



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

1718 N Street, N.W. Washington DC 20036

Vol. 28 No. 9

September 1973

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### At Base Camp

Besides climbing, the Mountaineering Section is involved in matters which concern future opportunities -- and problems -- as we have pointed out in previous UP ROPE issues. At the first general meeting on September 12 after having returned home from an active climbing summer, MS members considered several proposals and discussed the problem of dual PATC-Section membership and an MS rescue training policy. The latter will be the subject of editorial consideration in a forthcoming UP ROPE issue. (We are getting this slim issue out in a hurry to present the new climbing schedule. Ed.)

#### New Membership Applications

The nominees should be present at the next meeting:

- Harold C. Bailey, sponsored by Bill Pepper and John Birch
- Ralph Erickson, sponsored by Marjorie Prochaska and John Birch
- Nancy Lee Moran, sponsored by Tom McCrumm and Joe Jensen
- Arthur Pergam, sponsored by John Christian and Joe Wagner
- Mary Ann Manglitz, sponsored by Joe Jensen and Bill Thomas

#### PATC-Section Membership

Following are excerpts from a letter by MS member John Bonine on our pending proposal to do away with an independent MS membership. In order to promote more discussion on this subject here are some of John's views:

"The proposal that MS members join PATC is a reasonable one, and would arouse little controversy if it were a voluntary measure. But we should ask whether the proposed terms for mandatory joint membership actually meet the needs of MS and, if not, whether consolidation is so important that we should settle for undesirable terms... it may become more difficult to attract young climbers into MS because of PATC's dues structure and membership conditions. Many believe that ...particularly young climbers and beginners should be encouraged to climb with MS to speak with a stronger voice for the Washington climbing community...

"Perhaps MS should ask its own executive committee to return to the PATC Council with one or more counter-proposals to keep the logistical barriers to new MS membership as low as possible... MS should promote certain standards of climbing, and there may be reason not to invite everyone who owns a rope into the Section. But the PATC membership policy and dues structure screens out prospective members on grounds other than skill, safety and attitude -- among other things, on financial grounds -- which in many cases becomes an automatic screening against young climbers..." S/John Bonine MS/PATC.