



November 26th, 2022

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What's New?

Please Vote!

Our Annual Elections cycle has now begun. We ARE electing new executive committee members. Nominations are being taken for all four Excom positions (Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary and Treasurer).

Any member in good standing may be nominated for a position (please make sure the prospective nominee approves). The nomination period is open until December 15, 2022. For the period commencing December 16, 2022 and ending an hour before the January 2023 meeting, all PATC-MS members in good standing may vote online. Voting is closed at the Annual Meeting in January when final voting takes place. The votes will be tallied and the new officers will take over at the February meeting.

Quick summary:

November 15, 2022- Nomination period opens. Please email or WhatsApp Carol Clayton with your nominations.

Dec.15: Nomination period closes; nominees finalized; voting opens. PLEASE VOTE.

JAN 2023 Annual Meeting (7:00 January via Zoom): Online voting tallied (closes 1hr prior to meeting); final results announced and new officers take their positions.

Please direct any questions about the process to Carol Clayton.

NO Club meeting in December

There is no club meeting in December due to the upcoming holidays. The January meeting will be on the 18th, location TBD.

Meeting Recap- Climbing Visitor Use Research in the National Capital Area

During our October meeting we heard from the team of faculty and graduate students from Old Dominion University, Kansas State University, Eastern Kentucky University, and the University of Idaho who were hired to conduct a multi-year project with the National Park Service at Carderock and Great Falls with the goal of better understanding how visitors, specifically climbers, are using rock climbing sites at both locations.

This follows a research effort at Harpers Ferry, which was funded by the National Park Service, and supported by the PATC Mountaineering Section, Mid Atlantic Climbers, Access Fund, American Alpine Club, American Mountain Guide Association, Sportrock and Earth Treks.

Dr. James Maples from Eastern Kentucky University has begun contacting key stakeholders from the D.C. area climbing community to connect and help the research team learn more about the history of these sites and impressions of current conditions. Stakeholders are members of the local climbing community, including guides, organizational leadership, and recreational climbers.

The information gathered from these interviews will help to inform next steps and help orient the research team to the challenges and successes experienced by the community. You can find out about Dr. Maples' previous work with climbers in his recent book, "Rock Climbing in Kentucky's Red River Gorge."

In addition to interviews, trail cameras are being used at both sites to understand how climbers (and non-climbers) are using the spaces. Trail cameras are often placed at key junctions or heavily used sites to understand when those sites are being used most. These cameras only gather data related to use trends, and no identifiable information is being shared with park staff. Understanding trends in visitor use will allow researchers to provide better recommendations to the parks about areas of importance for the climbing community. Pending survey approvals, graduate students will also begin surveying climbers on-site in the months to come and an online survey will be sent out this winter. We hope all our members who enjoy climbing at carderock and great falls will openly share their experiences with the research team.

The research team has an open-door policy, so please feel free to reach out to us in the days, weeks, and months ahead to help us make sure your voice is represented. Our main contact is Dr Chris Zajchowski,

PhD Assistant Professor, Park, Recreation & Tourism Studies in the Department of Human Movement Sciences at Old Dominion University c.zajchow@odu.edu

85 Years of PATC!

by **Caroline Mosher**

I was ecstatic to make it back from deployment just in time to attend the PATC-MS Anniversary party. The first recorded PATC-MS trip was to the Bull Run Mountains (now closed to the public) on October 31, 1937. This year, the club turned 85 years old. It's hard to believe that a hobby, all-volunteer climbing club has made it this long but here we are still going strong!

It was great to see all of my friends from the club and catch up on everyone's adventures over the past year. I also met a lot of newcomers who joined while I was gone - I want to give you all a warm welcome to the club and thank you for coming out. I know it isn't easy to show up to a party where you don't know anyone but hopefully you found us to be a friendly bunch.

Thank you to all the members of the Party Planning Committee and Piotr from the AAC for all of the hard work that it took to make the event happen. Because of you guys, we raised almost \$400 for the Seneca Projects and Wilderness Kids Alexandria at the raffle. Now onto ice season!



Upcoming Events

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

AAC/PATC-MS Women's Vertical Happy Hour at Movement CC

December 2 @ 5:30 pm - 9:00 pm

Movement Crystal City 1235 S Clark St, Arlington, VA

Old Rag Hike (for advanced hikers)

December 3 @ 7:00 am - 5:00 pm

old Rag Mountain

Wilderness First Aid (WFA) for PATC-MS

December 10 @ 8:00 am - December 11 @ 7:00 pm

Movement Crystal City 1235 S Clark St, Arlington, VA

New Year Vertical Happy Hour – Sportrock Alexandria

December 30 @ 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm

Sportrock Alexandria 5308 Eisenhower Ave, Alexandria, VA

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 Open Climbs

Everyone is welcome at Carderock Wednesdays, which usually kicks off around 4pm. A link to signup through Eventbrite is available through the [Events Page](#).

Stay connected

Don't have social media? Join our google group! To join:

1. Go to the [Potomac Mountain Club Google Group](#) page.
2. Sign into your google account. If you don't have a google account, you can still join but you'll have to associate your email address with a google account first.
3. Hit the button at the top of the page that says "Ask to join group". One of our members will approve your request within a week.
4. Having difficulties? Follow the troubleshooting steps [here](#).

2022 Club Officials

Co-Chairs

Nicole Horvath & Caroline Mosher

chair@patcms.org

Vice Chair

Jay Bishop

vicechair@patcms.org

Secretary

Marc Grunberg

secretary@patcms.org

Treasurer

Andy Bernat

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!](#)

Up Rope Editor
Jenna Schueler
upropeeditor@gmail.com

Up Rope Submissions

Trip Report Submissions: Please send all trip reports to 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 at any time. Aim to keep them between 200-400 words.

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

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](#).
- Stay up to date with the CDC's [COVID-19: What's New & Updated](#) page.