

No. 508 -- April 16, 1975

A newsheet published by and for the Ski Mountaineers and Rock Climbing Sections of the Sierra Club's Angeles Chapter. Send address changes to Tim Ryan, 2400 1/2 Alma Ave, Manhattan Bch, CA 90266. 2 per yr. 8 page issue.

PUBLIC WORKSHOPS ON YOSEMITE MASTER PLAN STARTS THIS SATURDAY

The National Park Service has invited public participation in a series of informal 'Yosemite Workshops' prior to the development of a new Master Plan for Yosemite Natl. Park. This is an extremely important issue, and I urge everyone reading MUGELNOOS to attend one of the local Workshops this coming week and express your views. (Details Page 6)

ONION VALLEY SKI TOUR - APRIL 5-6

This Tour was cancelled early Sat. morning when the entire Sierra was hidden in clouds! (The road had already been plowed open to the end.) It was unofficially relocated to June Mtn. ski resort where fantastic powder skiing was enjoyed on Chair #1 on (or in) the 3-4 feet of new cold dry powder snow which fell during the weekend on the "Face" (the place to ski in a storm -- sheltered, good visibility, etc.) Unfortunately, June Mtn. closed April 6 with 6-10 feet of snow on the runs, due to lack of mid-week customers. As of April 7, Mammoth had 12 ft. of snow; open thru July 4!

The snow pack in the Sierra for Inyo-Mono is now estimated to be 110% of normal (third year in a row with above normal snowpack). It is time to THINK SUNSHINE! In the interest of both safety and enjoyment Ski Mountaineers tours are usually cancelled in event of a storm, so tour participants are urged to bring "downhill" ski equipment, bathing suits and hiking boots for all possible alternate activities. Some tours may be relocated due to road conditions. (Watch Channel 7 weather news for spectacular satellite pictures of approaching storms!)

(BL)

MOPAH PEAK CLIMB - MARCH 1-2

Saturday morning, a small group of consenting adults in Phil Bruce's pick up met the McPherson family at the entrance to Mopah Wash. The caravan then proceeded up the wash for a couple of miles to camp; both drivers seemingly under the impression that they were driving half tracks for Marshal Rommel. Through some process of unnatural selection three ropes were made up; Moore-Yount, Bruce-Toering and McPherson - Cole. All of the above eventually got to the summit and came down via the 3rd class or DPS route.

Sunday morning, the group, enlarged by several more McPhersons, bouldered around on a little wall near camp. During the action, a giant owl and Al Toering induced a state of mutual terror in each other. Mopah is a nice peak, even if the rock is rather cheesey. The climbing was fun, the weather was perfect and the view from the top is gorgeous. (MC)

BIG ROCK CLIMB - MARCH 15-16

It rained Friday night but Saturday broke clear and beautiful with rock and sage refreshed from the rain. The Trough was running water in the morning, but was dry by early afternoon. Ten climbers made the scene to do such routes as Bean Stalk, Sierra Club route, Trough, Africa Flake, Nameless, Boogaloo and Wedunit. The Rat Crack (5.8) was challenged again and again without success. One of the "locals" quietly stepped through the crowd of wounded warriors, stepped into the crack and over the crux, paused to say "the rest is third class", and then proceeded to down climb and quietly leave. All this happened so fast that no one saw how the move was accomplished. Aside from that it was a great day. For those who have'nt climbed at Big Rock since the completion of Perris Lake, you're in for a pleasant surprise. The view of the lake is terrific. The gallery watches from their boats and the climbers have the latest conveniences - a battery operated outhouse.

(DB)

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NEXT ISSUE: May 21, 1975
DEADLINE: Friday, May 16

CALENDAR

- Apr 19-20 - Rock Climb, Tahquitz
- Apr 19-20 - Ski Tour, Thompson Ridge
- Apr 26-27 - Ski Tour, Pear Lake
- Apr 27 -Practice Climb, Stony Pt.
- May 3-4 -Rock Climb, Suicide
- May 10-11 -Ski Tour, Bishop Pass
- May 17-18 -Ski Tour, Mt Dana
- May 18 -RCS Safety Test, Pacifico
- May 21 - Mugelnoos mtg. 8 p.m.

MUGELNOOS MEETING TIME CHANGE:
Begining with May 21, meetings will again begin at 8:00 PM. Third Wed. of each month, Lemon Grove Rec Ctr. 4959 Lemon Grove Ave. in Hollywood.

SKI MOUNTAINEERS BANQUET

Wednesday, May 28, 1975

Smoke House Restaurant

4420 Lakeside Dr., Burbank

Cocktails 6:30, Dinner 7:30

Off Hollywood Freeway at Barham Exit
Contact Tom Cardina for reservations

CLARIFICATION

To clear up any misunderstanding - the item on last month's MUGELNOOS front page regarding the BMTC did not state, nor in any way imply that the BMTC had anything whatever to do with the missing money at the Baldy Hut. (JW)

INDIA LURES OLD TIME SKIER

Longtime Ski Mt. Sec. member Ethel Van Degrift recently traveled in India, Nepal & Sikkim, visited Darjeeling, and part of the Himalayas. She also reports that she now has a granddaughter, Sara, born Jan 14, daughter of Marilyn and Craig Van Degrift. Craig is completing post-doctoral studies in physics at U.C. Irvine. (RDM)

LOST & FOUND

Who'se 3 carribeners were used to set up the rappel at the Feb 23 Practice Climb at Stony? For return state type & markings to Tom Jeter.

CRESCENTA VALL. SEC. SPONSORS LECTUR

Leo Dickinson, famed English mountain and nature photographer will present a film program showing climbs of Torre Egger, Innominata, Cerro Torre, Fitzroy and other giant of the Patagonian icecap. Dickinson is well known for his famous BBC-TV film depicting his successful climb of the North Face of the Eiger. Hear his lecture on May 22 at La Canada Elementary School, 4540 Encinas Dr. just north of Foothill Blvd., 8:00pm. Tickets are \$2 and are available from Box 262, La Canada CA, 91011, or the Sport Chalet 'Sportland', Pasadena Backpacker, and Westridge. Proceeds for the Sierra Club conservation programs.

ACCEPTANCE OF NEW RCS-MEMBERS

This is to inform all RCS members that the following people have successfully past their Safety Test and are to be voted on at the next meeting of the Safety Committee as to acceptance in the RCS:

- Robert M. Trousdale
- Larry De Milner
- Randall D. McDonald
- Michael Dale
- Phil Bruce
- Tom Sarazen
- Lani Barton

Qualified and responsible comments or opinions as to applicants safe or unsafe climbing practices by any RCS member in good standing, should be brought to the attention of the Safety Committee Chairman, Hans Lees in writing, no later than May 2, 1975 (HL)

VALLEY PHOTOS NEEDED FOR MAY MEETING

At the May Mugelnoos meeting we want to have an exhibit of photos of climbs and climbers in Yosemite Valley. We are requesting members to bring snapshots to the meeting, where we will mount and label the pictures. Our goal is 100 pictures; please come early so the pictures can be prepared before the meeting starts. (EY)

ICECRAFT BOOK AVAILABLE

Norm Kingsley's comprehensive new book on ice climbing is for sale at local mountain shops, or from Box 262, La Canada CA, 91011, postpaid upon payment of \$3.95.

CLIMBING DEATH AT JOSHUA TREE

Joshua Tree Natl. Mon. in California which sees a great deal of rock climbing but has no formal climber registration, experienced one fatality. "A solo climber attempted a pitch too difficult for him and fell twenty four feet," reported Chief Park Ranger Donald Colville. (OFF BELAY, April, 1975)

ODE TO BALDY BOWL

I dream of a place not far from home
 in the wilderness where I can be alone
 with a few good friends, you know, the proper sort
 where we will reminisce old times over cigars and Port.
 All the better for us, when there's a cabin there
 maintained and stocked with wood by volunteers, and where

to overnight it costs but nought, my what an idyllic spot
 only a short hike on good trail from the parking lot.
 For a fine place like this, I shall make it my goal
 to reserve for me and my friends, the Old Baldy Bowl.
 We're here - a relief - into these slippers you poor tired feet.
 Ahh, from this big red leather chair, the view can't be beat.

Great Scott! What's this I spy over there, lo!
 Hords of screaming rabble violate the virgin snow
 with ice axes, their uncouth bodies thrash and thrust
 destroying tranquillity as they spend their furious lust.
 Barbarians! I'll tell you where to go, I say
 follow me, back across the Alps the other way.

Outrage of outrages! This motley crew in need of bath
 do not follow my carefully laid out footstep path.
 Which all should know represents wisdom, truth and purity
 (except where I went around youder bush to pee.)
 Oh how to escape this unwashed tide of humanity;
 is there no place left for men like me?

* * * * *

There's a place I know, and I will guarantee
 not a single live human, winter or summer you'll see.
 A cabin? not hardly, trails? my goodness no
 but if solitude you're after, by all means do go.
 Lots of buckthorn, manzanita, some other sharp plants.
 To get through this tangle, you'de best wear tin pants.

There's one other small item, it shouldn't matter a lot
 a skilled rock climbers reputation you've already got.
 Take pitons, a hammer, slings, biners and rope.
 You'll have to scale some crags like a young mountain goat.
 Hard to get to you say? Yes, but then I'll allow
 better one should earn his wilderness by the sweat of his brow.
 (TJ)



ROCK PLAY OF ODOREIDA



Being some account of the activities and teaching of the Lifemanship Correspondence College of Oneupness and Gameslifemastery.

(Excerpts from One-Upmanship, by Stephen Potter, page 132 (ch. 12))

Students of Gameslife will be aware that in the actual playing of games Odoreida, though often seen on the edge of a cricket field, was a complete rabbit. The weight in his pear-shaped figure, although suggesting the attitude of one accustomed to standing at fairly deep mid-off, was so unusually distributed that genuine climbing looked to be, and was, almost impossible. Besides it is known that on heights he once said he was "frightened he might throw himself over." It was therefore plucky of Odoreida to life his way into this reputation of his as a skilled-rock-climber. How did he do it?

Odoreida Rock Basic is to be the Man Looking On. Older, now, he is inclined, he tells us amusedly, for slippers. In that little place at Pen-y-gwryd, he is never very far from the fire. There he will be knowledgeable about past climbs, or present routes. "Yes," he says. Odoreida is encouraging at first. "I do consider the bottom pitch of Charity to be harder than anything on Cloggy." He speculates. "You know (making the wet sucking noise on pipe) I've always thought the wall on Craig Yr Ysfa would go."

At this point an absolute stranger or complete new boy might begin to call Odoreida "sir." "Would you, sir?" "Well one or two of us saw it the other day on a top rope. I think it would go. By the way, I see you are still using those nails." New Boy is made to feel the nails in his boots are unsafe, or out of date. Having by this and that prepared a Lifeman's wicket, Odoreida goes in to bat. Essentially this is climb avoidance play, while seeming to be eager.

Maybe he's not going to climb just now because it's the wrong time of year. In June, Odoreida says, "I only like Great Gully at Christmas time when it's full of ice." At Christmas, on the other hand, he recalls that everyone's done it every Christmas, and that everyone is doing it now. In fact it's pretty well got Stop-and Go lighting. Somebody else says something else is a difficult climb. "Well - I seem to remember when Jack did it he did Sunset afterwards. After all the Caldecott brothers took 140 pounds of photographic equipment along that ledge in 1903."

A "h'm" climate is built up. "The Sceptre presents the same problem only I suppose ten times more tricky. But I was rather surprised to find ironmongery all over the cliff - the whole place is getting bunged up with it. Bad as the Matterhorn. Look, I found this half was up Great Slab the other day. Look." I knew that Odoreida always keeps a rusty piton, scarcely an O.K. climbing aid in this district, always in his pocket, and that he casts doubts on actual climbers by "finding" it

If really pressed Odoreida would be quite frank about it. "No," he would say, "Frankly I'm frightened of it." LAYMAN: Don't blame you. Hardly any holds of any kind, are there? ODOREIDA: Well, the holds which do arrive, arrive well. Not holds perhaps-certain helpful rugosities... But... no, I've got my family and I think if one's got a family..... No! For me Pinnacle Wall is out of bounds.

RUBIDOUX RAIN REPELLED - PRACTICE CLIMB - MARCH 22

Students 38, Instructors 12, Student/Instructor ratio 3.17 to 1, Rope Fund Contribution \$24.50, Donation/Student 64¢.

Participating Instructors: Emory Yount, Dick Mundwiler, Tom Jeter, Don Rappolee, Mike Dent, Craig Williams, Leroy Russ, Herb Null, Jim Erb, Dean Hinegardner, Al Fowler, Phil Bruce.

Only desperate people drive through a torrential rain to attend a Practice Climb, yet 50 of us assembled at the locked entrance gate at Mt. Rubadoux on Saturday. When the gate remained locked at 9 a.m. we caravanned south to the exit road, and then to the summit - driving through heavy clouds as we ascended. On top, however, the rain stopped, the sun broke through the overcast and the clouds soon evaporated. We knew the climb would go, so the students signed in. The exercise started with a 90 minute demonstration-seminar on nut placement by Mike Dent. Thereafter we set up the usual instruction/testing classes, the last of which ended at about 7 pm. (EY)

ADDENDUM - 'Member still in waiting' Phil Bruce, and Student Margaret Newhall were up to their old tricks again. Phil flashed his "What? Me worry?" grin as he disappeared over the rappel overhang, then once on the ground he engaged his belayer, Merritt Williams, in a conversation reminiscent of the old Abbot & Costello routine - Who's on first - What's his name's on second - and I don't know is on third. Merritt thought Phil was serious, and was going crazy. I told Phil he was the only person I knew who could play the Three Stoges, singlehandedly. As for Margaret, she brazenly consulted her textbook only 20 seconds before going 'on stage' for rappel signoff; to refresh her memory, she said, on how the dulfersitz was supposed to wrap around her body. Then, glancing nervously down while perched on the overhang she went into a long monolog, which although good, failed to distract this observer from the fact that she was supposed to go over the edge. Margaret flunked. Next time around she should study her textbook sooner, or hire Phil Bruce's scriptwriter. (TJ)

CONTINUING SNOWSTORMS CANCEL S.M. SKI TOURS

The March 22-23 San Gorgonio tour was relocated to Mt. Baldy then cancelled altogether due to new snow and high winds. However, on Sunday for exercise and scenery (and in sunshine), four S.M. skiers made the somewhat windy traverse from Mt. Pinos over Sawmill Mtn. and on to Grouse Mtn., finding snowcover more than ample though skiing conditions ranged from ice to glue, skiable mostly by snowplow turns. The 500' descent from Sawmill Mtn. to the saddle below Grouse Mtn. would be an enjoyable downhill run on good snow. With an earlier start it would be quite feasible to complete the traverse on to Mt. Abel and back the same day, thus avoiding a long car shuttle. (BL)

JOSHUA TREE CLIMB - APRIL 5-6

In spite of the rain here, the weather at Joshua Tree was clear and windy, giving us two good days of climbing. Saturday morning Dick Mundwiler, Phil Bruce, Paul Legachi and Dan King went off to Lost Horse Wall to do one of Dick's special routes there. In Hidden Valley, Tom Jeter and Jim Endo did the Bong, Beginners One, Outhouse Flake, and NW Chimney. Jim McPherson and Bill Barger did the SE Corner at Intersection, NW Chimney and another unnamed route near Outhouse. Guy McClure and Steve Russell did SE Corner, and Randy Eck, Larry De Milner and John Moore did a combination of Mikes Books and Bat Crack at Intersection. Saturday afternoon Dick Mundwiler, Tom Jeter and John Moore did the Overhang Bypass at Intersection, with Dick leading the first pitch and Tom the second.

Sunday morning, Dick Mundwiler went back to Lost Horse Wall with Tom Jeter, Steve Russell, Bill Barger and Jim Endo. Tom and Jim did the route that Dick Mundwiler had done Saturday, while Dick, Steve and Bill did another route that Dick had put up earlier this year, which he rates at about F6. Nancy Eck, Paul Legacki, Dan King and John Moore stayed in Hidden Valley where we did the SE Corner at Intersection.

(JE)

PUBLIC WORKSHOPS ON YOSEMITE MASTER PLAN - (CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1)

- LOS ANGELES: Saturday, April 19, 1975, 9:00 a.m. Water and Dower Building Auditorium, 111 North Hope St.
- RESEDA: Monday, April 21, 1975, 7:30 p.m. Grover Cleveland High School Multi-Purpose Room, 8140 Van Alden Ave.
- LONG BEACH: Tuesday, April 22, 1975, 7:30 p.m., Veterans Memorial Building Auditorium, 245 West Broadway.
- SANTA MONICA: Tuesday, April 22, 1975, 7:30 p.m., Lincoln High School Auditorium, 1501 California Ave.
- ORANGE: Wednesday, April 23, 1975, 7:30 p.m., Orange High School Little Theatre, 525 North Shaffer.

For further background on this matter, you are referred to the excellent article by Bruce Barnbaum in the latest SOUTHERN SIERRAN (April). Bruce is the Yosemite Task Force Chairman for the Angeles Chapter of the Sierra Club, and you may contact him for further information at 3476 Clarrington Ave, Los Angeles 90034.

If you cannot attend the hearings, but would like to have your thoughts counted, please write to the following National Part Representative. John Reynolds, Yosemite Master Plan Team, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, Ft. Mason, San Francisco, 94123. (Ed)

NOTES FROM APRIL AAC MEETING

The American Alpine Club Board of Directors, meeting in Colorado on April 11, voted not to publish the proposed Gazetteer of U.S. Rock Climbing areas, which has been under discussion for some months.

Three members of the AAC Board, Jim Whittaker, Jim Wickwire and Galen Rowell will depart April 15, on a 3 month expedition to K2 in the Karakoram.

The AAC Directors plan to hold a meeting at Idyllwild, Calif in Sept. 1976. (RDM)

NATIONAL PARK BACKCOUNTRY PERMITS - (FROM INYO REGISTER 3/27/75)

Reservations may be made in advance for backcountry use permits at Sequoia and Kings canyon National Parks for the period July 1 - Sept. 15, and at Yosemite National Park for the period June 30 through Labor Day. (In previous years, all backcountry permits at Yosemite were issued on a first-come-first-served basis.) Visitors entering Sequoia or Kings Canyon from the west of the Sierra should make application for a permit by writing: Supt., Sequoia and Kings Canyon National Parks, Three Rivers, Calif. 93271. Those entering these parks from east of the Sierra should make application to: Inyo National Forest, 798 N. Main, Bishop Calif., 93514. For Yosemite National Park, applications should be mailed to: Chief Ranger, Yosemite National Park, P.O. Box 577, Yosemite National Park, Calif., 95389. Applications should include the following information: Exact dates and points of departure and return in Yosemite; complete itinerary of trip; number of people in party and primary mode of travel. Groups larger than 12 persons must have reservations will be taken by mail for 50% of the total use allowed on a particular trail on a given day. The remaining 50% will be issued on a first come first served basis after July 1, at permit stations in the Park.

SEARCH & RESCUE CONFERENCE IN IDYLL WILD

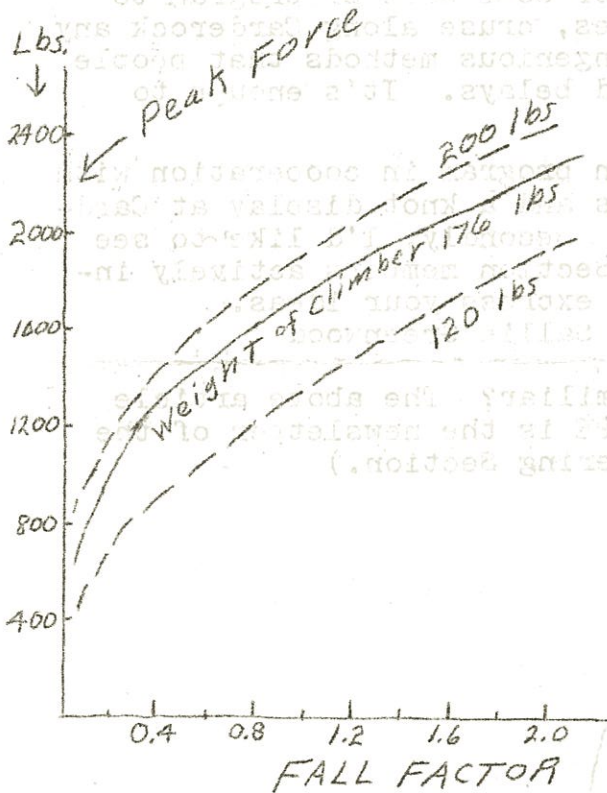
The Mountain Rescue Association will sponsor a comprehensive and worthwhile conference in Search & Rescue in Idyllwild on May 16-17-18. Anyone interested in attending is welcome. Fee is \$25 and includes lodging for Friday & Saturday night (bring sleeping bag), plus 5 meals. Registration fee should be sent by May 5 to CR/IRA, Goleta, Calif 93017. Program will include testing of equipment with dynamometer, tracking of lost persons, display of modern rescue gear, movies, lectures, etc.

FALL FACTOR - BY HELMUT MICROYS

(The following technical article is condensed from THE EASTERN TRADE, Vol 2 No. 4, Oct 1973, and was brought to the attention of your Editor by Mindy Bagdon.)

The fall factor (FF) is defined by the fraction $FF=A/B$, where A equals the free height of the fall and B is equal to the total rope paid out at the time of the fall (i.e. the loaded length of rope.) Some examples may help. If the leader falls after a lead of 10 feet without any intermediate protection he will fall 20 feet onto the belayer and the fall factor equals 20/10 or 2.0. This is the maximum value of the fall factor unless the belayer takes in rope during the fall. It is also what may be called the maximum fall. Suppose the leader is 80 feet out and 10 feet above his last runner when he peels. Assuming the protection is sound he will fall 20 feet, and the fall factor equals 20/80 or 0.25.

Assuming a UIAA approved rope of 11mm diameter, a climber weighing 175 pounds, a static belay, and ignoring the energy absorption of knots, slings, etc.; the variation of the force of impact the rope exerts on the climber with the fall factor is known. This relationship is:(Graph)



The following points can be made:

1. The force in the rope for any given fall factor is constant. If the fall factor is the same, a 65 foot free fall will produce the same force as a 15 foot free fall. The difference between the two falls lies not in the force that is generated but for how long this force must be held. For a fall factor of 1.8 and a 15 foot free fall, the force peaks in about 0.15 sec. and must be held for a total of 0.30 sec. In the case of a 65 foot fall with a fall factor of 1.8 the force peaks in about 0.3 sec. and must be held for 0.7 seconds.
2. The belayer must be able to hold a force of about 2000 lbs. at any time, and this is independent of the distance the leader falls if there is no intermediate protection. A 6 foot fall on the belayer without any intermediate protection produces this force, but so does a 60 foot fall under the same conditions.
3. Intermediate protection is more important in the first half of a pitch than in the second half. One can categorically state that the first runner after the belay is one of the most important on any pitch.
4. If it is at all possible the belays should be made after a crux move rather than before.

Editors note: When the length of rope in the system is small, anything other than an absolutely static belay will greatly reduce the forces that occur. It should be noted that one of the criteria for acceptance of a rope by the UIAA is that the impact force produced by an 176 lb. weight with a fall factor equal to 1.78, does not exceed 2646 lbs. The curves in the above graph were obtained using a rope whose impact force was less than 2200 lbs for this fall factor.

COMMENTARY

I'd like to dust to dust off some old issues: public relations, training safety. These issues are chestnuts for sure. Each is discussed annually and filed away.

We've ostriched these issues long enough. The Section has reached a maturity in terms of size, competence, and membership that it can undertake an effective public stance in training, public relations, and safety. In the past the membership has balked at going public in these areas as it might bring more people into climbing, be too demanding on the membership, etc. The Section was inclined not to get involved.

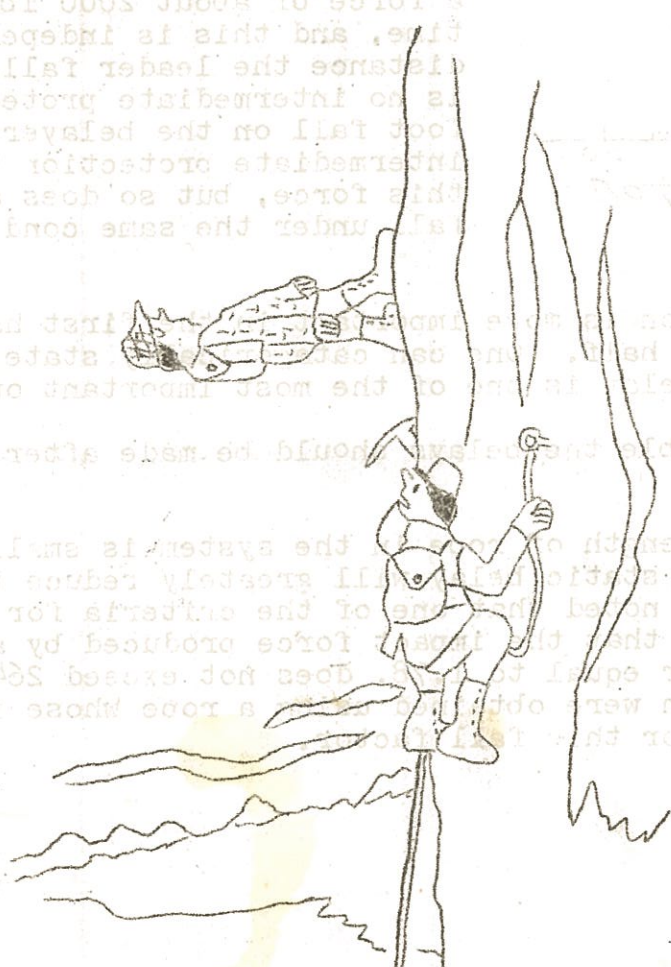
With the tremendous increase in climbing it is no longer a question of whether or not we are inclined to go public. If climbing as we enjoy it today - safe, unregulated, and free - is to survive, we should commit ourselves to doing something to preserve it. (Note: Nary a word, whisper, or breath of suggesting that we bring more people into the sport.)

There are a lot of people around these days who are trying out climbing with absolutely no idea of what they are doing. My thought is that they should at least have the opportunity to survive a first exposure to it. If any of you doubt the validity of some sort of program to at least introduce safe climbing techniques, cruise along Carderock any Sunday and observe the wild, wonderful, ingenious methods that people can concoct for riggings, seat slings, and belays. It's enough to radicalize a fatalist to action.

I have in mind to carry out an information program in cooperation with the Park Service - displays at Great Falls and a knot display at Carderock. That's a low profile involvement. Secondly, I'd like to see the training program formalized and more Section members actively involved. Come to the Section meetings and express your ideas.

Sallie Greenwood

EDITORS COMMENT: Do these issues look familiar? The above article is taken from UP ROPE, March 1975. (UP ROPE is the newsletter of the Potomac Appalachian Trail Club, Mountaineering Section.)



(National Enquirer)

"No, no, Cranston! That's not how it's done!"