

FEBRUARY 2003

ARIZONA MountAINEER



Here's a bright-eyed and bushy-tailed crew. They are also rosy-cheeked and, quite possibly, runny-nosed. All this stems from standing around in snow on New Year's Day in Colorado, which they were doing at the time this picture was taken by Kathy Granger. Either before or after, or both, they proved their personal prowess's with esoteric implements in steep ice gullies. L to R — John Granger, Kathy Granger, George Krall and Bill Demlong. I assume her camera has a delayed time release — or someone is missing out on a photo credit.

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 50% of the yearly rates. 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 <vegors@worldnet.att.net> Electronic photos should be 300 dpi in JPG.

(AMC0203)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

President	Erik Filsinger	480-314-1089
Vice-President	Bruce McHenry	602-952-1379
Secretary	John Keedy	623-412-1452
Treasurer	Tim Ward	602-212-1929
Director-1yr	Tom Conner	480-897-7623
Director-2yr	Mark Hubble	480-804-1822
Director-2yr	Scott Hoffman	623-580-8909
Director-1yr	Tim Schneider	480-497-8377
Director-1yr	Dave Larimer	480-425-9689

COMMITTEES:

Access	Jen Davies	480-473-7342
Archivist	Jeff Sloat	602-316-1899
Classification	Scott Hoffman	623-580-8909
Conservation	Charlene Todd	480-917-5354
Elections	Don Thomas	480-892-9513
Equip Rental	Tom Burmer	480-354-1392
Email	Jeff Hatfield	480-783-8779
Librarian	Richard Kocher	480-966-5568
Membership	Rogil Schroeter	623-878-3914
Mntneering	Erik Filsinger	480-314-1089
Newsletter	Wally Vegors	602-246-9341
NL Distribution	Robert England	480-821-4243
Outings	Monica Miller	623-362-0456
Programs	Steven Tillery	602-224-9003
Trail Maint.	Jutta Ulrich	602-234-3579
School/Training	Wayne Schroeter	602-402-1631
Basic Class	Sally Larimer	480-425-9689
Anchor Class	Tom Conner	480-897-7623
Lead Class	Mick Strole	520-856-3335
T-shirts	Sally Larimer	480-425-9689
WebSite	Kirra	
.....	webadmin@azmountaineeringclub.org	

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

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

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

- 1 Index, Club Info.; Birthdays this month
- 2 Board Meeting Minutes; New Members:
Elections in January
- 3 Discounts, Treasurer, Equipment to Rent
- 4 Program — Hans Florine's Feats
- 5 President's Corner; New Members
- 7-8 An Incident While Climbing
- 9 Humphries Climb: PBC is Baaack!
- 10 Lead School Info
- 11 An Incident, concluded.
- 12 Basic School Info
- 13 Outings, Continued
- 14 Outings; Leaders

AMC NEWSLETTER

The *Arizona Mountaineer* is published monthly by the AMC. Items for publication, subject to approval, should be sent to the editor at 6151 N. 8th Ave., Phoenix, 85013. Photos and other mountaineering photos are welcome (please submit prints). Climb write-ups ARE welcome. For info call the editor at 602-246-9341. Address e-mail to vegors@worldnet.att.net. Advertising in the *Arizona Mountaineer* is accepted, subject to approval, at the following rates:
Personal ads: free to members.
Business ads: \$5.00 for business card;
\$10.00 for half page; \$20.00 for full page \$25.00 for inserts/mo

MARCH Deadline: 15 February 2003

HOT STUFF!!!

BUSY, BUSY, BUSY, BUSY!

Holiday Goofing Off is Over...

**February has Ice Climbing,
Winter Camping.**

**A Mt. Humphries Snow Climb,
Local Rock Climbs,
A Self Rescue Seminar,
And a Lead School
And ...**

**Sign up to help with the
20th Phoenix Bouldering Contest!**

AMC LIBRARY

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

The circulation period is 1 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.

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Carrie Howell 1, Teresa Stevens 1, Sutton Demlong 3, Chris Kline 3, Alan Carter 5, Voytek Ciula 5, Scott Frankel 5, Jonathan McLin 6, Sharon Nichols 6, Julie Dehlin 7, Robert Comp 8, Bob Sternberger 8, Donald Gotelli 11, Brian Waichunas 11, Michael Baker 12, Daniel Gonzales 12, Linda Kriegel 12, Alex Richards 15, James Larson 16, Ben Sainsbury 17, Yen Vu 17, Monica Anderson 18, Joe Gervais 19, Richard Balland 20, Melissa Funk 20, Jeff Hewitt 20, Chris Blaakman 22, Lidia Bergander 23, Rita Ingram 24, Sean Colonello 25, Jim Kline 26, Rick Taylor 26, Scott Hoffman 28, Anthony Mavis 28, Maria Stoianova 29

MINUTES OF THE AMC BOARD MEETING: January 14, 2003

Board Members Present – Filsinger, Keedy, Larimer, McHenry, Ward
Committee Chairs Present – Thomas, Vegors
Members Present: Burner, Granger, Miller, Theobald, Ulrich

I. A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order at 8:05.

II. Minutes of December Board Meeting were approved as printed.

III. A. Treasurers Report was approved as submitted. It was noted that the 2002 budget was \$10,000.00 positive due to increased membership dues collected and less money spent versus budget.

B. 2002 Budget report approved as final report.

C. 2003 Budget was distributed.

IV. President's Remarks and Priorities.

A. President Filsinger welcomed everyone to the Board Meeting and presented an overview of processes and procedures.

B. The Outing Leader's Meeting will be January 25th at Pinnacle Peak Park with refreshments being provided by the Club.

V. Old Business

A. Final candidate list was presented and given to Don Thomas for ballet preparation for the Membership Meeting January 27.

B. Insurance update – McHenry reported he has contacted over 40 insurance carriers in an attempt to obtain the liability insurance we need.

C. Outing Leader First Aid – discussion on how to insure all Leaders are current. Possible partial solution is to schedule a First Aid Instructor to hold a First Aid Class just for our Outing Leaders. Tabled.

D. Motion made, seconded and carried to appoint Sally Larimer as T-Shirt Chair.

VI. New Business

A. Outing Chair – Motion made seconded and carried to appoint Monica Miller as Outing Chair

B. Equipment Rental Chair – Motion made, seconded and carried to appoint Thomas Burner as Equipment Rental Chair.

C. Because the Club is amassing a considerable library of past literature, the need for a Club Archivist has occurred. Motion made, seconded and carried to establish the position of AMC Archivist and appoint Jeff Sloat as AMC Archivist.

D. Guidelines for Program Spending – Motion made, seconded and carried to approve "Guidelines for Program Spending – dtd 1-13-03.

Guidelines for Program Spending - AMC Guidelines for Funding Speakers – Approved 1-13-03

Program chair will solicit speakers for monthly meetings. In general an attempt will be made to obtain at least 6 notable speakers from the world's climbing community each year.

Program chair will be authorized to offer honorarium, travel expenses, and lodging for the speakers. However, Program chair will balance the total package of expenses for the yearly offerings so that the Annual Budget for the Program committee will not be exceeded without obtaining additional approvals from the Board and/or the Membership as provided in the By-laws, Standing Rules, and Policies and Procedures of the AMC.

It is assumed that different speakers may receive different remuneration depending on the market for their services.

VII. Other business and Committee Reports

A. Membership Report – 497 as of Jan 7, 2003

B. Telephone Line – New text is now on the AMC Telephone number. As there is no longer a callback option, we need to change our service to message only, which will lower the cost of the line. Motion made, seconded and carried to approve changing telephone to message only.

C. Larimer asked for clarification on leader qualification procedures.

D. Larimer expressed concern about environmental impact possibly caused by AMCs and others. It was agreed to ask Vegors to include educational articles in the newsletter about environmental issues.

VII. Meeting adjourned at 8:55

CORRECTION

Hans Florine was the photographer of the Yosemite Cover illustration for January.

DISCOUNT DIRECTORY

The following merchants currently offer a discount to AMC members.

Arizona Hiking Shack - 11645 N. Cave Creek Rd., Phoenix, AZ 85020, 944-7723

Show your AMC membership card and get a 15% discount.

AMC RENTAL EQUIPMENT:

EQUIPMENT	Lb-Oz	Qty	Cost/Wk
Tents:			
4-season 2-3 man 7-6	1	1	10.00
4-season 2 man.....	6-0	1	6.00
3-season 2 man.....	5-0	3	5.00
4-season 1 man bivy.....	1-15	1	7.00
Sherpa Snowshoes	8	1	5.00
MSR Alpine snowshoes			15.00
Ski poles (var. sizes)	4		0.50
Ice Crampons.....			15.00
Snow Crampons (sizes 6-14).....	10		2.00
In-step crampons.	1		2.00
Gaitors (Goretex)	2 pr		2.00
Ice axes (70-90 cm)	12		2.00
Snow shovel.....	1-10	2	5.00
Snow pickets;flukes	10 @		5.00
MSR Multifuel Stove.....	1		3.00
Yates Big Dudes .#6, #7			5.00
Haul bag	1		10.00
PortaLedge	1		50.00
Jumars	3		5.00
Climbing shoes.....	Various sizes		Call

EQUIPMENT RENTAL GUIDELINES: 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 Burmer 480-354-1392.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Statement of Operations

01/01/02 Thru 12/31/02

Category Description	Amount
INCOME	
Advertising.....	30.00
Equipment Rental (incl shoes)	287.00
Interest.....	47.12
Membership Dues.....	8,107.50
Mountaineering Schools	1,200.00
Program Income	74.00
Tee Shirts & Etc.....	382.00
Training	18,600.00
From checking.....	1,000.00
Uncategorized	.99
TOTAL INCOME	29,728.61

EXPENSES

Access Committee	500.00
Administration	1,552.54
Bouldering Contest.....	300.00
Capital Exp	1,214.65
Classification	576.50
Equipment Maint	99.45
Insurance.....	956.01
Library	41.90
Merchandise Exp	644.40
Mountaineering.....	30.30
Newsletter	3,729.88
Outings	675.48
Programs	3,166.43
Service/Bank Charge	73.29
Training	7,858.48
Uncategorized	290.07
To savings.....	1,000.00

TOTAL EXPENSES 22,819.38

OVERALL FOR YEAR TO DATE.....6,909.23

ACCOUNT BALANCES (6/9/02)

CD Account.....	5,170.53
Savings	1,528.25
Checking	4,115.25

TOTAL ASSETS.....\$10,813.89

Hans Florine

No Bivies

Monday, February 24,
Los Olivos Senior Center, 7 PM



Hans will speed through a collection of short stories of light and fast adventures on the vertical (and near vertical).

Peak bagging in the BC and Washington. One day solo link-up of Half Dome and El Cap. The 2002 record speed ascent with Yuji

Hirayama on The Nose. Tales from the 20 Classics in 20 days

Every show is unique! Come be surprised at the AMC

AMC Meetings are from 7 - 9 pm at the Los Olivos Senior Center,
2802 E. Davenport Ave. 1 block north of Indian School on the east side
of 28th St.

Non-AMC members are asked for a \$5.00 admission fee



PRESIDENT'S CORNER — Farewell and Hello Again

I have really enjoyed being President and as I have had the pleasure of working with you through "thick and thin" my respect for this very fine group of folks who are the AMC has continued to grow. We've had some very interesting times and I think that the past couple of years have been good ones for the Club. My feeling, and one which I feel many of you share, is that we have taken significant and necessary steps to catch the Club's policies and procedures up with the rapidly changing world of outdoor recreation. The somewhat increased structure and formalization has put us in a better position to protect ourselves and to deal in an open and legitimate way with differences of opinion and our club's increased diversity.

So thank you very much and I look forward to continued association.

Some of you have asked for a Year-End Report on the status of the Club's activities. Here it is.

The AMC's membership totaled 484 at year-end 2002. Since the year 2000 we have been showing about 500 folks on our membership rolls. Given the increased popularity of rock climbing and rock gyms, the AMC is competing with an increasing number of climbing venues and providers. Rock climbing in Arizona has grown in popularity such that even some new master planned communities in the Phoenix area offer rock walls as part of their amenity packages. Even though there are these other outlets for rock climbing available, the AMC has continued to play a central role on the Arizona climbing scene.

A core instructional program has been a mainstay of AMC focus and this year the Club graduated 81 students through its Beginning Rock Climbing School, 63 students through its Anchors and Advanced Rope-work School, and 36 students through its Lead School. Students who have previously taken the Schools are invited to come back and participate as assistants, and between students and assistants the three schools generated over 1,000 user days of activity.

Snow, ice, and other alpine skills are taught in AMC-sponsored schools and in 2002 about 70 students and assistants participated in learning and/or practicing mountaineering classes, including Glacier Travel and Crevasse Rescue, Alpine Rock, and Beginning and Advanced Ice Climbing, and an out-of-state Alpine Outing. Colorado in particular was a popular destination for AMC ice climbers with about a dozen trips being made, in particular to

the Durango, Silverton, and Ouray environs. In addition, about 20 students took a land navigation class. In total this amounted to 205 user days.

Public service projects were evidenced including teaching rock climbing to at-risk kids through the Latino Police Officers Association. The twice-annual Queen Creek cleanup attracted about 70 participants and the annual Grand Canyon Cleanup had 35 people in attendance, for 150 user days.

Much of the state was closed during the summer months due to severe fire restrictions. The AMC had 25 official outings leaders at the beginning of the year, but due to enforcement of a policy stating minimum activity levels the number of official outing leaders dropped to 20 by year's end. Even so the AMC offered about 20 outings with a total of close to 200 user days of participation.

There were several official AMC outings to nearby states, but no official outings far afield. Several parties made the inevitable trip to bag Pacific Northwest volcanoes. There were at least 4 groups of AMC'ers climbing in Europe with summits of the Monte Rosa and Mount Blanc and attempts on the Matterhorn to their credit. Via Ferrata routes were also enjoyed.

Erik Filsinger

NEW AMC MEMBERS

Laurel Arndt	Frank Fischer
Steve Arndt	John Fritz
Chris Blaakman	Graham Ginn
Dwight Bozarth	Robert Shea
Mary Linda Cragar	George Wenzlick
Carl Dawson	Peter Yanover
Krista Dearing	

Monthly Eco-Grump:

Arizona orange peels don't biodegrade. They petrify and last forever..

PACK 'EM OUT WITH YOU!!



Arizona Hiking Shack
11649 N. Cave Creek Rd.
Phoenix, AZ 85020
Phone: (602) 944-7723
www.hikingshack.com

We're located 1/8 mile south of Cactus
on Cave Creek Rd.

Humongous Pack Sale
25% - 45% OFF

**Dana Designs, Gregory &
Osprey Packs**

Lead School Folks

15% OFF any/all pro!

**Nuts, stoppers, Hexes, Cams
Tri-cams, Big Bros, Aliens, Zero's,
Draws, TCU's and more!**

Smokin' Rope deals

Sterling "Bandit" -10.2 x 60m -\$125

PMI "Geko" -10.6 x60m - \$125

An Incident While Enjoying Life — On The Edge

We arrived at the end of the road in the late afternoon. Typical for an area requiring a moderately rough drive, Kate and I had seen only a few hunters and 4-wheelers on our way through the state trust land, and figured on having the area to ourselves until Donna and Greg arrived the following morning. We let Scout out to do whatever it is dogs might want to do after a couple hours in a truck and found a flat area relatively free of broken glass for our night's camp. Since sunset was an hour or so off, we filled one water bag and headed up the canyon to stretch our legs, see how far the walk was, and get a preview of the climbs.

The early evening light along the trail was spectacular. We were disappointed not to see any animals at the numerous water holes, but the air was soft and cool, the shadows deep, and the desert colors rich as we made our way up to the spires.

This outing was an annual event that has somehow developed for Kate's birthday. Most years, we do something that she might otherwise consider perverse. It started in Syracuse, that glorious temple of grey wet gloom. For her birthday, in December, she chose to climb one of the high peaks in the Adirondaks: Three Brothers up to Big Slide. Nothing technical, but for someone like Kate who tends to have violent emotional reactions to cold ... well, it seemed an odd choice.

To be sure, it was cold. Very cold. And still it turned out to be a beautiful memory. Just the two of us in many feet of fresh snow, in the woods, on the peaks.

Another year she chose the Superstition ridgeline. For someone who long held to a motto of "No pain, no gain," it seemed another stretch. And again, it was long, and by the end somewhat painful, but a beautiful day out together. Sunrise at the Carney Springs trailhead. Our first-ever sighting of a desert bighorn up in Boulder Canyon. Sunset from the top of the Flatiron. An excellent day. I've learned that these kinds of surprises keep life, love and family a fresh and wonderful thing.

So this year, Jacuzzi Spires. Again, the birthday choice of someone who, just a year before, had sworn off traditional multi-pitch climbing because she wasn't enjoying the element of potential danger ... go figure. We expected this trip to be another memorable birthday for Kate. To our pleasure, and dismay, we found that traditions die hard.

An amazing sight greeted the end of our walk in. There, on the north wall of the canyon, three spires of rock cut into the deepblue sky. From the "jacuzzi" in the river, the south face of the first spire shoots steep and smooth into the sky. Looking up that face was already a thrill, even though we were only there that night to stretch our legs. We marveled for a while, and let Scout explore the river bed. The only blemish was a long piece of blaze-orange webbing, clearly visible at the "notch" belay station. I once left a similar piece of webbing on Camelback, and over the next weeks was dismayed at the number of places from which I could see it. I promised myself that I would leave a much less visually ob-

trusive rappel anchor as my payback to Jacuzzi Spires.

We headed back down the canyon in the fading light, towards the trailhead and out evening's campsite. Back at the truck, I broke out the gear and set up the chambre de couche whilst my lively wife tended to the living room and kitchen.

After a repast of reconstituted freeze-dried, er, stuff, punctuated with a nice tomato and avocado salad, and several pauses to remove cholla balls from Scout, we retired to the sleeping quarters. Once the last rifleman gave it up for the night, our sleep was disturbed only by coyotes and owls.

We awoke to a cold dark morning, restarted the kitchen, and packed up the campsite. Thirty or so minutes later, we were on the trail with our gear on our backs, anxious to see what climbing at Jacuzzi Spires is all about. We were again disappointed to see no wildlife, but this time we had a mission. An hour later we were at the base of "Don't Bug Me," sorting gear, taking one last look at the guide book, and to our pleasure, welcoming Donna, Greg, and Rusty, who make it to the base of the spire just as we were set to begin climbing. They decided to take a ride on the nearby 5.7 "Up Tempo and Dynamic."

The first pitch of "Don't Bug Me" is a scramble into a fat vertical crack. The rock is surprisingly hard for a desert crag, and the protection felt bomber. It was pretty quickly apparent, however, that this was no sport climb. Dief, Blair and Linkner were not kidding when they gave this climb a 5.6. I topped out the pitch and wandered across a big ledge to belay Kate from an anchor at the base of an incredible dihedral.

As Kate seconded the pitch, Donna beat and yelled with frustration at the opening moves of their chosen climb. This being a family publication, I won't repeat her exact words. I watched as she struggled up to the narrow ledge which harbored the first bolt and got herself into one of the most awkward stances I have ever seen, crouched over, right side against the rock and the as-yet unclipped bolt inches behind her butt as the crow flies, but miles and miles away as defined by human movement. I might have been amused. After all she had just led "Spinal Tap," a Queen Creek 10b, but she had a pretty concerned look on her face. After some cautious maneuvering though, she managed to get the bolt clipped and continue on with her climb.

Meanwhile, Kate had arrived at our first belay, and despite some evident trepidation, decided that she was up for leading the second pitch. She headed up the face right of the dihedral, and pretty much immediately began to emit her own string of unprintable descriptors. I had changed our rack a bit to save weight, and she was having trouble freeing the piece of gear she wanted to use. I'm not entirely certain, but I don't think that her imprecations were directed only to the rock.

I casually mentioned that it looked a lot like the second pitch of "Three Pines," a classic 5.3 at the Gunks. She

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She didn't think the comparison was that great, and suggested that I withhold further comment until I was actually on the pitch.; Despite her tone, I had to concede that it was probably a fair suggestion. She burned a bit of juice placing approximately 30 pieces in the first 5 feet of climbing ... okay, I exaggerate .. A bit .. But eventually she leaned herself into a layback, and confidently cranked her way through the bulk of the dihedral. In no time, she was at the upper shoulder for our second belay.

Donna joined her, having converged on the same location from her climb. The grades were fair, but we were all reminded how much scarier climbing can be when you are less certain about the protection above you. Kate brought me up to the next belay, a section of climbing which I managed fine despite the fact that I actually seconded most of the pitch with the entire rack. I did have to agree though: a lot harder than "Three Pines."

As Kate and I swapped gear at the belay, Donna brought Greg up their climb. This was the "notch belay." There was a descent rappel station, consisting of that ugly orange sling and a doubled length of 7 mm cordelette, slung together over a horn. Despite the availability of a short downclimb off the back or a rap off the front, Donna and Greg decided to follow us up to the top.

finished racking up and headed out towards obvious crack which would take me to the summit. After a vertical move or two, the pitch traverses to the right. I headed out across the traverse, and started getting nervous. The feet were largely friction, I wasn't really comfortable stopping to place gear, and the hands were getting less and less positive as the traverse continued. Near the end, the hands petered out altogether, and I was stuck deciding whether to reverse myself, or make the final moves to an obvious bomber stance. Looking back to my last piece of gear, and uttering my own unprintables, I figured that if I missed the move, I'd at least be able to play some grab-butt with my winsome wife as I swung by .. Small consolation. I took the step and finished the move. In the end, it wasn't really difficult climbing, but I did manage to eke out some good sphincter exercise out of it.

A few deep breaths later, I was into the crack, and on my way with pleasure to the summit. This is an awesome pitch of climbing. As my first climbing partner would say, "Go for it Steve, you'll REALLY like this!"

We all summited, and hung out for a bit on the dining table flat top of the spire before hopping on the ropes and rappelling off. Another great free rap-

pel. Not as long as the Dinosaur, but pretty cool nonetheless.

Back on the ground, we ate lunch, chatted, and looked up at the face. Greg and I decided that a 5.4 oddly named "Harcourt Fenton Mudd" just looked too enjoyable to pass up. The girls, meanwhile, thought that stretching out in the sun and watching their manly studs climb looked just too enjoyable to pass up. The dogs looked like they were just going to nap. We all set to our respective tasks.

Ending the day with this climb had the added benefit that we could clean up that annoying rappel anchor. Greg grabbed some black webbing to replace the offending blaze orange sling., I grabbed Donna's very frightening looking knife, and off we went.

In the absence of coins, Greg won the dog biscuit toss, so the lead was his, and he knocked it off admirably. This is another fun climb. Good steady climbing with bomber protection and the added bonus of an angry bat colony along the way. Although he did lose some style points when he used a crotch jam to maintain contact with a ledge ... picture straddling the infamous "chicken ledge" and you pretty much have it, with the bonus of one leg buried, up to the hip, in a crack. Does that count as "Thrutching?"

I decided to say in my tennies for this climb. After all, 5.4 in a bomber crack. What could go wrong? I started the climb, and sure that I am, decided to use the friction face to the left of the base of the crack. One move in, and I found myself up to my butt in a bush. Greg pointed out that I'd have to fall a lot farther if I wanted to stretch the rope enough to make the belay useful.. After I brushed myself off and quietly returned to my studly-o-stat down to a more reasonable setting, I climbed the actual climb, and in a few minutes joined Greg at the belay.

At the notch, the first thing we noticed was that we had somehow forgotten the black webbing. Fortunately, the cordelette looked fresh and felt supple. It was doubled around the horn and tied off with a grapevine with good tails. We decided that it would probably be an adequate rappel anchor, but decided to back it up with a cam for the first rappel. We cut off the offending orange sling and tossed it down the face, and I watched the cordelette carefully as Greg took the first rappel. No movement around the large horn, and no evidence that either the knot was slipping or the cord would fail. I decided that I felt fine with it, and set up my own rappel.

I had to reach way down the face of the horn to get the rap rings. I had once seen a person grab a rope in that situation, and set up a proper looking, but deadly rappel on a bight that came all from the same side of the rappel rings.

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COLD FACTS ABOUT WINTER CLIMBING

Winter Ascent of Mount Humphrey with Winter Camping / Snow Shelter Seminar,

Join us for a weekend of hiking and snow skills on Mount Humphrey's (Flagstaff, AZ), Feb. 15/16, 2003. We expect snow, so plan on warm clothes, boots, gaiters, possibly snow shoes and crampons.

We will meet at the parking lot of the Snow Bowl ski area at 9 am on Saturday, Feb. 15. We will get back country permits at the Snow Bowl, check gear and start hiking uphill (2-3 hours) to a good campsite high up, but still in the trees. Along the way, Erik Filsinger will conduct a winter camping / snow shelter seminar (see separate announcement), but you should bring a tent.

On Sunday, we will get up early and head for the summit (3-4 hours). On the return trip (3-4 hours downhill) we will break camp and head back to the vehicles, leaving enough time for the trip back home.

If the weather is bad, we will switch to Feb. 22/23. If there is no snow, we can still do the hike on one day. Kevin Ryan will keep an eye on the weather in Flagstaff so that we know conditions before leaving Phoenix. Contact Jutta if interested: 602 / 234-3579 or e-mail: ulrichj@t-bird.edu.

We will put together a list for gear, food, and clothes. Send Jutta your travel/tent info (have and will take vehicle, can you take people/need a ride, have/need tentmate) and also your experience level, esp. if you have no or little experience camping and hiking in snow.

—Jutta

Cold weather camping will be the topic of the free seminars held at the REI stores — 11 Feb at PV and 12 Feb at the Tempe store. If you are new to winter camping

AMC LEAD SCHOOL INSTRUCTORS

We will not hold a lead school instructor's meeting this year since there are no significant changes to discuss.

The lead school schedule is as follows:

Feb 25,26,27 at Dreamy Draw Park, 6:30pm-9:30pm; Mar 1,2 at Prescott, 9am-5pm (Sullivan Canyon Sat., then Watson Dells Sun.). The three weeknights will be lecture, slide shows and equipment discussions.

Past students — if you're looking to review, please come out. WE NEED INSTRUCTORS FOR THE

20th Phoenix Bouldering Contest

Hello past Phoenix Bouldering Contest Volunteer! (This includes those of you who — chances are — will be a past PBC volunteer by this time next year — Ed.)

Time to get ready for the 20th Phoenix Bouldering Contest - to be held on April 25th, 26th, and 27th in the Queen Creek climbing area. Volunteers play a major role in making this phenomenal event happen, so please consider becoming a volunteer in one or more of the following categories:

Officials/Judges, Registration/Check-In, Security, Signage, Set-up, Trail Maintenance, Packet-Stuffing, Clean-Up, Special Events, and many more!

This is the 20th PBC, so in honor of hitting the big 2-0, we have tons of excitement and fun planned, in addition to top notch climbing! What a great time to be a part of the PBC! Plus, the first 120 volunteers will receive a pair of Nike Approach shoes as well as our standard packet of goodies!!! So sign up right away!

As you may know, volunteering is a great way to have loads of fun - but also requires a commitment to the PBC. In addition to the PBC weekend, volunteers must attend a pre-competition meeting (TBA) and if you are an official/judge, you will need to attend a problem review (Oak Flat) prior to the event. Without your help, this event would not happen. I hope to hear from many of you soon.

Please reply to Elizabeth Serraglio <volunteers@phoenixboulderingcontest.com> with the following information:

Name

Volunteer Preference (i.e. official/judge, clean-up, etc...)

Shoe size

T Shirt Size

Address

WEEKEND SESSIONS!!! Please call Rogil (623-878-3914) and let us know if you plan to help out on the weekend.

On Saturday meet at 7 AM at the Denny's on I-17 and Bell Road to caravan up there. We'll stop on the way to Sullivan's and get campsites at Willow Lake RV & Camping (928-445-6311) for those camping. Cost will be \$10-15 per person. There are showers & a convenience market. We'll go into town for approx. 6:30 dinner reservations on Sat.

—Mick & Sherrie (520-586-3335)

LEAD CLIMBING SCHOOL

ARIZONA MOUNTAINEERING CLUB

PURPOSE

This is an advanced climbing class. Even if you don't plan on leading, you will learn much about the dynamics of climbing, and it will make you a safer climber. There will be no "true" lead climbs during the class. Protecting a climb is a different skill from climbing itself. We will talk about the dynamics of lead falls, how to prepare for a climb, the differences between single-pitch and multi-pitch, the differences between bolted routes and natural pro, and we will provide actual leading exercises.

DATES, TIMES AND PLACES FOR THE LEAD SCHOOL ARE:

Feb 25 Tuesday 6:30 pm - 9:30 pm Dreamy Draw Park
Feb 26 Wednesday 6:30 pm - 9:30 pm Dreamy Draw Park
Feb 27 Thursday 6:30 pm - 9:30 pm Dreamy Draw Park
Mar 1 Saturday 9:00 am - 5:00 pm Prescott (directions will be in syllabus)
Mar 2 Sunday 9:00 am - 5:00 pm Prescott (directions will be in syllabus)

To get to Dreamy Draw Park take SR 51 (Squaw Peak) to Northern and turn East. This dead-ends at the Park. We will be at the big Ramada next to the parking lot. Directions to the other locations will be given out then.

ITEMS YOU NEED FOR THE CLASS:

- 1) \$75 plus membership (\$25 single, \$30 family), if not already a member. Register by sending a check payable to AMC Lead School to 6519 W. Aire Libre, Glendale, AZ, 85306. No credit cards accepted. (Please note: the registration fee is fully refundable if you cancel.) Call Rogil Schroeter at 623-878-3914 for more information. The number of students will be limited to 30.
- 2) All climbing gear (harness, prusiks, biners, etc.)

The following will not be needed the first night, if you want to wait to talk with us before making purchases

- 3) Helmet - mandatory
- 4) Specifically needed:
 - * 2 20' (untied length) slings, preferably different colors
 - * 2 10' (untied length) slings, preferably different colors
 - * Nut pick
 - * Quickdraws w/biners - at least 5 per person
 - * All pro that you own, which may include cams, hexes, wired nuts, Tri-cams, etc.
 - * Consider combining with another person to have enough gear
- 5) Hiking boots or shoes with stiff soles for Saturday, climbing shoes for Sunday
- 6) Optional: kneepads for Saturday (\$3-6 at Home Depot, \$5 volleyball pads at sporting goods stores)

ITINERARY

Tue Lecture, slide show: Introduction, the lead fall, equipment
Wed Lecture, slide show: Equipment (continued); the Process and Techniques of Leading
Thu Lecture, slide show: Multi-pitch techniques, the descent, leader rescue, aid climbing
Sat Prescott: practice natural pro placement (Sullivan Canyon)
Sun Prescott: practice leading on bolts (Watson Lake)

Rogil Schroeter
work: (602) 436-7309
mailto:Rogil.Schroeter@honeywell.com

I had to reach way down the face of the horn to get the rap rings. I had once seen a person grab a rope in that situation, and set up a proper looking, but deadly rappel on a bight that came all from the same side of the rappel rings. A sure ticket to flight when the other end of the rope zipped through the anchor, so I've always been very careful about that. I made sure I was clipped into a strand from either side of the anchor. I then lowered myself a bit over the edge, looked over the setup, from rock to harness buckle ... made sure that everything was good. Once I was happy, I wrapped the rope around my thigh, and retrieved the backup.

I then took one last look at the setup as I tested my tennies by stepping down onto some small nubbins. Something in my mind told me there was a problem. The cordelette appeared to be higher on the horn than I recalled. I realized that in my efforts to first retrieve both strands of the rope for the rappel and then down-climb around the horn, I had inadvertently lifted one loop of the anchor off the horn and dropped it down the other side. I quickly grabbed a strand of the cordelette, and flipped it over the horn.

The moment I released the cordelette, my stomach leapt into my throat. I had just made a serious mistake — I had completely removed the cordelette from the horn, and now was entirely unanchored, with a rappel rope hanging off my harness, my feet on small edges, and the cordelette simply lying against the rock. If anything should happen at this point, I was looking at sixty or eighty feet of air between me and the first bounce. In what seemed an eternity, I grabbed a fistful of handcrack to secure myself, and then took the two strands of the cordelette and flipped them back over the horn.

SHIT! I had reversed the cordelette. It was now securely over the horn, but there was a large twist in it. I was in danger of being overwhelmed by the fear pumping through my veins. Physically that twist was only one small step from ideal, but the reptilian portions of my brain were interpreting it as continued dire threat. I assessed the anchor again. Despite the raging fear, my cortex was able to whisper to my hands that the anchor was now okay, and I should go ahead and rappel. I leaned back on the ropes and slid down the cliff.

It was not until we were on the hike out that I had enough fortitude to mention to Greg how close I had come to a serious error. He said only that he'd wondered what I had been cursing at.

Another hour later, in the car, I told Kate. She also didn't say much ... just that she'd seen me tossing the cordelette one way, and then quickly back the other, and had wondered what I was doing. She was pretty horrified to know that I had been moments from rappelling off into the air.

We all stopped off that night in Anthem, to end our day with a nice meal. We grabbed some after dinner caffeine, and we headed back into the city. Greg and Donna off in their truck to get ready for the holidays. Kate and I to home and shower, maybe a few chores, and then a well-deserved night of sleep. The mistake seemingly experienced, assessed, and put behind me.

I awaken in a sweat. I don't know the time. Nighttime. With the demons. My demons. The full peril of my situation at the notch is upon me. Suffocating. A sweat lodge. I *will* die. I know it.

I'm no fool. I've known all along I *could* die, that there are innumerable ways it might happen while climbing. Now I understand, down to the core of my being. I am *mortal*. For one brief instant, I had been moments from death. A slight change in the course of that instant; one last weighting of the rig before I descended, one tennie coming off a nubbin, one slip of a hand ... I would have ceased to exist.

Think of Kate, and all the things we have yet to do. All of our ever-changing dreams and thoughts and goals. How could I miss out on that? And the commitment that she has made to me. Years of her life, spent, being with me. I know she wouldn't trade it. I'm honored. But that's commitment. She's in it.

What about Scout? I suppose he's just a dog, but I think he'd miss me. I know he'd miss me.

Even work — those things I hope to "accomplish" in my lifetime. That ever-expanding ambition to ... well, it doesn't really matter, does it? It's my ambition, not yours. How much risk am I willing to attach to that so I can take my pleasures in climbing?

This isn't the first dangerous mistake that we've made climbing. It is the first to wake me up several nights running. I don't believe it will prevent me from climbing. Perhaps. Perhaps I should think of as a warning? Perhaps I should take reassurance? The habits that I've developed of checking and double-checking have once again served me well. After all, if I never made a mistake, I'd never need to double check. Right?

I've never been good with this stuff. The torment I can do. The analysis, the understanding — it's elusive.

In any case, I will die. And as long as I'm going to die, I suppose there is a certain appeal to doing while in the midst of something that I enjoy.

But, today, for me, it's not yet a good day to die,

—Steve Tilley

BASIC ROCK CLIMBING SCHOOL

ARIZONA MOUNTAINEERING CLUB

LEARN: Equipment care and usage, Rope handling, Climbing knots, Belaying, Rappelling, Rock climbing techniques, Self-rescue techniques

Interested in rock climbing training? The Arizona Mountaineering Club (AMC) has been teaching basic rock climbing for over 35 years. We place maximum emphasis on proven techniques of climbing, equipment use and self-rescue.

WHEN & WHERE (the class lasts 2 weeks):

Spring 2003

Mar 11	Tuesday	5:30 pm - 10:00 pm	*Havasupai Ramada, North Mountain Park
Mar 13	Thursday	6:00 pm - 10:00 pm	Havasupai Ramada, North Mountain Park
Mar 15	Saturday	8:00 am - 5:00 pm	North McDowell Mountains, Scottsdale
Mar 16	Sunday	8:00 am - 5:00 pm	North McDowell Mountains, Scottsdale
Mar 18	Tuesday	6:00 pm - 10:00 pm	Phoenix Rock Gym
Mar 20	Thursday	6:00 pm - 10:00 pm	Phoenix Rock Gym
Mar 22	Saturday	all day	Various times, various places

*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.

WHAT YOU NEED TO BRING FOR THE FIRST CLASS:

- Dress casually; the class will be held outside, so bring warm clothes or not, depending on the weather

WHAT IS PROVIDED BY THE AMC:

- Technical climbing gear that will be used for the school (**and is yours to keep**): 1 belay/rappel device, 2 non-locking carabiners, 3 locking carabiners, 4 prusiks, one 5' sling (subject to change)
- Harness and helmet provided free by the AMC for the duration of the class if needed
- Basic climbing textbook
- Instruction through all phases of the class
- Discounts from The Hiking Shack on other climbing gear

WHAT IS RECOMMENDED FOR THE CLASS: Climbing shoes are recommended. The AMC rents climbing shoes, on a first-come, first-serve basis on the **second** night of class for \$10 for the class. We will discuss what to look for in a shoe on the first night of class.

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

CLASS FEE: \$160 plus membership if not already a member (\$25 for an individual and \$30 for a family).

REGISTRATION: The class is limited to 40 students. To reserve a spot, send a check for \$160 + membership costs made out to AMC Basic School. Include your clearly printed name, address and current phone number (s). Mail to: AMC Basic School, 1025 E. Highland Ave., #26, Phoenix, AZ 85014. No credit cards accepted. If you have further questions, please call Slawa Ciula at 602-265-2661 or email at amcbasicschool@hotmail.com (**Please note:** \$75 is a non-refundable deposit; the rest will be returned if you cancel. If someone else can be found to take your place, the entire \$160 will be refunded.)

AMC OUTING CALENDAR (Continued from page 14)

April 3, 5. **Alpine Rock Seminar.** Evening session the 3rd; field day on the 5th. Lead school and experience preferred. Erik Filsinger at smorefil@aol.com for details.

April 8-10-12-13 **Anchors School.** Tom Conner

April 23, 25, 26. **Glacier Travel and Crevasse Rescue Snow Course.** The basic snow skills class. Evening session on 23rd; weekend in backcountry. Basic rock and AARS sclass preferred. Erik Filsinger at smorefil@aol.com for details and signup.

To request outings: call outings chairperson Monica Miller, 623-362-0456. To cancel after saying you will participate in a climb, call the outing leader as soon as possible; there may be a waiting list. Also, the leader will know not to wait for you on outing day.

* A group outing: Where possible a campsite is reserved by AMC. There is no designated leader although there may be a leader to work with non-leaders (call to find out) Call to find car-poolers. Parking may be limited or only for equipment vehicles.

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 623-878-3914 or
rogil.schroeter@honeywell.com.

Tuesdays **Climbing at Phoenix Rock Gym** Starting about 6:30 p.m. Ca \$10 per nite. Rogil S.

Apr 25, 26,27 **20th Phoenix Bouldering Contest** Enter as a contestant or help out as a volunteer. Elizabeth Serraglio <volunteers@phoenixboulderingcontest.com>

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 AM 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 AM collecting the names of prospective participants and handling the logistics of out-of-town events, participants will sign up directly with the commercial outfitter.

Feb 15-17 — **Beginning Ice Climbing** and optional Avalanche Awareness: \$200 (\$60 for avalanche awareness alone). This course gives the basic orientation to ice climbing using crampons and ice tools. Students climb on lower angle ice the first day and then progress as skills permit to near vertical ice on day 2. The third day consists of a day in the field learning basic avalanche awareness issues. Held in Durango, Co.

Mar 1-2 — **Ouray Ice Climbing Improvement Seminar** \$250 for two days. For non-beginners who want to improve their ice climbing technique under the supervision of a professional instructor. Ouray, Colo.

Mar 29-30 — **Multi-Pitch Ice Climbing** \$260 for two days or \$210 for second day alone. The first day consists of skills refresher and the second is following a guided ascent of a multi-pitch ice classic. Held in Durango, Colo.

Weekends — **3-day Winter Mountaineering Course** \$355 per person (Min. 2 or more). One day Avalanches, one Snow skills and Engineer Mt ascent 3rd day. These are full days in addition to travel to and from Durango.

For any of the above, contact Erik Filsinger at 480-314-1089 or Smorefil@aol.com.

AMC CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Participation on 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.

WHEN & WHERE & WHAT & WHO

- Feb 8 **Strenuous 11-mile hike** along the Superstition ridgeline. Fit, experienced hikers only. Contact Rogil 623-878-3914 or rogil.schroeter@honeywell.com.
- Jan 30 - Feb 2. **Top rope ice climbing in Ouray.** Travel days Thursday and Sunday. Climbing in Ice Park Friday and Saturday. Prior Ice climbing experience required. Transportation, meals and lodging on your own. No beginners. Must have own crampons and ice tools. With permission of Outing Leader. Size Limited. Contact Erik Filsinger at smorefil@aol.com for details.
- Feb 10 Board Meeting at Los Olivos, 7:00 p.m.
- Feb 11-12, 15-16. **Winter Camping Seminar and Field trip.** This event will be held in conjunction with Jutta's Mt. Humphrey's ascent. Attend the February 11th (PV) or 12th (Tempe) seminar sessions at REI. Erik Filsinger, at smorefil@aol.com for details.
- February 15-16. **Winter Ascent of Mount Humphrey with Winter Camping / Snow Shelter Seminar,** Jutta Ulrich 602 / 234-3579 or e-mail: ulrichj@t-bird.edu.
- Feb 15. **Zonerland in the Superstitions.** Routes are from 5.8 to 5.11, 1 hour approach, fantastic rock. Limit 12. Frank Vers. 480-947-9435
- Feb 15. **Pinnacle Peak, Cactus Flower East.** East facing wall gets morning sun, short crack and face climbs. Meet in parking lot of Pinnacle Peak Park, 9:00 a.m. No limit, no reservations, just show up. Tom Conner conner_tom@hotmail.com.
- Feb 22 **Self-rescue seminar.** We will discuss and practice lowering, raising and picking off victims at Titanic Wall at Queen Creek. Limit 16. Wayne Schroeter (602) 402-1631.
- Feb 24 AMC Regular meeting. Program by Hans Florine on Northwest and Yosemite climbing epics
- Feb 25-27, Mar 1-2 **Lead School.** Mick Strole. The lead school schedule is as follows: Feb 25, 26, 27 at Dreamy Draw Park, 6:30pm-9:30pm, Mar 1, 2 at Prescott, 9am-5pm (Sullivan Canyon Sat., then Watson Dells Sun.).
- Mar 5 **Basic School Instructor Meeting**
- Mar 11-13-15-16-18-20-22 **Basic School.** Sally Larimer
- Mar 29 **Queen Creek Cleanup**
- April 2 **Anchors School Instructor Meeting**
(Continued on page 13)

AMC OUTING LEADERS

Requirements for becoming a leader: take the basic, AARS 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 Scott

Sally Borg Larimer.....480-425-9689	Tim Medlock.....719-494-1171	Jef Sloat.....602-316-1899
Tom Conner480-897-7623	Paul Norberg.....602-808-9244	Bill Stinson.....602-547-2560
Eric Filsinger.....602-906-1186	Paul Paonessa.....602-493-7356	Mick Strole520-856-3335
Jeff Hatfield480-783-8779	Chris Query480-967-9268	Rick Taylor.....623-487-8507
Scott Hoffman.....623-580-8909	Tim Schneider480-497-8377	Tim Ward.....602-212-1929
Richard Horst.....602-953-9198	Rogil Schroeter623-878-3914	Frank Vers480-947-9435
David Larimer.....480-425-9689	Wayne Schroeter.....602-402-1631	

February 2003

AMC Outing Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Ouray Ice <i>New moon</i>
2 Ouray Ice	3	4	5 <i>Sunrise 7:22</i> <i>Sunset 6:04</i> <i>Moonset 10:16 pm</i>	6	7	8
9 <i>1st Quarter</i>	10 AMC Board	11 <i>6:30 p.m.</i> Seminar at PV REI.....	12 <i>Sunrise 7:16</i> <i>Sunset 6:10</i> <i>Moonset 3:57am</i> .&At Tempe	13	14	15 Winter Camp and Climb — Zonerland — Pin Pk
16 Winter Camp and Climb <i>Full Moon</i>	17	18	19 <i>Sunrise 7:09</i> <i>Sunset 6:17</i> <i>Moonrise 9:35 pm</i>	20	21	22 Self Res-cue Seminar
23 <i>Last Qtr</i>	24 AMC Meets Hans Florine "No Bivvies program"	25 Lead School	26 <i>Sunrise 7:01</i> <i>Sunset 6:23</i> <i>Moonrise 4:16 am</i> Lead Sch	27 Lead School	28	