

NOVEMBER 2003

ARIZONA MOUNTAINEER



The Grand Canyon has seen many changes over 15 years, but one constant is that the AMC still cleans it up every year. In 1994 (upper right) there were three rocks sitting flat on their pedestals just off Mather Point (photo Wayne Schroeter). This year, Tim Ward leads the way to the first rock (left) and then belays Monica Miller over to join him. In the background, to Tim's left, the outermost rock now tilts down (both photos David Paul). All three are still used by coin-tossing tourists to make wishes.

THE ARIZONA MOUNTAINEERING CLUB

MEETINGS: The AMC normally meets the 4th Mon. each month (Nov. & Dec. meetings are usually the 3rd Mon.) at 7:00 pm at:

Los Olivos Senior Center
2802 E. Devonshire Ave.
Phoenix, Az.
(28th St. just north of Indian School Rd.)

BOARD MEETINGS: Board meetings are open to all members and are held two Mondays prior to the Club meeting at Los Olivos Center.

DUES: Dues cover January through December. A single membership is \$25.00 per year: \$30.00 for a family. Those joining after June 30 pay \$13 or \$15.. 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

OTHER CORRESPONDENCE:

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

SCHOOLS: The AMC conducts several rock climbing, mountaineering and other outdoor skills schools each year. Contact the Training & Safety Committee for schedules and costs.

NEWSLETTER

Send stories and photos to Wally Vegors, 6151 N. 8th Ave., Phoenix, Az 85013 or e-mail <wvegors@cox.net> Electronic photos should be 300 dpi in JPG if possible.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Call (623) 878-2485
Email info@azmountaineeringclub.org
president@azmountaineeringclub.org
board@azmountaineeringclub.org
Web www.azmountaineeringclub.org

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

President	Bruce McHenry	602-952-1379
Vice-President	Jutta Ulrich	602-234-3579
Secretary	John Keedy	623-412-1452
Treasurer	Tim Ward	602-212-1929
Director-2yr	Kathy Granger	602-942-1673
Director-2yr	Rich Kocher	480-966-5568
Director-1yr	Dave Larimer	480-425-689
Director-1yr	Scott Hoffman	623-580-8909
Past President	Erik Filsinger	480-314-1089

COMMITTEES:

Access	Jen Davies	480-473-3742
Archivist	Jeff Sloat	602-316-1899
Classification	David Larimer	480-425-9689
Conservation	Charlene Todd	480-917-5354
Elections	Don Thomas	480-892-9513
Equip Rental	Tom Burner	480-354-1392
Email	Jeff Hatfield	480-783-8779
Land Advocacy	Erik Filsinger	480-314-1089
Librarian	Richard Kocher	480-966-5568
Membership	Rogil Schroeter	623-512-8465
Mntneering	Erik Filsinger	480-314-1089
Newsletter	Wally Vegors	602-246-9341
NL Distribution	(vacant)	
Outings	Monica Miller	623-362-0456
Programs	Steven Tillery	480-496-7339
Trail Maint	Jutta Ulrich	602-234-3579
Training/Schools	Wayne Schroeter	602-402-1631
Basic Class	Sally Larimer	480-425-9689
Anchor Class	Tom Conner	480-897-7623
Lead Class	Mick Strole	520-586-3335
T-shirts	Sally Larimer	480-425-9689
WebSite	Kirra	
 webadmin@azmountaineeringclub.org	

(1103)

THE AMC ACCESS 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 Access Committee Chair, Jen Davies, 480-473-7342.

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 \$20 or more to: The Access Fund, P.O. Box 17010, Boulder, CO 80308, or giving it to the AMC Club Treasurer to be sent to The Access Fund in your name. A donation of \$20 or more is needed to receive Vertical Times, The Access Fund newsletter. One can also join electronically — <<http://www.accessfund.org/Join.html>>

This Month in the AMC

- 3..... Birthdays in October
- 4..... Board Meeting Minutes, New Members
- 5..... Discount Directory; Treasurer's Report; Rentals
- 6..... Program — Horst and Colonello in Alaska
- 7..... Members Page, Instructogram
- 8..... Solid Rock Gym Ad
- 9..... Grand Canyon Cleanup
- 10... AMC'ers in Alaska
- 11... Black Hills Adventures
- 12... Canadian Peaks
- 13... Anchors Class Details
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- 15... Hiking Shack Ad
- 18... AZ On The Rocks Ad
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- 24... Outings; Outing Leader list.

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, 6151 N. 8th Ave., Phoenix, AZ 85013 or through email to azmountaineer@azmountaineeringclub.org. Prints are preferred over slides. Digital photos should preferably be in JPG format and at least 300 dpi. Articles can be in any standard word processing format. For more info call the editor at (602) 246-9341.

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.

December Deadline: 10 November 2003

HOT STUFF!!!

**Put your skills to the test at
Queen Creek Clean & Climb.**

**Take or help teach the
Anchors Class !**

**Thanksgiving is almost here.
Praise be for Joshua Tree!!**

**AMC Board or Committee
slot anyone? Elections
come soon.
Think about it.**

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 Birthdays

Gail Bredis 1, Roland Hintzman 1, Mary Sauve 2, Frederick Simpson 3, Michael Kelly 4, Stephen Pettit 7, JP Holloway 8, Robert Lowe 8, Jim Watson 11, Jill Iverson 13, Susan Morris 13, Bill Berkley 14, Sheri Kenly 14, Matthew Hanly 16, Todd Barnes 17, JoAnne Gallante 17, Bruce Robbins 19, Kris Edinger 23, Mark Gordon 23, Clay Vollmer 23, John Granger 28, Stan Marks 29, Greg King 30

Minutes of the AMC Board Meeting: 13 October, 2003

Members Present – Filsinger, Granger, Hoffman, Keedy, Kocher, McHenry, Ulrich, Ward
Committee Chairs Present – Thomas, Schroeter, Vegors

A quorum being present, meeting called to order at 7 PM by President McHenry.

Minutes of September Board Meeting were approved as published.

Treasurer's Report was approved as submitted.

a. McHenry will call for an override of budgeted expense to cover insurance for outing leaders, instructors, committee chairs and board members.

Old Business

b. Insurance – Liability policy has been received and is under review. -We will keep our insurance divided between Pell for our D&O and Mahoney for our liability in order to have more than one resource for advice and consultation.

c. Newsletter is doing well and has no other report. Needs pictures of G.C.

d. Documents on the Club website – Bylaws, Standing Rules Membership application and Waiver are now on the web site. Other documents are under review.

e. Land Advocacy – Discussion help on Scottsdale McDowell Mountain Preserve issues. Filsinger attending ongoing meetings on issues.

f. McHenry acknowledged receipt of note of thanks from Marilyn Gininatti.

New Business

g. Bylaw Change Proposal to Bylaw 9. Notice. Motion made, seconded and carried to change Bylaw 9. Notice to read "Whenever and wherever Notice is called for in these Bylaws, such Notice shall be to all Members and shall be published in both the official AMC electronic mail and the AMC Newsletter (both printed and electronic) at least 10 days prior to the event or activity being Noticed."

h. 2004 Budget – Several amendments to the proposed budget were made. Motion made, seconded and carried to approve the proposed 2004 Budget as amended.

i. Don Thomas announced his resignation as Elections Chair. Thomas agreed to work with the incoming Elections Chair for the next election.

Other Business and Committee Reports

j. Membership Chair reports received. Present membership is 415.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 PM

I am proposing a Bylaw change to be voted on at the October member meeting. The current verbiage in the Bylaws reads:

"9. Notice.

Whenever and wherever Notice is called for in these Bylaws, such Notice shall be to all Members and shall be provided at least 10-days prior to the event or activity respecting which Notice is being provided. Appropriate Notice shall constitute official AMC electronic mail, official AMC web page, AMC Newsletter or similar publication."

I propose to change this verbiage to read:

Notice to read "Whenever and wherever Notice is called for in these Bylaws, such Notice shall be to all Members and shall be published in both the official AMC electronic mail and the AMC Newsletter (both printed and electronic) at least 10 days prior to the event or activity being Noticed."

The term "Notice" refers to how the membership is informed, or given "notice," that an event or activity is forthcoming and that anyone interested should be aware of this in order to be able to weigh in on said event or activity. For example, current bylaws call for "Notice" to be given to the membership about vacancies on the Board, so that an election can be held to fill the vacancy. According to the current provision, the Board need only post on our website the fact that there is a vacancy and that an election will be held, **or** send an AMC email about the vacancy announcing that an election will be held, **or** publish in the newsletter that there is a vacancy and that an election will be held, in order to have "Noticed" the membership.

The reason I am proposing this change is threefold. First, the current Bylaw can be construed as contradictory in that it requires that all members be "Noticed," but then it allows the Board to "Notice" only a selected few members (for example, those who are on the email list). Second, it is not right for the Board to give Notice to only a select few when important matters are at issue. Third, the grammatical error that states, "Appropriate Notice shall constitute official AMC electronic mail, official AMC web page, AMC Newsletter or similar publication" needs to be corrected (it is publication in such media that is Notice, not the media itself).

—Wayne Schroeter

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 15% discount.

Rental Equipment

EQUIPMENT	Qty	\$Dep	1-3day	4-7day
4-season 2-3 man	1	58	18	29
4-season 1 man bivy	1	45	14	23
Sherpa Snowshoes	5	50	15	25
MSR Alpine snowshoes	3	32	10	16
Ski poles (var. sizes)	3	12	4	6
Hiking Poles	3	22	7	11
Ice Crampons	5	26	8	13
Ice axes (70 cm)	4	16	5	8
Ice axes (90 cm)	5	14	5	7
Snow shovel	1	8	3	4
Snow pickets	3	4	1	2
MSR Multifuel Stove	1	17	5	9
Haul bag	1	25	8	13
PortaLedge	1	100	30	50
Climbing shoes	Various sizes.. Call			

Equipment Rental Guideline: Your name must be on the most current membership list. Deposit required; varies by item; generally \$20-\$50. The two-personal-checks system works best. Advance reservation suggested. If not using the reserved equipment, please call and cancel. Call Linda Locke at (602) 997-4235 for shoes. For everything else, call Tom Burner (480) 354-1392.

Treasurer's Report

Statement of Operations

01Jan 03 Thru 12 Oct 03

Category Description	Amount
INCOME	
Advertising	380.00
Dues	5,335.50
Interest	28.29
Library fines	0.00
Merchandise (Tee Shirts & Etc)	975.00
Mountaineering Schools	400.00
Program Income	10.00
Rental Income (incl shoes)	223.00
Training	10,307.50
TOTAL INCOME	17,899.29

EXPENSES

Access	137.41
Administration	1,468.78
Bouldering Contest	300.00
Capital Exp (mtnrg)	573.01
Classification	475.00
Equipment Maint	125.00
Insurance	1,530.70
Library	0.00
Merchandise Exp	710.10
Mountaineering	72.85
Newsletter	2,717.63
Outings	80.78
Programs	3,320.09
Service/Bank Charge	74.75
Training	6,508.42
To Checking	240.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	18,334.52

OVERALL FOR YEAR TO DATE..... -435.23

ACCOUNT BALANCES (05/09/03)

CD Account	5,220.24
Savings	1,668.32
Checking	

TOTAL CASH ASSETS.....

OTHER ASSETS (Club gear mainly)....7,031.00

OVERALL TOTAL.....24,321.26



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“ARCTIC DESERT”

The AMC welcomes you to a slide show by members Richard Horst and Sean Colonello.

17 November 2003

7:00 p.m.

Los Olivos Center

One block north of Indian School on the east side of 28th St.

MEMBERS' PAGE— November, 2003 — Bruce McHenry

Get Involved with AMC

As you will see elsewhere in the newsletter, we are going through our annual budget process. The club budget is proposed and voted on by the membership in November.

How can you help and be involved with the budget? One-way is to review and vote on the annual budget. Other ways are to help reduce expenses and increase revenues during each year. Some suggestions are:

To Increase Club Revenue –

- Bring in new members
- (Increased dues income)
- Take a climbing class or seminar
- (Increased training revenue)
- Buy a t-shirt or decal or 3
- (Increased merchandise revenue)

To Help Decrease Club Expenses –

- Pick up newsletter at monthly meeting
- (Reduce postage expense)
- Receive the electronic newsletter
- (Reduce postage and printing)
- Take home and wash club ropes
- (Reduce wear and replacement costs)

Stuffing the Ballots, Hanging Chad's, and Other Electoral Fun

Don Thomas has notified the Board he is resigning as Elections Committee Chair. Don has been our Elections chair for the last ten (yes 10!) years. We accept his resignation with regret, and a well-deserved THANKS for long dedicated service.

Would you like to run a committee that generally works only once a year? The Elections committee sets-up and runs our annual club Officer elections every January. You assist with identifying candidates, print the ballots, and on election night monitor and count the votes. You would also run an election if any board positions came open during the year. Don Thomas has all the forms and supplies and will help train and mentor you for the upcoming election in January.

Sign up with any board member.



Here are Adopt-a-crag toilers perpetrating blatant toiling on their designated toilee — a trail on Camelback city park last month. Jutta Ulrich led in the effort advised by AMC'er Kathio Reichert (park manager) .

ANCHORS INSTRUCTOGRAM

The Anchors School instructor's meeting will be held at 6:30 pm Wednesday, Nov. 5th, at Papago Park, Phoenix, Ramada 7. From Galvin Pkwy, turnm east into Phoenix Zoo/Papago Park. Take the first left through the park without turning: it ends at Ram. 7, which is just under the Hole-In-The-Rock but not at the main parking area. Parking will be limited, and you may have to park at another ramada and walk.

There will be some new concepts introduced during this Anchors Class, and I would encourage everyone who has taken Anchors before to attend the Thursday night class, even if you are not helping to instruct during this class. For any questions call Wayne Schroeter at (602) 402-1631.

The Anchors School dates will be:

- | | |
|--------------|---|
| Tue, Nov. 11 | Anchors Class, 6:00-9:30 pm,
Dreamy Draw Park |
| Thu, Nov. 13 | Anchors Class, 6:00-9:30 pm,
Dreamy Draw Park |
| Sat, Nov. 15 | Anchors field day, 8:00 am-4:00 pm,
Little Granite Mountain |
| Sun, Nov. 16 | Anchors field day, 7:00 am-5:00 pm,
location to be announced |



INDOOR ROCK CLIMBING

www.solidrockgym.com

OPENING NOVEMBER 1ST

23620 N. 20th Drive, Ste 24
Phoenix, Arizona 85027

(Near I-17 & the Loop 101 Interchange)

(Take Pinnacle Peak Road East from I-17 and turn north on 20th Drive, find building "23620" on your left and go to the west end)

(623) 587-7625

**AMC Members get ½ off day pass price
thru November 14th!**

Ask About our New Member Specials!

The Grand Canyon 15th Annual Over the Edge Clean Up and Climb

No landscape on earth is as breathtaking as the views of the Grand Canyon. The sunrises and sunsets experienced in the magnificent Canyon truly humble the soul. A snapshot of the Canyon conveys the geologic wonders of the Great American Southwest.

We at the AMC seek to maintain and pass the vast beauty of this treasured Canyon on to our fellow man and sister nations.

Our 15th year efforts were under way by 8:00 am at Mather Point under the leadership of Scott Hoffman. We as volunteers gathered with our harness, helmets, prusiks and work gloves ready for assignments. Many wanted to assist in the Bright Angel village area, led by Sally Larimer and John Keedy. Others had their hearts set on going over the Mather point area to risk their lives for mere pennies. Scott dispersed the willing troops to their respective locations. As the “village people” prepared for their departure there were the famous “YMCA” gestures and lines sung with enthusiasm. Excitement was in the air on this beautiful Saturday, October 4th.

Mather Point: At 9:30 am operations were underway under the direction of Scott Hoffman. Outing Leader Tim Ward prepared to climb out on to Mather Point in order to set up the complex anchor/pulley system that would essentially bring volunteers across to the spire to pick coins and send the buckets full of coins back to the overlook platform area. Volunteer climbers Robert England, Wild Bill Kurek, Monica Miller, Clay Vollmer, Scott Parsons, Sheri Kenly and Tracy Dugan all climbed over to the point for coin pick-up. Coins from every country imaginable such as China, Europe, South America and Mexico were gathered, and even good old, Las Vegas gambling chips. Elliott Rector and Scott pulled the coins to safety. Pictures at the point—we got ‘em. Many AMCs were out in full force getting some great shots. Additionally, tourists lined the rails with camcorders and cameras in hand. All were interested and applauded our efforts.

Best lines heard at Mather Point: “Tracy, honey, get busy picking up those coins, that will be part of our retirement fund” ... Jef Sloat.

“Monica, picking up those coins is just not as glamorous as you thought it would be” ... Wayne Schroeter.

Village area: How could you possibly improve the view of the Grand Canyon? By picking up the litter, of course. The Village People started at the bus stop this year and worked their way toward Verkamps. Some



The profile in the background belongs to “The Gorilla” – in the foreground to Tim Lang setting up Rain of Terror 5.11 on Medivac Wall

AMC’ers chose the village because they didn’t want to prusik much, but found that there are many areas that require quite a bit of prusiking. Dylan Downhill and Kenny Hopkins got more prusiking than they had hoped for! Along with the usual litter, hats, and sunglasses, a 30-gallon trash-can was pulled out of the canyon. A couple of lucky folks got to see a bobcat while they were over the edge, and almost everyone got to observe three California Condors in the area, with their incredible 9-foot wing span. In the tradition of Dave Larimer, a few wise crackers labeled every raven seen a “condor baby” and probably fooled a few tourists while they were at it. Overheard by several tourists, “I wouldn’t do that for a million bucks!”- and we do it for free!

Shoshone Point: Cooking out at its finest. Shoshone Point has a fabulous almost 360-degree view of the Grand Canyon. Here the AMC gourmet cooks put out their best efforts. I saw steaks the size of Texas, fillets wrapped in bacon, salmon basking in butter all lying happily together atop that charcoal grill. Weenies—we got ‘em. There is nothing like a side of couscous to go alongside that steak! Did I mention those yummy brownies by Tracy Dugan! She takes the cake with those treats!

Climbing: Sunday October 5th, volunteers were treated to climbing on Kaibab Limestone.
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ARCTIC EXPEDITION JOURNAL TO MOOSE'S TOOTH, ALASKA

5/31/03 - Sean Colonello and I left early for Sky Harbor International Airport in Phoenix in anticipation of gear-checking delays. We said goodbye to Lori and Donna and began our journey. Despite many questions from check-in personnel and people in line, like "where are you going," "what is that," "what is in there," the check-in process went very quickly. So much so that I was finally able to calm down and relax.

After arriving at the Sea-Tac Airport in Seattle around lunch time, we spent 30 minutes touring the airport in an attempt to find something to eat, finally stumbling upon Mac & Jack's Brewery. After lunch, we were surprised to find out our flight had a gate change, but we still made the Anchorage flight in time.

We experienced no hitches when we arrived in Anchorage. A shuttle took us to the "Earth Bed and Breakfast," owned by a sweet and gentle person named Margaret who made us feel at home. In talking to her, we discovered that she used to have a ranch located between Congress and the Joshua Tree Forest. She also knew a lady who owns a clothing store in Peoria, who I used to deliver UPS packages to. (It's a small world!)

6/01/03 - We said goodbye to Margaret and headed for Talkeetna, arriving at 10:30 a.m. After checking in with Talkeetna Air Taxi (TAT) and the Forest Service, Sean and I had lunch. We repacked and taped our gear, as their gear requirement was 80 lbs. or less per bag, and were then ready to catch our 2:00 p.m. flight.

The flight ended up being cancelled due to bad weather. Paul, the owner of TAT, told us to go to the TAT Bunk House for overnight accommodations and to be prepared to leave 6/02. Staying there was somewhat regretful as a group of people had just descended Mt. McKinley and celebrated and puked throughout the night, making sleep very difficult.

6/02/03 - Another weather delay. Paul suggested a quieter stay at the new bunk house at the airport.

6/03/03 - After a great breakfast consisting of some of the largest pancakes I've ever been served, good coffee, and great cinnamon rolls, Sean and I were set to fly on TAT's 10:45 a.m. flight. We landed on the Glacier at 11:04 a.m., happy to have finally made it there. Then came the reality of being in a remote place, just Sean and I, with the sound of distant avalanches and other nature calls surrounding us. After breathing in nature, we began our 1/2-mile trek to base camp. Dinner consisted of packaged Shepherd's pie, and then we were off to find a line to climb. We found a continuous crack system from base to the top on the left side of the Moose.

6/04/03 - With an alpine start, we loaded our packs

and pigs and headed off to our route. Sean led the snow pitch across the Bergschrund and set a natural belay. I then took the helm, climbing approximately 60 feet before hunger and exhaustion took over. The crack was a hard aid, requiring knife blades (short and long), angles, lost arrows, and some natural stuff.

6/05/03 - I was tired and my body ached. I needed rest and bad weather allowed me to have it.

6/06/03 - After digging ourselves out of our tent, we went climbing. Sean took the lead and pounded bird beaks, his first copperhead (Bashies), blades, cams, nuts, and natural things to get us up another difficult pitch. Bad weather, again, prevented us from going further. Our Cashew Nut Curry Chicken dinner sure tasted great!

6/07/03 - My lead. With a break in bad weather, I began nailing bird beaks, 2 blades, and 2 rivets into hard rock. A smashed finger and a return of bad weather ended our climbing day.

6/08/03 - Sean lead the next 50 foot pitch, a hard A3+, using copperheads, beaks, blades, and a couple of cams. The fog rolled in about 2:00 p.m. and brought with it light snow. I took the lead, and climbing ranged from hard to fun. Every type of placement was required, from beaks to bongs. In total, we climbed 150 feet on this day, arriving back at base camp at 11:00 p.m.; a long day.

6/09/03 - No alpine start this morning due to our late sack time last night. Sean led, experiencing good rock and great gear placement. He had to do some gardening, but WOW, what a great 100 foot lead, requiring cams and long bugaboos (long knife blades). The rock was soft at the belay so Sean drilled a 4" bolt and a 2-1/4" bolt.

6/10/03 - Rest day, with drying sleeping bags and lots of eating. TAT brought another group in.

6/11/03 - Sean started jugging at 9:45 a.m, moving gear to the next belay where he organized it for my lead. This pitch was pretty cool, just a lot of cleaning of moss and loose gravel, also requiring a couple of long bugs, a bong, camming devices, and nuts. All in all, I'd say this pitch rated an A2. The rain came, and we headed back to base camp where I made dinner in the vestibule.

6/12/03 - Finally, lots of sun. Sean led a cool pitch with excellent protection, however, we only moved 100 feet. The constant cleaning of moss and loose rock continued to slow us down.

6/13/03 - Another beautiful weather day, so we opted for an early start. This day's 19 hours of climbing began with my lead of what I called the "dogleg" crack. It was steeeeeep, long, and extremely thin, 180 feet total. The
(Continued on page 21)

Climbing in the Needles of the Black Hills, SD

It was with the following advice that Susan and I arrived in the Black Hills region for a few days of climbing during our recent road trip:

From *Recommended Climbing Routes in the Needles of Custer State Park in the Black Hills of South Dakota*, by John Page: Four Little Fishes: "The leader should be aware that there is a 60-foot runout after the fourth bolt..."; Cowboy Jazz: "Close inspection will reveal the first bolt approximately 25 feet up..."; Needles Eye Routes: "Both of the routes mentioned here come together and possess a possible 90-foot ground fall...". From Mick Strole: "Easy to get off route"; "These spires can be very intimidating"; "Lots of sandbagging in the Hills. Be careful!!".

As someone who gets spooked easily when it comes to leading at or above my ability, these statements weren't very reassuring. It didn't matter that the climbers who put up many of the routes in the 40's and 50's were doing so in smooth-soled tennis shoes and minimal protection; I don't have their nerve or skill. I never like getting on anything that's even slightly runout, for fear my mind will stop focusing on the climbing and start focusing on what's going to happen when I fall. It's an unfortunate aspect of my climbing mentality; one I'd like to overcome. And here we were getting ready to climb at an area that's known for its runout routes. Fortunately, we found enough easy and moderate routes to get a good taste of what the Needles area has to offer.

We started our stay in the Black Hills by driving around Custer State Park and getting a feel for where things were. We were interested in finding the three main climbing areas in the park: Sylvan Lake, the Ten Pins area, and Cathedral Spires. Since I wasn't feeling well the first day, we spent some time just walking around Sylvan Lake. Susan did some birding while I tried to assimilate what I was seeing around me with the descriptions in the guidebook. Sylvan Lake is the epicenter of activity in the park, with hiking, biking, fishing, and other activities. But after venturing away from the lake and into the beautiful rock formations, we hardly saw another person. We ran into some locals racking up for a climb we would do the following day, and got some good beta on the area. I was tempted to go back to the car and get our gear, but the combination of not feeling well and the dark clouds dissuaded me. We went to Mount Rushmore instead. It was a good choice; It rained the rest of the day.



5.7 Cruel Shoes on Stripe Rock, in City of Rocks National Reserve, Idaho. Jeff and Susan spent a few days here during their 4-week summer road trip. Photo by Jeff Haffield.

We returned to Sylvan Lake the next morning and enjoyed a great day of climbing in perfect weather with almost no one around. The climbing in this area is on rock called pegmatite, which is a type of coarse-grained granite that has a variety of knobs and protrusions throughout. Most of the climbing is bolted (at least in the grades we were contemplating), although the runouts can be considerable. We started out with *Lander Turkey Shoot*, a 5.6 single-pitch climb with interesting exit moves to get across a small ridge to the bolted rap anchor. Next to it, we climbed the first pitch of *Retable Route*, a 5.7 that's bolted for the first 80 feet, then runout for the remaining 80 feet. Susan hauled the video camera up, and we spent some time filming the basics of rappelling to show to family members who don't understand what it is we do for fun. Next up, we did a long and easy route called *Innercourse* (that's not misspelled, so quit your snickering). It's only a 5.4 and is well-bolted, but for some reason it scared me more

(Continued on page 19)

The Trilogy of Smoke, Fire, and Crazy Squirrels — Erik Filsinger

Mt. Athabasca, 3491m, North Face, D+, III, 5.4
Eisenhower Tower, South Ridge, II, 5.4
Mt. Sir Donald, 3284m, Northwest Ridge, D-, III, 5.4

During an August vacation my wife Susan, Tom Conner and I made some great climbs in the Canadian Rockies and Selkirks and overcame some very non-ordinary Canadian obstacles inherent in a very dry summer where forest fires and smoke predominated. The dry summer made for nearly flawless climbing weather, a rarity for Canada.

Pre-departure phone calls to climbing wardens had elicited some good and some bad news: great conditions for climbing, but bear warnings would keep us off the 50 Classics East Ridge of Temple. They also indicated that throughout the Rockies forest fires would hinder climbs or cloud visibility. Indeed a possible back-up choice climb of the north face of Mount Stanley was nixed by a forest fire ranging across the access trail.

I have been traveling to the Canadian Rockies since 1955 so I wanted to head right to our peak rather than wasting any time sightseeing. However, the drive from the Banff and Lake Louise areas up the Icefields Parkway to the Columbia Icefields was delightful and only marred by the smoke that lay thick in the valleys and obscured higher views to a great extent.

Our first target climb was the prized North Face of Athabasca. At 3491 meters in height, Athabasca dominates the view from the Icefields Visitor Center, that is if you can look beyond the silly line of specially equipped buses that drone endlessly out onto the ice to give the horizontally challenged a feel for the cold depths of the Athabasca Glacier, one of many that originate in the enormous Columbia Icefields in this range.

The Canadian National Park system has a self-registration system for climbers whereby completing a registration card at the Information Center allows you to climb with the comfort of knowing that any rescue will not cost you anything. Without registration, you take your chances and pay the bill yourself.

An early Yvon Chouinard route, The North Face of Athabasca is rated European D+, a fairly stiff grade. As such North Face of Athabasca has been a frequent training climb for those aspiring to larger projects. It involves starting at a parking lot along the Icefields bus route at about 1930m and then at about 2400m entering the glacier after interminable moraine hiking. Glacier climbing takes you past the Silverhorn route (which John Saltonstall and I did a number of years ago) and deposits you on a basin at about 2900m beneath the 500-meter high North Face. The face is characterized by unerring ice intersected at about 3/4's height by a rock band and capped by a final snowfield. From parking lot to summit the climber gains 1561 meters, or about 5,121 feet. In his guidebook, Dougherty rates the ice angle at 40 to 50 degrees and the Alpine Club of Canada rates it at 55 degrees. If he were to rate this climb Secor might say 70. It is interesting



Erik Filsinger surmounts Mt. Sir Donald in the Canadian Rockies

how much variance ice ratings seem to get—some authors say that a 40-degree slope is closer to 60 degrees. There are facts, and then there are perceptions. We felt it was plenty steep enough.

After a 1:40 a.m. start, we surmounted the moraines and the glacier and were at the bottom of the ice face at 7:15 a.m. We had roped up at the start of the glacier and had had a minor detour or two groping through an icefall in the dark. No other party was ahead of us and we took the guidebook-suggested line directly under the thin funnel of rock through which we would break through the rockband. Soon another party appeared and tackled a line left of us.

I lead up to the bergschrund and brought Tom and Susan up. They stepped inside the bergschrund and had a momentary scare as a snow bridge settled and they dropped about 3 feet. I climbed right and up through a short vertical

(Continued on page 15)

AMC Climbing Anchors School — Fall, 2003

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: Experience setting anchors by practicing “hands-on” scenarios under instructor supervision.
Sunday: Apply new skills setting real anchors on an optional climbing outing where students set the anchors under instructor supervision and then spend the day climbing.

Class schedule:

Nov 11& 13 Tues/Thurs 6:30 pm–9:30 pm *Dreamy Draw Park (Phoenix)

Nov 15 Saturday 8:00 am–4:00 pm North Scottsdale

Nov 16 Sunday 7:00 am–5:00 pm Climbing area to be announced during class

*To get to Dreamy Draw Park take SR 51 (Piestewa Peak Freeway) to Northern; turn east on Northern. This takes you directly into the park. Class is at the big ramada.

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: \$75 (plus \$13 for non-members). Register by sending a check payable to AMC Anchors School to 1654 W. Boston St, Chandler, AZ, 85224. No credit cards accepted. The registration fee is fully refundable if you cancel. Call Nancy Birdwell at 480-821-1932 or email info.anchors.school@AzMountaineeringClub.org for more information. The number of students will be limited to 35.

Equipment required for the class: (The slings and harness are the only additional equipment needed over the Basic School requirements)

- 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' 6 mm prusiks (untied length)
- 2 ea 6', 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

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, Stoppers, 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.AzMountaineeringClub.org

Proposed 2004 AMC Budget

INCOME

Advertising	200.
Dues	6,500.
Interest	75.
Library fines	20.
Decals	100.
AMC T-Shirts	500.
T-Shirts Grand Canyon	200.
Mountaineering Schools	1,000.
Program Income	100.
Equipment Rental	200.
T&S Shoe Rental	200.
AARS—Spring	1,875.
AARS - Fall	1,875.
Basic School — Fall	6,080.
Basic School—Spring	6,080.
Lead School— Fall	1,125.
Lead School—Spring	1,125.
Navigation Class	200.
From Checking	<u>5,670.</u>
<i>Total Income</i>	<u>33,125.</u>

EXPENSE

<i>Land Advocacy Comm</i>	
Membership Expense	900
Operations	500.
Special Requests	<u>750</u>
	<u>2,150</u>
<i>General Admin</i>	
Food	500.
Other	200.
Postage	300.
Printing	300.
Promotion	300.
Telephone	500.
Website	400.
Bank Sv. Charges	<u>125</u>
	<u>2,625</u>
Bouldering Contest	300.
<i>Capital Expenditures</i>	
Mountaineering	700.
Outings	500.
Rental Equipment	500.
T&S Capital Equipment	<u>500.</u>
	<u>2,200.</u>

Classification

Certifications	1,000.
First Aid Renewals	<u>500.</u>
	<u>1,500</u>

Equipment Maintenance

AMC Gear	100.
Rental Gear	<u>200.</u>
	<u>300.</u>

Insurance

5,000

Library

200.

Merchandise

AMC T-Shirts	700.
Grand Canyon T-Shirts	<u>300</u>
	<u>1,000.</u>

Mountaineering Comm

300

Newsletter

Postage	1,800
Printing	<u>2,200</u>
	<u>4,000</u>

Outings

500.

Monthly Mtg Programs

5,000.

Training

Equipment Exp.	6,000.
Facilities	500
Food	500
Printing	800
T-Shirts & Incentives	500
Nav Class	<u>150</u>
	<u>8,550</u>

Total Expenses

33,125

section of water ice and was soon on the immense expanse of ice that constitutes the face.

Tom and Susan opted for pitching it out rather than simul-climbing, a reasonable choice. The climbing was actually easy, but it soon was apparent that it was relentless, even running out the first 60 meters. After the first bunch of hanging belays, my ankles ached.

Susan and Tom climbed on separate 9 mm ropes separated horizontally by a couple of meters. Each had a screw or two to remove as I had tried to alternate red and blue rope placements. I headed up again, and then again, each time bringing Susan and Tom up to my very uncomfortable belay stance. They were getting pelted by the inevitable chunks of ice a leader dislodges, as well as all three of us getting pelted now by the party of two who had climbed higher and were cutting in above us toward the notch exit couloir. Occasionally a rock literally came whistling by. Those that have heard that whistle don't lightly forget it. Terminal velocity was all we hoped would be terminal.

After a lead where I figured I was about a rope and a half away from the exit couloir, I could tell Susan and Tom were wearing out. The tension and pain of the awkward hanging belays and the real pain of getting bombarded was a little too much. Unfortunately the game was up, about 95 percent of the way to the summit and about 75 percent of the way up the ice face itself. To them, descent seemed an easier option than heading further into the heights above. Susan set the first V-thread and I was soon hanging 60 meters down placing the second, and so on and so on. Each time they rappelled down to a V-thread and ice screw anchor. Each time Tom came last removing the screw and trusting the V-thread as he rappelled down to us at the next station.

All in all, it was a valiant effort for the team. I was satisfied to have been comfortable on the face and knowing that I could do it. It probably was best to bail while everyone still had the composure to do it comfortably. All I have to do now is to complete that 5 percent of the mountain that lies between the bottom of the rock band and the summit on which I stood in 1998. The belays were so painful that I might consider either partnering with someone who would simul-climb it with me, maybe going with just one other person to facilitate the climbing, or maybe soloing it and a rope solo of the rock band crux. Still to dream.

We slept very well that night and the next day transferred ourselves to Banff National Park and our next target, Eisenhower Tower. The Tower is the

southern rampart of Castle Mountain, which dominates the views up and down the Bow Valley.

Because of the shorter approach on a good trail we opted for a later start time of 4:20 a.m. Whoops and hollers served to scare the bears, and probably all interesting wild life, aside. Hiking in bear country should be a noisy thing for the initiated. Of note, locals are fairly fatalistic about it all and say that when your number is up you are bear food. They laugh at the bear bells some folks carry. Worthless, they say.

We hiked up the trail and on schedule at about sunrise we were faced with a choice of how to get onto the tree-lined ridge. We scrambled through the forest and found the side trail we had missed in the dark. Later we kicked ourselves for not listening to the guidebook description better. A horizontal ledge system at the bottom of the Goat Plateau cliff band took us out left to the gully through which we climbed to the top of the immense running platform. Helmets had been a good idea during this phase of the ascent due to loose rock, with some natural releases.

In front of us was the prize, the soaring Eisenhower Tower. The trailhead had been at about 1450m and the summit was at 2751m, or a climbing gain of 1301m (4,268 feet). Our technical climbing began at 8:00 a.m. with Tom taking the sharp end and doing an admirable job. We used a 60-meter line with me tied in on a slack line about 10 feet in front of Susan. Route finding was fairly straightforward to the top of the Dragon's Back (we took the alternative gully). Face climbing past several good bolted anchors brought us to the scree bowl, mid-height. A modern 5.4 ridgeline leads left out of the bowl. The left-hand original route was a little tough to follow by comparison, made somewhat harder by assorted slings and gear hanging here and there. We made it to the base of the final two pitches and soon stood on the summit next to the largest cairn humans have ever created, well above the height of the tallest human.

The wind was whipping up, but we found a sheltered place and devoured a well deserved lunch at about 1:00 p.m. Ten rappels, some of them very windy but all supported by great two bolt rap stations, deposited us back at our left-behind gear on Goat Plateau. All rap stations were two modern bolts and were easy to find, except perhaps the one below the shoulder on the left option above the scree bowl. Here it was obvious that the place to rap was down into the bowl, but it took a little searching to find the bolts, which were

(Continued on page 17)



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2. The **staff** at the Arizona Hiking Shack **are climbers** too. You get knowledgeable, friendly advice on gear, places to climb, and the absolute best fit on harnesses, shoes and helmets. The Arizona Hiking Shack is locally owned and has been selling gear to valley climbers since 1972. We take pride in helping to select the right hardware for your climbing adventures. (Besides most of us are AMC members also!)

At the Arizona Hiking Shack, **AMC Members get a 15% discount** on everything they buy, everyday of the week, every week of the year. Why? Two Reasons. First, we respect the job the AMC does. The AMC not only teaches people how to climb safely, they also teach an ethic of responsibility to the outdoors that is essential to keeping our climbing areas open. Second, you learn to climb in the valley. . . well, like it or not. . . we consider you one of OUR homeboys or girls and simply said, we want your business! Ultimately, we know you have many choices when it comes to purchasing your equipment and by having a great selection of gear, a knowledgeable staff, and totally killer deals, we hope you'll come shop with us.

Canadian Peaks *Continued from page 15*

in a shadowed corner just below the ridgeline. I actually had found a piton I was preparing to use, when Tom or Susan said to look behind me—bolts not two feet away. Also, the rap station for the final descent gully off the Dragon's Back is offset to the skier's right of the gully itself. Rap skier's left back into the gully rather than down the straightest fall line. That will hang you out in mid-air.

Safely at the base of the Dragon's Back we gathered our gear and water. A little more down-scrambling and we were back at the car at 7:45 p.m., our second 15-hour day. The climbing had been predominantly on solid rock, low fifth class, and all in great position on one of the signature peaks of the Bow Valley.

Hearing that the Selkirks were in good condition and in particular that Sir Donald was in shape, we headed west through Field and Yoho Park to Glacier National Park and Rogers Pass country. Rogers Pass figures in the climbing history of North America. It was to the newly built Glacier House near the pass that the Canadian Pacific Railway Company first imported Swiss guides to attract climbing tourists to the mountains that looked so much like the Alps. Climbing was probably about as active then in the late 1890's and early 1900's as it is today.

The monarch of the range, Sir Donald, with its soaring ridges and dramatic faces, reminds the tourist of the Matterhorn. It figures prominently in early Canadian climbing lore. The quality of its climbing still attracts climbers today, and its Northwest Ridge was sufficiently of merit to be included in Roper and Steck's *Fifty Classic Climbs of North America*.

The alarm sounded early and we were on the trail from the Illecillewaet Campground at 1:30 a.m. This was an immense climb. The trailhead begins at 1300m, the Uto-Sir Donald col is at 2535 meters, and the Sir Donald summit at 3284m. The vertical gain registers an astounding 1984 meters, or about 6509 feet. We discussed that if we were to do it again we might opt for the bivy sites a first night at about 2300m to break up the climb into manageable components. Nevertheless we climbed the mountain in one push and did so without trouble.

From the col one literally had to tilt one's head back to see up the ridge line. We started our scrambling at about 6:30 a.m., with me leading out roped simul-climbing for the initial part of the ridge. When we started placing gear for a running belay Tom took over and lead the single rope the rest of the way.

There were several other parties on the ridge, with two being faster than us and one probably being slower. The latter group bailed short of the summit. The climb-

ing was consistent and blocky low fifth class, with the easiest line not always being straight on, but twisting this way or that. Occasionally it made sense to just go straight over an obstacle rather than fool around with a more circumlocutious line. Individual moves may have approached 5.6 to 5.7 in the straightening process.

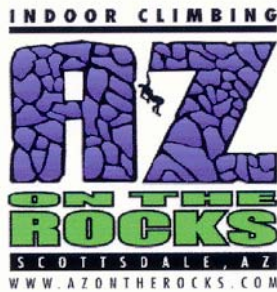
The day progressed on and on. The exposure occasionally became intense, especially down the North face, but all in all it was manageable. What was difficult was the climbing length. It kept coming and coming, on and on, but I guess that is what we should have expected for almost 3,000 vertical feet of technical climbing.

About halfway up Tom and Susan gave up their boots and put on climbing shoes. I toughed it out in boots, maybe for better or for worse, depending on the question asked. Only occasionally did we pitch it out. Mostly we did running belays, with an occasional hand-tension for moral support.

After many false summits we stood on the last crest and walked to the actual summit. It was somewhere between 3:00 and 4:00 p.m., so we knew that we didn't have much time. The climbing wardens had prepared a route description for the descent and we tried to follow it but couldn't find the described rap stations. Being in boots, I was comfortable with the scree on the SW face and looking for the promised easy ledge system that skipped the whole summit block. However, without photographic evidence or demonstrable man-made objects to indicate the line, Susan and Tom in rock shoes were less eager to plunge down an unknown face. I felt there was a good exit that would make life easier for all of us, but did not have sufficient evidence thereof on me to prove to the team. Instead our compromise, sure solution was to trudge back over the top and begin the laborious downclimb and rappels.

Literally I don't have a good idea of how many rappels we did into the twilight. I led down, searching out our climbing route and/or looking for rap stations. We ended up not using one of our own making, but instead using tattered and weather-beaten slings of the ages which adorned the ridgeline. A brief shortcut or two and after an interminable amount of tedious work we finally found Tom's boots on the ledge where he had left them.

Shortly thereafter we found the first of 10 rap stations the Canadian Park system had put in
(Continued on page 22)



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Sampling the Black Hills — Continued from page 11

than the others we'd just climbed. As with most other routes in the area, we rapped from a bolt anchor at the top of the formation; there aren't many walk-offs in the Needles. We checked out a couple of other nearby climbs in the 5.6/5.7 range, then returned to the dam at the lake. The dam consists of a small manmade section, framed by long bands of granite on either side. On the backside of these granite walls are more climbs that didn't appear in the guidebook we had with us. We saw a fun-looking bolted route that turned out to be another one that was bolted for the first half and runout for the rest. I think I got a small cam in a flaring crack on the upper half, but nothing else. Susan led it as well, but after trying in vain to get a piece in, decided just to run it out to the top. Overall, it was a very enjoyable day.

We spent part of another day hiking to (and through) the Cathedral Spires. Again, Susan looked for birds while I looked for routes. These spires contain a number of multi-pitch routes, but the lack of good route information was too intimidating for me. It's a beautiful area, though, and it was a nice hike.

The day after, we went to the Ten Pins area, so-named because the spires resemble giant bowling pins closely grouped together. Here again, we were in the land of the traditional route pioneer, with sparsely-protected routes. Sparse by my definition, anyway. I chose *Tricouni Nail* (5.8), one of the most classic climbs in the area. This is a Royal Robbins-authored route that he called Cerberus, after the three-headed dog from Greek mythology. I was a little nervous about this climb, in part because of the simul-rappel that Susan and I would have to do from the top, which contains no fixed anchors. The first half looked easy enough, but I couldn't make out what protection options I'd have on the second half. I thought I remembered there were only two bolts on that half, which didn't inspire confidence. I put together a small rack, then grabbed a neutral-colored sling from Susan. The decision to take that sling would be the key to my failure on this route. I started up, clipped three fixed pins, placed a medium Alien, then tied-off a large horn. Once on top of the horn, I started getting scared. I had to traverse out left slightly, across terrain that appeared slightly overhanging. I made a move or two, placed a medium nut, then returned to the horn to collect myself. Part of my problem was that I knew there was a bolt out there somewhere, but I couldn't see it. That got me thinking that maybe it wouldn't be out there when

I needed it. And since the crux is near that bolt, *and* since there were no more cracks or other options for protection, *and* I knew that a fall would result in a long pendulum if I fell, I decided to back off. I removed my piece and returned again to the security of the horn. When I took that sling from Susan, I was already thinking about the possibility of bailing. Now, the power of suggestion was in effect as I used it to rig a retreat off of the horn. Dejected, I returned to the ground, already mad that I didn't give it more of an effort.

We were both disappointed in my performance, but we decided to try to salvage the day by getting on something easy that would boost my confidence. We consulted the guidebook, and came up with another spire in the Ten Pins area called *Safety Pin*. This is a 5.6 with a distinctive hole through the top of the rock, and another simul-rappel from the summit. We were using Paul Piana's book to find this climb, but the vague directions made it difficult to find the start of the route. Once at the base, we could see the grungy-looking first half that went to a shoulder, with the summit spire above it. I racked up and started climbing, wondering why such a low-rated route hadn't been climbed enough to clean off more of the lichen. After 50 feet of climbing while only finding one place to put in a piece, I found my answer: The shoulder I thought connected with the summit spire was indeed a summit in itself, and I found myself looking at *Safety Pin* about 20 feet out of reach. I was on the wrong formation! Not feeling I could reverse the last 25 feet of climbing to get back to my only piece, I used Susan as an anchor and rapped off the back. Then I came back around to the base, climbed up unprotected to pull my piece, then traversed off yet another side of the formation where I could safely downclimb. It hadn't turned into a good day at all, but at least we found some humor in it: Susan joked later that maybe I could claim the first ascent of *Sh*t Pin*.

From a climbing perspective, our stay in the Black Hills was too short, but we were happy to at least sample some of what the area has to offer. It's definitely worth a visit if you haven't been there, and we're planning to return sometime to do more climbing.

-Jeff Hatfield

Grand Canyon Cleanup and Climb

Continued from page 9

The Medivac Wall area was set up by, Rogil Schroeter and Tim Lange. Climbs set were Loch ness 5.11, Godliness 5.9, Cleanliness 5.9, Just for the Trilobite 5.9 and Rain of Terror 5.11-. The most unique feature of this area is the protruding rock that resembles a Gorilla Face; he has observed the Canyon for thousands of years. See *Rock Climbing Arizona* Falcon guide page 462.

The Wailing Wall area just off the Rim Trail was setup under the direction of Scott Hoffman. Assistants helped set up Right to a Peel 5.10, Black Bawl 5.9, Rip Off 5.8, Lieback and Enjoy It 5.10 and Tip Off 5.9. The latter three climbs offer fun climbing on fossilized worm trails hundreds of millions of years old. The whole area overlooks the Bright Angel Trail and Plateau Point.

T-Shirts: "Grand Canyon Over the Edge Trash Pick Up" designs by Clay Vollmer are still available. Get yours before they are gone. Long and short sleeves available.

I want to thank everyone who came to participate in this year's 15th annual clean up and climb. We have a great club, and our diversified membership makes it what it is today.

Trivia Question: Who was the founding forefather and leader of the first "Grand Canyon Over the Edge Clean Up and Climb?" Answer: Paul Dief—owner of the Phoenix Rock Gym. The tradition continues.

"Wisdom is knowing what to do next, virtue is doing it"...

- Monica D. Miller

Participants:

Kevin Abney
David Alton
Michael Anderson
Gino Belassen
Rebecca Bitterli
Michael Boylan
Tommy Crawford
Steve Dilley
Dylan Downhill
Tracy Dugan
Elizabeth Dunlop
Jon England
Robert England
Scott Hoffman
James D. Holloway
Kenneth Hopkins

John Keedy
Sheri Kenly
Tom Kirsch
Bill Kurek
John Kynyk
Tim Lange
David Larimer
Sally Larimer
Sophie LeDoux
Anthony Mavis
Monica Miller
Scott Parsons
David Paul
John Perlman
Tiina Perlman
Lynn Readicker

Elliott Rector
Gary Rector
Lance Roth
Rogil Schroeter
Wayne Schroeter
Elizabeth Serraglio
Jef Sloat
John Stickney
Rick Taylor
John Les Thomas
Charlene Todd
Lee Toone
Clay Vollmer
Tim Ward
Kristin Weissenbach
Scott Winkler

SCREE — By Wally

It is had enough getting geezerly, but it really hurts to find that a whole new facet of the earth's history was discovered — *eight years ago* --and I'm just now learning about it for the first time. There's simply too much to keep track of in this world.

On the off-chance that you have all been too busy climbing rocks and building careers and doing virile things appropriate for your age and energy level, I'll tell you about it.

The blow was softened by the delightful style of author Gabrielle Walker, a Cambridge Ph.D who features for *New Scientist* magazine. The book is *Snow Ball Earth — the story of the great global catastrophe that spawned life as we know it*. She relates her travels in the field to see the places and meet the people who developed (and battled over) the theory.

Briefly, a unique signature series occurs in Precambrian rocks throughout the world consisting of a special kind of semi-conglomerate sandwiched between layers of a special kind of carbonates. Signs indicated the conglomerate rocks were ice borne — carried by a glacier over a shallow sea, where they dropped to the bottom as the ice melted. She cites a load of evidence involving isotopes and magnetic orientation and unique Ediacarian fossils and stuff.

The obvious inference is: hot world, then frozen world, hot world again stretching over a time span of many millions of years. Volcanoes and CO₂ and greenhouse effects played key roles. For exactly how, read the book..

There is debate over how the earth froze and then unfroze but the apparent outcome was to spur development of new life forms to fill the many new ecological niches cleared of most of its former very low-life inhabitants by the earth's temperature didos.

Incidentally, I was enchanted to learn that geologists battle every bit as savagely over ideas and evidence as archaeologists do — and their tiffs were truly awe-inspiring to this goggle-eyed apprentice trowel scraper.

Rock climbing fiend of a room mate needed. 13th St. and Union Hills. Great neighborhood, close to the crags and the new rock gym. \$375 per month + half utilities. Move in Jan 1st. Scott 602-821-9536.

pitch took 4 bird beaks, every size of blade to angles, and 5 lost arrows. I had a tag line attached to me (a small 8 mm rope) so Sean could keep sending me gear. Extra gear requirements were from blades, hexes, stoppers, cams, and carabiners. This was the hardest pitch yet, requiring 1-1/2 hours just to drill 2 bolts. This pitch was so hard that I popped a bird beak, rump, and took two daisy falls. I placed a #1 Chouinard stopper, the last of my 16 stoppers, bounce tested it, and it looked good, so I moved onto it. I removed my aiders and "snap," the rock broke. I fell 10 feet. (Ouch! That hurt my balls!) Sean didn't even notice I had fallen due to the rope stretch and the fact that I was so far out, about 170 feet. It was exciting to say the least.

I was extremely tired when we arrived back to base camp at midnight. After eating and resting, we called it a night.

6/14/03 - Late start due to the previous day's late return. Sean led another pitch of loose rock and big hollow flakes which sent echoes across the land as he pounded on them. This pitch required long blades, bugs, 7 Black Diamond peckers, 1 rump, nuts, and climbing devices. It was a pecker of a pitch! The weather, again, prevented us from accomplishing our daily goal. Sean found some good rock, and placed 2 solid bolts, fixed the lead rope (since we were out of static rope), and we bailed for the day. It was approximately 11:00 p.m. when we arrived back to base camp. We ate and were in bed by midnight.

6/15/03 - Rest day due to bad weather. What a drag!

6/16/03 - With time running short and unknown weather conditions from day-to-day, we decided to spend the day cleaning the route and putting in haul anchors in preparation of simplifying hauling on our next trip. We were back to base camp at 6:00 p.m. The group which had arrived to camp on 6/10 had left because they couldn't handle the weather. We were in bed at 8:30 p.m.

6/17/03 - After much discussion, Sean and I decided we had had enough of the weather too. We moved our equipment to the drop off/pick up site two days early. We dug the required 25 foot letters "TAT OUT," expecting them to come and get us as promised. Well, despite relatively decent weather, no one showed up to get us.

6/18/03 - Rain and snow all day, no TAT.

6/19/03 - Clear all morning, with bad weather in the afternoon. No TAT.

6/20/03 - No sun, bad weather. Sean and I begin to worry as we had nearly run out of supplies and food. I found myself frequently praying for sun.

6/21/03 - Still snowing. I am really nervous now. No word from TAT. We feel stranded. Now we're out of toilet paper, and running seriously low on other goods. At 5:30 p.m., there was a break in the clouds. We become hopeful as we heard planes overhead. At 9:30 p.m., there was still no sight of TAT.

6/22/03 - 5:00 a.m. we awoke to more snow. How depressing. Two hours later, the wind picks up and blue skies prevail. Then in the distance, we hear sounds of a Beaver approaching. Yahoo! It is Paul of TAT. We're homeward bound.

Immediately upon arrival at the TAT airport, I called my wife, knowing she would be freaked out because we missed our return flight home. Sean showered, and I take a bird bath in the time left before heading to Anchorage. Alaska Airlines puts us on an immediate flight to Seattle. We arrived in Seattle at 8:07 p.m., with the next flight to Phoenix leaving at 8:13 p.m. We were flying standby at this point and did not arrive in time to board this flight.

My daughter, Amber, and grandson were at Sea-Tac waiting for us. Amber is serving in the Navy and was required to go on a training detachment. As a result, I volunteered to bring my 3 month old grandson, Dylan, home to Phoenix with me. The only thing worse than "Three Men and a Baby" is "Two Mountain Men and a Baby." After listening to my daughter tell me I stunk, I knew we were in for scrutiny by all who passed by us as neither of us had shaven, and I had not showered. Despite this, nearly every woman working for or waiting for an Alaska Airlines plane offered to help with the baby. It had been so long since I took charge of an infant, that their help was greatly appreciated. (If I had known that baby boys were such babe magnets, I would have borrowed one in my single days.) Sean and I were fortunate that Dylan was good; he never cried or complained (of course, he was being held the whole time).

6/23/03 - We finally made it on a 10:45 a.m. flight back to Phoenix and were met by Lori at the airport. A sigh of relief as the two mountain men set foot on home soil and relinquish responsibility of baby care to grandma.

What an experience! A big thanks to everyone who made this journey possible. Better weather next time!

—Richard Horst

Canadian Peaks *(Continued from page 17)*

down the lower West Face to facilitate the descent. Fine stuff, if you could see them, but our night vision was being challenged. About dark, I lowered over the key corner where the rap anchors left the ridgeline and headed down the West face. In the oncoming dark, I took the wrong line and was left hanging 10 feet out from the wall and about 15 feet down and right of the next bolts, which I just could see in my headlamp. Some swinging to and fro and I was able to grab a crack with my left hand. Thank you, God, for having me use an autoblock to back-up my brake hand. I self-belayed with the autoblock on the rap line as I climbed up to the anchor and then yelled for Tom and Susan to take the right line.

In the pitch blackness of the night, there we were: a cloudy sky, 6 raps up a face not knowing where the next bolt station was. I descended into the dark (roles: Tom pulled ropes, I coiled and fixed them through the anchor, then rappelling to find the next station. Susan kept it together, God bless her.)

I couldn't find the next rap station, but found some slings, so clipped into them and brought Susan down. She found the bolt anchors slightly up and to the right. I climbed up to her. Tom then came down. Next time I also couldn't find the anchors, but clipped into another anchor. Tom found the correct ones, slightly lower left and down. Susan and I traversed a narrow ledge to him, afterwards thankful for not being able to see the drop at our feet and thankful for a hasty belay. Perhaps it was at this anchor that Tom and Susan saw a furry varmint scurrying across the cliff—what a place to make home!

After that failure to locate the bolts, I developed a technique that worked well. I would rap down my doubled 60-meter rope (30 meters), but tie the ends off at about 25 meters and then pendulum back and forth at the 25-meter mark (the correct length) until I found the bolts. Each time we pulled the ropes or someone rappelled, the inevitable rocks sparked the only light of the night as they cascaded down hundreds of feet of cliff.

And so we descended into the night. A cruel joke for the last rap station was the cruel wardens (I wasn't amused at the time) had placed the bolts in a small three-foot corner, completely hidden from view until one tripped on them. I think we hit the last rappel after midnight and it was obvious that the scree and 4th-class downclimbing above a cliffline would be too much for us. Somewhere about 1:00 a.m. we made the decision to settle in and bivvy until daylight allowed us to see. It was a good decision.

We found a 5-foot by 2-foot small level section at the bottom of the cliff and above the scree to settle in

for an uncomfortable night. Tom had the worst of it without a bivy sack, and Susan and I got by with sharing one of those re-useable emergency ones—a great thing to have along. While Susan crawled inside the sack for warmth, Tom and I separately in our own thought processes probably watched headlamps at both standard bivy sites far below us. The night was endless, and we literally shivered our way through it sitting up and trying to catch a little sleep. It was good we had our helmets on because I caught a pretty good rock during the night on it. The storm clouds were more felt than perceived other than for a brief hailstorm whose hailstones bounced loudly off the emergency bivy sack.

Ensuing daylight permitted a gradual and cautious descent. One last rappel and we were off. As each of us had been out of water, we were very happy to drink our fill at our stash at the base of the descent route. Some nice gents who had bivied lower down gave us more water and said that they had watched our headlamps into the night. Too bad we hadn't been able to come down and drink the tea they had prepared for us. Ten a.m. the morning after we had started the climb we were back at the car, no worse for wear and with a 50 Classics under our belt. All was good, especially when I know of people often requiring 3 to 6 attempts before surmounting Sir Donald, a peak that is more often out of shape than in.

Tourist activities completed the vacation, but I think Tom noted to me that over 5 consecutive days we had spent an average of 12 hours a day on the go. Now that's how to party!

And we now feel comfortable talking to the old guy as Sir Don. We're on a first name basis after sleeping together, you know. And, yes, the bomb-throwing squirrel was a mischievous fellow at the Illecillewaet Campground who was gathering his winter stores. He scurried to the tops of those immense conifers, and shook loose pine cones, which thudded into the ground and onto our car from 100 feet in the air. He then would be brazen while he came back to the ground and picked the missiles up from around our feet and carried them to his well-stocked den at the base of the trees. Would we all could work so hard, but then again I doubt he has ever climbed a human's 50 Classics, either.

—Erik Filsinger

Calendar of Events (Continued from page 24)

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.

Wednesdays North Mountain Hikes after work. Rogil Schroeter (623) 512-8465 or Oct 11
Dec 6-7 Backpack to Ringbolt Hot Springs, Mohave, AZ area. Rogil Schroeter (623) 512-8465. Limit 12
Dec 27 Ouray Ice Climbing, Dec. 27, 2003–Jan. 4, 2004. Ouray, CO. Visit website www.ourayicepark.com. \$50.00 deposit for lodging reservation, in nice large furnished house retained for the outing. For more details contact Richard Horst (623) 434-4769.

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.

During 2004 Southwest Adventures will offer the following ice climbing and winter mountaineering activities to AMC members:

Beginning Ice Climbing and Avalanche Awareness

Offered January 17-19 (MLK Weekend) Minimum number of participants: 4 (AMC or Other).
Registration Dead lines: 30 days before course start date. Cost: \$138 plus equipment rentals for Ice Portion, plus \$55 for optional Avalanche Awareness Prerequisite: Basic rock climbing

Avalanche Awareness

1/19, 2/16 Registration Dead lines: 30 days before course start date. Cost: \$55 plus equipment rentals
Prerequisite: None

Advanced Ice climbing

Dates: 2/14 to 2/16 (President's Day Weekend) Registration Dead lines: 30 days before course start date.
Cost: \$150 plus equipment rentals for ice portion, plus \$55 for optional Avalanche Prerequisite: Basic ice climbing course

Multi-pitch ice Climbing

Dates: 3/13 and 3/14 Registration Dead lines: 30 days before course start date. Cost: \$260 for both days. \$210 for second day only. Prerequisite: Advance ice climbing course and Avalanche awareness

In addition, arrangements can be made for guided Winter Mountaineering and for Level One Avalanche Certification class.

To sign up or for more information contact Erik Filsinger at smorefil@aol.com.

New Members

Alison Busche	Jennifer Rembisz
Lynne Carnicelli	Cindy Ruiz
Mark Driskel	Thomas Smith
Darrell Foster	Paul Valenzuela
Stacy Hargarten	David Van Hook, Sr
John Hoffman	Jim Watson
Tom Kirsch	Monica Willbrand
Robert Miles	

Zen-Lizard Systems Presents

X-Chalk

The world's first rock climbing chalk that soothes hot and ripped up fingers—as you climb! Also helps heal cuts and scratches. All natural—no chemicals. Available at the Phoenix Rock Gym, Climamax, the Arizona Hiking Shack, and online at:

<http://www.zen-lizard.com>



Calendar of Events

AMC Outings

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.

- Nov 1 **Queen Creek Cleanup and Climb.** Charlene Todd (480) 917-5354.
Nov 3 **Board Meeting at Los Olivos,** 7:00 p.m.
Nov 5 **Anchors School Instructor Meeting.** Wayne Schroeter (602) 402-1631.
Nov 9 **Granite Mt., Prescott.** Multi-pitch climb. Limit 4. Meet at 7:00 a.m. at Playa Day Use area, Granite Mt. Wilderness access point, Prescott. Return to car 6:30 pm. Approach approx. 2 miles, elevation gain with some brush. Route will be 5.6 to 5.10 depending on participants. *Experienced fit participants only.* Completion of Basic and Anchors required. Bring helmets, food, water and headlamps. Directions: Take Iron Springs Road northwest to Forest Service. Rd. 374 to the Granite Basin Recreation Area. Further details may be found in Falcon Guide *Rock Climbing Arizona*, page 311. Call Richard Horst (623) 434-4769 to sign up.
Nov 11 **Anchors School.** Nov. 11,13,15,16. Nancy Birdwell (480) 821-1932 or email info.anchors.school@azmountaineeringclub.org.
Nov 17 **AMC Membership meeting** at Los Olivos, 7:00 p.m.
Nov 22 **Time Zone Wall, Prescott.** For new climbers. 5.6-5.9. John Keedy, (623) 412-1452 or (602) 757-4619. Meet at Denny's and I-17 and Bell Rd at 7 a.m. sharp.
Nov 26 **Joshua Tree Thanksgiving.** Nov. 26-30.

****Cancellations:** Please keep in mind that most outings have limits and that there is usually a waiting list to attend. Call at least 24 hours in advance to cancel. Courtesy dictates that you be on time for the outing, and that if you are sick or an emergency occurs the day of the outing, call the Outing Leader so the group doesn't lose time waiting on you.

To request outings: Call the Outings Chair, Monica Miller, at (623) 362-0456.

(Continued on page 23)

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 Dave Larimer at (480) 425-9689.

Tom Conner.....480-897-7623	Sally Borg Larimer.. 480-425-9689	Wayne Schroeter 602-402-1631
Erik Filsinger.....602-906-1186	Tim Medlock..... 719-494-1171	Jef Sloat..... 602-316-1899
Jeff Hatfield480-783-8779	Jeff Nagel 602-318-9538	Mick Strole..... 520-856-3335
Scott Hoffman623-580-8909	Paul Norberg 602-808-9244	Rick Taylor 623-487-8507
Richard Horst.....623-434-4769	Paul Paonessa..... 602-493-7356	Frank Vers 480-947-9435
John Keedy.....623-412-1452	Chris Query..... 480-967-9268	Tim Ward..... 602-212-1929
Tim Lange.....480-598-9124	Tim Schneider 480-497-8377	
David Larimer480-425-9689	Rogil Schroeter 623-512-8465	

November 2003

AMC Outing Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Queen Cr. Clean & Climb
2	3 AMC Board	4	5 Anchors Instr Mtg Sunrise 6:50 Sunset 5:53 M-rise 4:08p	6	7	8 Full Moon
9 Granite Mt.	10	11 Anchors School	12 Sunrise 6:57 Sunset 5:28 M-risr 8:02p	13 Anchors School	14	15 Anchors School
16 Anchors School	17 AMC Mem- bers Mtg.	18	19 Sunrise 7:03 Sunset 5:24 M-rise 2:04a	20	21	22 Time Zone Wall
23 New Moon	24	25	26 J-Tree Thanksgvg Sunrise 7:10 Sunset 5:21 M-set 8:12p	27 J-Tree Thanksgvg	28 J-Tree Thanksgiv	29 J-Tree Thanksgvg
30 J-Tree Thanksgve						