

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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Page 1

At Base Camp

TEMPLETON CABIN

In October, the MS mebership was asked to indicate their preference in the ultimate use of the funds collected for the David Templeton Memorial Cabin. The alternatives are: 1) Maintain the fund as originally intended with renewed Section efforts to locate an appropriate site near Seneca Rocks 2) Turn over the fund to PATC for their proposed cabin at Wolf Gap with the understanding that the cabin be named for David Templeton. Ballots were printed in the October UP ROPE. So far, the votes are 3 to 1 for the second alternative. Ballots, letters and postcards are still being accepted if you care to express your opinion on this important issue.

MS ELECTION

New MS officers were elected at the December 14, 1977, Section meeting. The new officers, elected for one year terms are:

Chairman: Stan Halpin
Vice-chairman: Neal Arsenault
Secretary: Keith Pitman
Treasurer: Stevie Ney

1978 MS BUDGET

Our 1978 budget request (\$2200) has been submitted to the PATC finance committee and will be acted on at the February council meeting. Meanwhile, we are authorized to spend at 1977 levels.

HELP WANTED

Joe Jensen has asked to be relieved of his duties as Circulation manager. If you have a spare evening once a month and aren't afraid of driving into the bowels of the main Post Office, please give Stan Halpin a call.

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.

PATC MOUNTAINEERING SECTION

Chairman

Stan Halpin 340-2593

Vice Chairman

Neal Arsenault 949-0970

Secretary

Keith Pitman 560-0045

Treasurer

Stevie Ney 762-7311

UP ROPE Staff

Editor

Vivian Prunier 521-5158

Circulation Manager

Rick Todd 439-0672

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.

From the Editor's Chimney

Winter is rough on us hard core rock climbers. Admittedly, Washington's winter isn't up to the winters put on in New Hampshire or even Cleveland. Warm sunny days do occur in January, but only on Tuesdays or

Fridays. If it's Sunday and you want to climb, it will rain, bluster, be too cold, or all three. Since our winters aren't up to the northern standard, one doesn't really have the opportunity to become a convinced ice and snow climber. We dabble at winter. If the weather has been cold all week, there will be ice at White Oak Canyon. But by the weekend, it will either rain, or your sister-in-law will come, or both. Most winters, we Washingtonians are deprived of the sensory delights afforded by a foot of new-fallen snow. The scanty snow we do get is just enough to snarl traffic; but not enough to shape a good globey snowball. No backyard snow-shoe practice for us. And the worst part of Washington's winter is that it doesn't last long enough. Just when you've found a place to go ice skating or learned how to cross-country ski, it's March and spring is here. Gotta hurry up then and do lots of rock climbing before it gets too hot!

Chairman's Corner

My comments the last couple of months have focused on the problems the Mountaineering Section faces: I feel that we should be asking ourselves "Who are we?" There are many directions the Section could go, many goals we could commit ourselves to, ranging from the public spirited projects (greater involvement in conservation and regulatory issues) to the projects directly benefiting Section members (a Section Cabin at Seneca Rocks). Where we go will ultimately depend less on formal and informal discussions at meetings than on the desires of those individuals who are willing to commit their time and energy to Section affairs. This

(Cont'd on page 3)

(Cont'd from page 2)

month I want to specifically acknowledge the contributions which have been made by a few of our members. Margaret Wettling put a large amount of time and energy into the business of being Chairman, and I am very sorry that her relocation prevented her from completing her term of office, much less going on for a second term. Sallie Greenwood deserved a rest after her Chairmanship, but, thankfully, she has continued to provide a willing hand and valuable advice. John Stannard serves as our ambassador to much of the climbing world, the National Park Service, Forest Service, etc. His dedication to projects which will affect our climbing prospects is often taken for granted, but it should serve as a model for the rest of us. Joe Wagner also provides needed contact with the mountaineering community in addition to his service as Chairman of the "trips" committee. If I kept my own books as accurately as Ray Kremer has for the Section over the past year, I might even make money at tax time (faint hope). Barbara Llewellyn has not only served as Program committee for the past three years (!) but has helped in many other ways. Vivian (Goldberg) Prunier is still learning how to spell and is a terrible nag

when people like myself miss the deadlines, but otherwise is doing a good job at the thankless task of editing UP ROPE. Rick Todd has streamlined the training Program and provides an effective first glimpse of the climbing world for many new climbers each year. And the list goes on: Ryan Pierson, Joe Jensen, Stevie Ney, Janet Young... As an individual I want to thank all of you for your support during my period as acting Chairman; speaking as a representative of the Section I can only hope that you will continue to dedicate yourselves to the Section and to the interests of mountaineering.

Expeditions

Man doth not live on bread alone, so when our toaster burned itself out (jammed up, you might say), Tom and I decided to get married. This way we would acquire a new toaster, and cold English muffins taste yeasty. It was as good a reason as any, if reasons are necessary for such actions. We got married on the day after Christmas on a cold clear sunshiney day. Then we went to the White Mountains and stomped around in the snow. So far, no new toaster. Also some confusion about my name- Goldberg? Goldberg-Prunier? Goldier? Prunberg? Tradition prevailed and I am now (for hailing purposes at least) Vivian Prunier.

June Lehman and Jim Kerr were married on December 27, 1977.

Perhaps we ought to print a notice on all membership applications: Caution! Membership in the MS may lead to matrimony.

Belay Ledge

If you've been wondering why you haven't seen good old what's his name much lately, chances are he's at home helping to take care of his kids. Congratulations to those climbers who now sport Gerry-baby packs instead of ruck-sacks full of lead gear!

Chuck and Jean Sproull have a daughter, Rebecca, born on November 7, 1977.

Mike and Nellie Hill have son, Randy, born on December 22, 1977.

NEW MEMBERS

Ms. Uti R. Christoph
2500 N. Van Dorn St. #910
Alexandria, VA 22303
379-7664

Pentti K. Grant
3003 Elmwood Dr.
Alexandria, VA 22303
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Parker Hill
5417 S. 4th St.
Arlington, VA 22204
931-7487

William J. Kluwin
Gisela Kluwin
1832 Biltmore St. NW #23
Washington, DC 20009
265-1720

Janis S. Popowicz
906 D Street NW
Washington, DC 20002
547-3559

Ben Sands
1517 T St NW
Washington DC 20009
332-3289

Alford R. Taylor, Jr.
341 Dean Dr.
Rockville, MD 20851
762-5233

FORMER MEMBERS

James Allen Griffiths
1778 Westwind Way
McLean, VA 22101

James Thresher
1342 Windy Hill Rd.
McLean, VA 22101

NEW ADDRESSES

Mike Hill
7553 Cherry TRee Drive
Fulton, MD 20759
(301)-776-2382

NEW ADDRESSES

Ray Kremer
52 Appleton Street #3
Boston, MA 02116

Mugelnoos
c/o John Riley
P. O. Box 1034
Downey, CA 90240

Equipment Notes

Chuck Sproull is offering the following items for sale:

Alpine Chouinard ice hammer
double boots-size 9½- Hochland;
soles in excellent condition, uppers
show some wear
Nylon overboots
gaiters
Chouinard adjustable crampons
army mittens
Selewa ice screws- 1 solid, 2
hollow

Phone (at work): 433-3994

Hanging Around

White Oak Canyon, VA December 11

December 11 marked the first day of what appeared to be an active winter of ice climbing. Somewhat to our surprise, the ice in White Oak Canyon was well formed for this time of year, and held up well although it was a little thin here and there. Not only did Leith have his first lesson on the pleasures of ice, but he found Preparation H to be the latest treatment for chapped lips. Those present were: Mike Ball, John Larson, Ute Christof, James Eakin, Ed Lawson, Stan Switila, Leith Wain, Ron Yockim, and--Doug Howard.

Great Falls, VA- October 16 and November 12

This is actually a saga of two trips to the same place with mostly the same people. Present on the first trip were: Janet Young, Ron Smith, Keith Pitman, Joe Ney, Greg Christopulos, Harold Goldstein, John Ferguson, and Charlie Sorryiforgot-your-name. On the second round were Janet Young, Keith Pitman, Jerry McDonald and Jon Larson. And me, the "leader". The second trip is easy to report on. We hiked out to Corkscrew and set up a few climbs downriver from there. It was cold. Jon said it was a good day for ice climbing (except there was no ice). We got lots of practise standing around wishing we were someplace else, just like we do when we ice climb. Then Janet and I got smart, figured out that Trav's was open already and left. While Janet and I supped on hot chile in a warm tavern, the boys presumably continued to play outside in the cold.

The first trip to Great Falls was more fun. We went there because we were too lazy to go all the way to Annapolis Rocks with the club. This trip wasn't planned; it sort of conglomerated. The nucleus, Janet, Keith, Ron and I, condensed in the parking lot to discuss the probability of cold, rain, or both. Sometime later we met Joe Ney. "Where's Stevie?" we asked. "She went to a shower." We looked dubiously at the leaden sky and then back to Joe. Everyone laughed. (Actually this was very funny, but it loses something when you write it down). Later, the gleesome threesome, plus Charlie of the forgotten last name, showed up. We rigged Corkscrew, the inside corner 20 feet upriver from it, Blood and Guts, something morbidly overhung next to B & G, and the overhanging face next to Corkscrew. Everybody got to play gorilla on the overhangs and B & G,

even us short people. We laughed alot, harrassed some crazy kayakers, and got to Trav's before it started to rain very hard.

-Vivian Goldberg

Seneca Rocks, WV- October 8 to 10

Continuing and expanding a Halpin tradition of well-planned long weekend trips (remember July 4, 1976 when Jon Scott was left home by mistake: Remember July 4, 1977, when John Birch stayed home for lack of a climbing partner and Ben Sands showed up, looking for a climbing partner?), the Columbus Day weekend trip to Seneca would up at the Gunks instead. Libby Wolf and I went up Thursday evening and had a pleasant day climbing a completely deserted Sky Top. Tom McCrumm and Ian Cruikshank came in Friday evening and Tom led Libby on some hard stuff the rest of the weekend while Ian and I gradually regained the feel of rock after a summer squandered on other pursuits. Sallie Greenwood and Lin Murphy came in during the wee morning hours of Saturday followed by Ryan Pierson and Vivian Goldberg.. It rained of course, but everybody managed to get in at least one good climb on Saturday. The less said about Sunday, the better, but the weather was nice on Monday. Memorable incidences: The sight of Vivian marching down the trail with helmet perched on top of balaclava and the hedonists' (Ian and Sallie) return from town to hand the hardcore campers (Stan and Lin) "We didn't come to eat in restaurants!") some delicious ice cream. Mountain-eering with style!

Rumor has it that it rained all three days at Seneca.

--Stan Halpin

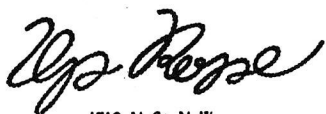
Climber's Calendar

January 31	*Training, PATC Head-quarters, 8 PM	Rick Todd	439-0672
February 1	Executive Committee meeting; Vivian Prunier's House	Vivian Prunier	521-5158
February 4	Camp Lewis, MD	#	
February 8	Meeting, PATC Head-quarters, 8 PM	possibly Peru; probably peregrines	
February 12	*Training, Carderock, MD	Rick Todd	439-0672
February 18-20	**Lake Placid, NY	#	
February 19	Spitzbergen/ Purple Horse	#	
February 25	Sugarloaf Mt, MD	#	
February 28	*Training, PATC Head-quarters. 8 PM	Rick Todd	439-0672

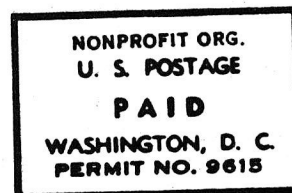
*All training is by appointment only and classroom training is required before the Carderock training.

**Ice climbing for experiences leaders and seconds only. Arrange for your climbing partner before departure.

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



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DATED MATTER

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WASH.. DC 20016

JANUARY 1978