

June 2002

# ARIZONA MOUNTAINEER



*...And the gate at last swings open ... Ok, no, not this gate. But the one around the corner and north a half-mile is open to AMC's favorite peak thanks to the City of Scottsdale Parks. Dept., long-time AMC Prexy Paul Diefenderfer, Anna Marsolo (who found the clause in the state land deal that the developers would rather not have surfaced), and many dozens of AMC'ers who worked hundreds of hours on climber access trails and overflowed council meetings to prove their abiding interest.*

# 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  
P. O. Box. 1695 (for now—will change soon.)  
Phoenix, Az. 85001-1695

**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.

**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	480-473-3742
Classification	Scott Hoffman	623-580-8909
Conservation	Charlene Todd	480-917-5354
Elections	Don Thomas	480-892-9513
Equip Rental	Paul Norberg	602-808-9244
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	Bruce McHenry	602-952-1379
Programs	Steven Tillery	602-224-9003
Trail Maint.	Jutta Ulrich	602-234-3579
Training; Safety	Jeff Hatfield	480-783-8779
Basic Class	Sally Larimer	480-425-9689
Anchors Class	Tom Conner	480-897-7623
Lead Class	Mick Strole	602-788-4031
T-shirts	Wendy Gaynor	602-547-2560
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

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**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**

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- 1 Index, Club Info.; Birthdays this month
- 2 Board Meeting Minutes; New Members
- 3 Discounts, Treasurer, Equipment
- 4 Swap meet and BBQ next meeting
- 5 President's Corner — Pinnacle Peak
- 6 Opland's Pinnacle Peak Beta
- 7 Contd.
- 8 Phoenix Bouldering Contest
- 9 Slot Canyon Saga
- 10 Bees; Anchors School Grads
- 11 Calendar, Contd.
- 12 Calendar; Outing 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

**JULY Deadline: 15 JUNE 2002**

## **HOT STUFF!!!**

**NORTH TO — UH... FLAGSTAFF..  
(OK, its not Denali, but it's a  
lot better than nothing)**

**AND**

**AMC TO RESUME  
A THURSDAY EVENING TRADITION —  
AFTER WORK AT PINNACLE PEAK.**

**YAY!**

### **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.

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## **JUNE BIRTHDAYS**

Richard Landry 1, Mary Trengove 1, Tim Steele 2, Shawn Swenson 2, Steven Towls 4, David Hansen 5, Alan Bingham 6, Lisa Polacheck 6, Nancy Birdwell 8, Gale Dominy 9, Mischa Sumrall 9, Andrew Bates 11, David Johnson 11, Scott Parsons 11, Lynn Readicker 11, Chiara Azzini 14, Steven Robarge 14, Karen Schneider 14, Thu Duong 17, Charlene Todd 18, Karol Harvey 21, Bina Datta 25, Shantala Ramaiah 25, Jeff Harvey 26, Bill Campbell 28, Lynne Hulvey 28, Dave Tanton 28, Bill Van 28, Paul Schmitt 29, Tiina Hanni 30, Elliott Rector 30.

## MINUTES OF THE AMC BOARD MEETING: May 6, 2002

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Board Members Present – Conner, Filsinger, Hubble, Keedy, Larimer, McHenry, Schneider, Ward  
Committee Chairs Present – Vegors  
Members Present – Demlong, Combs, Query, Kirra

I. A quorum being present, President Filsinger called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM  
II. Minutes of April Board Meeting were approved as published.

III. Treasurers Report was approved as submitted.

1. The Risk Management Committee met prior to the Board Meeting. The purpose of the meeting was to review the Risk Management Manual (RMM) from WOGA, our liability insurance carrier. Certain changes will need to be made to existing AMC policies and procedures, but an effort will be made to propose reasonable alternatives to the RMM guidelines. Filsinger and Demlong will continue communications with WOGA. The idea of an Outing Leader appreciation dinner, accompanied by an introduction to certain new procedures related to the risk management guidelines, was offered and endorsed.

2. Meeting Sites – AMC will meet at Los Olivos in May, but June and July may be in question due to budget restraints. Tillery will continue to seek alternatives.

3. Post Office Box – Because the U.S. Post Office box is so inconvenient to access, and because forwarding of mail can only be temporary, motion was made, seconded and carried to authorize McHenry to obtain a box at Mail Boxes, Etc. and to authorize the expenses associated with the change.

4. Web Site – Committee chairs having information related to their areas of responsibility will be asked to review web site information twice a year.

5. Web Link Reciprocity Policy approved as amended "It is the policy of the AMC to only include links to websites of climbing related organizations that agree to provide comparable, reciprocal links on their websites. Inclusion on AMC website does not constitute endorsement of those organizations or their products. The AMC has no responsibility to verify in any way the validity of information contained on reciprocal websites or to police in any way those websites. The only recourse AMC will take it to include or not include web links on the AMC website."

6. New Outing Leader policies and procedures are being implemented

IV. Other Board Business

1. Pinnacle Peak – Tim Schneider and Greg Opland will be asked to do an Outing Leader Seminar in the

Fall to familiarize our Outing Leaders with Pinnacle Peak Climbing.

2. Alpine Rock Seminar is set for May 8 & 12.

3. Attendance at Board Meetings was discussed with the consensus that all Board Members should attend meetings regularly.

4. Discussion held about Training and Safety Chair position and responsibilities.

VI. Meeting adjourned at 8:50 PM

### Notice to Users of Free Email Services

... users of Hotmail, Yahoo, NetZero, Juno, and other free email services...

If you haven't cleared out your electronic mailboxes lately, you might consider doing so. Most free email services have limits on the amount of email they will store for you. For many services, this limit is 1MB. Messages sent to mailboxes that are full are returned as undeliverable to the sender. Many recent AMC emails have been returned for this reason. If you want to receive AMC email notifications of club events and the monthly electronic newsletter link, you may want to delete some of your old email.

### NEW AMC MEMBERS

Steve	Ballance
Veon	Moffat
Braden	Niemczyk
Lungi	Niemczyk
Marcela	Niemczyk
Peter	Niemczyk
Bill	Van

## 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 10% discount; special orders 15%.

### AMC RENTAL EQUIPMENT:

EQUIPMENT	Lb-Oz	Qty	Cost/Wk
Tents:			
4-season 2-3 man 7-6		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	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 Paul Norberg at 602-808-9244.

## TREASURER'S REPORT

Statement of Operations  
01/01/02 Thru 04/07/02

Category Description	Amount
<b>INCOME</b>	
Advertising	.00
Equipment Rental (incl shoes)	49.00
Interest	.00
Membership Dues	5,525.00
Mountaineering Schools	.00
Program Income	5.00
Tee Shirts & Etc	65.00
Training & Safety	6,990.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>12,634.00</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>	
Access	.00
Access Committee	.00
Administration	501.00
Bouldering Contest	300.00
Capital Exp	426.99
Equipment Maint	99.45
Insurance	1,016.94
Library	41.90
Merchandise Exp	579.40
Mountaineering	.00
Newsletter	1,473.08
Outings	.00
Programs	86.00
Service/Bank Charge	14.13
Training & Safety	6,082.88
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>12,431.77</b>
<b>OVERALL FOR YEAR TO DATE</b>	<b>1,202.23</b>
<b>ACCOUNT BALANCES</b>	
CD Account	5,156.02
Savings	1,527.15
Checking	5,611.81
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>	<b>\$12,294.98</b>

## **How About —**

**Those Forrest Titons you haven't placed since '83?  
Those shoes that made your pinky toe hurt too much?  
The harness that scrunches most uncomfortably?  
Those lycra tights that, let's be honest, you really  
shouldn't wear anymore?**

## **Well, Then —**

**Get them out and practice your salesmanship.**

## **At The**

**Annual AMC Great Gear Swap and BBQ June 24th.**

**Place: Havasupai Ramada at North Mountain  
Preserve off 7th St. between Dunlap and Thunderbird.  
6:00 to 10:00 p.m.**

**Cold Soda and Hot Charcoal will be provided by AMC.**

**Bring your surplus gear, a hot dog or rib to barbecue,  
And prepare for a summer evening of gabbing with  
friends.**

## GUEST PRESIDENT'S CORNER — PINNACLE PEAK BETA BY TIM SCHNEIDER

*I have asked Tim Schneider to provide a little bit of historical perspective on Pinnacle Peak and to offer some suggestions on the elements of safe climbing associated with it. Here are his and Greg Opland's thoughts on the subject. — Erik*

It's finally open again! just in time for the 100+ degree temps, but nonetheless Pinnacle Peak is back, as a City of Scottsdale park. How things have changed in the 7+ years that it has been closed. They've even added "amenities" that we never knew we needed! A nice new ramada, golf cart path trail, parking area, views of million dollar homes, hot running water and restrooms... enough of that.. lets talk about the climbs.

Most of the original (rusty) bolts have been replaced and bolts have been added to some routes to try to protect those who can't use common sense very well, but still Pinnacle Peak is far from what I would call a "sport" climbing area. More properly I'll refer to it as a "sporty" climbing area (bear with me I'll explain below)

Once the most climbed spot in Phoenix, The Lower East Wall is still off limits. It's really a shame too, as this was a premier spot for a high concentration of climbs that ran a wide range of difficulties.

There are signs marking it as such (closed) so please respect them. Still, the rest of the Peak and climbs are open all the way over to Y-Crack boulder and Cactus Flower, so get out there and enjoy.

I can recall some of my first routes at Pinnacle Peak. Getting my butt kicked on 'Boxer' and 'Name It' (wider 5.6/5.7 climbs) Thrashing and dangling on Birthday Party (5.7) Learning good crack technique on Chug-A-Lug (5.8), and a thrilling lead on The Naked Edge (5.9) (r.h. side of the Wedge.. pre upper bolt mind you!) Also my wife Karen and I had our first 'climbing' date to the summit of Pinnacle Peak via the S. Crack / Silhouette route.

So enough reminiscing.. here's the beta on Pinnacle Peak.

First, get yourself a copy of Greg Opland's fine guide Phoenix Rock II. Not that the Falcon guide is that bad.. it's just not "comprehensive" and clearly doesn't give specific enough details on the routes. Having said that...read the darn thing! Look at the topos, the route descriptions..peruse the first ascentionist lists in the back. You can learn a "lot" about the nature of the climb and its rating by knowing who the first ascentionist was!

Pinnacle Peak was a "ground up" area. (this is what I mean by "sporty") This means that the bolts were often drilled "on stance" while the leader was climbing the route, usually for the first time! The implication for today's leader is that the bolts may be few and far between, and sometimes only at decent rest spots. Recent bolt additions to routes at the Peak have somewhat sullied the accomplishments of those original leaders (who were often using gear, especially climbing shoes far inferior to that of today's climber), but may give today's less-adventurous leaders the benefit of a more relaxed and safer climbing experience.

Remember the above when you're whining that the bolt is just out of reach and you have to make a crux move. The climbs at Pinnacle Peak may take a level of commitment that Queen Creek sport bolted routes do not! This is my definition of "sporty" climbing versus "sport" climbing :-)

You will need a rack of gear to lead climb at Pinnacle Peak. A rack of quickdraws does not cut it! There are few (if any) of the routes that one can get to the top of without gear, and even then, setting a TR requires placing protection. I was asked at least 3-5 times in the first two days of the park opening.. "Where are the bolts?" "...are there any climbs that are bolted?" Climbing is about more than just bolts! Before the advent of sport climbing, all-bolt-protected routes were in the minority. Get that gear and learn how to place it properly! This may require that you seek help from an experienced climber, but there are many such folk within the AMC that are more than happy to help.

Finally, watch out for the 'flora and fauna'. While out climbing on opening weekend, I was swarmed by bees while atop the wall above Pecker Party (just right of Birthday Party). Apparently, they are alive and well and still living in the top of the 5.11 overhanging crack "Bee Gee", a climb who's name is no coincidence! Bees in Arizona have to be assumed to be of the "Africanized" variety, so take great care not to disturb this hive. That same day, Greg Opland and I came across a healthy sized rattler while scrambling down from the top of the Loafers Choice formation (to the left). Use your head, size up the route and consider your ability and you'll have a great time there. You can't beat Pinnacle Peak for accessibility.

In June and July, I'll be reviving the Thursday after work AMC outings (show up around 5pm.. climb till dusk) The whole area gets into the shade from about 3 or 4pm onwards, so while it's warm, with light clothing and plenty of water, you can actually climb in Phoenix in the summer!

Also, post climb attendance at Greasewood Flat is mandatory :-)

## MASTER BETA \* - The Pinnacle Peak Moderate Circuit!

(\*Tsk! – Ed.)

By Greg Opland

Well, we can once again tread the sacred granite of Pinnacle Peak in North Scottsdale! Who'd have thunk it would ever happen, but there we are. Kudos go to many folks, but none more than Paul Dief of the Phoenix Rock Gym for riding Estancia and the Scottsdale City Counsel like a jockey in the Derby to get them to open this historic area for public use! Tell him "big thanks" if you get by the gym and he's hanging around!

There seems to have been some discussions recently regarding the "challenging" nature of the climbs (for a given rating) at Pinnacle Peak. I think it should be noted that the traditional nature of the climbing at Pinnacle Peak is not so different than most other traditional areas in the US. Direct comparison with sport climbing ratings is ludicrous given the radically different demands of the two types of climbing. If you use a conservative approach and work your way into the grades, you should have tons of fun. It should be noted that 5.10 was quite HARD before sport climbing came along. To give leaders a leg up, here are some details on a circuit of good moderate routes at Pinnacle Peak. For fun, you can try to link them together to have a great day of climbing on awesome granite!

### Dead Meat (5.7) - Loafer's Choice Slab

Pro: Small nuts and small cams, retrobolts.

A somewhat continuous climb that is located on the east side of Loafer's Choice Slab. Start in an alcove just north of the AMC Boulder at the base of a short face leading to a small roof. Climb the face past a bolt to get to the roof. Small gear will fit in the crack on the right if you work at it a bit. You can then either pull the roof at the crack or move left onto a "hump" and pull it there. Once on the face above, continue up and to the left to join the bolts going up the left arete. Bolts have been added to this climb, so there are more than noted in Phoenix Rock II. At the top of the route, you can either climb up, clip a last bolt on the right and continue to the top (this is a 5.9 variation) or you can move to the left and climb to the top from the back (easy). Belay from a pair of bolts on top. Descent: Scramble off the top and down to the south to get off. Watch for snake in this area! Move south to next route.

### Mickey Mantle (5.8) - AMC Boulder

Pro: Two bolts, #3 or #3.5 Camalot, selection of medium-small nuts and cams.

An absolute classic but airy! This route starts on the east side of the AMC Boulder, just above the trail. Climb thin terrain (classic Phoenix face climbing) up and right to a bolt (12-15 feet off the dirt), then con-

tinue via easiest path to gain the big crack running along the bottom of the sloped roof above (big cam here!). Follow this crack right to the "point" and get some gear in here. Move up onto the "point" where a bolt over the roof can be clipped, then pull the roof (crux) and continue via easier ground to the top. Belay from bolts on top. Descent: Easiest rappel seems to be off the northwest side past a chockstone. Rapping down the south side past Reunion might be possible, but pulling the rope wouldn't be much fun. Pack your stuff and hoof up the trail to the Upper East Wall.

### Birthday Party (5.7) - Upper East Wall, The Peak

Pro: Two new retrobolts, selection of small to med nuts, medium sized cams to #2 Camalot for the upper crack.

A challenging route! This is located on the far left of the Upper East Wall below the Peak. Look for a pair of new bolts in a shallow right-facing corner that lead up a slab to a short overhanging roof crack. Until the Peak was closed to climbing, folks did this route without either of the two bolts at the base, so if you're feeling runout...you shouldn't. Face climb up the shallow corner past the two bolts, move left up the crack (you can place gear here) and then cross to the crack below the roof crack above. Set good gear and then pull the crack (the crux) and continue to the top. You need to scramble down off the top of the route to the slab behind, where cracks can be used for a natural gear belay. This route is the approach pitch for climbing South Crack to the summit of Pinnacle Peak. Continue on next route...

### South Crack (5.6) to Silhouette (5.8) - The Peak

Pro: Selection of cams (focus on #1 to #4 Camalot size, double up on the big ones), nuts, bolt.

This is an excellent route to the top of the Peak, but may require expanding one's envelope into the realm of "trad" climbing techniques. From the base of the south face next to Sun Deck Boulder, climb a fat crack into a chimney. Clear the chimney (there's a bolt at the top on the west side). This puts you about 45' up the South Crack route at a stance below the last section to the top. You can either summit via the South Crack route (the big crack in the corner) or you can choose to launch out onto the left-hand face via the Silhouette route (5.8). If you choose this way, stem across and clip the first bolt, then move onto the face. Continue up arete past two more bolts, then up and right to a horizontal crack. One last bolt leads to the summit. Descent: Rappel (one rope) from the summit bolts to the northwest into the Notch. Scramble down through a hole and around to a gully between the north and east summits of the Peak. Rappel from a pair of bolts down a gully. Scramble from there. On the south side of the bottom of this gully, is a big boulder with a wonderful hand crack that faces east. This is Chug-A-Lug (last route). (Cont. p. 7)

## PP BETA (Contd. From page 6)

### Chug-A-Lug (5.8) - The Peak

Pro: Selection of small to #2 Camalot, one #3.5 Camalot

Awesome hand jamming practice! Set up anchor for belayer. Then pull up one move into the crack and place a piece as high as you can. Clip the rope and step back down to psyche up. Launch up the crack, jamming and using the crack and face for your feet. If you have poor crack technique, this climb will rob you quickly. Place gear BEFORE you need it! Continue up the excellent jams to a kind of wide pod (big cam!) and from there continue to a shelf at the top. Gear is needed for the belay, but lots there for the inventive. After bringing up your partner, you can scramble down a steep chimney behind the route (be careful!).

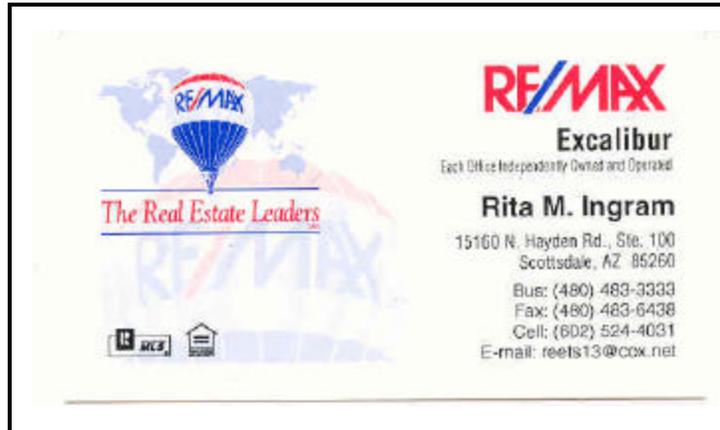
Scramble back to your packs below the Upper East Wall and you have successfully completed the moderate circuit of Pinnacle Peak climbs. You can get some more routes in, or head to Greasewood Flats to pound that 22 oz. Fat Tire and expound on a great day!

—Greg

### For Sale:

I have a collection of Climbing Magazines from #97 (Aug 1986) to #172 (Nov-1997) as well as Rock and Ice Magazines #19 (May-June 1987) through #110 (Aug-Sept 2001). Follow the ethics debates in the letters to the editors or skim through the photos and check out all the Lycra. Of course there are also the tons of route guides.

I'm letting them go \$165 (that's \$1/issue) Yes, I've gone crazy! Contact Mark Trainor at [Funpigg@aol.com](mailto:Funpigg@aol.com) or 480-373-6535



The advertisement features the RE/MAX logo with a hot air balloon, the slogan "The Real Estate Leaders", and the company name "RE/MAX Excalibur". It lists Rita M. Ingram as the agent, with contact information for her office in Scottsdale, AZ, including phone, fax, cell, and email numbers.

**Looking for a Financial Advisor? It's always a good time to start your personal financial plan and investment portfolio.**

**Financial Planning  
Investment Management  
Financial Services and Tax Planning**

**Bruce A. McHenry  
Senior Financial Advisor**

Slaysman McHenry & Associates  
7702 E. Doubletree Ranch Rd.  
Suite 230  
Scottsdale, Az 85258

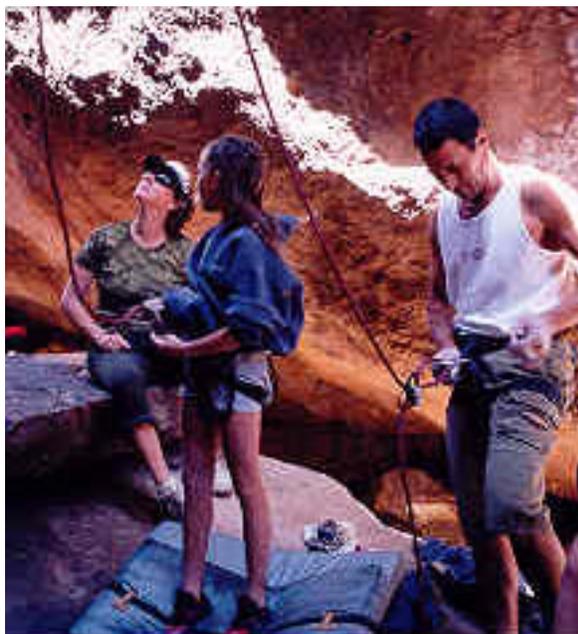
Securities offered through W. B. McKee Securities, Inc.  
Member NASD & SIPC

## NINETEENTH PHOENIX BOULDERING CONTEST ROCKS ON!

Members of the Arizona Mountaineering Club again came through in the spirit of volunteerism to make the 19th PBC the best ever. A huge "thank you" to each of you who helped out. Each year AMC helps make this event so successful. This event would not happen without YOU! I hope to see each of you again next year for the 20th!

Check [www.phoenixboulderingcontest.com](http://www.phoenixboulderingcontest.com) for a full listing of competitors, including your friends in AMC.

*Sue Goins, Volunteer Coordinator*



*You could tell Chris Sharma was approaching by the clatter of the rocks under the hooves of his gallery of about 30 photographers, friends and celebrity observers. Talk about pressure to perform!*

*Chris tried the 6,000 point ogre at main wall — after skipping it last year. With different starting holds stipulated he had made the climb two years ago, building an unbeatable lead in the first half hour of the day.*

*Different story this time. After several tries and only with serious effort did he get onto the section he had climbed two years before — but then ran out of stuff. No one else who tried it even came close. Most accomplished only one or two moves out of the starting blocks before admitting the gravity of their situations..*

*Weather for the event was superb — sunny, cool and dry. Despite several hundred people camped amid the tinder dry chapparal and junipers, and strong winds blowing, no fires escaped.*

*Major sponsors included Climbing, Gramicci, North Face and Rhino. Minor sponsors included dozens of past and present AMC members who officiated, judged, directed, rigged, fetched and carried.*

*Note — a ladylike rattlesnake was discovered late in the day scrunched up within inches of where feet went to start a popular climb. Thank you, madam.*

**PROBLEM** — Rules is rules — only contestants can belay, yet dad outweighs climbing partner daughter Lou Hutchison by 3 to 1. See page. 11 for dynamic solution.

## AMC CANYONEERS RESCUE TRAIL WORKERS

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Well, maybe that's a little over-blown, but they did rescue me from an embarrassing situation. On Sunday, May 12, **Rogil Schroeter** and **Kathy Sharp** took nine volunteers from Volunteers for Outdoor Arizona (VOA) through the slot at Salome Canyon. VOA has obtained approval from the Tonto National Forest to work on stabilizing a single exit trail from the bottom of the canyon. It took several visits and the recent Arizona Highways article to convince the FS that we really needed to do something to contain the devastation being wreaked on the frangible hillside. I started visiting Salome about ten years ago when relatively few people knew about and have watched (and at times participated in) the progressive destruction.

Because we cannot get into this work in a serious way until next year, I wanted to open a clear path to what has become the primary exit trail and obstruct the many other paths that people have created. Not a lot of work, but a priority. I offered a hike through the slot to a limited number who would come out to help with this work. The trailworkers hiked in Saturday afternoon and deposited tools at the work area. We camped by Salome Saturday night and met Rogil and Kathy Sunday AM for the hike through the slot.

It was great, as always, boulder-hopping and swimming through the pools that got progressively colder the deeper we went into the canyon. The water was lower than I have ever experienced, and I have been through in September. Then we arrive at the waterfall. Anyone who looked at the VOA web-site information about this outing, may have noticed a lot of bravado about jumping at the waterfall. Not too subtle questions were raised about the courage of those who wanted to rappel instead.

Every time the trip leader (Baker) has gone through Salome in the past he has done so with no wetsuit, no PFD, and just a 30-foot piece of sling. Those of you have been there know about the slick, sloping shelf you must traverse to get to the jump-ledge. No problem! Take off your sandals and let your feet dry in the sun so you have some traction and carefully walk to the outer rappel ring. Slip the sling through and lower your self to the ledge. No problem!

Well, Michael now has great gobs of egg on his face. Michael is the really big weenie. We got there earlier than usual and the sun was just arriving. My feet wouldn't dry. Then when they started drying the water from my clothes kept running down my legs and onto my feet. Rogil started to hyperventilate every time I began to move out onto the shelf. The humiliation was building. (It didn't occur to me later that if I had taken all of my clothes off I would have dried off. But, then there would have been all those embarrassing photos.) Rogil and Kathy set up the rappel. I went down first and did a bottom belay because we had several first-time rappellers.

Everyone made it down the waterfall safely. (Note: if Rogil and Kathy had not been there we could have exited back up-stream.) We went to the end of the slot, walking through some dry pools at the very end that are normally ten-feet deep. We finished the work in the heat of the day and then hauled the tools, our gear and ourselves back to the trailhead. Everyone had a great time. You always have a great time in Salome, unless you are really stupid. I may be a big weenie after all, but I am not that stupid.

VOA will be setting up work events, possibly in the fall, definitely next year. The lower end of the exit trail will be worked to improve drainage. The current alignment in this area will not be changed much. In the upper section the soils changed to a much higher proportion of decomposing granite. In addition to creating deep ruts, which people are already skirting, the water that is gathered in these ruts is creating even more severe erosion in locations off the trail. These areas will only grow and deepen until we reduce the concentration of flow. We will have to replace the existing trail in much of this section with a sweeping series of switchbacks. It will still be a "challenge" trail because the grades will be excessive compared usual standards. That is not a problem, given its limited function as a one way exit for Salome canyoneers. We will let AMC know when we will be working there, because I know many of you will want to help protect a place you love to visit.

Michael Baker  
michaelb@dgcenter.org  
www.dgcenter.org/voa

## BEWARE THE BEES !!

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Dale Stewart, Arizona Hiking Shack Owner, hoped to work in a bit of recreational climbing at the PBC before the contest started. But Friday he stirred up a batch of bees in the waterhole area that took after him in true Africanized mode — going for his eyes, crawling up his nostrils and into his ears to sting. The climb and all his gear was abandoned in precipitous (literally) flight down the hill.

This bee is an irascible insect that knows how to punish. If you have to pass near a known hive then having a headnet might save you anguish and possibly your life. The only other defense is getting away fast and far without concern for catclaw hooks or cholla burrs. Beating on a bolt drill is especially aggravating to them. So are floral scents. Climb clean and don't wash.

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*Some Pinnacle Peak info from Greg Opland for those of you who will be heading out there soon...*

We went out Sunday, April 21st to climb at Pinnacle Peak.

After going up Birthday Party (5.7) on the wall down and left of the peak, Tim scrambled up onto the wall above and right of the top of the route to coil the rope. He was engulfed in bees shortly thereafter. Luckily, they just kind of swarmed around and he quickly scrambled down off the back of Birthday Party without being stung. We believe the bees have continued to live in the crack at the top of the Bee Gee (11a) route and have apparently thrived while the Peak has been off limits. Recommend that folks watch their step and not get the bees excited up there. They may easily (and it's probably likely) be the Africanized variety.

We also climbed to the top of the Loafer's Choice formation. The best descent from the top of this appears to be to the left and down. While scrambling down this gully, we ran across a fairly healthy specimen of a diamondback rattlesnake. He was pretty mellow and we waited while he crawled under a boulder before continuing. Although the odds of this particular snake staying in this specific location are pretty remote, it is worth noting and for people to watch their step in the area (not to mention just watching out in general).

Thanks,  
Greg Opland

10— The Arizona Mountaineer

## AARS, MATEY — A GOODLY CREW

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As usual, looking at the statistics, one would think that every Advanced Anchors and Ropes student had his own handmaid or butler during the April series of classes. Actually, the students were there for every class while the instructors came and went as their feather-brained whim — or the arm-lock hold by school head Tom Conner — dictated.

The results were glorious to behold. Instructors got a good do-bee star in their crown and the students mastered the esoterica of compounding forces, final direction of pull in relation to how the crack runs, and redundancy, redundancy, redundancy,

AARS students for  
4/2002:

Ken Akerman  
Carly Antus  
Ronald Auerbach  
Chiara Azzini  
Steve Ballance  
Tisha Bee  
Dan Briggs  
John Carlisle  
Kari Carlisle  
Bina Datta  
Anna George  
Erich Goebel  
James D. Holloway  
Mike Knarzer  
Matt Lake  
Irasema Materassi  
Lionel Materassi  
Anthony Mavis  
Bruce McIntyre  
Randall McNerlin  
Terry Nelson  
Shantala Ramaiah  
Steven Robarge  
Daniel Romero  
Barton Santello  
Paul Sebesta  
Kari Svab  
Steven Towle  
Jennifer Trask  
Bill Van

AARS instructors for  
04/2002:

Nancy Birdwell  
Michael Boylan  
Debby Brown  
Tom Conner  
Bill Demlong  
Bill Fallon  
Erik Filsinger  
Philip Goebel  
Daniel Gonzales  
Kathleen Granger  
Karol Harvey  
Scott Hoffman  
JP Holloway  
James Iverson  
Ron Jachimowicz  
Keith Jendricks  
David Larimer  
Sally Larimer  
Dave Lemons  
Markita Martinez  
Chris Query  
Lynn Readicker  
Bruce Robbins  
Glen Schroering  
Rogil Schroeter  
Kathy Sharp  
Tim Ward  
Gary Youngblood

—Rogil

## AMC OUTING CALENDAR (Continued from page 12)

\*Group outings: The campsite, where possible, is reserved by the 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 is first-come, first-served in some cases. To request outings: Call Outings Chairperson Bruce McHenry 602-952-1379. To cancel: Please call the outing leader to cancel as soon as possible: there may be a waiting list. Also, the leader will know not to wait for you on outing day.

### BILLBOARD

#### Other Scheduled Events

Outings listed in these sections 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 and equipped 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 Eves . Rogil Schroeter, (623) 878-3914 rogil.schroeter@honeywell.com

#### Commercially Provided Training and Events

The events listed below are provided by commercial outfitters for the benefit of AMC members. These 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 for out-of-town events, participants will sign up directly with the commercial outfitter.

The following classes/outings are being offered to AMC members through Southwest Adventures, a professional guide service located in Durango, Colorado. Please contact Erik Filsinger for more information at



#### SOLUTION —

*While mother is no heavyweight, adding her firm grasp on daughter's climbing harness enabled Lou to hold three of dad's falls on a 1,200 point one finger pocket pull-up at the Phoenix Bouldering Contest.*

#### HERO DEPARTMENT

Medalists of this month — old timers Tim Schneider and Greg Opland for the scoop they provided on recently re-opened Pinnacle Peak climbs. Michael Baker sent in an AMC incident on a recent canyoneering trip (and a not totally subliminal invite to help with future VOA projects). And, of course, program chair Steve Tilley arranged for the swap meet in June — had hoped to hold it at Pinnacle Peak but 'twas not to be.

## AMC CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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*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.*

**WHEN & WHERE & WHAT & WHO .**

- May 24-27 Mt Snowdon, CO. Alpine climb on snow and low fifth-class rock. No charge. Signup with Erik Filsinger. 602-906-1186 Will be physically demanding.
- May 25-28. Indian Creek. The annual pilgrimage to the land of Stupendous Sandstone and Cantankerous Crack. Richard Horst 602-953-9198.
- June 6 High Altitude Medicine Seminar, Alpine Seminar Series at PV REI, 6:30-8:30 p.m.. Dr Robert Comp will present his latest lecture on medical issues associated with high altitude mountaineering. Contact Erik Filsinger at smorefil@aol.com for info. — or just show up.
- June 8 Mount Elden. Climb (5.6-5.10) in cool Flagstaff. Camping Sat. night optional. Meet behind the Denny's at I-17 and Bell at 6:30 a.m. No limit, no reservations, just show up. Will be cancelled if the Coconino Forest is closed for fire restrictions. Tom Conner conner\_tom@hotmail.com.
- June 9 Humphreys Peak. Hike to the top of Arizona's highest peak. Roundtrip 9-miles, 3800 ft elevation gain takes about 6-hours. Meet in the lower parking lot of the Snow Bowl (just north of Flagstaff off of Hwy 180) at 8:30 a.m. to begin the hike. No limit, no reservations. Will be cancelled if the Coconino Forest is closed for fire restrictions. Tom Conner conner\_tom@hotmail.com.
- June 10 AMC board meets at Los Olivos, 7:00 p.m.
- June 13, 27 July 11 Aug The Tradition continues (not golf silly.. climbing!) that's right, the Thursday Pinnacle Peak outings are back after a 7+ year hiatus! Come climb from 5 pm or so till dusk The peak is in the shade during the afternoons. Wear light comfortable clothing and bring lots of water! 5.7 to 5.10 Limit 15 - Tim Schneider 480-497-8377
- June 24 AMC Swap meet and BBQ —Havasupai Ramda at North Mountain Preserve off 7th St. from 6 to 10 pm. Bring your own chow and the good surplus gear you are willing to sell for pittance to a deserving, aspiring impecunious AMC member. Cold pop and a charcoal fire provided by AMC.
- Aug 31-Sept 2 Enchanted Towers, NM. Richard Horst 602-953-9198
- Sept 28 Grand Canyon Clean-up.  
(Continued on page 11)

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## 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 Hoffman at (623) 580-8909.

Bill Berkley.....480-945-4346	Tim Medlock.....719-494-1171	Jef Sloat.....602-843-2490
Sally Borg Larimer...480-425-9689	Jeff Nagel.....602-318-9538	Bill Stinson.....602-547-2560
Tom Conner.....480-897-7623	Paul Norberg.....602-808-9244	Mick Strole.....602-788-4031
John Ficker.....602-867-1487	Paul Paonessa.....602-493-7356	Rick Taylor.....623-487-8507
Eric Filsinger.....602-906-1186	Chris Query.....480-967-9268	Tim Ward.....602-212-1929
Jeff Hatfield.....480-783-8779	Brad Sanders.....480-961-3674	Frank Vers.....480-947-9435
Scott Hoffman.....623-580-8909	Tim Schneider.....480-497-8377	Gary Youngblood.....602-508-9696
Richard Horst.....602-953-9198	Rogil Schroeter.....623-878-3914	
David Larimer.....480-425-9689	Wayne Schroeter.....480-829-9313	

# June 2002

## AMC Outing Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 <i>Last Quarter</i>	3	4 <i>CAMRA meeting</i>	5 <i>Sunrise 5:19 Sunset 7:36 Moonrise 2:22 am</i>	6 <b>Altitude Seminar at PV REI</b>	7	8 <b>Mt. Elden</b>
9 <b>Humphreys Peak</b>	10 <i>New Moon</i> -AMC Board Meets	11	12 <i>Sunrise 5:18 Sunset 7:39 Moonset 9:38 pm</i>	13 <b>After work at Pinnacle Peak</b>	14	15
16	17 <i>First Quarter</i>	18	19 <i>Sunrise 5:19 Sunset 7:41 Moonset 1:39 am</i>	20	21	22
23	24 <i>Full Moon</i> <b>AMC Swap Meet / BBQ</b>	25	26 <i>Sunrise 5:21 Sunset 7:43 Moonrise 9:40 pm</i>	27 <b>After Work at Pinnacle Peak</b>	28	29
30						