



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

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

Vol. 35

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Sept. 1970

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Hanging Around

Seneca Rock
June 27-28

Bill Thomas - Trip Leader
Ted Schad
Mike Hill
Roger Birch

Billy Thomas
June Lehman
Sallie Greenwood

The highlight of this trip was Sallie Greenwood sharing her sleeping bag with a bold and uninvited guest. She, being a lady, calmly got up and left him to use her sleeping bag alone. Then her guest, being lonesome and feeling rejected, crawled into bed with Roger. When Roger felt the guest he kept his English cool and said that he was just being friendly and continued to sleep for another 15 minutes. When Roger finally got up, we peeled back the covers and there was an 18 inch "garter" snake.

As to climbing, Bill, Billy and Ted did both summits and investigated the cracks at the base of the Gendarme. Sunday Bill tried talking someone into leading him up the Gendarme before he lost his nerve or before it fell over. Nobody volunteered and he was glad. So they left Seneca and climbed the middle summit of Champe Rocks. Sallie, Roger, June and Mike also left Seneca Sunday and climbed at Judy Rocks.

Shawangunks
July 3-5

Mike Hill - Trip Leader
Kathy Andberg
June Lehman
Sallie Greenwood
Roger, Corinne, Debbie and
John Hammill
Bill, Doris, Billy, Susan and
Jeff Thomas

Dennis Sheffield
Linnea Stewart
Maren Stewart
Chuck Sproull
Peter Gardiner
Don and Betsy Schaefer

Soggy weather kept down the crowds and soggy rocks kept down the level of climbing, but we still managed to have a good time. Friday we spent mainly on the rocks though it rained off and on Thursday night and was misty all day. Saturday saw most of us at Bonticue Crag where the rock was much cleaner and drier.

We literally did our "own thing" as this area is not included in the present Gunks guide. Top-roping an overhang at the very top of the cliffs proved both stimulating and photogenic. After lunch we all caught Roger's "pinnacle-itis" and besieged a nearby 60-foot pinnacle. After being rained on twice by thunder showers (appropriately observed in Buddhist fashion), Roger, Peter, Chuck, and Linnea made

the summit in time to get caught in a hail storm.

We all had dinner at an Italian restaurant in New Paltz that night, with Dennis heading the "Squid Row" contingent. Sunday was clear and dry and we all hit the rocks for one last climb before heading home.

The Hermitage
July 18-19

Janet Gladfelter - Trip Leader
Don, Betsy, and Erika Schaefer
Dave Paull
Peter Gardiner
Bob and Kate Adams
Phil Eddy

Bill Thomas
Dave and Joan Templeton
Judy Frank
Linda Harris
George Livingstone

Reaching the cabin about noon on a lovely summer Saturday, and pending the arrival of the Schaefer's mit key, your Trip Leader and her friendly navigator pitched tent on the porch, and then proceeded to figure the odds on everyone finding the correct turnoff described as "at the Septic Tank works". We have yet to see the septic tank works and think it simpler to watch for the Hooverville School (immediately past the right turn which is zero point). From there the signs and mileage are as directed, except "Old Forge" is the local name for the Hermitage area.

By nightfall the cabin was filled and everyone buoyed for the next day by recorded climbing songs featuring Dave Templeton and an unidentified female (?). Sunday was a comfortable day for climbing and everyone warmed up on the chimney--all bust measurements duly noted. A number of climbers completed the Mezzanine just to the left. A lot of good, hard work was done on the left-end wall; "also" and Swiss Guide by George Livingstone, Bob Adams, Don Schaefer, and Dave Templeton; and, on the Unfinished Symphony and Hoverhang, both of which are some distance to the right of the chimney.

Dave Paull and Judy Frank practiced rappelling; the afternoon air was filled with Judy's screams of sheer delight. Eventually, newcomer Jim Rice was talked up his first ascent, but the most successful lead of the day was George's 6 p.m. descent back to the little restaurant on the corner of Route 16 (zero point) where the entire group enjoyed barbecued chicken before heading home.

Hanging Around, concluded on page 2

MEETING NOTICE

The September meeting, normally scheduled for the second Wednesday of the month, will be held instead on September 16.

P.A.T.C. MOUNTAINEERING SECTION

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Dear Sirs:

This will acknowledge with sincere thanks, on behalf of the Trustees, your recent contribution of \$100. toward implementing the work of The Mohonk Trust. The fact that awareness and support of the goals of The Trust are constantly broadening is most heartening to the Trustees and Administrators. We note that your gift is earmarked for the Millbrook Fund, and have so marked our records.

The work of The Trust progresses steadily toward its dual-purpose goals -- preserving the unspoiled natural beauty of the area for the enjoyment of future generations, and promoting trans-national understanding and friendship through sponsorship of annual Consultations with international students and other projects of a similar nature.

Sincerely,
Albert K. Smiley, Jr.
Administrator, The Mohonk Trust

Dear Editors:

Here's a note about an accident which occurred in an activity which local climbers frequently engage in. I intend no judgement. I only wish to draw attention to the possibility of accidents in such activities and the risks involved. Does unroped climbing at Carderock or other places set a bad or dangerous example to the casual observer?

"A young Fairfax man fell 20 feet from the side of a McLean apartment house and was fatally hurt last night while he and friends were climbing up and down the off-set bricks which line the building corners as decorative effects, Fairfax police said.

The victim was Michael R. Young, 20, who worked at a Tysons Corner men's clothing store, and who was one of the tenants of an apartment at 1916 Wilson Lane, McLean.

Police said the accident happened during a party at the victim's apartment."

The Washington Daily News
July 8, 1970

Sincerely,
George Livingstone

Hanging Around, concluded from page 1

Cupid's Bower
July 26

Roger Birch - Trip Leader
Don Schaefer
Roger Hammill
Don, Mrs., and two Milligans more
Bob Trumble
George Livingstone (believe it or not)
Nick and Lydia Segal
John Wyman

Tom McCrumm
Bob Adams
Jackson and Anne Corrie
Dave and Joan Templeton
Bill Thomas
M. Skavell
Peter Appal
Anne Sinilz
Janet Gladfelter

This was a great turnout when one considers the weather in the low nineties, hot, sticky and bloody greasy. Taking all these things into account, quite an incredible amount of climbing was attempted and a very creditable list of ascents were done with all the usual artificial aids, ropes from above, (courtesy of Bob Adams) and liberal applications of chalk.

Two friends of the Trip Leader's from England, Jackson and Anne Corrie, really enjoyed the trip to the Bower on the way to Iowa to see Anne's parents. How quaint!! A rope from above on such little rocks.

Bill Thomas, with the help of Chuck Sproull and others, rigged the Oscar and several of the trippers took turns at getting their arms burned. Let's do this thing again soon, Bill, I missed my turn.

With all this activity, energy was still available to fill many garbage bags with the usual sort of rotting, rusting rubbish the average tourist seems to take a delight in throwing around. It was very gratifying to see what can be done by willing hands in this field even on a small scale, perhaps it will stay tidy, well, maybe for a couple of weeks. Thanks to everyone.

Carderock
Aug. 2

Bill Thomas - Trip Leader
Bob and Kate Adams
Mary Camron
Maron Stewart
Bob Lyons
Valerie Walker
Nick Borst
Monique Jalabert
Carmen Malcolm
John Malcolm
David and Judy
Garry Garret
Brian Aker

Doris, Billy, Jeff and Sue Thomas
Bill Deutermann
Dennis Sheffield
Els Litjens and Friend
Beth Walder
John Jones
John Hannasz
George Sweazey
Jon Larson
Doug Durkin
Troy Grubiur, Jr.
Jere Jaillite

Beautiful day. Lots of training. Lots of new faces.

DEAR GWLADYS

Where were you last month? Vacationing?

Love,
Norm

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.

Belay Ledge

Honorary member:

Don Hubbard, who has been with the Mountaineering Section since 1944, was elected to Honorary Member status. In his years of climbing, Don has some 50 first ascents to his credit—mostly in Canada's Interior Range. And he's still climbing.

Member in absentia:

Tom Richards, who has been climbing with the club for the past three years, was elected to membership at the July meeting. Tom's duties as president of The Nature Conservancy have made it difficult for him to get to meetings.

September meeting:

The meeting which was to have been held September 9 has been moved to September 16.

Address changes and new UP ROPE subscribers:

| | |
|--------------------|---|
| Nick Clinch | 459 Bellefontaine St. Pasadena, Calif. 91105 phone: 213-799-2811 |
| Tom Richards | 3838 N. 25th Street Arlington, Va. phone: 527-1566 |
| Andre de Schutter | c/o Belgian Embassy Andries Bickerweg 1c The Hague, The Netherlands |
| Margaret Teel | 815b California St. Huntington Beach, Calif. 92646 |
| Paul C. Crouthamel | Box 91, Rte. 1 Fairhill Road Hatfield, Pa. 19440 |
| David C. Mann | 1825 Hartsfield Rd. Tallahassee, Fla. 32303 |
| Howard Schain | 2111 Jefferson Davis Hgw. Arlington, Va. 22302 |
| John Nolan | 24 Grafton St. Chevy Chase, Md. 20015 |
| Guinevere Scott | 5319 Wakefield Rd. Washington, D.C. 20016 |

Found:

Orange hard hat with lamp bracket and monogram CGV, GCV or one of the other four possible combinations. Inside the hard hat is a soft net hat with a bill. Picked up in the vicinity of Beginner's Crack at Carderock. To claim, call 933-2174.

New routes:

Seneca -- Roy Gap Chimneys. 200 feet. 5.6. Tom McCrumm and Roger Birch.

Follow the right-hand side of the buttress until it turns west. The route follows the prominent line of chimneys to the right of the angle.

1. Climb the groove and chimney to a stance on the right wall. 100 feet.
2. Follow the chimney bed easily, then climb the chimney until it is possible to step on to the right wall; climb the wall to a belay. 80 feet.
3. Climb the corner above the belay, this the crux. 30 ft.
4. Scramble to the summit. 100 feet.

Rappel to the East Gully. There were ancient pitons in the lower part.

Seneca (North End) -- Mrs. Robinson. 270 feet. 5.6. Roger Birch and Bob Robinson.

Follow the left hand side of the buttress by a filthy, steep scramble to reach a thin crack about 150 feet from the ridge of the buttress. The crack has several ancient, rusty pitons in it.

1. Climb the crack 20 feet then step right and up

- awkwardly to a large belay platform with trees. 45 feet.
2. Climb the prominent chimney above to a stance beyond the exit. Beware of loose blocks. Belay.
3. Climb to a ledge above the stance and traverse left to a detached pinnacle. Climb the pinnacle and continue the ascending traverse to a huge tree. Belay below a wide chimney crack. 110 feet.
4. Climb the crack above. 30 feet.

Rappel to the East Gully (2 pitches). There are an ancient pitons up to the crux of the chimney but none above.

Harpers Ferry (near Bird Lime Gully). 100 feet. F.R. Robinson and R.J. Sideman.

Climb the Bird Lime Gully to the tree belay above the final chimney. Traverse left descending slightly to the next vertical rib and under a roof. Traverse the face of the rib under the roof and move left out on to the crest of the rib which is followed to the summit.

The following analysis shows the number of ascents made at Seneca between July 19, 1969 and April, 11, 1970 (as recorded in the summit register).

| Route | Number of Ascents |
|-------------------------|-------------------|
| Old Ladies' | 51 |
| Old Man's | 28 |
| Gunsight to South Peak | 16 |
| Conn's West | 11 |
| Breakneck | 9 |
| Soler | 7 |
| Thais | 6 |
| Le Gourmet | 5 |
| Cottonmouth | 4 |
| Neck Press | 4 |
| Triple S | 3 |
| Green Wall | 3 |
| Tony's Nightmare | 2 |
| Totem | 2 |
| Marshall's Madness | 2 |
| Ye Gods & Little Fishes | 2 |
| L.S.D. | 2 |
| Ecstasy | 1 |
| Pleasant Overhangs | 1 |
| Simple J Malarky | 1 |
| Alcoa Presents | 1 |

A total of 530 people made it to the summit.

Mike Hill

Conservation

Dolly Sods

Senator Jennings Randolph and Congressman Ken Hechler have recently introduced bills into Congress to include Dolly Sods, Otter Creek and the Cranberry Back Country -- all in the Monongahela National Forest -- in the Wilderness System. This would save these areas exclusively for hiking. Write Congressman Wayne Aspinall, Chairman, House Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, D.C. 20515 in favor of H.R. 17774 and Senator Henry M. Jackson, Chairman, Senate Interior and Insular Affairs Committee, U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C. 20510 if in favor of S. 3937.

"Wilderness" Classification

A bill to classify 25 units of land as "wilderness" under the Wilderness Act needs help from conservationists. For information write to Congressman Wayne Aspinall at the above address. The bill is H.R. 16258.

Mike Hill

CLIMBER'S CALENDAR

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Place</u> | <u>Leader</u> |
|-------------|---|--|
| Aug. 30 | Do Your Own Thing | |
| Sept. 5-7 | Shawangunks/ Seneca Rock | Linnea Stewart for the Gunks (593-8097) |
| Sept. 12-13 | Caudy's Castle | Roger Birch (527-6272) |
| Sept. 16 | Meeting, PATC Headquarters, 8:00 p.m. | Best Slides of the Summer - contact June Lehman |
| Sept. 19-20 | Seneca Rock | Bill Thomas (KE6-7948) |
| Sept. 26-27 | Shawangunks | Tom McCrumm (527-6272) |
| Oct. 4 | Carderock (training) | Bill Thomas (KE6-7948) |
| Oct. 14 | Meeting, PATC Headquarters | |

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.

Shawangunks, N.Y.

From Washington take the Baltimore-Washington Parkway (or U.S. 1 or U.S. 29) to the Baltimore Parkway. West on I-83 to Harrisburg. Follow Interstate signs to Allentown (I-81 and I-78). East on I-78 and U.S. 22 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 Traps Road and camp in 1 mile at the Coxing Camp. (75¢ per person per night) The rocks are 2 miles up N.Y. 55.

Seneca Rock, W. Va.

From the Beltway take I-66 to Gainesville, Va. and bear right onto Va. 55 to Moorefield, W. Va. Turn left onto U.S. 220 to Petersburg and right onto W. Va. 4 and 28. Mouth of Seneca is 22 miles from Petersburg on W. Va. 4 and 28.

Caudy's Castle, W. Va.

From the Beltway take either Rte. 7 or U.S. 29-211 to U.S. 50 to Winchester. Take Rte. 522 North about 15 miles and

go West on Va. Rte. 127 (changes to W. Va. Rte. 45) to Blommery. Five miles further find sign marked "Caudy's Castle" on right and turn left on dirt road 1½ miles to parking lot.

Carderock, Md.

From the Beltway take the Carderock exit (15). Go 1 mile bear right at sign, go left over overpass, turn right after passing under canal, and park in the last lot. The rocks are 100 yards past the comfort station.

Hard Hats
from the Alpine Club's newsletter

The B.M.C. warns that the only British Standard valid for climbing helmets in BS 4423:1969. Helmets have been advertised in terms which imply that they meet this Standard when in fact they do not. The Standard is marked inside the helmet. The B.M.C. warns that helmets should be discarded after a severe blow.

RECENT HISTORY OF THE SHAWANGUNKS

Mike Hill

About 7,500 acres of beautiful land have been acquired over the past 100 years by the Smiley family as part of their Lake Mohonk Mountain House hotel. In 1963 the Mohonk Trust was founded by the Smileys to 1) "promote world order and aid international understanding through... (international) conferences" held annually on the land, and 2) "preserve the unspoiled natural beauty (of the area)... for recreation... and safeguarding the esthetic qualities and irreplaceable resources of mankind's earthly home for the benefit of future generations."

The trust, run by a board of 12 trustees and administered by Albert and Dan Smiley, plans to buy all but 1,500 acres of the hotel land at relatively low prices (\$20.00 per acre average, so far) through donations. The trust now owns 3,330 acres (including the Trapps, Near Trapps, and Coxing Camp) and encourages nondestructive recreational use, including climbing, by the public.

Small fees are charged for climbing (50¢ per day), camping (75¢ per person at Coxing), and hiking to pay for land operations, conferences, and further land acquisitions. The trust is also presently buying non-hotel land at Millbrook Mountain through a special Millbrook Fund at the request of the Friends of the Shawangunks.

Up Rope

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