

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

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At Base Camp

UP ROPE Dictionary of Rock Climbing

Climber. An individual who can tie a bowline, tie a figure-8, and tie his (her) shoes; knows how to belay; frequently found near the bottom, half-way up, or at the top of cliffs.

Day Trip. An excursion to a local cliff where short (usually 100 feet or less) top-roped climbs are rigged. Attended by Climbers of all skill levels.

Trip Leader. A climber who is believed by other climbers to be able to set-up and manage top-roped climbs safely. Can follow directions to a climbing area that he (she) has never been to before; writes down names for trip report; brings the garbage bags; selects the beer-joint for after.

Work trip. An excursion to a climbing area or Nelson House where climbers expend some energy in fixing up the place and then climb (or hike) the next day. In WV, bring your own beer.

Lead Climbers. Two climbers who have enough experience with their own ability and the other's ability

to trust each other in an activity that is at the same time very lonely and very shared; know how to set up belay anchors, use protection, manage ropes, and expect the unexpected.

* * * *

A proposal for revision of the by-laws is being prepared and will be presented to the MS members for final approval or disapproval at the November MS meeting. The push for change comes from the feeling of dismay which overcomes anyone reading our current version. Many aspects of the operation of our Section are ambiguous to the point of chaos. For starters, we don't really know who the members are and we don't have a fixed procedure for people to become members. (How about, if your mother was one then...) The only honest answer to the question "How do I join the MS?" is "We don't know."

Extensive revisions will be proposed in the sections of the by-laws concerning membership, officers' duties, committees, and meetings.

A draft of the proposed changes will be distributed at the October MS

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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 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

Elsewhere in this issue we have advised MS members and other UP ROPE readers that because of the confused state of the club by-laws, we are really not sure who our members are. Legal definitions aside, some practical definitions are in order:

MS Member. A climber who climbs for whatever reason and also performs some act on behalf of the Club.

The MS member shares the goals of the MS. Here the definition becomes somewhat existential. The purpose, activities, and goals of the club are shaped by the individuals who belong to it.

Within the past year a number of people have left the area. We said at the time that we would miss these folks, and we do. Each one contributed to

to the nitty-gritty of the operation of our club. Their being around and doing their bit in their own way helped define the club as it was then. So now it is your turn. You don't have to be a 5.8 leader to join a committee, and you don't have to be a lawyer to help draft a letter to the Park Service, and you don't even have to bring tools to work at Nelson House. All you need to do is raise your hand and say "I'll do it!"

Leith Wain climbed a medium-hard overhang at Sugarloaf. With his shoelaces tied. Together.

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meeting. Any recommendations for additional changes should be provided to the Executive Committee in time for discussion at that Committee meeting. All interested members are urged to help in all phases of this project. Call Stan Halpin and offer your help.

* * * *

The reaction to the Georgetown Mountain Sports "ad" printed in the July UP ROPE reveals some confusion about our policy concerning advertisements. For some time we have accepted one or two line announcements of equipment for sale, from both individuals and dealers. The Georgetown Mountain Sports notice could have been condensed. However, since the notice was well-written, contained a lot of information, the deadline was near, and there was space available, the notice was printed as received. We will continue to accept informative notices from any source, commercial or otherwise (subject to editorial overhaul). If and when an organization wants to place a paid advertisement, it will be accepted and a fee will be charged to cover our costs.

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The Summit Register

Editor, UP ROPE

May I have a few lines in UPROPE to discuss the Dave Templeton Cabin? I think we should not delay the building of a David Templeton Memorial any longer. We should take the opportunity to honor Dave by presenting the funds to PATC for the purchase of land for their new cabin at Wolf Gap.

It may be years before we have our own cabin in the Seneca region because of the difficulty in finding a suitable site there. I don't believe that contributing the fund to PATC would preclude our building our own cabin sometime in the future. If we are generous to PATC now, they will return the gesture when we need it.

--John Christian

Chairman's Corner

As I finish my first month as Chairman (Acting chairman really, since the by-laws make no provision for replacing departed officers), I find that my initial flush of enthusiasm has waned somewhat. Many of the projects that Margaret and I used to discuss excitedly will not get off the ground, for the same reasons that they haven't gotten far in the past: there is a limit to the amount of time that anybody can spend on a project, no matter how worthwhile. The Section needs help. We need more members to participate, to offer ideas, to discuss, and to get involved. We need trip leaders. We need suggestions for programs. We need help preparing and mailing UP ROPE. We need help reviewing Forest Service and Park Service planning documents. We need help with the training program. We need help on the work trips to Nelson House and Seneca Rocks. The Section has been functioning smoothly, but that fact only masks the large scale lack of involvement by section members. The loss of a few dedicated, energetic individuals from the area, like Curt Mobley, Chuck and Margaret Wettling, John Fetvedt, and John Bonine has seriously depleted the hard core of volunteers. Those of you who are not now actively involved in Section affairs, please come forward. Your participation would be more than welcome. A few hours each month is all that is needed.

Belay Ledge

Greetings from the Pacific Northwest Division of the PATC Mountaineering Section!

After three months on the road, I have at last come to rest in Seattle. My summer was filled with a reasonable number of adventures, including a flashflood, lightning storms, three rattlesnakes, and a couple of leader falls. Needless to say, I didn't get enough climbing done to satisfy me, but I did get in about 100 pitches of technical rock in the 5.4 to 5.7 range, and I bagged a few decent peaks. I'm now looking forward to some really intense winter climbs in the nearby hills.

I hope that you will all plan to take your climbing vacations out here next year. My apartment has a free shower and should serve as an excellent base camp. Looking forward to seeing you.
--Curt Mobley

* * * *

After nearly six years of climbing with the MS, with one smoggy eye fixed wistfully on the West, my Oregon visa has finally been granted. We'll be immigrating in November. I am leaving EPA to become a professor of environmental law at the University of Oregon. Anne plans to resume full-time teaching also, in the local high school system. But we'll miss our Washington friends.

Those who plan to visit the Northwest are welcome to drop in and stay with us in Eugene. The Cascades are an hour to the east (with terrific powder skiing three hours away); the ocean is an hour to the west. A white water river and climbing rocks are within city limits. The law professors and their

families even make an annual "faculty climb" of one of the Cascade peaks every August just before school starts. Several own and ride their own horses.

See you in Ecotopia!
--John and Anne Bonine

Ed. note: Do the faculty ride their horses on the faculty climb?

* * * *

Bob Goldberg (301-869-1935) is looking for companions on a winter mountaineering trip to the White Mountains during the last week in December (Dec. 26-31, 1977). The possible activities will be determined by the interests and abilities of the participants and the weather. and include showshoeing, back-packing and X-C skiing.

ADDRESS CHANGES

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Vivian Goldberg
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521-5158

Equipment Notes

Greg Christopulos is still looking for someone to buy his almost brand new,, never-been-worn comfortably-size 10½ Super-guides. (293-3272).

ROCK! ROCK!

The UP ROPE Editor not only can't type very well, but she has numerical dyslexia. She routinely scrambles telephone numbers, especially trip leader's telephone numbers. If you can't reach a trip leader because the number was spelled wrong, look up the number in the membership roster (which the UP ROPE Editor did not make up) to get the right number. Or call someone else who might know.

--One who knows

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(Cont'd from page 3)

Dave Templeton Memorial Cabin:
When? Where? and How?

Background: In 1971 Dave Templeton was killed in a fall on a Club trip near Wolf Gap, WV. The members of the club felt that a suitable memorial to Dave would be a cabin dedicated to him located in Seneca. Dave climbed there often, and it was felt that a cabin in this area would serve the MS members well

by providing them with shelter and perhaps the name of the cabin would provide shelter in other ways, on the rock.

A site for the cabin was found and purchased, but the Forest Service condemned the property before we built on it. We have subsequently leased Nelson House, and it takes the pressure off the housing problem at Seneca Rocks for the time being.

Now the main portion of PATC is considering building a new cabin in the Wolfe Gap area. We could contribute the funds raised for the Templeton Cabin to PATC with the understanding that this new cabin, which would be a general PATC cabin, would be named for Dave.

At the last meeting, it was decided that we poll the membership via a ballot in UP ROPE to see how the members feel about this. The two choices are outlined in the ballot below. Please fill out the ballot and mail it to the UP ROPE editor. If you use a facsimile ballot, please write your name on it so we can verify your MS membership (as far as that is possible).

BALLOT

I, a member of the Mountaineering Section of PATC, would prefer that the funds collected for the David Templeton Memorial Cabin at Seneca be used as follows:

____ Maintain the fund as originally intended with renewed Section efforts to locate an appropriate site near Seneca Rocks.

____ Turn over the fund to PATC for their proposed cabin at Wolf Rock with the understanding that the cabin be named for David Templeton.

Climber's Calendar

October 12	Meeting, PATC Headquarters 8 PM. Mt McKinley	Mike McGuire	
October 16	*Training, Carderock MD	Rick Todd	439-0672
October 16	Bull Run, VA	#	
October 22-24	**Shawangunks, NY	Vivian Goldberg	521-5158
October 23	Annapolis Rocks, MD	Jon Larson	591-6649
October 30	Buzzard Rocks, VA	Jon Larson	591-6649
November 1	*Training, Headquarters 8 PM	Rick Todd	439-0672
November 6	Sugarloaf, MD	#	
November 9	Meeting, PATC Headquarters 8 PM. Program to be announced		
November 13	*Training	Rick Todd	439-0672
November 20	Camp Lewis, MD	#	
November 24-27	Seneca Rocks, WV worktrip	#	
November 27	Great Falls, MD	#	

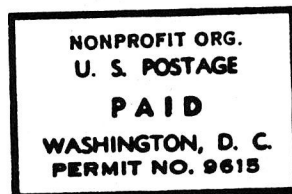
*All training is by appointment only and classroom training is required before the Carderock training

**Experienced leaders and seconds only. Arrange for your climbing partner before you departure. No experience necessary for worktrips or day trips. Just come.

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

Up Rope

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DATED MATTER

JOE WAGNER MS
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