

FOUNDED BY
JAN AND HERB CONN

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

1718 N Street, N.W. Washington DC 20036

Volume 32 Number 5

May 1977

Page 1

PICNIC!!! May 22

In order to customize the picnic fare at the 1977 MS picnic to the discriminating tastes of us mountaineer-gourmands, all participants should bring their own beer as well as food. The real reason is that PATC has eliminated the picnic from the MS budget.



James Eakin on "Double-feature" at Bull Run, Va. Photo by Stan Halpin

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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 Vivian Goldberg, 103 G Street SW, #B608, Washington, D. C. 20024. Deadline is the 20th of each month. Subscriptions for MS members is included in the dues. Annual subscriptions for non-members are \$3.50. New applicants and current members of PATC can 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 subscription and address changes to Circulation Manager, UP ROPE, 1718 N Street NW Washington, D. C. 20036.

From the Editor's Chimney

In his recent energy message, President Carter predicted Malthusian doom for our society unless we change our ways. I will leave the economic and political interpretations of the new energy policy to those who are expert in such matters. However, I do have a few thoughts on how the use of energy pertains to us as climbers.

Climbers tend to think of themselves as free spirits who test their minds and bodies against the demands made by the rock and the weather. Yet the sports of rock climbing and mountaineering as practiced today are reflections of modern technology. The nylon ropes and slings, the specialized shoes, and the lightweight clothing that we depend on all require sophisticated (and probably expensive) manufacturing processes. Those of us who frequently travel by car or plane to distant climbing areas cannot pretend to be low-level users of either

technology or energy.

I am not suggesting that we return to hemp rope and leather climbing shoes or that we suspend our weekly trips to save gas. I do propose that we become more aware of how we as individual climbers fit into the large picture of energy and resource use. Recognize that we do use up some of the earth's resources when we climb. Then learn to maximize the personal benefits of an experience that is becoming increasingly costly to obtain. People who have the skill to climb up the faces of cliffs are in a position to gain a perspective not available to their horizontally-moving (or immovable) brethren. We ought to have a different view of the world, even if it is only a pigeon's eye view of Seneca.

Vivian Goldberg

Chairman's Corner

The PATC cabin at Hermitage in the Michaux State Forest, PA, which was vandalized and burnt to the ground a couple of years ago, has been completely rebuilt by dint of a year's hard work by many devoted PATC members (with the assistance of a very few MS members one weekend last summer). The grand opening and dedication (a brief ceremony) will be on Sunday, May 15 at 2:30 PM. The PATC are scheduling a variety of hikes in the area and the MS will take part in the day's activities by climbing the nearby rocks. This area was popular with our group a few years ago and this would be a good occasion to renew our acquaintance with it. PATC will be organizing a bus, in case you prefer others to do the driving, and also serving light refreshments. See the current issue of the PA or contact our trip leader for details.

Margaret Wettling

Hanging Around

Great Falls, VA - March 6

A beautiful spring-like day succeeded in bringing the climbers out of their long winter hibernations. With a large number of climbs rigged, most were able to get their winter-softened muscles functioning and the dust off their climbing dhoes. A noble effort was put forth by Mike Ball, Rich Raymond, Rob Aldon, James Eakin and others who tried to get more than ten feet off the ground on a rather exhausting and impossible climb. The reward for their efforts was an enjoyable pendulum over the spectators in the gallery. Spectators were numerous and included an animal which hissed (loudly) at the climbers as

they passed. Leith Wain, Leo Gugerty, Margaret Wettling and other brave souls persisted in climbing the crack even though the animal was located at the crux move, and who likes to be hissed at on a crux move. I don't think the hissing was any reflection on the climbing abilities of those doing the climb, for all were treated to the same noise. The climbers included: Mike Ball, Barbara Beine, James Eakin, Leo Gugerty, Vivian Goldberg, Rebecca Nelson, Linda Parkhurst, Rich Raymond, Al Taylor, Rob Aldon, Leith Wain, Bill White, Billy White, Margaret Wettling, Chuck Wettling, and Ron Yokim.

The final score:

Climbers 12

Rocks 1

Camp Lewis, MD - Feb. 27

It was the first warm day since early December and it looked like the rain would hold off until late afternoon. A perfect day to get back to rock climbing after the long cold winter. The leader, however, had the flu, but went anyway. We assembled at Car-derock, hiked to Camp Lewis, and set up a number of climbs. The leader kept an unsociable distance (didn't talk much), fell off a few climbs, and turned responsibility for leading the trip to a climber whose upper respiratory tract was in working order. The leader staggered back home to bed and the rest of the group climbed until the rains came. The participants were: Jeff Glazier, Bill White, Janet Young, Doug, Mary, and Caleb Howard, Skip Henderson, Leith Wain, Rick Todd (relief leader) and Vivian Goldberg (fevered leader).

Bull Run, VA - March 18

This trip report will be short enough to fill this small space. It rained. So after we picked up beer cans we retreated to a pizza place.

Belay Ledge

Dear Stevie:

Since my large family will be very interested in the pictures which you published in March UP ROPE and for my own part, to serve as a very satisfying ego booster, I would appreciate receiving 12 copies of this edition if you can spare them.

I am enclosing a check for \$20 to the Seneca Fund to help out with their work and to help offset the extra expenses involved in my request.

Many thanks again for the pictures and especially for the very clever theme: "The ups and downs of a climbing family." My children and grandchildren will be delighted with this theme.

Sincerely,
Anthony Madden

Ed. Note:

Thank you for the compliments and for the generous gift.

A few weeks back in the Gunks, a couple of PATC-MS types did Snooky's Return and had some hard luck when a favorite chock stuck in behind an impossible spot. An "unplayable lie" as the golfers would say. Hammers, knives, skill, curses, muscle--nothing would budge the David Rearick hand-made super-wooden gem. Next day three of us did Minty's right next door, but this time the chock owner took along a borrowed Cadillac jack handle, plus his piton hammer. That owner was third, so while doing the second pitch with a heavy belay, owner swung and/or traversed over to Snooky, bashed the chock loose with the jack handle (not a tire iron as some cynics claim) and we all went on up the overhang. A sweet success story. I was the second-day second, but only for love or money would I reveal any other names.

Jim Kerr

Curt Mobley is looking for action! My life as a professional graduate student is about to end. In order to anesthetize the transition from a four-hour to an eight-hour workday, I plan to spend the months of June, July, and August climbing, climbing, and climbing, respectively. I'd like to hear from anyone planning to be "out west" anytime this summer, because I'm looking for climbing partners. Excellent weather guaranteed. Call 864-0428.

From Other Peaks

MOUNTAIN MEDICINE '77, a three-day symposium on medicine in relation to hiking and mountaineering, will be given at the Pinkham Notch Camp of the Appalachian Mountain Club at Gorham, NH, on November 11-13, 1977. The \$100 to \$150 fee includes full room and board, all educational materials, etc.

Approximately 20 different classes will be offered in such subjects as nutrition, hypothermia, management of soft tissue injuries and fractures, expedition medicine, and many more. Instruction will be given at different levels suitable for a small party out for a day-hike; a group leader on a longer trip; or for an EMT, RN, or MD interested in the more advanced areas of mountain medicine.

Pre-requisites for attendance are certification in Red Cross Standard First Aid and in CPR or their equivalent. Continuing education credits have been applied for at EMT, RN, and MD levels.

For further information, write to:

Cecil M. Jones, Registrar
72 Chester Street
Worcester, MA 01805

Northern Lights Alpine Recreation's summer program includes a graduated series of mountaineering schools, hiking, and a glacier skiing camp. Joe Wagner (966-6379) has the flyer, or write to Northern Lights Alpine Recreation, Box 399, Invermere, British Columbia, Canada, VOA 1K0

Base Notes

Here is a song to sing to the tune of the Battle Hymn of the Republic, and could be used as a work chant to accompany the repair and painting of Nelson Cabin. Memorize the first four verses in time for the next Seneca . . work trip. The lyrics were originally published in the March 16, 1977 edition of Mugelnoos of the Los Angeles CA Sierra Club.

GORY, GORY

Will it go around the chockstone?
called the belayer, looking up
Our hero answered yes! and slowly
inched on up.
He was trying to drive a piton when
his foothold ~~crumbled~~ out
And he ain't gonna climb no more.

GORY, GORY what a helluva way to die
GORY, GORY what a helluva way to die
GORY, GORY what a helluva way to die
He ain't gonna climb no more

He slid right down the chimney and he
quickly gathered speed
He shot past his belayer who forgot
the climbers creed
An anchor to a piton would've been
all he'd ever need
Oh, he ain't gonna climb no more.

The belayer felt the rope pull taut
and tried to let it run
But it jerked him from position and
he knew his time had come
He left the ledge behind him and it
shot upward to the sun
Oh, he ain't gonna climb no more.

They sped on down the chimney and
they passed the southern col
They had such good exposure that it
made a glorious fall
They slithered over the friction
pitch and sped on down the wall
Oh, they ain't gonna climb no more.

There are more verses to this song
which may be reprinted on request.

Climber's Calendar

May 15	*Training, Carderock MD	Rick Toddd	(439-0672)
May 15	Hermitage Cabin, PA	Stan Halpin	(340-2593)
May 21	Crevasse Rescue	Joe Jensen	(301-467-4611)
May 22	Herzog Island MD/ PICNIC	James Eakin	(598-6047)
May 28-30	**Shawangunks, NY	Stevie Ney	(762-7311)
May 29	Leader's Choice	#	
May 31	*Training, PATC Head- quarters, 8PM	Rick Todd	(439-0672)

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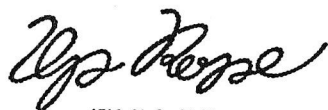
(Cont'd from page 5)

June 4-5	**Linville Gorge, NC	Stan Halpin	(340-2593)
June 5	Annapolis Rocks, MD	Tom Perry	(354-2794)
June 8	Meeting, PATC Headquarters, 8PM	Climbing movie	
June 12	*Training, Carderock MD	Rick Todd	(439-0672)
June 18-19	Devil's Garden, WV	Tom McKenna	(972-8739)
June 25-26	Seneca Rocks, WV work trip	#	
June 26	Cupid's Bower, MD	Sallie Greenwood	(965-4087)
July 2-4	**Shawangunks, NY	Barbara Llewellyn	(871-6197)
July 3	Cupid's Bower	#	
July 5	*Training, PATC Headquarters, 8PM	Rick Todd	(439-0672)
July 10	Little Stony Man, VA	Joe Wagner	(966-6881)
July 13	Meeting, PATC Headquarters	Program to be announced	
July 17	*Training, Carderock, MD	Rick Todd	(439-0672)

* All training by appointment only and classroom training is required before the Carderock training.

**Experienced leaders and seconds only. No experience required for work trips

Call Joe Wagner (966-6379) or Barbara Llewellyn (871-6197) if you can lead this trip.



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MAY 1977