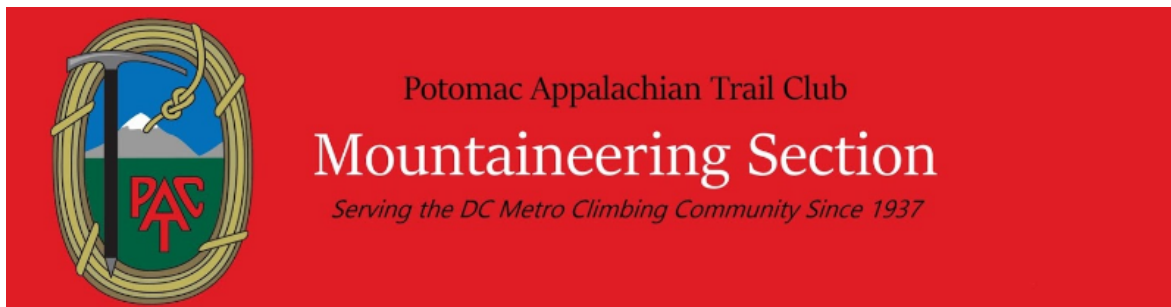


From: PATC-MS upropeeditor@157221150.mailchimpapp.com
Subject: May 2025 Newsletter
Date: May 11, 2025 at 11:12 PM
To: sacarr@YAHOO.COM

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May 2025

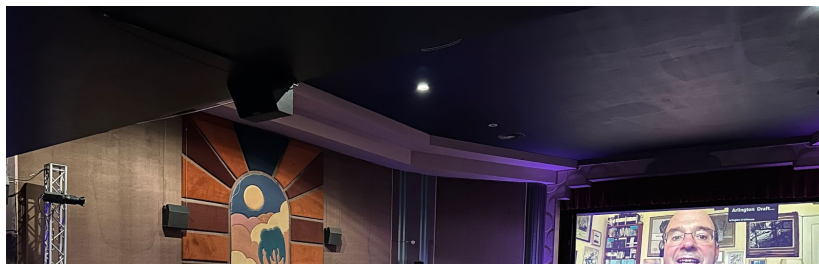
May the sends be with you

If you haven't checked the website or the whatsapp group in a while, then you are missing out. We've got events getting scheduled every week, both official climbs and partners just looking to get out in the amazing spring weather we have had so far. If you are planning to get out on your own and wouldn't mind a larger party, we encourage you to consider sharing your plans with the club or contact ExCom about turning it into an official club climb.

As always, climbing with the club is at your own risk. Trip leaders are not guides and climbing is inherently dangerous.

Safety First

On April 28th, the club held a joint screening of *The Volunteers: Mountain Rescue Brings Us Home* with the Shenandoah Mountain Rescue Group. This fantastic documentary follows two mountain rescue organizations—one near Seattle, Washington, the other in Tyrol, Austria—are linked by a surprising connection. Both groups have grown from a strong sense of place because before you can save a stranger, you first must love your home. Thanks to producers Mark Weiner and David Ritsher for the complementary screening and for fielding our questions live in theater. Another big thanks to the Arlington Draft House for hosting the screening. If you didn't make it out, it will be airing on PBS and streaming in the near future.





Update on discussions with PATC

Over the past few weeks, ExCom has had multiple rounds of discussions with PATC about the future of the section's relationship with the parent club. The input you provided ExCom through the survey has been invaluable in understanding the implications for our members. PATC is uncomfortable with their legal liability from vouching for the section given the level of control they have over the section's operations, in addition to the costs they believe they incur on the club's behalf. In order to preserve the club's current operations to the maximum extent, ExCom is currently exploring the costs and implications of becoming a sponsored non-profit under PATC or a fully independent non-profit. This includes consulting with other clubs on their experience. In either case, it seems likely that backend operations will be a little more complicated with additional fixed expenditures.

Survey recap

Demographics

- 71 members responded to the survey. Figures are all rounded and may not add to 100%
- 54% Male; 41% Female; 1% nonbinary; 3% prefer not to say
- 75% white; 14% Asian; 11% prefer not to say
- Climbing Experience (Years): Median: 10; Average: 14.6; Range: 1-60

Club Participation

- PATC Membership (Years): Median: 4; Average: 8.5; Range: 1-60
- 62% contributed to club events or operations
- 34% are PATC members; 63% are AAC members
 - PATC comments: Events, offerings (cabins), and focus limited to no overlap for most members.
 - AAC comments: Insurance, publications/events, and benefits (discounts) more closely align with members interests.
 - No one really knew about MAC and Shenandoah Mountain Rescue Group.

Priorities

- Nearly universal agreement that formal climbs, exposure to new parts of the sport, community network and educational offers were moderate to extremely high value with vast major indicating

network, and educational efforts were moderate to extremely high value, with vast major indicating high or extremely high value. Gear locker has highly split views with a plurality saying it is of moderate value.

- PATC say over club trips
 - 1(no control): 57%
 - 2-3: 25%
 - 4-6: 11%
 - 7-10 (complete control): 5%
- Near universal agreement that preserving trips, community, and technical skills were a priority for both full merging into PATC and decoupling from PATC.
 - Little consistency on trade-offs except for gear locker.
 - Primary impact of the club on experience with the sport has been connecting with the local community and getting outdoors.
- Liability insurance may be important to the community. Only 29% would be willing to organize trips for the club without the insurance; 43% are unsure; 28% won't organize without insurance.
- If costs go up, a sizable plurality members think that club operations would be worth up to \$50, regardless of if part of PATC or if incorporated separately. However, the club would lose between 27% and 57% of the members if forced to pay the full PATC membership on top of the club's fee.



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