



FOUNDED BY  
JAN AND HERB CONN

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

1718 N Street, N.W. Washington DC 20036

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### At Base Camp

#### ELECTION

Mountaineering Section officers for 1976 will be elected at the general meeting, December 10. The candidates proposed by the nominations committee are listed below. Additional nominations for any office will be accepted from the floor at the November and December meetings.

#### Chairman

Sallie Greenwood  
Curt Mobley

#### Vice Chairman

Neil Arsenault  
Joe Wagner

#### Secretary

Larry DeMilner  
Tom McKenna

#### Treasurer

Jean Amberg  
Stan Halpin  
Ray Kremer

Conservation - John Stannard has volunteered to keep the club informed on conservation and environmental matters, and to represent us to the PATC Guidelines Committee.

Monongahela National Forest - Sallie Greenwood has secured a copy of the 1969 Land Management Plan for Seneca Rocks-Spruce Knob Recreation Area. This plan will form the basis for the new plan currently under development. The MS has already sent a reply to the USFS regarding Seneca use and management but will now be able to comment in more detail.

MS Workshop - "Protection Systems and their Management" to be conducted by Neil Arsenault on Thursday, November 6 at 7:30 pm, PATC Headquarters. (See October UP ROPE for details.)

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READY YOUR ICE AX, CRAMPONS, AND HAMMER . . .

if you want to go on local ice climbs this winter. The climbing committee is again fortunate in having Jon Larson organize trips and practice climbs from Castle Fin to White Oak Canyon. These special climbs will not be announced in advance in Up Rope because of unpredictable weather and ice conditions. Contact Jon if you want to participate (H: 591-6649).

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Thanks to Joe Wagner who prepared the membership roster currently being mailed to members.

PATC MOUNTAINEERING SECTION

Chairman	
Sallie Greenwood	(965-4087)
Vice Chairman	
Joe Ney	(751-8891)
Secretary	
Chuck Sproull	(229-7434)
Treasurer	
Greg Christopoulos	(293-3272)
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UP ROPE is the monthly newsletter of the Mountaineering Section (MS) of the Potomac Appalachian Trail Club (PATC) of Washington, D.C. Editorial contributions, letters and comments are welcome, and should be sent to Editor, UP ROPE, 802 New Mark Esplanade, Rockville, Md. 20850. Deadline is the 20th of each month. Subscriptions for MS members are included in dues. Annual subscriptions for non-members are \$3.50. New applicants and current members of PATC may join the MS by requesting sponsorship by a member of the MS. Current PATC members interested only in receiving UP ROPE may subscribe at no additional charge. Send subscriptions and address changes to Circulation Manager, UP ROPE, 1718 N St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036

## REAL "DO-IT-YOURSELF" KITS

Inspired by the example of the successful down-garment industry in the U.S., a manufacturer in East Europe has introduced a line of make-it-yourself clothing kits which combine low cost with convenience. What makes these kits unique is the means of supplying down for insulation. These kits, appropriately called "Pluck-A-Duck," cut costs by including a live duck in the complete starter kit, thereby permitting the purchaser to pluck his own duck. Since feathers are a self-renewing product, the owner of one of these kits will need to buy only fabric and thread to create an entire line of garments. In addition, a less expensive thrift kit offers a chicken instead of the standard duck, while a deluxe kit goes all the way with a northern goose.

(Thanks to the May 1975 Mugelnoos which in turn "plucked" it from Trail and Timberline, 2/75)

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Anyone **interested** in buying or selling mountaineering books, paintings, or engravings, contact Jim Nagy, (H) 262-0515; (W) 982-4186.

## From the Editor's Chimney

With the coming election of Mountaineering Section officers next month, it seems a good time to consider our roles as members of the club. The Mountaineering Section has given many of us the opportunity to learn to climb or advance our skills through its training sessions, introduced us to new climbing areas and other climbers with its weekend trips, kept us informed through Up Rope, taught us through special programs such as the mountaineering medicine course, and entertained us with slide shows and films at the monthly meetings.

But all of this takes people who are willing to donate their time and energy to keep the club functioning. The officers and committee chairmen cannot do the job alone. Despite a large and growing membership, there is too often a lack of volunteers to draft a letter, attend a hearing or meeting, serve on a committee, lead a trip, or help with any of the other numerous activities in which the club is involved. We should each review what we have gained as members and support the Section when it needs help. We depend on it; it depends on us!

## Hanging Around

### Sugarloaf, Md. - August 24

The trip to Sugarloaf Mountain on the 24th of August generated a fairly large response. The following climbers and families of climbers attended:

Donna Clark	Ed Lawson
Rob Corruccini	Chuck and Kathy
Ian Cruickshank	Shellhorn
Bob & Alice Dern	(3-mo old Leah)
(David & Laura,	Charlie Tuten
their children)	Al Webb
Phil Eddy	Margaret Wettling
Cliff Jones	Skip White
Don Kocher	Jean Amberg
Ann Kruse	Laurie Anderson

We met in the parking lot at 10:00 a.m. and trudged over hill and dale to the traditional climbing area at Sugarloaf. Climbers other than the trip leaders were primarily responsible for finding and rigging the climbs and we thank them for their help.

All of the known climbs were attempted, the Beginner's Crack and Butterfingers receiving greatest notoriety. It was generally concluded that Beginner's Crack was not necessarily beginner's material and no one actually conquered Butterfingers. Most climbers discovered climbs both easy and difficult for their individual abilities, which probably accounts for Sugarloaf's popularity.

When ominous-sounding thunder was heard at about 3:00 pm, a certain British lady firmly opined that it was nonsense to pull down the ropes so early in the day. Great sheets of rain, however, forced us all to retreat in great and awkward haste to the parking lot. We re-assembled later at a Gaithersburg pizza-parlor for a post-climbing beer and pig-out.

Laurie Anderson  
Jean Amberg

### Buzzard Rocks, Va. - Aug. 31

John Fetvedt	Tom McKenna
Curt Mobley	John Fox

It rained. But not on us because we stayed in bed.

John Fetvedt

### Cupid's Bower, Md. - Sept. 7

The skies were threatening, as they have so often been on the weekends - since about February, it seems (we didn't really have spring this year - we had winter, rain, and summer - a rainy summer) as we set out from the parking lot across from Old Angler's Inn. But since our own resident meteorologist abandoned a trip to Seneca, because of the likelihood of rain, but showed up for this trip, the outlook was hopeful. Perhaps because of the optimistic forecast, people continued to trickle over to the rocks until we had gathered almost two dozen people - a fair number for an area so small. Ropes were set up in about six spots, and almost everyone tried most of the climbs, up through Ph.D., Post Ph.D., and a mean-looking crack to the right of Ph.D. Only three people made it to the top of Ph.D. and no one to the top of Post Ph.D. It was a lovely day, up until the time we left, and the trailblazers of the group decided to find the Northwest Passage around and over to the mainland, since it was reputed to be a dry crossing. (The trip leader might be a bit jaundiced on this point, as she was apparently the only one to pick up poison ivy on the trek out.)

Participating were: Janet Ainsworth, Laurie Anderson, Neil Arsenault, Melinda and John Bird, John Bremer, Ed Cooper, Rob Corruccini, John Fetvedt, Vivian and Bob Goldberg, Stan Halpin, Bob Huber, Dan Jackson, Ed Lawson, Larry deMilner, Curt Mobley, Tim Moran, Jim Nigro, Joanne Smith, Stevie Smith, Charles Tuten, and Barbara Llewellyn (trip leader).

Barbara Llewellyn

**DATED MATTER**