



*Up Rope*

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

1718 N Street, N.W. Washington DC 20036

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### At Base Camp

#### MOUNTAINEERING MEDICINE CLASS

The Mountaineering medicine course will be offered this spring. The course will be held at 8:00 Thursday evenings from April 17 to May 22. Phil Cardin, M.D., Bob Engler, M.D., and Bill Bookhout will be the instructors. The course covers emergencies that one might expect to occur on an expedition several days away from medical help. Since the course goes far beyond First Aid, participants are expected to have a Red Cross First Aid Certificate. The text for the course is the Seattle Mountaineer's Medicine for Mountaineering by James A. Wilkerson, M.D.

Tim Moran is the chairman of the Carderock Bulletin Board moving committee. If you want to help, call him at 474-5039.

It has been suggested that the climbing clubs that use Seneca Rocks gather together for a meeting/party at Seneca. Anyone with ideas, talk to Sallie.

At the January meeting, the MS discussed the Gazetteer the AAC has proposed to publish. The club voted to write a letter to the AAC expressing our opposition to the Gazetteer. The letter was written at a committee meeting and is included somewhere in this issue.

#### TO THE MOUNTAINEERING SECTION:

At the end of a term of office, an outgoing officer, in saying good-bye and thanks and all the other niceties, usually relates how he has managed to bring order out of chaos, and all the other accomplishments of his reign.

But I'm not saying good-bye. I don't plan to drop out of sight. As UP ROPE's business manager, I'm sure I will be kept busy and active.

## PATC MOUNTAINEERING SECTION

Chairman: Sallie Greenwood (965-4087)

Vice Chairman: Joe Ney (751-8891)

Secretary: Chuck Sproull (894-4463)

Treasurer: Greg Christopulos (293-3272)

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Editor: Maren Stewart (301-385-0636)

Circulation Manager: Joe Jensen (301-467-4611)

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I do owe a lot of thank you's. As chairman, it seemed that I was charged, not so much with doing lots of work, as with finding someone to do the work. People like Chuck, Greg, John Christian, Steve Williams, Maren, Betsy, Joan Templeton and Gardner, Bob Ryan, June and the many other club members who have given of their time and efforts during this past year to keep the Mountaineering Section healthy. One of the most gratifying memories of my term as chairman is the help you all have given me and the section.

It would have been nice to be able to list a lot of accomplishments, especially that of building a cabin. It didn't happen. Still, we did learn a lot about working together as a club. Our cabin will come, and it will be all the better for our experience. Also, I believe that we have managed to cast off the exclusive image that was somehow associated with our section. Our membership is increasing and as we manage to incorporate more and more of the Washington area climbing population, the section grows in strength and vitality.

As to "order out of chaos," I might bring down some sort of retroactive impeachment upon myself with such a statement. (Furthermore, such housework is perhaps best left to our new chairperson). Sallie, it's all yours.

Thanks and thanks and thanks.

Joe Jensen

## Chairman's Corner

Joe Jensen's chairmanship is going to be a hard one to follow. Joe brought the Section a long way - membership is up; section members are now full-fledged, dues paid PATC members; and through the good offices of John Christian, we have leads on all possible available land within a radius of 10 miles of Mouth of Seneca. (Plus, we've had the opportunity to practice digging latrines and shuffling rocks around, thanks to the Forest Service.)

My lead now, thanks to you.

The Section has continuing commitments - the Templeton Cabin, Up Rope, training, the Seneca guidebook. These projects are moving along - generally due to the dedication of a few souls. More on those few souls in the next Chimney.

I'd like to dust off some old issues: public relations, training, safety. These issues are chestnuts for sure. Each is discussed annually and filed away.

We've ostriched these issues long enough. The Section has reached a maturity in terms of size, competence, and membership that it can undertake an effective public stance in training, public relations, and safety. In the past the membership has balked at going public in these areas as it might bring more people into climbing, be too demanding on the membership, etc. The Section was inclined not to get involved.

With the tremendous increase in climbing it is no longer a question of whether or not we are inclined to go public. If climbing as we enjoy it today - safe, unregulated, and free - is to survive, we should commit ourselves to doing something to preserve it. (Note: Nary a word, whisper, or breath of suggesting that we bring more people into the sport.)

There are a lot of people around these days who are trying out climbing with absolutely no idea of what they are doing. My thought is that they should at least have the opportunity to survive a first exposure to it. If any of you doubt the validity of some sort of program to at least introduce safe climbing techniques, cruise along Carderock any Sunday and observe the wild, wonderful, ingenious methods that people can concoct for riggings, seat slings, and belays. It's enough to radicalize a fatalist to action.

I have in mind to carry out an information program in cooperation with the Park Service - displays at Great Falls and a knot display at Carderock. That's a low-profile involvement. Secondly, I'd like to see the training program formalized and more Section members actively involved.

Come to the Section meetings and express your ideas.

Sallie Greenwood

## From the Editor's Chimney

I'm sorry UP ROPE died out in the past few months. I was sick for a while, but UP ROPE will hopefully be back to normal.

As one can tell from reading past UP ROPE's, a large number of people have been contributing material to UP ROPE. These people deserve the credit for the quality of UP ROPE. I enjoy reading and typing the trip reports and articles I receive. I just wish I had more. While I appreciate what you people have sent in, I don't want you slacking off. If the function of the newsletter of a club is to inform members of club activities, then I guess all UP ROPE needs to contain is section news, a climbers calendar, and trip reports. But this club can do much better. It's up to you. I'll print anything I like. A book review, the account of an expedition, a discussion of climbing equipment, a trip report of a non-club trip, news from other areas, etc.

I haven't moved; my address is still 817 Hollins Street, Baltimore, Md. 21201. Please try to get material to me by the 20th of the month if you want it in the next month's UP ROPE. I hope I hear from some of you.

Maren Stewart

January 24, 1975

Mr. William L Putnam  
President, American Alpine Club  
P.O. Box 2210  
Springfield, Massachusetts 01101

Dear Mr. Putnam:

A discussion of the proposed American Alpine Club gazetteer was held at the January meeting of the Potomac Appalachian Trail Club's Mountaineering Section. The content of Andrew Kauffman's October 4, 1974 letter to the AAC Board was used as the introduction. John Stannard then made his points against the proposed gazetteer.

After a lengthy discussion of the gazetteer's intent, content, and possible impact on climbing areas, the Section's consensus was negative. We object for the following reasons:

- 1) There is no indication that private landowners will be asked if their land can be listed.
- 2) Any information will lead to increased use of already hard-pressed areas.
- 3) There is no mechanism to update information - such as changes in the availability to the public of climbing on privately held land.

We will not furnish any information to the American Alpine Club on climbing areas in our region for the gazetteer as it is presently outlined. However, the Section recommends that the Club consider alternatives to its concept.

- 1) A list of climbing organizations throughout the United States. This answers our objection to the non-responsiveness of a gazetteer to sudden changes in local, private landowner policies.
- 2) Should a listing be made, list only those climbing areas that are on public lands. This reflects the fact that much of the climbing in this area - and in much of the East - takes place on private land. Our relationships with landowners have been tenuous in some cases, and in others the result of continuing, long-term personal diplomacy.
- 3) Recommend that places of business specializing in climbing equipment be contacted for local climbing information. Such businesses can be found in the Yellow Pages of a phone book.

The Section finds it a serious fault that the American Alpine Club apparently lacks respect for the privacy of the individual landowner. Furthermore, this insensitivity jeopardizes the carefully cultivated relationships that regional clubs have with landowners. Even were landowners to consent initially to a listing in a gazetteer, there is no way for changes to be reflected.

Sincerely  
Sallie M. Greenwood  
Chairman, Mountaineering Section

cc; George Cummings  
Andrew Kauffman  
Felix Knauth



## Hanging Around

Cupid's Bower - September 8, 1974

Despite feeble attempts by the trip leader and a few others to promote alternative destinations in the event that high water (real or imagined) presented any problems, the trip to Cupid's Bower went off without a hitch.

The major challenge of the day, probably called the Hourglass or something like that, was a 40-foot slightly overhanging crack and face climb. It was vanquished only by Jim \_\_\_\_\_, one of these young upstarts that makes you wonder if climbing is learned or hereditary. Everyone else had fun climbing up to the hourglass shaped resting spot and then falling off.

A chimney presented some climbing that is uncommon in this area, and everyone had his or her own technique for squirming, wriggling, bridging, jamming, or balancing the route. Three points were taken off whenever a climber disturbed one of the plentiful spiders or their webs.

Tony Madden, who has been climbing here for 40 years, made a lot of people wonder if they'd be in such good shape four decades hence as Tony did all the face and corner routes that were rigged. Others on the trip beside novice Jim and veteran Tony were Nan Moran, Jon Larson, John Fetvedt, Alan Groh, Tim \_\_\_\_\_, Stevie Smith, Barbara Llewellyn, John Garrahan, and John Bonine.

John Bonine

Training at Great Falls, Maryland - September 15, 1974

Bob Ryan, Joe Wagner, John Fetvedt, David Garvin, Stevie Smith, John Garrahan, Robert A. Sanders, Robert A. Sanders, Jr., Tom Haden, Pat Kingman, Abby Kingman, Jim Eakin, Jim Pomeroy, Ed Fogels, Scott Visscher, Chris Quiet, Jim Nigro, Jim Shipley, John Anderson, Rohly and Ronnie Fenz, Jack Smith, Hal Kramer, Toni Madden, Mike Norman, Joan Templeton, Don Hooks, Three Goldbergs, Bill Thomas, Valerie Walker, Jon Larson, John Bonine, Donna Clark, Phil Eddy, Mark Willy, Dave Somebody. The list is probably not complete, for a number of folks led by John Bonine and Bill Thomas came out later in the day, having spent the morning on beginning training at Carderock. Nevertheless, in my brief experience, this was a record group for training.

The trip was billed as an intermediate training session. Rather than having a mob scene demonstration lecture, we broke the group into three subgroups led by Joe Wagner, John Fetvedt and me. In this way everyone who wished to was able to do a lead, second or both. After this more or less formal activity, pairs broke off to do their own lead climbing and others set up top-rope problems. There was so much activity that most individual feats of strength and daring escape me. I do recall John Farrahan doing a splendid little lead, seconded, I believe by Jim Nigro. John also exhibited infinite patience as I unsuccessfully tried to lead something which Jimmy Shipley allowed was traditionally a top-rope problem.

Later in the day Toni Madden discovered that he lost his wallet. Everyone helped with the search but to no avail. Fortunately a young lady not of our party found the wallet and promptly called Toni.

It was good to see so many new and old faces. Many thanks to Joe Wagner, John Fetvedt and the others who helped with training.

Bob Ryan

Bull Run Mountain, Va. - October 6, 1974

Gary and Barbara Dathe and son Jerry, Donna Clark, Phil Eddy. This was a special trip for two newcomers who had missed the club trip to Bull Run Mountain on the preceding weekend. This is one of my favorite climbing places, so I was only too happy to take them.

At Bull Run Mountain we first rigged the tall climb on the south west corner (far left as you look out over the valley) the name of which I have forgotten. It is one of my favorite climbs and can be done in a variety of ways. After playing around with this for a while, we rigged a real beginner's climb nearby so that Barbara and four year Jerry could climb too. Next we worked on the usual south-facing face climb (name?) and then finished off with the strenuous Overhung Flake. I peeled off, Gary did it on the first try, and Donna just looked and said "Uh Uh!"

The weather was perfect--a gorgeous autumn day. The only unpleasant aspect appeared as we were leaving, when we found the top of the rocks infested by a mixed and bleary eyed group of juvenile hominids, imbibing beer and puffing pot. The likes of them have desecrated the place with broken glass and empty cans at all levels from bottom to top. Is there no longer any respect for the beauty of Nature?

Phil Eddy

Wolf Gap, West Virginia - October 12-12, 1974

John and Bebe Fetvedt, Donna Clark, Phil Eddy, Tom McKenna, John Larson. With a long stretch of beautiful autumn weather still holding out, and the prospect of a long Columbus Day weekend ahead, I felt the urge to try Wolf Gap again, John and Tom and I, along with Harold Goldstein, had had a very pleasant Club trip there back in July. Besides, I wanted to introduce enthusiastic new climber Donna to some of my favorite climbing spots.

Originally I had planned to do Big Schloss on the first day and then move over to Caudy's Castle for the second day, but intelligence picked up the October meeting of the Club indicated that Caudy's Castle has been closed off by its owner; he was fed up with the accumulation of trash left there. So I decided to try to find the other climbing spot in the Wolf Gap area, Devil's Garden, which I remembered dimly from Club trips of quite a few years ago.

John and Bebe had to get back early Sunday evening to relieve their baby sitter, so they went up first, taking Tom with them. Donna and Jon and I followed at a more leisurely pace, eating lunch in Wardensville and pitching camp in the woods near the PATC cabin (the camp ground was filled up) before heading for Big Schloss. We were so late that, before reaching that place, we met John and Bebe heading for home. Tom joined us latecomers on several climbs

on the west side, then we all moved over to the east side to try the climb that had given us trouble in July. We worked at this until sunset, then started the hour plus trek back to camp.

Next morning, after watching a flock of geese wheel majestically overhead at breakfast time, we headed for the entrance to Devil's Garden. This lies about eleven miles north of Wolf Gap and three miles south of Wardensville. The terrain looked sufficiently familiar that I was able to find my way in spite of the trail along the top of the ridge having been obliterated by fairly recent logging operations.

We spent several glorious hours there working on two climbs which I remembered--just two out of many good possibilities. The view from the top of the rocks was magnificent. For autumn colors of brilliant red and gold and green were at their peak; the weather was still bright and warm. We all felt that Devil's Garden has much to offer and deserves more attention than our club has given it in recent years.

Phil Eddy

#### Little Stony Man - November 3, 1974

Kurt Mobley, Phil Eddy, Barbara Llewellyn, Stevie Smith, Jim Nigro, Tim Moran, Lewis Fisher, Mitch Burken, Chuck Shellhorn, Chuck and Margaret Wettling, Bob and Kate Adams, John Bonine (trip leader)

Since the majority of us had not climbed at Little Stony Man before, the trip was a surprise and a delight. The cliffs are too high for belaying from the bottom on top-roped climbing. This happily required belayers to be anchored at the top--where they could gaze out toward the Massanutten and Shenandoah Valley on this beautiful, blue-eyed day.

Some of the older hands like Phil Eddy, the Wettlings, and the Adams pointed out the traditional routes. A few lead climbs were done, since the rock is well adapted to nut placement. Most of the climbs were not difficult, and gave ample opportunity for just soaking in the tremendous view, the nip of autumn in the air, and the feeling of hard rock under one's fingers.

John Bonine

#### Wolf Rocks, Maryland - November 17, 1974

John Fetvedt, Al Goldberg and family, Doug Emery, Stevie Smith, Jim Griffiths, Barbara Ann Llewellyn, Bill Kreisher, Scratch Willoch, John Carara, John Gorde, Jon Larson, Mark Uhrich.

The day started with a cold drizzle as we met in Gaithersburg, but changed to a cool, partly cloudy, fall day by the time we arrived at the rocks. We roped about half a dozen climbs on the outside of the rocks and on the wolf head and worked on these until early afternoon. After lunch we moved a couple of the ropes to the inside of the rocks and set up some of the harder problems. Shortly thereafter it became a spectator sport and attempting on the the problems became the only way one could quiet the unruly bystanders.

John Fetvedt

## Climber's Calendar

Feb 12 MS Meeting 8:00 p.m. PATC Headquarters  
Feb 16 Training Trip Bob Ryan 560-6044  
Feb 15-17 Mt. Washington Call Joe Wagner if interested 966-6379  
Feb 22-23 Rock State Park Phil Eddy 942-4231  
March 2 Someplace Margaret Wettling 736-2447  
March 9 Wolf Rock, Catoctin State Park Joe Jensen 301-467-4611  
March 12 Ms Meeting 8:00 p.m. PATC Headquarters  
May 31 Annual Picnic at Carderock Pavilion Date Tentative

Always call the trip leader, Sallie Greenwood (965-4087), or Joe Wagner (966-6379) before going on a trip. Some climbs are for experienced leaders and seconds only.

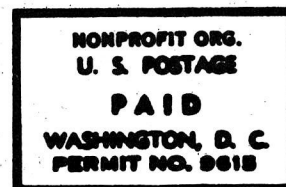
John Bonine sent me an article from the Rocky Mountain News of this past summer. It described the situation at Red Rocks Parks in Colorado. Because of the large number of deaths from climbing accidents, climbing was prohibited in certain areas of the Park. People ignored the law; Park Police had to chase between 50 and 100 people off the rocks on a nice summer day. Now they are imposing \$100 fines. Is this what climbing is coming to? Sallie has something to say on this subject in her Chairmans Corner.

Maren Stewart

The Iowa Mountaineer's Peruvian Expedition to the Ishinka area starts July 5 and lasts to either July 26 or Aug 2. We had the date wrong earlier. Their other mountain camp will be in the San Juan area of Colorado from August 4 to 15. This is the Sneffels-Massive area. Their address is 30 Prospect Place, Iowa City, Iowa 52240.



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DATED MATTER