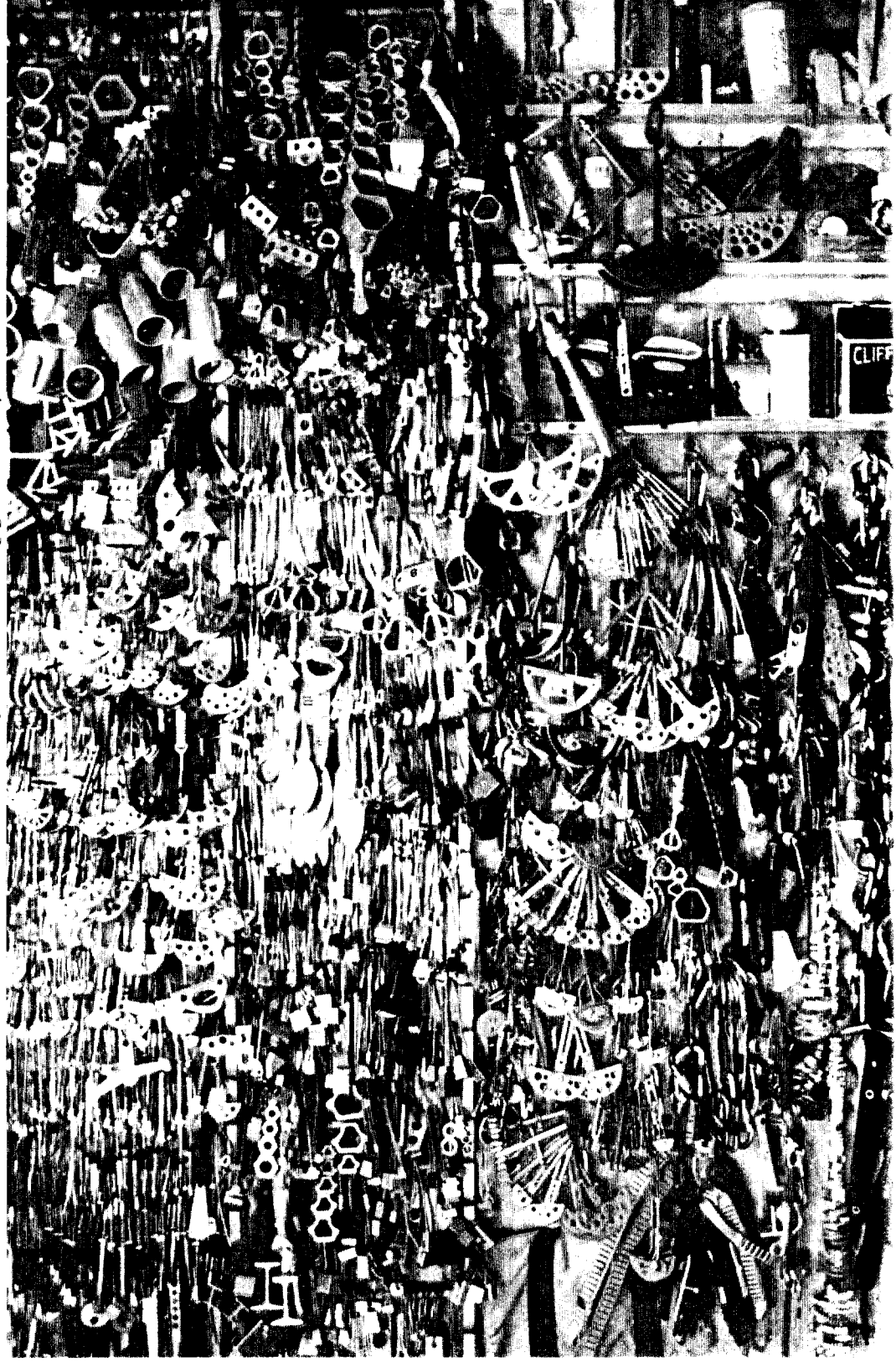


ARIZONA MOUNTAINEER

JANUARY 2001

No, this is not a bionic bat cave. Nor is it what Santa left some incredibly righteous and saintly rock climber. It is a small portion of Marty Karabin's collection of historical climbing gear. Photo by Karabin.



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.

NEWSLETTER

Send stories and photos to Wally Vegors, 6151 N. 8th Ave., Phoenix, Az 85013 or e-mail <vegors@worldnet.att.net>

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
Director-1yr	Sherrie Holbrook	602-788-4031
Director-1yr	Jeff Nagel	602-318-9538
Director-1yr	Scott Hoffman	623-580-8909
Director-2yr	Dan Langmade	480-948-6957
Director-2yr	Tim Ward	602-212-1929

COMMITTEES:

Access	Wayne Schroeter	623-878-3914
Co-Classification	Scott Hoffman	623-580-8909
Co-Classification	Jeff Nagel	602-318-9538
Conservation	Charlene Todd	480-917-5354
Elections	Don Thomas	480-892-9513
Equip Rental	Paul Norberg	602-808-9244
Email	Penny Medlock	480-807-4920
Co-Librarian	Mark Fleming	480-423-5064
Co-Librarian	Chelsea Alexander	480-396-1055
Membership	Rogil Schroeter	623-878-3914
Mntneering	Erik Filsinger	480-314-1089
Newsletter	Wally Vegors	602-246-9341
NL Distribution		
Outings	Bruce McHenry	602-952-1379
Co-Programs	Lisa Barnes	623-931-6721
Co-Programs	Donna Forst	602-485-4648
Public Relations	Kim Huenecke	602-569-0790
Trail Maint.	Jutta Ulrich	602-234-3579
Training; Safety	Wayne Schroeter	623-878-3914
Basic Class	Sally Larimer	480-425-9689
Anchor Class	Tom Conner	480-897-7623
Lead Class	Mick Strole	602-788-4031
T-shirts	Wendy Gaynor	602-547-2560
WebSite	Jim Sumrali	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 wshroeter@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 \$20 or more to: The Access Fund, P.O. Box 17010, Boulder, CO 80308, or giving it to the AMC Club Treasurer to be sent to The Access Fund in your name. A donation of \$20 or more is needed to receive Vertical Times, The Access Fund newsletter. One can also join electronically — <<http://www.accessfund.org/Join.html>>

THIS MONTH IN THE AMC

IN THIS ISSUE

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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 6151 N. 8th Ave., Phoenix, 85013. photos and other mountaineering photos are welcome (please submit prints). Climb write-ups ARE welcome. For info call the editor at 602-246-9341. Address e-mail to vegors@worldnet.att.net. Advertising in the *Arizona Mountaineer* is accepted, subject to approval, at the following rates:
Personal ads: free to members.

Business ads: \$5.00 for business card; \$10.00 for half page; \$20.00 for full page \$25.00 for inserts/mo

February Deadline: 12 Jan. 2001



NOT STUFF!!!

Forget about chads and dimples! Unless you pay your dues for 2001 at or by next meeting, you can't vote, let alone have it count.

Dues be Due:

Single\$25

Family.....\$30

AMC LIBRARY

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

The circulation period is 1 month. Materials are due at the next general club meeting. The overdue fine is \$2 per title per month. Please contact the librarian if unable to return your books and tapes.

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

AMC JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Cleopatra Barragan 1, Rachel Woodburn 2, Chris Manwaring 3, Patrick Gavin 4, Alisa Reinhardt 5, Bill Stinson 5, Cathy Wise 5, Lisa Barnes 6, Bill Fallon 6, Ted Stratton 6, Susan Zulch 6, Craig Parrish 7, Jack Carlson 10, Donald Rubin 10, Bob Zimering 10, Emily Theobald 11, Elizabeth Lassuy 12, Tanya Sharp 13, Aaron Poss 17, Pam Kalish 18, Rich Kocher 18, Mick Strole 18, Ken Akerman 19, Steve Oloier 19, Anders Flaaronning 21, Nathen Medlock 23, Pat Sigler 24, John Lyons 25, Janel Razook 26, Kirra Kurvink 29, Terence Smith 29, Adam Bowman 30, Ronald Sigler 30, Dave Eckles 31, Mark Foisy 31, Aki Pickens 31

MINUTES OF THE AMC BOARD MEETING: 12/04/00

Board Members Present: Sue Goins, Bill Stinson, Scott, Hoffman, Jeff Nagel, Erik Filsinger, Lynn Alexander

Committee Members Present: Kim Huenecke, Wally Vegors, Tom Conners, Don Thomas, Jim Sumrall, Bruce McHenry
Start time - 7:06 pm End time - 8:35 pm

ACCESS: Erik commented that McDowell's Preserve Planning Committee will have discussion on access and use by Commercial users (Guide Services, Jeep Rides, etc.) Two concerns: possible impact to club, and should AMC take a position. Looking for an observer to attend the Planning Committee meetings and bring back info.

ADVERTISING: NR

CLASSIFICATION: Jeff Nagel presented revised Outing Leader application form. Discussion on Leader class types, agreed on two: Top rope or single pitch w/lead, and multi-pitch or backcountry climbs. No club sanctioned mountaineering outings are approved until insurance issues and a formal approval process for the leader and the outing is adopted. Approval of mountaineering outing leaders is still a continuing discussion by the board.

Other Leader Candidates will assist on 3 outings (by class type), prior to board approval. Newly approved Outing Leaders will be probationary and have first 2 outings mentored by an existing Leader. A motion was proposed, seconded, and carried to approve Erik Filsinger as an Outing Leader. Congratulations Erik!

CONSERVATION: NR

ELECTIONS: Voting to take place at January meeting. Absentee ballots will be in January NL. Members must be current on Dues to vote. Don will prepare slate for officers and 4 directors.

E-MAIL: Discussion that the AZMTNCLUB bulletin board on egroups.com is focused on AMC members, although it is not a sponsored function of the club. Discussion on ways to protect members email names from spam and junk mail.

EQUIPMENT RENTAL: NR

LIBRARY: NR

MEMBERSHIP: 558 (WOW, a record). Annual dues are coming. Single \$25/Family \$30.

MOUNTAINEERING: Discussion on any Mt. Guides and Trip Services to offer activities and trips for the newsletter, primarily through

advertising. The January and February Ice classes are filling fast. Erik proposed to offer additional educational seminars on mountaineering topics.

NEWSLETTER: Looking for copy. Trips, Outings reports, Scree etc. **ASPIRING AUTHORS NEEDED!** When you submit copy, it will generally go in the newsletter AS IS - edit it before you submit.

NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION: HELP! NEED A COMMITTEE CHAIR to take this on.

OUTINGS: Outings needed. January is wide open. Three outings planned in December. Bruce will check into scheduling a Joshua Tree outing for Presidents' Day weekend. Looking at setting up master calendar for 2001 activities, possibly could go on website.

PROGRAMS: Bill and Lizanne for December. Donna working on other programs for first quarter.

PUBLIC RELATIONS: NR

TRAIL MAINTENANCE: Looking at something in January.

TRAINING AND SAFETY: Tom Conner has agreed to take over the AARS classes. Many thanks to Tim Medlock for his commitment to these classes the past couple of years. And a big thank you to Tim and Penny for their help and involvement with all of the classes through several years. Date for Spring AARS class will be April 17, 19, 21 & 22.

TREASURER: We have money! Treasurer's report will go in Newsletter.

T-SHIRTS: NEW Club shirts rock! Have sold \$400. Decals coming very soon — price \$2 ea or 3 for \$5.

WEBSITE: Looking at ways to possibly offer club items (shirts, decals) on the site.

OLD BUSINESS: Per Erik, had a note from Mark Pells (Insurance) possible issue on an endorsement on liability policy. Endorsement was removed from this year's policy, but may be on next year's.

NEW BUSINESS: NR.

NEW MEMBERS

Frank Diana
Erich Goebel
Annika Gray
Linda Kriegel
Madeleine Matthews
Pat Royer
Daniel Stevens
Mark Stevens
Jeff York

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.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Statement of Operations
01/01/00 Through 11/30/00
Category Description

Amount

Category Description	Amount
INCOME	
Advertising.....	140.00
Book Sale & fines.....	2.00
Equipment Rental (incl shoes).....	515.00
Interest.....	45.70
Membership Dues.....	7217.00
Program Income.....	105.00
Schools.....	58.44
Tee Shirts.....	510.00
Training & Safety.....	22,985.00
TOTAL INCOME	31,628.14

EXPENSES	
Access.....	600.00
Administration.....	1289.73
Bouldering Contest.....	250.00
Conservation.....	0.00
Club Functions.....	14.00
Equipment Maintenance.....	0.00
Equipment Purchase.....	1,982.75
Insurance.....	1,043.00
Library.....	108.70
Mountaineering.....	477.32
Newsletter.....	3,807.75
Outings.....	250.00
Programs.....	4,646.81
Bank Charge.....	41.79
T-shirts.....	325.00
Training & Safety.....	10,024.96

TOTAL EXPENSES 25,314.53

OVERALL FOR YEAR TO DATE +6,313.61**

ACCOUNT BALANCES

Savings.....	4,506.42
Checking.....	3,981.50

TOTAL ASSETS..... \$8,487.92

** N.b.— The editor worked all his life at pathetic-level salaries partly to avoid having to have anything to do with toting up, crunching, entering, thinking about, keeping track of, explaining, statistical analysis of or worrying about numbers, particularly those pertaining to money. These figures may not *exactly* agree with the Treasurer's computer's, but they are close enough for mountaineering purposes. — Ed.

AMC RENTAL EQUIPMENT:

EQUIPMENT	Lb-Oz	Qty	Cost/Wk
Tents:			
4-season 2-3 man 7-6.....		1	10.00
4-season 2 man.....	6-0	1	6.00
3-season 2 man.....	5-0	3	5.00
4-season 1 man bivy.....	1-15	1	7.00
Sherpa Snowshoes.....		8	5.00
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/flukes.....		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.

Old Farts in France

(and other places)

Join Steve Holmquist and David Gunn as they share their experiences from earlier this year in the South of France. Photos of climbing on the incomparable limestone of The Calanques, Orpierre, and Gorges du Verdon will be shown along with a narrative of the experience, the culture, and the nature of climbing in France. Time permitting, climbing photos spanning from 1975 to the present will also be shown.

Past members of the AMC, Steve and David bring a love of climbing and adventure within reach of us all. It should be an interesting evening.

The meeting will be held on Monday, January 22nd, from 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. at the Los Olivos Senior Center, 2802 East Devonshire Avenue, one block north of Indian School on the east side of 28th Street.

JOSHUA TREE ROCKS!

Another Thanksgiving at Joshua Tree has made it into the history books. And the weather over the long weekend cooperated and was wonderful this year!

There must have been about 65 people at Group Sites 1 and 4 for the event, with those camping at #4 being there all week. Group climbing was set up at Indian Cove, Short Wall, Feudal Wall and, in the park, at Trash Can.

There were lots of new climbers there this year - and from the remarks most will be back next year. The annual Thanksgiving Feast was just that. I had told Elizabeth that people always came through with lots of food, even if they didn't call her, and they did. We had plenty to eat - for several days. A big thanks for Elizabeth for organizing the food for the feast.

And a big thanks to the outing leaders who set up the climbs for everyone to enjoy. We had quite a few new AARS graduates who got a chance to practice placing anchors, under the direction of outing leaders and instructors.

Mark President's Day weekend on your calendars for another outing to J-Tree. This outing will involve more climbing in the park and less top-roped climbs. Watch the newsletter for more information.

—Sue Goins

Hello all and Seasons Greetings!

It's that time of year again, time to renew you club dues with the A.M.C. Also, remember that the dues are **\$25 for an individual** or **\$30 for a family**. You can either deliver that check to a club meeting or mail it to the address found on the inside cover of the newsletter.

**** Board elections are quickly approaching and you must have current club dues in order to vote!**

—Penny Medlock

ELECTIONS IN JANUARY

The annual AMC Board of Directors election will take place on January 22nd at the regular monthly meeting. All club officer positions and several directors terms end in January, after which the new officers and directors assume responsibility for the operation of the club.

A ballot has been prepared, as in the past, listing candidates who have expressed a willingness to serve. Nominations may also be made from the floor at the meeting and write-ins are possible. Candidates must have been members during all of 2000 and be willing to devote the time to carry out the responsibilities of the position.

President — Oversees and provides leadership for the club. Presides over board and general club meetings. Makes sure committees perform properly.

Vice-President — Assists the President in whatever duties are assigned. Presides in President's absence.

Secretary — Records minutes of the Board meetings.

Treasurer — Maintains accounting records. Issues checks for approved expenditures. Prepares monthly financial statements and yearly budgets.

Directors — Along with the Officers, represent the general club membership, vote on issues, and provide general direction for club activities.

Committee chairmen and members are also needed to carry out the AMC's extensive programs of training, organizing and leading climbs, plus services such as equipment maintenance and rental, newsletter preparation and distribution, library, etc., etc.

Dues for 2001 must have been paid in order to vote in this election. They can be sent to the AMC Post Office Box (1695, Phoenix, 85001-1695) or paid to Membership Chairman Rogil at the December or January meeting. Dues are \$25 for a single person or \$30 for a family.

NEED A BALLOT?

If you are unable to attend the January Annual Meeting (and if your membership is paid for 2001) you can still vote. Call Don Thomas at 480-892-9513 to have a ballot mailed to you.

LEAD CLIMBING SCHOOL ARIZONA MOUNTAINEERING CLUB

PURPOSE

This is an advanced climbing class. Even if you don't plan on leading, you will learn much about the dynamics of climbing, and it will make you a safer climber. There will be no "true" lead climbs during the class. Protecting a climb is a different skill from climbing itself. We will talk about the dynamics of lead falls, how to prepare for a climb, the differences between single-pitch and multi-pitch, the differences between bolted routes and natural pro, and we will provide actual leading exercises. Call Rogil Schroeter at 623-878-3914 to register.

DATES, TIMES AND PLACES FOR THE LEAD SCHOOL ARE:

Feb 6	Tuesday	6:30 pm – 9:30 pm	Dreamy Draw Park
Feb 7	Wednesday	6:30 pm – 9:30 pm	Dreamy Draw Park
Feb 8	Thursday	6:30 pm – 9:30 pm	Dreamy Draw Park
Feb 10	Saturday	9:00 am – 5:00 pm	Prescott (directions will be in syllabus)
Feb 11	Sunday	9:00 am – 5:00 pm	Prescott (directions will be in syllabus)

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

ITEMS YOU NEED FOR THE CLASS:

(Note: the first night, you will need harness, biners and the payment for the class)

- 1) \$50 (\$75 for non-members). Register by sending a check payable to AMC Anchors School to Rogil Schroeter, 6519 W. Aire Libre, Glendale, AZ, 85306. Please pay when registering for the class (this is fully refundable if you do not take the class). Call Rogil Schroeter at 623-878-3914 for more information.
- 2) Helmet - mandatory
- 3) All climbing gear
- 4) Specifically needed:
 - 2 20' (untied length) slings, preferably different colors
 - 2 10' (untied length) slings, preferably different colors
 - Nut pick
 - Quickdraws w/biners - at least 5 per person
 - All pro - cams, hexes, wired nuts, Tri-cams
 - Consider combining with another person to have enough gear
- 5) Hiking boots or shoes with stiff soles for Saturday, climbing shoes for Sunday
- 6) Optional: kneepads for Saturday (\$3-6 at Home Depot, \$5 volleyball pads at sporting goods stores)

ITINERARY

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

A TWO WEEK TREK IN DARKEST PROVENCE

Editor's Note -- Since February's program features climbing in France, here is a foretaste from Don and Carol Rubin, New Yorkers who climbed with AMC last winter.

Carol and I had always wanted to hike the perched villages of Provence, the south central area of France, but never had enough time. Now retired, plenty of time. We hiked two weeks from village to village with overnights in small inns or farmhouses. All the hikes were rated moderate with a lot of rough trails and some steep grades. While these are well-traveled routes recommended in all hiking guides, May was a great time to go before holidays and vacation time for the French. We had the trails to ourselves most of the time. This was a great trip with breathtaking scenery, lots of spring flowers and the air full of the scent of free-growing thyme and rosemary. On the breaks, sprawling out in beds of sweet-smelling spices is something we can still conjure up mentally.

Highlights of the Trip:

We started in Castellane on the Verdon River and followed the Route Napoleon, taken by him after his escape from Elba. This beautiful five-hour hike along a high plateau featured a parasailing group who swept along the cliff edge and waved a greeting to us. The hike ended at Point Sublime, gateway to the Sentier Martell, the French "Grand Canyon," that tracks through the Gorge de Verdon. The trail is a rugged 14 km hike.

Next day we got an early start and did the hike in 7 hours. It is an engineering marvel, with some 45 degree ascents and descents over slick mossy limestone. Some deep chasms are crossed with bridges and wrought-iron ladders bolted into the cliffs. 280 steps in all. (The Superstition Ridgeline hike could use a few of those). The grand finale before the climb out is tracking through two tunnels, one of them a half-mile long, ankle deep with water.

Here we saw our first climbers. I had assured Carol that this was a hiking trip and left my gear at home. Smart move. The temptation would have tested the marriage. People climbed wherever we went. In one of the tunnels there was a huge air shaft. We watched a climbing club aid-climbing a huge roof suspended over the gorge. There were eight bolts spaced across the roof. We watched what turned out to be the club president "walk" his way across the bolts out to thin air with a pair of etriers and then pendulum back to our ledge. The climbers all wore matched club tights and jerseys in the French tricolor, even their helmets painted to match. They had no interest in talking to strangers, acted very elitist, and we couldn't start any banter with their non-active climbers. It could have been my

fractured French — or not.

The next days were spent trekking over gorgeous hills, along long plateaus. We saw ancient abandoned villages, the remains of plague walls used to keep strangers quarantined a few days before allowing them into town. All were perched on cliffs and hills with watchtowers.

We hiked some of the Alpilles, the "small Alps." Above Gigondas are the Montmirail laces, a rock formation similar to Arizona's hoodoos, on top of high plateaus. It was a two-hour hike for us, with light packs, but sure enough there was a climbing group, again in club attire, all over the rock.

That night we ate at a local inn. The menu choices were unusual. I tried the beef cheek in wine gravy. Carol had the salmon, passing on the tripe, veal kidney and pigeon. The wine was a local one made from grapes right out of the vineyard at our inn. I had the house dessert — a scoop of fresh cream cheese soaked in heavy cream and topped with granulated sugar. You live once.

Our final day we spent on Mont Ventous (6263'). This is the highest peak in Provence. It was an easy climb and not much of a grade, on excellent trails but a long walk up. The reward at the top on a clear day are views of the Alps, the Rhone valley and Marseille. There is also a paved road to the top. Fortunately you don't see the traffic till the top.

The claim to fame of this place is it is part of the Tour de France and lots of bikers train here. It is a beautiful sight watching the bikers summit, turn around and hi-tail it back down.

So where are the pictures? On our last day we went to Avignon to rent a car and hang out on the Cote d'Azur. Right under our noses a thief lifted our attache' case, with our plane tickets, vouchers, maps, eyeglasses and all our rolls of 36-exposure film, the entire record of the trip. Bummer! We are recovering the financial loss through insurance, but the pictures will have to remain in our heads. I was so bummed out about the film that I quit taking pictures.

This was a terrific experience for the two of us. We have been blessed with excellent health and are still being physical. Maybe a lifetime of fitness really does pay off.

— Dave Rubin

DIEF'S NEW DIGS

Officially it is not open yet...at least not in the usual ribbon-cutting sense. But the newly relocated Phoenix Rock Gym sure has a lot going on since its non-opening opening on December 4th. "We've been swamped from that day," said Michelle as she passed out shoes and harnesses and waivers to a line of applicants..

Actually, of course, it is all part of a planned (lets not say calculated) and effective program to assure a continuing flow of publicity for the PRG. For a rock climber, Dief appears to be a pretty fair businessman. He owns the building now – or at least possesses a mortgage to it.

Dief's new digs are within easy biking distance of the ASU campus (tho I saw no bikes – just SUVs and a few family and sports cars). It is on the south side of University a quarter mile east of Rural/Scottsdale. Watch for the Az Tech Court and Sunny's Pizza sign. PRG is out back.

Unlike the old site, the new gym has *plenty of parking*. It also allows 30' walls instead of 26'. They look shorter, but that is because you are no longer in a narrow aisle like Paria Canyon or Home Depot. From the front desk one can see all areas.

Thirty two ropes are strung right now, which was the capacity of the old gym. Still to come are two pillars which will enclose central roof supports, a lead area off to the left, and a dual-level bouldering area at center right.

In deference to an increasing number of kids – semi-organized youth groups plus moms and dads with youngsters – the right wall is sloped back slightly and has a plethora of large holds. It is where all newbies begin and was totally busy late one Sunday. There are still plenty of sadistic overhangs elsewhere if that is your bag. Hours and prices are the same as before.

Michelle is wall-eyed at the thought of the approaching Christmas vacation. "Our old customers found us immediately and now a lot of new ones too," she said. It promises to be a busy time for staff.

Then will come The Grand Opening. She's not sure just when that will be – after the double-deck bouldering area is built – possibly in January. And that bit of publicity will spur still more attendance. Things are getting pretty bad when working almost precludes climbing,



SOME VERITIES ARE ETERNAL

Hear Ye Hear Ye! The great sport of CLIMBING will be conducted on Saturday, January 20th, this year of 2001 at Lost Bandana Wall at mighty Little Granite Mountain.

Great opportunity for new (and old) basic & anchors classes to show your stuff. No Limit. Bill Stinson 602-547-2560 (billphxhome@uswest.net) Please call or email so I can get a head count. Otherwise.... just show up. Will be meeting at the parking lot at 118th street and Rio Verde (Dynamite) road at 7:50 am. Departing promptly at 8:00 am for the climbing area.

Of course the theme is.. We MUST have a damn president by now!

—Bill Stinson

PINNACLE PEAK TRAILS

On December 2, thirty-eight volunteers, including eleven from the AMC, repaired 3,000 feet on the main trail at Pinnacle Peak Park. We focused on building in water control structures at the numerous locations where the October rains had cause serious damage. We achieved more than I had anticipated, no doubt due in large measure to the exceptional high level of energy of AMC volunteers. HUGE THANKS to everyone and to the AMC group in particular. I have listed the names below—please let me know if I missed your name.

Michael Baker
Larry Bostrom
Debbie Brown
Bryan Howell
Carrie Howell

Tim Lange
Bruce Robbins
Rogil Schroeter
Kathy Sharp
Jef Sloot
Richard Theobald

Next February 3 we will pick up where we left off. While the trail on the south hill is also poorly laid out, the soils change dramatically, for the better, from what exists on the crumbling granite heap of Pinnacle Peak proper. March 3 will be a "finishing date." I will also be working with Wayne on the remaining work for the climbers' access spurs. The opening date for the park is next August.

This may sound like I am just sucking up to get you back out there (I will do just about anything to get volunteers), but I really am impressed with the quality of trail building done by AMCs. The energy level is great but not surprising as you are all tough as nails. But everyone appeared to take the work seriously and wanted to do it right. Perhaps this reflects the discipline of climbers, or the people attracted to climbing with the AMC. As one who really enjoys building good trail, it was gratifying to hear Tim Lange, for example, point out an area where the outslope appeared to be inadequate, as we walked back to the trailhead at the end of the day. If any of you ever decide you would like to lead crews let me know.

The usual evaluation cards were not used, so if you have suggestions for improvement, please let me know.

Michael Baker Volunteers for Outdoor Arizona
602.552.9127
michaelb@dgcenter.org
www.dgcenter.org/voa

A GREAT BUT FALLIBLE KNOT

For those of you who have access to the American Alpine Club publication, the *American Alpine News*, there is an interesting report in the July 2000 issue (v. 9, #200, p. 15) on a study about the failure of water knots. It may also be available on the web at www.americanalpineclub.org, but I haven't verified.

The laboratory studies tried to determine why water knots fail: is it excessive pull or was it due to a cycling of loading and unloading? The results are important. "Water knots definitely fail by slipping under cyclic loading. Low loads, such as body weight, are sufficient to cause failure."

What happens is that the water knot is very strong under direct load, but with relaxation and subsequent loading the top strand slips .0035 inches per cycle. There are a variety of different techniques for backing up a water knot, e.g., tying overhand safeties and taping the loose ends. At least with overhand safeties they eventually snugged down, but still slipped through 1.75 inches of tail.

Interestingly, the researchers looked at alternative knots for connecting webbing that proved superior. For example, "Another cycle test was done on a loop tied with a single fisherman's knot. (after some initial cinching), no further elongation occurred."

Given climber's reliance on water knots, this research is both encouraging and discouraging. It would appear that the failure mechanism has now been identified. Probably every occurrence of use of a knot should be checked, e.g., every use of an anchor tied with a water knot should be checked for tail length.

However, it might be wise to substitute alternatives whenever possible, e.g., sewn runners rather than tied ones for repeated usage.

—Erik

Shucks, we knew that. Least I did. Ever since I promised the Arizona Parks Dept. that the water knot was just the thing for flagpole ropes — would never come untied. Guess what? Very first morning the rope was all in a pile on the ground. It was a classic case of repeated light loadings causing slip, as stated above. Guess who got to shinny up the 35' Tubac pole to rethread the pulley?

The moral — check rappel anchor slings and such every time, and leave at least a couple of inches of tail. But it is a useful knot and easy to adjust

— Ed.

Sierramar Adventures in 2001

**Join AMC member Jim Sumrall
with adventures in Nepal and
around the world.**

- Mar 18 – Mar 31 Springtime in the Annapur-
nas, with the Sierra Club
- Apr 10 – May 5 Around Manaslu
- May 8 – Jun 9 Annapurna Circuit – Summit
attempt on Chulu West
- Sep 14 – Sep 28 Iran Unveiled,
with the Sierra club
- Oct 6 – Nov 10 "The Home Town Tour" Badel
to Gokyo, the Everest region
- Nov 13 – Dec 15 Kanchenjunga Base Camp
- Dec 23 – Jan 5, 2002 Guatemala: Land of the Maya,
with the Sierra Club

Jim Sumrall, Sierramar Adventures
Web: <http://www.jimsumrall.com>
E-mail: jim@jimsumrall.com
Tel: 480-894-9307 [888-241-2688]

ICE CLIMBING AND

In addition to the AMC toproped ice outing led by Richard Horst, commercially guided climbs by Tower (AMGA certified) will also offer multi-pitch climbs to those interested.

The overall outing will touch down in both the Ouray and Silverton areas. Richard will make reservations at the Victorian Inn. The 6th and 11th of January are travel days — no climbing. That leaves four days for frolicking on frozen waterfalls. Warm clothes, gloves, Goretex shells, helmets and harnesses are mandatory, but ice tools and boots can be provided if the guide service is used.

Basic ice-climbing experience is a must. Car-pooling is available from Richard's home. Confirm by 31 December. Call Richard Horst at (602) 953-9198.

MORE ICE CLIMBING

You already know the basics? And you really enjoy being suspended on a wall by your wrists, like a medieval prisoner shackled in a dungeon? OK, Then this is the place for you.

Eric Filsinger's lineup of classes and arrangements are nearly complete. Some shuffling of dates and personnel is possible, but things are pretty well set. The Intermediate class runs three days over New year's weekend. Beginning classes are set for January 13-14 and February 17-18.

Eric and Susan checked the ice and found it good over Thanksgiving. Conditions should be fine. But it is necessary to pre-pay the piper to complete reservations. This time the piper will be Southwest Adventures from Durango. If you want to go, call Eric immediately to complete arrangements. 602-906-1186.

- Apr 17 **Anchors School.** Apr 17,19,21,22. \$50, \$75 non-members. Rogil 623-878-3914.
 Sep 13 **Lead School Instructor Meeting.** Mick Strole 602-788-4031.
 Sep 18 **Lead School.** Sep 18,19,20,22,23. \$50, \$75 non-members. Rogil 623-878-3914.
 Sep 29 **Grand Canyon Cleanup.** Gary Youngblood 602-508-9696.
 Oct 11 **Basic Climbing School Instructor Meeting.** Sally Larimer 480-425-9689.
 Oct 16 **Basic Climbing School.** Oct 16,18,20,21,23,25,27. \$150. Rogil 623-878-3914.
 Nov 1 **Anchors School Instructor Meeting.** Tom Conner 480-897-7623.
 Nov 3 **Queen Creek Cleanup and Climb.** Charlene Todd 480-917-5354.
 Nov 6 **Anchors School.** Nov 6,8,10,11. \$50, \$75 non-members. Rogil 623-878-3914.
 Nov 21 **J-Tree Thanksgiving.** Nov 21-25.

*Group outings: The campsite, where possible, is reserved by the AMC. There is no designated leader, although there may be a leader to work with non-leaders (call to find out). Call to find car-poolers. Parking is first-come, first-served in some cases. To request outings: Call Outings Chairperson Bruce McHenry 602-952-1379. To cancel: Please call the outing leader to cancel as soon as possible: there may be a waiting list. Also, the leader will know not to wait for you on outing day.

BILLBOARD — Other Scheduled Events

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

- Tuesdays **North Mountain Hikes** Evening. Rogil Schroeter, (623) 878-3914
 Wednesdays **Arizona Climbing Center** - 6:00 p.m., Rogil Schroeter, (623) 878-3914.
 Contact Rogil: 623-878-3914 or Rogil.Schroeter@Honeywell.com
 Feb 3 **VOA Trail Work** at Pinnacle Peak Register with Mike Baker 602-522-9127.
 Feb 24 **Superstition Ridgeline Hike.** Rogil Schroeter (623) 878-3914 Strenuous 11 miles mostly up on top. Do you have metal? This will test it. A classic to remember!
 Apr 6-8 **Phoenix Bouldering Contest.** Mark your dance program.

COMMERCIALLY PROVIDED TRAINING AND EVENTS

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

- Dec 30-Jan 1 **Intermediate Ice Climbing** offered by Southwest Adventures, Durango, Colorado. Limited class size. For details call Erik Filsinger, 602-906-1186.
 Jan 6-11 **Toprope and Multipitch Ice Climbing** offered by Tower Guides. Details from Richard Horst. 602-953-9198. Dec. 30 deadline.
 Jan 13-15 **Beginning Ice Climbing and Avalanche Rescue.** offered by Southwest Adventures, Durango, Colorado. Limited class size. Call Erik Filsinger, 602-906-1186, for info. Dec 20 deadline.
 Feb 17-20 **Beginning Ice Climbing and Avalanche Rescue** offered by Southwest Adventures, Durango, Colorado. Limited class size. Call Erik Filsinger for details, 602-906-1186..

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

- Dec 25 **Sven Slab in north McDowell's**. 4th annual Christmas Day Climb. Jeffry Nagel and Chris Query. 480-897-0900. Then adjourn to Sue Goins' for potluck dinner. Sign up at AMC meeting or call Sue at 480-821-0535.
- Jan 6 **Weavers Needle**. Classic route in the Superstitions. Limit 6. Exposure, strenuous approach, fabulous views. Rogil Schroeter. 623-878-3914
- Jan 6 **Zonerland**. More climbing in the Supes. Limit 12. Sport climbing, routes are 5.9 and up. Strenuous 1-hour approach, great fun climbing. Frank Vers 480-947-9435, or David Larimer 480-425-9689.
- Jan 6-11 **Ouray Ice Park**. Refresh your desert-atrophied skills on this top-roped ice climbing outing. Limit 6. Richard Horst 602-953-9198
- Jan 13 **Crown King**. Fabulous granite in the Bradshaw's. Limit 12. Awesome Sport Climbs, in the 5.9—5.10 range. If the sun is out, this south-facing wall is premier winter climbing, warmer than you would imagine. 4WD road, easy 20-minute approach. David and Sally Larimer. 480-425-9689
- Jan 20 **Lost Bandana Wall**. Fun routes in the McDowell's. No Limit. Re-live those Basic school climbs. Bill Stinson. 602-547-2560.
- Feb 1 **Lead School Instructor meeting**. Mick Strole 602-788-4031.
- Feb 6 **Lead School**. Feb 6,7,8,10,11. \$50, \$75 non-members. Rogil 623-878-3914.
- Mar 8 **Basic Climbing School Instructor Meeting**. Sally Larimer 480-425-9689.
- Mar 13 **Basic Climbing School**. Mar 13,15,17,18,20,22,24. \$150. Rogil 623-878-3914.
- Mar 31 **Queen Creek Cleanup and Climb**. Charlene Todd 480-917-5354.
- Apr ?? **AMC Snow Travel and Crevasse Rescue Class**. Schedule depends on snow conditions at Flag.
- Apr 12 **Anchors School Instructor Meeting**. Tom Conner 480-897-7623.

AMC OUTING LEADERS

Requirements for becoming a leader: take the basic, AARS and Lead classes (or equivalents), be a member for at least one year, complete a basic first aid and CPR class (8 hours or more), and be approved for leadership by at least five current leaders through formal application process and by the Board of Directors. Contact Jeff Nagel at (602) 318-9538.

Bill Berkley	480-945-4346
Sally Borg Larimer	480-425-9689
Tom Conner	480-897-7263
John Ficker	602-867-1487
Eric Filsinger	602-906-1186
Sue Goins	480-821-0535
Scott Hoffman	623-580-8909
Richard Horst	602-953-9198
Kevin Kozup	480-460-5940

David Larimer	480-425-9689
Tim Medlock	480-807-4920
Jeff Nagel	602-318-9538
Paul Norberg	602-808-9244
Paul Paonessa	602-493-7356
Chris Query	480-897-0900
Brad Sanders	480-961-3674
Tim Schneider	480-497-8377
Rogil Schroeter	623-878-3914

Wayne Schroeter	623-878-3914
Jef Sloat	602-843-2490
Bill Stinson	602-547-2560
Mick Strole	602-788-4031
Frank Vers	480-947-9435
Gary Youngblood	602-508-9696

JANUARY 2001

AMC CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																																																
	1 <i>Intermed Ice Contd.</i>	2 CAMRA MTG moon 1st Qtr	3 Sunrise 7:33 Sunset 5:33	4	5	6 <i>Ouray Ice Weaver's Needle ZonerLand</i>																																																																																																																
7	8 AMC Board	9 Full Moon	10 Sunrise 7:33 Sunset 5:39	11	12	13 Crown King																																																																																																																
14	15	16 Moon Last Qtr	17 Sunrise 7:32 Sunset 5:45	18	19	20 Lost Bandanna Wall																																																																																																																
21	22 AMC Meeting – Climbing in France	23	24 Sunrise 7:29 Sunset 5:52 New Moon	25	26	27																																																																																																																
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ARIZONA MOUNTAINEERING CLUB

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