



## AAC Publications

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### **Falls on Rock (7), Rappel Errors (4), Poor Position (3), Exceeding Abilities (3), Inadquate Protection, No Helmet, No Helmets**

New York, Mohonk Preserve, Shawangunks

Fifteen reports from the Gunks were submitted for 2012, not including the previous incident. There was only one fatality, on April 29, when the anchor system at the top of Easy Keyhole (5.2) failed as Stephanie Prezant (22) was about to be lowered. When she weighted the system—six or so slings around a tree—it came away. (No details as to why or how.) She fell 20 feet and struck her head. She was not wearing a helmet. The other rappel errors were attributed to 1) one end of the rappel rope slipping through the device, 2) a simul-rappel in which the weights of the rappellers were uneven, and 3) “an error in the rappel set-up” that resulted in a ground fall and fractures. The average age of the climbers was 31, and the average degree of difficulty of the climbs was 5.6. One man (50) suffered cardiac arrest while he was climbing, resulting in his death following CPR and a litter carry-out. This unfortunate incident is not counted as a climbing accident. (Source: From reports submitted by Mohonk Preserve and Jeremiah Horrigan in a local newspaper.)

## Images

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