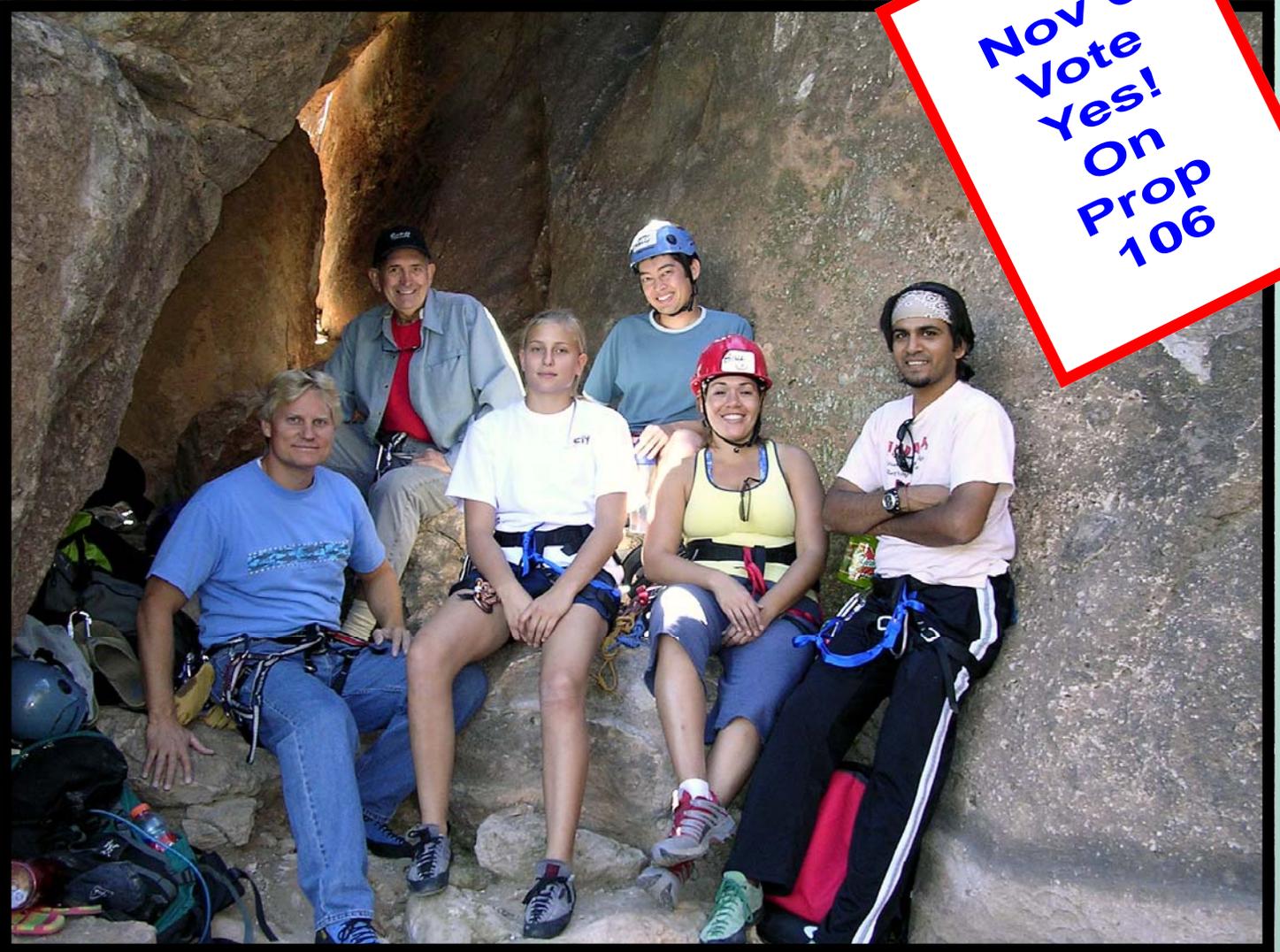


The Arizona MOUNTAINEER

November 2006

Nov 6
Vote
Yes!
On
Prop
106



Fall 2006 Basic School Grad Climbers at the Pancake House - Queen Creek
From Left: Outing Assistant Todd Storey,
AMC President/Outing Leader John Keedy, Alexa Storey,
Ben Smith, Gina Prosperi, Samir Soni

The Arizona Mountaineering Club

Meetings: October Member Meeting at the Burton Barr Central Library 1221 N. Central Ave., Phoenix, AZ 85004 at 7:00 p.m. See calendar for day/date.

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

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

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

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

For More Information:

Call: (623) 878-2485

Email:
president@amcaz.org
board@amcaz.org

Websites:
www.amcaz.org

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

Board of Directors:

President John Keedy 623-412-1452
Vice-President Robert England.... 480-688-5412
Secretary Erik Filsinger..... 480-314-1089
Treasurer..... Clay Vollmer 602-595-7266
Director 2-year..... Dave McClintic ... 480-607-0890
Director 2-year..... Justin Iske 480-225-7739
Director 1-year..... Dave Van Hook... 602-790-6283
Director 1-year..... Bill Fallon..... 602-996-9790
Past President Jutta Ulrich 602-234-3579

Committees:

Archivist Jef Sloat 602-316-1899
Classification Nancy Birdwell ... 480-821-1932
Elections Dave Van Hook... 602-790-6283
Equipment Rental ... Erik Filsinger..... 480-314-1089
Email Tricia Rudloff 623-580-7740
Land Advocacy Erik Filsinger..... 480-314-1089
Librarian Richard Kocher ... 480-966-5568
Membership..... Rogil Schroeter.... 623-512-8465
Mountaineering Erik Filsinger..... 480-314-1089
 Co-Chair Bruce McHenry
Newsletter..... Robert England.... 480-688-5412
Outings Frank Vers 480-947-9435
Programs..... Sheri Kenly..... 602-242-0504
Training & Schools.. Bill Fallon..... 602-996-9790
 Co-Chair Clay Vollmer 602-595-7266
 Basic Class Sally Larimer..... 480-425-9689
 Anchors Class Robert England.... 480-821-4243
 Lead Class Mike Knarzer 602-751-1701
T-shirts..... Sally Larimer..... 480-425-9689
Website Kirra webadmin@amcaz.org

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

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

https://www.accessfund.org/secure/joinnow/join_indiv.php or at <https://accessfund.org/join/indiv.php>.

This Month in the AMC

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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 300 dpi. Articles can be in any standard word processing format. For more info call or write the editor at (480)-688-5412, robert_england2@yahoo.com.

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.

HOT STUFF !!!

November 6

Vote YES!

For

Prop 106

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.

December Newsletter Deadline Wednesday - November 15

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Charles Schulz 3, Frederick Simpson 3, Michael Kelly 4, Calvin Norman 6, Michael Tribuno 6, Sheryl Valentiner 7, JP Holloway 8, M.E. Schmelzer 10, Jim Watson 11, Brian Mix 13, Susan Morris 13, Bill Berkley 14, Sheri Kenly 14, Coy Collins 15, Kevin Leahy 17, Todd Storey 18, Bruce Robbins 19, Richard Ellis 21, Michael Schennum 22, Mark Gordon 23, Clay Vollmer 23, Debra Carpenter 27, Sandy Draus 28, John Granger 28, Peter Neubauer 28, Isabelle Plante 28, Greg King 30

Board Meeting Minutes: October 9, 2006

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by Robert England at Clay Vollmer's house.

Board members present: Robert England, Jutta Ulrich, Dave Van Hook, Justin Iske, Erik Filsinger, Bill Fallon, and Clay Vollmer

Minutes of the September 9, 2006 meeting were approved.

The Treasurer's Report was accepted as submitted.

Committee Reports:

Elections: Dave Van Hook outlined his plans for the upcoming annual election.

Land Advocacy: Erik Filsinger discussed the importance of everyone supporting Proposition 106, Conserving Arizona's Future.

Library: Robert England and Kirra are working toward putting our listings on the website.

Mountaineering: Erik Filsinger discussed plans for the Alpine Rock Seminar and the AMC Basic and Advanced Ice Climbing classes.

Newsletter: Robert England gave an update.

Outings: Clay Vollmer reported on the Grand Canyon Clean-Up and Robert England told about the Bruce McHenry's Mt. Lemmon outing to Gumby Wall.

Public Relations: Justin Iske agreed to the new Public Relations chair.

T&S: Bill Fallon reported on the Fall Schools.

Website: Robert England indicated that the plan is to move away from the old URL and to the new URL in one month, after which only the new site will be available.

Old Business:

Thanksgiving at Joshua Tree: Clay Vollmer gave the group an update. There was a discussion on the event being an AMC activity and that former members will be encouraged to re-up their membership if they wish to attend. Guest policy involves signed a waiver.

The Annual AMC Christmas Party will be held at Jutta Ulrich's house on Friday, December 8.

New Business:

Clay Vollmer distributed a form to be used in preparing the Annual Budget for 2007. It will be presented to the membership at the November member meeting and voted on during the December member meeting.

Clay Vollmer outlined a proposal for an Advanced Climbing Seminar series (ACS). The idea is to offer additional educational and training opportunities to club members in a way that they can continue to refine and expand their climbing skills beyond the 3 introductory rock schools offered annually. The proposal will be refined and brought back to the Board.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

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.

AZ on the Rocks Gym: 16447 N. 91st St., Scottsdale, AZ 85260. 480-502-9777. Gym membership 10% off for AMC members.

Phoenix Rock Gym: 1353 E. University, Tempe, AZ 85281. 480-921-8322. 10% off membership to AMC members.

Solid Rock Gym: 23620 N. 20th Dr, Phoenix, AZ 85027 (623) 587-7625 Gym membership 10% off for AMC members.

Rental Equipment

| <u>EQUIPMENT</u> | <u>Qty</u> | <u>\$Dep</u> | <u>1-3day</u> | <u>4-7day</u> |
|----------------------|--------------------------|--------------|---------------|---------------|
| MSR Alpine snowshoes | 5 | \$32 | 10 | 16 |
| Ice Crampons | 5 | \$26 | 8 | 13 |
| Ice axes (70 cm) | 6 | \$16 | 5 | 8 |
| Ice axes (90 cm) | 5 | \$14 | 5 | 7 |
| Snow shovel | 1 | \$8 | 3 | 4 |
| PortaLedge | 1 | \$100 | 30 | 50 |
| Climbing shoes | Various sizes Call | | | |

Equipment Rental Policy:

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

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

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

-Two checks shall be collected from the renter.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Treasurer's Report

Arizona Mountaineering Club
Income Statement
Month Ended September 30, 2006

INCOME

| | |
|-------------------------|------------------|
| Dues 2006 | 5,231.00 |
| Interest | 377.39 |
| T-Shirts (AMC) | 60.00 |
| T-Shirts (Grand Canyon) | 120.00 |
| Mountaineering Schools | 650.00 |
| Rental Equipment | 140.00 |
| AARS Spring | 900.00 |
| Basic Spring | 3,200.00 |
| Basic Fall | 1,110.00 |
| Lead Spring | 975.00 |
| Lead Fall | 750.00 |
| TOTAL INCOME | 13,513.39 |

EXPENSES

| | |
|--------------------------|------------------|
| Admin | 998.88 |
| T-Shirts (Grand Canyon) | 319.50 |
| Bank Charges | 10.00 |
| Land Advocacy Committee | 250.00 |
| Mountaineering | 313.78 |
| Newsletter | 2,657.67 |
| Outings | 260.00 |
| Outing Leaders | 457.83 |
| Programs Monthly Meeting | 1,804.97 |
| Training | 5,316.50 |
| TOTAL EXPENSES | 12,389.13 |

OVERALL TOTAL 1,124.26

ACCOUNT BALANCES

| | |
|------------------------------|------------------|
| CD Account (matures 3-17-07) | 10,499.12 |
| Checking (as of 7-31-06) | 12,696.14 |
| TOTAL CASH ASSETS | 23,195.26 |

Other Assets (gear) 2,251.71
OVERALL TOTAL 26,446.97

NEW MEMBERS

Climbers - Please Welcome:

Eric Alan Evans
Michael Henley
Michelle Lindsey
Pat Piercy
Gina Prospero

Tyler Raspiller
Allison Smith
Benjamin Smith
Kristen Towse
Linda White

Elections

It is election time again and the election committee is looking for people willing to run for election to all board positions. Names of willing candidates have to be in to the election committee prior to the December 06 board meeting. Please watch the club email for updates. If you have any questions or are interested in running or nominating someone else (who is willing to run). Please contact me at davevanhook@yahoo.com or 602-790-6283

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A Letter From an AMC Member

Dear AMC Members:

I am a member of the AMC, a recent graduate of AMC's basic climbing class, an attorney in Phoenix, and wanna-be freelance writer. I have recently become interested in the conservation of land in Arizona, and have been assisting other AMC members who are interested in preserving Arizona's trust land for outdoor minded folks. The proposition on this November's ballot I am supporting is Proposition 106. I strongly recommend that you vote yes on Proposition 106, and do not vote for Proposition 105. Some of the more important provisions of Proposition 106 are as follows:

- 1.It will immediately and ultimately preserve and protect about 690,000 acres of some of the most important land in Arizona. Of particular interest to climbers will be the McDowell Mountains, North Phoenix Mountains, such as Jacuzzi Spire, the fabulous climbing area in Cochise County, called Cochise Strong Hold, and surrounding areas. There are others, but that is just a brief overview.
- 2.This proposition will establish an oversight committee of primarily educators who will ensure that the State Land department performs its duties as required, particularly with regard to the conservation of state land. This citizen's board will have the authority to purchase and set aside land in the state trust network without legislative participation. As we all know, our legislature tends not to move at warp speed when it comes to these issues. Proposition 105 has no such oversight committee.
- 3.The state land department will be required to cooperate with City officials and their expansion projects and the annexation or use of surrounding land with communities.

Without going into great detail, I recommend you look at the website for Prop 106 which is www.106YES.com. I think you will find some useful information there, and I would recommend that you take a look at it. Prop 106 is supported by the Arizona Education Association, the Nature Conservancy, Grand Canyon Trust, and the Sonoran Institute.

The end result as I see it is that there will be more trust land acquired, with access to our members, and more income generated by the orderly infusion and some sale of state trust land, into the education system. Prop 105, for example, will only preserve, at its inception, about 49,000 acres. It is my belief that Proposition 106 will go a long way to the initial steps needed to ensure first, the educational needs of Arizona for the foreseeable future, and secondly, the preservation of land in Arizona for outdoor uses, and access to these areas.

Those are some of the major points. I recommend you take a look at the website I mentioned above and take a look at these two Propositions yourself. Take a few minutes out of your busy schedule and evaluate Proposition 106 and its merits. I think you will come to the same conclusions I did, but please take a look. It is that important.

Sincerely,
Daniel A. Beatty

Action Alert! - Proposition 106 - Conserving Arizona's Future

All Arizona climbers and outdoor recreational users must vote in favor of Proposition 106 on the November 7 election. Sometimes the merits of an argument can be measured by knowing its opponents and in this case the homebuilders and ranchers have recently put \$2,000,000 into the anti-Prop 106 ad campaign. What was a reasonable chance of passage now is in danger.

Put simply Proposition 106 would allow about 400,000 acres of the 7,000,000 acres total of State Trust Lands to be used for Conservation. Without that designation the current system of selling any and all State Trust Land to the highest bidder would continue and where there were trails and climbing areas there will be houses and gated communities.

The designation of 400,000 acres for conservation includes urban lands near Phoenix that contain significant climbing areas. Without passage of Proposition 106 the State Trust Land's in north Scottsdale could be sold to the Developers. Where the AMC holds its classes could be some homeowner's back-drop for a backyard swimming pool. These climbing areas include Little Granite and Cholla Mountains. Elsewhere State Trust Lands could impact climbing at Cochise Stronghold, Upper and Lower Devils Canyon, and Jacuzzi Spires.

Proposition 106 has an even bigger impact for other outdoor recreational users such as Mountain Bikers and Hikers who will lose many hundreds of miles of trails in urban areas of State Trust Land scattered around Arizona's cities.

Please get out the Arizona vote in favor of Proposition 106 and conserve these and other climbing and outdoor recreational areas. Vote and make sure your friends vote!

For more information contact Erik Filsinger, Arizona Mountaineering Club Land Advocacy Chair at smorefil@aol.com, or Dan Beatty, AMC Prop 106 Representative at Captbeatty@aol.com.

You can also visit the website formed by the coalition of supporters of 106 at <http://www.106yes.com/>.



Lead School Roundup - Class of September 2006

STUDENTS

Bill Arndt, Kelly Brentas, David Cameron, Corissa Carveth, Eric Alan Evans, Peter Knamiller, Erin Livingston, Charles Schulz, Michael Tribuno, Keith Waldrup, Patti Waldrup, Steven Wolpert, Steve Zaporowski

INSTRUCTORS

Ronald Auerbach, Nancy Birdwell, Jodie Bostrom, Ryan Braasch, Mark Christiani, Brian Crawford, Bill Fallon, Jason Garvan, JP Holloway, John Keedy, Mike Knarzer, Tim Lange, Marcy Makarewicz, Monica Miller, Scott Parsons, Rogil Schroeter, Clay Vollmer, Jason Weaver, Justin York

Member Ad - Mick Strole & Sherrie Holbrook

NEW BASIC STUDENTS – Don't miss this great gear sale. We live in Tucson now, so we sent our gear up to Phoenix with Dave Larimer. Thanks Dave – you the man!!!

You can call Dave at home 602-258-0373 or cell 602-228-3207.

Mick Strole & Sherrie Holbrook

All gear is used, but in good condition.

- Guide for Jack's Canyon - \$6
- Guide for Thumb Butte Prescott - \$5
- Guide for Sedona, "A Better Way to Die" - \$6
- Top rope (red) – 150' for \$40a
- Top rope (purple) – 200' for \$50
- Approach shoes, La Sportiva ¾ top, worn only a few times-too small (new \$120) \$60
- Climbing shoes, La Sportiva high-tops, Size 10 - \$25
- Climbing shoes, La Sportiva low top, Size 9 – Like new \$25
- "Stabilicers" – Ice soles made to strap over boots, fits Size 8 to 11 - \$15 pair (2 pair)
- Harnesses, Black Diamond light weight, Size Medium - \$15 each (qty. 2)
- Harness, Black Diamond padded, Size Medium - \$25
- Harness, REI light weight, Size Medium - \$15
- Harness, Metolius padded, Size Med to Lg. - \$20
- Sport draws without carabiners - \$5 for all 23
- Hexes, strung, complete set of Sizes 2-11 for \$65 all
- Tri-cams, size 4 white=\$15, size 5 green=\$18, size 6 orange=\$18
- Cam, Metolius #5 – (new \$50) \$25
- Cam, Metolius #9 – (same size as #3 BD) (new \$60) \$30
- Cam, Wild Country metal shaft friend - (same size as #2 BD) (new \$40) \$20
- Cam, Wired Bliss - (same size as #2 BD) (new \$60) \$30
- Cam, Black Diamond #3 – (new \$70) \$35
- Camelback water bladders - \$3 each (qty. 2)
- Fifi Hook - \$2
- Figure 8 – \$3
- Pack of 4 bolt hangers - \$1

Please call us directly 520-207-6720 if you're interested in:

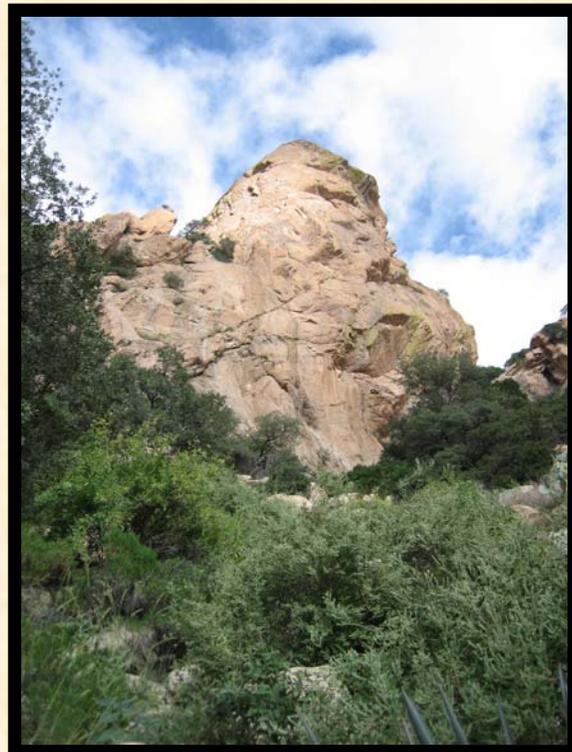
- Smoker grill, heavy duty (new \$500) ONLY \$175
- Car carrier, \$35
- Float Tube (for fishing) \$35

The Wasteland - Best 5.8 in the state!

That's what it says in the second edition of Kerry's Arizona Backcountry Climbing in Southern Arizona. I couldn't agree more. Matt Pearcy asked me to second him on the climb. I was ALL in!

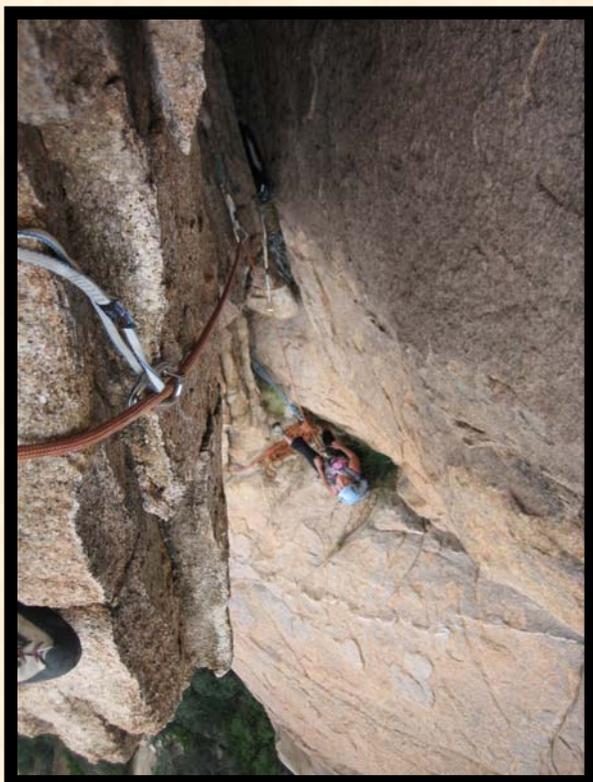
The Wasteland is a granite dome located in East Cochise Stronghold. Cochise Stronghold is littered with outstanding granite domes and offers single pitch sport routes, mixed trad routes and pure trad routes.

On September 22, 2006 we drove to "the usual" favorite campsite. There is primitive camping along the base of Batline Dome. After a good night of sleep, we woke up early on Saturday morning, ate a hearty breakfast, and donned our packs. There is a good trail leading to the gully that separates Entrance Dome from Wasteland Dome, and a scramble up the gully gets you to the base of the climb. (see picture #1) I had climbed this route over Memorial Day weekend with Jason Garvan and Justin York, so I was familiar with the approach and the route. It took us approximately 1-1/2 hours to reach the base of the climb with time for picture-taking along the way. Matt did a great job of leading all the pitches, and I was a stellar belayer. We only hiked out with a few mosquito bites...no dislocated or broken bones, no rain, and no thunder and lightning ;)



The climb:

- The first wandering pitch led us up to a two-bolt belay. This is a slight variation from the actual route description, and as a result adds a slight variation (increase in difficulty) to the second pitch.
- The second pitch traverses right to a crack system that leads up to the base of a sweet, short chimney.



Matt's perspective looking down from the top of the chimney on Pitch 3. His next move is to make that step across to the main wall.

- The third pitch (my favorite) entails climbing up the chimney, topping out left with a step across to the main wall on the right. After climbing chickenheads and plates on the main wall and on an arête, a trad belay can be set up just above a small headwall and below a big roof. (see picture #2 & 3)
- The fourth pitch traverses right to where the roof peters out and with a few moves up and over a bulge there are thin cracks and chickenheads from which to belay.
- On the fifth pitch, a long traverse left below the upper headwall leads to a small bulge. Move up the bulge to belay off chickenheads just under an arête.
- Pitch six requires climbing up the arête and past a couple of bolts on low angle slab to summit!

This route requires good route finding skills. Due to the wandering nature of the climb, the number of pitches are NOT set in stone. It can be done in as little as five pitches, or in as many as seven pitches. Before attempting this climb, it is also important to feel comfortable placing pro on and between chickenheads. It is not for the faint of heart, because there are sections where you are quite exposed.

The decent entails five single-rope rappels starting off the northwest side and scrambling down the west side. Currently, there are large rock cairns to point the way to each rap station. In between the first

(Continued on page 11)

The Wasteland - best 5.8 in the state! (cont.)

three rappels, there are short sections of down climbing. The final rap ends at the base of the climb.

In my opinion, Cochise Stronghold (both East and West) is one of the most awe-inspiring places I have climbed to date in Arizona. I am attracted by the magnificent scenery and qualities of remoteness it has to offer.

Rock on,
Jodie Bostrom



*Matt's belay anchor at the top of Pitch 3 - just below a big roof.
Look at that sweet chicken head just above his helmet.
That would be bomber to sling, but it isn't on the route!*

A Long Adventure

This adventure started the way that most of the good ones do. Fueled by enthusiasm and a few beers, Kelly Trainor, Erik Filsinger, James Perey and Matt Percy hatched a plan to climb Long's Peak (14,259 ft) in Rocky Mountain National Park. On the appointed day we arrived in Denver and headed for the Park. Unfortunately, Erik had been fighting an untimely respiratory infection and informed us that he was touch-and-go for the ascent, but he soldiered on and accompanied us to our base camp and proceeded to provide the rest of the team with valuable beta.



Long's Peak – with Broadway slicing across the middle and Kiener's route going up the left side of the Diamond.

The three of us (Matt, James and Kelly) had attempted a climb earlier this summer and learned some valuable lessons. One being, that if at all possible, to check out the approach prior to the climb. Although guide books offer some great information as to gear, difficulty and the climb itself, weather can make all the difference in the world and conditions can change very rapidly. Long's Peak had received snow fall prior to our climb. We had a couple of options for the climb; one being the Kiener's Route and the other the Cables Route. We would decide based on conditions.

The day before the climb we hiked the trail to Chasm Lake (at the base of the awesome east face of Long's Peak) and then skirted the lake to the base of the lamb's slide, which is a couloir that gains about 800 ft in elevation, and would be the start of the actual climb the next morning. It's a good thing we did this as we learned we would need to navigate a boulder field around the lake the next day in the dark. Conditions looked good and we decided to attempt the Kiener's route.

The next morning the four of us left camp around 3:15 by headlamp. Upon reaching Chasm Lake, Erik decided that that was as far as he would be going. He was wiped, and felt he would only be a liability to the team. So, we swapped out some gear, Erik gave us some last minute advice and words of encouragement, we gave him the bird, then the three of us were off. We reached the lamb's slide about an hour before daybreak. Here, we took a short break; refilled water bottles from the lake, then roped up and began the ascent up the couloir.

A Long Adventure (cont.)

The ascent of the couloir went smoothly. The snow was soft, unconsolidated and about three feet deep. James led the way and did a hell of a job. Not only was he breaking trail and kicking steps in deep and soft snow, but he just kept going, and going, and going. It was a great way to start the day and he got us to the top and at the turn to Broadway in under an hour.

Upon reaching Broadway we realized that there was more snow than we had expected. All along the long traverse (which consists of a series of narrow ledges a number of pitches in length, with a 1,200 ft cliff dropping down below) there was anywhere from 2-4 ft of snow. James, still pumped from the previous lead, led the entire traverse and got us across safe and sound.



Jimmy-P leading Broadway

We arrived at the base of the Kiener Route (elevation ~13,200 ft) in the mid-afternoon. From here we had a couple of options for starting the climb; however, both culminated in the Kiener chimney system. We chose the direct route variation, which is rated 5.5 as a rock climb. The snow filling the chimney and the ice and snow coating the rock made for some attention-getting climbing and given the conditions was probably more like M3/M4 in some spots. The guidebook says to exit the chimney right and continue out onto the face of the mountain. Matt missed the exit and continued up progressively harder ground until he came to a slung chock stone that signaled that he wasn't the first person go this way and decide that this was not going to work. Later investigation revealed that the route was a 5.6 variation that the conditions made seem much harder. So, we sacrificed two tri-cams and rappelled back down to the last belay station. We exited the chimney and climbed out onto the face where we were faced with a decision.

The sun was going down and we were about a 1000 feet below the summit. We could either keep climbing or bivouac. Since we were not familiar with the route to the top and the descent was long and involved a lot of route-finding, we decided to bivouac. We built two bomber anchors, one for each rope, and found a small section of snow that we could flatten. We laid our packs on the snow, clipped ourselves and our gear to the anchors, put on all the clothes we had and

A Long Adventure (cont.)

settled in for a very cold night on top of our packs.

The sky was clear and we had a constant, stiff wind throughout the night. It was cold enough that the water in our water bottles froze and the wind tore our emergency blankets to shreds; however, it never got so cold that violent shivering could not keep us going. Needless to say, none of us got any sleep. All things considered though, it could have been worse. It wasn't snowing, and we had a superb view of the valley below, with the lights of Boulder and Denver off in the distance. Plus, there was a half-moon shining that gave off enough light that we could see the rock faces around us. After what Kelly called, "the coldest f@%king night of his life," the horizon started to lighten and eventually the most beautiful sight in the world appeared before us. The sun started to rise. So, we brewed up and then got back to business.

James led the first pitch of the day, which was in our opinion, the crux pitch of the climb. The pitch involved alternatively using an ice tool in one hand to help with the ice and frozen ground, and the other hand for jamming ice filled cracks. After this pitch the difficulty eased up. We all traded leads up several long pitches up mostly snow with occasional rock. Some of the pitches were easy enough that the second and third simul-climbed to save time.

At the start of the last technical pitch the wind kicked up, snow began to fall in earnest and visibility dropped from miles to feet in a matter of moments. James led the last pitch and, as he mantled around the apex of the diamond a couple of thousand feet above Mills Glacier, we heard him say "I can see it". The last three hundred feet to the summit we simul-climbed together up a snow covered broken boulder field until we ran out of mountain. About 38 hours after we left our base camp we stood on top of the highest peak in Rocky Mountain National Park. The snow had all but stopped; however, the wind gusts made it hard to stand and the sun was going down. By general consensus, it was agreed that it was time to get the hell out of there.

Now we had to decide which way was best to get back down to camp. At this point we had two options. One, was to descend the top half of the Cables Route, which was class 3 scrambling down the north ridge of Long's to a rappel anchor, where we could then rappel into the basin on the north side of the peak, then scramble down into the Boulder Field to where we could then intercept the Keyhole route trail on relatively flat ground and from there follow the trail back to camp. The second option was to descend via the Keyhole route from the top of the peak which makes its way down and around the west/northwest side of the mountain. This route was a bit longer, but was well maintained and was charted on our map.

Our decision process was as follows: Given the fact that there was anywhere from two to three feet of snow on the north ridge of Long's, we thought the scrambling could be slow going. Plus in less than an hour the sun would be down and we would be descending the route in the dark a good portion of the way. Finally, we would have to find the rappel anchors in the dark (which we later found out were black slings), and given our route-finding abilities to that point, it probably would have proven to be quite challenging. On the other hand, if we chose the Keyhole route from the top, it would be on the west side of the peak, meaning probably less snow, plus, as a charted trail, if we had any problems and got off route in the dark we could use the GPS to get back on track. The only down side that we could see is that it was quite a bit longer and would add some time to our already long day. After a short discussion of the pros and cons, we came to the conclusion that the last thing we wanted to do was risk having to bivvy a second night on that mountain, so we started down the Keyhole route.

As we started down the route we found that it was very well marked, and although there was no trail until you made it down into the flats below, rocks on the upper portion of the route were marked with bulls-eyes and we could see from one bulls-eye to the next, even with the limited visibility of our headlamps.

We traveled for about an hour or so and finally found a spot out of the wind at the top of the Trough. We were all out of water and hungry, so we decided to take a short break and brew up. We were able to get a few liters of snow melted before the JetBoil ran out of fuel. This helped out quite a bit, but from this point on we knew that'd be it for the water until we hit the stream down at the Boulder Field, still hours away.

At this point of the Trough there was a short section that looked pretty sketchy, and iced-over. So, given the fatigue that was settling in, we decided to set up a rap anchor and rappel the short section. Once down, we had a nice long descent to the bottom of the Trough in deep, soft snow.

We eventually made our way around the mountain and to the saddle known as "The Keyhole". At the Keyhole there was a stone hut we took advantage of to get out of the cutting wind, warm up, and rest for a bit. By this time we'd been up for over 43 hours and we were all feeling it. The good news was that from here we could see the Boulder Field below us, and somewhere out there in the dark was a stream we could use to refill our bottles, and the trail that would take us home. Now, we just had to find them.

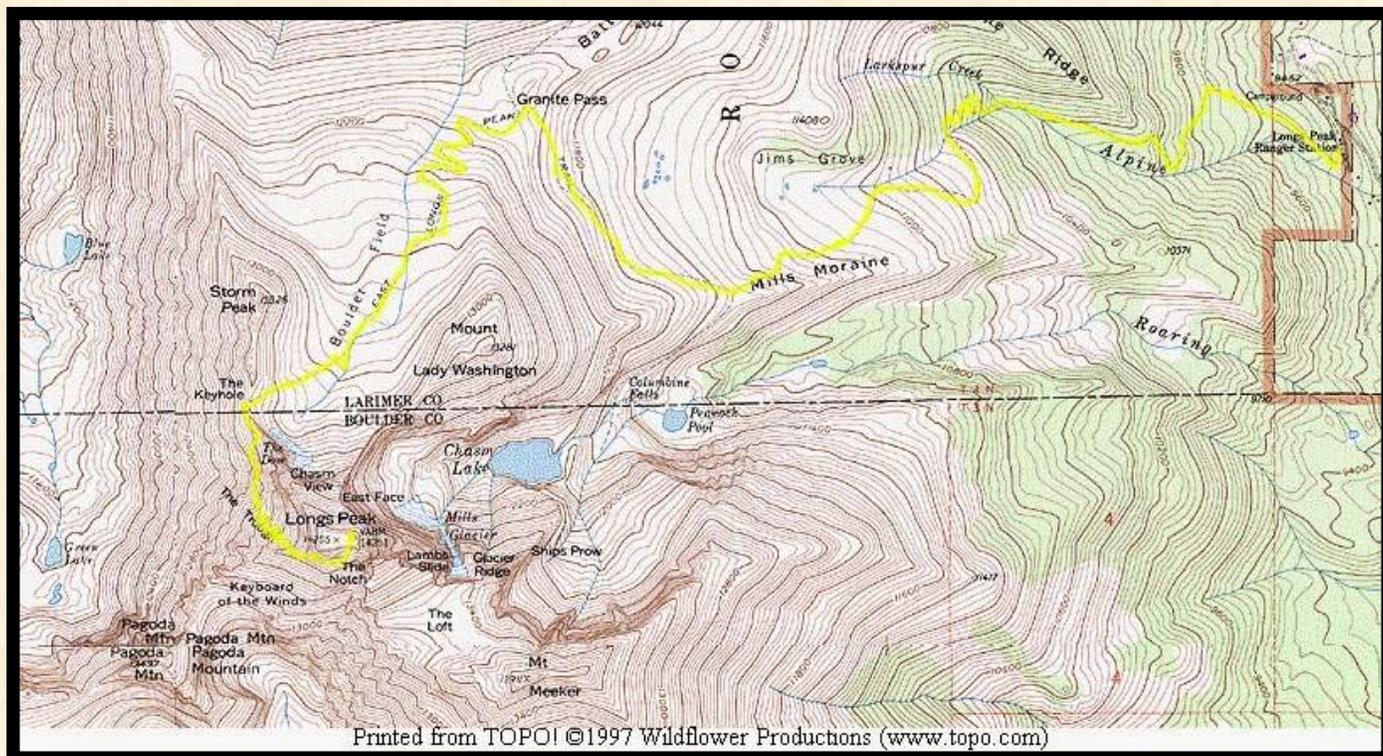
From here the bulls-eyes were no longer marked so we just scrambled our way down the rest of the basin. Eventually we came across the Boulder Field campsite, found some nice big cairns, and then hit what looked like the trail. It wasn't

A Long Adventure (cont.)

long before we came across the stream too, so we stopped, broke the ice on surface of the stream, and filled our bottles. Kelly made the mistake of looking at the water in his Nalgene with his headlamp. In it he saw all kinds of “critters” swimming around. “Well, bottoms up”, he said, as the three of us toasted our success of finding what had to be the worst tasting water any of us had ever had. From here it was just a slog back to camp. We had a good trail, and other than Kelly puking a few times (probably from the water), we finally made it back to camp at 4:45 am, a mere 49 ½ hours after we left.

All in all, a great adventure.

Submitted by: Matt Percy, James Perey and Kelly Trainor



A topo of Long's Peak showing our descent on the Keyhole Route



Thanksgiving 2006 - Joshua Tree National Park

Holidays are great, and one of the greatest events is Thanksgiving at Joshua Tree National Park! The AMC's annual Thanksgiving trip to JTree is a highlight of the holiday season.

The climbing at JTree is on terrific desert granite. There are thousands of routes. The club usually sets up top ropes on about a dozen routes on Thursday and Friday, leaving Saturday and Sunday for special events. Great opportunities for lead climbing abound.

And don't forget the famous Thanksgiving potluck dinner on Thursday evening. We will server dinner promptly at 4:45 PM, maybe ! Think about bringing your best recipe. Clay Vollmer will coordinate the potluck as in past years, offering Cajun-fried turkey, dressing and gravy. Please contact him for tips on how to prepare fabulous dishes in the desert with no gas, electricity or running water. Prior preparation is the key!

THIS YEAR'S CAMPSITE

This year we are in Group Campsite #2 for 4 consecutive nights, Wednesday November 23 through Saturday night. No moving, yay!

Many AMC'rs go climbing for the entire week. If so, plan to make reservations for one of many individual or family campsites by hitting the www.nps.gov website or calling 1-800-365-2267 for campground reservation. A 7-day entrance fee is \$15 per car.

Most climbers camp but some stay in nearby Twenty-Nine Palms or the town of Joshua Tree. Carpooling is very popular!

JTree is about 5 hours from Phoenix. Go west on I-10. Just past the exits for Blythe and Desert Center is the Cottonwood Entrance to JTree. The drive through the park is just about an hour before you get to Twenty-Nine Palms. From there, head west to the Indian Cove entrance to the park. The group campground is easy to find.

We've had snow and warmish day in the high 90s, so bring a variety of clothes to be comfortable. There are a few climbing guidebooks for the park but the Randy Vogel one is the most complete.

A famous old climber once said something like, "The more you put into something, the more you get out of it." A terrific opportunity for this is the potluck dinner. Not every climber will mention it, but all appreciate the amount of time, effort and creativity you can put into preparing great food for the Potluck Dinner.

Clay has some ideas for recipes and desert preparation techniques that make for great dishes without buying lots of gear. Call him at 602.595.7266

We also have need of lanterns, firewood, tablecloths, extra stoves and water to wash dishes in. Please remember to bring a chair to sit comfortably around the campfire afterwards.

Contributed by Clay Volmer

Friendship Groups and the AMC

One of the side benefits of membership in a formal climbing club such as the AMC is that folks can hook up with other folks to go climbing on their own. A friend (K.K.) has said, "Organized groups may be a very good structure for that nurturing. When one is within a group of an organization - they are never truly alone." The Social Clubs provide a means for folks to feel comfortable to try on new skills in a non-threatening environment. It can also be argued that to a large extent climbing clubs are populated with folks who don't have existing partners to climb with (If you already have partners, why do you need the club?). Even so many climbers enjoy the social framework of an organized group's activities.

But beyond the sociality of the Club, friendships and climbing partnerships often germinate within the formal climbing club. It is fairly common for a loose-knit collection of 6 to 12 folks come together as climbing partners and friends. Often they have met initially within some formal AMC activity such as a school, a member meeting, or an outing. Often they are folks who enjoy the social side of climbing and when they meet like-minded folks also interested in climbing they become firm friends and continue to hang together for a year or two, spending most weekends exploring AZ rocks. The participants may vary week to week, but one or two core and enthusiastic individuals usually serves to pull their activities onward. After some period of time, the friendship group suffers from attrition, and some new group with new participants will come along.

While such groups are great fun for the participants, it is useful to keep in mind that their activities are not "Club" activities, unless they are offered as formal AMC outings, classes, etc. Even if this friendship circle consists exclusively of folks who are AMC members, those activities are private and not club activities. (A point that is well to keep in mind when interacting with others out there on the crags.)

The ways friendship circles arrive at decisions, arrange for activities, engage in activities, and the like are clearly distinct from the activities of a formal social organization like a club. The AMC, for example, is a not-for-profit corporation, that operates under the laws of the State of Arizona. In addition to state mandated governing documents, it has formal policies and procedures and decision making processes that its Board of Directors are obligated to follow. Often the folks who help with governance through being a committee chair or a board member will have written policies and procedures they are expected to learn and to follow that supplement and expand on state law and club by-laws.

Decision making in a friendship circle is often driven by the energies of certain key group members who take the time to organize events, with the other participants going along with those decisions because that personality pretty much so dictates and as long as their ideas seem accepted by the other. There are no written rules; there are no policies and procedures. If someone doesn't like the decisions, they either confront the individual or find another group of friends to hang with. An enlightened group leader may just use gentle coaching with an unruly group member. Decision making usually isn't that big a deal because to belong to the friendship circle usually means that the friends like one another and share many values and habits.

In contrast, and perhaps because the formal Clubs are larger and have greater diversity of opinion, formal policies and procedures are usually in place to allow for a fairly objective process where opposing opinions can be debated and a final decision made according to a set formula. To someone used to a friendship-group based style of socializing this formal process, with its periods of point and counterpoint of protracted debate and decision making may feel quite bureaucratic and convoluted. However, without some accepted way of making decisions an absence of rules would inevitably lead to chaos and anarchy with charges of arbitrariness and cronyism wreaking havoc on the social fabric.

Friendship groups exist because of personalities and relationships; formal organizations exist because of an organizational structure and the formal policies and procedures.

Friendship groups end when the personalities leave; formal organizations continue for long periods of time because it really doesn't matter who fills the roles -- the organization is indifferent to role incumbents.

The question inevitably arises how to gather the strength and excitement of the friendship cliques that form within a formal social organization such as the AMC, but also not let strong friendship groups take over the club with one group imposing its own biases on the other members. Here are some ideas:

Friendship Groups and the AMC (cont.)

1. Keep objective and formal decision making processes at the Club level and continually educate club members (and the associated friendship members too) about the policies and procedures. Listen to new ideas, but channel those new ideas through the proper procedures.
2. Educate all members to recognize that private activities by members are not Club events, while also allowing individuals to see the ability to meet people with common interests who may become their climbing partners is an important function of the Club.
3. Encourage friendship groups to open themselves to other members by offering formal Club activities approved through official policies and procedures. (Indeed, it could be argued that if a dozen very active club members only climb among themselves and a number of the friendship group are club Outing Leaders, any time an OL takes a private group of friends climbing they are not available to take a Club activity -- I acknowledge that this is tough and will be the first to admit that my private climbing hat is often more important than my club climbing hat).
4. Continue to educate the leaders of the friendship groups as to the role and function of the Club, help them differentiate between the two types of activities, and then solicit them to challenge themselves beyond their friendship circle hat, learn the Club's policies and procedures, and spend some time managing some aspect of the formal social organization as a member of its governance (one of the biggest difficulties is for the "newbie" to pace themselves and play as a team member rather than believing so strongly in their own ideas that they try to force these on the others without going through the proper channels of the social organization. Also, try to help "newbies" see that they shouldn't just place their friends in open positions - it reads as the cronyism it is. When wearing the "governance hat" it is necessary to take a broader perspective and look for members you don't know to get involved.)

Submitted by Erik Filsinger. Comments can be sent to smorefil@aol.com.



Climbing Anchors School

Arizona Mountaineering Club - Fall 2006

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 7 | Tuesday | 6:00 pm–9:30 pm | * North Mountain Park - Yavapai Ramada |
| Nov 9 | Thursday | 6:00 pm–9:30 pm | * North Mountain Park - Yavapai Ramada |
| Nov 11 | Saturday | 8:00 am–4:00 pm | ** South Mountain Park, Teddy Bear Wall, Piedras Grandes Ramadas |
| Nov 12 | Sunday | 8:00 am–5:00 pm | Climbing areas to be announced during class |

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

**South Mountain Park is located at the south end of Central Avenue. Follow Central directly into the park. Maps with directions to Teddy Bear Wall will be distributed during class.

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 membership if not already a member (\$15 for an individual and \$18 for a family). Membership is good through Dec. 2006. 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 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.
- 1 20' cordelette, a 20-foot length of 7mm accessory cord

(The slings, harness and cordelette 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, 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.amcaz.org.

Another Grand - Grand Canyon Cleanup!



Several AMC'rs enjoy one of the benefits during the 2006 Grand Canyon Trash Pickup weekend, that is, enjoying the sunset at Shoshone Point just east of Mather Point area, contemplating life and opportunities we get to share together.

Website - Email Update

AMC Website - Email Address Update

We will be eliminating all email addresses sent to:
AzMountaineeringClub.org and changing to AmcAz.org

If you have any email addresses set in your address books
please update them (refer to a print copy of the Newsletter) or send email directly through our website at:
<http://www.amcaz.org/main/contact.html>

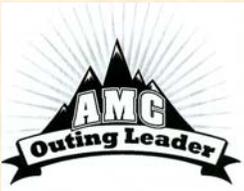


Become an AMC Outing Leader

General requirements for becoming an AMC outing leader:

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

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



Current AMC Outing Leaders



| | | | | | |
|----------------------|--------------|---------------------|--------------|-----------------------|--------------|
| Robert England..... | 480-688-5412 | Mike Knarzer | 602-751-1701 | Chris Query | 602-323-5927 |
| Bill Fallon..... | 602-996-9790 | Tim Lange..... | 480-598-9124 | Rogil Schroeter | 623-512-8465 |
| Erik Filsinger | 602-906-1186 | David Larimer..... | 480-425-9689 | Jef Sloat..... | 602-316-1899 |
| Jason Garvin | 480-734-6801 | Sally Borg Larimer | 480-425-9689 | Paul Valenzuela..... | 602-705-3106 |
| Scott Hoffman | 623-580-8909 | Bruce McHenry..... | 602-952-1379 | Frank Vers..... | 480-947-9435 |
| Richard Horst..... | 623-434-4769 | Tim Medlock..... | 480-963-3496 | Justin York | 480-229-8660 |
| David Johnson | 623-486-7387 | Monica Miller | 623-362-0456 | | |
| John Keedy | 623-412-1452 | Matt Percy | 480-326-3462 | | |

Your Name Here!

Calendar of Events

AMC Outings

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

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

- Nov 4 **Adopt-A-Crag - North Scottsdale** 8:00-11:00 Trail maintenance, lunch, afternoon climbing in the McDowells. Contact Erik Filsinger for additional detail and to sign up, Smorefil@aol.com
- Nov 4. **Watson Lake Dells - Time Zone Wall.** - Great granite north of Prescott. Top rope, single pitch 5.6 - 5.9 sport climbing on fun short routes. Contact Bruce McHenry at bamchenry@att.net. Limit 10. First choice given to graduates of October '06 Basic School.
- Nov 5 **Mars Attacks - Sedona.** Four pitches, 5.9. 45 Minute approach. Limit 3. Contact Matt Pearcy to sign up, matthew.pearcy@asu.edu.
- Nov 11 **The Mace - Sedona.** Thirteenth Annual outing to the Mace led by Frank Vers. Limit 4. Contact Frank for additional detail and to sign up, Frank@xlcon.com.
- Nov 23 **Annual AMC Thanksgiving at Joshua Tree National Park**

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

Billboard - Other Scheduled Events

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

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

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

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.

November 2006

AMC Outing Calendar

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|--|-----------------------|--|--|--|---|--|
| | | | 1 Sunrise 6:47 Sunset 5:36 M-set 2:16 A | 2 | 3 | 4 Adopt-A-Crag - North Scotts- dale, Watson Lake |
| 5 Mars Attacks Sedona Full Moon | 6 Board Meeting | 7 Anchors VOTE YES ON PROP 106 | 8 Sunrise 6:53 Sunset 5:30 M-rise 8:12 P | 9 Anchors | 10 | 11 Anchors, The Mace - Se- dona |
| 12 Anchors Last Qtr | 13 | 14 | 15 Sunrise 7:00 Sunset 5:26 M-rise 2:12 A | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 19 Member Meeting | 20 New Moon | 21 | 22 Sunrise 7:06 Sunset 5:22 M-set 6:37 P | 23 Joshua Tree Thanksgiving | 24 | 25 |
| 26 | 27 First Qtr | 28 | 29 Sunrise 7:13 Sunset 5:20 M-set 1:12 A | 30 | NOTE: Celestial events occur about 10 minutes earlier on Arizona's eastern border; 10 later on its western edge. | |