

MARCH 2004

ARIZONA MOUNTAINEER

*Dave Larimer
considers his
options on the
seldom-
climbed
Grandfather
Hobgoblin in
the Supes.
An antique
bolt and
hanger added
spice to the
descent.
Photo by Jeff
Hatfield*



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

**July, Aug, Sep 04
on 3rd Monday at
Pyle Cntr, Tempe**

(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 \$13 or \$15. 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 Rogil at:

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

To change your mail or email address call Rogil 623-512-8465 or email rogil.schroeter@honeywell.com

Schools: The AMC conducts several rock climbing, mountaineering and other outdoor skills schools each year. Browse the AMC website or email *basic.school* or *anchors.school* or *lead.school* or *alpine.school* @azmountaineeringclub.org for information on schedules and classes.

For More Information:

Call (623) 878-2485
Email president@azmountaineeringclub.org
board@azmountaineeringclub.org
Website www.azmountaineeringclub.org
Mail Arizona Mountaineering Club
4340 E. Indian School Rd., Ste 21-164
Phoenix, AZ 85018

(03/04)

Board of Directors:

President.....Bruce McHenry.....602-952-1379
Vice-President.....Jutta Ulrich.....602-234-3579
Secretary.....John Keedy.....623-412-1452
Treasurer.....Tim Ward.....602-212-1929
Director 2-year.....Scott Hoffman.....623-580-8909
Director 2-year.....Wayne Schroeter...602-402-1631
Director 1-year.....Rich Kocher.....480-966-5568
Director 1-year.....Lynn Readicker....480-970-1991
Director 1-year.....Erik Filsinger.....480-314-1089

Committees:

Archivist.....Jef Sloat.....602-316-1899
Classification.....David Larimer.....480-425-9689
Elections.....Dave Van Hook.....602-790-6283
Equipment Rental.....Gary Gerden.....602-402-3271
Email.....Jeff Hatfield.....480-783-8779
Land Advocacy.....Erik Filsinger.....480-314-1089
Librarian.....Richard Kocher....480-966-5568
Membership.....Rogil Schroeter....623-512-8465
Mountaineering.....Erik Filsinger.....480-314-1089
Newsletter.....Wally Vegors.....602-246-9341
Outings.....Monica Miller.....623-362-0456
Programs.....Sheri Kenly.....602-242-0504
Training & Schools....Wayne Schroeter...602-402-1631
 Basic Class.....Sally Larimer.....480-425-9689
 Anchors Class.....Tom Conner.....480-897-7623
 Lead Class.....Mick Strole.....520-586-3335
T-shirts.....Sally Larimer.....480-425-9689
WebSite.....Kirra
.....webadmin@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 Fund representative Jutta Ulrich at (602) 234-3579.

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 at www.accessfund.org/join.html

This Month in the AMC

- 2..... Who does what, addresses and numbers
 - 3..... Index, Birthdays this month.
 - 4..... Board Meeting Minutes
 - 5..... Discount Directory; Treasurer's Report; Rentals
 - 6..... Winter Fun Pix
 - 7..... Members Page: Meeting place, night change
 - 8..... Grandfather Hobgoblin
 - 9..... AZ on the Rocks opens
 - 10.... Manners — Make Nice ... Or Regret It
 - 11.... Az on the Rocks Ad
 - 12.... Adventure Race
 - 13.... Avoid Rope Snags:
 - 14.... Hiking Shack Ad
 - 15.... Anchors Schgool Flier
 - 16.... Lead School Flier
 - 17-19 New Members; Outing Schedules
-

Newsletter

The *Arizona Mountaineer* is published monthly by the AMC. Members are encouraged to submit articles and photos about their climbing- or mountaineering-related activities (subject to approval) to AMC Editor, 6151 N. 8th Ave., Phoenix, AZ 85013 or email to azmountaineer@azmountaineeringclub.org. Prints are preferred over slides. Digital photos should preferably be in JPG format and at least 300 dpi. Articles can be in any standard word processing format. For info call the editor at (602) 246-9341.

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

April Deadline: 12 Mar 2004

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Bruce McIntyre 1, Joseph Kidd 2, Kay Alderton 3, Alison Busche 4, Richard Horst 6, Lisa McLin 8, Tui Conner 9, Wayne Schroeter 9, Leopoldo Cardenas 10, Addison Demlong 10, Joe Guzman 10, Jennifer Trask 10, Ronald Auerbach 11, Catherine Conner 11, Graham Ginn 11, Dave Serena 11, Kenneth Hopkins 12, Paul Winch 12, Kurt Korpong 13, Kathleen Shepler 13, Forest Brown 14, Bill Brovles 16, John Perlman 16, Mary Linda Cragar 17, Nick Hoffman 20, Alexander Hardt 21, Teresa Laszlo 21, Nina McClure 22, Randall McNerlin 23, Jason Sartor 23, Larry Tracy 25, Collin James 26, Kevin Miller 26, Eve Hoffman 27, John Kynyk 27, Anne Stringfellow 27, Jennifer Carpenter 28, Bill Kurek 28, Brian Studer 29, John Sagasta 30, Peter Yanover 31

HOT STUFF!!!

BE BENEFICENT

(As well as cool, civic minded, a GOOD person, and one who doesn't mind brushing up on knowledge and techniques free for nothing)

Join the other Volunteers to help teach Basic, Lead and Anchors Schools — all are coming up.

Library

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

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

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

Minutes of the AMC Board Meeting: 9 FEBRUARY, 2004

Board Members Present – Erik Filsinger, John Keedy, Rich Kocher, Bruce McHenry, Lynn Readicker, Wayne Schroeter, Jutta Ulrich, Tim Ward
Committee Chairs Present – Wally Vegors
Members Present – Gary Gerden

A quorum being present, meeting was called to order at 7 PM.

Minutes of January 12 Board Meeting approved as published.

Treasurer's Report – Discussion concerning 2004 Income/Expense Statement that has a \$400.00 variance. Tim and Bruce will research to identify discrepancy and correct. For 2003 an actual entry will be made to show the \$2230.77 in the spreadsheet that was moved from surplus to income to cover budget overrun. Motion made, seconded and carried to approve Treasurer's report as amended.
Present AMC Membership is 476.

Old Business:

- A. Newsletter – Wally needs more articles.
- B. Outing Leader recognition – as approved in January Board Meeting, gift certificates have been purchased and will be mailed this week.
- C. As approved in January Board Meeting, AMC will sponsor the Phoenix Boulder Blast as Silver Sponsor. \$300.00 check needs sent.
- D. Anniversary Celebration – as discussed, a large gathering of climbers will assemble on Pinnacle Peak and an aerial photograph will be taken. We will need approval from City of Scottsdale for this large gathering.
- E. Queen Creek – Magna Copper Company will be doing much more mining west of the road in the future. Erik discussed the situation and his committee will monitor.
- F. McDowell Mountain Preserve – Hidden Hills access point has been opened. 1218th Street access point is pending. Other access points will follow in the future.
- G. Budget Proposal for City of Scottsdale – Erik discussed proposed tax that Scottsdale may levy to pay for purchase of McDowell Mountain lands. Motion made, seconded to appoint Erik, Jutta and Bruce to work with City personnel to draft a statement in favor of the tax increase to be placed in the record. A fee of \$100.00 is assessed for this. Motion carried.

VI. New Business:

- A. Elections – Term of Office for Directors. Based on number of votes received, Wayne Schroeter and Scott Hoffman will serve a two-year term. Lynn Readicker and Erik Filsinger will serve one-year terms. Motion made, seconded and carried to approve those terms of office
- B. Motion made, seconded and carried to certify the election of officers for 2004.
- C. Rental Equipment – Gary Gerden volunteered to be Rental Equipment Chair. Motion made, seconded and carried to appoint Gary Rental Equipment Chair.
- D. Meeting Location – Los Olivos will be closed June, July and August. Motion made, seconded and carried to hold General Member Meetings at the Pyle Center in Tempe. Announcements will appear in the Newsletter.
- E. Flowers for members who have death in family. There have been four such situations recently. General feeling of the board is that this should continue but a budget item should be added to cover this expense. Bruce will put announcement in Newsletter concerning this subject.
- F. Goals for 2004 – Discussion held on goals that should be addressed.
 1. Documents on Web Site – hyperlink will be re-established to distribute documents to Board members prior to being put on web site.
 2. Job Descriptions for all Club positions. Bruce will have Presidents description for next meeting.
 3. Develop Survey to distribute to members and former members addressing needs and desires for Club.
 4. Formalize Volunteer recognition process.
 5. Develop Outing Leader career progression
 6. Print and distribute new AMC brochure.
 7. Update Waivers.

Board Meeting Adjourned at 8:20 PM

Discount Directory

The following merchants currently offer a discount to AMC members:

Arizona Hiking Shack—11645 N. Cave Creek Rd., Phoenix, AZ 85020, (602) 944-7723. Show your AMC membership card and get a 15% discount.

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

Az on the Rocks — 16447 N. 91st Street, Scottsdale, Ax., 85260. 25% off full year membership—exp. 29Feb04 480-502-9777

Rental Equipment

EQUIPMENT.....	Qty	\$Dep	1-3day	4-7day
4-season 2-3 man.....	1	58	18	29
4-season 1 man bivy.....	1	45	14	23
Sherpa Snowshoes.....	5	50	15	25
MSR Alpine snowshoes.....	3	32	10	16
Ski poles (var. sizes).....	3	12	4	6
Hiking Poles.....	3	22	7	11
Ice Crampons.....	5	26	8	13
Ice axes (70 cm).....	4	16	5	8
Ice axes (90 cm).....	5	14	5	7
Snow shovel.....	1	8	3	4
Snow pickets.....	3	4	1	2
MSR Multifuel Stove.....	1	17	5	9
Haul bag.....	1	25	8	13
PortaLedge.....	1	100	30	50
Climbing shoes... ..	Various sizes .. Call			

Equipment Rental Guideline: 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. Temporarily, call Erik Filsinger for alpine gear at 602-906-1186. Call Gary Gerden for other climbing and camping gear at 602-402-3271 <garygerden11@netzero.com>

Treasurer's Report

Statement of Operations
01Jan 03 Thru 31 Dec 03
Category Description

Amount

Category Description	Amount
INCOME	
Advertising.....	465.00
Dues.....	5,960.50
Interest.....	34.75
Library fines.....	0.00
Merchandise (Tee Shirts & Etc).....	1,908.00
Mountaineering Schools.....	400.00
Program Income.....	10.00
Rental Income (incl shoes).....	367.00
Training.....	16,617.50
TOTAL INCOME	25,617.50

EXPENSES	
Access Fund.....	500.00
Access Comm.....	137.41
McDowell Sonoran Land Trust.....	200.00
Administration.....	1,933.36
Bouldering Contest.....	300.00
Capital Exp (mntng).....	629.81
Classification.....	787.50
Equipment Maint rental gear.....	160.00
Insurance.....	2,935.70
Library.....	58.90
Merchandise Exp.....	2,311.35
Mountaineering.....	216.33
Newsletter.....	3,693.42
Outings.....	80.78
Programs.....	3,820.09
Service/Bank Charge.....	102.42
Training.....	7,259.846
TOTAL EXPENSES	25,580.77

OVERALL FOR YEAR TO DATE 181.98

ACCOUNT BALANCES (11 Jan 04))

CD Account.....	5,235.71
Savings.....	1,668.32
Checking.....	11,003.43.
TOTAL CASH ASSETS	19,463.77.
OTHER ASSETS (Club gear mainly)	7,031.00
OVERALL TOTAL	24,938.46



Winter Fun

Above — What better way for AMC'ers to spend the day after Valentine's day than climbing Humphrey's Peak? Good friends and gorgeous weather! L to R Bill Demlong, Ann Dreier, Kathy Granger and Dave Hansen. (John G. was below recovering from an Achilles heel surgery.

Below — New years ice shenanigans in Colorado.

LL, Erik battles a Colorado waterfall.

UR —

LR — Belaying is C'ool!, Really cool while you are Ice climbing.



MEMBERS PAGE

C-C-Changes

Change is good. It brings us new ideas and new energy. It's good for the AMC with new faces volunteering to help out, bringing new perspectives and vigor. I'd like to recognize folks that are taking on new roles, giving their time and energy to the club. Sheri Kenly has taken over Programs Chair and has several great shows in the works. Gary Gerden is the new Rental Gear Chair. Lynn Readicker and Wayne Schroeter have been elected to the board of directors.

Lets also recognize those who have contributed their time and effort. Steve Tillery is the outgoing Programs Chair. Tom Burner is the outgoing Rental Gear Chair. Dave Larimer and Kathy Granger completed their service on the board of directors. A big climbers THANKS for their help.

Get Involved with AMC – The Write Stuff

Your AMC newsletter wants YOU – to write an article or send a picture. You may have noticed the last AMC newsletter was mostly calendars and busi-

ness stuff and a bit skimpy on articles and pictures. So please write one for the next newsletter. Or submit a picture of your last epic. Don't be shy; write up a trip or climb you just did. You do not have to be a Shakespeare or professional writer, or English major or professional photographer. Basically 3 or 4 paragraphs on where you went, what you did (climb or hike or ??) and what you thought of it. I've learned about many hikes or climbs from other member's articles and someone may be inspired by your article to go somewhere new. Submit articles and pictures to Wally Vegors or send to azmountaineer@azmountaineeringclub.org

Life Happens

If you, or a member you know, have had a significant life event, please speak up to a board member. Occasions such as birth of a child, or passing on of a family member are examples of such events. The board would like the opportunity to provide appropriate recognition of those milestones in life

—Bruce McH

MEETING PLACE AND DATES CHANGE FOR JULY, AUG, SEP

Progress will uproot us from our old comfy rock pile so that we had to find a new cranny for AMC's carrying's on for the months of July, August and September.

Until the dust settles and the paint dries at Los Olivos, we will assemble on the **third** Monday of those months at the City of Tempe **Pyle Adult Recreation Center**, 655 E. Southern Ave. That means that board meetings will be held the **first** Monday of the month, probably at a board member's home — but that's their problem to sort out.

March and April meetings will be at Los Olivos on the proper 4th Monday as usual. (Our June meeting is normally a BBQ/Swap Meet at either South or North Mountain Park and will be held on the fourth Monday.)

Our temporary home Pyle is just north off Hwy 60 at the Rural exit. Turn west on Southern and park somewhere west of the corner library building.

Los Olivos is being expanded to the north with added facilities and marvelous improvements.

The AMC library will probably not be available for use during June thru September. Too big to lug.

Mark your calendar right now or you will show up at Los Olivos — on the wrong side of town and a week late — and then you'll feel chagrined — bummed-out in modern parlance).

—Ed

Grandfather Hobgoblin – Superstitions

Our quest for climbs that involved hikes led us first to Wild Horse Wall, then to Miner's Needle, and finally to Grandfather Hobgoblin. Grandfather Hobgoblin is a 4 pitch 5.9 in Suction Gully, near the Flat Iron in the Superstitions. It's up the gully from Spider Walk and Rink-Kudo. Jeff Hatfield has proven to be a decent rope carrier, so David and I invited him to go with us.

A few days prior to the climb, Jeff was searching the internet for something related to his work and came across a comment posted by someone who had climbed Grandfather Hobgoblin. The climber's comments went something like this: *The route consists of loose rock, very loose rock, and extremely loose rock. Recommended, but not by me.* Of course, Jeff shared that with me, and after the loose rock on Miner's Needle, I wondered how loose it would be in comparison.

We hiked up the trail to Siphon Draw and headed up a faint trail to Suction Gully. The trail is not really a trail, but visible paths left by previous hikers. It wanders everywhere through extremely steep and loose rock. The going is pretty rough and slippery all the way to the base of Rink Kudo and Spider Walk, and then it gets really bad as it continues up the gully.

We found the climb easily enough, and David led us to the top. He ran the first two pitches together, ending on a nice, tiny saddle. There was a cool view to the north, looking down on Totgoblin Spire. The first move off the saddle involves an "airy stem," according to the guide book. I guess it was all that air that made it hard for me to transition out of the stem and onto my left foot. Jeff listened as I talked myself into the move. "This is me, making the big step. OK, I'm going to transfer my weight. This is me, moving. I'm on top-rope for crying out loud, why can't I move?!"

I finally made the transition and worked my way left, around the corner into the chimney. There was a lot of loose rock in there, but we didn't walk up the trough – we all stemmed, so there was no rock fall. This was nothing compared to all the exfoliating rock I encountered on Miner's Needle! The pitch ended at another little saddle. We could look down and see one of our rappel stations about 25 feet below.

The final pitch started up a short crack, and then traversed right to a sloping ledge. Tiny finger holds, and trusting my feet got me over onto the ledge. From there it went up to a bolt, and the book says "make the crux moves up and left" to get to the third bolt. David didn't like the idea of

decking on the ledge if he came off making the crux moves, so he went straight up over a little blocky roof. The roof looked smaller than it felt, but there were a couple of great pockets and he dialed in the sequence. He did a fair amount of panting and grunting, but climbed it clean. I, on the other hand, did a lot of panting and grunting and did NOT climb it clean. After the roof, it was a walk in the park. The views from the top were fantastic, it was sunny and warm, and we relaxed and ate our sandwiches. David takes me to some very interesting places for lunch!

There were two rappel set-ups at the top. Two ancient looking bolts/bolt hangers were oriented to rap to the north. There were also two of the homemade "Bandito" bolts about 5 feet away, oriented to rap to the southwest. If you've never seen that type of bolt, they're rectangular pieces of metal, bent at maybe a 30 degree angle. One end is bolted to the rock; the other has a hole for the rap slings. One bolt was stamped "Bad Bolt", the other stamped "Bandito." The problem with a bolt hanger shaped like that is that when



force is applied, it acts like a lever on the bolt. Some party prior to us had slung a television-sized boulder, sitting on a slight slope facing the rappel, to back up the bolts. We figured if a bolt blew, the last thing we'd want is that big boulder crashing down

to finish us off, so we chose not to use it.

After replacing the slings, David went on rappel first. He's not heavy enough to slide easily down a double rope rappel – not because he's short, but because he's recently lightened his rack, of course. At the top of the rappel, he had to feed rope into the device, so it resulted in a somewhat jerky motion. Jeff and I were horrified as we watched the left-most bolt hanger flex and bend under his weight. I know you can break some metals by bending them back and forth to create a stress fracture. I could picture that bolt hanger snapping in half any second and didn't like the idea one bit. I grabbed a 20ft sling, and using the two old bolt hangers for the north-facing rappel, backed up the rappel setup.

We made it back to our packs in two double rope rappels and started making our way down the gully. In my hiking experience, it's always worse walking down than up, and this was no different.

(Continued on page 13)

Nowadays, Being “On The Rocks” is OK

To say that the just-opened Az on the Rocks Climbing Gym is transmogrifying the usual concept of what a rock climbing gym is and should be, is to be.... truthful.

No, you can't have a latte as you rest between climbs....Yet. But if you feel a quick effort on some cardiovascular equipment would get you loosened up, or if a period of yoga exercise would help make you centered — this is the place.

Oh — that plus 108 rope climbing routes ranging from 5.4 to 5.14 on walls that top out at 31'. There is 14,000 square feet of climbing. Four auto-belay gizmos give comfort to the belay-slave challenged. There are also finger cracks, a hand crack and a chimney climb. In general, the beige walls are toprope problems while the red walls are for testing your leading prowess.



Andrew Rostenberg checks harnesses on the kid balcony. A pint sized wall features letters for holds nearby

Twenty one percent of the routes are 5.7 or less; 76% are under 5.10 and 29% are 5.11 or over. The entire floor is covered with 6" of "3X" density foam. (Akido victims should have it so good.)

The bouldering walls are mostly 12 or 14 high totaling 2,800 square feet. That allows for 116 bouldering problems rated 5.6 through VII. Twenty of them are VO or lower; 65 are VO+ through V7, and the rest are above. In addition to the 6" floor pad, foot-thick crash pads can be placed under the route you intend to peel from.

If you are a real glutton for humiliation, there is a "slackline" set three feet off the ground for you to improve your balance and tolerance for ridicule.

An upper balcony leads to a rappel takeoff point if you need practice there. A dyno-board to torture your fingertips and forearms is in place and, with Scottsdale's recent OK, some cardio equipment will soon be installed.

A soundproofed room with separate air conditioning and a special sound system constitutes the necessary hardware for a yoga studio. It's quiet.. Even with a dozen kids on the kids wall outside the door.,

The top of the stairway is where squads of kids harness up to test their mettle on eight kid-specific bouldering problems under the eye of an Az on the Rocks supervisor. Many of the holds on this 10' wall are colorful letters and numbers.

The first six weeks after opening has not yet passed, but at that point many of the routes will be reset by Joe Czerwinski, operations manager and route setter, assisted by Doug Ayres and Brian May.

The gym offers indoor rock climbing classes — Introductory, Intermediate and Intro to Indoor Lead Climbing — all emphasizing the climbing gym aspects of the sport. There is also a two-session class series for kids aged 12 to 14. Visit <contact@azontherocks.com> for info on passes, memberships and hours..

The gym is located east of Highway 101 a block south of Bell Road on 91st. St. Go north of the canal on 101, past Frank Lloyd Wright Blvd.

Az on the Rocks is independent, not part of a chain, locally conceived and created by Kent and Angie Berk and brother Kevin. The trigger was when Kent and Angie's kids entered school. She thought of teaching or other work with her newfound leisure. Then they visited the Flag Rock Gym, had a blast, and thought it might make a good family-type business. Brother Ken joined them, developed a business plan, and several hundred headaches later, the gym opened.

See Photo on page 17

.Respect Your Fellow Climbers

The following article first appeared in the Soapbox section of the Fall/Winter 2000 edition of The Climbing Activist, the (former) newsletter of the Northern Arizona Climbers Coalition. It was reprinted in the Arizona Mountaineer in late 2001, and is reprinted here again with the permission of the author, Tomas Robison, and the editor, Kerry Cobb (nee Nodal). It is a good reminder of the simple things we can do to make climbing at our crowded crags more enjoyable for everyone. For information on the NACC, check out www.nazclimbers.org.

My partner and I are going climbing again this weekend. Within an hour drive, we arrive at one of the great crags found in Northern Arizona. Shouldering our packs we hike through the parking lot of cars and into the familiar Ponderosa Pine forest. Soon we hear voices shouting belay signals, clanging gear and dogs barking. We step out of the forest and into a festive bootcamp. Twenty packs, 10 humans, 8 racks, 7 energy bars, 6 dogs, 5 water bottles, 4 guidebooks, 3 rolls of toilet paper, 2 headlamps and one lost climbing shoe under a bush next to the cliff tell us this must be the place.

Do the climbing magazines or videos or guidebooks tell us how to interact with our fellow climbers? No. Do our public land managers? No. Does the climbing gym? No. So how do we act out there? Are there ways to improve our interactions with one another? I believe there are. This is a basic outline of points to ponder the next time you are out climbing here in Northern Arizona. They are points of etiquette that may become just a graceful as that 1lb you sent last week.

Driving

People (especially non-climbers) notice fast climbers on the way to the crag. Slow down and enjoy the journey as well as the destination. Don't drive on dirt (now mud) roads after a rain-storm or snow. Wait a day or park and walk in.

Parking

Maintain a low profile. Don't park on top or at the base of a cliff. Many people see this as infringing on their "wilderness" experience.

If the parking area is full, find the next true parking area and walk the extra few steps. Parking in the ditch or someone's driveway upsets many folks. Don't camp in parking lots (except at Wal-Mart). Rangers don't like it and rangers make rules.

Trails

Stay on existing (the most heavily used) trail. Walk through the water on the trail rather than creating another trail.

Read "Leave no Trace" for the skinny on minimal

impact.

Cliff Tops and Bases

Place your "stuff" back a ways to help mitigate cliff top erosion and visual blight.

Use stepping stones to avoid soil and plants. Maybe better said: walk softly and gracefully next to the cliff. It is a fragile environment.

Hang your packs out of critters reach (in a tree on a stout branch).

Dogs

It's best to leave them at home. Really.

If your rope gets tangled in a bush, don't yank it out, carefully remove it.

Sanitation

Use the port-a-potty up by the parking lot. No john? Go at least 300' away, dig a cat hole, bury it and pack out your toilet paper (it's not as bad as you think).

Rappel Stations

Avoid putting them over popular climbs. Look before tossing the rope over the edge. And yell "rope!" or "rock!".

Climbs

When climbing at your local area, ascend the popular (classic) climbs during the week. Let the visiting climbers have them on the weekend.

Toproping vs. Leading. Leading a climb has precedence over top-roping.

Two parties arrive at the same time at the base of a climb? If you have climbed the route before, let the other party go and do something else. If not, talk to the other party. Work together. Be graceful. Sometimes it's best to put the ego behind.

"Work" with other climbers. Be sensitive to their needs, their weird behavior, quirks, etc. This is not saying give in to rude and thoughtless people, but rather to take a few moments to communicate with others. Example: Before using another party's rappel rope or climbing "their" route.

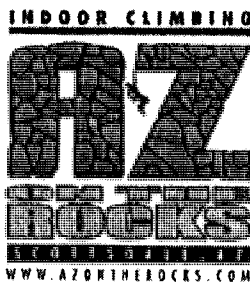
When watching unsafe practices it's actually easier on you to make a suggestion to the person(s) who is doing the unsafe practice. Expect a verbal backlash and do not take it personally. This is preferable to initiating a rescue for the ignorant fool who trusted the other fool in the first place.

Climbing at the crags with our fellow wall rats doesn't have to be a congested affair of bruised egos and despondent actions. I was finally to get past a lot of what was really my "problem" once I started to think about my impact towards my fellow climbers rather than the other way around. We can always find seclusion and solace if we choose to, but at crags with crowds, another tack is needed. Please add to the list.

THE SIGNS ARE CLEAR...



We're finally open! You've heard the rumors – now come and see for yourself.



- * 31' walls * Dedicated Lead Area * Cracks * Chimney *
- * ~14,000 sq. ft. of textured climbing terrain *
- * Over 2,800 sq. ft. of bouldering *
- * Fully Air Conditioned *

Grand Opening Pricing – 25% Off Any One Year Membership
(Must be paid-in-full, minimum of one year membership)
Expires February 29th, 2004

16447 N. 91st Street, Scottsdale AZ 85260
Located 1 block south of Bell Road and
2 blocks east of the 101 Freeway in North Scottsdale
(On the southeast corner of 91st Street and Bahia Drive)

www.azontherocks.com

(480)502-9777



ADVENTURE RACE Desert Rage II

4/17/2004
Bartlett Lake

3 & 4 person teams, 2 person & solo also

- * Mountain Biking
- * Kayaking
- * Mystery Events
- * Trail Running
- * Navigation
- * Orienteering



www.DesertRageAR.com

Orienteering

Perfect your orienteering skills in a fun environment!

March 27, 2004 - Mountain Bike Orienteering
McDowell Mountain Park



May 1, 2004 - Kayak Orienteering
Prescott's Granite Dells



www.SierraAdventureSports.com

Women's Adventure Race



- * Mountain Biking
- * Running, Kayaking
- * Mystery Events

Proceeds Benefit:
The Women's Sports Foundation
www.womenssportsfoundation.org

2 & 3 Person Teams
November 13th, 2004

www.SierraAdventureSports.com



Events brought to you by:

Alpine Tech Tip -- Avoiding Rope Snags on Rappels

Jeff Hatfield, wise man beyond his years, told me recently, "Erik, dammit, why don't you tell us something useful and shut your goddamn trap with all those 10,000 word whatever those articles of yours are?" or something like that. His idea was to craft in pursed words, some tips on backcountry and alpine tidbits I've run into from time to time. He was so adorably sincere that I decided to try my hand at it. So here goes...an alpine tech tip.

Many a roadside, sunny day, Arizona crag-ger with nary a care in the world for time or inconvenience finally catches the bug for real adventure and steps a few feet back from her favorite car drop off and explored something a little different. She will find uncertainty, challenge, indeed, maybe even adventure, and certainly a bit more solitude, and definitely an appreciation of the beauty of alpine vistas.

But somewhere among her new travels far afield, and maybe even in the inglorious demands of alpine terrain, the failing sun and upcoming wind, will herald a new adventure -- the rappel rope that will not pull.

You may know several tricks with knots, preferred handling, and so on, but here is one REALLY important factor that doesn't seem to be mentioned much. Most backcountry and alpine rappels are rapid rigs. It is mostly common to simply throw a sling around something and place the rope through that sling. As long as one is not being lowered and the subsequent friction of nylon on nylon occurring, this is actually a pretty standard tactic. And it really may not matter for what follows if one has the luxury of throwing in a rap ring, carabiner or two...

Invariably when you weight the rappel, one strand of the rope will be coming off the top of your slingage, and the other strand will be coming off the bottom. Then one typically lowers over the side and begins to tug at the bottom. **IT IS GOING TO BE 50-50 WHETHER THE ROPE WILL TUG EASIER OR HARDER**, especially if there is a hard surface immediately under the slingage.

The reason is this: if you happen to pull the rope strand that is coming off the top of the slingage, it **LOCKS DOWN** on the slingage and the other strand of rope, effectively making you work against yourself.

To avoid this situation, **ALWAYS IDENTIFY AND PULL THE ROPE COMING OUT THE BOTTOM ON THE SLINGAGE**. That way a lighter load is pulling the slingage down on top of the rope feeding out the bottom. Try it. You'll become amazed and send me tons of money -- Swiss Francs if you can.

The way I usually keep this all straight at the end of a long alpine ascent, rain, snow, forced bivouacs, whatever, is to have a simple habit. After doing my pull test with personal anchor in place, I then remove the personal anchor and clip the personal anchor carabiner onto the side of the rope I am going to pull. Works simple, every time. An economy of equipment, multiuses pre-intergrated. Systems do work, especially for those of us who can barely reach to untie our shoes when the days get longer....

Climb hard, but climb smart...

—*Erik Filsinger*

Hobgoblin (contd from p 8)

One minute into the descent, I lost my footing, spun around and grabbed a tiny bush to stop my fall. At least, I thought I had stopped it. One second I was stopped, holding the tiny branches, the next second I was spinning again and thinking "what an awful place to sprain or break an ankle." Then WHAM! My feet went completely out from under me, my right thigh hit what felt like a cantaloupe sized rock, my backpack caught on something, and I came to a stop. Ouch. This was clearly a case where the approach is more dangerous than the climb!

Now I've got some nasty scrapes and a big bruise to add to my memory of the climb. My leg will heal, but I'll be left with the memory of how outstanding it was to climb Grandfather Hobgoblin and be on the top of that formation. Trail amnesia may even set in, and I'll forget how awful the approach is. If that happens, we may have to go back to the top to see if that bolt hanger is still in one piece.

—*Sally Borg Larimer*



Arizona Hiking Shack
11649 N. Cave Creek Rd.
Phoenix, AZ 85020
Phone: (602) 944-7723
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, Marmut, 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.

Climbing Anchors School

Arizona Mountaineering Club — Spring 2004

The AMC Climbing Anchors School teaches participants how to set climbing anchors for top-roping. This course is the logical next step for AMC Basic Climbing School graduates.

Class curriculum:

- Tuesday: Learn anchor components, anchor types, knots and hitches.
Thursday: Learn anchor system characteristics and construction.
Saturday: Practice setting anchors in "hands-on" scenarios under instructor supervision.
Sunday: Apply newly learned skills setting real anchors on an optional climbing day. This session is a climbing outing where students set the anchors under supervision and then climb on them.

Class schedule:

Apr 13	Tuesday	6:30 pm–9:30 pm	*Dreany Draw Park (Phoenix)
Apr 15	Thursday	6:00 pm–9:30 pm	Dreany Draw Park
Apr 17	Saturday	8:00 am–4:00 pm	North Scottsdale
Apr 18	Sunday	7:00 am–5:00 pm	Climbing area to be announced during class

*To get to Dreany Draw Park take SR 51 (Piesteva Peak Freeway) to Northern; turn east on Northern. This takes you directly into the park. Class is at the big ramada.

Experience required: AMC Basic School graduate or equivalent, which must include knowledge of how to belay, rappel, prusik, tie a figure-8-on-a-bight and figure-8-on-a-follow-through, and make a girth hitch.

Cost: \$75 plus membership if not already a member (\$25 for an individual and \$30 for a family). Membership is good through Dec., 2004. Register by sending a check payable to AMC Anchors School to 1654 W. Boston St, Chandler, AZ, 85224. No credit cards accepted. The registration fee is fully refundable if you cancel. Call Nancy Birdwell at 480-821-1932 or email anchors.school@AzMountaineeringClub.org for more information. The number of students will be limited to 36.

Equipment required for the class:

- 2 non-locking "D" or oval carabiners (at least 2, bring more if you have them)
 - 3 locking carabiners (at least 3, one of which should be a parabiner)
 - 1 rappel/belay device (Trango Jaws, Black Diamond ATC, Trango Pyramid, Figure-8, etc.)
 - 1 climbing harness
 - 1 ea 4', 6', 10' 6mm prusiks (untied length)
 - 2 ea 5', 10', 20' slings (1" tubular webbing, untied length, AKA runners)
 - 1 or 2 personal anchor slings (commercial daisy chains or 4' sewn Spectra runners or equivalent)
 - 1 helmet—**required for Saturday and Sunday sessions**, helmets are available if you do not have one.
- (The slings and harness are the only additional equipment needed over the Basic School requirements)

This class is designed to teach you how to set top-rope anchors. In order to become independent and set your own anchors, you should start acquiring anchor gear. These purchases will be limited by how much money you want/have to spend and how much interest you have in climbing independently. The following gear is not required for Anchors School, but if you have some, you will be able to practice setting it in class. All of the gear recommended below can be used for Lead School, and none of it will be wasted if you intend to set your own anchors. All gear should be marked prior to bringing it to class to prevent confusion between it and other people's gear. If you don't know how to mark gear, check with an instructor before doing so to avoid weakening equipment due to improper marking.

Other gear you may want to bring:

- Any pro you may have (hexes, nuts, camming devices, Tri-cams, etc.)
- Extra biners (regular D's, ovals, and lockers—stay away from specialty biners at this time)
- Extra slings (perhaps four 5', two 15' slings, untied lengths)

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

Lead Climbing School

Arizona Mountaineering Club — Spring 2004

This is an advanced climbing class. Even if you don't plan on leading, you will learn much about the dynamics of climbing, and it will make you a safer climber. Protecting a climb is a different skill from climbing itself. We will talk about the dynamics of lead falls, how to prepare for a climb, the differences between single-pitch and multi-pitch, and the differences between clipping bolts and placing natural pro. There will be no "true" lead climbs during the class, but we will provide simulated leading exercises.

Class curriculum:

Tue	Lecture, slide show: introduction, the lead fall, equipment
Wed	Lecture, slide show: equipment (continued); the process and techniques of leading
Thu	Lecture, slide show: multi-pitch techniques, the descent, leader rescue, aid climbing
Sat	Hands-on practice: natural pro placement (Prescott)
Sun	Hands-on practice: leading on bolts (Prescott or Scottsdale)

Class schedule:

Feb 24	Tuesday 6:30 pm–9:30 pm	*Dreamy Draw Park
Feb 25	Wednesday 6:30 pm–9:30 pm	Dreamy Draw Park
Feb 26	Thursday 6:30 pm–9:30 pm	Dreamy Draw Park
Feb 28	Saturday 9:00 am–5:00 pm	Prescott (directions will be in syllabus)
Feb 29	Sunday 9:00 am–5:00 pm	Prescott or Scottsdale (directions will be in syllabus)

*To get to Dreamy Draw Park take SR 51 (Piestewa Peak Parkway) to Northern and turn east. This dead-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.

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

Cost: \$75 plus membership if not already a member (\$25 for an individual and \$30 for a family). Membership is good through Dec., 2004. Register by sending a check payable to AMC Lead School to 1654 W. Boston St, Chandler, AZ, 85224. No credit cards accepted. (Please note: the registration fee is fully refundable if you cancel.) Call Nancy Birdwell at 480-821-1932 or email info.lead.school@AzMountaineeringClub.org for more information. The number of students will be limited to 30.

Equipment required for the class:

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

1. All climbing gear (harness, prusiks, biners, etc.)
2. Helmet—mandatory for all on-rock sessions
3. Specifically needed:
 - 2 20' slings (untied length), preferably different colors
 - 2 10' slings (untied length), preferably different colors
 - Nut pick
 - Quickdraws with biners—at least 5 per person
 - All pro that you own, which may include cams, hexes, wired nuts, Tri-cams, etc.
 - Consider combining with another person to have enough gear
4. Hiking boots or shoes with stiff soles for Saturday, climbing shoes for Sunday
5. Optional: kneepads for Saturday (\$3–6 at Home Depot, \$5 volleyball pads at sporting goods stores)

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

Calendar of Events (Continued from page 20)

Commercially Provided Training and Events

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

During 2004 Southwest Adventures will offer the following ice climbing and winter mountaineering activities to AMC members:

Multi-pitch ice Climbing

Dates: 3/13 and 3/14 Registration Dead lines: 30 days before course start date. Cost: \$260 for both days. \$210 for second day only. Prerequisite: Advance ice climbing course and Avalanche awareness

In addition, arrangements can be made for guided Winter Mountaineering and for Level One Avalanche Certification class.

To sign up or for more information contact Erik Filsinger at smorefil@aol.com.

Zen-Lizard Systems Presents

X-Chalk

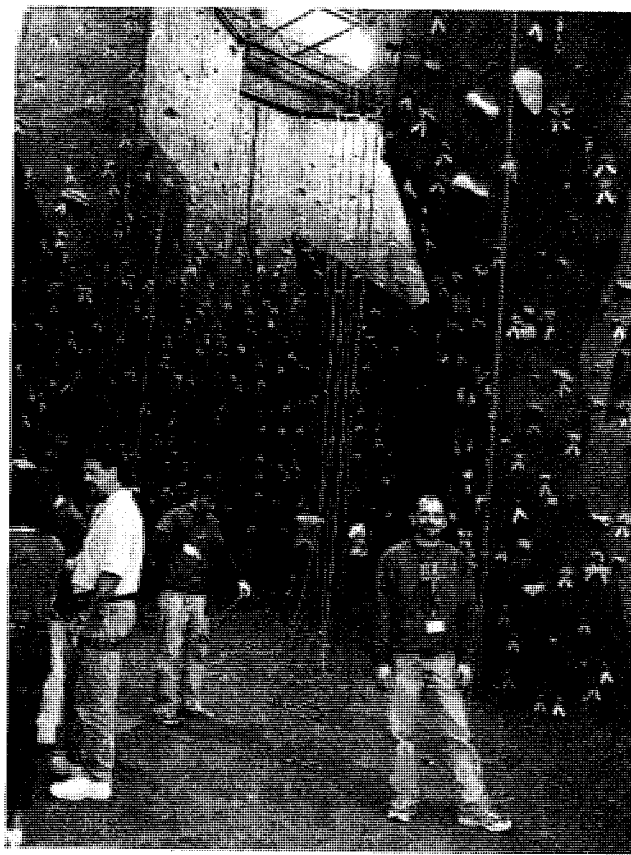
The world's first rock climbing chalk that soothes hot and ripped up fingers—as you climb! Also helps heal cuts and scratches. All natural—no chemicals. Available at the Phoenix Rock Gym, Climbmax, the Arizona Hiking Shack, and online at:

<http://www.zen-lizard.com>



NEW MEMBERS

Tammy Christensen	Steve McClure
Mare Czinár	Meredith Moody
Daniel deMoss	Annette Morrell
Enma England	Lee Morrell
Janet England	Bryson Ochoa
Jonathan England	James Pyne
Sean Gordon	Patrick Riley
Michael Gray	Dan Toraason
Alexander Hardt	Shelli Valles
Mihai Iancu	Deborah Weidenhamer
Joseph Kidd	Stephanie Wyckoff
Julia Kletzker	
Domenic Lopez	
Nina McClure	



Kent Berk, at right, wife Angie, and brother Kevin developed Az on the Rocks as a family business after "having a blast" at the Flagstaff Gym.

Calendar of Events

AMC Outings

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.

Feb 24 **Lead School** Feb 24, 25, 26, 28,29

Mar 3 **Basic Instructors Meet** 6 pm, Dave and Sal's.

Mar 9 **Basic School** Mar 9, 11, 13, 14, 16, 18,20

Mar 27 **Queen Creek Cleanup and Climb**, Scott Hoffman, 623-580-8909. No Limit. Recent Grads are welcome. Climbs 5.6-5.10 Pick up litter for an hour and then climb. Consolidate at Mesa CC parking lot at 8:00 or be at Oak Flats Turnoff on US 60 at 9:00.

Apr 13 **Anchor School**, Apr 13, 15, 17, 18. See flier on page 15.

Apr 13 **AMC Glacier Travel and Crevasse Rescue Seminar**. Tues p.m. Apr 13 and Sat/Sun Apr 17/18. Fees \$75 for new students, \$25 for returning students/refresher. Erik Filsinger at smorefil@aol.com for details and to register.

See Billboard and Commercially Provided sections for non-AMC ice and snow opportunities,

****Cancellations:** Please keep in mind that most outings have limits and that there is usually a waiting list to attend. Call at least 24 hours in advance to cancel. Courtesy dictates that you be on time for the outing, and that if you are sick or an emergency occurs the day of the outing, call the Outing Leader so the group doesn't lose time waiting on you. To request outings: Call the Outings Chair, Monica Miller, at (623) 362-0456.

Billboard—Other Scheduled Events

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

Wednesdays North Mountain Hikes after work. Rogil Schroeter (623) 512-8465 or Oct 11

(Continued on page 17)

Outing Leaders

Requirements for becoming a leader: take the Basic, Anchors 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 Dave Larimer at (480) 425-9689.

Tom Conner.....	480-897-7623	David Larimer.....	480-425-9689	Rogil Schroeter.....	623-512-8465
Erik Filsinger.....	602-906-1186	Sally Borg Larimer...	480-425-9689	Wayne Schroeter.....	602-402-1631
Jeff Hatfield.....	480-783-8779	Tim Medlock.....	719-494-1171	Jef Sloat.....	602-316-1899
Scott Hoffman.....	623-580-8909	Jeff Nagel.....	602-318-9538	Mick Strole.....	520-856-3335
Richard Horst.....	623-434-4769	Paul Norberg.....	602-808-9244	Rick Taylor.....	623-487-8507
Dave Johnson.....	623-486-7389	Paul Paonessa.....	602-493-7356	Frank Vers.....	480-947-9435
John Keedy.....	623-412-1452	Chris Query.....	602-323-5927	Tim Ward.....	602-212-1929
Tim Lange.....	480-598-9124	Tim Schneider.....	480-497-8377		

March 2004

AMC Outing Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2 CAMRA	3 Basic Instrs Meet Sunup 6:54 Sunset 6:27 M-rise 3:16p	4	5	6 Full Moon
7	8 AMC Board Meeting at Los Olivos	9 BASIC SCHOOL	10 Sunup 6:45 Sunset 6:33 M-rise 10:54p	11 BASIC SCHOOL	12	13 BASIC SCHOOL Last Qtr
14 BASIC SCHOOL	15	16 BASIC SCHOOL	17 Sunup 6:35 Sunset 6:38 No Moon	18 BASIC SCHOOL	19	20 GRAD CLIMBS New Moon
21	22 AMC Regu- lar Meeting	23	24 Sunup 6:26 Sunset 6:43 M-set 10:37p	25	26	27 Queen Cr Cleanup & Climb
28 1st Qtr	29	30	31 Sunup 6:17 Sunset 6:48 M-rise 2:02p			

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