

The Arizona Mountaineer

October 2011



Kurt Korpong on top of Hitchcock Pinnacle
Photo by Susan Harnage

The Arizona Mountaineering Club

Meetings: The member meeting location is:

Granite Reef Senior Center
1700 North Granite Reef Road
Scottsdale, Arizona 85257

The meeting time is 7:00 to 9:00 PM.

Check Calendar for 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:

Website:

www.amcaz.org

Mail:

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

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President	Bill Fallon	602-996-9790
Vice-President	John Gray	480-363-3248
Secretary	Kim McClintic	480-213-2629
Treasurer	Curtis Stone	602-370-0786
Director-2	Eric Evans	602-218-3060
Director-2	Steve Crane	480-812-5447
Director-1	Gretchen Hawkins	520-907-2916
Director-1	Bruce McHenry	602-952-1379
Director-1	Jutta Ulrich	602-738-9064

COMMITTEES

Archivist	Jef Sloat	602-316-1899
Classification	Nancy Birdwell	602-770-8326
Elections	John Keedy	623-412-1452
Equip. Rental	Bruce McHenry	602-952-1379
Email	Curtis Stone	602-370-0786
Land Advocacy	Erik Filsinger	480-314-1089
Co-Chair	John Keedy	623-412-1452
Librarian	David McClintic	602-885-5194
Membership	Rogil Schroeter	623-512-8465
Mountaineering	Bruce McHenry	602-952-1379
Newsletter	Cheryl Beaver	480-659-6078
Outings	Frank Vers	480-947-9435
Programs	Kim McClintic	480-213-2629
Technology	Steve Crane	480-812-5447
Trng & Schools	Bill Fallon	602-996-9790
ORC	Bill Fallon	602-996-9790
anchors	Eric Evans	602-218-3060
Lead	Mike Knarzer	602-751-1701

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/join](https://www.accessfund.org/join)

Contents

2	Who does what, Addresses and Numbers
3	Birthdays, Library, Newsletter,
4	Treasurer's Report; Discounts, Rentals
5	Board Meeting Minutes
7	ORC School Announcement
8	Anchors School Announcement
9	Member Program
10	Classic Canadian Rock Climb
13	Robber's Roost Canyons
16	Hitchcock Pinnacle
17	Alpine Rock Seminar
18	Calendar of Events, New Members
19	Outing Leaders, Gear Ads

Library

AMC Librarian:
David McClintic 602-885-5194

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.

Newsletter

The Arizona Mountaineer is published monthly by the AMC. The newsletter depends on contributions from it's members so PLEASE send us your articles and/or photos.

All submissions are subject to approval by the AMC newsletter committee:

Cheryl Beaver, Tracy Fleming, Susan Harnage, and Jutta Ulrich

Digital photos should preferably be in JPG format and 300 dpi. Articles can be in any standard word processing format.

Get a new piece of gear? Send us your reviews after you've tested it out. We'd love to hear about it

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.

Submit items for publication and direct any questions through email to Susan at SHarnage@aol.com.

November NL Submission Deadline: October 1st

October Birthdays

Tracy Fleming 5, Roger Heyen 7, Kim McClintic 7, Tom Bentley 9, Cat Isfan 11,
Rogil Schroeter 12, Tracy Janule 13, Linda Locke 14, Steve Suhr 14, Kevin Pugh 15,
Samuel Garnett 17, Kevin Kriegel 18, Bill Jay 19, Jeffrey Nagel 20, Michael Jacobson 25,
Will Nicholas 26, Aaron Locander 28, James Clarkin 30, Michael Lust 30

Discount Directory

These merchants offer a discount to AMC members:

- **Arizona Hiking Shack** - 3244 E. Thomas Rd., Phoenix, AZ 85018, (602) 944-7723 www.hikingshack.com. Show your AMC membership card and get a 15% 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.
- **TUFA Gear Shop** - Located at these gyms: AZ on the Rocks, PRG, & Ape Index. 10% discount.

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
Avalanche Kit (probe & shovel)	2	10	5	8
Curved Ice Tools (pair)	2	40	20	35

Contact Bruce McHenry for information on how to rent AMC equipment. (602) 952-1379

Treasurer's Report

Arizona Mountaineering Club Income Statement Period Ended August 31, 2011

INCOME

Admin (TRSM before scholarships)	0.00
Advertising	80.00
Dues	5,018.00
Grants Received	0.00
Interest	28.39
Mountaineering Schools	875.00
Rental Equipment	158.00
AARS Fall	285.00
AARS Spring	1,830.00
Basic Fall	2,450.00
Basic Spring	3,325.00
Lead Fall	570.00
Lead Spring	300.00
Training Other	0.00
Other	25.00

TOTAL INCOME	14,944.39
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EXPENSES

Admin	1,983.65
Promotional	0.00
Bank chgs	0.00
Capital Expenditures	0.00
Equipment Maintenance	21.53
Grants Expended	0.00
Insurance	2,580.00
Land Advocacy Committee	145.22
Library	0.00
Newsletter	1,281.52
Outings	150.00
Outing Leaders	0.00
Programs Monthly Meeting	1,821.61
Training	6,620.53

TOTAL EXPENSES	14,604.06
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OVERALL TOTAL	340.33
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ACCOUNT BALANCES

Checking & PayPal	11,074.20
Accounts Receivable	0.00
CD Account	15,000.00
TOTAL CASH ASSETS	26,074.20
AMC Outing Gear	3,467.43
OVERALL TOTAL	29,541.63

AMC Board Minutes - September 12, 2011

1. Call to Order: 7:07 PM. Board members in attendance: Bill Fallon, John Gray, Curtis Stone, Bruce McHenry, Eric Evans, Kim McClintic, and Gretchen Hawkins.
2. Minutes of the August board meeting, as published in the newsletter, were submitted and approved.
3. Treasurer's report was presented and approved.
4. Committee Reports:
 - a. Membership-271
 - b. Programs:
 - i. Lydia Pyne gave a wonderful presentation in August about her experience in Iran with the Alpine Club of Iran.
 - ii. Jeff Crosby and Andy Baumgardner will be doing a program about their Rainier trip for the September Meeting.
 - iii. Mike Knarzer is the presenter for the October 24th member meeting. He will be presenting an amazing high rise ascent, as in skyscraper, that took place in Singapore.
 - iv. November Program: 2nd Annual Activities Expo-CAMRA, Orienteering, Canyoneering, Ice Climbing, Kayaking, Cross-Fit, and more. If you would like to participate or suggest an organization, please contact Kim McClintic.
 - v. Holiday Party: slated for December 16th. More details to come.
 - c. Outings/Activities:
 - i. Past: Presentations on Rock Climbing given by Bill Fallon at the PV and Tempe REI in late August were well attended.
 - ii. The Grand Canyon Clean up is coming. (September 30-October 2nd). One additional training session is scheduled for September 24th.
 - iii. The Semi-Annual Queen Creek Clean Up and Climb will be held November 5th.
 - iv. Reminder to Outing Leaders: please schedule an outing.
 - d. Land Advocacy: No updates on QCC.
 - e. Training and Schools:
 - i. Lead School, taught by Mike Knarzer is taking place September 13-18.
 - ii. ORC instructors Meeting is Wednesday, October 5th.
 - iii. ORC (formerly known as Basic) is scheduled for October 11, 13, 15, 16, 18, 20, 22. Weekday class will be held at Cactus Park. Registration can be made through the club website. Bill and Erik are working out permit details with the City of Scottsdale for the Saturday class in the McDowells.
 - iv. Anchors is scheduled for November 8, 10, 12, and 13 and will be held at Cactus Park.
 - f. Technology Committee: No Changes.

AMC Board Minutes - September 12, 2011 (cont)

- g. Mountaineering:
 - i. Alpine Rock is scheduled for December 10th. This is a one day introductory class on Alpine skills.
 - ii. Alpine Snow Skills will be held January 13-15th.
 - iii. There will be a beginning ice climbing class in Ouray in February or March. The date has yet to be determined.
- 5. New Business:
 - a. Membership renewal drive. Brainstorming about notifications for lapsed memberships. Discussed email notifications to members who have not renewed. Desire ways to retain members and to encourage potential outing leaders to step up. Desire for more club outings.
 - b. Introduced the idea of moving routine items from the newsletter, to the website, i.e. Board minutes, treasurer's report. Discussion will continue at the next meeting.
 - c. New Club T-shirts. T-Shirt contest for new design. Contest will be voted on by active club members at the January club meeting. The winner will receive a free membership (their dues will be waived) and a free T-shirt.
- 6. Old Business:
 - a. Gretchen and John will continue to work towards making club documents easier to access and more organized. Gretchen is working on making a check list for the outing leader process.
 - b. Advanced learning opportunities: lead belaying, outing leader mentor program.
 - c. Mission Statement: Discussion of the purpose and focus of AMC. Do we diversify or improve upon what we're doing? Discussion to be continued.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Kim McClintic, secretary.

Members you are welcome to attend board meetings. If you are interested in attending and need directions or information, contact me at canyonkim@gmail.com



AMC thanks Rockford Corporation for the use of their facilities for board meetings. Rockford is a local maker and distributor of high-end audio components for cars, trucks and boats.

OUTDOOR ROCK CLIMBING

FOR THE BEGINNING OUTDOOR CLIMBER



Instruction provided by
The Arizona Mountaineering Club

During the 4 evening and 3 weekend day sessions, you will learn:
The Basics of Climbing Equipment, Climbing Technique, Knots, Rappelling, Belaying, & Self-Rescue.

The class fee of \$175, plus \$15.00 membership for the remainder of the year (\$18.00 for families), covers equipment provided by the AMC and equipment that you get to keep including: a belay/rappel device, carabiners, prusik cords, climbing text and AMC membership for the remainder of the year.

To register online, go to:
www.amcaz.org/basic.asp

Class Size is Limited to 40 - Reserve your spot now!

For additional information, contact Eric Evans
AMCBasicSchool@gmail.com, or visit our website at:
www.amcaz.org



By the 3rd Class
**You will be
climbing
outside!**

Fall 2011 - Class Schedule

- October 11, - Tue - 5:30 - 10:00 PM
- October 13, - Thu - 6:00 - 10:00 PM
- October 15, - Sat - 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM
- October 16 - Sun - 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM
- October 18, - Tue - 6:00 - 10:00 PM
- October 20, - Thu - 6:00 - 10:00 PM
- October 22, - Sat - All Day - Grad Climb

AMC Members Enjoy

- Basic to advanced rock climbing training
- Periodic meetings and outings
- Special Annual Events:
- Grand Canyon Cleanup
- Thanksgiving at Joshua Tree NP
- Camaraderie with other climbers
- The Arizona Mountaineer newsletter

AMC Climbing Anchors School - Fall 2011

The AMC Climbing Anchors School teaches participants how to set climbing anchors for top-roping. This course is the logical next step for AMC Basic Climbing School graduates.

Class curriculum:

Tuesday: Learn anchor components, anchor types, knots and hitches.

Thursday: Learn anchor system characteristics and construction.

Saturday: Gain experience setting anchors by practicing “hands-on” scenarios under instructor supervision.

Sunday: Apply newly learned skills setting real anchors on an optional climbing day. This session is a climbing outing where students set the anchors under instructor supervision and then spend the day climbing.

Class schedule:

Nov. 8	Tuesday	6:00 pm–9:30 pm	*Scottsdale Cactus Park
Nov. 10	Thursday	6:00 pm–9:30 pm	Scottsdale Cactus Park
Nov. 12	Saturday	8:00 am–4:00 pm	Sullivan’s Canyon, Chino Valley
Nov. 13	Sunday	7:00 am–5:00 pm	Promised Land, Chino Valley (Weather permitting)

** Cactus Park is located on the northeast corner of Cactus Rd. and Scottsdale Rd. in Scottsdale.*

Experience required: AMC Basic School graduate or equivalent, which must include knowledge of how to belay, rappel, prusik, tie a figure-8-on-a-bight and figure-8-on-a-follow-through, and make a girth hitch.

Cost: \$95 plus membership if not already a member (\$30 for an individual and \$35 for a family). Membership is good through the end of next year - 2012. Please register thru PayPal on the AMC website www.amcaz.org, or by sending a check payable to AMC Anchors School to PO Box 11883, Tempe, AZ, 85284. No credit cards accepted. The registration fee is fully refundable if you cancel. Contact Nancy Birdwell by email: Anchors.School@amcaz.org for more info. The number of students will be limited to 36.

Equipment required for the class:

- 2 non-locking “D” or oval carabiners (at least 2, bring more if you have them)
 - 3 locking carabiners (at least 3, one of which should be a parabiner)
 - 1 rappel/belay device (Trango Jaws, Black Diamond ATC, Trango Pyramid, Figure-8, etc.)
 - 1 climbing harness
 - 1 ea 4’, 6’, 10’ 6mm prusiks (untied length)
 - 2 ea 5’, 10’, 20’ slings (1” tubular webbing, untied length, AKA runners)
 - 1 or 2 personal anchor slings (commercial daisy chains or 4’ sewn Spectra runners or equivalent)
 - 1 helmet—**required for Saturday and Sunday sessions**, helmets are available if you do not have one.
- (The slings and harness are the only additional equipment needed over the Basic School requirements)

This class is designed to teach you how to set top-rope anchors. In order to become independent and set your own anchors, you should start acquiring anchor gear. These purchases will be limited by how much money you want/have to spend and how much interest you have in climbing independently. The following gear is not required for Anchors School, but if you have some, you will be able to practice setting it in class. All of the gear recommended below can be used for Lead School, and none of it will be wasted if you intend to set your own anchors. All gear should be marked prior to bringing it to class to prevent confusion between it and other people’s gear. If you don’t know how to mark gear, check with an instructor before doing so to avoid weakening equipment due to improper marking.

Other gear you may want to bring:

- Any pro you may have (hexes, nuts, camming devices, Tri-cams, etc.)
- Extra biners (regular D’s, ovals, and lockers—stay away from specialty biners at this time)
- Extra slings (perhaps four 5’, two 15’ slings, untied lengths)

For more information: Visit the Arizona Mountaineering Club website at www.amcaz.org.

October Member Meeting Program

Come hear club member, Mike Knarzer, talk about his experience climbing the Marina Bay Sands in Singapore.

Mike participated in a promotional event for the Grand Opening of this 57 story skyscraper in Singapore.

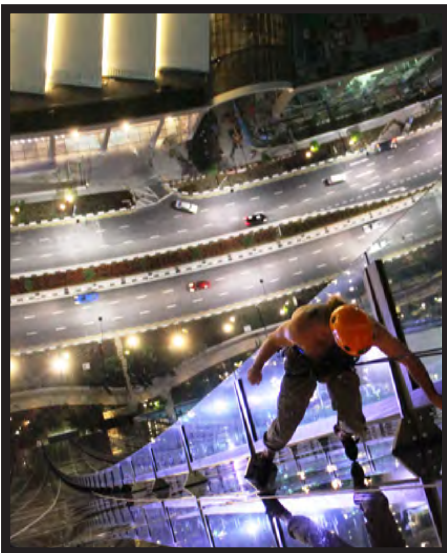
A few select climbers from the U.S. and other countries were asked to climb this amazing building for the Grand Opening Celebration. That's right. They got PAID for climbing, and had an awesome time doing it. The event was broadcast live in 30 countries by ESPN. Mike spent a week in Singapore, met lots of people from all over the world, and was, basically, treated like a rock star.

**Join us for what promises to be an entertaining evening.
Bring your friends!**

When: Monday, October 24th, 7:00 PM-8:30 PM

Where: Granite Reef Senior Center,
1700 N. Granite Reef Rd. Scottsdale, 85257

Why: You'll be disappointed if you don't come
Plan to join us at Duke's Sports Bar,
at the corner and Miller and McDowell Rds, after the program.



Classic Canadian Rock Climb



Takakkaw Fall

5.7

13-pitches

Rap

Takakkaw Falls Route, 5.7, 13-pitches

This multipitch rock climb achieves superior position by climbing the left side of a major waterfall. It involves about 1,000 feet of rock climbing and about 100 yards of cave passage to the top of the falls.

Located in Yoho National Park, near Field, British Columbia, in Canada, Takakkaw Falls is 1260 feet high, making it the second-highest waterfall in western Canada. To get there from Banff National Park, follow the Trans-Canada Highway for 14 miles west of Lake Louise and then take Yoho Valley Road (This road also accesses the campgrounds and Emerald Lake). A 15-minute scenic drive takes you up valley to the ample parking lots.

Generally the climb starts left of the falls at the top of a scree cone, and then

angles rightward across the face to the left hand side corner system of a pillar next to the water fall. Most of the technical rock climbing occurs up this corner system and across open faces above, but there is some scrambling to the early pitches to obtain the corner system.

A couple of years ago a major section of an early pitch fell off and the climb is now re-routed around that, so some route descriptions on the Internet may be in error, and to some extent there are several options for the route around that rock fall area.

Take the short trail from the parking lot to the bottom of the water fall (lots of tourists). Slog up a scree slope.

Classic Canadian Rock Climb - (cont)

(We stayed on the most stable scree we could find which lead somewhat straight up to the cliff and then used the cliff as a hand rail for the rest of the approach.) The climb is near the apex of the scree slope, but a little bit to the right. (A photo route topo is nearby).

Here is my recollection of the pitches as they should have been climbed if you were pitching the whole thing out. We simul-climbed some of the easier early pitches and combined some above.

Pitch 1 – Start on broken ledges a short distance right of the high point of the scree. Work out a ledge and then look for a couple of bolts, which then lead to a rising traverse to the right, through a slanted chimney/corner, and then onto a ledge with a bolted and chained belay. 5.4. (40 m)

Pitch 2 -- Climb straight above the belay to another bolted anchor. 5.5. (15 m)

Pitch 3 – There is a narrow ledge system working right. Some parties will feel comfortable carrying the rope. It goes horizontally for over a rope length. As I recall, the best way to break this up into pitches is to walk rightwards (past a bolt or two) maybe 20 yards to another bolted station. It is possible to anchor here (or keep walking on a running belay). 3rd class. (20 m)

Pitch 4 – Continue along the ledge system to another bolted station about a rope length out. Originally the route went down from here at an angle following the descending ledge system. Now the route goes up and right from this point. 3rd class. (40 m)

Pitch 5 – Climb slabs up and right to another bolted station. 5.4 (30 m).

Pitch 6 – Walk right along a ledge system to a 2 bolt and sling belay under an overhang at the major corner system. 3rd class. (40 m) (*Note: This is where the route rejoins the original route.*)

Pitch 7 – Here is where the more interesting technical climbing starts. Go up, slightly left from the belay past a couple of bolts then over right trending blocks to another bolted anchor in an alcove. 5.6. (35 m)

Pitch 8 – Make some awkward moves around blocks to a ledge with an alternative rap station and then climb up and right to the top of the pillar. You'll find yourself level with the impressive rooster tail from the falls. 5.6. (40 m).

Pitch 9 – Climb the solid face directly above. Bolted. Neat pitch. Very airy with the water fall on your right. I led this one and thoroughly enjoyed it. 5.7. (30 m).

Pitch 10 – Climb through the shale band. Easy climbing but no protection. 5.2. (25 m). (*Note: Can easily be combined with next pitch.*)

Pitch 11 – Follow a reasonably obvious line to a bolt and the alcove marking the entrance to the tunnel. This has historically been wet from seepage from the tunnel area. 5.5. (25 m)

(*Note: Local guides usually crawl through the tunnel and return back to this point, so this is where the guide services would begin their rappels.*)

Pitch 12 – Take off your pack and stow your gear, rope, etc. You are going to crawl through a narrow and shallow tunnel for about 100 yards. BRING A HEAD LAMP AND KNEE PADS. I recommend pushing your pack in front of you. Mostly you are crawling on your hands and knees, but in at least one section you must go to your belly to get through. I'd say that shallowest section is maybe 16" high. As you move through the tunnel you begin to hear then feel the roar of the falls coming from the other end. Enter a mystical world

Classic Canadian Rock Climb - (cont)

of sun (given the benefit of Canadian weather) and water spray-lets from the falls. You are a few feet from the top of the falls and the roar is deafening. We ate lunch there. Wow!

Pitch 13 – There is a single bolt belay anchor on a shelf poised above the falls up to the right. Climb straight up and then make a move left. You are now on easy ground and head for a tree belay near the top of the cliff.

Descent: If you do not reverse the tunnel pitch and are at the top of the cliff, head climber's left along the top about 100 yards until you see a cairn making a short descent to a tree with several rope and slings forming the rap station.

Think about all of this ahead of time. Rappeling down the route requires some planning. Because many of the pitches are 30 meters or less in length, you may think about combining them with 60 meter double rope rappels. The downside is that the longer raps greatly increase two dangers – stuck ropes, and rock fall (we did both). Any rocks you knock off will fall down on other parties on a popular route.

To some extent there are a few alternative anchors. Check all of this out on the way up, but here is my two cents.

First rap from the top. Go to the cave entrance.

Second rap. There is an alternative anchor for rapping about 10 meters climber's left of the ascent anchor at the bottom of the shale band. You should be able to make this with a double rope rappel.

Third rap. Again, with two ropes you can rappel to the rap station climbers left of the top of the pillar, at a ledge about 10 meters below the ascent anchor station.

Fourth rap. I'd probably recommend simply going the short single rope rap to the next anchor. There are two many cracks and blocks that a rope could be stuck on to try to do the two-rope rappel.

Fifth rap. A further single rope rap will take you to the first anchor in the corner system.

Sixth rap. You can rap down to the major ledge system at the base of the corner with two ropes.

You are now on the major ledge system that it is pretty easy to walk along all the way to the top of Pitch 2. If you need to belay a narrow section, there are plenty of bolts around.

Seventh rap. Rap from Pitch 2 to Pitch 1.

Eighth rap. Rap 30 meters straight down to a ledge. You are not on the ground yet, but with a single 60 meter rope it will just reach a ledge. Watch rapping off the end of the ropes (you are still about 20 feet off the ground.)

Scramble climber's left about 30 feet along ledges to the scree cone.

Gear: I'd recommend bringing a single rack to 3". Most of the crux moves are bolted, but not all of them. Maybe 8 draws and some anchor materials. Two 60 meter ropes would be best, although two 50 meter ropes would work, and (if you did not top out) you could even do easily enough with a single 60 meter rope.

By Erik Filsinger

Robber's Roost Canyons Canyoneering; May 2011

I could spend quite a few words talking about meeting Kim in Rapid City. (Kim was attending her son's graduation from Georgetown University where he received his MS in Mathematics while I made the long slog East and North to Wisconsin) I could bore everyone with our spectacular road-trip back, scouting out Devils' Tower in Wyoming, Yellowstone Park, Teton National Park, Dinosaur Park, Flaming Gorge and finally down the Moki Dugway and into Southern Utah, but I won't. It was a fantastic beginning to our annual canyoneering adventure but would probably be better placed in AAA Highroads, than the AMC newsletter. So, on to the really fun stuff.

Kim and I had only a vague notion of when we would catch up with Dave Cameron, Rogil Schroeter, Bill Fallon, Philip Goeble, Tom Kirsch, Kathy Sharp, Tim Lange, and Mark and Troy Lucas. We did, however have a destination and directions thanks to Kelsey's overly detailed and sometime annoyingly dense verbiage. Our target was the South Fork Slots and Poison Spring Canyon area. Since cell phone coverage is intermittent in canyon country, and since the Phoenix caravan was approaching on highway 95 from the south, we decided to leave Hanksville and see if the others were already at the campsite. The turnoff was 20 miles down 95 and then 6 1/2 excruciatingly bumpy miles to the campsite past the drill-hole & corral. (The bumps were of course magnified because of our brand new trailer.) Somehow we made it to the designated spot, only to find that we were the first to arrive. The wait wasn't all that pleasant because of the extreme winds and blowing sand/dust that is so common in the part of Utah at this time of the year. This is the stuff that gets everywhere, eyes, ears, down the back of your neck leaving a red/brown tint to everything it touches. Kim and I had a short exploratory wander to the North without the benefit of roads or trails. We walked until we found a canyon (either the west or middle fork, never really did figure out which one) until we hit the first rappel. If you've never been to this part of canyon country, you're in for a surprise. It is vast, intricate, spectacular, and always surprising. You may wander for hundreds of yards down a slick-rock river bed, turn the corner and find you are looking out over a canyon many miles in width and several thousands of feet down with one or two ribbony slots taking you down to the bottom.

We wandered back just in time to see the fleet arrive. Apparently, we passed them as we headed south and they north between the turnoff and Hanksville. Everyone got settled and the first night's planning session started. After many year's experience, this group has opted for the many-eyes-make light reading as numerous folks try to sort out Kelsey's dense and meandering directions to sort out gear needs, directions, exits and way points. Don't get me wrong, we are extremely grateful to Michael Kelsey for his detailed accounts of so many canyons. He packs a great deal of information on a page. It can just be a bit tough slogging at times rendering it into operational form.

After much deliberation and swearing at the confoundedness of Kelsey's prose, we elected to do "Slideanide". (This is the "Poison Springs Canyon", so the names follow the theme. Constrychnine, Slideanide, and Arscenic are the East, Middle and West Forks respectively.) Although 11 people can be a lot for a canyon, there are a number of ways to actually speed things up with this number. For instance carrying a number of ropes of similar and varying lengths can allow for effective leap-frogging. The person in possession of the rope and pro for the next technical section goes first down the current, and makes haste for the next rappel and sets it up. Thinking ahead a bit in this manner can greatly limit the choke points and speed the trip. The trip through the canyon was uneventful and beautiful as usual. Since it was our first canyon of the trip, it was particularly so. The most memorable thing about this day was the incredible sustained wind after exiting the canyon and on making our way up the slick-rock. The fierce wind kept us from lingering too long at the small but spectacular arch which we would see again in a couple of days. After making our way back to the cars, and trying to stay out of blowing sand, we decided to change locations that evening and headed back to town and beyond to set up for Blue John Canyon of 127 Hours fame the next day. While the wind was still fierce, it was somewhat better than the previous camp site. Also in camp that night was a special viewing of "127 Hours" to prep for the morrow's adventure.

Robber's Roost Canyons - (cont)

We did tackle Blue John on Day 2, but elected not to do the lower section because of the extremely long shuttle required to set this Canyon up as a loop. Blue John connects with Horseshoe Canyon, which I'll discuss shortly. Tim & Kathy elected to hike Horseshoe this day as they didn't want to miss this spectacular part of Canyonlands NP. Upper Blue John was completed successfully and we arrived at the entry to the lower section. We elected at this point to split up with most of the group going North to explore the slick-rock above lower portion (where Ralston's infamous chokestone lies) and Kim and I went to the Southern side. The Canyon is fairly short and we found ourselves about 8/10th of the way to the end where a rappel was set up on the North Side. We had heard a rumor that so many grizzly souvenir seekers were actually doing the canyon in hope of retrieving bone shards of Aaron Ralston's arm, that the park service rappelled in and removed all remaining traces with a blow torch. (At least that's what we believe the mid-canyon rap set-up was for.) Mysteriously, we found a piece of sandstone on the South sound that looked exactly like a hand in a mitten. We left this at the entry way to the canyon as a tribute.

Our exit of this canyon was remarkable in that there was one fairly sketchy and mostly free climb. It was at this point, that

we took a bit of a wrong turn. While we should have followed a more Southern branch of the exit canyon, we missed it and continued in a Northerly direction. Once out, and this is something I love about some of our stalwart group. Several of our esteemed group



Robber's Roost Canyons - (cont)

disdained the use of maps and/or GPSs. Two of us possessed both and headed back to the campsite accordingly. Only one other of our group decided after following the Luddite group for a bit to join us and head directly back. The others all headed on a course about 90 degrees off the correct one to join the road and to finally make it back about an hour after those of us who had the maps.

The next day (Day 3) most of the group decided on Larry Canyon. Dave Cameron and I opted for Horseshoe having heard Tim & Kathy's account and both wanting to avoid a long and very narrow & claustrophobic section in Larry. Horseshoe canyon is a must see. The pic-



tographs in this canyon are spectacular and predate the ancient puebloan (formerly known as Anasazi) by some 2000 years! There are four major galleries along the way ending with the great gallery where life-size alien looking pictographs stare down from the canyon walls. This is well worth the side trip and even skipping a day of technical canyoneering (in my humble opinion). Kim adds that Larry Canyon was spectacular with some very dark and narrow sections.

Many of the details blend into one another and the details are too numerous to relate. The other canyons enjoyed on this annual pilgrimage included No

Man's with a spectacular final rappel (No Man's 33m Rappel), Arscenic, and on the way back, Shllelagh Cyn, & Fry. The camping areas are numerous but dry and sometime's awfully windy. Hanksville was often visited for the small necessities of life like ice-cream, ice, beer, and showers available at the campground. There are a couple of decent restaurants, though night-life is non existent in this tiny hamlet. This greater area is known primarily as Robber's Roost. The name comes from Butch Cassidy's time spent in the area and some history is included in Kelsey's book. *Michael R. Kelsey, (2009) Hiking & Exploring Utah's Henry Mountain's and Robbers Roost; Including: The Life and Legend of Butch Cassidy, 3rd Ed., Kelsey Publishing, Provo Utah.*

By: David & Kim McClintic

Photo's By: Dave Cameron, David & Kim McClintic



Hitchcock Pinnacle

Hitchcock Pinnacle is located on Mt Lemmon just above the main parking area at Windy Point. This 40' freestanding column is most commonly climbed by its 5.7 north face, however all three routes ascending the formation are worth doing. Each route has one bolt, so unless you are willing to run it out 20 feet or more, bring some gear. Top rope can be set on all three by means of fixed anchors/chains at the top.

This route starts out with a stem between the actual pinnacle and a shorter rock just to the west. From there we moved left and up the face to the top. Some bolts had been chopped making trad gear necessary for a safer ascent.

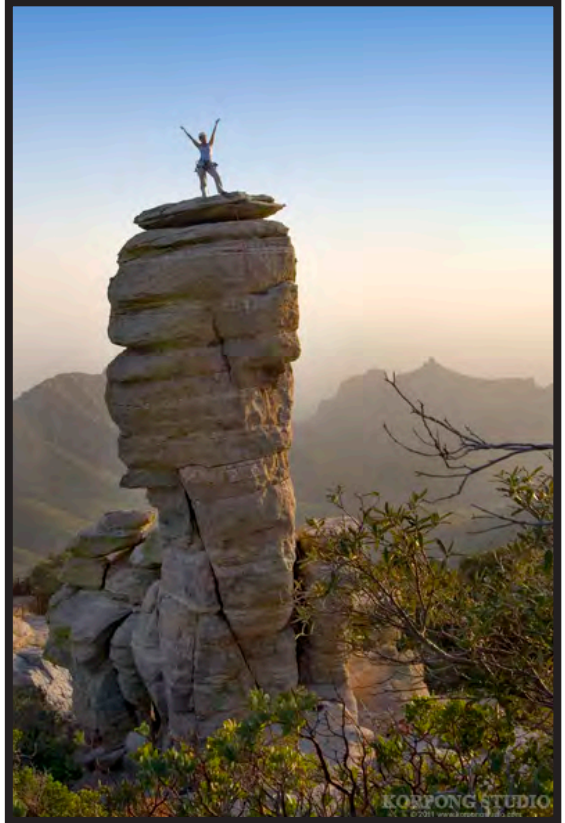
I had seen Hitchcock Pinnacle on previous trips to Mt. Lemmon and have been curious about it for a couple of years. Emily, on the other hand, had been eyeing the formation for 18+ years while growing up in the Tucson area. Kurt was kind enough to lead the climb and help us check it off our list.

This was an incredibly photogenic spot and a great way for Kurt, Emily and I to end our day of climbing on Mt. Lemmon after spending a little time on the Ridgeline.

Photo by Susan Harnage Kurt Korpong rappelling off Hitchcock Pinnacle



Photo by Kurt Korpong: Susan Harnage on Hitchcock Pinnacle



Hitchcock Pinnacle - (cont)



Photo by Kurt Korpong: Susan Harnage climbing the face of Hitchcock Pinnacle

By Susan Harnage



Photo by Susan Harnage

Alpine Rock Seminar - December 10, 2011

AMC Mountaineering Committee offers the 1-day Alpine Rock Seminar on Saturday, December 10, 2011. The hands-on field seminar is for folks with solid rock climbing skills who may be interested in taking their adventures into alpine and mountainous conditions. Topics to be covered include: Mountain terrain, weather, altitude, judgment, equipment, and team considerations. Field exercises include alpine rope work, route finding, alpine considerations for anchoring and belaying, and alternatives for descending will be discussed and demonstrated. Silent communication will be shown and practiced. The Seminar will be offered locally at a place to be determined. It is recommended participants have taken AMC ORS, Anchors, and Lead Schools or equivalent.

To sign-up or for details/questions contact Bruce McHenry bamchenry@att.net. Fees will be \$60 for new students and \$30 for refresher students. Number of participants is limited.

DEADLINE to sign-up is November 18, 2011

Calendar of Events - Outings/Schools/Events

OCTOBER

- 1 Grand Canyon Cleanup and Climb 1, 2
- 5 Outdoor Rock Climbing School Instructors Meeting
- 10 Columbus Day AMC Board Meeting
- 12 Outdoor Rock Climbing School Oct 11, 13, 15, 16, 18, 20, 22
- 24 AMC Member Meeting

NOVEMBER

- 3 Anchors School Instructor Meeting
- 5 Queen Creek Cleanup and Climb
- 9 Anchors School Nov 8, 10, 12, 13
- 11 Veterans Day (Friday)

- 14 AMC Board Meeting
- 18 Alpine Rock Seminar Sign-up Deadline
- 25 Thanksgiving at Joshua Tree
- 28 AMC Member Meeting

DECEMBER

- 5 AMC Board Meeting
- 10 Alpine Rock Seminar
- 10 Glacier Travel, Snow Skills, and Crevasse Rescue Seminar Sign-up Deadline
- 16 Holiday Party
- 19 AMC Member Meeting - Photo Contest
- 25 Christmas (Sunday)

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.

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.

- Tuesdays** **Ape Index Gym Climbing - Rogil Schroeter (623) 512-8465**
- Wednesdays** **North Mountain hikes after work. Rogil Schroeter (623) 512-8465**
- Thursdays** **Phoenix Rock Gym Climbing - AMC Members \$10 admission with ID card.
Curtis Stone - Kim McClintic**

Welcome New Members

Lynn Folden, Brian Park, Vicki Engbrecht, Kate Fallon, Christopher Hanrahan,
Jennifer Smith, Nicole Wolf, Arthur Tucker, Carolyn Langlois, Becci Stoflet,
David Stoflet, Angela Story, Gavin Story, James Teasley

Outing Leaders

Requirements for becoming a leader: take the Basic, Anchors and Lead classes (or equivalents), be a member for at least one year, complete a basic first aid and CPR class (8 hours or more), and be approved for leadership by at least five current leaders through formal application process and by the Board of Directors. Contact Nancy Birdwell at (602) 770-8326.

Outing Leader

Contact Info

Eric Evans	602-218-3060	eae100@yahoo.com
Bill Fallon	602-996-9790	bill.fallon@cox.net
Erik Filsinger		smorefil@aol.com
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David McClintic.....	602-885-5194	david.mcclintic@cox.net
Bruce McHenry.....	602-952-1379	
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Justin York.....	480-229-8660	

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