulder problems near the river.

Roger, Mary, and Mark started the day with Faint's Ceiling with Mark leading. This is a perfect climb for choosing your own challenge, since moving a few feet either way can make the climb several degrees easier or harder. This is true of many climbs at Edes Fort, which makes it a good "local Gunks" if you watch out for loose rock. Next, we decided to try a "new route," which we soon discovered wasn't new at all. It's known as Capricorn and has a fairly challenging hand traverse down low, followed by a nasty overhang (where you can cop out by going a few feet farther to the left). Mark negotiated the overhang, Roger followed, and Mary tried. Eventually, all three made it to the top of the cliff, where it was great fun to throw stones through the ice on the river. After a third and easier climb, where everyone led one pitch, we adjourned to Berkley Springs for supper. We stopped by Compton Lodge on the way, to look for the supposed owners, but no one was home. As usual at Edes Fort the view was spectacular and the climbing was good.

Bob Waldrop has agreed to canoe in the area before the foliage is back on the trees, so hopefully we can cross the river, take pictures, and include a good description of Edes Fort in the Section's proposed guidebook to local climbing areas.

秋山の気象



Shawangunks
Feb. 21-23

Tom McCrumm - Trip Leader
June Lehman
Dennis Sheffield

Chuck Sproull
Don Schaefer

Attendance for this scheduled trip to the Gunks was probably an all-time low, but that certainly didn't prevent any of us from having as good a time as ever. The important feature of the whole weekend was of course our accommodations. Arrangements had been made with Dan Smiley of Lake Mohonk to use the chauffeur's cottage during the winter, and it certainly was a pleasure sleeping on beds and having a wood stove to heat the place.

Much to our delight Friday was one of the most perfect climbing days we have ever experienced at the Gunks. Although there was some snow on the ground, the sky was blue and cloudless and the temperature was in the 50's. It was hard to believe that we were basking in the sun on the belay ledges. To add to the enjoyment of the weather was the fact that we were the only people there climbing that day, so we climbed until dark. Saturday, however, was a disappointment as it



JOE DONOHUE

dawned foggy with rime ice coating everything. Climbing was bypassed for the morning in favor of a walk to Lake Minnewaska, stopping along the way to do some ice scrambling on the frozen waterfall. Saturday afternoon found us climbing in the Trapps again, only this time under cold gray skies on very cold rock! Sunday morning was similar to Saturday with a light snow falling, so we again forfeited climbing in favor of an exploratory hike to Millbrook Mountain. Millbrook is most impressive considering that 90% of the routes are aid climbs.

Barry Wallen paid us a suprise visit Friday afternoon from the IBM school in Kingston, but the weather kept him from joining us the remainder of the weekend. Don and Chuck had the pleasure of climbing a few 5,7's with Rich Goldstone, who arrived late Friday afternoon. The rest of us, being a bit out of condition, were happy doing some of the more moderate climbs there.

Carderock
Mar. 2

Bob Robinson - Trip Leader

Intending climbers were met by 6 inches or so of wet snow. Harold Kramer, Bob Adams, Don Schaefer, Chuck Sproull, Mary Eldridge and two charming daughters, and the non climbing leader (ski injured) were there during the morning. Variations of Ronnie's Leap and Swayback Layback were made, depending on where the friction was available. Bob Adams introduced a new aid - a yard broom. The leader had to depart at midday. No trainees had arrived by then.

Little Devils Stairs
Mar. 8-9

Don Schaefer - Trip Leader
Bob Norris
Art Wilder

June Lehman
Chuck Sproull

Due to the snow and the resourcefulness of the Trip Leader the trip to Little Devils Stairs ended up at Big Devils Stairs. Bob Norris put in a moderately difficult climb on wet, licheny rock, appropriately named Bob's Scatsy Climb. Art and Chuck put in another climb on the eastern side of the canyon and found the rock much drier and easier to protect.

We walked out of the canyon in the dark and took the precaution of going to the Hampton Inn in Washington, Va. for a few beers to protect us against frostbite. The precaution proved to be necessary as it started snowing at 3:00 AM Sunday morning. Camp was broken early and we retired once again to Hampton Inn.

Roger Hamill, showing more tenacity than good sense, drove up to Big Devils Stairs with his children. He wandered up to Big Devils Stairs and couldn't even find the cliffs. This is a commentary on either the weather or on Roger's route-finding ability.

All of those who climbed at Big Devils Stairs feel that it offers plenty of opportunity for good lead climbing and should be scheduled again by the section, preferably in the fall when the lichen is not so wet.

丹沢同角沢

急行列車で、日五往復するが、例えは皆無しの山荘に上りて集馬駅下車、直ちにバスを乗り換えて、上野原まで約5分。そこから3分のバスのバスに乗ると終点原郷時50分。ここから頭までの四時間の登りである。下りは、時間はいくらでもない。尾根線バス16:30分に間に合う。したがって集馬駅から上野原急行車までずっという間に合うくらい。(山行要覧 中山歩き)

要駒山一帯が国定公園に指定

国定公園の指定にもとなないいろいろな施設設備の充実がなされが、今シーズンは駒ノ川付近近辺に、新沼や湯場、駐車場が完備し、樹海も、山荘が、新沼湯から岩岸車（通称風流バス）まで7ヶ所整備された。七月半まではできると、岩岸線登山遊歩道が頂上直下までできてくるので楽に登山ができる。マイカー 登着者も増えるものとみられる。

栗駒登山快速バス「栗駒アライワシ号」も八月末までの土・日曜に仙台⇔細谷間の運転発行人である。

仙台発	細谷着	仙台着
13：56	16：06	18：23
また栗駒⇔駒ノ湯間のバスは続きます		
駒ノ湯発	9：10	12：50
	10：20	15：05
	11：10	15：13
	12：50	15：15
所要時間：時間三〇分	片道運賃一七円	

(宮城県 佐良山)

御所山(船形山)に山荘誕生

山形と宮城の県境にある御所山(船形連峰)は、山頂一帯のクイマツ、シャクナゲなどの高山植物と山麓谷間は水谷赤松等知られ、地元を中心とした登山客を惹きつけたが、今年度中尾沢市鶴子口車道終点到、登山基地に資することになったのが、この御所山だ。これは皆林君が施設をそっくり借受けのもの

暑寒別岳を海から

暑寒別岳の裾野を隔ち、なだりて高い増毛・山岸は日本海側の海で覆はれていて、この山岸の日本海側の海岸線は交通と便が悪く、陸の孤島となっていた。現在も留萌市増毛町から石狩市内の浜益村まで陸路も内陸部であり、陸路の建設が望まれない地域であり、この海岸線は○○○○の絶つての連続した日本海の知床といわれるほどの地である。

山岸におき、増毛の土地に足を定みれる者が多いにも関わらず、陸路が海を隔てる者により迂回コースを取るより方法がなかったが、付近住民の足便をもたれて、美しい海岸線と増毛山岸を見せるにもおもしろい観光地が増毛・浜益町に新たに就する。この観光船は主に増毛町行に接続するもので海より交通網は一段と強化し、運航時間は左記のとおり

増毛発		増毛発		浜益村発	
9・50	11・00	16・00	増毛発	増毛発	増毛発
9・00	10・40	12・00	13・40	18・10	18・10
16・20	17・00	18・10	18・10	18・10	18・10

新設された増毛・浜益港の延長は、増毛・千代志別・床井・幌・別所・茂生、各港を左手に見ながら変化に富んだ景観を楽しむことができる。

北海道 佐賀新聞

東北地方

NOTICES

In the past few months Section members' cars have been broken into while they were at the monthly Section meeting in PATC Headquarters. It is recommended that nothing of value be left in your car while you are at the meeting.

CLIMBER'S CALENDAR

Date	Place	Leader
Apr. 6	Great Falls, Md. Training	Lanny Hughey (530-0007)
Apr. 9	PATC Headquarters Meeting, 8:00 PM	Program: First Aid by Drs. Hackett
Apr. 12-13	Bull Run Mountain	June Lehman (JA2-0105)
Apr. 19-20	Shawangunks	Tom McCrumm (527-6272)
Apr. 27	Annapolis Rocks	Bob Lyon (521-2388)
May 3-4	Old Rag	Bill Deutermann (363-0757)
May 10-11	Greenland Gap	Art Wilder (630-9055)
May 14	PATC Headquarters Meeting, 8:00 PM	
May 21	PATC Headquarters Swap Night, 8:00 PM	

Great Falls, Md.

Follow directions to Carderock exit. Pass the Carderock exit and turn left onto McArthur Boulevard. Go approximately 4 miles to the Great Falls parking lot. Walk left (downriver).

Bull Run Mountain, Va.

From the Beltway take I 66 to Gainesville and bear right onto Rt. 55 west. One mile past Haymarket turn right (note sign to Skyline Caverns). Turn left at T-intersection at Antioch (4.5 miles from Haymarket). Parking place is on the left 1/4 mile past county line where a steep dirt jeep road goes left. Follow jeep road until an old rusty steam shovel appears on left. Climb bank on right and get on faintly white-blazed trail. Trail follows edge of quarry awhile and then turns right into woods and up to mountain crest. Climbing area is at second good view.

Shawangunks, N.Y.

From the Washington Beltway take Baltimore-Washington Parkway (or U.S. 1 in heavy traffic) to Baltimore Parkway. West to I83 and north to Pennsylvania Turnpike just before Harrisburg. East on Turnpike (10¢ toll) to Pa. 283 north. East on U.S. 22 and I78 to Pa. 512 north. Get on Pa. 115

north to Wind Gap and onto U.S. 209. Follow U.S. 209 past Ellenville, N.Y. and turn right onto N.Y. 55 and U.S. 44 east. Go approximately 8 miles and turn left onto Trapps Road and camp in 1 mile at the Coxing Camp. The rocks are 2 miles up N.Y. 55.

On the trip back, follow U.S. 22 directly to I83 (don't use Pa. 283 and Pennsylvania Turnpike). Also, be sure to use the bypass section of U.S. 209 around Stroudsburg (this is easily missed on the return trip).

If the Chauffeur's Cottage is to be used, take the road toward New Paltz at the Brau Haus; after about 3 miles turn left on Butterville Road. Turn left up the hill at the stop sign at the cross roads. Continue up to the main gate for Lake Mohonk and ask how to get to the Cottage, which is about 200 yards from the main gate.

Annapolis Rocks, Md.

From the Beltway take I70S north past Frederick to U.S. 40. At the top of South Mountain park at the roadside on the left (there is a gas station on the right). Follow U.S. 40 (on the left) to the Appalachian Trail which parallels I70 for 100 yards and then goes uphill right. In 2 miles turn left at the Annapolis Rocks sign. Go 100 yards to the cliffs.

Old Rag Mountain, Va.

From the Beltway take I66 west through Gainesville and U.S. 211 west to Sperryville. Turn left on U.S. 522 south for 1 mile. Then right on Va. 231 south about 8 miles. Right on state road 670 to Nethers. Enter parking lot about 2 miles past Nethers. The long way up is up the fire road straight ahead and the short but steep way is up the blue-blazed trail to the left.

Greenland Gap, W. Va.

Drive west on U.S. 50 to New Creek, W. Va. (60 miles past Winchester). Pick up W. Va. route 93 south and follow it for 15 miles to Scheer. Watch for a dirt road and a bridge over the creek just to the left of Rt. 93. Turn left on the dirt road and drive 1 mile east to the gap.

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