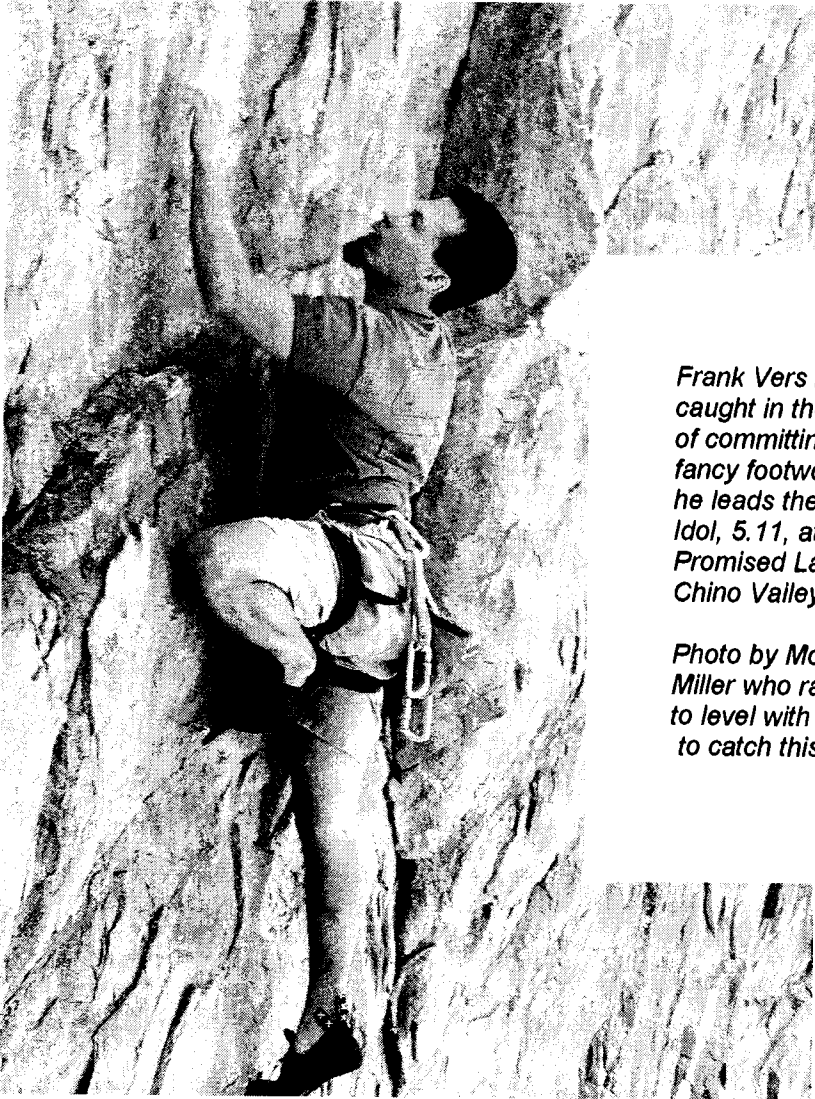


AUGUST 2004

ARIZONA MOUNTAINEER



Frank Vers is caught in the act of committing fancy footwork as he leads the Golden Idol, 5.11, at The Promised Land in Chino Valley.

Photo by Monica Miller who rappelled to level with the crux to catch this shot.

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.)

Aug and Sep meetings at Pyle Center, Tempe on 3rd Monday

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:

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

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

For More Information:

Call (623) 878-2485

Email info@azmountaineeringclub.org
president@azmountaineeringclub.org
board@azmountaineeringclub.org

Website www.azmountaineeringclub.org

org

Board of Directors:

President Bruce McHenry..... 602-952-1379
Vice-President Jutta Ulrich 602-234-3579
Secretary John Keedy 623-412-1452
Treasurer (vacant)
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 Erik Filsinger 480-314-1089
Director 1-year Lynn Readicker..... 480-970-1991

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 480-897-1750
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 Kenley 602-242-0504
Public Affairs (vacant)
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

(0804)

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..... Birthdays; Index
- 4..... Board Meeting Minutes, New Members
- 5..... Discount Directory; Treasurer's Report; Rentals
- 6..... Queen Creek Threatened; Scree
- 7..... AMC to the Rescue; Land Nav Class
- 9&12 Sneffles North Face
- 10&11 Castleton Tower
- 13&14 City of Rocks
- 15.... Promised Land; Treasurer Slot is Open
- 17.... Outing List, Contd.; ads
- 18.... Outing and Class Schedule ; AMC Leader list
- 19.... Calendar
- 20.... Mailer & Castleton Tower

Newsletter

The *Arizona Mountaineer* is published monthly by the AMC. Members are encouraged to submit articles and photos about their climbing- or mountaineering-related activities. Submit items for publication (subject to approval) to AMC Editor, 6151 N. 8th Ave., Phoenix, AZ 85013 or through 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 more 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.

Sep Deadline: 13 Aug 2004

NOT STUPP!!

YES

IT REALLY IS

HOT

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. (Note — **Library is kaput during Los Olivos expansion.**)

JULY BIRTHDAYS

Ron Barton 2, Scott Bauguess 2, Tracey Clark 5, Diana Sherwood 5, Terry Nelson 6, Lee Craven 7, Sean Gordon 7, Michael Anderson 9, Maria Kotarska 9, Jason Laird 10, Michelle Garland 11, Bruce Corey 12, Thomas Burner 13, Colin Chapman 13, Steve Dille 16, Felicia Terry 16, Tammy Vadasz 16, Fred Padgett 18, Geoff Willis 23, Valerie Paulus 24, Juan Restrepo 24, Dan Briggs 26, Ron Jachimowicz 27, Jay Skardon 27, Kirsten Brock 28, Alvin Rodrigues 30

Minutes of the AMC Board Meeting: 1 Jul 2004

Board Members Present – Erik Filsinger, Scott Hoffman, John Keedy, Rich Kocher, Bruce McHenry, Jutta Ulrich, Tim Ward

Meeting called to order at 7 PM with quorum present

Motion made, seconded and carried to approve the May Board Meeting minutes as published.

Motion made, seconded and carried to approve the Treasurer's Report as submitted.

Presidential Updates:

AMC Membership is 365.

Board Goals – Wally is working on survey. He distributed one at the June Swap Meet and received a number of responses. Yet to be compiled.

Finalization of Volunteer recognition program, Outing Leader Career Path Progression, Club Brochure and updating membership waiver have yet to be addressed. Job descriptions are ¾ completed and Club documents are being formatted for the web site.

Old Business:

Classification of Outing Leader Incentives and Budget Override for School Facilities was approved at May Membership Meeting.

Outing Leader Classification – Jutta submitted final drafts of documents. A few changes were made that do not affect the content. Motion made, seconded and carried to approve the Classification Process Documents. Jutta will send final copies to Bruce for publication on the Web Site as well as inclusion in AMC Club Documents Notebook.

Bylaw change was approved by Membership at the May meeting.

New Business:

Digital projector was discussed briefly. No action taken.

July Membership Meeting will be at Pyle Center in Tempe 7 PM July 19.

Treasurer Tim Ward stepping down as Treasurer due to relocation. David VanHook has one candidate for Club Treasurer, Clay Vollmer.

Next Board meeting will be August 2 at Monastery

Grand Canyon Cleanup is scheduled for Septem-

ber 25. Scott Hoffman will lead this activity. Discussion held on possible Access participation.

That will need to be investigated and decision made concerning Access.

VII. Meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM

NEW MEMBERS

Johnny Layani
Zahra Layani
Timothy Lee
Leticia Meza
Sean Stouffer
Daniel Turner

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Gary Hendrickson 1, Barton Santello 1,
Eric Vandenbossche 1, Frank Christensen 5,
Mark Trainor 6, Mark Christiani 8,
Kevin Berk 11, Tom Kreuser 11, Justin Hall 12,
Jennifer Ottolino 14, Kit Strole 15, David Paul 17,
Kathy Sharp 17, Matthew Stairs 19,
Ram Voorakaranam 19, Debby Brown 21,
Chris Query 21, John Ainlay 22, Twana Fox 24,
Mica Goldfeder 24, Jim Waugh 24,
David Insley 31, Tim Lange 31

Discount Directory

The following merchants currently offer a discount to AMC members:

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

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

OvertheCrux —2655 W. Guadalupe, #4, Mesa, Az 85202. 480-890-0997. 15% off to AMC members.

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

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. For everything else, call Tom Burner (480) 354-1392.

Treasurer's Report

Statement of Operations
01Jan 04 Thru 9 May 04
Category Description

Amount

Category Description	Amount
INCOME	
Advertising.....	140.00
Dues.....	6,689.00
Interest.....	0.00
Library fines.....	0.00
Merchandise (Tee Shirts & Etc).....	385.00
Mountaineering Schools	400.00
Program Income	30.00
Rental Income (incl shoes).....	135.00
T-Shirts	490.00
Training	8,300.00
TOTAL INCOME	16,184.90

EXPENSES

Access	0.00
Administration.....	395.46
Bouldering Contest.....	300.00
Capital Exp (mtnrg).....	0.00
Classification.....	0.00
Equipment Maint.....	63.00
Insurance.....	0.00
Library	40.00
Merchandise Exp.....	0.00
Mountaineering	70.57
Newsletter	1,242.40
Outings	0.00
Programs	3,131.17
Service/Bank Charge.....	32.88
Training	6,051.78

TOTAL EXPENSES 11,327.28

OVERALL FOR YEAR TO DATE 4,856.74

ACCOUNT BALANCES (9 May 04)

CD Account	5,235.71
Savings	1,668.32
Checking.....	13,447.42.

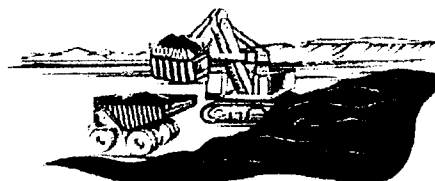
TOTAL CASH ASSETS 20,351.45.

OTHER ASSETS (Club gear mainly) 5,120.25

OVERALL TOTAL 25,471.70

Queen Creek climbing area access issue

Climb it? Or mine it?



Recreational access to the Queen Creek climbing area is being threatened by a copper mine that has been proposed by the Resolution Copper Company.

Resolution Copper is trying to take over Oak Flat campground via a congressionally legislated land swap, which in turn would threaten access to all these areas: Queen Creek Canyon, Apache Leap, Devils Canyon, Hackberry Canyon, etc.

We need your help to keep this world-class climbing area (and home of the Phoenix BoulderBlast) from disappearing forever into a big hole in the ground. Join the Friends of Queen Creek!

We are not opposed to mining. But we are FOR ACCESS! We need to make Resolution Copper develop their mine in such a way as to preserve recreational access to these public lands.

Be a Friend of Queen Creek. Act now to help preserve access to your public lands by subscribing to the Friends of Queen Creek FREE e-mail action list at info@friendsofqueencreek.com

www.friendsofqueencreek.com

The AMC is represented on the Steering Committee of Friends of Queen Creek.

SCREE ...eech! — by Ed.

AMCers will note a dearth, a drought, an absence of our usual enviably long list of outings planned and led by our corps of dedicated volunteer leaders. Truth is, many of those dedicated leaders had decided to have a bit of fun all by their lonesomes, to go out and do something interesting and not have to worry about anyone but themselves. Considering the many days that most dedicate to mother-henning newer members over a year's time, it is impolite to gripe too much.

But the upshot is that club activities have nearly ground to a halt temporarily. Fire closures of some of our best cool country areas have compounded our problems. Our fun-loving board members have skedaddled to a degree that a board meeting quorum was not possible in June. Fortu-

nately, nothing crucial demanded attention and there was a quorum in July.

As newsletter flunky-in-chief, I have long threatened to consolidate during the summer doldrums, thereby saving money and my time and temper. Lumping July and August together this year was a bit inadvertent, but may signal the beginning of usual practice, if I have my way.

Of course there are the inveterate work horses to lead AMC climbs no matter what, and to them our thanks. For a list just check the past few months of outings.

And in the every cloud must have truism department this issue contains a number of reports of adventures that resulted from their hooky-playing that we would not otherwise have had.

Thank you! — Ed.

AMCers Lend a Hand

Apparently AMC teaching isn't limited to Basic School.

The club received a call a couple of weeks ago from a man named Will who wanted to pass along his thanks to some AMCers who helped him out on Sunday, May 23rd. The details are sparse, but it seems Will and a friend were exploring some canyons north of Globe when they found themselves in the position of needing to rappel. The problem was, they had no gear and no experience. They were lucky to meet up with, as Will describes, "two women and a guy from France". It turns out the two women are AMC members who help teach Basic School. They rigged up some harnesses and provided rappelling instruction for Will and his friend, and delivered them safely to the ground.

Will wants to personally thank the women for their help, but he doesn't remember their names. If you were involved and would like to contact Will, send an email to azmountaineering@mindspring.com and we'll get Will's contact information to you.

FROM AMC'S HEROIC AGE

An historical note — AMC made an attempt on Sneffles via the north side route in the first two years of the club's existence. It was to be one of the "mass assaults" we practiced then.

About a dozen of us packed up into Blaine Basin; camped overnight. It was so *cool!* Morning came. Long about 8:30 everyone had breakfasted and girded for the impressive north face of Sneffles.. When we talus-hopped up to the base of the first 5-7or9-ish pitch that begins the climb, it became apparent that our ropes of a dozen would be reduced to one rope of no more than two or three. You could call it a unanimous vote of no confidence in the leadership. (In retrospect I am so happy we didn't get part way up the north face of Sneffles with ten novices on a 14-hour-plus climb.)

Rather than have fun while everyone else sat and slapped mosquitoes we all packed up and drove over to Ouray's hot baths. There we unkinked after our glorious climbing achievements and soaked up neat hydrogen sulfide smells to enjoy on the drive home.

At least it was better than Phoenix in August.

—Ed.

AMC Land Navigation Class

It is my intent to offer an introduction to a map reading and land navigation course to the Arizona Mountaineering Club. This course will outline many of the basics on land navigation. There will be a strong focus on the USGS 7.5 min topographic maps. Things to be covered:

- Map interoperation, focusing on the USGS 7.5 min quad series.
- Navigation with map and compass, even if you only have one of the two.
- GPS integration to land navigation.
- -Numerous navigation techniques and tricks.

The course will include two nights of instruction at the Longview Neighborhood Recreation Center (southeast corner of 14th Street and Indian School Road). Scheduled classroom sessions are for Tuesday August 10th and Thursday August 12th. Also one full day in Flagstaff on Saturday August 14th (or alternate area due to fire restrictions) to practice the newly acquired skills on a land navigation course that will I will set up for the day. I will also host a bouldering outing to Priest Draw on Sunday the 15th.

The cost for the course is \$20 (mostly materials)for AMC members. Others interested in the course must join the AMC to be eligible for this class.

Please RSVP to Chris Query:
cquery@hotmail.com
or (602) 323-5927

I would like to advertise for some help,,

Richard Theobald wants to retire from his position of creating the mailing labels, phone lists and membership cards each month. Is there someone out there with a PC & printer who can afford to spend a little time each month creating these items for the AMC? If you are interested please contact Rogil:
rogil.schroeter@honeywell.com or 623-512-8465



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.

Sneffles North Face IS a Challenge

Trip Report -- North Buttress, Sneffels (14,150 feet) 5.6, Grade IV, European D, 17 pitches.

After warming up at Ophir Wall's Cracked Canyon for a day, Donna Gaudet and I drove up the easy to find and easy to follow route to the Blue Lakes Trailhead. Mentioned in numerous CO 14'ers guidebooks, our goal was the Chamonix-like north face of Mt. Sneffels. Specifically we were tackling the North Buttress, the prominent rock feature immediately left of the well-known Snake Couloir.

For reference see any of the 14'er guidebooks that offer more than the standard routes. You won't find much, but that is a good thing. The mountain as it is... At any rate, the road and the trail are easy to find and to follow, guide book protestations aside.

It took us about 3 hours to hike the 1,500 foot elevation gain over 3 miles into the absolutely gorgeous Blaine Basin. An idyllic spot, the lesser mountains to the right and left which formed the portrait wings to the north face centerpiece. With flying buttresses and deeply inset couloirs, the north face of Sneffels is as impressive as impressive can be. The major features are the two couloirs that bracket the right and left of the face. The North Buttress lays between these two features.

Here is our pitch by pitch detail. Ignore and delete if you want the experience of a first ascensionist for your own climb of something notable. You will find little evidence of human passage on this climb. I will send a separate email with a photo from Donna showing the line of ascent.

After an easy approach up meadow, scree and snow, the climb starts at the juncture of the right (Snake) and left (Northeast) couloirs.

Pitch 1: From a rock pile in the middle of the snow at the base of the Snake, I lead up steepening snow. It required postholing and then somewhat delicate negotiation of the ice next to rock headwall. I set up a rock anchor about 15 feet up and right of the ramp entrance. (35 meters)

Pitch 2: (5.7 to 5.8) Donna led up the initial 20 foot vertical ramp. In her new La Sportiva's she did an ex-

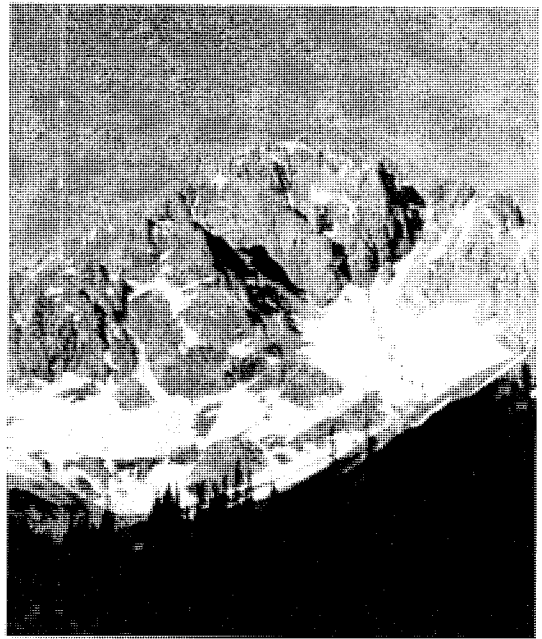


Photo by Donna Gaudet

Pitch 2: Excellent job of heading straight up on thinning holds with no protection. Awesome job. In retrospect it would have been easier to move left on a delicate traverse to 5.6 terrain..... maybe. Finished on a ledge. (20 meters)

Pitch 3: (5.5 to 5.6) I lead up the ramp through slabs chimneys, and blocks. Substantial exposure. Solid pro. Semi-hanging belay just left of where the route obviously called for going right. (50 meters)

Pitch 4: (class 3 or 4) Donna swung past me on a low 5th class move to step right onto a really loose but lower angled section of the climb. She headed up to the left side of the next obvious headwall. A large rock landed about 10 feet away from her, having fallen from higher up. (30 meters)

Pitch 5 -- waterfall pitch. (class 5.5) I lead around to the left of the headwall. To the left and up was an amazing array of frozen waterfall ice dangling from major cliffs. This cliff band merged with the North Buttress. Where they merged was an obvious line of weakness and a running waterfall. I climbed up onto the headwall above Donna easily around the left side and then onto the 30 foot high rock wall just right of the water fall.

The Objective — Castleton Tower near Moab

David and I recently took a weeklong road trip to start the summer off right. Our first climbing destination was Castleton Tower, near Moab, UT.

Castleton Tower is a 350-foot tall red sandstone spire, sticking up out of the middle of a big talus cone. We were following "Selected Climbs in the Desert Southwest" to try to get to the parking area for the climb. We missed the correct dirt road, drove down the wrong one and agreed that it didn't look right. We got out and walked toward the tower, but the parking area looked nothing like we were told it would, so we tried another (wrong) dirt road instead. This road had dozens of turns and offshoots. Castleton Tower loomed in the distance — we knew where we wanted to go, but didn't seem like we were getting there!

We ran across a climber type guy camping out there and asked him if he knew where the parking area for Castleton Tower was. He was not very friendly — but ended up telling us that the trail is on the southwest end of the talus cone, so we drove west. We eventually found a designated BLM camping spot from which we could see a faint trail heading up that steep talus slope. We set up camp for the night, with Castleton Tower staring down at us.

The tower looks imposing and the hike looked awfully steep, so I slept fitfully. I dreamed that there were hordes of people trudging up the trail beating us to the climb. The next morning I was comforted by seeing two parties walk right past our camp and start up the trail. At least I knew we were starting in the right spot! Our scenic drive down all those dirt roads had actually placed us closer to the climb than where the climbers generally park and camp, so we didn't have to hike as far.

The guidebook says the approach to the climb is a 1-hour strenuous hike, if you are in good shape. Good shape? Is that the folks who *run* up Camelback Mountain, or folks like me who go slow, but manage to get up the mountain a couple of times a week? I was braced for a 2-hour hike, but it was not

nearly as bad as it looked — we made it up in less than an hour. Someone has put a lot of work into building the trail: it was steep in parts, but always well marked. There are a couple of cliff bands on the cone, so it was a good thing we were on a trail that guided us up through the tricky sections. It was cold and windy at the base of the tower, definitely a nice change from our hot weather in Phoenix. We stretched, geared up and began climbing the North Chimney route, rated 5.9. The chimney was out of the wind, so it was much nicer in there. The sandstone was hard, not like what we expected. It felt more like basalt than any sandstone we've climbed on, but we haven't been to Indian Creek either. It was hard, good quality rock.

The first pitch was 160 feet of strenuous crack climbing. I had taped up my hands and was sure glad that I did. David used lots of gear: doubles of Camalots #1 thru #3, and Tri-cams like crazy — as well as his larger Camalots.

The second pitch had an off-width section, where David used the #5 Camalot for protection. The #5 is my "engagement cam" and doesn't get a lot of use, because nobody with any sense climbs cracks that big. I find it really awkward climbing something that wide, but fortunately the off-width section was short.

As David set off on the 3rd pitch, he tried to get lost. At the top of the chimney, he started going left and it didn't seem right from my perspective to see the rope veering off like that. Real men never admit they are lost, so I got him steered back on track. He came back and went to the right and it definitely looked better, so he went around the corner, out of sight.

We carry radios with us on multi-pitch climbs, because it can be so hard to hear the climbing calls over the wind. Before David left the belay ledge, we agreed on a radio channel and did a radio check. Neither of us expected that when he went around the corner, the huge chunk of rock between us would render our radios useless. When David got up into the notch where the pitch ends, he could see that the last pitch was only 30 or 40 feet and decided to run the two pitches together. However, the last pitch shares the same route as the Kor-Ingalls Route, and he had to wait for another party to complete the pitch.

I was getting a nice cold breeze in the chimney, and was shivering cold. I could tell that he had stopped, because I had stopped feeding out rope. I was waiting for his call on the radio, and faintly heard him yelling from up above. I spoke into the radio, "Use the radio David, I can't hear you yelling", but he didn't reply. I couldn't understand a word he said, and finally picked out a distant "RADIO ON?" I screamed back, "YES" and faintly heard "CHANNEL!" I screamed back "5.1." I stood there shivering, with the belay still on, wondering what the heck he was doing, and why he wasn't using his radio. I didn't hear any "off belay" call, even faintly. After at least 10 or 15 minutes, he started moving again and I realized that he had probably stopped to let another party complete that last pitch before he could resume climbing.

After I fed more rope out for a while, it stopped again, and I presumed he was on top of the tower. However, I was NOT going to take him off belay until I heard the command. Soon he started pulling the rope up and I guessed that by how fast I had to feed it out, he HAD to be pulling the rope up and not climbing, but still there was no command. Finally there was no more rope to feed out and he was still pulling. My belay device was still on the rope and I tried yelling but couldn't hear anything back. I stood higher on the belay ledge and he took in more rope, so I trusted that he had me on belay. I took my brake hand off the rope, broke down the anchor and started climbing, with my belay device still stuck on the rope. He told me later that he had tried the 3 tug method to let me know I was on belay, but I couldn't feel it at all, due to the wind and all the rope that was out.

When I finally rounded the corner and climbed through the notch, I could hear David testing the radio like the guy in the cell phone commercial, "Can you hear me now? Can you hear me now?"

The last pitch was so windy; my windbreaker was making a terrible racket, flapping like crazy. David was only 30 or 40 feet away and I couldn't hear him, even when he yelled. The climbing was fun, very exposed, and scary because of the wind. I was relieved to be on top of the tower with him, where we could communicate again!

On top of the tower we met a party of 3 that had been beaten up by the wind all day long on the Kor-Ingalls Route. We traded cameras and took some

summit shots of each other's team. They rappelled off the same route they came up, while David and I rappelled off the north face of the tower, down the North Face Standard Route.

We found out the hard way, that we needed two ropes to rap off Castleton Tower. There were four rappels shown in the book, and nowhere did it indicate that we'd need two ropes. To the author's credit, he didn't list how many feet each rappel was either. In our enthusiasm to climb the tower, we made the incorrect assumption that one rope would do.

The first three rappels were uneventful, although a bit scary because they weren't in a direct line. On the last rappel, the wind was blowing the ends of the rope sideways and we couldn't tell if they'd reach the ground. I sent the David down first, believing rope stretch would be all we needed. David got 2/3 of the way down and it wasn't looking too good. There were 3 guys at the base of the climb, who confirmed that our ropes were 15-20 feet off the deck. Bummer! David stopped and set up an anchor in a crack, unhappily imagining leaving that gear behind. As he was doing that, the guys at the base of the climb offered the use of their rope, so we wouldn't have to leave any gear. Nice! After David got anchored and was off rappel, I lowered one end of our rope, and they tied theirs to it. I pulled the knot up to the rappel anchors, and we were back on the ground in a few minutes with all of our gear.

We had a nice conversation with the guys at the base of the climb. They had come up to climb the tower, but given the wind and the fact that it was already 1:30, they decided against it. There were rap anchors on the first pitch of the North Chimney, so we recommended that they climb at least that much as long as they were up there. Of course knowing the pitch was 160 feet, we reminded them they'd need two ropes to rap off!

We were back to our truck by mid afternoon, looking back up at Castleton Tower, amazed that we had lunch on top of it. We had places to go, things to do, so we took off for the City of Rocks, where we finished our road trip. That's another story for later!

— Sally B. Larimer

Sneffles North Face (Contd. From page 9)

(Continued on page 12)

Unfortunately the easiest climbing required me to step into the waterfall for about 2 moves. Oh well. I set up an anchor at the top of the rock just right of the waterfall. (50 M.)

Pitches 6 and 7. Donna led up two simul-climbing 4th class scrambling pitches just right of a snow couloir and onto the base of the arrowhead-looking upper section of the North Buttress. (74 meters)

Pitch 8. I lead up easy low 5th class terrain to a "cave" on the lower left side of the arrowhead. (40 meters)

Pitch 9. Donna lead up 5.5ish terrain. She knocked off a book size rock that in turn trundled a suitcase sized rock, both blasting past my protected stance. A circuitous path lead upward. (40 meters)

Pitch 10. I continued on gradually easing terrain. (50 meters)

Pitch 11. Donna moved toward top of Buttress above the juncture in the Snake Couloir at the start of the ridge that lead to near summit.

Pitch 12. I lead a delicate traverse across some snow cornice material, then up the first slabby gendarme on the ridge. The top was exposed with vertical drop-offs on all sides. (50 meters)

Pitch 13. Rappel into Snake. There were two more gendarmes on the ridge line, each accompanied by delicate snow cornices between the drop-offs on each end. It looked both a little difficult and definitely time consuming. Prudence dictated rapping into the Snake and finishing the ascent on friendly snow. A rap down an obvious chimney put our feet on something substantial for the first time in over 10 hours. (40 meters)

Pitches 14 through 16. We lead up three pitches of the nicest kick-stepping friendly terrain. Probably the top two-thirds of the Snake from its elbow. Nice easy 40 degree snow! Whew! An ease on the nerves. Being very tired, we pitched it out and used first a rock belay and then boot axe belays. Donna lead the last one and began postholing thigh deep near the rock. (150 meters)

Pitch 17. Summit Headwall. Not able to exit to the east due to large cornices. I lead up 5.5 to 5.6ish blocky terrain toward the summit. Hardest part was negotiating the postholing and then icy, muddy, slabby, wet rocks just off the deck. Lots of rope drag with circumlocutions route. Hard pulling. I stuck my head over the final rock to face the summit cairn and register. A marmot greeted me before I could even get Donna up. (50 meters)

Flawless weather, our relatively slow pace had placed us on the summit late in the day amid a sea of snow laded mountain ranges. Quite the rewarding



sight.

My third Sneffels ascent (Southeast Couloir and South Ridge prior). I lead down the Southeast Couloir to Scree Col. An amazing 1,000 foot glissade down the East Slopes route, followed by several more 300 foot butt slides put us back in Blaine Basin in good order. It was dark when we arrived, fully satiated, back in our campsite with coming starlight over our peak. 14.5 hours from when we had left at 5:30 a.m.

Way to go, Donna! Yu da' gal!

Road Trip to the City of Rocks —2004

David and I spent a little over 4 days at City of Rocks National Reserve in southern Idaho just before Memorial Day. We drove to the City after climbing Castleton Tower near Moab.

The City of Rocks, ROCKS! It reminded me of Joshua Tree, because there were clumps of rocks scattered all over with routes on them. But the rock is gray Yosemite-like granite instead of the gold granite you find at J-Tree. The rock was sticky, with lots of dishes and the routes were fun.

We used "City of Rocks Idaho A Climber's Guide" by Dave Bingham. It told us everything we needed to know about climbing at The City. I didn't realize it at the time we made our campground reservations, but the campsites are shown on the different area maps of the City in the guidebook — so if you want to be situated close to a particular climbing area, you can ask for a camp site by the number.

We made our reservations around 3 weeks in advance and ended up in a campsite in the Center City area. The campsites are nice, with picnic tables, trees, and nice views. There is a water pump at the west end of the park, where you can fill your fill water jugs, but none in the campsites. Out-houses are the nice roomy ones, with concrete floors, like they have at J-Tree.

Nice clean showers are available at Tracey's General Store in Almo, only around 6 miles from the center of the City. The drawback is that they don't stay open late to accommodate climbers. We ended up using their showers when we got rained out from climbing and they were nice and clean and the water was HOT. Showers are also available in Oakley, 28 miles away down a dirt road.

On our first evening at the City, it was cold and raining, and Tracey's was closed, so we drove to Oakley, to shower at the RV park. The RV park was not surprisingly empty, and their showers were only \$1 for 10 minutes. OK, it was a bargain, but you know how they make it so cheap? They have

lukewarm water! Brrr. There was slush covering the ground from recent hail, and we were showering in an unheated room with lukewarm water. Brrrrrrrr!

The weather was unseasonably cool while we were there, and wetter than we'd have liked. We

wore long pants, long sleeves, and lots of fleece in the evenings. The afternoon we arrived, we grabbed our packs and went out to get a few climbs in. We geared up to climb a 2 pitch 5.7 but it was drizzling and started to thunder, so we decided against climbing. We got a nice light rain that afternoon, and it was COLD.

Tuesday, we had a great day of climbing. The weather

was spotty; it would cloud over and then turn sunny. We climbed a bunch of short routes, mostly less than 90 feet. We started with Rain Dance, a 2 pitch 5.7*. Then we stepped it up a notch with City Girls 10d*, and Tribal Boundaries 10a***. We also climbed Too Much Fun 8***. New York is Not the City 10a**, and I Can't Believe It 10a*. That evening I was wiped out and it felt great.

Wednesday we got up to steady drizzle. We ate breakfast in the rain and drove to Almo, to figure out what to do. We each got a \$3 shower at Tracey's General Store and hung out there for a while. It's a cool old store that's been there since the late 1800s. The weather report at the visitor's center called for rain until Saturday and we considered packing up and driving to some other place to climb, but the woman behind the counter told us, "If you don't like the weather, stick around. It will change in 20 minutes." And it did!

We drove back to the City since we'd done everything there is to do in Almo. We stopped at Elephant Rock, right by the roadside and in desperation, we decided to climb something, even though there

(Continued on page 14)



City of Rocks — (Contd from page 7)

was a very light drizzle. By the time we got to the top, the drizzle had stopped and we were able to climb 3 more fun routes on that rock before calling it a day. We considered ourselves fortunate that we got to climb at all that day. My favorite for the day was Rye Crisp. 5.8 *** -- a really fun lie back flake.

Thursday, we hiked about a mile to a big dome so I could lead an easy, bolted, 3 pitch route called "Cruel Shoes." A guy in camp told us that climb was so easy and had so many bolts to clip. "Even your grandmother could lead it." That's my kind of leading! I have to admit, I found the first 20 feet kind of scary, then it was pure fun after that. Next, Dave led the first two pitches of a 4 pitch route. Poly Stick-Em 10a*, that your grandma would have shied away from. He suggested I lead the final two pitches, and they looked easy enough, so I did. The climbing was easy enough for your grandmother, (and me!) but kind of run-out.

As we walked back to the car, we could see the rain moving in. It came in fast. By the time we drove a half-mile down the road, we were in a downpour and the temperature dropped to 48 degrees. We were lucky that we didn't get caught in it. That evening, we had a break in the rain so that I could cook dinner, but we had to retreat to the truck to eat. Then we had another break from the rain so Dave could do the dishes.

By Friday morning our luck had run out. It rained hard from 4 -am on, and the rocks were soaked. After we got up, we went to town for a shower, hoping the weather would change. No luck on that one. Around 10:00AM in a steady rain, we decided that there was no point in sticking around until the next morning, when we were scheduled to start heading home anyway. We packed up and drove in hard rain all the way through Utah.

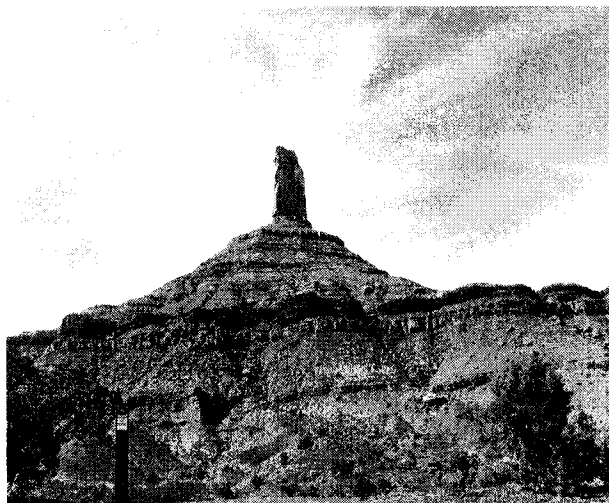
David bought me a night in a motel with a nice bed and a shower on the way home. Hot water came out of the faucets and everything! We stopped at Bryce Canyon on Sunday to see the sights, and then returned to Phoenix late on Saturday.

It was a great trip. We had fun climbing, we dealt with the rain like adults (OK, I may have acted like a crybaby a couple of times), and we left lots of stuff unclimbed – so we have an excuse to go back!

— Sally B. Larimer



Waaaah!! All that gorgeous granite and it just keeps raining!! Sally compensated by taking a lot of hot showers after brief but satisfying forays on a sampling of City Of Rocks climbs. Photo by Dave Larimer



This is Castleton Tower in southern Utah. Sally and Dave's climb report is on page 10

The Promised Land —June 2004 Help Wanted !

It all started on a beautiful summer's morning in the Chino Valley, AZ area. We all gathered gear and began our hike into the Promised Land for a day of some great sport routes on quartzite.

As we arrived into the canyon we noticed that the big old shade tree that has witnessed many a climber having fun has now been swept away. It stands no more.

Frank Vers racked up with draws to set some 5.10 and 5.9s climbs in Valerie's Book Area. I racked up to lead Delilah the 5.7 located in the Solomon area. As always everyone enjoyed watching Frank lead. He has the skilled foot work of a Dansieur.

We all watched with eyes wide open as Frank began his lead on "The Golden Idol" the 5.11 located on the Solomon wall. I was able to set up in rappel using my auto block on Delilah to photograph Frank as he climbed. A Spectacular lead, as the canyon was quite, you could hear Frank breath as he worked through several of the intense crux moves always steady on his feet. The look of satisfaction on his face as he hit the top anchor bolts said it all.

Joe Garcia up next on the rope then Sean Stouffer, both men commented Frank on his lead as they struggled through the cruxes... the comments were something like Frank Vers, you are the Man...! Does the word Bad A#% ring a bell.

The next cool lead Frank pulled off was located at the end of the nose area of the Solomon wall. The 5.10 on the left that requires a heel hook. Frank clips the first bolt, gets into position leaps into mid-air and lands with both hands on the "spring board rock shelf" swings his heel up and on to the rock all in a beautiful sequence as he then reaches for the next hand hold. "And the crowd goes wild" ... WOW!

Tarzan and Cheeta better look out went Frank Ver's ... AKA Cool Hand Luke swings into action! A great day had by all.

-Monica D. Miller

It is one of those things that when you sign up for something they say never happens or, has only happened once in ten years. And it happens to you your first six months on the job. And it has happened.

Our treasurer Tim, we will abstain from any kudos from the election committee until a replacement is found. I guess he is all right for a Treasurer/bean counter type guy. But he is headed off to Vegas to chase show girls and we need someone to fill his shoes. At last best guess it will take about 12 to 15 hours a month and yes that is an accurate estimate to perform the duties, which are listed below in the job description

So if you have been a member of AMC for over a year and, you are over 18 years of age you qualify to assume this position. SO toss your hat in the ring and we can vote at the next regular meeting after you the membership have been notified. If you have any questions please ask any of the board members or me Dave Van Hook Election Committee person. You can contact me @ 602-790-6283 or davevanhook@yahoo.com

Monthly and Annually the Treasurer must:

Pay expenses

Accept income

Match expenses and income with proper budget line

Advise board if expenses submitted/proposed will exceed budgeted amount

Send financial reports to board and newsletter editor – review at monthly board meeting

Attend all board and club meetings

Provide back-up of financial data to secretary

Make deposits

January

Past year's financial records to Secretary

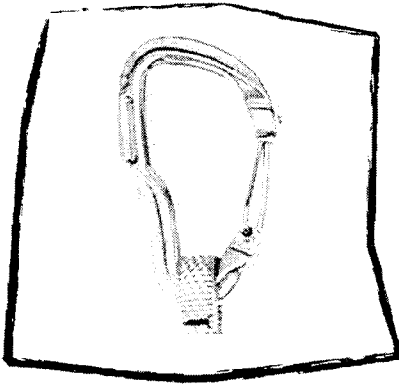
May 15

Submit tax form 990 to IRS and State Department of Revenue

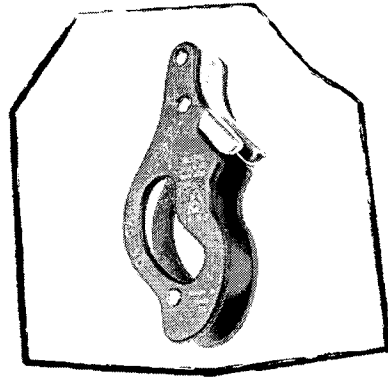
Fall

Work with President, board and committee chairs to prepare upcoming year's budget.

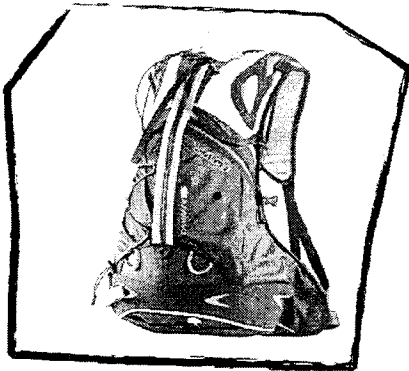
— Dave VanHook



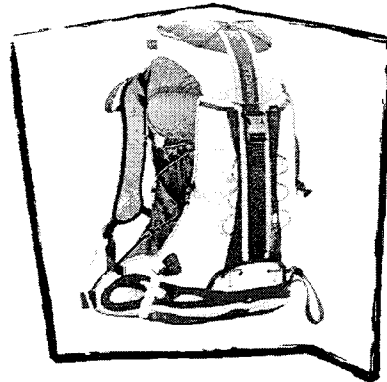
DMM WireLock
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Regular Price: \$10.95 / ea
Sale Price: \$7.50 / ea



C.A.M.P. Yo-Yo
Auto-Locking Belay Device
Regular Price: \$31.00 / ea
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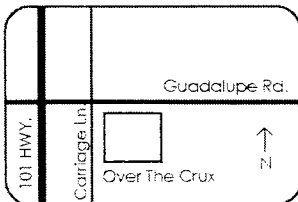


C.A.M.P. Campack 20
day pack
Regular Price: \$84.00 / ea
Sale Price: \$64.95 / ea



C.A.M.P. Campack 35
2 day pack
Regular Price: \$120.00 / ea
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Calendar of Events *(Continued from page 14)*

ing 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

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.
(none listed)

For Sale

2002 Nissan Frontier Desert Runner, XE King cab p/u 35,000 miles, 5spd, 6 cyl, CD player, sliding rear window, Snugtop campershell, window tinting, asking \$12,900
This truck is set up for Arizona climbing adventures. Call Paul Paonessa at 602 493-7356 or paupao50@cox.net

Female Roommate Needed. 3-4br/2bth, 37th Ave. and Cactus, diving pool, 2 driveways, covered secure porch, funky house! EZ access to I-17, Metro Mall, ASU West. \$350-400/mo. utils included. Length of stay and rent negotiable, move in ASAP or this summer. I took the basic climbing course in March if you remember me! (Nicole Arihood) If you're interested or know someone that is, contact me at narihood@fesd.org or 602-434-7416.

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, Climbmox, the Arizona Hiking Shack, and online at:

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



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.

- Aug 2 Board Meeting at Monastery
- Aug 16 Regular AMC Meeting at Pyle Center.. Watch web-site for topic.
- Sep 6 Board Meeting at Monastery
- Sep 11 Time Zone Wall, Prescott. 5.7 to 5.9. Limit 12 Meet at Denny's at I-17 and Bell at 6:30 sharp. Signup with John Keedy at jwkeedy@cox.net
- Sep 20 Regular AMC Meeting at Pyle Center
- Sep 22 Lead Instructors meeting
- Sep 25-26 Grand Canyon cleanup and climb.
- Sep 28 Lead Classes begin
- Oct 6 Basic Instructors meeting
- Oct 12 Basic Classes begin
- Nov 3 AARS Instructors meeting
- Nov 9 Anchors and Advanced Ropes class begins.

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 Out-

(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	480-897-1750	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
David Johnson.....	623-486-7387	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		

August 2004

AMC Outing Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 <i>7 pm AMC Board at-Monastery</i>	3	4 <i>Sunrise 5:43 Sunset 7:25 M-rise 10:12p</i>	5	6	7 <i>Last Quarter</i>
8	9	10	11 <i>Sunrise 5:48 Sunset 8:18 M-rise 1:33a</i>	12	13	14
15 <i>New Moon</i>	16 <i>AMC Mtg at Pyle Center, Tempe</i>	17	18 <i>Sunrise 5:53 Sunset 7:10 M-set 8:55p</i>	19	20	21
22	23 <i>1st Quarter</i>	24	25 <i>Sunrise 5:58 Sunset 7:02 M-rise 4:03p</i>	26	27	28
29	30	31				

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