



Photo by Harold Lalos

TERRAPIN TRAIL CLUB members practice the mountaineering trick of "rappeling" down the side of Old Rag mountain on the club's first outing of the year last Saturday. The club used a trail labeled "for experienced climbers only" by Park Service officials.

Terp trail club successfully completes 'Old Rag' climb

Old Rag mountain, with trails rated by the National Park Service as "Difficult, for experienced hikers only" was the site for the Terrapin Trail Club's annual hike last Saturday. The annual hike has, "More or less been a tradition of the club since World War Two, said Barry Shute, president of the club.

Thirty members of the club began the six mile hike at about 11 a.m.. By 2 p.m. the club, plus an assorted number of stragglers reached the top of the mountain and the half-way-point of the hike.

John Locke, the first man down, said something to the effect that,

"It is my profound wish that this aged rope does not separate during my descent," just before jumping off. (John's statement was altered somewhat) A dozen more rappels were made by the experienced climbers, much to the amusement of those watching.

Some of the non-climbers in the club showed an interest in rappeling. A twenty-foot rappel was set-up for the beginners. Some of the beginners graduated and went on to do the longer rappel. There were no injuries except for an occasional rope burn and maybe a rather hard bounce here and there.

The downhill hike was accomplished with no problems. The end results of the hike were a group of tired people with sore feet and maybe here and there someone who felt a real sense of