



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

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Hanging Around

Buzzards Rock VA, April 22, 1973

Four of us met and pooled transportation at 8:30. I had called the fish hatchery man at (703) 635-5350 as had been requested. Because of vandalism at the hatchery, the gate will always be closed at 4:pm. However, if the Mountaineering Section will him in advance, there is always the possibility that he might be willing to open the gate for the climbers when they come down together after closing time. In this instance, he was going to be away and recommended that we park in the old quarry about 100 yds further on the right. He very generously said he would call the owner and obtain permission.

With four speedsters pushing me on, we climbed the steep ridge to the rocks in a short time. A number of wild flowers and trees were in bloom, making the woods beautiful and the buzzards were on hand. Late in the day, we saw about 10 buzzards enjoying the up-drafts together. I am not completely positive but I think the buzzards were much more prominent kibitzers when one certain person was either belaying or climbing. Each of us made four or five climbs, some of them as long as 100 feet, which seriously drained the energy of at least one Carderock habitué.

Participating were Jon Larson (Trip Leader), Phil Eddy, John Fettvedt, Mark Gunther and John Hartman. Jon Larson

Great Falls/Carderock MD, January 14, 1973

This trip was originally scheduled for Great Falls, however, the river was high enough to flood the base of most of the climbs, so a retreat was made to Carderock. I learned the night before that if you call 299-3613 a sweet girl will answer in the C&O Canal office who can give you the height of the river. If it is above 3.7 feet, the climbing area is flooded. Saturday afternoon it was 4.3 feet with a forecast that it would not go down by Sunday. I typed up notices which I put on the trails with a self-destruct note at the bottom requesting anyone to remove them after Sunday.

A most pleasant day was spent at Carderock. The weather was good and the temperature refreshing. One climber was heard saying that he was sure glad that the Redskin game