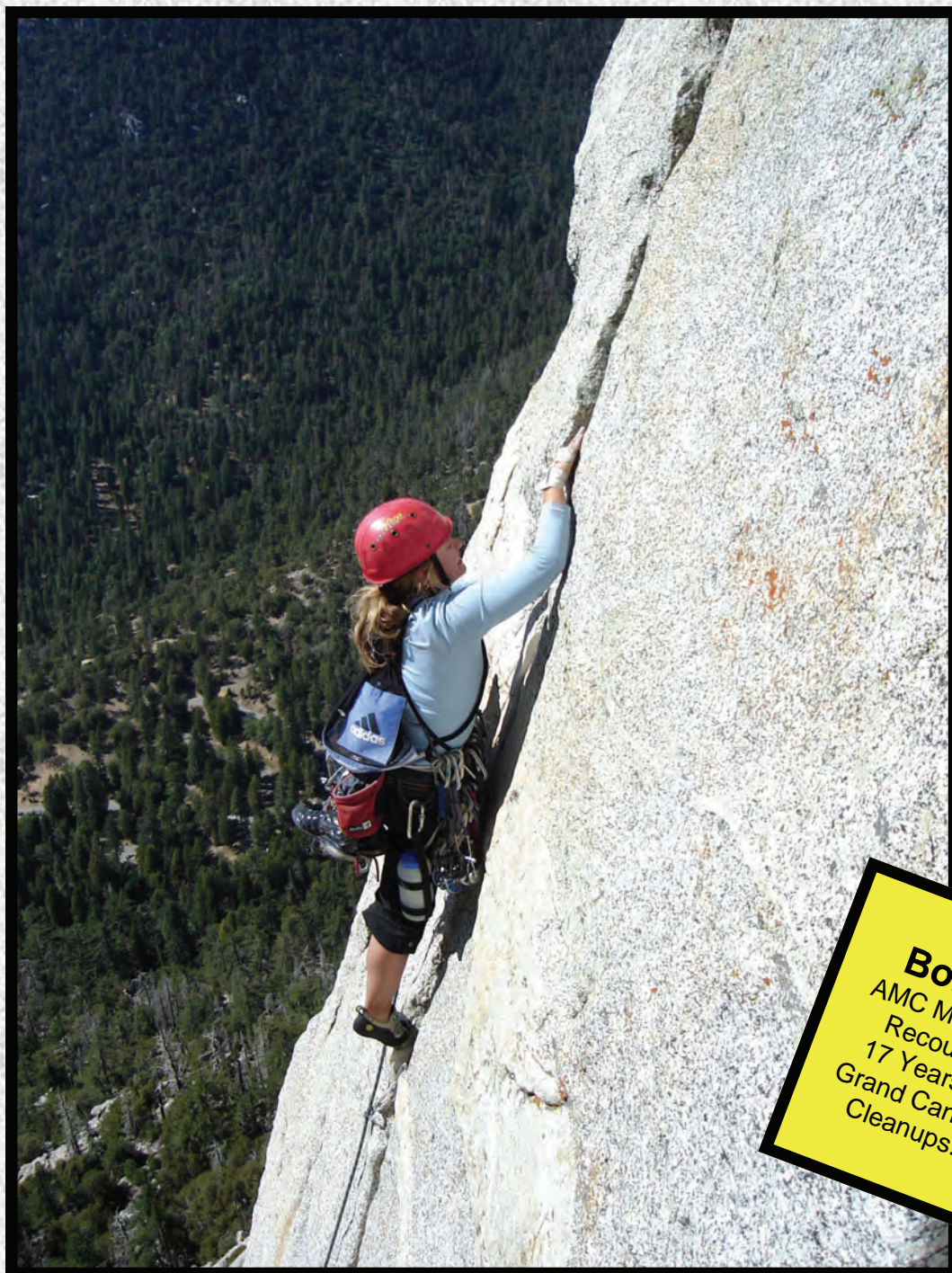


The Arizona MOUNTAINEER

August 2007



Bonus
AMC Member
Recounts
17 Years of
Grand Canyon
Cleanups!!

Catherine Conner leads the second pitch on
"Super Pooper, 5.10A ****" Tahquitz -

The Arizona Mountaineering Club

Meetings: The **August** member meeting location is:
Phoenix Country Day School
3901 E. Stanford Drive
Paradise Valley, AZ 85253. , AZ 85004 at 7:00 p.m. See
calendar for day/date.

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

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

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

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

For More Information:

Email:

president@amcaz.org
board@amcaz.org

Websites:

www.amcaz.org

Mail:

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

Board of Directors:

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Secretary Erik Filsinger.....480-314-1089
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Director..... Danny Gonzales ..602-550-8371
Director..... Justin Iske.....480-225-7739
Director..... Sheri Kenly.....602-799-1288
Director..... Dave McClintic ...480-607-0890

Committees:

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Classification Nancy Birdwell ...480-821-1932
Elections Dave Van Hook...602-790-6283
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Email Robert England...480-688-5412
Land Advocacy Erik Filsinger.....480-314-1089
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Membership..... Rogil Schroeter....623-512-8465
Mountaineering Erik Filsinger.....480-314-1089
..... Bruce McHenry ...602-952-1379
Newsletter..... Robert England...480-688-5412
Outings Frank Vers480-947-9435
Programs..... Sheri Kenly.....602-799-1288
Public Relations..... Open
Training & Schools.. Bill Fallon.....602-996-9790
..... Clay Vollmer602-595-7266
Basic Class Bill Fallon.....602-996-9790
Anchors Class Justin York480-229-8660
Lead Class Mike Knarzer602-751-1701
T-shirts..... Sally Borg.....480-425-9689
WebSite Kirrawebadmin@amcaz.org
T-shirts..... Sally Larimer.....480-425-9689
Website..... Kirra webadmin@amcaz.org

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

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

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

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HOT STUFF !!!

*Super
Member
Articles
This
Month!!!*

Newsletter

The *Arizona Mountaineer* is published monthly by the AMC. Members are encouraged to submit articles and photos about their climbing- or mountaineering-related activities. Submit items for publication (subject to approval) to AMC Editor, 2267 W Periwinkle Way, Chandler, AZ 85248 or through email to azmountaineer@amcaz.org. Prints are preferred over slides. Digital photos should preferably be in JPG format and 300 dpi. Articles can be in any standard word processing format. For more info call or write the editor at (480)-688-5412, robert_england2@yahoo.com.

Advertising in the *Arizona Mountaineer* is accepted, subject to approval, at the following rates. Personal ads are free to members. Business ads are \$5.00 for a business card, \$10.00 for half page, \$20.00 for full page, and \$25.00 for inserts.

Library

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

The circulation period is one month. Materials are due at the next general club meeting. The overdue fine is \$2 per title per month. Please contact the librarian if unable to return your books and tapes.

The circulation limit is three titles per person. One of these may be a videotape, for which a \$50 deposit is required. Each guidebook requires a \$25 deposit.

September Newsletter Deadline Wednesday - August 22

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Lauren Lee Rae 2, Alexis Moniello 5, Mark Tallan 7, Jessica Perey 8, Mark Christiani 8, James Perey 9, Wolfgang Rupp 10, Tom Kreuser 11, Chad Taylor 12, Justin Hall 12, Keith Waldrup 15, Kit Strole 15, Kathy Sharp 17, Shelby Medlock 18, Bailey Rose Warstler 21, Debby Brown 21, Jim Waugh 24, Jeffrey Novacek 27, Barry Boyd 30, Tim Lange 31

Discount Directory

The following merchants currently offer a discount to AMC members:

Arizona Hiking Shack—11645 N. Cave Creek Rd., Phoenix, AZ 85020, (602) 944-7723. Show your AMC membership card and get a 10% discount.

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

Phoenix Rock Gym—1353 E. University, Tempe, AZ 85281. 480-921-8322. 10% off membership.

AZ Cliffhanger - at the Phoenix Rock Gym. 480-642-9507. 10% off merchandise.

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

Rental Equipment

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

Equipment Rental Policy:

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

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

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

-Two checks shall be collected from the renter.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Treasurer's Report

Arizona Mountaineering Club Income Statement Period Ended May 31, 2007

INCOME

Advertising	145.00
Dues 2007	5,635.00
Interest	313.85
T-Shirts (AMC)	18.00
Rental Equipment	40.00
T&S Schools Rental Income	80.00
AARS Spring	1,575.00
Basic Spring	3,515.00
Lead Spring	675.00
Training: Other	270.00
TOTAL INCOME	12,266.85

EXPENSES

Admin	744.74
Mountaineering	565.97
Newsletter	882.09
Outings	140.00
Outing Leaders	105.40
Programs Monthly Meeting	1,970.58
Training	3,563.78
TOTAL EXPENSES	7,972.56

OVERALL TOTAL 4,294.29

ACCOUNT BALANCES

CD Account (matures 9-17-07)	10,812.97
Checking (as of 5-31-07)	14,731.22
TOTAL CASH ASSETS	25,544.19

Other Assets (gear) 2,147.40
OVERALL TOTAL 27,691.59

Thank You

Thank You

To all who submitted Grand Canyon
Pictures for the AZ Highways
Magazine.

Unfortunately, none of the AMC photos
were selected for their article on
climbing in Arizona.

AMC Board - Proposed Revision to Bylaws

Revision to bylaws paragraph 3.g. Add sub item

vi. Members of the Board are expected to attend Board Meetings when scheduled or called as no business can be conducted without a quorum as stated in Paragraph 4.a. of these bylaws. Should a Board Member miss more than three (3) Board Meeting in a calendar year, that Board position shall be considered vacated. That vacancy shall be filled in accordance with paragraph 3.f. of these bylaws.

NEW MEMBERS - *Climbers* - Please Welcome:

David Everett

Climbing (kind of) the Mexican Volcano Paracutin in the State of Michoacan during July

The approach: Our ETN bus had traveled more than 100 miles from Guanajuato on Mexico's excellent toll roads carrying about 30 of us, students, profs, spouses and kids, out onto the volcanic highlands of Michoacan. We turned off onto a less well engineered road and ground through pine forests to the village of Angahuan, where the streets were only slightly wider than the bus and power lines had to be propped up for us to get through. We met a religious procession with banners, statues, musical instruments and half a hundred participants who calmly divided into two streams, passed the bus single file on either side, and reformed behind us. A quarter mile farther was the unloading area.

More approach: Those wishing to climb Paracutin had two choices – walk across six or seven miles of relatively new, raw lava, or ride Mexican ponies about ten miles around the outer perimeter of the lava -- say 14 or 20 miles round trip. Not having shoes I thought would last 14 miles over new lava, I chose to take a pony.

A note of warning about Mexican saddles: mine wouldn't be bad if I weighed 120 pounds instead of 200. (My saddle at home is at least three inches longer from pommel to cantle.) And the horse wouldn't be bad (he was willing enough) if he didn't have the damndest stumpiest gait I have ever encountered. The combination of his gait with a lot of up and down slopes and the small saddle (with stirrups set too far back) made me wish I were back on the bus and volcanoes be damned.

Paracutine volcano won't make anyone's list of 50-must-do climbs. It is only about 1600 or 1700 feet above its surroundings and one can drive a jeep or 4-track to within about 800 feet of the top. But from there on it is pure volcano, the lower cone composed of fist-sized talus resting at its angle of repose and, for the last few hundred feet, volcanic ash the consistency of fluffy sand. Tying the horses to three mesquite trees that have grown since 1946 -- when it finished ruining a farmer's cornfield and several thousand acres of avocado groves nearby, -- one walks, or scrabbles, or struggles, or crawls or slides back down to the step one started from. A "trail" to the right leads to where steam phooshes out of some fumeroles. Then straight up the talus slope to a saddle. Then the final few hundred feet of low-angle ash.

Naturally, it began raining at the top – clouds coming from one direction and steam from another. I heard thunderclaps and urged people down off the summit post haste -- or at least to get the hell out of my way. Post haste was quite possible – a trough of ash ran straight down the cone to the horses, which the college kids took at full gallop. Usually there was plenty of ash to go "screeing" but occasionally it thinned out to a gritty, (same color) solid slab, where keeping your feet was impossible. Several lost some hide.

A cold, determined rain set in on our return with sufficient wind so that our ponchos were pretty useless. I got thoroughly wet and chilled on the 3-hour ride back, so much so that I chose not to take the time to visit the lava-buried church – only the steeples still stick out. I was sufficiently cold and uncomfortable for the day to qualify as an "adventure" without seeing the church.

So there you have it. If you have never climbed a "mountain" before (as had not most of the students), Paracutine was a highlight of the entire Universidad de Guanajuato summer session. And except for the rain, and the short saddle, and the horse's miserable gait, and did I mention the windy, cold rain it was an interesting "climb".

Contributed by
Wally Vegors

Lizard Head (13,113) and Ellingwood Arête (5.7) on Crestone Needle (14,197) (Colorado Climbing)

Saturday

Justin York, Susan Morris and I loaded up my van on Saturday, June 30th and began the long drive to Colorado. We had planned a busy weekend, excited to escape the heat of the Phoenix and scale some significant alpine objectives in the cooler climate of Colorado.

Lizard Head Pass was our first objective and after locating a campsite near the trailhead Justin and Susan scouted out the approach to Lizard Head. Although we could see Lizard Head from the car and campsite, they hiked a considerable distance through tall trees that obstructed better views, which really don't emerge until past the Wilderness Boundary.

Sunday

Because of acclimatization issues and the fact that I had already climbed Lizard Head with Dan Bolin a few years back, Justin and Susan left the trailhead at 6:05 a.m. Sunday morning by themselves (it's a good thing too. The next adventure about broke my stamina!). Both were packing heavy – Justin with the rack and Susan with two 50 meter 9mm ropes. On their way they enjoyed the mountain flowers and a couple of romping elk.

Starting up from the trailhead after 7:00 a.m. at the various meadows I was able to watch their progress with binoculars. They hit the skyline on the final scree approach at 8:11 a.m. and drop their packs at the bottom of the route at 8:45 a.m., consistent with my rule of thumb of stating a 3 hour approach. Justin lead the first pitch, and rather than step left at the intermediary ledge he continued up the chimney system to its end. Gear needs to be placed deep in the chimney and climbing with a pack Susan had to remove it at least once to reach the deeply set pro.

Susan swung into the lead up the 3rd class second pitch and soon they were at the bottom of the 3rd pitch, whose 5.8 crux is at its beginning. Justin was able to top out at 10:45 a.m. and soon both were on the airy summit, with both taking turns for photos on its narrow reaches.

After locating rap anchors on the SW corner of the summit block, both were back on the low angle terrain and then on the ground in short order. I met them on the trail with a liter of much needed water. They had done a super job and their joy was well earned.

After returning to the van and doing a quick change over, we spent the rest of the day driving across Colorado to Monarch Pass, where we spent the night on a USFS road near its summit.

Monday

This morning was our only leisurely morning, with our awakening in a pine forest at over 10,000 feet. It was wonderful. We spread our assorted gear out on tarps on the pine needles and packed our backpacks. As you all know, having climbing gear makes any overnight trip seem like a two-week stay!

Fortunately for saving time the dirt road past Westcliffe presented itself cleanly enough. Only vague memories remained from my last trip there, probably in the 1960's. One thing I remembered clearly - the mountains stood proud and tall. I pushed the van (metaphorically) a ways up the 4-wheel drive road and we found an excellent pull off that left us only about 5 and half miles to hike to South Colony Lakes. After more time that I should admit grunting uphill with the very heavy packs, we gathered among the timber line camping areas and other campers within a couple of stone throws of the lake at about 11,000 feet. I collapsed into the tent we set up while the ever-moving Justin scoped out the approach to the climb. Indeed, the Ellingwood Arête rose almost from our campsite in a grand sweep skyward. It lent anticipation to a good night's sleep that ended too abruptly.



Justin rappelling off Lizard Head

(Continued on page 7)

Lizard Head (13,113) and Ellingwood Arête (5.7) on Crestone Needle (14,197) (Colorado Climbing) (continued)

(Continued from page 6)

Tuesday

The Ellingwood Arête on Crestone Needle was an early objective of mountaineers and its 2,000 plus foot reach was first ascended by Albert Ellingwood in the 1930's. Its fame was solidified when Steck and Roper accounted it as one the 50 Classic Climbs in North American Mountaineering. Its broad base begins at the Upper South Colony Lake and with increasing steepness swings skyward with its apex being the 14,197 foot summit of Crestone Needle, one of the 54 14,000 foot peaks in Colorado. A 3rd class route follows the south and east areas of the Needle and is well trodden by peak baggers.

We arose at 3:30 a.m. and by 4:30 a.m. were hiking up the standard route to avoid the willows on the south and west side of the lower lake. The first area of the climb is ascending the broad slab that runs across the base of the arête. We skirted its left edge and ascended diagonally up and right to the edge of the arête, and area several rope lengths below a feature identified as the Red Tower. We scrambled up over steps and ledges until just below the Red



Crestone needle in profile

Tower, where we roped up, probably not taking the easiest line of ascent.



Justin leading the first headwall pitch on the Ellingwood Arête

Justin led up a fairly stiff pitch (5.6?) straight up and belayed Susan and me up to a point just on the edge of the Red Tower. Through out this part of the day I had unloaded my rope but Susan was carrying the second rope – what a dame!

After that section we instituted simul-climbing with intermediary protection. Justin lead and placed pro, Susan followed when the rope became taught, and I cleaned the pro. If Susan or I wanted rope tension, we called above and as feasible the person above took a short belay stance. Most of this section was probably 4th class, meaning in classic terms that a fall probably won't kill you but a rope is advised if desired. Exposure didn't seem that much to me and I congratulated myself on overcoming a long term fear of heights, or at least verging on vertigo when 1,000 feet of air presented itself under my feet. All the accounts I've read of the climb do speak to the "increasing exposure", so be fair-warned.

The rock was marvelous. A conglomerate, it had rounded river-like chunks of pink granite embedded in a concrete-like matrix. It was pure pleasure to climb (amid my gasps for rarified air).

At the mini-headwall Justin lead up and right and then back left, avoiding a section where some became dead-ended from web accounts. He did a great job of route finding all day, although route finding to some extent was a team effort from pre-climb reading and scouting to discussions prior to sections of the climb. This mini-headwall pitch placed us below the first significant headwall pitch where there are several options. True to his central AZ routes to go straight if possible,

(Continued on page 8)

Lizard Head (13,113) and Ellingwood Arête (5.7) on Crestone Needle (14,197) (Colorado Climbing) (continued)

(Continued from page 7)

Justin chose the central crack/chimney/corner option. We were on a narrow couple of ledges and it felt like our feet were dangling over the lakes and valley below.

The guidebook called this section a pitch or two of 5.6, but to us this center option seemed stiffer, maybe 5.7, especially at over 13,000 feet. It involved some doggone pretty awkward unbalancing moves, and leading on the dual skinny ropes Justin did his usual excellent job worming his way up. We had 50 meter ropes and he stretched those skinny ropes ALL the way. Susan climbed and then I cleaned on the second rope, ending the pitch by climbing between his legs as he straddled the abyss.

A short scramble placed us on the large ledge, complete with a built-up bivy flat spot underneath the crux pitch. None of us liked the look of the original Head Pitch over to the left, named for Ellingwood's judicious use of the top part of his anatomy, so we opted (not surprisingly) for the direct ascent on the Arête's crest – yes, straight up.

By now, climbing at 13,500 feet or so takes anyone's breath, and I'm sure that 5.0 would have felt stiff. I was in the mode of making a move, and then breathing hard a couple of times to recover before the next move. It didn't take that long for us all to be on top of this pitch, which once again we accomplished with 50 meters of rope.

I would argue that the hand crack, stemming, and corner moves of this wonderful 5.7 rock pitch would rival any 5.7 rock pitch anywhere for its aesthetic qualities, and place it at the top of 2,000 foot climb and it simply can't be surpassed.

A thunderstorm was approaching, riding down the range from the north, and we quickly dispatched with the last pitch to the summit itself, which as some writers state "...is arrived at surprisingly abruptly."

But what was really an amazing interlude with the grand climb in captured by this side story, I will now insert from an email of mine to a friend:



Susan climbing the final headwall pitch on the Ellingwood Arête

Hi Art,

Listen, a story you'd appreciate.

The 4th of July weekend I climbed the Ellingwood Arête on Crestone Needle in CO. The summit is over 14,000 feet and it is a 2,000 foot rock climb, sort of like enough Pinnacle Peaks stacked on top of each other for that distance....It is sustained 5.7 climbing for those who count numbers. We didn't see anyone else all day long.

Anyway, at the last pitch with maybe 150 feet to go, I looked up and there was a white figure on the summit ridge. It was a huge Mountain Goat. We had the rock pro on and were clanging, or we were simply in his "turf" but he came down the cliff to check us out and stood on technical rock climbing terrain while we finished off the pitch. He came up to within 15 feet of us... gracefully standing with nothing but air below his hooves.

We summited and storm was approaching so we headed down the class 3 gully descent. After waiting out an electrical storm, we headed on down the mountain for 500 vertical feet. Susan said, "Gee, someone is watching us," and sure enough we turned around there was Mr. Goat on a ledge not far away. We took off again and near the saddle, probably half a mile further on down, we heard the scurry of rocks and the goat came running up to us. He seemed to stand and check us out, and then went over to where a marmot was shrieking nearby. We thought, "He'll leave us here", because we dropped over the saddle and headed down a snow slope.

A half hour later Susan and I stopped for a potty break at the end of the difficulties, and,...we heard hooves again. Mr.

(Continued on page 9)

Lizard Head (13,113) and Ellingwood Arête (5.7) on Crestone Needle (14,197) (Colorado Climbing) (continued)

(Continued from page 8)

Goat came up to us bounding across the snow, close to 3,000 vertical feet and a couple of miles from where we had first met.

We said our goodbyes to him (we thought) and headed back to camp. There were other people camping near Lower Colony Lakes, and we figured that was the last we would see of him.

We had had a great climb, ate a bite and then packed up, not thinking of our friend.

We joined up with the main trail and who was there waiting for us...Mr. Goat!

He followed us back down the trail another several hundred yards to the beginning of a pine forest, and that must have been the end of his terrain, but we had a very special day because Mr. Goat chose to adopt us for a little while....

Erik

Indeed, the thunderstorm hit in good timing after we had escaped the upper reaches of the peak and our descent was fortunately uneventful. We were soon back at the camp, Susan and me near 5:30 and Justin probably a half hour earlier (damn those young legs!@ - ha, ha).

By 7:00 p.m. we had packed up and were heading back out the 5.5 miles to the van. Headlamps mixed not quite so well with the stony road, wet from recent storms and running water. I didn't even both trying the final log bridge in the dark. Pavlovian reactions from a pretty bad stream fall off one in Canada has me shaky at best, and wading the river proved thoroughly enjoyable. By 10:00 p.m. I arrived back at the van, with Susan and Justin getting ready for a well earned nights sleep.

Wednesday

What to say...we drove home after a brief breakfast stop in Westcliffe. Interstate all the way – I-25 to I-40 to home turf. Smooth, especially with the peaks in our pockets and mind.

A good trip with solid partners indeed.

Submitted by
Erik Filsinger



My buddy, the Mountain Goat checking us out on the last pitch of the Ellingwood Arete

Alpine Girls

While packing up our ice tools and alpine gear in the 110 degree Phoenix heat, we thought to ourselves, “is it really possible that we’ll become mountain women in just one weekend?” As we embarked on our first mountaineering trip up to Eureka, Colorado we had no idea what to expect; our nerves were on edge, our excitement was mounting, our faces were spastic while seat dancing in the jeep, and we were ready for adventure.

The Glacier and Crevasse Rescue Class instructed by Erik Filsinger was a fantastic time for all. Eight assistants and eight students gathered on the first day to discuss proper crampon techniques, high-altitude breathing, and of course, safety.

On Saturday the class learned how to set anchors, self-arrest, and use our ice axe. We learned the terrifying art of self-arrest so that we could stop ourselves or others from plummeting to their death- all without gouging ourselves with our ice tools- amazing! We also learned how to gracefully glissade down a snowy slope. If anyone was ever feeling out of control, Handsome Matt was at the bottom ready to catch us and haul us back to safety.

Sunday we split into two separate groups. One group hiked the approach to Mt Engineer, scoping out the conditions for a possible Monday summit, while the second group experienced climbing Second Gully ‘alpine style’.

Keeping true to mountaineering, day three began with an alpine start. Team One awoke at 130 a.m. in order to summit Mt Engineer before mid-morning, while Team Two had the luxury of sleeping in until 4:30 before making their way to an unnamed peak of over 13,000 feet. Both teams successfully completed their climbs, with Team Two ending their adventure with a nearly half mile glissade.

After three physically demanding days of mountaineering and four days of wearing the same clothes without a shower, we feel our mountain women status has been achieved- boo yeah!

Submitted by
Erin Livingston
and
Bailey Rose Warstler



North Scottsdale Climb

On Saturday, June 23, Erik Filsinger led Ron Auerbach, Danny Gonzales, Stormy Rose, John Keedy, Dave Everett, Steven Wolpert, Clay Vollmer, and Keith Waldrup, a group of intrepid AMC hot rock climbers to a small area of sweet granite in North Scottsdale. This undisclosed area is close to some more frequently visited climbing areas near the back of the Ballroom, but this area is often overlooked.

We were treated to several long single pitch climbs that could have easily been stretched to two pitches with conveniently placed belay stations. We set up 4 routes, all at least 140' long, on gray white granite. Three routes were set up to lower the climber first and have them climb back up. Erik led a route to the summit and set it for top rope. All routes featured solidly placed (new) bolted anchors.

We met at the Target at Frank Lloyd Wright and the 101 at 5:15 AM and left for the climbing site in North Scottsdale without delay. A 25-minute approach hike and prompt setups, ably directed by Erik, meant that all climbers had time to climb all routes before we packed up just before 10 AM, heading back to the cars to beat the heat!

Stormy Rose takes advantage of an unusual anchor placement to complete a route as other climbers seek shade. Photo credit: John Keedy

Submitted by
Clay Vollmer



Stormy Rose takes advantage of an unusual anchor placement to complete a route as other climbers seek shade.
Photo credit: John Keedy

Climbing Tahquitz - June 2007

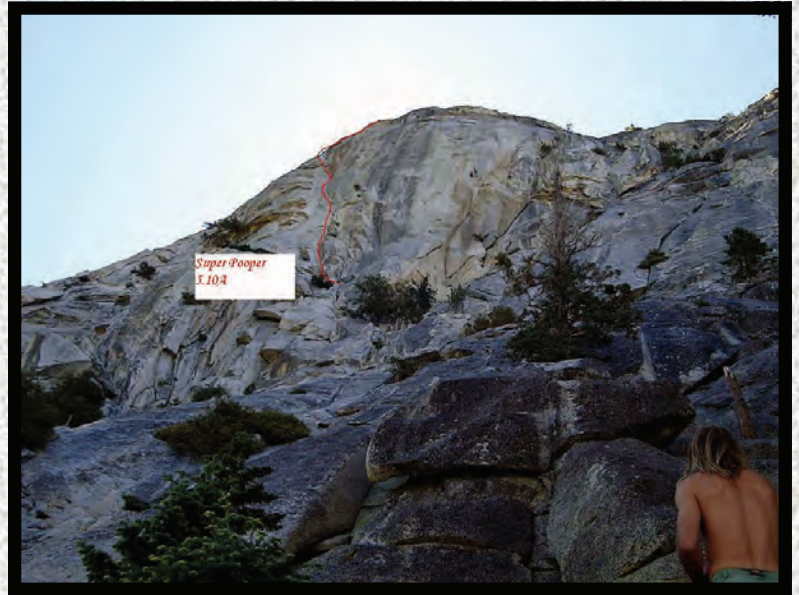
Another fine 3 day week end was had by all! The climbing teams; Mike Knarzer and Monica Miller and Catherine Conner and David Sampson. We knocked out two spectacular routes of mention.

Friday's route - Mike Knarzer's classic combo link up, The Long climb Wong climb, 5.8+ a very awesome combo. With some wonderful hand jams all along the way! You like crack this one is for you!

My favorite day, Saturday we went for a magical ride up Super Pooper 5.10A ***. Mike and I have had our eye on this route for several years and on Saturday June 30th we finally went for it. Super Pooper is located on the West Face Bulge, in the upper area. This route was established in 1952, the FA by Chuck Wilts, Don Wilson, John and Ruth MendeHall.

This is a beautiful soaring line up the distinct cleft forming the left margin of the West Face Bulge, Rock Climbing, Tahquitz and Suicide Rocks p.77. Super Pooper is a superb route. The 1st pitch crux is sustained and requires some major stemming, jams and for me some arm bar moves. Mike and David did a spectacular job on the crux lead. Catherine got a great lead in on the second pitch as Mike and I did a variation so Mike set Catherine up for the beautiful twin finger cracks. Mike and I were able to capture some stellar shots of Catherine on lead!

The 3rd pitch exit was fun but had some scary face moves at the exit around a roof rib protected only by small gear such as the blue zero and later the yellow alien. A large dose of thin "slaba daba doo medicine" for Mike and David! This medicine will definitely keep you the ball.



Super Pooper



Monica on the long climb

On Sunday while checking out of the grocery store at the circle I stood in line with a sack of ice on my shoulder; this gentlemen asked, if I had a good day climbing? I said yes, I did. We had been a Suicide rock that day. I introduced myself as did he. And he was, Bob Gains...Wow! I asked if he would come to the truck with me and meet my friends. Catherine and I got his autograph in our book, "Rock Climbing, Tahquitz and Suicide Rocks" by: Randy Vogel and Bob Gains.

Rocking on Good Times...!

- Monica D. Miller -



Catherine, David, and Mike on the summit

Grand Canyon Cleanup - September 15

Time again for the annual Grand Canyon Over-The-Rim Cleanup! For those new to this event, we have been rappelling over the side of the South Rim's steep limestone cliffs for 16 straight years, searching for trash deposited by tourists and wind. We have scoured the slopes below Mather Point and spruced up the view from the ice cream store at Bright Angel Lodge. We have appeared in numerous home movies we have never seen and entertained scores of innocents who ask, "Did you climb all the way from the bottom?" (We always answer, "Yes!") Along the way, we have maintained a perfect safety record, partied at pristine Shoshone Point, and climbed the next day in the Kaibab limestone amphitheaters below the Rim. Come out and join us again this year.

The Cleanup is scheduled for Saturday September 15th. You must be an AMC Club member trained in the proper rappel technique and in prusiking to go over the side; non-members can help at the top.

Technique seminar and planning meeting:

We will be holding a technique seminar at 6:00 pm on Thursday, September 6th at Dreamy Draw Park.

This is mandatory for anyone who has not participated in the cleanup before. Old-timers are welcome to come for a refresher. We won't be teaching any of these techniques on-site at the Canyon. Please bring all the technical equipment listed below to the seminar. Proper prusik technique must be demonstrated at the seminar.

Technical - Personal equipment needed for the Cleanup:

- Helmet—mandatory
- 3 prusiks (4',6',10')
- 1 climbing harness
- 1 rappel device
- 3 locking carabiners (harness biners)
- 1 5-foot or 6-foot tied sling (depending on arm length)
- 2 20' slings and 2 lockers (for anchors)
- 6 extra regular biners for fire hose
- Hiking boots (no sandals or open-toed shoes)—mandatory
- Gloves—mandatory
- Long pants, long-sleeved shirt
- Sunscreen, lip balm
- Water & lunch
- Whistle—optional (just in case)

Club equipment provided the day of the Cleanup:

- 2 pieces of fire hose
- 2 short prusiks
- 1 rope bag

Schedule:

Friday, September 16: Camp at the group site

Saturday, Sept 23:

8:00 am—Mandatory meeting at Mather Point (we will sign waivers)

9:00 am—disperse to cleanup areas

4:00 pm—wrap up, shower, and get ready for barbecue

5:00 pm—meet for BBQ dinner, or caravan from campsite

Sunday, Sept 24:

9:00 am—meet at parking lot by railroad station for climbing outing (helmets required)

3:00 pm—head back to Phoenix

Entrance to the Park:

If you arrive at the entrance station when it is open, tell the Ranger on duty that you are with the AMC and are here for the "Over-the-Rim Cleanup" (these are the magic words). They should let you in without paying the normal \$20.00 entrance fee (feel free to pay if you want, since the money collected at the entrance station does go directly to the park's upkeep).

Camping:

The Park Service will provide camping areas at the Grand Canyon and only four cars on Sept 16-17. The group sites are to be determined (TBD) at this time. They are usually at the Mather Campground area, but that may change this year. The

(Continued on page 14)

Grand Canyon Cleanup - September 15 (continued)

(Continued from page 13)

vehicles bringing the club equipment will be the two vehicles to park at the site, so that we can monitor the ropes and other Club gear. All other vehicles must park at Babbitt's General Store, about 1/4 mile from the campsite. While inconvenient, this is the Park Service group campsite policy and they do monitor the campsites. The main concern is that they need the fire trucks to be able to get through the campground. If you camp in your vehicle, you will need to camp outside the park or get a private campsite.

Private Camp site Reservations for Mather Campground call 1-800-365-2267 Costs: \$15.00 per night – 6 person max, with 3 vehicles allowed at each private campsite, so you may want to pool with others.

Other campsite rules are: no ground fires (use the grills) and quiet hours between 10 pm and 6 am.

Facilities at the campground include bathrooms with pay showers (bring quarters). Hot breakfasts Saturday morning are available at Yavapai Lodge at the Babbitt's parking lot.

Your option to cook and or grill your own meal is also welcomed. There are two huge grills. And several picnic tables in the area. Bring your own meat selection and grilling tools. We will have a campfire too. The last people around the fire must have enough water to put the fire dead out. Also, someone in the last car out should lock the gate.

Car-pooling:

Since many participants will be at the Thursday September 6th seminar, this is the best place to arrange car-pooling to the Grand Canyon, as parking is always tight.

Directions:

Drive north on State 64 into Grand Canyon National Park. Stay on the main road until you see the sign for Mather Campground directing you to the left (south). Follow the signs to the campground kiosk. On your right will be the showers. Look on the campground kiosk for a list of assigned sites. Follow the map on the kiosk. Park at the assigned campsite and unload, set up your tent, etc. Then drive back out to the kiosk and back to the parking lot at Babbitt's General Store. Hike back to the campsite the same way, on the asphalt.

Contact: Clay Vollmer at: vollmer@rice.edu or call (602) 595-7266

To verify your attendance to these planned events.

Clay Vollmer - Event Director

An AMC Member Recounts 17 Years of Grand Canyon Cleanups

I joined the AMC in 1991 at the age of 40, and have participated in every trash rappel since then. This year will be my 17th. The parties afterward in the "old days" were much wilder, but I'll save those stories for another time.

Over the years, I've seen the volume of trash decline steadily. I attribute this largely to our presence being educational to the "tourons" (to use Gumby's term). The shock that many visitors experience when they realize what we have to do to clean up The Canyon is no doubt shared with many of their friends after returning home. The induced embarrassment and guilt is as useful as the actual trash collection to reduce the volume of garbage over the years. Our work travels far beyond the rim and has had lasting value.

In the early days, we often hauled out much more paper trash, and dirty diapers were not uncommon. Thankfully, I have not seen any for maybe a decade. Of course, there are always lots of hats, but that's thanks to the wind. We still find glass bottles, but from the weathering, some have been there for many many years. Now, there are more styrofoam coffee cups and aluminum cans than beer bottles.

There have been valuables recovered: a poker chip, working cameras, a watch, cheap rings, earrings (always just one of a pair), expensive sunglasses, and folding money. The largest denomination I've seen was a ten-dollar bill that my son Elliott found, but I've heard rumors of a Benjamin. Ancient pottery has been found and turned over to the Park Service.

We've found some contraband: a hash pipe, several roach clips, a baggie of "herbs", and syringes. We also turned these over to the Park Service, but we no longer even touch medical waste! The germs in the world have changed since we started cleaning up the Canyon, and are not worth the risk now.

About ten years ago, I pulled a disgustingly filthy sleeping bag from under a ledge below the Bright Angel Lodge...someone camping outside of designated areas probably missed that after returning from the day's hike.

Some of the most bizarre finds: an arrow (not a toy!), a baseball, two rubber duckies, two champagne glasses (not broken!) and a love letter to The Canyon, wrapped around a rock, and tossed over the edge. I helped to pull a large orange traffic cone from the Village some years ago. That was over two rope-lengths down and took some serious work to remove. Two years ago, Elliott and I pulled a fishing pole out of the couloir on the right of Mather Point...that might have been a better way to retrieve the cone if it had been available.

I treasure the toy dinosaurs and toy paratrooper I've found, but one of the funniest moments of toy recovery was seeing Seth top out at Mather with a Barbie strapped to his helmet. A classic moment--that photo is in the Club archives, I believe.

So, I encourage all club members to participate in this classic event. It is one of the most valuable services that we provide to the larger community, and great fun! I guarantee that the satisfaction derived will greatly exceed the effort expended.

Thanks to all of our leaders who began this and have kept this tradition alive.

Climb on!
-Gary Rector

Lead Climbing School

Arizona Mountaineering Club

Fall 2007

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. 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, and the differences between clipping bolts and placing natural pro. There will be no "true" lead climbs during the class, but we will provide simulated leading exercises.

Class curriculum:

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 Hands-on practice: natural pro placement (Prescott)
Sun Hands-on practice: mock leading on pro (Prescott)

Class schedule:

Sept 25 Tuesday	6:30 pm–9:30 pm	*North Mountain Park, Yavapai Ramada
Sept 26 Wednesday	6:30 pm–9:30 pm	North Mountain Park, Yavapai Ramada
Sept 27 Thursday	6:30 pm–9:30 pm	North Mountain Park, Yavapai Ramada
Sept 29 Saturday	9:00 am–5:00 pm	Prescott (directions will be in syllabus)
Sept 30 Sunday	9:00 am–5:00 pm	Prescott or Scottsdale (directions will be in syllabus)

*North Mountain Park is located at Peoria and 7th St, 5 miles north of Camelback on 7th St. Turn west into the park. Yavapai Ramada which is the last Ramada as you circle around the park, located on your left just before you reach the exit.

Experience required: Preferably, AMC Basic School and AMC Anchors School or equivalent experience. This includes knowing how to tie a variety of knots, belay, rappel, prusik and set anchors.

Cost: \$75 plus membership if not already a member (\$15 for an individual and \$18 for a family). Membership is good through Dec., 2007. Register by sending a check payable to AMC Lead School to 1654 W. Boston St, Chandler, AZ, 85224. No credit cards accepted. (Please note: the registration fee is fully refundable if you cancel.) Call Nancy Birdwell at 480-821-1932 or email lead.school@AzMountaineeringClub.org for more information. The number of students will be limited to 30.

Equipment required for the class:

The following will not be needed the first night. You may want to listen to the gear lectures before making purchases.

All climbing gear (harness, prusiks, biners, etc.)

Helmet—mandatory for all on-rock sessions

Specifically needed:

2 20' slings (untied length), preferably different colors

2 10' slings (untied length), preferably different colors

Nut pick

All gear that you own, which may include carabiners, slings and/or draws, cams, hexes, wired nuts, Tri-cams, etc.

Consider combining with another person to have enough gear

Hiking boots or shoes with stiff soles for Saturday, climbing shoes for Sunday

Optional: kneepads for Saturday (\$3–6 at Home Depot, \$5 volleyball pads at sporting goods stores)

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

Basic Rock Climbing School

Arizona Mountaineering Club

Fall 2007

The Arizona Mountaineering Club (AMC) has been teaching basic rock climbing for over 40 years. We place maximum emphasis on safety and self-rescue. This is a beginning climbing class. We will teach you equipment care and usage, rope handling, climbing knots, belaying, rappelling, climbing techniques, and self-rescue. Enrollment fills up quickly, so don't delay; make a reservation to join us soon!

Class schedule (this is 2-week class):

Oct 09	Tuesday	5:30 pm–10:00 pm	North Mountain Park
Oct 11	Thursday	6:00 pm–10:00 pm	North Mountain Park
Oct 13	Saturday	8:00 am–5:00 pm	To be determined
Oct 14	Sunday	8:00 am–5:00 pm	To be determined
Oct 16	Tuesday	6:00 pm–10:00 pm	Phoenix , Solid Rock Gym
Oct 18	Thursday	6:00 pm–10:00 pm	Phoenix , Solid Rock Gym
Oct 20	Saturday	all day	Various times, various places + Grad Party

*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".

Experience required: None. Even if you have never climbed a tree before, this class is for you.

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 local retailers on climbing gear

Equipment recommended for the class: You will wear a climbing harness at every class, so dress casually. Most sessions will be held outside, so watch the weather. Climbing shoes are recommended for the weekend sessions only. 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 (\$15 for an individual and \$18 for a family). Membership is good through Dec. 2007.

Registration: The class is limited to 40 students. To reserve a spot, send a check for \$160 + membership cost (see Class Fee above) made out to AMC Basic School. Include your clearly printed name, address and current phone number(s), plus an e-mail address would really be helpful. Mail to: AMC Basic School, 4325 E. Desert Trumpet Rd, Phoenix, AZ 85044. No credit cards accepted. If you have further questions, please call Dave Cameron at 480.706.1978 or email at amcbasicschool@gmail.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.)

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

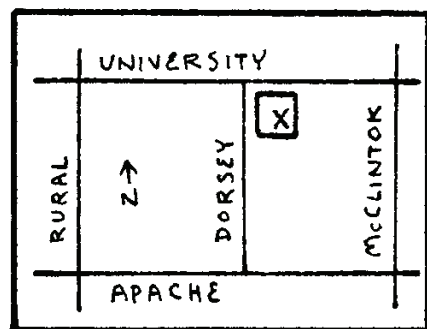


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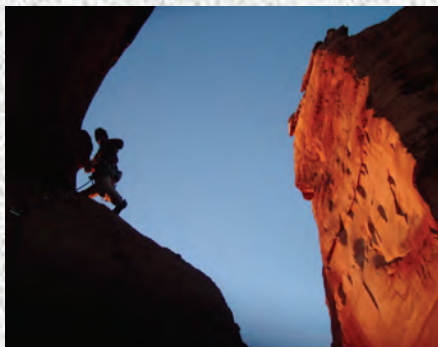
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Calendar of Events

AMC Outings

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

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

Aug 4 Climb Duck Soup area, 5.6 - 5.9, stems, jams, and off-widths. Easy 5-minute approach. Outing Leader - John Keedy. Contact: jwkeedy@cox.net.

Aug 5 Deep Water Soloing in Northern Arizona - Trade in your belay device for a bathing suit and escape the heat. We'll float inflatable kayaks past scenic sandstone cliffs in a cool canyon, climbing ropeless up several newly established problems. If you fall, you fall in the water; if you top-out, you get to jump in the water. There are also potential FA's waiting to be climbed. Must be able to swim and have OL approval. Outing Leaders: Mike Knarzer and Frank Vers. Contact Mike Knarzer for additional information and to sign up for this great adventure: getout@cox.net Kayak rentals provided by the Arizona Hiking Shack

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

Billboard - Other Scheduled Events

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

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

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

(Continued on page 21)

Calendar of Events

Commercially Provided Training and Events

The events listed below are provided by commercial outfitters for the benefit of AMC members. They are not AMC Outings, nor are they led by AMC Outing Leaders, though they may be open only to AMC members. The commercial outfitter is solely responsible for all aspects of the outing, not AMC. While, in most cases, an AMC member may provide a service by AMC collecting the names of prospective participants and handling the logistics of out-of-town events, participants will sign up directly with the commercial outfitter.

Become an AMC Outing Leader

General requirements for becoming an AMC outing leader:

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

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

<u>Outing Leader</u>	<u>Contact Info</u>
Sally Borg.....	480-425-9689 sallyborg@cox.net
Robert England.....	480-688-5412 robert_england2@yahoo.com
Bill Fallon.....	602-996-9790 bill.fallon@cox.net
Erik Filsinger.....	----- smorefil@aol.com
Jason Garvin.....	480-734-6801 beach_bum43@hotmail.com
Scott Hoffman.....	623-580-8909
Richard Horst.....	623-434-4769
John Keedy.....	623-412-1452
Mike Knarzer.....	602-751-1701 getout@cox.net
Tim Lange.....	480-598-9124
David Larimer.....	602-258-0373
Bruce McHenry.....	602-952-1379
Tim Medlock.....	480-963-3496
Monica Miller.....	623-362-0456
Jeff Nagel.....	602-312-9538
Matt Percy.....	480-326-3463 pearcy.matthew@gmail.com
Rogil Schroeter.....	623-512-8465 rogil@cox.net
Jef Sloat.....	602-316-1899
Paul Valenzuela.....	602-705-3106
Frank Vers.....	480-947-9435
Justin York.....	480-229-8660
<i>Your Name Here!</i>	

August 2007

AMC Outing Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
NOTE: Celestial events occur about 10 minutes earlier on Arizona's eastern border; 10 later on its western edge.			1 Sunrise 5:41 Sunset 7:28 M-rise 9:17 P	2	3	4 The Overlook
5 Deep Water Solo - N-AZ Last Qtr	6	7	8 Sunrise 5:46 Sunset 7:22 M-rise 1:05 A	9	10	11
12 New Moon	13 Board Meeting	14	15 Sunrise 5:51 Sunset 7:15 M-set 8:43 P	16	17	18
19	20 1st Qtr	21	22 Sunrise 5:05 Sunset 7:07 M-set 12:00 A	23	24	25
26	27 Member Meeting	28 Full Moon	29 Sunrise 6:00 Sunset 6:58 M-rise 7:47 P	30	31	