



FOUNDED BY
JAN AND HERB CONN

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

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CARDEROCK CONSERVATION PROJECT MAY 22, 1988

We jack hammered into manageable sizes the 30+ tons of rock left over from previous work efforts, and dumped it over the top of the cliff. Due to high water little more could be done, but that was plenty! Many thanks to Dale Yohn and McLean Rental for the generous use of the equipment and for Dale's incredible labors on our behalf.

Many thanks to Martha Hale for brownies, Jeanette Helfrich for food, and Dave Atkinson for refreshment. And of course the many others who came to help: Tom Isaacson, Ahmet Zeytinci, Tom Russell, Hugh Brown, Josh Brown, John Gregory, Jerry Gerstein, Paul Torelli, Matt Lavington, Stuart Pregnall, the Mighty Mike Chaney, Michael Mergi, Harold Goldstein, Rich Cunningham, Donn Holtzer, Rodger Hara, Stuart Rosenthal, Greg Marich, Rich Cady, Art Karp, Ed Cummings, R. Krishnam, Charlie Dorian, Marci Logan and any one else who was inadvertently missed.

We plan to have another work trip on June 26th, and yet another on July 10th. We will be placing rocks in the river and working on the retaining walls there, as well as constructing a new foot bridge below Jan's Face. These will be very labor intensive days, as usual. Your participation for all of part of any of these days will be needed

and greatly appreciated. If you have any questions, suggestions, or equipment donations please call! I'll be out of town for a few days; if I'm not around, call Stuart Pregnall (202-543-3988).

Harold Goldstein, Project Coordinator
202-966-9081

NEW RIVER GORGE MAY 28-30

Guess where Karen and I were?

Saturday morning was perfect, and we convened at the Bridge Buttress where Rick Thompson had spied yet another new line. ASCending the face just left of the Mayfly, Strata-gem (5.12a/b***) is perhaps the nicest of the Bridge 5.12's yet. Take six quick draws and enjoy! After that, we moved downstream to the Maranatha Wall, where Carl Samples led his new Are You Asparagus? (5.11a, **). While Carl was on that, Karen girded up for a lead of Little Head Logic (5.12a,**) just to the left. Unfortunately, the steeply overhanging 5.10c start was not to her liking, and I ended up savoring the face above on the sharp end. By this time, Rich Cunningham had joined us, and he followed us on LHL and then led the second ascent of Are You Asparagus? with me seconding, confirming its grade and quality. Rick then led Ledge Lips (5.11b, **), which is in the guide as

Improper Moves. Originally rated 5.10a as a top rope, Ledge Lips is solid 5.11! Rick questions whether the people who reported it as an ascent actually did that route.

Karen motored back to D.C. Sunday, leaving me to team up with Rich and the gang. We all headed down to Bubba (small wonder) to finish off Jesus Wept. While Eric Horst was flashing it, Rich was leading Shear Strength (5.11c, ***) a tremendously overhanging dihedral with technical stemming and laybacks. Upon discovering that the rappel station was a single bolt, we quickly decided to take care of that. Rich left the ropes in place so I could be fresh for a try on Jesus Wept, which I got after a couple of falls. It's 5.12c/d, ***, and a really fine climb. Rich managed to dog it out, too, quite an accomplishment, and an eye opener. Rich and I went back and I cleaned his gear off of Shear Energy, then hauled up the (whisper) drill and bosched in another bolt for the rap station. We then joined the gang down at the Ames Wall, where everyone was inspecting new routes. We spied one for ourselves and cleaned it off for the next day.

Monday, we fired off Chicks in the Woods (5.11a, **), named for the little bird learning to fly who hopped across the path all morning long (and for the many beautiful women climbing with us that weekend, one of whom, Lisa Dine (Eric's fiancée), filled in for Karen as my good luck charm. Rich thoroughly enjoyed being in on a real first ascent, and flashed the route to show his enthusiasm. After that, we witnessed one of the most amazing twenty minutes of climbing either of us had ever seen, when Eric led The American Sportsman, (5.12d/13a, **, and should be R too!). In 70 feet of climbing, there are three points of protection, yet Eric climbed

it with such skill and concentration it seemed less serious. The spectators, however, were all breathless watching it. Nobody but Rick could follow (I could do all the moves but one, and unless I grow about two inches, I'll never be able to do it!) Rich tangled with Tongulation (5.11d, ***), finally cruising it after getting a little tongue-tied at the start (but then again, even Lynn Hill backed off the hard part!).

That just about killed the weekend for us. Rich got the names of some good ice climbing areas from Rick Mix of PA, and we met a bunch of Bellefonte Quarry locals who had fabulous pictures of their little quarry. A MUST location for a trip in the near future. We also discovered a few other lines, some of which will go soon!

Stuart Pregnall

TRIP REPORTS INTERMEDIATE LEAD TRAINING SHAWANGUNKS MAY 28-30, 1988

A great weekend of climbing! Lots of sunshine and not overly crowded--what more could you ask?

Last minute cancellations cut our student count in half--i.e., two--much to the delight of extra instructors. Finding themselves off the hook, they quickly disappeared to work on their favorite climbs--but popped up now and then at the Uberfall in case help was needed. A great bunch!

Too many climbs were done to name them all. I got to add one route to my list, which is better than last training session when the list grew by none. I also got a chance to second an old favorite, CCK, led by Eric Wasli. Eric is a fairly new climber, having gone through our basic course in March and lead training at Seneca in April.

Trip participants included:
Tom Gherlein, Pete Grant, Paul Guthrie, Glenn Schumaker, Tom Thomas, Paul Torelli, and Eric Wasli.

Pete Grant
Training Coordinator

NEW RIVER GORGE JUNE 4-5, 1988

Another weekend at the New.

Saturday was project day, and we hiked the Ames and Head Walls seeking new lines (many were spied, even some in single digit grade range!). We finally returned to a route Eric had top roped the weekend before, and climbed Michelin Man (5.12b. ***), one look at which and you'll understand the name. I followed Eric, and Rich followed me. Karen hated all of us for being able to reach a key lunge low down on the route; the actual crux is just her kind of climbing. After that, everything got tangled up, and between rapping new lines and trying others, we ended up doing a bunch of different things. I managed to pop the crux lunge on another new route, Pounded Puppies (5.12a, **) late in the day, and Eric followed, making me feel good by kindly falling off the crux twice.

Sunday brought Rich back into the lead, and he flashed Boschtardized (5.11c, ***), which was so good he's still bubbling about it. Karen and I cleaned and led Suggestions (5.11b, **) just to the left of Eric's Michelin Man, and Rich followed as well. Eric ended the day by working on a horrendous set of mover up and through a roof, which will eventually go at around 5.12c/d. We named it tentatively Kama Futra after the key heel hook/toe lock. It took everything I had left to follow to moves on a very tight rope. Karen and I had to boogie at that point, so we bashed on down the trail and headed back for home.

GREAT FALLS JUNE 11, 1988

A large crowd showed up on this delightful day. The Blitzkrieg area was sieged, with mixed results.

As near as I can remember, there were Tom Isaacson, Madeleine Carter, her friend Suzanne, Gary Prince, Hugh, Josh and Josie Brown, David Bailey, Brian Rennex, and maybe even some others whose names I've forgotten. Everyone got up something or other, and there were some determined efforts on some hard routes. The PATC MS tanning section was out in strength, and good use was made of the kind weather.

Stuart Pregnall

ANNAPOLIS ROCK JUNE 12, 1988

Another fine day in the hills.

For the life of me I'll never remember all the names of the people who showed up, but there were some pleasant surprises among the climbers. Charlie Dorian made an appearance, thus adding grist to the rumor mill that he intends to make a comeback (see the article on competitions)! In addition, Clare Witt was out showing off her new shoes. Chuck Veckert, another irregular, also made an appearance and despite a few stumbles while walking climbed well. Tom Isaacson, Tom Russell, Kit Pollock, Jeanette Helfrich, Jacques Tamisier, the Pregnalls, Brad Cohen (and friends Ted and Matt), Ed Cummings, the entire Brown family, and a couple whose names I didn't get, all showed up and most people climbed, too! Tom Russell, preparing for his trip to the Canadian Rockies, forged up a few lines on the lead. Brad got a customized beta on Pine Tree Wall, and Karen Pregnall finally figured out a short person's variation to avoid one lunge. Tom Isaacson, ever in

search of divergence in this world of mergers, pushed up a variation to Three Bulges, and its quality was confirmed later by Stuart.

A miscellany of "new" lines was rigged, with varying quality and difficulty. Kit Pollock discovered that Annapolis Rock's rock can be ephemeral, pulling off a key hold that Tom Isaacson had used earlier on an overhang.

In all, not a bad day. Everyone had a good time, and if truth be known, it would have been difficult to make it better.

Stuart Pregnall

WORLD CUP COMPETITION SNOWBIRD, UTAH JUNE 11 & 12, 1988

You heard it here first! The winners of the 1988 International Sport Climbing Championship, held at Snowbird Utah, held a couple of big surprises. First of a nine-event series of UIAA World Cup competitions, the Snowbird event was the first in this country. CBS Sports will air at least one half hour of the event at a date to be announced later.

The winners were:

MEN'S DIVISION

- 1st Patrick Edlinger
- 2nd J.B. Tribout
- 3rd Marc leMenestral
- 4th Martin Atkinson
- 5th Jason Stern
- 6th Christian Griffith
- 7th Scott Franklin

WOMEN'S DIVISION

- 1st Catherine Destivelle
- 2nd Mari Gingery
- 3rd Lynn Hill
- 4th Isabelle Patissier

The final round in the Men's Division was a 5.13b route involving a long sequence of 5.12 moves up to a harder roof, above which was the devious crux face! Several of the climbers fell off below the roof, some fell off at the roof, but Edlinger, climbing last in the competition, flashed up and through the roof, spotted

the crux, eyed the top (and 1st place!) and flashed on to win. His efforts brought the crowd to its feet, cheering at his mastery of the route.

The competition wasn't without controversy. Contestants complained often about the course, chiefly because many of the cruxes involved reach problems, thus favoring taller contestants. There was also an inconsistent ruling concerning the use of out of bounds holds. Didier Raboutou was disqualified for placing a foot out of bounds, but Catherine Destivelle wasn't. Ironically, Raboutou was favored to win the Men's Division. In addition, the women complained that they had to climb the same course as the men, unlike at other competitions where slightly different routes were devised for the Women's Divisions. As Patissier commented, "It's just no fun to climb 20 meters and fall off."

Local climber John Bercaw, who flew out to enter the open qualifying rounds, apparently was given incorrect information and showed up a day late. Despite his protestations, he wasn't allowed to attempt to catch up.

American competitors did well overall, scoring heavily in the top ten winners in each Division. The French competitors, with more experience, still have a slight edge, but the gap is closing. Jason Stern, remember, is only 16 years old!

Organizers Dick Bass and Jeff Lowe hope that next year's competition will draw larger crowds; more than the 1,200-1,500 who attended will be necessary to make competition climbing as successful here in the States as it is in Europe.

Stuart Pregnall

TRAINING STATUS REPORT

During April and May, two intermediate courses and two basic courses have been conducted. So far this year, 27 people have received basic training and 14 have gone through the intermediate training course. The next basic course is scheduled for June 18th.

The schedule for the remainder of 1988 is as follows:

Basic course (all have openings): June 18, July 17, August 20, September 17, October 15, and November 5 or 6.

Lead courses: July 2-4 (1 opening), July 16-17 (one opening), September 3-5 (open), and October 8-10 (open).

Basic courses are open to anyone--just sign the release form. Lead training requires the following!

Must have taken our basic course, must have attended at least four top rope sessions with active participation in belaying and climbing, must thoroughly know the basic knots--figure 8, bowline, and double overhand backup knot, must be able to rappel without assistance, must be familiar with own harness and belay device, and must be able to climb! You should be able to climb at least 5.4.

DISCOUNT GEAR PURCHASE

The Mountaineering Section will organize another discount gear purchase from International Mountain Equipment of North Conway, N.H. this fall. IME will give us 15% off their catalog prices for an order of \$3,000 or more. Tom Kawecky will again coordinate this effort--call him at 202-767-6997 (w) or 703-237-7227 (h) before September 15th if you are interested in participating.

UP ROPE COPY NEEDED

The Editor of UP ROPE needs your help in providing copy for each issue. Trip reports, news items, book reviews, commentary on the state of the sport, illustrations--let your imagination run riot. Please send contributions to Tom Isaacson, 1918 New Hampshire Ave., NW, Washington D.C. 20009

BOOK REVIEWS

K2: Triumph and Tragedy by Jim Curran 1988 \$22.95 256 pages
The Mountaineers Hardcover
Illustrated

K2's summit may be more seductively alluring than any other mountain's; perhaps it is addictive. Whatever the case, K2's base camp sites were packed to capacity with multinational teams during the summer of 1986. The Fates were kind to many that year; 27 people climbed K2. The Fates also demanded their price; eight summitters died, and five other supplicants died on the mountain. Among the dead were some of the world's best climbers. What, then, happened?

K2: Triumph and Tragedy explores the events that summer from Jim Curran's knowledgeable view. A seasoned Himalayan climber, Curran knows both the mountains and many of the climbers involved in the summer's tragedy. As a professional film maker, Curran also knows how to step back and objectively record events, letting the action speak for itself. In the emotion charged aftermath of the K2 summer, much truth was distorted by subjective and uninformed accounts. Curran tells the tale as it happened, and lets the reader judge for himself. At the end, Curran gives his own view, but is certain to make the reader aware that he is reading an opinionated, not a factual,

summary of the events and causes that led to so many tragic deaths high on K2.

Curran's writing style is crisp. He lets many of the climbers speak for themselves, quoting extensively, which brings to life personalities and gives depth to the narrative. Not all of K2 is about life and death on the mountain, however; Curran permits himself to weave his narrative threads around related matters, which broadens the book's perspective. K2's central character, who is both protagonist and antagonist, is Al Rouse, a difficult personality: driven to achieve a summit he had failed to climb before, all of Rouse's force, talent and ambition push inexorably on to the summit. A close friend of Curran's, Rouse is portrayed as objectively as any character in the literature. Curran shows us Rouse's scheming and selfish side, some of his absurdly wild side, his temperamentally impossible side, and his honest side: there are also other sides to his personality; in fact, Rouse is more a duodecahedron.

There are some good lessons to be learned from K2, both for alpinists and rock climbers alike. Further, it is good reading. I just wish the subject matter had never happened.

Incidentally, the production of K2 by The Mountaineers Books indicates a renewed dedication their part to provide high quality photo reproduction and excellent printing in their hardcover editions. In recent years, some of The Mountaineers Books efforts have been inconsistent. The results read over the past year or so show that the overall quality and commitment to production seems to have been turned around for the better. If you're going to pay a few bucks for a book, you might

as well get something you're proud to have. Let's hope The Mountaineers Books keeps up the good work!

Stuart Pregnall

CLIMBERS CALENDAR

July 2-4	Gunks**	Pete Grant	703-960-6033
July 2-4	New River**	Stuart Pregnall	202-543-3988
July 6	Executive Meeting	Rich Cunningham	202-332-7931
July 9	Great Falls (Microdome)	Gary Prince	202-462-4586
July 10	Old Rag	Jeanette Helfrich	301-585-9119
July 10	Carderock Work trip	Harold Goldstein	202-966-9091
July 13	Monthly Meeting	PATC HQ 7:30	"UP ROPE" and
	"BELAYING THE LEADER" videos		
July 16	Herzog Island	Rich Cunningham	202-332-7931
July 17	Annapolis Rock	Tom Isaacson	202-332-3710
July 23	The Cove	Rich Cunningham	202-332-7931
July 24	Wolf Gap	Rich Cunningham	202-332-7931
July 30	Great Falls	Madeleine Carter	202-362-5036
July 31	White Oak Canyon	Stuart Rosenthal	703-527-5247

NO AUGUST MEETING OR UP ROPE!!!

August 6	Boucher Rock	Tom Isaacson	202-332-3710
August 7	Great Falls	Stuart Pregnall	202-543-3988
August 13	Great Falls	Madeleine Carter	202-362-5036
August 14	Sugarloaf	Jeanette Helfrich	301-585-9119
August 20	Big Devil's Stairs	Stuart Rosenthal	703-527-5247
August 21	White Oak Canyon	Stuart Rosenthal	703-527-5247
Aug 27/28	Hermitage Weekend	Tom Russell	301-869-8058
Sept 3-5	Gunks**	Pete Grant	703-960-6033
Sept 3-5	Great Falls	????	
Sept 7	Executive Meeting	Rich Cunningham	202-332-7931
Sept 10	Great Falls	Rich Cunningham	202-332-7931
Sept 11	Annapolis Rocks	Jeanette Helfrich	301-585-9119
Sept 14	Monthly Meeting	Slide Show: Ken Andrasko on an attempt of Annauprna South	
Sep 17/18	Bellefonte PA	Stuart Pregnall	202-543-3988
	(Fabulous face/crack climbing, lots of moderates, on LIMESTONE!!)		
Sept 18	Great Falls	????	
Sept 24	Old Rag	Rich Cunningham	202-332-7931
Sept 25	White Oak Canyon	Rich Cunningham	202-332-7931

PLEASE NOTE: Call trip coordinators mid-week to make arrangements and contingency plans. In the absence of published trip leaders, call Rich Cunningham or Stuart Pregnall. Trips noted ** are to lead climbing areas. Please arrange for your own partners; the trip coordinator can help with arranging rides and other logistics.



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