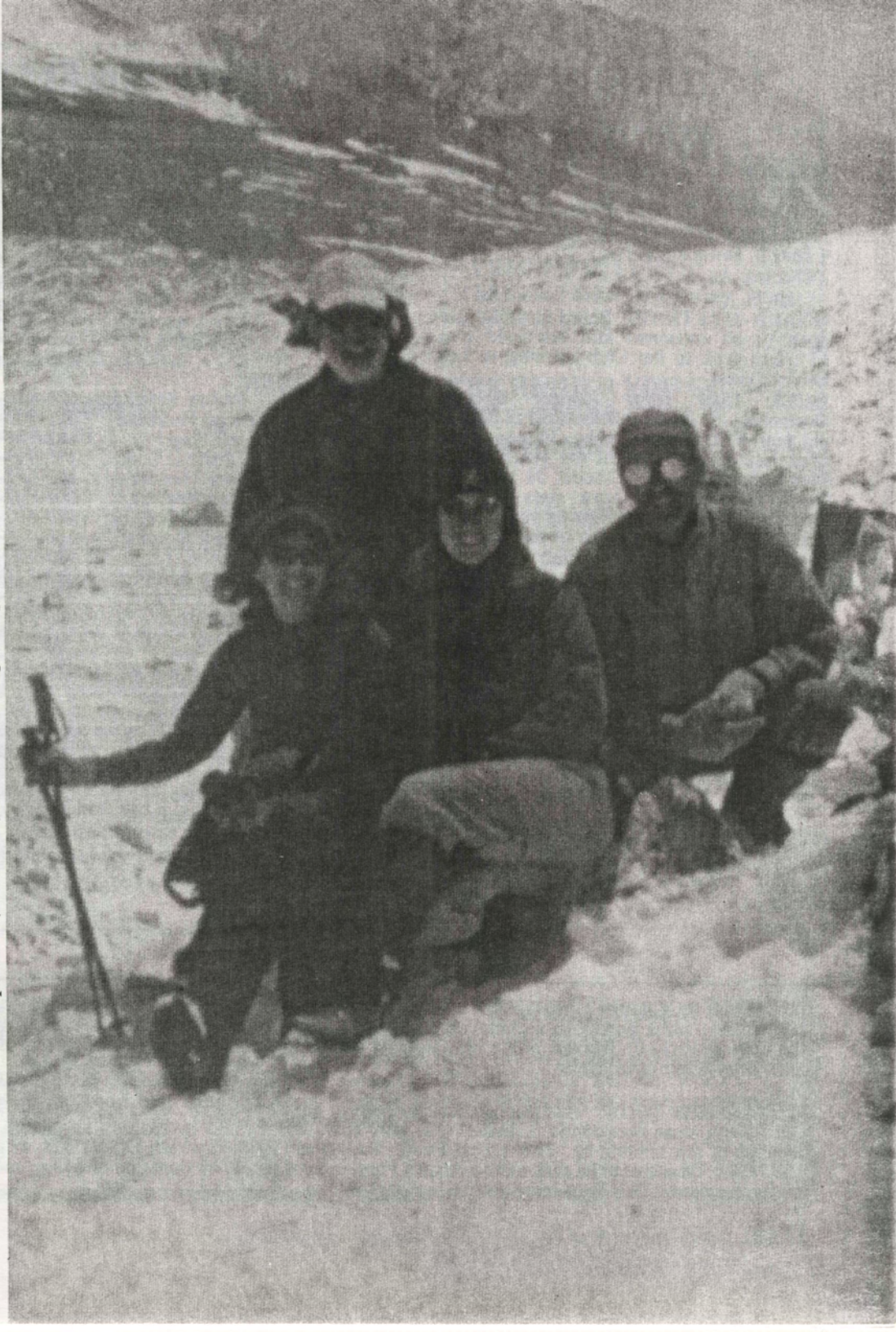


ARIZONA MOUNTAINEER

JULY 2000

Four of AMC's high fliers — Shawn Donnelly, Jim Sumrall, Don Thomas and Charlene Todd — pause for pictures (and breath) at a 17,000' Nepalese pass — Larke La..



THE ARIZONA MOUNTAINEERING CLUB

MEETINGS: The AMC meets the 4th Mon. of each month (Nov. and 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 given to the treasurer or sent to:

Arizona Mountaineering Club
P. O. Box. 1695
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.

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Call (623) 878-2485

email info@AzMountaineeringClub.org

Web www.AzMountaineeringClub.org

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

President	Sue Goins	480-821-0535
Vice-President	Erik Filsinger	480-314-1089
Secretary	Lynn Alexander	480-396-1055
Treasurer	Bill Stinson	602-547-2560
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Director-1yr	Jeff Nagel	602-721-1968
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Director-2yr	Dan Langmade	480-948-6957
Director-2yr	Dan Bolin	480-835-1942

COMMITTEES:

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Co-Classification	Scott Hoffman	623-580-8909
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Mntneering	Erik Filsinger	480-314-1089
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Training; Safety	Wayne Schroeter	623-878-3914
Basic Class	Mick Strole	602-788-4031
Anchors Class	Tim Medlock	480-807-4920
T-shirts		
WebSite	Jim Sumrall	480-966-4525

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, Wayne Schroeter, at 878-3914, or wschroeter@sprintmail.com.

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 any amount 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 \$15 or more is needed to receive Access Notes, The Access Fund newsletter.

THIS MONTH IN THE AMC

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AMC NEWSLETTER

The *Arizona Mountaineer* is published monthly by the AMC. Items for publication, subject to approval, should be sent to the editor at the AMC P. O. Box. Cover 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

August Deadline: 14 July 2000

AMC JULY BIRTHDAYS

Jeff Raymond 2, Mary McKellar 6, Harry Zulch 8, Mark Donahue 9, Nicole Czaplewski 10, Michelle Garland 11, Erik Postma 11, Susan Turner 12, Jeff Beaupre 15, Felicia Terry 16, Chris Ruettinger 17, Fred Padgett 18, Teresa Cornelison 19, Sandy Myers 20, Hilton Ishimoto 21, Donald Robinson 21, Heather Teidel 21, Carol Rubin 23, Valerie Paulus 24, Kristine Pavia 25, Chris Buckingham 26, Ron Jachimowicz 27, Marty Karabin 28, Alvin Rodrigues 30, Dawn Langston 31, Jennifer Wolff 31



HOT STUFF!!!

PHOTO CONTEST LOOMS — TAKE THOSE PICTURES!

THE HIGHER YOU GO THE COOLER IT GETS —REMEMBER THAT

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 you are 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.

NON-MINUTES OF THE AMC BOARD MEETING: 6/12/00

The Arizona Mountaineering Club would have had a better chance of assembling a quorum at Yosemite on 12 Jun 2000 than it had at room 3 in the Los Olivos Senior Center. A good share of the board and committee members who had taken a "big wall" class at Sedona this spring had to find out if the techniques really worked.

Immediately.

The non-meeting was called to order at 7:00 by VP Erik Filsinger. Other Board Members present include Scott Hoffman, Bill Stinson and Dan Bolin.

Committee types on hand included: Don Thomas, just back from Nepal, Jutta Ulrich, Wally Vegors, Penny Medlock (for a moment), plus "plebian" Tom Conner.

One necessary chore was to select a "crag" to clean up, repair trails on, or etc., for the Access Fund's publicity promotion next September 12th. Scott suggested Little Granite Mountain over crags like Pinnacle Peak (we're doing that now) or Camelback where at most a half-dozen people could be used. LGM has a crummy parking area, several miles of 4WD roads and could absorb the energies of however many people come out. This choice will be sent to Access. We hope Scottsdale will appreciate AMC's efforts with appropriate encomiums. If not at least the place will be clean.

Dan Bolin agreed to organize the cleanup. The full board will be informed on July 10th when they can, if needed, ratify this decision. Otherwise, tough nuggies! They should not be off playing on big walls when decisions are made that, like this one, can alter the course of civilization.

Because *it was there* (he had it all printed out) Bill Stinson passed around copies of the current state of the treasury. See his report on page 3.

After establishing that no Board or Committee member had anything worth saying, let alone worth listening to, Erik adjourned the non-meeting at 7:30.

NEW AMC MEMBERS

Steve Chambers	Hilton Ishimoto
Irasema Crawford	J. Andrew Kurtz
Mark Falzarano	Rich LeMal
Kent Hendrick	Charles Schulz

WANTED: ACCESS FUND REGIONAL COORDINATOR

In the dark of night, I have finally moved from Phoenix to Austin, Texas. This puts me at a distinct disadvantage for being the central/southern Arizona regional coordinator for the Access Fund. While I am still working a few Arizona issues (e.g., Pinnacle Peak grant from the AF), I need to find a replacement. The job description is something like:

- * no pay
- * less free time
- * too many issues - you'll never get involved in or solve all of them
- * controversy
- * training available (in Boulder no less)

The training in Boulder will probably be a three-day seminar teaching you how to use many of the tools available in the political arena.

If anyone is interested in taking up the torch, please email me at thomas.matthews@motorola.com. —Tom Matthews

Note:

Tom has been the Access Fund Regional Coordinator since the early '90s. During his tenure, he has dealt with many access issues, attending numerous meetings in Prescott, Flagstaff, Tucson and the Valley. When you hear about things happening to your favorite climbing areas, keep in mind that there are people like Tom working on it behind the scenes (and in front). We owe Tom a debt of gratitude for the hard, time-consuming work he has put in on climbing issues over the past decade. I especially will miss his valuable counsel; he has been one of my chief sounding boards when I have worked on local issues for the AMC.

Tom, his wife Sarah and his daughter Maddie now live among the 5.11 limestone cliffs of Austin, Texas. -- Wayne

TRY A NEW MEDIUM — Tee SHIRTS

In Sue's words — we are "looking for a volunteer to handle the T-shirt Committee — someone who is creative and has a burning desire to design a new tee shirt for us to wear. Jeff Nagel is resigning because of his work commitments."... (*Other club jobs as well as for himself—Ed*)

DISCOUNT DIRECTORY

The following merchants currently offer a discount to AMC members.

Arizona Climbing Center - 1911 West Cheryl Drive, Phoenix, AZ 85021, 997-4171. Show your AMC membership card and get a 10% discount at gym and shop, special orders 20%.

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%.

Desert Mountain Sports - 2824 E. Indian School #4, Phoenix, AZ 955-2875
Show your AMC membership card and get a 10% discount - ask at DMS for further details.

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 bivvy	1-15	1	7.00
Sherpa Snowshoes		8	5.00
Ski poles (var. sizes)		4	0.50
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	3.00
Snow pickets/slukes		10 @	1.00
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
01/01/00 Through 5/30/00

Category Description	Amount
INCOME	
Advertising.....	40.00
Book Sale & fines.....	0.00
Contra Acct.....	20.00
Equipment Rental (incl shoes).....	252.00
Interest.....	40.98
Membership Dues.....	5,671.00
Program Income.....	60.00
Tee Shirts.....	80.00
Training & Safety.....	12,975.00
TOTAL INCOME	19,139.48

EXPENSES	
Access.....	100.00
Administration.....	626.43
Bouldering Contest.....	250.00
Conservation.....	0.00
Equipment Maintenance.....	0.00
Equipment Purchase.....	1,909.75
Library.....	85.52
Newsletter.....	1,414.58
Outings.....	110.00
Programs.....	1,775.00
Bank Charge.....	32.94
T-shirts.....	0.00
Training & Safety.....	8,508.45

TOTAL EXPENSES 14,838.40

OVERALL FOR YEAR TO DATE +4,301.08

ACCOUNT BALANCES	
Savings (4,470.13 from CD).....	4,478.34
Checking.....	3,516.66

TOTAL ASSETS*..... \$7,995.00

WILDERNESS FIRST RESPONDER CLASS

The UofA Outdoor Adventures
Program will host a Wilderness First Responder certification course July 15 through 23 on the UA campus in Tucson.

Cost is \$440 for the 72-hour course.
Lodging on campus is \$175. For information call Outdoor Adventures at (520) 621-8233.

A man Called Horst

A slide show by AMC member Richard Horst

Monday, July 24, from 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Los Olivos Senior Center,

2802 East Devonshire Avenue,

**one block north of Indian School on the east side of
28th Street.**

— COMING IN AUGUST —

AMC'S ANNUAL PHOTO CONTEST

1. Members will be voting for favorite photos in each category.
2. Categories:
 - landscape
 - climbing/mountaineering
 - humor
 - other adventures
3. Post it notes on the back of the photo, so after the voting we will be able to determine who/what/when/where/etc.
4. Ribbons and prizes will be awarded.
5. Any size/ any photo accepted. *Shoot it now.* Bring it to the August meeting.

The meeting will be held on Monday, August 28, from 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. at the Los Olivos Senior Center, 2802 East Devonshire Avenue, one block north of Indian School to the east of 28th St.

ACCESS

TO THE SUMMIT OR BUST!

An update on Pinnacle Peak

We are almost there. I hope to finish the whole upper gully by July 13, then take the rest of the summer off. Come on out!

We just finished week 4 of 8 summer sessions on the Peak. We had 3 people the first week, 7 people the second, 12 the third, and 8 the fourth.

Thanks to Sally Larimer, Bruce McHenry (twice), Deke Joralmon, Ross Astoria, Dave Johnson (twice), Scott Hoffman, Jenn Davies (twice), Thomas Kieffer, Debbie Brown, Bruce Robbins, Jef Sloat, Rogil Schroeter (twice), Elliott Rector, Bill Reid, Jeff Harvey, Felipe Flores, Michael Baker (twice), Diana Sherwood, Andres, Connie Gartner, Ted Gartner and Paul Paonessa.

We have pushed the trail part-way up the final gully to the Sundeck Boulder and the Wedge. This will be a loop trail taking visitors up to the Wedge, over to Sundeck Boulder, then back down, or the reverse. We have also built a spur trail to take people from the Wedge trail to the top of AMC Boulder. The intent in making these trails is to provide rock to walk on, so as to minimize damage to the dirt areas, preventing severe erosion problems. We have already used over 5,000 pounds of concrete in shoring up vulnerable areas, and I suspect we will use a total of around 7,000 pounds by the time we are done.

Afraid of the heat? Don't be. The shade, combined with the higher elevation, makes it quite pleasant. Everyone so far has been surprised at how comfortable it is.

Remember, these are the trails we will be using next year when we have Thursday evening outings from May to July. We used to climb all summer long in the evenings before the Peak was shut down in 1994. We get a few minutes of sun on the hike up, then we have shade, shade, shade. Can't make it at 5:00 pm? Come late. Can't stay until 8:00 pm? Leave early. We can use any help you can offer. Bring gloves, a pick and shovel if you have them. I leave gallon jugs of water at the parking lot; bring up a couple when you get there. Then it's just trail work: digging holes and trenches, mixing concrete, shoveling it in the right place and covering it up. Come on out and join the fun! Pinnacle Peak Park, 5:00 pm on Thursdays through July 13.

CLOSURES - Fires and Birds

This info may be obsolete by the time the newsletter comes out, but here is where we are as of June 20.

Near Flagstaff, all climbing areas are closed except Jack's Canyon, which is in the pinyon zone. The others are all ponderosa zones, and susceptible to fire. This means the Overlook, Forks, Pit, Volunteer Canyon, and Mt. Elden are closed.

Near Prescott, Granite Mountain is still under a peregrine closure, and Thumb Butte has been added to the closure list for the same reason. The only other restrictions are for fire. Watson Dells, Promised Land and Groom Creek are all open.

Near Tucson, Mt. Lemmon is open with fire restrictions. No open fires except in developed campgrounds with existing fire rings. No charcoal grills, no fireworks, no smoking outside of vehicles and buildings. Heating and cooking devices such as gas or propane stoves are allowed.

For up-to-date info, in case you hear of monsoon rains changing the picture, call: (Flagstaff) Forest Closure Information Office (520) 527-3664, (520) 527-3665, (520) 527-3666

(Prescott) (520) 445-1762

(Tucson) Coronado National Forest at (520) 670-4552, or check this website: www.fs.fed.us/r3/fire (the website may not be updated, though)

JULY THIRD PARTY

More info on Marilyn Geninatti's party for AMCCers on Monday evening, July 3rd:

Starts at 6:30, bring a dish to share, RSVP to mgeninat@concentric.net or fax 602 808 0602 or phone 808-0905. Address is 5502 E. Palo Verde Drive. "It is one block south of McDonald — coming in off McDonald on 54th St. Then go left on Palo Verde Drive. The house is surrounded by oleanders. Look for a teal colored trash can and a bright 5 color gate on the LEFT where 55th place comes in on the right to meet Palo Verde Dr. Drive in and PAST the garage to a large lot in back."

PRUSIKING IN PARADISE

Eager to explore the wide variety of established climbing locations that Arizona offers its rock climbing community, I participated in a recent AMC outing at Paradise Forks. Nestled in the cool northern area, Paradise Forks is renowned for its crack climbing routes, provides a great opportunity for new Anchors School grads to barter their pack-mule services (read that: carry club gear) for the opportunity to set up top-ropes, and has the added bonus of an easy approach. This mid-May outing was blessed by both moderate temperatures and an enthusiastic climbing group, and well coordinated by outing leader Mick Strole.

The three "Yogis" (formally named "Laughing", "Hopping", and "Dancing") were set up first in the playpen of upper Gold Canyon; everyone took a turn or two. As additional routes became available in the vast playground of lower Gold Canyon, the big kids naturally moved on while a handful of us continued our happy play at the "Yogis" (which we affectionately dubbed "Left", "Middle", and "Right", respectively).

As a novice, I ended my climbing day a bit sooner than most, so my climbing partner and I scrambled up the rocks of the dry waterfall. After briefly traversing the rim of the canyon opposite the climbing area, we settled beneath the shade of a well-placed tree to watch the big kids exhibit their prowess on the long, tough crack climbs in lower Gold Canyon. "Aqualung" and "SuperCrack" are two of the routes I recall being set up, although there were at least three other loooong ropes kept equally busy with determined climbers.

Wow! My former AMC instructors transformed from being good climbers into AWESOME ones!

As the afternoon shadows lengthened, the big kids reluctantly began their return to the canyon rim. Yet unlike our own easy scramble out of the upper Gold canyon, the big kids were faced with choosing among these three options (something to keep in mind when you make your own first venture into Paradise):

1. Climbing out (sweet . . . IF you'd already decided when you reached the biners that this was your final 100-foot climb for the day).

2. Hiking back (a lengthy but easy bush-whacking adventure . . . IF you had the foresight to pack a machete on your haul loop),

3. Honing those prusiking skills (DING-DING-DING! What a great opportunity to prepare for the Grand Canyon Cleanup in September!).

Despite their choice of canyon exit, the big kids returned to the rim mostly intact from their challenges in lower Gold Canyon. And a good spanking, er, time was had by all!

—Donna Garoutte



An unidentified climber works up Waterslip Down (5.10-) in Gold Canyon just east of the Yogis.

IMPRESSIONS — TREKKING IN NEPAL

This spring four AMCers (Shawn Donnelly, Jim Sumrall, Don Thomas, and myself) joined three others (Igor Miliarev, Kristin Sumrall, and Mischa Sumrall) on a three-week circuit trek around Mt. Manaslu in north-central Nepal. Manaslu is the 8th tallest mountain in the world at 8,163 meters (26,781 feet). At this point, I should note that various sources listed Manaslu as being anywhere between the 7th and the 9th tallest peak in the world with an elevation varying between 8,000 meters and 8,300 meters. It appears that elevations, relative rankings, and even the names of places are inconsistently labeled throughout the country. And, yet, I reflect, "does it really matter"? Nepal is like that - one moment it is utter confusion and the next moment it is tranquility found in a deeper reflection of one's place on this earth.

Many people have asked me, "Did Nepal meet up with your expectations? I'm sure that it did - though I can't really remember what it was that I expected out of Nepal. I know that I expected a crazy, colorful, almost raucous town in Kathmandu. I know that I expected amazing scenery from the Himalaya. I expected to hear the rumble of an avalanche and the roar of a glacier-fed river. I expected to see Buddhist chortens and prayer flags. And all of these expectations were met. But, somewhere, deep down, I knew that I was going to a third world country - and, in that area, I really didn't know what to expect. I'm still a jumble of memories and tinges of emotion from my interactions with people who are living a life so different than mine. All I know, whether I expected it or not, is that they have given me a priceless gift of a new perspective on the world.

In general, our journey went from narrow paths that were well off of the beaten track, to the lightly traveled and restricted Manaslu trek, and then, finally, we finished with a couple of days along the very popular Anapurna Circuit trek. Each area had its charm - but I especially cherished the time off of the beaten track and along trails in the Manaslu restricted area. There were just too many tourists, and mules bringing in supplies for the tourists, along the Anapurna Circuit for my tastes.

There are so many moments that I could capture from the trip: the sound of the Imperial March played on a harmonica, Jim's birthday, the cow that ate the soap, the "Long Day", the Nepali children's fascination with pens, telling stories and laughing for hours in the tent, the anatomical snow-people, and trudging through airports with duffel bags as big as myself. Oh, and the food - I could write a whole article on the food - suffice it to say that our cook

staff was legendary! Instead of a step-by-step, day-by-day, action packed account of our trip, I thought I'd pick out a few moments that stand out for me and share them here.

One of those moments was in the Syala camp. In general, we were favored with good weather throughout the trip. But, by early afternoon on most days, the clouds would roll in and block our views of the mountains. As we were trekking up the river valley along the western flank of Manaslu, we passed through the village of Lo. I was so excited to be going through Lo because, in researching this trip, I had seen the most beautiful pictures of Manaslu - and they were taken from Lo. Yet, when we got to Lo, all I saw were clouds. Our campsite was past Lo at a place Syala and we had to move on. I was so disappointed that I wasn't going to get my chance to see this great mountain from the "perfect" vantage point. But onward I went with the group. In Syala, we pitched camp alongside a yak herder's hut and, soon afterwards it began to rain. Visibility was nil - and even the yaks that were mulling around nearby were invisible in the fog - all you could hear was a sound that was like wind chimes as their "yak bells" rang out in the mist. After our dinner that night we all turned in to our tents for a good night's sleep. When the sun came up the next morning, the camp began to stir and I reluctantly crawled out of my sleeping bag. As I unzipped the tent, right there, in front of me was the most beautiful sight! It was Manaslu with the sunrise reflecting off of its massive fields of snow. What was shrouded in clouds on the previous day was a circle of high Himalayan peaks (including Manaslu) completely surrounding us in our little haven by the yak herder's hut.

Another memory of mine is of crossing the pass at Larkya La (another place named with variations on spelling including: Larke La). As best as I can determine, Larkya La is at 17,100 feet - though I've also seen varying accounts of its elevation. The AMC is a mountaineering club - so certainly there are several members who've been quite a bit higher than 17,000 feet. But for me - someone overly prone to altitude sickness - someone who's been known to collapse on

—(Continued on page 13)

THERE WERE GIANTS IN THOSE DAYS!

The following is from the July/August 1975 AMC newsletter.

"Tyrolean Traverse from Head of Camel to Monk. Climbers: Greg Bruening, Rick Fritz, Mark Wright, John Lowell, Peter Madland, Greg Woodall and Yvonne Brinnand.

We left Echo Canyon parking lot at 7:00 a.m. with 33 ropes. Mark and Rick took seven ropes up the Monk and the rest of us took the remaining 26 ropes to the top of the Head. By 9:00 a.m. both groups were starting to set up the traverse. The next three hours were spent getting the traverse lines tied together. This involved dropping two ropes, tied together, from the Monk and five ropes from the head. The ropes from both sides were then tied at the bottom and pulled tight from the head with a Z-pully system. A total of 25 ropes were used for the traverse, belay lines and anchors.

The first person across was Greg Woodall, who started at noon. He unfurled the flag midway across. Peter was next to go across and he took the flag down. Greg was the third and last to go across. The average time for each crossing of 300 feet was one hour.

Traverse and belay lines were taken down and the next two hours spent coiling ropes. Suzanne Stites and Bib Vidian brought up much appreciated water and Rick's dad had cold pop waiting for us in the parking lot. — Yvonne Brinnand"

What is more, many of this group had climbed Pinnacle Peak the night before, enjoying it hugely. "I...marveled at how far down the little headlights seemed to be. And how solitary and quiet it was belaying in the crack with my light out...It was a little magical at night even for a standard climb." They got home at three a.m. and then got up at five for the traverse



**HEY AMC!
THANKS FOR YOUR
SUPPORT!**

July Specials

**20% OFF all paddlewear
(it ain't climbing gear, but it's SUMMER, you know!)
20% OFF all Teva sandals**

We are open 9:30 - 6:30 Monday thru Friday
9:30 - 5 Saturday, 10:30 - 5 Sunday
2824 E Indian School Road, in the Desert Market shopping center
602 955-2875

JACK'S CANYON OUTING

The first weekend in June brought nice climbing day temps and good sleeping weather for the dozen or so camper/climbers and at least another dozen rock climbers just out for the day at Jacks Canyon in an outing arranged by first-time outing leader Bill Stinson and his co-leader, Jef Sloat.

While Saturday travelers met up in Phoenix to share the 2 1/2-hour drive up north, the Friday night campers and early birds set off for the rocks around 9:00 a.m. to begin setting up climbs. By 10:30 a.m., the early birds were climbing on three of the classic, morning-shaded routes along High Life Wall (5.8/5.9): "Walk in the Park", "Looking Sharp", and "Sunday Stroll". Bill led one of the routes, allowing two other enthusiastic climbers the treat of leading one each. Just before the first day-climbers arrived, the amazing Jef Sloat journeyed a little further down the canyon to set up a couple more advanced climbs (5.11a): "Life is Good" and its neighbor to the left.

After lunch, the sun chased us from the formerly shady High Life Wall to the now shaded Casino Cliffs. There we met up with a handful of other AMCers who just couldn't resist those first tempting rocks upon their early morning arrival and were still playing when the rest of us returned from High Life Wall. Rogil Schroeter set up "Dealer's Choice" and "Roll the Dice" (5.10c/d), Bill Stinson led "Mickey Goes to Vegas" (5.9) which nearly everyone took a turn on, and Jeff "Poopsie" Harvey led "Progressive Slots" (5.6) for the novice members of the group.

Sunday morning found the 13 camper/climbers trekking to Cracker Jack Cliffs at a slightly slower pace than they had hiked to High Life Wall the day before, but with the same anticipation of a great climbing day. A total of seven climbs were set up, despite the annoying (but thankfully, non-biting!) gnats that hovered around during the first hour or so. "Mental Block Party" (5.11a) and "Betty Cracker" (5.9), were set up courtesy Jeff Harvey; "You Don't Know Jack @#*" (5.9), courtesy Bill Stinson; "Step Right Up" and "Snap, Crack or Pop" (both 5.9), and "Jackson Five Ten" (5.10a), courtesy Jef Sloat; and "Sinkers" (5.6), courtesy Wendy Gaynor.

Around lunchtime, the sun again pressed us to search for shade. While some members reluctantly bid adieu and headed back for Phoenix, the remainder hung on for a couple more climbs at Casino Cliffs: "Double or Nothin'" and "Bet on Black" (both 5.9). Then we, too, realized how very tired we had become and headed back up the trail to begin our treks back to Phoenix. Jack's Canyon is a haven for sport climbers, boasting over 200 climbs. Thanks to both the camaraderie of the AMCers and the well organized outing by Bill and Jef -- I'll be back! —*Donna Garoutte*

BIG WALL CLASS

In April and May, several groups of AMCers ventured up to Sedona on different weekends to learn about big wall climbing from Ron Raimonde, of Transworld Adventures. Ron is a serious big wall climber who advertised his classes in the AMC newsletter. After Steph Davis presented slides from a big wall in Yosemite and a little peer pressure was skillfully applied, I got the bug to sign up for the class. Several of us left that meeting PUMPED to go out and climb a big wall, but we needed to learn more about it.

A few weeks before our class, my memories of Steph's slides and big wall story were fading and I wondered why I'd want to waste my money on a hare-brained idea like big wall climbing. Then the reports came in from Big Wall Mick and Big Wall Wayne. They came back from their class with new titles and stories about what a blast the class was.

I quickly regained my enthusiasm and found myself backpacking into a beautiful sandstone canyon one Saturday to learn about climbing big walls. The hike in, described in class literature as "fairly strenuous, 45-50 minutes" had fixed ropes for assistance in some sections. Jen suggested that they could cut the word "fairly" from their description, but we weren't going to let a strenuous hike keep us from earning our Big Wall title.

On Saturday we learned several big wall techniques and the lingo to go with it. We used ascenders and aiders (only wannabe's call 'em etriers!) to jug up a fixed line, we aided a pitch with pre-placed gear, we cleaned the pitch while jugging, and finally, we aided the pitch, placing our own gear - all while on a slingshot belay. I placed some brand new stuff: a talon, a pointed Leeper, and several skyhooks. Standing in the aiders on that pointed Leeper placed in a pea-sized hole was pretty darn exciting. The fixed RURPs were equally thrilling, and I was on a top rope!

On Sunday, we learned two hauling methods to get the pigs up the wall. We were taught an awesome technique to protect a wicked traverse while on lead or while jugging a fixed line. Ron talked about nailing pins, shit tubes, portaledges, haul bags, and big wall dining.

Food and entertainment was provided throughout the weekend by Captain Ron and his partner Dangerous Dan Stigh. The food was great, and their stories were priceless. Half the fun for me was hanging out with these crazy dudes. They've done a ton of big walls and really know their stuff. The stories of their exploits were a riot.

Is there a big wall in my future? Probably not in my immediate future, but Big Wall David is all fired up for a wall adventure. His favorite part of the class was leading, my favorite was cleaning - so we might make a good big wall team. We've got lots more to learn (and practice) before we go out and try this stuff for real, but I think there's a big wall out there calling us. They don't call me Big Wall Sally for nothing! —*Sally Larimer*

SCREE — *By Wally Vegors*

Read a particularly warm and joyous mountaineering book recently.

A sub-head on the dust cover states it is about "The Triumph of Sepu Kangri." Not triumph or triumph over -- but the triumph of. In other words they did not make it to the top in spite of one year's reconnaissance and two determined tries in subsequent years. But, according to co-authors Chris Bonington and Charles Clarke, "losing" in this northern Tibetan range was a total delight

Well -- discounting dog-bites, floods, scabies, early winter snowfall, the discovery of diminishing capacities that age brings, washed away bridges, book-bound Chinese cops, etc., it really sounded delightful. There were few personality clashes, remarkably few, and these were sympathetically reported with Bonington claiming his share of fault. In fact, the dramatis personae of the cast is one of the book's strengths be they British, Tibetan, Chinese, Nepali or American - likeable individuals all.

Bonington and (MD) Clarke were particularly close to and appreciative of the local Tibetan residents. The country is rapidly changing in not at all attractive ways. This valley was a pocket of traditional life and values inhabited by open and generous people. I recommend *Tibet's Secret Mountain*.

While I'm doing puff pieces, I must mention Climbing Magazine's "review" of the Phoenix Bouldering Contest. From what I saw there, the article pretty well caught the spirit of the event. I appreciate Jim Waugh's acknowledgement of the part played by volunteers, of which AMC'ers constituted many. It sometimes verged on work. That is what you call rigging several dozen top ropes or lugging ten gallon jugs full of ice to the distant Maze or through a chaos of boulders to Shark Wall in 100 degree weather. But so far as I know everyone survived and probably emerged the better for the experience.

Anyone for Camelback Mountain? With the forest closures wiping out a good share of AMC's scheduled climbs, it becomes more attractive.

In AMC's salad days, when we were poorer, not so skillful or well equipped, and less knowledgeable about alternative areas, the club had at least one day devoted to Camelback each month. A 5:00 a.m. start was not at all unusual in the summer. Of course we had more climbs open to us then, such as the Bolus and the south-side routes.

One incentive for membership then was that AMC had real nylon and goldline climbing ropes purchased at immense cost (\$100 or more) and shipped in from Gerry or Holubar or REI or imported from Austria. Try it. The Monk is an enjoyable classic.

Regarding forest fires in today's disaster-poised conditions, I regret the many fires I fought while earning my way through college working summers in the U.S. Forest Service.

We invariably learned that a fire had been spotted (1) just before breakfast, (2) just before supper, or (3) thirty minutes after going to bed. We had no planes, no helicopters, no slurry, no water and, often, no food for up to a day. Our tools: pulaskis and lady shovels.

Fortunately, our forests had had fires suppressed for only 50 years - fuel had not built up to its frightening level of today. They rarely crowned and were normally not terribly dangerous although you could get into bad trouble by being dumb or unlucky.

In a way we welcomed fires. It meant a change from trail maintenance, KV thinning work, timber marking or even range analysis -- and you got paid overtime. We felt virtuous and virile and enjoyed getting caught up in "fighting" the fire, where we performed heroic deeds with one foot in the fire, keeping the flames from every bit of oak brush or ponderosa thicket that we could.

In retrospect, of course, we should have let it burn -- so long as it behaved itself. The problem was that you could never tell. There were horrendously hot fires in southwest Colorado as early as the 1880's that left obvious barren burn-areas seventy years later.

I don't envy the USFS and USNPS their fire management problems. Even though they have put our best cool-country climbing areas off limits, for now, we should cheerfully observe the closures. A good share of the enjoyment we get from climbing is our surroundings. Charred sticks raking the sky are aesthetically repellant in anyone's book.

Stating it mildly, the newsletter would be dead were it not for those AMCers who bestir their keyboards to write notes and articles. Sue Goins, Wayne Schroeter and Sally Larimer are standbys who have saved me many times. This issue would not have happened without Donna Garoutte and Lisa Todd. Photos came from Erik Filsinger and Ron Logan. I recently discovered a misplaced photo of a climb of last winter by Isabel Brady. Thank you all!!!

COMMERCIALLY PROVIDED TRAINING AND SERVICES BILLBOARD — Other Scheduled Events **

Tuesdays	<u>North Mountain Hikes</u> Evening. Rogil Schroeter, (623) 878-3914
Wednesdays	<u>Arizona Climbing Center</u> - 6:00 p.m., Rogil Schroeter, (623) 878-3914
Thursdays	<u>South Mountain Park</u> Teddy Bear Wall after work, Chris Query, (480) 394-9780H, (602) 258-6471W.

** 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

TREKKING IN NEPAL (Continued from page 6)

Humpreys Peak (12,670) - walking over a 17,000 foot pass was a real milestone. It goes to show that acclimatization is the key! In one of those typical mountaineering moves, we started hiking well before dawn on Pass Day. The stronger members pulled ahead, while I plodded along - trying desperately to keep my pace slow and steady and not push myself into getting sick. As the sun began to rise, we were treated to high Himalayan peaks on all sides - to our left was the Manaslu Himal and to our right were the mountains of Tibet.

At one point, I needed a break and sat down on a nice cushy pile of snow. Perfect timing. Just as I sat down and got comfy, we heard the roar of an avalanche. After arguing with one of our sherpas for a couple of minutes, as to whether or not I'd catch it on film, I finally brought out the camera and got a beautiful shot of a plume of snow rushing down the mountain. Fortunately, we were all well out of harm's way along our route to the pass. (For the record, in my opinion, avalanches, like lightning, are really cool to see - as long as you are a good way away from them!).

Finally, I reached the pass - it was all covered in prayer flags and, at that moment, it was such a welcome sight. The whole group is there on the pass, waiting for me. But we still had 5,000 feet to descend to get to our camp - and the afternoon clouds were moving in. After taking a couple of minutes for pictures we all headed down. Days later, many of us were still showing the "glow" of Pass Day on our faces - in the form of awful, painful sunburns.

One final memory to share. I had read

accounts of the Buddhist mani walls. These are piles of stones - literally thousands of stones - each of which has intricately carved prayers or Buddhist symbols on it. And, in their highest concentration, there must've been a mani wall every 1/4 mile or so along the way. I couldn't walk past one of these walls without reflecting on the hours, no, the years, that it must take to carve such beautiful images in to the stone. And then I would think about all of the prayers and hopes that these carvings reflected. The new carvings were fresh and clean - while the older ones were faded by the many years of sitting on the wall. I would always stop to touch one of them - the old ones were especially fascinating to me - that I could touch such handiwork - that I could touch an object that held so much meaning to a person that lived hundreds of years before me. Once, I must've spent quite a long time at one of the mani walls, because our group was well ahead and out of sight. Our sirdar, Ram, was bringing up the rear and was waiting patiently for me. I thanked him for waiting, and his response was "No m'am, thank YOU for enjoying our country." Of course it was easy to enjoy Nepal - it was everything that I could've expected and so much more.

—Charlene Todd

FOUND — while sorting gear: purple sling 15-20' long, initials C.S. on tail. Also a tri-cam in my rack. If you are missing one and can identify it — call Jeffry Nagel at 602-721-1968

AMC CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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

- Jun 29 **Pinnacle Peak trailwork** Meet at PP Park east side (Patio area). NO LIMIT 5:00 p.m. to dark or whatever time you can spare. Bring gloves, shovel, pick. Wayne 623-878-3914
- Jul 1-2 **Mt. Lemmon** near Tucson. NO LIMIT 5.7-5.10 Call Sally/David Larimer at 480-425-9689 for meeting time and place.
- Jul 6 **Pinnacle Peak trailwork** Meet at PP Park east side (Patio area). 5:00 p.m. to dark or whatever time you can spare. NO LIMIT Bring gloves, shovel, pick. Wayne 623-878-3914
- Jul 8 **The Promised Land** in juniper/pinyon country. NO LIMIT 5.8-5.11 Call Frank Vers 480-947-9435 for meeting time and place.
- Jul 13 **Pinnacle Peak trailwork** Meet at PP Park east side (Patio area). 5:00 p.m. to dark or whatever time you can spare. Bring gloves, shovel, pick. Wayne 623-878-3914
- Jul 15 **Scout Cave** Jef Sloat Limit 8 Meet at McDonalds at Shea and I-17. Call 602-843-2490 to sign on and for further instructions.
- Jul 22 **Overlook** Basalt crack climbing. Helmet recommended. NO LIMIT. 5.7-5.10. Sally Larimer 480-425-9689.
- July 24 **Richard Horst** meeting program.
- Aug 28 **Photo Contest** at regular meeting
- Sep 25 **Rebecca Rusch** program at regular meeting

*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 Sally Borg, 602-788-3552. 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.

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. Contact Jeff Nagel at (602) 721-1968.

Bill Berkley	480-945-4346	David Larimer	480-425-9689	Wayne Schroeter ..	623-878-3914
Sally Borg Larimer ..	480-425-9689	Tim Medlock	480-807-4920	Jef Sloat	602-843-2490
Tom Conner	480-897-7263	Jeff Nagel	602-721-1968	Bill Stinson	602-547-2560
Mark Donahue	602-866-0133	Paul Norberg	602-808-9244	Mick Strole	602-788-4031
John Ficker	602-867-1487	Paul Paonessa	602-493-7356	Frank Vers	480-947-9435
Sue Goins	480-821-0535	Chris Query	480-394-9780	Allan Watts	602-866-0557
Scott Hoffman	623-580-8909	Brad Sanders	480-961-3674	Gary Youngblood ..	602-508-9696
Richard Horst	602-953-9198	Tim Schneider	480-497-8377		
Kevin Kozup	480-460-5940	Rogil Schroeter	623-878-3914		

July 2000

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Mt. Lemmon New Moon
	2 Mt. Lemmon	3 Camra Meeting	4 (Indistinct text)	5 Sunrise 5:24 Sunset 7:42	6 Pinnacle Peak Trail Work	7 8 First Quarter Promised Land
9	10 AMC Board Meeting at Los Olivos, 7:00 p.m.	11	12 Sunrise 5:28 Sunset 7:40	13 Pinnacle Peak Trail Work	14	15 Scout Cave
16 Full Moon	17	18	19 Sunrise 5:32 Sunset 7:37	20	21	22 Overlook
23	24 Last Quarter Regular Meeting Richard Horst Slides 7:00 at Los Olivos	25	26 Sunrise 5:37 Sunset 7:32	27	28	29
30 New Moon	31					

Jun 2000						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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Aug 2000						
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19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

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