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## What's New?

The EXCOM would like to welcome our four new members at large: Nicole Horvath, Kim Kovach, Antonio Gutierrez, and Matt Kilcullen. Please say hello to them when you see them at the crag! You can find a bio for each member in this newsletter.

The PATC-MS website will be getting a serious makeover this year. Thank Carol Clayton, Rick Dotson, and Neal Attfield for taking the lead on the new site.

We have lots of really fun out of state events coming up this fall. Check out the list of events below and get out there! If you can help with an event, please contact (*email removed*). We are always looking for volunteers and we still need help with New Climber's Day and Friends and Family Day.



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## Meeting Recap

This month, the club had a meeting with a cookout at Carderock. We heard an excellent presentation on local sport climbing by Peter Jensen. If you'd like to give a presentation, please contact (*email removed*)

Our next meeting will be at 6:30 at the Arc'teryx store in DC on August 11th. There will be a social hour, pizza, a short film, and a raffle. Stay tuned for a signup link.

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## Upcoming Events

[Click here to sign up for an event!](#) See the website for details on each event.

Ladies' Happy Hour

Wednesday, July 28th, 6:30 PM  
Red Bear Brewing

Carderock First Wednesday  
Wednesday, August 4th, 5:00 PM - 8:00 PM  
Carderock Recreation Area, Billy Goat Trail C trail head

New Climber's Day  
Saturday, August 7th, 8:00 AM - 2:00 PM  
Carderock Recreation Area, Billy Goat Trail C trail head

August meeting at the Arc'teryx store in DC  
Wednesday, August 11th, 6:30 PM - 8:00 PM

Great Falls Top Roping Trip  
Saturday, August 14th, 8:00 AM - it gets too hot  
Great Falls National Park, McLean, VA

New River Gorge Trip  
August 20-22  
Fayetteville, WV

Rocks State Park Trip  
Saturday, August 21st  
Jarrettsville, MD

Friends and Family Day  
Saturday August 28th, 9:00 AM  
Carderock Recreation Area, Billy Goat Trail C trail head

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## Say hello to our new members at large!

Thank you to our new members at large for all the work you do to make the club better for everyone.

**Nicole Horvath** is an environmental educator who started climbing about 6 years ago as another way to get outside. She loves that climbing gets her to stop thinking about her to-do list. Nicole appreciates the PATC community for all the knowledge members are willing to share and the ability to continue to increase her knowledge and climbing skills with a supportive community. She's excited to give back to all the members who have helped her by helping to plan trips and assist with projects focused on outreach and communication.

Hi, my name is **Antonio Gutierrez**. Since I was child, I always loved to scramble rocks and climb trees, I first got into climbing 20 years ago after finishing high school when a friend of mine invited me to climb with one of his friends that owned some climbing gear. After that I started to get more and more involved in climbing and with some close friends, I started to climb in the mountains surrounding the Mexico City valley where I grew up. I first heard about PATC from Rick Dotson after we took a training course together at ET. The first trip he invited me on was to Seneca Rocks. After that we went to Safe Harbor after a snow day in November, I will say it was quite an experience to hike in the snow and doing some sport climbing in a cold, sunny day of early winter. After a few more trips I was thrilled with the PATC community and the way everybody embodies climbing and its culture. Since then, I have been part of the Club and look forward to having more experiences together.

**Matt Kilcullen** is a Virginia native who's been climbing at Carderock & Great Falls since he was young. In 2017 Matt joined the Potomac Mountain Club in the interest of learning to lead climb. Since tying into the sharp end, Matt has developed his skills on numerous climbing trips and through professional training. Always one to chat, make sure to say hi to Matt if you see him at the crag.

My name is **Kim Kovach**. I got interested in rock climbing about 6 years ago, and signed up for an intro to top roping class on a whim. I only got halfway up the wall on my first try, but I was hooked. I immediately signed up for another class, this time for building top rope anchors, and convinced several of my friends that it was a good idea to let me take them to Great Falls and Carderock. Since then, I have enjoyed learning new skills and having great adventures at such places as Seneca, Red Rocks, Mallorca, and my favorite: the Red River Gorge. I learned about PATC from Rick Dotson, who I first met through a class he was teaching, then later reacquainted at ET Crystal City. While I haven't taken advantage of all the wonderful features they provide, everyone I have met through the group has been delightful and I am looking forward to having more adventures with such great folks.

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## Are you a new member?

*Welcome to the club! Here are a few suggestions to help you stay connected to the group.*

### **New Members Guide**

Check out our [New Members Guide](#) to learn about what we do and how you can get involved.

### **Monthly Meetings**

Join us at [Club Meetings](#) for a great opportunity to come and meet the members of the club and see what we do!

### **Carderock First Wednesdays**



Everyone is welcome at Carderock Wednesdays, which usually kicks off around 4pm. Sign up through the [Events Page](#).

### Get involved on Social Media

*The Listserv* - The Google Groups [Listserv](#) this is how a majority of club members communicate. To join:

1. Go to [PATC-MS Google Groups Page](#).
2. Log in to your Google account ("Sign in" button at top right corner)
3. Hit the button at the top of the page that says "Ask to join group". There is no approval process - once you hit Ask to Join, you are in!

*Facebook* - Follow [Potomac Mountain Club](#) on Facebook or join the [Potomac Mountain Club Facebook Group](#).

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## 2021 Club Officials

### Chair

Rick Dotson

[chair@patcms.org](mailto:chair@patcms.org)

### Vice Chair & Up Rope Editor

Caroline Mosher

[vicechair@patcms.org](mailto:vicechair@patcms.org)

### Secretary

Adam Nicholson

[secretary@patcms.org](mailto:secretary@patcms.org)

### Treasurer

Andy Bernat

[treasurer@patcms.org](mailto:treasurer@patcms.org)



## Up Rope History

Did you know  
***Up Rope Newsletter***  
has been around  
since 1944?

Check out past issues  
on our  
[Archives Page!](#)

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## Up Rope Submissions

**Trip Report Submissions:** Please send all trip reports to [upropeeditor@gmail.com](mailto:upropeeditor@gmail.com). Please put in the subject line TRIP REPORT: Name. Please include the full first and last name of the writer and full names of as many club attendees as possible. If you have it, logistics information such as guide services, camp grounds, restaurants, etc. would be useful at the end of the story. Please list who is in each photo and who took it. There is no word limit for trip reports.

**General Submissions:** Submissions for climbing news, member of the month, and gear/book/gym reviews can be sent to [upropeeditor@gmail.com](mailto:upropeeditor@gmail.com) at any time. Aim to keep them between 200-400 words.

*All submissions will be edited for grammar and length when necessary.*

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## COVID 19 Safety

Let's all make sure we're balancing caution with passion! Here are some resources to help protect ourselves and our community during these trying times. Here are some resources to help you stay informed.

- Check out the Access Fund's [Climbing During the Coronavirus Pandemic](#).
- Learn about the CDC's [Considerations for Events and Gatherings](#). (If you must gather, be safe!)
- Stay up to date with the CDC's [COVID-19: What's New & Updated](#) page.