

DECEMBER 2002

# ARIZONA MOUNTAINEER



*A portion of the Alpine Class gathers before heading hither to the ungroomed hills to practice techniques appropriate to uncurried mountains. It is different from sport climbing or clambering up the familiar and well-traveled multipitches on Camelback and in the Superstitions. Objective dangers lurk even on fourth class scrambles. James Iverson Photo*

# THE ARIZONA MOUNTAINEERING CLUB

**MEETINGS:** The AMC normally meets the 4th Mon. each month (Nov. & Dec. meetings are usually the 3rd Mon.) at 7:00 pm at:

Los Olivos Senior Center  
2802 E. Devonshire Ave.  
Phoenix, Az.  
(28th St. just north of Indian School Rd.)

**BOARD MEETINGS:** Board meetings are open to all members and are held two Mondays prior to the Club meeting at Los Olivos Center.

**DUES:** Dues cover January through December. A single membership is \$25.00 per year; \$30.00 for a family. Those joining after June 30 pay 50% of the yearly rates. Members joining after October 31 who pay for a full year will have dues credited through the end of the following year. Dues must be sent to:

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

**OTHER CORRESPONDENCE:**

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

**SCHOOLS:** The AMC conducts several rock climbing, mountaineering and other outdoor skills schools each year. Contact the Training & Safety Committee for schedules and costs.

**NEWSLETTER**

Send stories and photos to Wally Vegors, 6151 N. 8th Ave., Phoenix, Az 85013 or e-mail <vegors@worldnet.att.net> Electronic photos should be 300 dpi in JPG.

(AMC1202 )

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS:**

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

**COMMITTEES:**

Access	Jen Davies	480-473-3742
Classification	Scott Hoffman	623-580-8909
Conservation	Charlene Todd	480-917-5354
Elections	Don Thomas	480-892-9513
Equipment	James Iverson	602-395-1581
Equip Rental	Paul Norberg	602-808-9244
Email	Jeff Hatfield	480-783-8779
Librarian	Richard Kocher	480-966-5568
Membership	Rogil Schroeter	623-878-3914
Mntneering	Erik Filsinger	480-314-1089
Newsletter	Wally Vegors	602-246-9341
NL Distribution	Robert England	480-821-4243
Outings	Bruce McHenry	602-952-1379
Programs	Steven Tillery	602-224-9003
Trail Maint.	Jutta Ulrich	602-234-3579
Training; Safety	Jeff Hatfield	480-783-8779
Basic Class	Sally Larimer	480-425-9689
Anchors Class	Tom Conner	480-897-7623
Lead Class	Mick Strole	602-788-4031
T-shirts	Wendy Gaynor	602-547-2560
WebSite	Kirra .....	.....
.....	webadmin@azmountaineeringclub.org	

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**

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

---

**THE AMC ACCESS COMMITTEE:** The Committee works by itself and with the national Access Fund to maintain public access to climbing areas. If you know of areas that are threatened with closures or climbing restrictions, please notify the Access Committee Chair, Jen Davies, 480-473-7342.

**THE ACCESS FUND:** This is a national, non-profit, climber's organization that works to maintain access to climbing areas nationwide. Climbers can join The Access Fund by mailing an annual, tax-deductible donation of \$20 or more to: The Access Fund, P.O. Box 17010, Boulder, CO 80308, or giving it to the AMC Club Treasurer to be sent to The Access Fund in your name. A donation of \$20 or more is needed to receive Vertical Times, The Access Fund newsletter. One can also join electronically — <<http://www.accessfund.org/Join.html>>

## **THIS MONTH IN THE AMC**

---

- 1 Index, Club Info.; Birthdays this month
- 2 Board Meeting Minutes; New Members:  
Alpine Class; Admonitions
- 3 Discounts, Treasurer, Equipment to Rent
- 4 Program: Kvale Slide Show—ON 16TH
- 5 President; Basic Class Report
- 6 J-Tree; Succor!!
- 7 Basic Class Continued
- 9 The Monk & Hanging Gardens Reports
- 10 The Hand Climbing Report
- 11 The Hand, contd.; Scree
- 12 Proposed 2003 AMC Budget
- 13 Outings, Contd.
- 14 Outings: Leader list

### **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

**January Deadline: 6 December 2002**

# **HOT STUFF!!!**

## **LET'S PARTY!**

**Joshua Tree (Wahoo!)**

**AMC Christmas Bash (Yay!)**

**Ouray Ice Orgy (Hooraw!)**

**(And don't forget  
Tom's Thumb)**

### **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.

---

### **DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS**

Sally Larimer 1, Kathleen Granger 2, Lionel Materassi 4, Wendy Gaynor 6, Kate Tillery 6, James D. Holloway 7, Shane Justice 7, Brian McHenry 8, Robert England 9, Jon Fallon 9, Barbara Pettitt 9, Leonard Dick 11, Perry Kearney 11, Douglas Popadince 11, Keith Jendricks 13, Matt Lake 15, Sherrie Holbrook 16, Al Weikel 16, Lenn Zazula 16, Al Potter 18, John Keedy 20, Philip Goebel 21, Paul Paonessa 21, Isolda Strom 21, Kathy Taylor 22, Randy Arneson 23, Jan Ballard 23, Samantha Digard 23, Wallace Vegors 25, Christopher Ward 25, Andy Johnson 26, Mara Linder 26, Bob Wirth 26, Alec Digard 27, Andrew Horst 27, Sarah McGiffert 27, Scott Yee 28, Karin Callan 30, Amy Champlin 30, Mark Hubble 30, Tamara Haas 31

## **MINUTES OF THE AMC BOARD MEETING: November 4, 2002**

Board Members Present – Conner, Filsinger, Hoffman, Keedy, Larimer, McHenry, Schneider, Ward  
Committee Members Present – Iverson, Tillery, Vegors

- I. A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order at 7:05 PM.
- II. Minutes of October 14 Board Meeting approved as published. Minutes of Special Executive Board Meeting of October 9 were approved.
- III. Treasurers Report was submitted without discussion.
- IV. Presidents Update
  - A. The web site was discussed. It was noted that we now have only one person who has access to the web site since Stinson is no longer involved. It was the general consensus that we should have an alternate. Schneider will coordinate that.
  - B. Board positions that will be vacated for 2003 were discussed. Erik will work with Thomas on the slate of officers for 2003.
  - C. D&O Liability Insurance Folder was presented for inclusion in Secretary's Notebook. One copy will be reproduced for inclusion in the President's Notebook as well.
  - D. Proposed Budget for 2003 was presented and discussed. Additions, corrections and deletions were presented. Ward will make corrections and get it to Vegors for inclusion in the Newsletter.
  - E. Two persons have expressed interest in filling the vacancy as Training Chair. No action taken at this time.
- V. Meeting was adjourned at 8:06 PM

**Rogil Advises: Avoid the rush during the elections at the January meeting – pay your dues early.**

### **NEW AMC MEMBERS**

Kevin Abney	Joe Garcia
Monica Anderson	Wendy Kreuser
David Elkins	Ben Sainsbury
Dan Frank	

### **Alpine Rock Class Graduates and Instructors**

We had beautiful cloudy weather for day out on the loose, alpine rock. Congratulations to the students and thanks to the assistants. Hopefully we'll be able to offer another session this coming Spring.

#### **Students**

Bill Van  
Michael Boylan  
P.J. O'Connell  
Richard Landry  
Kate Tillery

#### **Assistants**

Tom Conner  
George Krall  
Jim Iverson  
Jutta Ulrich  
Kathy Granger  
John Granger  
Sean Colonello  
Steve Helms-Tillery  
Susan Morris

Submitted by Erik Filsinger

**REMEMBER – DECEMBER'S MEETING  
WILL BE ON THE 16TH –  
A WEEK EARLIER THAN NORMAL  
BECAUSE OF THE CHRISTMAS SEASON**

## DISCOUNT DIRECTORY

The following merchants currently offer a discount to AMC members.

Arizona Hiking Shack - 11645 N. Cave Creek Rd., Phoenix, AZ 85020, 944-7723  
Show your AMC membership card and get a 15% discount.

### AMC RENTAL EQUIPMENT:

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

**EQUIPMENT RENTAL GUIDELINES:** Your name must be on the most current membership list. Deposit required; varies by item; generally \$20-\$50. The two-personal-checks system works best. Advance reservation suggested. If not using the reserved equipment, please call and cancel. Call Linda Locke at 602-997-4235 for shoes. For everything else, call Paul Norberg at 602-808-9244.

## TREASURER'S REPORT

Statement of Operations 01/01/02 Thru 09/12/02 Category Description	Amount
<b>INCOME</b>	
Advertising .....	30.00
Equipment Rental (incl shoes) .....	199.00
Interest.....	16.69
Membership Dues .....	6,337.50
Mountaineering Schools .....	1,000.00
Program Income .....	59.00
Tee Shirts & Etc.....	372.00
Training & Safety .....	8,315.00
<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>19,944.19</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>	
Access Committee .....	500.00
Administration .....	1,429.89
Bouldering Contest.....	300.00
Capital Exp.....	1,187.60
Classification.....	76.50
Equipment Maint .....	99.45
Insurance.....	1,485.42
Library .....	41.90
Merchandise Exp .....	644.40
Mountaineering.....	419.05
Newsletter.....	3,090.38
Outings .....	657.45
Programs .....	2,151.46
Service/Bank Charge .....	35.71
Training & Safety .....	6,765.62
<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b> .....	<b>18,591.62</b>
<b>OVERALL FOR YEAR TO DATE</b> .....	<b>1,352.57</b>
<b>ACCOUNT BALANCES (6/9/02)</b>	
CD Account.....	5,170.53
Savings .....	1,528.25
Checking .....	4,115.25
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b> .....	<b>\$10,813.89</b>

# Mountains of my Dreams Slide Presentation by Ace Kvale

In visits to over 45 countries and 13 Asian expeditions, Ace Kvale has turned a lifestyle into a career. From Ski Mountaineering in Siberia, to a recent attempt on the Ogre in Pakistan, Ace's inspirational images will motivate you to start planning your next adventure.

7:00 p.m.  
December 16, 2002  
Los Olivos Senior Center

*Be sure to preview some of his work at [www.acekvale.com](http://www.acekvale.com)*

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

Financial Planning  
Investment Management  
Financial Services and Tax Planning

Bruce A. McHenry  
Senior Financial Advisor

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

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



## PRESIDENT'S CORNER — December 2002 Volunteerism - It's Pluses and Minuses

The AMC is a Club whose activities and functions are performed by volunteers. They by and large receive no direct compensation and are willing to give of their time.

What I think I am noticing is that more and more folks are finding themselves in life circumstances where Time itself is the most precious commodity they possess. Often finances don't stand in the way of doing things; time, or the lack thereof, does.

Consequently, it is increasingly common for our club members to be more and more selective of their commitments. As would any reasonable person, they do this by prioritizing. We do the things that we feel are most important, beginning with family, work, and the like. Within the option of potential free time, the AMC has to compete with a host of other important items, maybe beginning with one's own climbing activities.

I am a firm believer that in a volunteer organization only those things get done for which you have volunteers to do them. If no one volunteers, some things just don't get done. And for those who have volunteered in some capacity, there are and should be limits to what one is willing to do. When your allotted amount of monthly volunteer AMC time has been used up, go do something else with our blessing and appreciation.

However, with all the foregoing caveats, volunteers make the AMC what it is and we are deeply grateful to those who can step forward and help out. There are numerous rewards with volunteering -- the sense of community, feelings of self-worth, the opportunity to meet other folks with similar interests, and the like.

If there is any way you might be able to help the AMC in some volunteer capacity, please let me know. If something strikes you of interest, then tell me. One way to do this might be to take a look in the bulletin at the various committees. There are currently some vacancies, e.g., T-shirts, telephone message pickup, etc., but you might also express your interest in some existing position and see if you can function as back-up, e.g., Robert England is doing a great job with Newsletter distribution but it would be prudent to have someone(s) else trained who can do that for us.

Remember: if there isn't a body to do it, it won't get done. Amen.

Erik — smorefil@aol.com

## BASICALLY — THEY DONE GOOD

The AMC has released another 40 Basic School graduates into the wild! The fall class had a few new twists to it. This is the first time that I can remember an evening thunderstorm causing a delay in the class. On our Thursday night session at the park, a brief thunderstorm sent us to our cars to practice knots while the storm blew over. There was brief heavy rain, but the concrete pads at the park dried out quickly enough that we were still able to set up the practice ropes for teaching belay and rappel techniques.



*SRO on The Monk Iverson Photo*

We had to meet at a new location for the weekend sessions, but it didn't catch us totally by surprise, thanks to Tom Connor. He noticed that they've fenced off the area at 118<sup>th</sup> street where we used to park and are using it for construction vehicles. Wayne Schroeter scouted a new parking area for us by 136<sup>th</sup> Street and we adapted to that twist without losing anyone. On Sunday, those instructors who didn't go out early to set anchors, picked up 4 huge bags of trash from the parking area to kill time waiting for the students. Good job gang!

Saturday's class saw no rattlesnakes, which is kind of a twist. After all these years, have they decided to move to a new boulder pile? Students all got a good work out practicing techniques on short problems at the Opium Den.

On Sunday, they got to put those techniques to the test on some "real" climbs out on the Cone, Lost Bandana Wall, and Duelling Hammers Wall. Those anchors looked awfully high up in the air compared to Saturday's climbs, but most students were up to the challenge. Leaving the climbing area on Sunday, several students and instructors missed the turn for 118<sup>th</sup> Street off the power line road. They discovered that it goes all the way to Pima if you stay on it long enough! (Continued on p. 7)

## REJOICE! — IT IS TIME FOR THANKSGIVING AT J-TREE

Anyone of sound mind who possesses rock shoes, a couple of days off, a can of beans, and a manner winning enough to mooch a ride — who does not get to J-Tree for AMC's traditional Thanksgiving bash — will have senselessly forfeited one of life's most fulfilling experiences.

The climbing — is J-Tree. You will be clinging to the very same crystals that buoyed the early bouldering masters toward their exalted position in the pantheon of American climbing greats. It is a Mecca that draws acolytes from every planet in the solar system. The main perplexity is ambition-overload as one contemplates the many square miles of described and rated climbing routes. It is one Hell of a Hallowed Ground.

Moreover, the AMC powers-that-be have planned three full days of climbing which varies from sometimes daunting 5.7s to as much route as you care to take on, buddy —uh, sister. Anyone for a 5.12? Right over there, rigged with a top rope by AMC's wonderfully agile and magnanimous climb leaders.

...who have agreed to divide the labor. On Thursday Dave Larimer will officiate; on Friday Jeff Hatfield runs the show; on Saturday Rogil and Tom Lang will share responsibilities. Of course, they will be assisted by other AMC leaders to get a good array of top-ropes set up before the starting gun each day. If you want to try leading, there will be plenty of routes to choose from. Buy a guidebook or rely on the experience of AMC veterans on what to try.

If you want to arrive before Wednesday, you will have to arrange your own camping with the park people. Wednesday there will be a race for the very limited number of parking slots available for Indian Group Sites Nos. 1 and 2 — 28 cars in all. No permit? — you have to walk in. So carpool and get there as early as you can.

It is about five hours from Phoenix via I-10. Drive

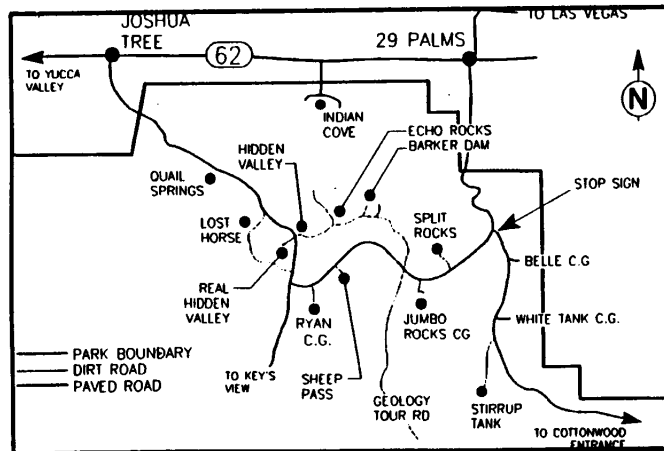
through Desert Center but turn north at the Cottonwood entrance to J-Tree. Another hour, having passed by the White Tank and Belle campgrounds and the main park entrance, go right at the "T" intersection toward 29 Palms. Then go west through 29 Palms on Hwy 62 to the turnoff to Indian Cove which is marked by a brown sign. Check in at the station to see if any parking permits are left.

Weather? Over the years it has ranged from arctic blasts to hydration-sapping heat. Nights probably will be cool. Be ready for anything.

Clay

Vollmer is coordinating the Thursday evening potluck — a task for which he will receive heartfelt thanks after it is over, but which is a distinct pain to put together. Help him out by calling him at 602-595-7255 or zapping him at [vollmer@rice.edu](mailto:vollmer@rice.edu) to find out what is still needed so he doesn't face a crew of fifty

hungry AMC'ers armed only with two Cornish game hens, six packages of hamburger buns, and a can of Ruffles. —Ed.



### UNHEARD OF... Rogil Says Uncle!

I don't have time to do both membership data base & cover Basic school stuff too. I need someone to take over the Basic school part. Once I train you, you will be responsible for training your replacement. It is not a small job, but it is not difficult & you get to talk/email to lots of new people.

The job consists of collecting names & data about anyone who calls/emails you about Basic school. You collect \$s for the class, let people know their status in the class roll and move those from the waiting list to the class roll as drops occur. If you want to, you can take over registration too. You will be working closely with me as I need the info you collect for the club records. It is actually a fun job, but requires some time from you. I'm sure somebody out there must be interested.

Thanks

— Rogil Schroeter



## BASIC CLASS – from p. 5

Another twist to the class, was the location for the self-rescue sessions. Both classes were held at Phoenix Rock Gym. Deif was kind enough to install bolt anchors in the ceiling beams in an undeveloped area of the gym so that we could string up 20+ ropes. Jeff Hatfield got to learn how to drive a scissors-lift to put the ropes up and take them down. I'm sure that was a new experience for Jeff! Although there was not as much room as there was at our previous location, it still worked out quite well. With all the regular gym climbers out in the gym, it was a little difficult for the students to hear the instructors talk as they demonstrated self rescue techniques. We got out the AMC amplifier (my loud voice) and took care of that problem! How'd I get such a loud voice?! For some students and instructors, PRG is a lot closer to home, and we appreciated the new location.

As grad climb leaders readied themselves for grad climbs on Saturday, the weather was a big concern. With thunderstorms predicted, leaders had "plan B" in mind, and were prepared to bail on their climbs if weather dictated it. For the first time in years, we had grad climbs to Tom's Thumb, and Hanging Gardens and Renaissance Direct on Gardener's Wall. The weather was completely cooperative for the groups on the Hand, the Crying Dinosaur, the Monk, and the Hart Route. All students on Tom's Thumb saw the top, but one instructor got skunked. The two groups on Gardener's Wall had to bail before all students got to the top, but I think they all got at least one pitch in. Top rope outings to Sven Slab and Bobcat Boulder / Loaf had to pack it in a little early, but at least everyone got to climb. Students on Jacuzzi Spire weren't so lucky, I'm not sure they got to climb at all before thunderstorms forced them to evacuate.

Saturday night, Marilyn Geninnati opened her home up for the graduation party. We had a good crowd, lots of food, fun, and climbing stories! Thanks Marilyn, we really appreciate having such a cool place to get together.

Thanks to all the students for being so attentive during class. I hope to see all of you out on some club outings. Remember, you're welcome to come back to the spring class to help teach the next round of students. Thanks to all the instructors who helped with the classes. It's really amazing to have so many people working so hard, for so little money! I'm going to recommend that the board give all of you a 15% increase. Let's see... 15% of zero is zero – maybe I'll recommend 20%!

Extra thanks to all the grad climb leaders for making a memorable grad day for their students: Jeff Hatfield (Hanging Gardens), Tom Conner (Renaissance Direct), Jef Sloat (Tom's Thumb), Rick Taylor (Sven

Slab), Wayne Schroeter (Bobcat Boulder/Loaf), Tim Ward (the Monk), Rogil Schroeter (the Hart Route), Scott Hoffman (Jacuzzi Spire), Paul Norberg (the Crying Dinosaur), and David Larimer (the Hand.) You're the best!

—Sally B. Larimer

### STUDENTS

Kevin Abney	Carly Antus	Paul Norberg
Monica Anderson	Michael Baker	Fred Padgett
Chris Arneson	Nancy Birdwell	Scott Parsons
Randy Arneson	Michael Boylan	Chris Query
Ernie Babich	Debby Brown	Bruce Robbins
David Bay	Tom Conner	Daniel Romero
George Berger	Mark Donahue	Lance Roth
Amy Champlin	Bill Fallon	Mary Sauve
Catherine Conner	Erik Filsinger	Glen Schroering
Valerie Courtright	Marilyn Geninatti	Rogil Schroeter
Steve Dilley	Philip Goebel	Wayne Schroeter
Dylan Downhill	Daniel Gonzales	Kathy Sharp
Kris Edinger	Kathleen Granger	Jef Sloat
Scott Frankel	Marilynn Grieser	Erich Sweet
Melissa Funk	Jan Harding	Rick Taylor
Christina Guthrie	Jeff Harvey	Richard Theobald
Jeff Hewitt	Karol Harvey	Charlene Todd
Eve Hoffman	Jeff Hatfield	Jutta Ulrich
Nick Hoffman	Susan Hatfield	Clay Vollmer
Jennifer Iben	Scott Hoffman	Tim Ward
Collin James	Jim Holloway	Al Weikel
Chris Kline	James Iverson	Erik Westgaard
Jim Kline	Ron Jachimowicz	Tanja Woyke
Sophie LeDoux	Keith Jendricks	
Jason Lilly	David Johnson	
Mara Linder	Perry Kearney	
Braden Niemczyk	John Keedy	
Peter Niemczyk	Mike Knarzer	
Debra Nobles	Rich Kocher	
Kareen O'Brien	Vicki Kooney	
Sonia Overholser	John Kynyk	
Doug Popadince	Tim Lange	
Mike Simonson	David Larimer	
Karen Stafford	Sally Larimer	
Ben Strogon	Dave Lemons	
Kevin Strogon	Linda Locke	
Jennifer Trask	Bruce McHenry	
Brian Waichunas	Maryann	
Kris Weissenback	McKessy	
Paul Wren	Monica Miller	
	Terry Nelson	

### INSTRUCTORS:

*The Arizona Mountaineer – 7*

--Rogil Schroeter



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

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

## **Three great reasons to shop at the Arizona Hiking Shack for all your climbing gear**

1. The Arizona Hiking Shack has **IN STOCK** the largest selection of climbing gear in the Valley. Petzl, Metolius, Black Diamond, Misty Mountain, Omega, DMM, 5-10, Scarpa, La Sportiva, Yates, PMI, Sterling, 2-Cam, Climb Tech, Kong, Trango, Camp, Mammut, Boreal, Pica Mountaineering, and Trango are just a few of the brands we carry. If we don't have what you need in stock. . . we'll order it for you. . . with **FREE** shipping!

2. The **staff** at the Arizona Hiking Shack **are climbers** too. You get knowledgeable, friendly advice on gear, places to climb, and the absolute best fit on harnesses, shoes and helmets. The Arizona Hiking Shack is locally owned and has been selling gear to valley climbers since 1972. We take pride in helping to select the right hardware for your climbing adventures. (Besides most of us are AMC members also!)

At the Arizona Hiking Shack, **AMC Members get a 15% discount** on everything they buy, everyday of the week, every week of the year. Why? Two Reasons. First, we respect the job the AMC does. The AMC not only teaches people how to climb safely, they also teach an ethic of responsibility to the outdoors that is essential to keeping our climbing areas open. Second, you learn to climb in the valley. . . well, like it or not. . . we consider you one of **OUR** homeboys or girls and simply said, we want your business! Ultimately, we know you have many choices when it comes to purchasing your equipment and by having a great selection of gear, a knowledgeable staff, and totally killer deals, we hope you'll come shop with us.

## Fun Climb at the Praying Monk

Many thanks to Jef Sloat for volunteering to lead a group of mostly beginning climbers on an exciting climb of the Monk on Saturday, November 9th. Immediately after the basic school graduation climb, Jef foresaw that some students were eager to try another climb and so he offered to take them on a climb.

We met early that Saturday morning and then carpooled to the Echo Canyon trailhead at Camelback mountain. After a short hike up the well-groomed trail, our group collected at the base of the headwall. Rich Kocher led the bolted-pitch and setup a belay station while Jef setup a belay station at the top of the fourth class gully. Soon were all above the headwall pitch, gathered at the base of the Monk and admired the single-pitch (5.7 to 5.3) route we were about to climb.

Jef promptly led the climb and easily scampered to the top. Mike seconded the route and was soon at the top getting into the belay station while Jef managed the overall climbing process and sequence of events. Rich did an excellent and methodical job of getting each person ready for their climb. In addition to your usual camping gear, you might include a folding chair or two, lantern and stove, a bundle of fir

All in all, this was a huge job as there were twelve climbers in our group. When we were all finally at the top, we literally had to lay down in parallel on the rock in order to squeeze everyone into our group photo at the summit. And of course we all had a blast on the free-hanging rappel off the “head” of The Monk.

Again, my hat’s off in appreciation to Jef for all of his preparations, logistics and hard work on making this a truly memorable climb for us. Here’s the list of our merry climbers

Kevin Abney	Rich Kocher
Carly Antus	Mike Knarzer
David Bay	Dave Lemons
Valerie Courtright	Doug Popadince
Tina Guthrie	Jef Sloat
James Iverson	Craig Woodman

— James Iverson

### DUES BE DUE — SOON ANYHOW

Beat the pileup of would-be voters at the January meeting. Pay your dues early with a check made out to the Arizona Mountaineering Club (\$25 for a single membership and \$30 for a family). Send it to AMC Membership, 6519 W. Aire Libre, Glendale, AZ 85306

## Hanging Gardens Grad Climb

Over 20 recent Basic School students and instructors enjoyed a return to the old days as we held grad climbs at Gardeners Wall on *Hanging Gardens* and *Renaissance Direct*, and at Tom’s Thumb on *Treiber’s Deception*.

Those of us who headed out to climb *Hanging Gardens* got an early start, in part to cut down on the number of vehicles that would be arriving at the parking area at the same time. We should have waited another hour, as we ended up sitting in a cave at the base of the wall to wait out a passing rain shower. Once it passed, and the rock dried out a little, we got down to business.

Hanging Gardens is an all-time Phoenix-area classic. It follows a zigzagging crack up the wall for 2 pitches, and ends on top of the wall with incredible views on both sides of the McDowells. For new Basic Schools grads, it’s a great introduction to multi-pitch climbing, with enough variety to keep it interesting: Hand jams, face moves, some exposure, and 2 rappels to get back down to the ground.

The weather cooperated for awhile, but threw a wrench into the climb by producing thunder and lightning before we were finished. With a new sense of urgency, we decided that we needed to start rapping people down and get off the wall. I have always been nervous being outside when there’s lightning, and I was antsy waiting for everyone to move through the 2 long rappels. But everyone did fine, and we made it safely down and back to the cars without incident. We arrived to the cars as the worst of the rain hit, and felt lucky we weren’t the poor souls still hiking down from Tom’s Thumb.

Congratulations to Sonia Overholser and Kristen Weisenback on their successful climb. Thanks to Bruce McHenry, “Humming” Tim Lange and Scott Parsons for their help; grad climbs are much easier and more enjoyable with competent assistants along. And a special thanks goes to Tim for leading the second pitch, setting a bomber anchor, and getting people off the wall quickly when the storm moved in.

—Jeff Hatfield

## Basic School Grad Climb on The Hand

---

Outing leaders Dave and Sally Larimer, with assistants Nancy Birdwell and James Iverson, led basic school students Peter Niemceyk, Braden Niemceyk and Val Courtwright on an exciting grad climb at “The Hand” on Saturday, October 26th. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed this classic multi-pitch climb located in the Superstitions. This climb consists of three pitches of fantastic 5.6 climbing, intense exposure, beautiful scenery, and to top it off, an incredible free-hanging rappel.

That Saturday morning began for me with a quick check of the weather radar. Thundershower bands were making their way from southern California into Arizona. Loaded two 60-meter climbing ropes, large backpack, small backpack, Camelback, two Nalgene water bottles, harness and other gear into the truck and headed over to Dave and Sally Larimer’s house about 25 minutes away. Arrived their house about 6 am. The sun was up by then and we could see the weather starting to move in.

Dave drove us to the trailhead (at the Lost Dutchman State Park) where we met up with another assistant instructor (Nancy Birdwell) and two other students (Peter Niemceyk, Braden Niemceyk: father, son). I prayed that we would all be safe and that the weather would hold long enough for us. Indeed, we were truly fortunate weather-wise. As we hiked into the Superstitions, we could see that scattered rain showers were gradually moving into the greater Phoenix area.

As we arrived at the base of the climb, it began to lightly sprinkle so we donned rain jackets and covered the gear. Then the rain stopped and a beautiful full rainbow appeared to the west. If we had received any more rain, the climb would have been abandoned. At some point, when rock receives enough rain, it stays wet and becomes too dangerous to climb. Dave led the climb and Sally (the lead instructor for the basic school) followed. Dave setup a belay station at the very top (third-pitch), Sally was at the top of the second-pitch and Nancy was at the top of the first-pitch. Then we sent up Braden, Val and Peter. I was the last person to get off the base of the climb.

First-pitch was mostly a rock gully upwards leading to a small jump across the gully to the first belay station. From this point on, there were shear vertical drop-offs on both sides of the climb. Pitch number two became a lot more vertical and ended at a place called “chicken-ridge”. The belay station at the top of pitch number two required you to step over or around the belayer at an



*Photo by James Iverson — atop The Hand*

area that was about 1.5 to 2 feet wide with vertical drop off on both sides. At that point, “wow” was an under-statement. Pitch number three became somewhat more vertical, challenging, and razor-like (hence the name “Razor’s Edge”), ending at top of the entire rock monolith. The entire climbing route does resemble a vertical thin “hand” (dramatically rising from the desert) with the second-pitch ending at the thumb and the final third-pitch on top of the hand.

Nancy belayed me to Station #1 and then Sally belayed me up to Station #2. Peter belayed me up to Station #3. At the top I belayed up Nancy and kept the rope very tight for her (to provide additional comforting reassurance that a solid, attentive belay is being provided). Finally, we all gathered at the top of the climb and safely anchored-in.

It is one thing to climb up and a completely different task to rappel down. During the climb up, you are relying upon the belayer to catch you if/when you fall. When rappelling down, you are relying upon yourself to catch your fall. However, just for this basic school, we backed up the student rappellers with a back-up brake from the bottom (essentially, if your pull on the rope from the bottom, you can stop someone on rappel). To get into position for the rappel of “The Hand”, you had to position your anchor near the edge and climb out and then over the edge and inch down so that you were hanging onto the top with one hand, while standing on a foothold on the vertical face. With the other hand you had to haul up the rope and one-handed feed the ropes through the belay device and through the carabiner. Then you tested, weighted and then braked the rappel device before unclipping your personal anchors. High winds began to tug on the rope causing addition strain when we were trying to feed the rope into the rappel device.

—(Continued on page 11)

## The Hand continued from page 10

Now, the belayer at the bottom of the climb kept a grip on the rope to keep it from sailing away with the high winds.

Dave and I were going to be the last two to rappel down. By then, we could see that a thunderstorm was fast approaching and that there was no time to lose. I wasn't sure about helping to tear down the anchor system since Dave had set all of it up. I elected to get help Braden get into position for his rappel down. While I helped Braden to safely rappel down, Dave tore down the complex personal anchor system. I rappelled and then Dave. We both rappled down as fast as we could as thunder got closer and closer. Once we were all at the bottom, high winds made it difficult to remove/pull the rope out of the rappel rings.

At the bottom we wasted no time in quickly gathering our gear. We could see heavy rain showers beginning to move into the area and lightning was striking mountains to the west. At that point, Dave was not worried about getting wet, or about the rain, but that lightning often precedes rain and is deadly. There are permanent bolts and chains at the top of "The Hand" that could be lightning rods. Heavy rains and some hail began to move into the Phoenix area. Just as soon as we got into the car, heavy rains pelted the car. As we drove away, we could see that a large, dark and heavy cloud enveloped the Superstitions (where we had been).

Many thanks to Dave, Sally and Nancy for leading us on this fun and inspiring climb.

— James Iverson —



Ok, now who has the reepschmur? Alpine class photo by James Iverson.

## Dancing Up Walls — Scree — by Wally

*Climbing Free* by Lynn Hill can be enjoyed (and be useful) in many different ways. Objectively, it is the readable biography of an American world-class competitive sport climber. (Greg Child assisted in the writing. He is listed as "with" on the title page.)

In a disarmingly straightforward way, Lynn relates how she came to climbing, the people she met and the major phases of her life - each neatly packaged into a separate chapter.

On another level her biography can be a textbook for those new to climbing. It provides a concise orientation to the sport's philosophy, recent history and practice. It tells how she trained and developed as a climber. Her girl-gymnast build (100 pounds, 5-2), fearlessness and well-developed strength seem made for sport climbing -- once she learned to ignore the holds taller climbers used and to figure out her own moves.

Gymnastics taught her to "chunk" difficult maneuvers into a linked series of component body moves. This analytical ability proved key to working through 5.13 and 5.14 routes later on. Her ability to focus totally on the problem at hand was also critical, especially when climbing with the then-semi-suicidal Yabo on J-Tree and Yosemite's most unprotectable and run-out climbs.

The book is full of anecdotes of early Yosemite climbing and the people who did it. It also provides a window into the many controversies that have roiled the climbing world there and elsewhere. She was married to John Long for a time; later to Russ Raffa.

Her work in made-for-TV films and growing renown caught the right eyes for her to be invited to compete in a European climbing contest. Without apparent bitterness, she confirms suspicions you may have about the ethics of the French when interpreting the rules of a contest in which their national star is "competing". To be fair - the Italians did it too. Even so, she won 26 of 38 European contests and continually nipped at the heels of the most elite male contest winners, to their intense annoyance. Finally, in 1992 she relinquished her title (she lost) to Robin Erbsefield, with whom she had shared her house in France for several years.

Returning to the US, she made an epic *free* climb of the El Cap Nose - the first person of any gender to accomplish it. Later on she freed it in one day. Although Lynn has done a good number of Alpine-style climbs on bigger mountains and grew to appreciate the appeal of their beauty and purity, the inescapable objective dangers of rocks that won't stay put, avalanche, rock-fall projectiles, lightning, and bad weather -- and the pain of losing good friends on high mountains - made her turn from mountaineering in favor of the ultra-demanding steeps where the dangers one confronts are all challenges of her own choosing. — WEV

## PROPOSED 2003 AMC BUDGET

### PROJECTED INCOME

Advertising \$100.00  
 Dues 2003 \$7,000.00  
 -----  
 Interest \$75.00  
 Library Fines \$20.00  
 Merchandise  
 Decals \$100.00  
 T-Shirts (AMC) \$500.00  
 T-Shirts Grand Can \$300.00  
 -----  
 TOTAL Merchandise \$900.00  
 Mountaineering Schools \$1,000.00  
 Program Income \$100.00  
 Rental Income  
 Rental Equipment \$300.00  
 T&S Schools Rental Income \$300.00  
 -----  
 TOTAL Rental Income \$600.00  
 Training Income  
 AARS  
 Fall \$1,875.00  
 Spring \$1,875.00  
 -----  
 TOTAL AARS \$3,750.00  
 Basic School  
 Fall \$6,720.00  
 Spring \$6,720.00  
 -----  
 TOTAL Basic School \$13,440.00  
 Lead School  
 Fall \$1,200.00  
 Spring \$1,200.00  
 -----  
 TOTAL Lead School \$2,400.00  
 Navigation Class \$400.00  
 -----  
 TOTAL Training Income \$19,990.00  
 FROM Checking \$4,605.00  
 Total Income: \$34,390.00

### PROJECTED EXPENSES

Access Committe  
 Access Fund -\$500.00  
 Additional Access Issues -\$700.00  
 McDowell Sonoran Land Trust -\$200.00  
 -----  
 TOTAL Access Committe -\$1,400.00  
 Admin  
 Food -\$500.00  
 Other -\$500.00  
 Postage -\$500.00  
 Printing -\$700.00  
 Promotion -\$300.00

12— The Arizona Mountaineer

Telephone -\$540.00  
 Website -\$550.00  
 -----  
 TOTAL Admin -\$3,590.00  
 Boulderling Con. -\$250.00  
 Capital Expenditures  
 Mountaineering -\$800.00  
 Outings -\$500.00  
 Rental Equipment -\$500.00  
 T&S Capital Equipment -\$500.00  
 -----  
 TOTAL Capital Expenditures -\$2,300.00  
 Classification  
 Certifications -\$1,250.00  
 First Aid Renewal -\$500.00  
 -----  
 TOTAL Classification -\$1,750.00  
 Equipment Maintenance  
 AMC Gear -\$100.00  
 Rental Gear -\$250.00  
 -----  
 TOTAL Equipment Maintenance -\$350.00  
 Insurance -\$4,000.00  
 Library -\$200.00  
 Merchandise Expenses  
 T-Shirts AMC -\$700.00  
 T-Shirts Grand Canyon -\$300.00  
 -----  
 TOTAL Merchandise Expenses -\$1,000.00  
 Mountaineering -\$200.00  
 Newsletter  
 Postage -\$2,200.00  
 Printing -\$2,600.00  
 -----  
 TOTAL Newsletter -\$4,800.00  
 Outings -\$500.00  
 Programs  
 Monthly Meeting -\$4,500.00  
 -----  
 TOTAL Programs -\$4,500.00  
 Service Charge -\$100.00  
 Training  
 Equipment -\$6,300.00  
 Facilities -\$600.00  
 Food -\$500.00  
 Postage -\$300.00  
 Printing -\$1,100.00  
 T-Shirts & Incentives -\$650.00  
 -----  
 TOTAL Training -\$9,450.00  
 Total Expenses \$34,390.00  
 -----  
 OVERALL TOTAL \$0.00

## **AMC OUTING CALENDAR** *(Continued from page 14)*

---

responsible for your own safety, not the person leading the outing. You should always be aware of the risks involved in outdoor activities and conduct yourself accordingly.

Wednesdays North Mountain Hikes Eves . Rogil Schroeter, (623) 878-3914 rogil.schroeter@honeywell.com

### **Commercially Provided Training and Events**

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

**Jan. 18-20 AMGA Top Rope Site Managers Course and Certification Exam.:** \$550. This course is part of the effort by the American Mountain Guides Association to help train individuals to be competent in the most common classroom and outing setting - a top rope situation. It is the first in the AMGA progressive series of certifications. Held in Arizona. Also Feb 15-17.

**Jan. 18-20, — Beginning Ice Climbing** and optional Avalanche Awareness: \$200 (\$60 for avalanche awareness alone) This course gives the basic orientation to ice climbing using crampons and ice tools. Students climb on lower angle ice the first day and then progress as skills permit to near vertical ice on day 2. The third day consists of a day in the field learning basic avalanche awareness issues. Held in Durango, Colorado. Also Feb. 15-17, '03

**Dec. 29-29— Multi-pitch ice climbing :** \$260 for 2 days or \$210 for second day alone. The first day consists of skills refresher and the second is following a guided ascent of a multi-pitch ice classic. Held in Durango, Colorado. December 28 - 29 March 29 - 30

**Dec.30-31 — Lead climbing skills :** \$235 for the two days. The first day consists of learning the techniques of leading ice. The second day consists of putting those skills into place under the supervision of an instructor. Held in Durango, Colorado. December 30 - 31.

**Jan. 11 (evening) , 12, 13 — Level 1 Avalanche Certification Course:** \$200 for the course. This course is equivalent to other Level 1 Avalanche Certification courses offered around the country. Held in Durango, Co..

**Weekends starting Nov 22 — 3-Day Winter Mountaineering Course:** \$355 per person (minimum of 2 or more people). 1 day avalanche awareness, 1 day Snow skills, Engineer Ascent. These are full days and do not account for travel days to and from home. Held in Durango, Colorado. Also a 5-day Winter Mountaineering Course with

### **AMC Electronic Newsletter**

Every month, AMC members with email addresses receive a link to the electronic version of the club's newsletter. This link is usually sent out on the day of the monthly member meeting. If you haven't been receiving it, there are a couple of possible reasons and easy remedies:

The club does not have a current email address on file for you: Contact Rogil with the correct address. Her email address is rogil.schroeter@honeywell.com.

If you have a web-based email service like Hotmail or Yahoo, you may have exceeded your mailbox storage allocation: Delete some messages to free up space.

Your email program may have a filter that blocks bulk email: Configure your filter to accept messages from azmountaineering@mindspring.com.

One of the purposes of sending the newsletter electronically is to reduce the number of newsletters sent by mail, which saves the club money on postage. If you are happy receiving the electronic version of the newsletter, and you'd like to stop getting a printed copy mailed to you, please contact Rogil.

— *Jeff Hatfield*



## 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 .

Nov 23 Teddy Bear Wall. Fun 5.7-11 sport climbs right inside South Mountain Park. No Limit.. The ramada will be reserved if you want to bring meat and charcoal to cook. Chris Query <cquery@hotmail.com

Nov 27-Dec 1 \* J-Tree Thanksgiving. Day Leaders: Thursday, Dave Larimer; Friday, Jeff Hatfield - Play house Rock; Saturday. Rogil Schroeter & Tim Lange

Dec 5 Alpine Seminar — Mark Hubble on avalanches

Dec 8 Tom's Thumb in the McDowells. Jef Sloat, 602-316-1899.

Dec 20 AMC Christmas Party. Sally and Dave Larimer. Potluck - bring your favorite holiday dish. Great food and fun. "Secret Santa" is always a hoot - so bring a gift (\$15 or less) to exchange. 5617 W. Windsor Ave., 480-425-9689.

Dec 28 - Jan 4 Colorado, Ouray Ice Park. Awesome Ice Climbing! Richard Horst 602-953-9198.

Jan 11, 2003. Crown King - Fabulous granite in the Bradshaw's. Limit 12. Awesome Sport Climbs, in the 5.9 range. Scott Hoffman

Jan 11, 2003 Little Granite Mountain, probably Bobcat Boulder/The Loaf. Limit 15, need/want anchor setters, no dogs (seeing eye excepted). Tim Ward upsix@hotmail.com

\*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 (Continued on page 13)

---

### **AMC OUTING LEADERS**

Requirements for becoming a leader: take the basic, AARS and Lead classes (or equivalents), be a member for at least one year, complete a basic first aid and CPR class (8 hours or more), and be approved for leadership by

Sally Borg Larimer...480-425-9689	Paul Norberg.....602-808-9244	Mick Strole.....602-788-4031
Tom Conner.....480-897-7623	Paul Paonesa.....602-493-7356	Rick Taylor.....623-487-8507
Eric Filsinger.....602-906-1186	Chris Query.....480-967-9268	Tim Ward.....602-212-1929
Jeff Hatfield.....480-783-8779	Tim Schneider.....480-497-8377	Frank Vers.....480-947-9435
Scott Hoffman.....623-580-8909	Rogil Schroeter.....623-878-3914	
Richard Horst.....602-953-9198	Wayne Schroeter.....602-402-1631	
David Larimer.....480-425-9689	Jef Sloat.....602-316-1899	
Tim Medlock.....719-494-1171	Bill Stinson.....602-547-2560	

# December 2002

## AMC Outing Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 J-Tree Climbing	2	3 CAMRA	4 Sunrise 7:17 Sunset 5:20 New (no) moon	5 Alpine Seminar at REI	6	7
8 Tom's Thumb	9	10	11 Sunrise 7:23 Sunset 5:21 Moonrise 1:06 p .m.	12	13	14
15	16	17	18 Sunrise 7:27 Sunset 5:23 Moonrise 4:37 p.m.	19 Full Moon	20 AMC Christ- mas Party at the	21
22	23	24	25 Sunrise 7:31 Sunset 5:27 Moonrise 11.41 p.m.	26 Last Quarter	27	28 Ouray Ice Climbing
29 Ouray Ice Climbing	30 Ouray Ice Climbing	31 Ouray Ice Climbing	Ouray Ice Climbing	Ouray Ice Climbing	Ouray Ice Climbing	Ouray Ice Climbing