FOUNDED BY
JAN AND HERB CONN

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

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At Base Camp

As an added incentive to registering before climbing at Harpers Ferry, the National Park Service is now levying a \$50 fine on anyone seen climbing the rocks without having first signed in at Park Headquarters. We hope this will curb the rash of accidents there, which have all happened to hikers venturing on to what looked like easy rock and getting up over their heads.

Nelson Rocks are beginning to appeal to more and more climbers. If you desire to climb on them, keep in mind that the Eastern approach to the rocks on the North side of the road is on private property, and the owners apparently do not welcome trespassers. The ownership of the Rocks themselves is in some dispute, but the party who owns the East access do not own the rocks.

John Stannard has contributed another \$291 to the Seneca Fund. This makes a total of \$518 to date from the proceeds of the sale of the pictorial guide to Seneca Rocks. Nice work, John! Undisbursed monies in the Seneca Fund currently stand at \$338.

As mentioned by Richard Stokes at the July MS meeting, the registration procedures at Great Falls have been simplified. Well, at first they are more complicated. You go to the HQ and fill out a registration card that asks the usual name and address, but also other info such as how to identify your car, next of kin, and your climbing experience. The next time you come, all you do is sign your name and the specific climbing area you will be in. If you haven't left by dark, the rangers match up the cars left in the parking lot with the cards in the file, add in the names and climbing locations on that day's sign-up sheet, and then they know who is lost and where.

Do you feel left out of the world of the big league climbers? You didn't go to the ALPS or the TETONS or even the WHITES? You even missed out on the July 29 worktrip to Nelson House where you could have tried some 5.8's on the ladders? How can you let the world know that you belong to the PATC-MS? By buying a MS patch, of course. See Stan Halpin at the next meeting to find out how to get your patch. (You need an MS membership and \$2 for starters.)

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PATC MOUNTAINEERING SECTION

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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 addressed to Vivian Goldberg, 4425 South First Road, Arlington, VA 22204. Deadline is the 20th of each month. Subscriptions for MS members are included in the dues. Annual subscription for non-members is \$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 do so at no additional charge. Send subscription and address changes to Circulation Manager, UP ROPE, 1728 N Street, N. W., Washington, D. C. 20036

From the Editor's Chimney

August is now over (leaving only Sundays for climbing) and I hope that all MS members whose climbing ventures took them to far-away and high places have returned safely and with lots of slides. (And those whose climbing ventures took them to not so far-away and not-so-high places should come back safely also!) If you climbed harder than you thought you could and had fun doing it, it is all worthwhile. My summer expeditions were limited to the Gunks and Seneca, but you can get plenty scared at those places without paying a lot of airfare. On one trip to the Gunks, I was accompanied by my mother, who, while not converted to technical climbing (the scree slope was her limit), now understands.

I'd like to take this opportunity to say good-bye to Chuck and Margaret

Wettling who will soon depart for a new home in Pennsylvania. Chuck and Margaret have contributed a lot to the club over the past years. Margaret's service as MS Chairman is only one of the good things she has done. I especially appreciate her help in typing UP ROPE. (Are you there Stan?) (I hear he can't even make a good cup of coffee.) Best of luck in your new endeavors.

And go for it Stan!

As of this issue, Clay Corry will be Assistant Editor of UP ROPE. Clay, a student at NOVA, has hopes of dispelling the myth that today's undergraduates can't write. Look for his contributions between term papers.

(Cont'd from page 1)

The MS budget, as of July 1, 1977, appears below:

Year to date
Expenses

Addressograph	49.83	
Postage	15.61	
First Class mailing	37.70	
UP ROPE printing		
Dec	79.95	
Jan	79.95	
Feb	41.45	
March	85.95	
April	41.45	
May	86.95	
June	<u>126.35</u>	
TOTAL	<u>644.19</u>	644.19

Projections July to

Dec 31	473.74
	<u>475.00</u>

Postage est	10.00 to 10.00
Printing	386.45 to <u>463.74</u>
proj. total	<u>396.45</u> to <u>473.74</u>
proj. yr. tot.	1040.64 to <u>1117.93</u>
	<u>1120.00</u>

Ms Total budget	1450.00
Balance	330.00

First aid kit	100.00
Equipment	150.00
Nelson house	<u>60.00</u>
	<u>310.00</u>

Projected year

Balance	20.00
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For those of us who can't follow all these numbers, the conclusion is that we have enough money.

We've been making some changes in our mailing list. If this is the first copy of UP ROPE you have received since joining the MS three years ago, we apologize. At least now you know where the climbing trips are, so come along and join us! (And if you haven't received your first issue of UP ROPE.....)

The June American Alpine Journal has an article on climbing ropes which can only be described as definitive. There are lots of free reprints at PATE Headquarters.

Chairman's Corner

As anticipated when I took over the Chairmanship, I shall be unable to complete my term. Chuck is accepting "involuntary" retirement rather than transfer to Bay St. Louis, MI. So, by the time UP ROPE is out, we shall be in England for a 2-3 month visit, and on our return will be staying with Chuck's parents in the Finger Lakes region while we look for a permanent home somewhere in Pennsylvania.

I have enjoyed my few months as Chairman and am truly sorry I cannot finish my year. I feel I'm only just getting the hang of what I'm supposed to be doing and in the process gaining a clear picture of what I think the section in general and the Chairman in particular should be trying to do.

Stan Halpin will take over as Chairman for the remainder of the year and I know the MS will be in good hands. I am impressed by and most appreciative of the considerable amount of work regularly performed by many members of the section and I would particularly like to thank the officers and members of the Executive Committee for their help.

We shall miss you, but hope to settle eventually within weekend commuting distance of the D.C. area and certainly within reach of Seneca and the Gunks.

--Margaret Wettling

A COMMERCIAL in UP ROPE!!
 HORRORS! Not a violation
 of the club by-laws, but accord-
 ing to some members, a serious
 breach of taste and a lowering
 of UP ROPE's aesthetic standards.
 Keep the cards and letters and
 tomatoes coming.

ROCK! ROCK!

The blatant commercial adver-
 tisement of Georgetown Mountain
 Sports in the July UP ROPE has
 cheapened our club newspaper. The
 inclusion of such material also de-
 grades UP ROPE's unique personal
 nature which has kept the publica-
 tion alive for many years.

I sincerely hope this will be the
 one and only commercial advertise-
 ment to appear in UP ROPE.
 --Chuck Wettling

Training Briefs

Training-May 15

This month's training session was at-
 tended by a fairly large group.
 Eight people showed up at Carderock
 on Sunday morning. Having covered
 equipment and knot-tying in the
 classroom session, the students
 started to rig climbs right away.
 After the techniques of belaying
 were demonstrated, they were busy
 climbing. By 3:30, all students
 had completed at least one climb and
 had rappelled twice. Training com-
 pleted, additional climbs on the
 nubble face were attempted. Com-
 pleting basic training were:

Gilda Brasch
 Jordan Brasch
 Margo McGinnis
 Jerry MacDonald
 Jack Neal
 Dave Neal
 Danny Skowronek

-Rick Todd

Equipment Notes

Greg Christopulos is asking \$55
 for a pair of almost brand new
 size 10½ Superguides. He says
 they would be ideal for someone
 with size 9 feet plus two pairs of
 socks. (If you have size 9 feet but
 don't want the boots, he may be in-
 terested in a swap.) Call 293-3272.

Expeditions

A bit of news for Up Rope. Anne
 and I got hitched--tied the knot, if
 you please. (I met her two years
 ago at A. C. C. camp in the Canadian
 Rockies--well, Purcells--when, during
 a downpour, I taught her to tie knots
 in the tea tent!)

The wedding was at "Bird's Nest"--south
 of Juliets Balcony near Great Falls,
 VA. Some climbers were just starting
 to set up a rope around our wedding
 tree, but "hung around" until after
 the ceremony before doing that
 particular climb. Our rings were
 twisted gold (climbing rope) (are
 you feeling sick yet?) and John
 Christian provided an old Austrian
 piton for cutting our cake. (Black
 Forest cake with mountains, atop
 which were planted a Canadian and
 an American flag. Unfortunately,
 they suffered an avalanche and were
 not recognizable as mountains.) If
 this is considered a trip report of
 sorts, the members of the expedition
 from the MS included Joe and Jan
 Wagner, John and Martha Christian,
 Ray and Meg Kremer, Sallie Greenwood,
 Greg Christopulos, plus family and
 John and Anne Bonine. Well, we're
 off to the Alps for a honeymoon in
 August. See you in September.
 --John Bonine

Ed. Note: On the front of the card
 is an inscription "John and Anne,
 June 19, 1977 and a picture of
 two hands tying two ends of a rope
 into a ringbend.

Belay Ledge

New Members:

Bill Fite
6442 Gildar Street
Alexandria, VA 22310

William M. DeLano
1915 Kennedy Drive #301
McLean, VA 22101
893-8763

Address Changes:

Donna Clark
3310 45th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20016
966-9099

Mike Hill
7553 Cherry Tree Drive
Fulton, MD 20759
776-2382

Tom Prunier
4425 S. First Road
Arlington, VA 22204
521-5158

Stan Reeves
702 N. Amelia Street
Sterling Park, VA 22170
(703) 430-3270

Art & Sallie Wilder
Rt. 1, Box 166
Norridgewock, Maine 04957

Chuck & Margaret Wettling
Middlesex
Yates Co., N.Y. 14507
(315) 584-3548

Well, Richard Stokes has some more bad news and good news. The bad news is that he is leaving Great Falls National Park, VA. The good news is he gets to move to Olympic National Park, WA. (We are all invited to stay at his house, but not all at once.) The new ranger will be Jim Donovan, and we anticipate that we will maintain our close relationship with Great Falls, N. P., VA through him.

Richard Stokes
Olympic National Park
Lake Ozette
Clallum Bay, WA 98326
(206) 963-2725

A certain English lady who has some pretty substantial mountaineering and rock climbing experience recently crossed a street in downtown Washington D. C. and tripped on a dry, unimpeded sidewalk. The resulting cut on her chin required five stitches.

Some folks (with understandably brief climbing careers) have been known to climb on clothesline. We have in our acquaintance a climber who strung his climbing rope across his basement and hung his laundry on it.

The Summit Register

Editor, UP ROPE

Saturday at the Gunks midafternoon and in blows the rain, hard, and no sign of letup. Idea: Check out Hyde Park, just across the Hudson a couple miles north of Poughkeepsie. Bridge toll 50¢ eastbound, admission to FDR's Presidential Library plus his home \$1.50 (unless you are over 62; ask June about her big throw-away line). Admission to the lovely grounds is free. Library closes at 5 PM, grounds at dark. Amazing story of the rise of a rich young man to political heights, felled by polio, rebounding to the Presidency. A new wing covers Eleanor's life. Beautiful—you should almost hope for rain.

But then, wandering back to beautiful downtown New Paltz wondering about dinner, look for the new Olympic, a block uphill from Rock and Snow, on the same side. Greek music all evening; all the Greek food you can imagine, delicious and exciting; family run, with son Demitrios and daughter Athena as the only waiters; free glass of Greek wine with every dinner, and hardly anything over \$5.00. So good I would almost pay for advertising them here. Almost, that is.

And I nearly forgot: on your way back to the Uberfall, check out that neat overhang on the AMC rocks—worth a warm-up on technique any day.
—Jim Kerr

Hanging Around

Seneca Rocks, WVA, July 29-31
We should have known better than to schedule a painting worktrip for

Nelson House at a time when most of the real mountaineers among us were disporting themselves in the Alps and the American West. Nevertheless, in one long day Arnold Wexler, Ray and Meg Kremer, and Chuck and Margaret Wettling managed to paint the entire outside of the house, excluding trim, so all white walls have now had two, and in a few instances three, coats. Well, almost all—when we finally put the ladders away we realized that the little triangle under the roof on the West side had been missed.

We were very grateful to Charles Nelson for the use of his long aluminum ladder which made painting the upper reaches a less hazardous operation.

On Sunday the Kremers hiked, the Wettlings climbed, and poor Arnold recovered from assisting in an all-night rescue operation in My Cave, near Elkins.
—Margaret Wettling

Annapolis Rocks, MD. - June 5

The weatherman's promise of a bright, sunny day and temperatures in the nineties brought this large group of climbers together. Climbers dressed lightly in anticipation of basking in the sun and brought swimming suits for the swim scheduled afterwards at James Eakin's home. However, upon arriving at the rocks, it soon became apparent that the weatherman goofed and that there would be no swimming later. The temperature remained low and rain eventually forced an early retreat to Roys.

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The standard climbs were rigged, but the Roof, as usual, attracted the most attention of both climbers and spectators. Leith went all the way on his second attempt. Ron decided to try the climb to make a positive ID of the birds occupying the nest in the crack. They turned out to be a family of crows. Tom Meagher ascended the Prow head on without the traditional traverse from the left, a first ascent to the best of anyone's knowledge.

One accident occurred that could have been serious. While belaying Leith on the Roof climb, Mike Lunde (not with our group) caught a piece of falling rock on his upper lip. Doug Howard examined the cut, applied first aid and recommended stitches. Mike had been belaying almost directly below the crack above the Roof. Needless to say, the belay position was moved away from that area for the following climbs. Because of the frequency of climbers falling off of the Roof, the mistake of belaying directly below a climb should be particularly avoided here.

Tom Perry

Larry Barnes	Dave Snyderman
John Birch	Marco Soto
John Bremer	Al Taylor
James Eakin	Dave Thomsette
Jerilyn Gibbs	Charlie Tuten
Stan Halpin	Leith Wain
Doug Howard	Brian Wilder
Tom Meagher	Libby Wolfe
Tom Perry	Ron Yokum
Jon Scott	

Vasco Island-May 22

The Club Picnic? Vasco Island? Trip report? Ancient history 101? Well, (and that's a deep subject, John) it started when Joe Wagner called one night and I "volunteered". I'd never been there before, but that's no excuse, I found out.

So Sallie Greenwood and I went over to the island to check out the climbs in my very heavy and very leaky canoe. A "don't bail, paddle faster" variety. We noted the climbs, did a couple, noted the poison ivy, scratched a little, and decided there had to be a better way of crossing than that canoe.

Richard Stokes heard my plea and said the Park Service had 6 canoes the MS can use. Joe Ney solved the transportation problems with his (heretofore-derided) Jeep. Joe and Richard have my sincere thanks. The trip might not have happened without their help; with it, the trip went smoothly.

Unfortunately with this gap in time some details of the trip slip away. But some things are remembered: watching the canoes fight their way up river, especially the one with Leith Wain and Ryan Pierson in it, Chairman's Chimney and other unusual climbs, and the frisbee-bee at the picnic. Not remembered is to take down all the names of the people who came. However, the following people came, probably:

Charlie Tuten, Sallie Greenwood, Tom Meagher, Jerry Root. Bob Sherbin, Chuck Wettling, Margaret Wettling, Joe Ney, Stevie Ney, Leith Wain, Doug Howard, Brian Wilder, Jon Larsen, Roger Griffith, Jayne Carney, Janet Young, Ron Smith, Jackie Gordon, Eileen Trzcinski, Ryan Pierson, and...James Eakin.

Climber's Calendar

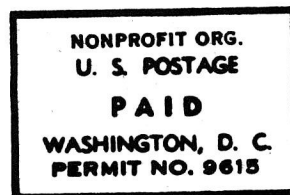
September 11	**Harper's Ferry, MD	Neil Arsenault	949-0970
September 14	Meeting, PATC Headquarters 8 PM, Baffin Island	Donna Clark et al	
September 18	*Training, Carderock MD	Rick Todd	439-0672
September 24-25	Worktrip, Seneca Rocks, WV	#	
October 1-2	**Kline Gap, WV	#	
October 2	Hermitage, PA	#	
October 4	*Training, PATC Headquarters 8 PM	Rick Todd	439-0672
October 8-10	**Seneca Rocks, WV	#	
October 12	Meeting, PATC Headquarters 8 PM, The Alps or the Tetons		
October 16	*Training, Carderock, MD	Rick Todd	439-0672
October 22-24	**Shawangunks, NY	#	
October 23	Spitzbergen/Purple Horse, MD	#	
October 30	Buzzard Rocks, VA	Jon Larson	591-6649

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

**Experienced leaders and seconds only. Arrange for your climbing partner before your departure. No experience necessary for worktrips.

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

Up Rope
1718 N St N W
Washington, D. C. 20036



DATED MATTER

SEPTEMBER, 1977