



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

1718 N Street, N.W. Washington DC 20036

VOLUME 38

NUMBERS 6 AND 7

JUNE/JULY 1983

Belay Ledge

SENECA ROCKS ACCIDENT

On Sunday, June 5 1983, Brian Garrity of Hartford, CT, was leading out on the first pitch of Conn's East (5.4), when he got off route and found himself on much harder rock somewhere in the vicinity of Soler. He lost his grip and fell. The topmost piece of protection held only long enough to turn Brian upside down before it failed, allowing him to fall about 40', hitting a ledge head first, on the way down. After dangling at the end of his rope a few seconds, head down, Brian got himself turned upright, but then found himself in serious trouble. He was bleeding considerably from cuts on his head and face, and needed to get off the wall as quickly as possible; however, his climbing rope had gotten jammed and his belayer, John Gorde of New York, was unable to lower Brian down.

Lin Murphy and Parker Hill rushed to the fallen climber's aid and began the rescue operations. Parker rappelled down to the injured man, while Lin lowered another rope and set up an anchor for lowering the climber to Broadway Ledge. After tying a new rope to the accident victim, Lin gently lowered Brian, while Parker assisted, preventing further injury.

On Broadway Ledge, Sallie Greenwood began administering first aid, while others went to notify the authorities and obtain a Stokes litter from the Gendarme. Others, including our local area climbers James Eakin, Kathy Rebibo, and Chip (don't recall his last name at the moment), set up the

necessary anchors and pulleys for lowering the Stokes litter.

The victim was then transported down to Roy Gap Road where he was placed in a vehicle and taken to a hospital in Petersburg. Later it was learned that Brian's skull had been fractured and he was evacuated by a helicopter to a trauma center in Cumberland, MD.

I was greatly impressed by the performance of the rescuers, most of whom are from the Washington metropolitan area. The most noteworthy were Lin Murphy, Parker Hill, and Sallie Greenwood, whose quick, decisive actions helped prevent further injury -- or even death -- to the unfortunate fellow climber. I am extremely proud to be a part of a group which includes people such as Sallie, Lin, and Parker.

Pete Grant.

At Base Camp

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE PATC MOUNTAINEERING SECTION, MAY 11, 1983.

The meeting was called to order by Joe Wagner, Chairman, at 8:10 P.M.

Joe Wagner announced that the next Executive Committee meeting will be at Charlie Dorian's on June 1, and the next regular meeting on June 8.

Reporting on the PATC Executive Committee meeting, Joe also announced that land at Bull Run is being offered for sale to

(Cont'd on page 2)