

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

The election of Mountaineering Section officers will take place at the December meeting (December 14, 8 P.M., at Club Headquarters). The nominating committee, chaired by Sallie Greenwood, has named the following candidates:

Chairman: Stan Halpin

Vice-chairman: Neal Arsenault

Secretary: Keith Pitman

Treasurer: Stevie Smith

Additional nominations, drafts, and dragoons will be accepted from the floor at both the November and December meetings.

Some bad news and good news. The bad news is that Ray Kremer will not be able to finish his term as Treasurer. The good news is he has a good new job in Boston, MA. Best of luck Ray!

More thoughts about the Gunks:

The Mohonk Trust reports a geometric increase in the number of climbers at the Gunks.

Also this is the last year that the yearly climbing pass (that yellow badge of courage) will be available for the low price of \$17. Next year you will pay more.

The Doughboy and the Olympus in New Paltz have closed.

It seems that D. C. climbers rendezvous at the Roy Rogers in charming Colonial Park, PA. The restaurant features rock pillars to warm-up on, the usual fare, and a waitress who has gotten several male climbers enchanted with her...As we pulled up to the R.R. on our last return trip, Paul Guthrie wondered why we persisted in stopping at that particular place. Soon we were joined by Greg and Harold... You can't even dress them up....

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. Current PATC members interested in receiving UP ROPE may obtain a subscription at no charge. MS membership is restricted to PATC members; new applicants and current members of PATC can join the MS by obtaining the sponsorship of a current member of the MS. Send subscription and address changes to Circulation Manager, UP ROPE, 1718 N Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20036.

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PATC MOUNTAINEERING SECTION UP ROPE Staff

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Vice Chairman	Assistant Editor
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Treasurer	Rick Todd 439-0672
Ray Kremer 656-0132	

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MOUNTAINEERING SECTION Activities - The MS holds monthly meetings at PATC Headquarters (1718 N St. N.W., D.C.) to conduct a brief business session and to present a slide show, movie or other form of entertainment. Sunday trips to nearby climbing areas and/or weekend trips to more distant areas are sponsored every weekend; check the schedule on the back page for details on planned trips. Beginning and intermediate training is offered once each month. Any interested individual is welcome to participate in MS activities, although some restrictions are placed on those wishing to join MS climbing trips. The Sunday trips are usually to areas where there is a complete range of top-rope climbs, from easy to difficult; however, we ask that you have some instruction or experience prior to the trip. Check with the trip leader. The weekend trips are usually for lead-climbers only, and you are expected to find your own climbing partner. For more information on trips, call Joe Wagner (966-6379), Chairman of the Trips and Expeditions Committee, or call the listed trip leader. For information on training, call Rick Todd, 439-0672.

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## From the Editor's Chimney

The sultry day belies the season, but the early lengthening of the afternoon shadows reminds me that the cold days of winter will soon be here. Time enough though, on this Last Day at the Gunks for This Year, to rest on a sunny belay ledge and enjoy. Enjoy the sensation that follows the completion of a hard, dicey lead done well. Enjoy the bright sky and the scenery. From my perch I can see the rhythms of red-gold-orange-green of the trees in the valley and the layering of blues and browns of the hills on the horizon. It is very quiet up here. I watch a sky-diving dickey bird leap off the cliff-edge and fall free with folded wings for several hundred feet. Then it extends and glides on the updrafts. The last day at the **Gunks**. November is coming and with **it** the hard rains and sharp winds which rule out expeditions to high exposed cliffs. The last day of lead climbing for the season. It was a good one.

## Chairman's Corner

Questions periodically arise concerning the purpose and function of the Mountaineering section: are we a social organization with a focus on good slide shows and effective car pools to our week-end climbs or are we a political organization helping to insure a future for rock climbing and mountaineering. Obviously there is no simple answer, but several recent events lead me to believe that the pendulum should swing toward the second alternative. In an excellent article in the October OFF BELAY, Laura Jasch describes current restrictions and prohibitions on climbing in Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois. North Carolina periodically closes areas to climbing. Locally, the Wolf Rocks situation is still unresolved. Continuing heavy pressure on Carderock has led to rumors of possible restrictions. The Forest Service does not regulate climbing at Seneca, largely because of lack of manpower and lack of administrative guidelines and regulations, but with increased use and increased numbers of non-climber and beginner accidents

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which are sure to follow the opening of the Visitor Center next May, who knows how long before that will change? We cannot sit passively on our belay ledges and watch Big Brother regulate our sport out of existence in the name of protecting our safety. As an organization which directly or indirectly represents hundreds of climbers, we must provide clearly thought out, reasonable alternatives to people who would like to control our fate. To develop these alternatives, we need people who will do the legal research on issues of the liability of private and public landowners, people who will develop legislative and regulatory proposals which support the right of climbers to enjoy their activities without interference. We need people who will coordinate with the A.C.C., the British Mountaineering Council, the Sierra Club climbing groups, the Colorado Mountain Club and other organizations which are, or should be, concerned with the same issues. The choice is clear: we can continue to enjoy our activity and react with varying degrees of effectiveness as crises arise, or we can work to insure that our future activity is not restricted by non-climbers' decisions.

As a special treat, we will occasionally dredge up some stories from the UPROPE archives.....

#### Fall, 1947.

Eleven people went to Seneca for Labor Day weekend....On Sunday two parties of four (led by Arnold Wexler and Betty Kauffman) climbed what is today known as LSD to Broadway over Humphrey's (the "Old Man") to the notch, then to Windy Corner via the Pine Tree Traverse, then to the South Summit, down into Gunsight Gap and back to camp. A 13 hour epic!

## The Summit Register

Jeanette Fitzwilliams in a recent issue of "The Highlands Voice" discusses the problems of the Monongahela National Forest. She notes that various clubs including the PATC are taking care of trails in the Forest and asks: What would you like to do? She says "Under a program known as Volunteers in the Parks (VIP) individuals may volunteer their services. All you need to do is get in touch with Elkins or the District Ranger nearest where you want to work.. You will not be paid, but some of your expenses may be defrayed. If in the course of your activities you are sued, the government will defend you and you will be covered by workmen's compensation in case of injury. The job you do will be tailored to your skills and interests. Some of the jobs currently being done by volunteers include: receptionists at a Visitor's Information Center, guide or assistant to ranger on an interpretive nature hike, office work, making art displays, writing or editing, inspecting or maintaining trails, monitoring water quality, campfire talks, public relations work. There should be something for everyone here."

Climbers might well consider what they could do at Seneca Rocks as VIPs. What about on those rainy days or rest periods- giving lectures or slide shows on climbing at the Visitor Center (always including admonishments to the visitors not to try it themselves because of the hazard). Or answering visitors' questions about climbing more authoritatively than could be expected from a non-climbing USFS employee. Or even while climbing- acting as "safety rangers" to suggest to beginning climbers how to climb safely or to direct visitors away from the rocks. (Just think: If while serving as safety range you fell and got hurt, you could collect workmen's compensation!)

--John Christian

## Belay Ledge

### NEW MEMBERS

Howard Fine  
2641 Garfield Street NW  
Washington, D. C. 20008  
(h) 234-5372  
(w) 254-9113

Thaddeus P. Bejnar  
Susan M. Bejnar  
1432 N. Beauregard Street #202  
Alexandria, VA 22311  
(h) 820-6744

Scott Cohen  
5304 Tuscarawas Road  
Bethesda, MD 20016  
(h) 229-2698

Morad Eghbal  
1255 New Hampshire Ave NW #1004  
Washington, D. C. 20036  
(h) 785-2553

Dorothy Moore  
10401 Grosvenor Pl #305  
Rockville, MD 20852  
(h) 493-9319

### NEW ADDRESSES

Rich Raymond  
add #210 to current  
listing

David R. Wones  
(Mrs) Wones  
203 Craig Drive  
Blacksburg, VA 24060

Ron Smith  
11173 Columbia Pike  
Silver Spring, MD 20901

Tom Perry  
1415 Lakeside Drive  
Knoxville, TN 37922

### MORE NEW MEMBERS

Stephen R. Best  
3115 University Blvd W. 45  
Kensington, MD 20795  
(h) 942-2410

### FORMER MEMBERS

Hamish McCallum  
Lois Shipley  
Warren Kozlow  
Mark Gunther

## Equipment Notes

### FOR SALE:

1. Size 10 Superguides, 2 years limited use, excellent condition. Asking \$45 (Good fit for 9½ feet).
  2. Size 10 Black Beauties, 1 year of moderate use. Asking \$15.
  3. Size 10 RD's, virtually unused. Good fit for 9-9½ feet. Asking \$12.
- Call Rich Raymond (296-2634, evenings)

### More FOR SALE:

1. Goose down parka with 65-35 outer material with hood. Original price \$95...never used...asking \$70.
2. Kelty pack with Tioga Frame and Jan Sport Belt...\$40.  
Call Harold Goldstein (296-0778).

## Hanging Around

Sugarloaf, MD--August 21

In spite of threatening clouds in the morning and some confusion about the location of the meeting place (the Safeway parking lots just off Routes 270 and 28 in Rockville), the climbers got together at Sugarloaf shortly after 10 AM and set up several top ropes. After a nice day (lightly overcast most of the time), the ropes were taken down, the litter picked up, and about half the climbers completed a pitch from Sugarloaf to a sandwich and beer place in Gaithersburg. The climbers included:

David Abbott  
 Claire Ackroyd  
 Mike Ball  
 John Birch  
 Jeff Brady  
 John Brenner  
 Jayne Carney  
 James Eakin  
 Jackie Gordon  
 Sallie Greenwood  
 Glenn Holtz  
 Jim Kerr  
 June Lehman  
 Jerry McDonald  
 Rich Raymond  
 Rick Todd  
 Chuck Wettling  
 Margaret Wettling  
 Ron Yockim  
 Janet Young  
 --and Ryan Pierson

Cupid's Bower, MD- June 26

Hot, muggy, damp and well-attended. That's about the size of it. Erstwhile trip leader went out early to scout the area (that is locate it) and managed to break trail for the rest of the group. The spider webs were fierce and the dew refreshing. Greg Hand and Karl Sanger made a brief appearance, chalked up the handholds on the harder routes and made their get-away.

As for the rest of us, we wondered at the chalk and contented ourselves with mighty efforts at lesser routes. Those contributing to the humidity factor for the day were Gloria Lipani, Charlie Tuten, Marjorie Prochaska, Corwin Osborn, John Fox, Brian Wilder, Jerry McDonald, Jayne Carney, Janet Young, and Chris Rehfuss.

Some of us paddled off to Carderock about 3 PM after exhausting ourselves on the impossible. It was nice to get back to something do-able and it wasn't all that crowded. Observation: Cupid's Bower should be for smallish groups-any more than ten people and there gets to be a line to do the routes. Also, with diligence, it could be a half-day trip rather than a full day.

--Sallie Greenwood

Great Falls, VA- August 7

The substitute leader of this trip was planning on a Sunday outing to Great Falls if there was no PATC trip scheduled. It was logical (?) to volunteer to be the PATC trip leader when a call to Neil Arsenault revealed that he was unable to lead the club trip to that very same place on that Sunday. Quite a few climbers and observers showed up for such a hot day and all spent lots of time on favorites such as Romeo's Ladder and Juliet's Balcony and even more time watching the kayakers on the Potomac. Unfortunately, the substitute leader forgot that there is another reason to taking down all those names (in addition to being able to account for everybody at the end of the day)- to make a trip report! Therefore, the following list of participants, "dimmed by the passage of time" may, or may not be, correct: Greg Christopoulos, Leith Wain, David Martin, Joe McDermott, Jayne Carney, Jack and Dave Neal, Keith Pitman, Brian Wilder, Carolyn Ormes, Jon Larson, Margaret and Chuck Wettling, -- and Janet Young

## Climber's Calendar

November 9	Meeting, PATC Headquarters, 8 PM	Sallie Greenwood's adventures in the ALPS	
November 13	*Training, Carderock MD	Rick Todd	439-0672
November 20	Camp Lewis, MD	#	
November 24-27	**Seneca Rocks, WV	#	
November 27	Rocky Island/ Great Falls MD	#	
December 3-4	Seneca Rocks, WV work trip	#	
December 6	*Training, PATC Headquarters 8 PM	Rick Todd	439-0672
December 11	Bull Run, VA	#	
December 14	Meeting, PATC Headquarters, 8 PM	Program to be announced Election of Officers	
December 18	*Training, Carderock MD	Rick Todd	439-0672
December 25			

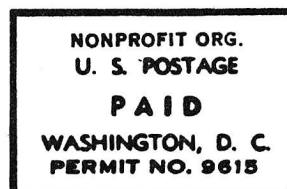
\*All training is by appointment only and classroom training is required before the Carderock training.

\*\*Experienced leaders and seconds only. Arrange for your climbing partner before departure.

No experience necessary for work trips.

#Call Joe Wagner (966-6379) or Barbara Llewellyn (871-6197) if you can lead this trip. Or volunteer to lead it at the next meeting.

*Up Rope*  
1718 N St NW  
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DATED MATTER

November 1977

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