

# **The Arizona** **MOUNTAINEER**

**October 2007**



AMC Members at the 2007 Grand Canyon Cleanup



# The Arizona Mountaineering Club

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**Meetings:** The **October** member meeting location is:  
Phoenix Country Day School  
3901 E. Stanford Drive  
Paradise Valley, AZ 85253. , AZ 85004 at 7:00 p.m. See  
calendar for day/date.

**Board Meetings:** Board meetings are open to all  
members and are held two Mondays prior to the Club  
meeting.

**Dues:** Dues cover January through December. A single  
membership is \$30.00 per year: \$35.00 for a family.  
Those joining after June 30 pay \$15 or \$18. Members  
joining after October 31 who pay for a full year will  
have dues credited through the end of the following year.  
Dues must be sent to:

AMC Membership Committee  
6519 W. Aire Libre Ave.  
Glendale, AZ 85306

**Schools:** The AMC conducts several rock climbing,  
mountaineering and other outdoor skills schools each  
year. Browse the AMC website for information on  
schedules and classes.

## For More Information:

### Email:

president@amcaz.org  
board@amcaz.org

### Websites:

[www.amcaz.org](http://www.amcaz.org)

### Mail:

Arizona Mountaineering Club  
4340 E. Indian School Rd., Ste 21-164  
Phoenix, AZ 85018

## Board of Directors:

President ..... John Keedy .....623-412-1452  
Vice-President ..... Bill Fallon.....602-996-9790  
Secretary ..... Erik Filsinger.....480-314-1089  
Treasurer..... Clay Vollmer .....602-595-7266  
Director..... Dan Beatty .....480-917-7795  
Director..... Danny Gonzales ..602-550-8371  
Director..... Justin Iske.....480-225-7739  
Director..... Sheri Kenly.....602-799-1288  
Director..... Dave McClintic ...480-607-0890

## Committees:

Archivist ..... Jef Sloat .....602-316-1899  
Classification ..... Nancy Birdwell ...480-821-1932  
Elections ..... Dave Van Hook...602-790-6283  
Equipment Rental .... Erik Filsinger.....480-314-1089  
Email ..... Robert England...480-688-5412  
Land Advocacy ..... Erik Filsinger.....480-314-1089  
Librarian ..... Richard Kocher ...480-966-5568  
Membership..... Rogil Schroeter....623-512-8465  
Mountaineering ..... Erik Filsinger.....480-314-1089  
..... Bruce McHenry ...602-952-1379  
Newsletter..... Robert England...480-688-5412  
Outings ..... Frank Vers .....480-947-9435  
Programs..... Sheri Kenly.....602-799-1288  
Public Relations..... Open  
Training & Schools.. Bill Fallon.....602-996-9790  
..... Clay Vollmer .....602-595-7266  
Basic Class ..... Bill Fallon.....602-996-9790  
Anchors Class ..... Justin York .....480-229-8660  
Lead Class ..... Mike Knarzer .....602-751-1701  
T-shirts..... Sally Borg.....480-425-9689  
WebSite ..... Kirra ....webadmin@amcaz.org  
T-shirts..... Sally Larimer.....480-425-9689  
Website..... Kirra .... webadmin@amcaz.org

**The AMC Land Advocacy Committee:** The Committee works by itself and with the national Access Fund to  
maintain public access to climbing areas. If you know of areas that are threatened with closures or climbing restrictions,  
please notify the Land Advocacy representative Erik Filsinger, 480-314-1089.

**The Access Fund:** This is a national, non-profit, climber's organization that works to maintain access to climbing  
areas nationwide. Climbers can join The Access Fund by mailing an annual, tax-deductible donation of \$35 or more to:  
The Access Fund, P.O. Box 17010, Boulder, CO 80308, or calling 888-8MEMBER or giving it to the AMC Club  
Treasurer to be sent to The Access Fund in your name. A donation of \$35 or more is needed to receive *Vertical Times*,  
The Access Fund newsletter. One can also join electronically at:

[https://www.accessfund.org/secure/joinnow/join\\_indiv.php](https://www.accessfund.org/secure/joinnow/join_indiv.php) or at <https://accessfund.org/join/indiv.php>.



## This Month in the AMC

Who does what, Addresses, Phone Numbers ...	2
Hot Stuff, Library, Birthdays, News Letter Info .....	3
Treasurer's Report, Discounts, Rentals .....	4
New Member, Rhino Rigging, AMC Board Minutes ..	5
Barney Springs Canyon.....	7
Grand Canyon Cleanup .....	10
We Can Stop the Land Exchange at Oak Flat .....	13
Basic School Information.....	15
AZ Cliff Hanger Ad .....	16
Calendar of Events .....	17
Outing Leaders .....	18
October Calendar.....	19

# HOT STUFF !!!

*How you can save  
Queen Creek  
climbing:  
See story on  
page 13.*

## Newsletter

The *Arizona Mountaineer* is published monthly by the AMC. Members are encouraged to submit articles and photos about their climbing- or mountaineering-related activities. Submit items for publication (subject to approval) to AMC Editor, 2267 W Periwinkle Way, Chandler, AZ 85248 or through email to [azmountaineer@amcaz.org](mailto:azmountaineer@amcaz.org). Prints are preferred over slides. Digital photos should preferably be in JPG format and 300 dpi. Articles can be in any standard word processing format. For more info call or write the editor at (480)-688-5412, [robert\\_england2@yahoo.com](mailto:robert_england2@yahoo.com).

**Advertising** in the *Arizona Mountaineer* is accepted, subject to approval, at the following rates. Personal ads are free to members. Business ads are \$5.00 for a business card, \$10.00 for half page, \$20.00 for full page, and \$25.00 for inserts.

## Library

You must be an AMC member; I. e., your name must be on the most current membership list.

The circulation period is one month. Materials are due at the next general club meeting. The overdue fine is \$2 per title per month. Please contact the librarian if unable to return your books and tapes.

The circulation limit is three titles per person. One of these may be a videotape, for which a \$50 deposit is required. Each guidebook requires a \$25 deposit.

## November Newsletter Deadline Wednesday - October 17

## OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Deke Joralmon 2, Tracy Sloat 6, James Kerr 7, Kim Petersen 7, Tricia Rudloff 7, George Vadasz 7, Kelly Trainor 8, Kevin Stevens 9, Kelly Lofgreen 10, Stephen Norman 10, Kathi Reichert 10, Rogil Schroeter 12, Linda Locke 14, Karl Anderson 15, Dominic Mancini 16, Tyler Raspiller 16, Samuel Garnett 17, Kevin Kriegel 18, Bill Jay 19, Brian O'Connor 19, Jeffery Nagel 20, David Van Hook 23, Cyd Manning 24, Howard Zaretsky 24, Aaron Locander 28, Barb Berkley 29, Jeff Hatfield 29, Kelley Purcell 30



## Discount Directory

The following merchants currently offer a discount to AMC members:

**Arizona Hiking Shack**—11645 N. Cave Creek Rd., Phoenix, AZ 85020, (602) 944-7723. Show your AMC membership card and get a 10% discount.

**AZ on the Rocks Gym** — 16447 N. 91st St., Scottsdale, AZ 85260. 480-502-9777. 10% off membership.

**Phoenix Rock Gym**—1353 E. University, Tempe, AZ 85281. 480-921-8322. 10% off membership.

**AZ Cliffhanger** - at the Phoenix Rock Gym. 480-642-9507. 10% off merchandise.

**Solid Rock Gym** — 23620 N. 20th Dr, Phoenix, AZ 85027 (623) 587-7625 10% off membership.

## Rental Equipment

### EQUIPMENT ..... Qty \$Dep 1-3day ....4-7day

MSR Alpine snowshoes .....	5...	\$32.....	10.....	16
Ice Crampons.....	5...	\$26.....	8.....	13
Ice axes (70 cm) .....	6...	\$16.....	5.....	8
Ice axes (90 cm) .....	5...	\$14.....	5.....	7
Snow shovel .....	1....	\$8.....	3.....	4
PortaLedge.....	1.	\$100.....	30.....	50
Climbing shoes.....	Various sizes			Call

### **Equipment Rental Policy:**

-All equipment rentals shall be only to current AMC members.

-AMC members renting equipment shall contact the Rental Committee Chair and arrange a time for pick-up and drop-off of rentals.

-Rental rates shall be as published in the AMC Newsletter.

-Two checks shall be collected from the renter.

-The first being for the rental amount. It will be placed into AMC accounts.

-The second check shall be a deposit held against the return of the item. It will be held and given back to the renter upon return of the equipment.

-If the return is not timely, is damaged, or is lost, the second check shall be held against the late amounts due or against any replacement or repair required.

-The AMC Member renting the equipment shall be expected to replace any lost or damaged equipment.

-An AMC rental form (found under the Forms section of the website) will be used and will identify the name and contact information of the renter, the items rented, the rent due, as well as the replacement cost, along with statements indicating the renter's responsibilities for returning or replacing the items.

-**For Shoes** - Call Linda Locke (602) 997-4235.

-**For everything else**, call Erik Filsinger (480) 314-1089.

## Treasurer's Report

### **Arizona Mountaineering Club Income Statement Period Ended July 31, 2007**

#### **INCOME**

Advertising.....	145.00
Admin (holding TRSM deposits).....	700.00
Admin (holding Access Fund raffle \$) .....	185.00
Advertising.....	155.00
Dues 2007 .....	5,873.00
Interest.....	313.85
T-Shirts (AMC).....	18.00
Mountaineering Schools .....	210.00
Rental Equipment.....	50.00
T&S Schools Rental Income.....	80.00
AARS Spring .....	1,650.00
Basic Spring .....	3,515.00
Lead Spring.....	675.00
Other .....	270.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME.....</b>	<b>13,694.85</b>

#### **EXPENSES**

Admin (paid Access Fund raffle \$).....	185.00
Admin .....	753.74
Land Advocacy .....	24.32
Mountaineering.....	565.97
Newsletter .....	1,519.76
Outings.....	140.00
Outing Leaders.....	105.40
Programs Monthly Meeting .....	2,277.86
Training.....	3,643.78
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES.....</b>	<b>9,215.83</b>

**OVERALL TOTAL..... 4,479.02**

#### **ACCOUNT BALANCES**

Checking (on 7/31/2007) .....	14,665.95
CD Account (on 3/17/2007).....	10,812.97
<b>TOTAL CASH ASSETS.....</b>	<b>25,478.92</b>

AMC Outing Gear..... 2,147.40

**OVERALL TOTAL ..... 27,626.32**

## **NEW MEMBERS - Climbers - Please Welcome:**

Larry Grant  
Chip Gresham  
Monika Jankowski  
Devon Kohen  
Cyd Manning  
Barry McCulley

Kathy McCulley  
Brian O'Connor  
Kelley Purcell  
Jan Raven  
Denise Stravia  
Dale Wiggins



[www.rhinorigging.com](http://www.rhinorigging.com)

## **Rhino Rigging is looking for Experienced Climbers!**

Rhino Rigging is looking for fit and experienced climbers for part time "high work" and "rope access" work in the Phoenix area.

The work is part time and we will provide all necessary training.

Contact Rhino Rigging @ 480-894-6131  
Ask for Russ Keith or John Mudd.

## **AMC Board Meeting Minutes**

**Board Meeting of the Arizona Mountaineering Club - Minutes – September 10, 2007**

### **Board members present**

John Keedy, Clay Vollmer, Erik Filsinger, Sheri Kenly, Bill Fallon, Dan Beatty, Danny Gonzales, and Dave McClintic

### **Members present**

David Cameron, Robert England, Grant Loper

### **Call to Order**

A Quorum being present, the Meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Keedy.

Minutes of the June 11, 2007 board meeting were reviewed and approved.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Present by Clay Vollmer. Motion made, seconded, and voted for approval.

### **President's Report**

John Keedy noted that the change in the By-Laws regarding Board member attendance was passed at the August member meeting.

*(Continued on page 6)*



# **AMC Board Meeting Minutes (continued)**

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*(Continued from page 5)*

## **Committee Reports:**

### **Programs**

Sheri Kenly reviewed several speakers she is attempting to line up over the next several months.

### **T&S**

Bill Fallon reported on the progress of the Basic, Anchors and Lead schools for this fall. Grant Loper reviewed the AMGA TRSM course. Erik and Clay will review costs and follow-up items. It was moved, seconded and approved for the Outing Leaders to receive First Aid training and for the AMC to fund an instructor. John and Erik will follow-up and arrange. If possible, Erik will offer the Self-Rescue seminar again this fall.

### **Land Advocacy**

Erik Filsinger gave an update on the climbing status in the McDowell Sonoran Preserve. He presented the case for a new AMC position on Queen Creek. It was moved, second and approved (unanimously) that the AMC formally shifts its official policy stance on Queen Creek from neutral to opposition to the land exchange legislation in its current form. John and Erik will be the sole spokespeople for the AMC on Queen Creek issues and will use others as necessary to implement the new strategy as outlined in Erik's presentation.

### **Membership: 326**

### **Mountaineering**

Erik Filsinger reported that Southwest Adventures is lined up to offer a basic ice climbing class again in the Spring. The Board supported that news. Erik also indicated that he will try to offer the annual Alpine Rock seminar this fall.

### **Old Business**

#### **Grand Canyon Clean-Up**

Event organizer Clay Vollmer led a discussion about the activities for the coming event.

#### **Queen Creek Clean-Up and Climb**

John Keedy solicited input and ideas, as well as outlining the current arrangements for the event.

### **Email policy**

Dan Beatty will present his draft policy at a future meeting.

### **New Business:**

#### **Elections**

A notice of the vacant board seat was made through official AMC communication channels and was noticed at the August member meeting. The By-Laws call for the position to be filled through a process of nominations from the floor at the next Member meeting (September) at which time a vote will be taken.

#### **Questionnaire to former members**

Grant and Clay will prepare a questionnaire to help the Board understand the motivations of former members for leaving the club and what might be sufficiently attractive to get them to return. Robert will send them a copy of Wally's questionnaire to current members from several years ago.

#### **Build the club from within**

There was a discussion concerning attempting to have current members have their friends join the AMC as a way of building our membership from within.

#### **Scout rock climbing lecture**

Robert England and Dave McClintic will work with Dave Cameron to present a rock climbing lecture to a local Boy Scout troop.

#### **Adopt-a-Crag**

Access Fund contact Erik Filsinger will follow-up with the City of Scottsdale about holding the event in the Preserve or at Pinnacle Peak Park. He will work with John Keedy as necessary.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.



## Barney Springs Canyon

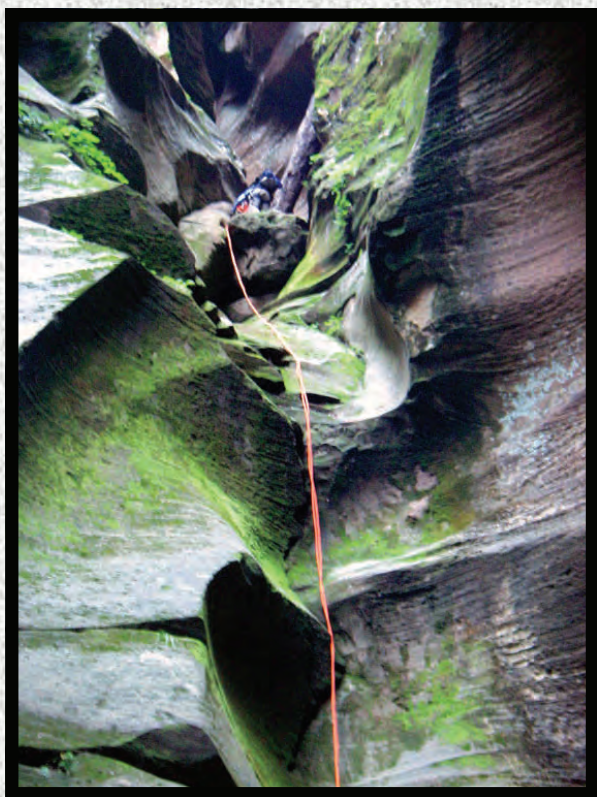
Barney Spring Canyon is a gorgeous and rugged tributary to the West Fork of Oak Creek, near Sedona. With high mossy sandstone walls, 12 rappels, and ending with a 6 mile jaunt through lovely Oak Creek, this canyon represents an irresistible adventure. On September 8, Rogil Schroeter, Deke Joralmon, Nick Hoffman and I answered the call.

We had the benefit of detailed (and sometimes contradicting) beta from others who have hiked this canyon, telling us to expect a long day, numerous rappels and possibly some very cold swims. Our trip turned out a little different from any of the reports of hikers before us. At points in this narrative, gentle reader, you may become concerned about our safety-mindedness. I would like to take this opportunity to remind you, the armchair canyoneer, that hindsight is 20/20!

We arrived the evening prior to the hike, set up our shuttle and camped at the trailhead in a grassy clearing sheltered on all sides by dense pine forest. At 4:30 Saturday morning, we awoke in the dark, dressed and broke down our campsite. Our exploits officially began at 6:00 AM, when we set off at a brisk pace through the chilly forest toward the orange sunrise glittering and streaking through the trees. The ground was springy beneath our feet as we made our way through patches of vibrant green ferns. After pausing to review Deke's topo map, we entered a banal-looking drainage representing the start of Barney Spring Canyon. As we followed this drainage, the level terrain became increasingly rugged and the canyon walls began to close in. Soon, we were ducking under fallen logs and clambering over boulders, weaving from one side of the drainage to the other, enjoying the scenery and the pungent scent of pine and soil until bright red slings around a tree on canyon left signaled the first rappel.

From the top, this rappel appeared down-climbable, but we decided to rap it anyway, because the previous canyoneering party's anchor was still serviceable. I dug one of the shorter ropes out of my pack to set it up, and we all donned our harnesses. The start was awkward but I was rewarded with a close-up view of the bright green mossy rock as I descended. As soon as I reached the ground, I extracted another rope from my pack and began to set up the next rappel, about 20 feet away, while the rest of the party followed. When we were all down, I retrieved the rope from the first rappel while Rogil finished setting up the next one and the others rappelled. This may sound like a disorganized system, but it allowed us to move quickly through the rappels.

The rappels in Barney Spring occur in rapid succession, and many are within sight of each other. This allowed for quick and efficient setup and teardown. Another factor that allowed us to move rapidly through the canyon was that the anchors left by a previous canyoneering party were all in excellent condition and well-staged at the top of each rappel. Through the whole canyon we only sacrificed our own equipment for one of the twelve rappels!



110 Foot Rappel

A few rappels later, a strong odor of wet decay signaled the first pool of the day. Within minutes, we came upon it. A smooth chute led to a 6-foot drop into dark, murky water of unknown depth. We discussed whether or not to don our wetsuits and decided to see what we were in for before expending the effort to change clothes. Nick set up a hand line to ease his entry into the water and took the plunge first. I heard his pack scraping against the side of the chute and a dull splash, followed by a chuckle. The water was only knee deep.

This pool was followed promptly by a rappel into a stagnant, debris-filled pool with steep, slippery sides. I rappelled into the water first and was able to wade most of the way to the edge of the pool. I only had to swim two strokes, at the very edge. I negotiated the slick exit from the pool through an elegant combination of belly flopping, flailing and creative cursing as Rogil hurriedly rappelled into the pool, ready to help in case I needed a boost.

Deke and Nick crossed the pool, I repacked the rope, and our dripping, cold, malodorous group rounded the corner to the next obstacle. The sheer sandstone walls gave way to steep, vegetated slopes on either side, replete with loose debris. We clambered over large, flat boulders in the canyon bottom, and off in the distance we could see warm sunshine illuminating distant canyon walls. Immediately in front of us lay a 20-foot chute ending in a 10-foot drop-off into a large cylindrical pothole, the sides of which were nearly featureless, worn smooth by centuries of water. It was 11:30 AM, and after 10 awkward-starting rappels, we had reached the canyon's most notable feature.

Keeper potholes are a challenging and exciting part of canyoneering.

*(Continued on page 8)*



## Barney Springs Canyon (continued)

*(Continued from page 7)*

We had extensive beta on this feature and knew that we would rappel about 30 feet into it and negotiate the 15-foot escape on the other side. We knew that the narrow lip on the far side of the pothole overlooked a 50-foot rappel. Our excitement was tangible. We were ahead of schedule, the sun was overhead and the escape possibilities for this pothole seemed nearly endless.

Rogil and Deke rappelled into the pothole, eager to try out their numerous pothole escape toys and tricks on this hotly anticipated obstacle. Nick and I remained at the top of the rappel, in case they needed help from above. We sat down next to the anchor at the top of the chute, listened to our companions discuss their problem-solving ideas, and occasionally chimed in with little success. We couldn't see them, on the far side of the pothole, and their voices bounced and echoed eerily off the featureless rock walls.

The first course of action was quickly evident for our compadres in the pothole. A slim vertical crack, the only feature permeating the wall's smooth surface, provided a promising placement for the inaugural usage of Deke's new bat-hooks and etriers. As Deke ascended the webbing loops, I whispered to Nick, "We'll be out of here by noon." He grinned and started to nod, and was interrupted by a loud pop and thud from below.

As Deke ascended the etriers, the rock crumbled and he fell onto the slippery wet rocks under the crack. Rogil yelled to us that he had landed on his feet and wasn't hurt. But unfortunately, a necessary placement for our pothole escape was no longer viable. And even worse, no one thought to purchase an REI jetpack for use in this canyon.

After verifying that the hooks could no longer be placed in the crack, Deke hoisted Rogil up on his shoulders and she struggled in vain to find hand and foot holds on the smooth, featureless walls. When that didn't work, they secured their packs to Rogil using a 60 ft rope and attempted to throw them over the lip of the pothole, and down the 50 foot drop on the other side, to serve as counter-weight to help her climb out. The packs easily reached the lip but lay there stubbornly, resisting even the most fevered prodding from Deke's walking stick, which was just too short. Deke hollered up at Nick and me to search for a longer pole they could use to push the packs over the edge.



Deke and Rogil



Nick

By this point, the bottom of the pothole was littered with what looked like multicolored spaghetti. In the past 2 hours, Deke and Rogil had deployed ropes of various lengths and colors, webbing, etriers, cordlettes and canyon gear of all sorts.

We scanned the debris-covered slopes for a pole that would be long enough to push the packs over the edge, yet small enough to be lifted and used by one person. A few minutes of searching proved unfruitful, but upon second look, my eye lighted on another promising item: a fallen tree that looked just the right size to climb out of a pothole on. I scrambled up the slope to get a closer look.

The tree was about 20 feet long. It was smooth, the bark having fallen off long ago, but it was solid, not rotten, and had features to climb on. Nick bellowed down to Deke and Rogil, "We can't find a pole but we can send you a tree if you want it." After a lengthy pause, I heard a dubious, "Yeah, I guess."

*(Continued on page 9)*



## Barney Springs Canyon (continued)

*(Continued from page 8)*

I began to dislodge the tree from the debris around it and work loose the end that was still buried in the dirt, the roots having long since rotted away. After some tribulation and cursing, I freed it from the surly bonds of vines and dirt, yelled a warning to Nick and pushed the tree down the slope, expecting it to roll downhill with a series of mighty crashes.

The damn tree moved all of three feet before the other end lodged itself in the roots of some bushes, and thus began the tree's comically awkward journey to the canyon bottom. I ran from end to end, alternately dislodging each end of the tree, lifting them over various obstacles and setting it in motion, only to have it stop again a few feet later.

Finally, the tree and I reached the flat boulders on the canyon bottom. Nick and I each grabbed an end and staggered over to the edge of the chute leading to the pothole. We moved the rope out of the way, and Nick called down to Deke and Rogil to warn them that the tree was coming. We spent a couple minutes discussing where the tree was likely to land and they positioned themselves in the places least likely to result in skewering and/or impaling.

As we positioned the log at the top of the chute, Deke whispered to Rogil, "It's been nice knowing you." With one final grunt of effort, Nick and I pushed the log over the edge and released it. It slid sluggishly down the chute out of our

reach. We watched it with a mixture of pride and apprehension, expecting to see it slide straight down the chute and plant itself in the gravel at the bottom of the rappel. Unfortunately (to paraphrase my grandmother's favorite saying), log moves in mysterious ways.

The tree picked up speed rapidly as it made its way down the chute towards our dear friends. When it reached the end of the chute, it didn't fly straight out and hit the ground as expected. Instead, it banked off the side of the chute and headed canyon left, sailing directly over Deke, who was safely hidden under the chute, with incredible velocity. The log slammed into the left side of the pothole with a thunderous crash that echoed up the steep walls, and the canyon fell silent. We waited to hear something, anything from the pothole. For a moment, I couldn't breathe. Even the breeze stopped blowing.

From below, we heard a faint "Thank you...Jesus." Our sense of relief was electric and we laughed for what seemed like forever.

After much discussion and a little swearing, Deke and Rogil managed to move the log to the far end of the pothole and tip it against the wall. Rogil climbed up on the log and inched up to the lip of the pothole with the help of a well-placed sling. Deke followed easily and began setting up his 200' rope on the next rappel from a bolt above the lip of the pothole.

When we all reached the bottom of the next rappel, we took a short break to revel in our excitement at having escaped such a formidable obstacle, and swapped stories of the log's momentous descent from our different vantage points.

After the final rappel, it was perhaps a half-hour of rock hopping, ducking under fallen logs and dreadful horrible awful log-related puns before we reached the confluence of Barney Spring Canyon and Oak Creek. We stopped briefly to pump clear, cold water from the creek to replenish our supplies before setting off on the final 6 miles through scenic West Fork of Oak Creek back to our shuttle vehicle.

All in all, Barney Spring was an exciting and memorable canyon. Thank you to Deke, Rogil and Nick for a wonderful canyoneering adventure!

Contributed by Eve Hoffman



Deke



## Grand Canyon Cleanup

On Saturday, September 15, the Arizona Mountaineering Club participated in their annual Over-the-Edge On-Rappel Grand Canyon Trash Pickup. For the unfamiliar, our club members spend most of one day picking up trash and other items found over the rail in two large areas: the Grand Canyon Village area and the sidewalks on either side of East and West Mather Points.

Because of the danger of loose surfaces and precipitous drops, club members set individual anchors and lower themselves on ropes with special rappel setups that allow them to descent slowly while keeping both hands free for trash and to negotiate rocks, cactus, trees, etc. This “trash rappel” setup was taught beforehand during a special class conducted by Outing Leader Robert England about a week before the Grand Canyon event.

During Saturday’s pickup, Robert and John Keedy, checked the anchor and rappel setups for everyone who went over the edge at the Mather Point sites and Dave Cameron and Rogil Schroeter checked everyone at the Grand Canyon Village.

Because of the relative absence of trash at E. Mather Point and many fewer coins on the limestone blocks beyond the rail, a decision was made to maximize our impact by concentrating on sidewalk areas, to remove the obvious and denser accumulations of trash. The club responded heroically by moving quickly and steadily from rappel point to rappel point along the sidewalk from a point about 100 yards east of E. Mather Pt. to about 50 yards west of W. Mather Point. Working without a break or lunch, some members went over the edge in 7 different locations.

A smaller group, under the direction of Rogil Schroeter, worked an equally large area in the Grand Canyon Village area East of Hopi House down to and including the Bright Angel Trailhead as well as an especially trashy area around Kolb House. Objects were found such as a glow-in-the-dark pacifier, a pearl earring and a child’s toy llama made out of electrical twist-ties, not much unlike the child’s reed horse, which has a minor role in the Grand Canyon IMAX film.

All together, the AMC made an extraordinary impact, over a wide area, picking up trash in the highest traffic areas of the largest national park in the United States. This impact will go unnoticed by the 6 million visitors who will walk by areas cleaned by the AMC over the next year. But the National Park Service Rangers, and the volunteer NPS VIP hosts, who helped this year with crowd control and communicating with AMC’rs over the edge, will know. They appreciate our otherwise unnoticed contribution.

Many thanks go to Frances Everett, Dylan Downhill, Susanne Monthofer, Traci Alleto, Keith Waldrup, Patti Waldrup, Nat Schultz, Mark Christiani, Grant Loper, Elisa Loper, Ron Auerbach, Danny Gonzales, Gary Rector, Kim Petersen, David Everett, David McClintic, Sam Garnett and Sam Torres (Superstitions Search and Rescue). Please forgive me if I left anyone out.

On Saturday night, after a shower and a break, we headed out to Shoshone Point for barbeque and the special treats that were brought to share. The high point for me is always visiting with my special friends during one of those wonderful Shoshone Point sunsets. If you have ever been there for sunset, you know what I mean.

On Sunday, our group headed just up from the bus stop near the Bright Angel Trailhead to set 5.7-5.10 top ropes in two amphitheatres high up in the Kaibab Limestone, with a nice view of the Bright Angel Trail and the Grand Canyon Village area. Most folks got in 3-4 routes before a couple of early afternoon showers wetted the rock and signaled a time to go home.

My special thanks go to Rogil Schroeter, Dave Cameron, Robert England and John Keedy who helped our members stay safe.

Clay Vollmer - 2007 Grand Canyon Coordinator

Clay confers with Ranger Jocelyn before  
the Trash Rappel begins





## Grand Canyon Cleanup (continued)



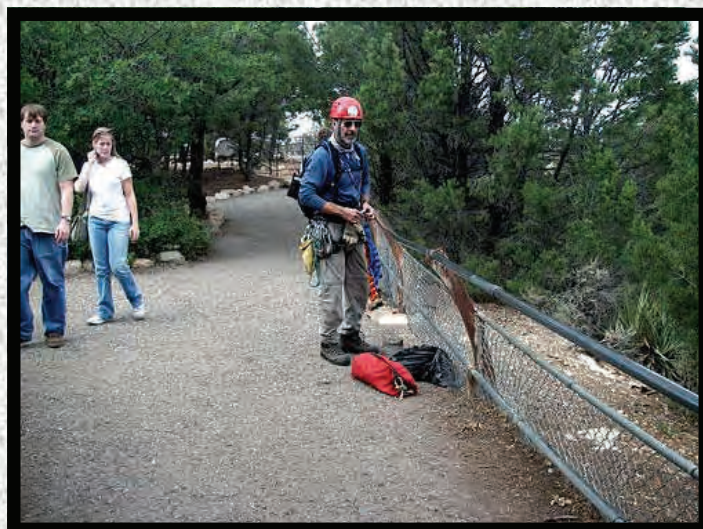
Dave negotiates the steep terrain and brush to clean the Canyon walkways.

Dave McClintock assists Kim Peterson as she goes over the edge.



Francis helps to marshal club gear while climbers are over the side

Ron Auerbach prepares to go over the edge under the curious gaze of passing tourists.





## Grand Canyon Cleanup (continued)



Resting up for the big event!



Grant and Elisa - Ready to Rap!



Grant (above) and Elisa (below)  
Over the edge



Suzanne models a cowboy hat saved from  
A precipitous fate "over the edge."



## **We Can Stop the Land Exchange at Oak Flat**

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After a few years of carefully following the course of events and analyzing the various policy choices, on September 10, 2007 the Board of Directors of the Arizona Mountaineering Club voted to oppose the SOUTHEAST ARIZONA LAND EXCHANGE AND CONSERVATION ACT OF 2007 (S.1862 - H.B.3301) introduced in the 110th Session of the United States Congress by Senator Kyl and Representative Pastor, respectively.

This Bill would give away federally protected recreation land to a foreign mining company from which the United States citizens do not receive royalties.

We feel that it is bad public policy to ever transfer ownership of federally protected recreation land to a foreign company where the results will be the loss of public enjoyment of hiking, horseback riding, bird watching, rock climbing, canyoneering and 4-wheel riding, but also potentially would engage in enormously risky and unforeseen environmental damage.

We do not feel that the proposed rock climbing state park is a suitable replacement for the 1,000's of rock climbing routes that will be forever lost and are also closer in distance to the Phoenix metroplex. For more background, cut and paste this link into your web browser: <http://www.amcaz.org/main/members.html>.

This link connects to the original bills, the Governor's letters mentioned below, and the supporting materials. It also has a form of a letter to help you compose your letter to the senators and representatives.

### **We have many concerns with the current legislation as submitted.**

We are seriously concerned about the environmental damage and lack of safeguards that Governor Napolitano details in her August 24, 2007 letter to Senator John Kyl and her letter to Rep. Pastor. We are opposed to mining that will destroy the surface of the land when other techniques should be used. Our Governor's serious environmental questions need to be addressed.

We are deeply concerned about the many issues raised by the San Carlos Apache community and the strong support they are receiving from so many other Native American communities in Arizona. [Link to Petition](#). We are also aware that Resolution needs to address a number of serious concerns voiced by the officials and residents of Superior, Arizona.

While we fully support the efforts of the State of Arizona to pursue a rock climbing park ("Tamo"), we do not support the idea that the proposed new climbing park is in any way a substitute or replacement for the 1,000's of rock climbing routes in the Queen Creek area that will be lost if this legislation passes. Climbing at Queen Creek is also within a very short & easy drive of the Phoenix metroplex whereas Tamo is much farther, about the same distance as Sedona, Tucson, & the Flagstaff climbing areas.

### **We feel that a careful analysis of the "Tamo" alternative reveals:**

Tamo is not a substitute. It is further away and not of comparable quality.

Tamo is public land already. We're only getting partial payment for a road.

Tamo costs will be much greater than the monies Resolution is putting up.

The Governor has raised several questions with regards to Tamo.

The AMC was never a party to the license agreement worked out between the Access Fund and Resolution Copper and in fact Resolution Copper has never contacted the AMC for its input. We have serious concerns about the substance of the License Agreement and feel that any climbing being discussed must entail permanent and full legal access. The license agreement is inherently temporary. It is unilaterally revocable by Resolution at any time.

We do not feel that any action should be taken on this new legislation until many of these valid concerns and issues are addressed and especially with the possible reform of the Mining Act of 1872 being discussed. We are in favor of the passing of H.R. 2262: The Hardrock Mining and Reclamation Act of 2007 with regards to the environmental safeguards of our lands.

In these efforts we are joining the considered opinions of long standing and respected organizations such as:

EARTHWORKS

Sierra Club

Maricopa Audubon Society

### **Action Steps to be Taken Immediately**

We urge members of the Arizona Mountaineering Club to write letters of protest to their congressional representatives



## **We Can Stop the Land Exchange at Oak Flat (continued)**

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*(Continued from page 13)*

and in particular to:

- Representative Pastor and Representative Grijalva
- Senator Kyl
- Governor Napolitano -- Thanking her for her courageous efforts to address very serious concerns

Their contact information is included below. If you are able, please also write to Senator McCain and to Representatives Harry Mitchell, Jeff Flake, and John Shadegg who co-sponsored the legislation.

The best letter is written by you in your own words referencing points such as listed above. Be professional and polite. There is an outline letter sample on the AMC website if you need a little help to get started.

Please send a copy to both John Keedy (president@amcaz.org) and Erik Filsinger (smorefil@aol.com) on any letter you send and any reply you receive. If you should decide to fax your letter, it's a good idea to also mail a hard copy.

The significant elected officials and their contact information:

### **Senators:**

The Honorable John Kyl  
2200 East Camelback, Suite # 120  
Phoenix, AZ. 85016-3455  
Phone: (602) 840-1891  
Fax: (602) 957-6838

The Honorable John McCain  
5353 North 16th Street, Suite 105  
Phoenix, AZ. 85016  
Phone: (602) 952-2410  
Fax: (602) 952-8702

### **Representatives**

The Honorable Ed Pastor  
411 North Central Avenue, Suite 150  
Phoenix, AZ 85004  
Phone: (602) 256-0551  
Fax: (602) 257-9103

The Honorable John Shadegg  
301 East Bethany Home Road, Suite C-178  
Phoenix, AZ 85012  
Phone: (602) 263-5300  
Fax: (602) 248-7733

The Honorable Jeff Flake  
1640 South Stapley, Suite 215  
Mesa, AZ 85204  
Phone: (480) 833-0092  
Fax: (480) 833-6314

The Honorable Raul Grijalva  
810 E. 22nd St., Suite 102  
Tucson, AZ 85713  
Phone: (520) 622-6788  
Fax: (520) 622-0198

The Honorable Harry Mitchell  
7201 East Camelback Road, Suite 335  
Scottsdale, AZ. 85251  
Phone: (480) 946-2411  
Fax: (480) 946-2446

**Make a Difference in the  
Future of Phoenix Climbing  
Write to Your  
Elected Officials Today!**



# Basic Rock Climbing School

## Arizona Mountaineering Club

Fall 2007

The Arizona Mountaineering Club (AMC) has been teaching basic rock climbing for over 40 years. We place maximum emphasis on safety and self-rescue. This is a beginning climbing class. We will teach you equipment care and usage, rope handling, climbing knots, belaying, rappelling, climbing techniques, and self-rescue. Enrollment fills up quickly, so don't delay; make a reservation to join us soon!

### Class schedule (this is 2-week class):

Oct 09	Tuesday	5:30 pm–10:00 pm	North Mountain Park
Oct 11	Thursday	6:00 pm–10:00 pm	North Mountain Park
Oct 13	Saturday	8:00 am–5:00 pm	To be determined
Oct 14	Sunday	8:00 am–5:00 pm	To be determined
Oct 16	Tuesday	6:00 pm–10:00 pm	Phoenix , Solid Rock Gym
Oct 18	Thursday	6:00 pm–10:00 pm	Phoenix , Solid Rock Gym
Oct 20	Saturday	all day	Various times, various places + Grad Party

\*North Mountain Park is located at Peoria and 7<sup>th</sup> St, 5 miles north of Camelback on 7<sup>th</sup> St. Turn west into the park and look for the orange traffic cones imprinted "AMC".

**Experience required:** None. Even if you have never climbed a tree before, this class is for you.

### **What is provided by the AMC:**

Technical climbing gear that will be used for the school (**and is yours to keep**): 1 belay/rappel device, 2 non-locking carabiners, 3 locking carabiners, 4 prusiks, one 5' sling (subject to change)

Harness and helmet provided free by the AMC for the duration of the class if needed

Basic climbing textbook

Instruction through all phases of the class

Discounts from local retailers on climbing gear

**Equipment recommended for the class:** You will wear a climbing harness at every class, so dress casually. Most sessions will be held outside, so watch the weather. Climbing shoes are recommended for the weekend sessions only. The AMC rents climbing shoes on a first-come, first-serve basis on the **second** night of class for \$10 for the class. We will discuss what to look for in a shoe on the first night of class.

**Paperwork:** You will be required to read, fill out and sign an AMC release of liability on the first night of class. Students under 18 must have the release signed by their parent or guardian (no students under 14 please; students 14-15 years of age must be accompanied by an older adult).

**Class fee:** **\$160** plus membership if not already a member (\$15 for an individual and \$18 for a family). Membership is good through Dec. 2007.

**Registration:** The class is limited to 40 students. To reserve a spot, send a check for \$160 + membership cost (see Class Fee above) made out to AMC Basic School. Include your clearly printed name, address and current phone number(s), plus an e-mail address would really be helpful. Mail to: AMC Basic School, 4325 E. Desert Trumpet Rd, Phoenix, AZ 85044. No credit cards accepted. If you have further questions, please call Dave Cameron at 480.706.1978 or email at amcbasicschool@gmail.com. (Please note: \$75 is a non-refundable deposit; the rest will be returned if you cancel. If someone else can be found to take your place, the entire \$160 will be refunded.)

**For more information:** Visit the Arizona Mountaineering Club website at [www.AzMountaineeringClub.org](http://www.AzMountaineeringClub.org).





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# OCTOBER ROPE SALE

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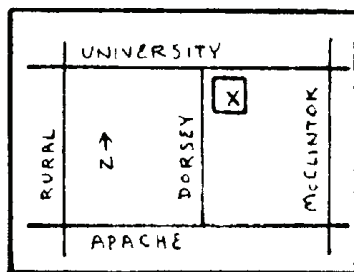
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TEMPE, AZ 85281

PH - 480-642-9507

FAX - 480-237-0095

OPEN  
WEEKDAYS  
4PM - 9PM



## Calendar of Events

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### AMC Outings

**Please note:** It is suggested that Outing participants donate gas money to the Outing Leader, and that carpoolers share the cost of gas for the driver. See footnotes below for other info about outings.

**Footnotes:** Car-pooling is optional on all outings and is not part of the outing. The outing begins at the trailhead designated by the Outing Leader and ends at the same place. Each participant should bring a First Aid kit. If you leave the outing, with or without the leader's permission, you are considered to be on your own until you rejoin the group. Each participant will be required to sign an AMC Activity Release Form at the beginning of the outing. Participation in AMC outings requires club membership. Outings vary in degree of danger. When you participate in an outing you should be both physically and mentally prepared and equipped with the appropriate gear. You should always be aware of the risks involved in outdoor activities and conduct yourselves accordingly. The Outing Leader is not responsible for your safety; you are. Please contact the Outing Leader before going on an outing, discussing your capabilities with the Outing Leader. You must be over 18 years of age to participate, or must be accompanied by a parent or responsible adult, and obtain prior consent from the Outing Leader. Those accompanying minors are responsible for the minor's safety.

**Oct 5-6-7. Tucson DeTour.** Hike, camp, and climb down south! Friday afternoon – drive and camp at Picacho Peak State Park . Saturday morning – hike Picacho Peak . Saturday afternoon – drive to Mt. Lemmon , camp at Rose Canyon . Sunday – climb at Gumby Wall. Fun top rope, single pitch 5.5 - 5.8 sport climbing on excellent rock. Come out and play one day or the whole weekend. Contact Bruce McHenry at [bamchenry@att.net](mailto:bamchenry@att.net). Limit 8 on the climb.

**Oct 6 The Monk.** For 2007 Lead school grads, add this Phoenix classic to your resume. Easy approach, two bolted climbs (the Headwall (5.0), The Monk (5.3/5.7)), and an airy rappel. Limit 4. Contact Robert England: [robert\\_england2@yahoo.com](mailto:robert_england2@yahoo.com).

**Oct 20 The Mace** 5.9, Limit 4. Frank Vers will lead this 14th annual outing to this classic Sedona climb. 4 Pitches plus the step across to the main summit. Sign the register and enjoy 360 degree views of Sedona. Do the jump across, (or Rap). You must have this climb on your resume!

*Group outings are intended to be social climbing experiences with no supervision. They may or may not be organized by an AMC Outing Leader. If they are organized by an AMC Outing Leader, the Leader will only be responsible for organizing the time, date, meeting places, and any necessary camping. The AMC Outing Leader may also set anchors, but will not be responsible for supervising any climbing activity or for monitoring the anchors they set. Participants are responsible for their own climbing activities, their own climbing partners, and for monitoring anchors, whether set by an AMC Outing Leader or not. Participants are also responsible for their own conduct and safety at the campsite and during any approaches to and from the climbing areas. If any AMC equipment is used for the outing, the participants using that equipment are responsible for checking the equipment before use and for using the equipment properly and in the safest manner possible. The campsite, where possible, may be reserved and paid for by the AMC. Parking may be first-come, first-served.*

### Billboard - Other Scheduled Events

Outings listed in this section are not AMC sanctioned outings. Any AMC member can list an event he or she is planning and which is open to other AMC members. The member does not have to be an approved AMC Outing Leader. If you wish to participate you should be physically and mentally prepared with the appropriate gear and should contact the member planning the outing. You are responsible for your own safety, not the person leading the outing. You should always be aware of the risks involved in outdoor activities and conduct yourself accordingly.

**Mondays** Solid Rock Gym at 6pm-8pm. Call Rogil (623)-512-8465 for info.

**Wednesdays** North Mountain hikes after work. Rogil Schroeter (623) 512-8465

(Continued on page 18)



## Calendar of Events

**Oct 6 Grand Canyon Half-Fast Death March.** Strenuous day-hike to the river and back.  
Contact Rogil@cox.net or call 623-512-8465

### Commercially Provided Training and Events

The events listed below are provided by commercial outfitters for the benefit of AMC members. They are not AMC Outings, nor are they led by AMC Outing Leaders, though they may be open only to AMC members. The commercial outfitter is solely responsible for all aspects of the outing, not AMC. While, in most cases, an AMC member may provide a service by AMC collecting the names of prospective participants and handling the logistics of out-of-town events, participants will sign up directly with the commercial outfitter.

### Become an AMC Outing Leader

General requirements for becoming an AMC outing leader:

- Be a member for at least one year
- Take the Basic, Anchors and Lead classes (or equivalents)
- Complete a basic first aid and CPR class (8 hours or more)
- Submit an application to the Classification Chairperson
- Apprentice on at least three outings with approved outing leaders
- Get recommendation from at least five current outing leaders (including those from apprentice outings)
- Be approved by the Board of Directors.

For more information, contact the Classification Chairperson, Nancy Birdwell at (480) 821-1932.

<u>Outing Leader</u>		<u>Contact Info</u>
Sally Borg.....	480-425-9689 .....	sallyborg@cox.net
Robert England.....	480-688-5412 .....	robert_england2@yahoo.com
Bill Fallon.....	602-996-9790 .....	bill.fallon@cox.net
Erik Filsinger.....	-----	smorefil@aol.com
Jason Garvin.....	480-734-6801 .....	beach_bum43@hotmail.com
Scott Hoffman .....	623-580-8909 .....	
Richard Horst.....	623-434-4769 .....	
John Keedy.....	623-412-1452 .....	
Mike Knarzer.....	602-751-1701 .....	getout@cox.net
Tim Lange .....	480-598-9124 .....	
David Larimer .....	602-258-0373 .....	
Bruce McHenry .....	602-952-1379 .....	
Tim Medlock .....	480-963-3496 .....	
Monica Miller.....	623-362-0456 .....	
Jeff Nagel.....	602-312-9538 .....	
Matt Percy.....	480-326-3463 .....	percy.matthew@gmail.com
Rogil Schroeter.....	623-512-8465 .....	rogil@cox.net
Jef Sloat.....	602-316-1899 .....	
Paul Valenzuela.....	602-705-3106 .....	
Frank Vers .....	480-947-9435 .....	
Justin York.....	480-229-8660 .....	
<b><i>Your Name Here!</i></b>		



# October 2007

## AMC Outing Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>NOTE: Celestial events occur about 10 minutes earlier on Arizona's eastern border; 10 later on its western edge.</b>	1	2	3 Basic IT Mtg Sunrise 5:41 Sunset 7:28 M-rise 9:17 P  Last Qtr	4	5 Tucson De Tour	6 Tucson De Tour, Grand Canyon Hike, The Monk - Lead Climbs
	7 Tucson De Tour	8 Board Meeting  Columbus Day	9 Basic School	10 Sunrise 5:41 Sunset 7:28 M-rise 9:17 P	11 Basic School  New Moon	12
13 Basic School						
14 Basic School	15	16 Basic School	17 Sunrise 5:41 Sunset 7:28 M-rise 9:17 P	18 Basic School	19  First Qtr	20 Basic School - Grad Climbs, The Mace - Sedona
21	22 Member Meeting	23	24 Sunrise 5:41 Sunset 7:28 M-rise 9:17 P	25	26  Full Moon	27 Queen Creek Cleanup and Climb
28	29	30	31 Sunrise 5:41 Sunset 7:28 M-rise 9:17 P			