

NOVEMBER 2005

ARIZONA MOUNTAINEER



Temple Crag, California Mike Knarzer

The Arizona Mountaineering Club

Meetings: Sep. thru-Dec 2005: Meet the 3rd Monday at the Washington Adult Center, 2240 W. Citrus Way, between Bethany Home and Glendale off 23rd Ave. at 7:00 p.m.

Board Meetings: Board meetings are open to all members and are held two Mondays prior to the Club meeting at Jutta's home..

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 for information on schedules and classes.

For More Information:

Call: (623) 878-2485

Email:

president@azmountaineeringclub.org
board@azmountaineeringclub.org

Websites:

www.azmountaineeringclub.org
or — www.amcaz.org

Mail:

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

Board of Directors:

President Jutta Ulrich..... 602-234-3579
Vice-President John Keedy 623-412-1452
Secretary Robert England .. 480-821-4243
Treasurer Clay Vollmer..... 602-595-7266
Director 2-year Bill Fallon 602-996-9790
Director 2-year Jeff Nagel 602-318-9538
Director 1-year Scott Hoffman 623-580-8909
Director 1-year Wayne Schroeter 602-402-1631
Past President Bruce McHenry.. 602-952-1379

Committees:

Advertising Open
Archivist Jef Sloat 602-316-1899
Classification Nancy Birdwell .. 480-821-1932
Elections Dave Van Hook . 602-790-6283
Equipment Rental ... Erik Filsinger 480-314-1089
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 Open
Programs Sheri Kenly 602-242-0504
Training & Schools.. Wayne Schroeter 602-402-1631
 Basic Class Sally Larimer 480-425-9689
 Anchors Class Robert England .. 480-821-4243
 Lead Class Wayne Schroeter 602-402-1631
T-shirts Sally Larimer 480-425-9689
WebSite Kirrawebadmin@amcaz.org

The AMC Land Advocacy 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 Land Advocacy representative Erik Filsinger, 480-314-1089.

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 \$35 or more to: The Access Fund, P.O. Box 17010, Boulder, CO 80308, or calling 888-8MEMBER or giving it to the AMC Club Treasurer to be sent to The Access Fund in your name. A donation of \$35 or more is needed to receive *Vertical Times*, The Access Fund newsletter. One can also join electronically at https://www.accessfund.org/secure/joinnow/join_indiv.php or at <https://accessfund.org/join/indiv.php>.

This Month in the AMC

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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 300 dpi. Articles can be in any standard word processing format. For more info call the editor at (602) 246-9341. wvegors@cox.net

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.

HOT STUFF!!!

Anchors School

Joshua Tree Thanksgiving

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.

DEC. NL Deadline: 12 Nov.

November Birthdays

Charles Schultz 3, Frederick Simpson 3, Michael Kelly 4, David Renner 5, Calvin Norman 6, JP Holloway 8, Carla Parisi 9, Marc Henning 11, Jim Watson 11, Brian Mix 13, Susan Morris 13, Bill Berkley 14, Sheri Kenly 14, Dana Medema 15, Ron Donaldson 16, Todd Barnes 17, Mark Chauvin 18, Cindy Eeds 18, Bruce Robbins 19, Kimberly Spencer 20, Richard Ellis 21, Mark Gordon 23, Clay Vollmer 23, Hope Phillips 25, Debra Carpenter 27, Sandy Draus 28, John Granger 28, Peter Neubauer 28, Isabelle Plante 28, Greg King 30, Paul Martucci 30

Minutes of the AMC Board Meeting: October 3, 2005

Members Present: Jutta Ulrich, Wayne Schroeter, Jeff Nagel, Clay Vollmer, John Keedy

Committee Chairs Present: Wally Vegors, Erik Filsinger

Meeting called to order at 7:15 with quorum present.

Minutes of August Board meeting approved as published. John/Wayne It was noted that the \$800.00 over ride for Programs was approved at the last Membership Meeting.

Treasurers Report – Clay revised categories to more accurately reflect expenditures. Treasurers Report approved as submitted. Wayne/Jeff

President’s Update

A. Elections are coming up soon. Jutta has contacted David Van Hook to start the slate of process of obtaining candidates.

B. All our insurances are renewed.

C. Washington Adult Center has requested we assist with a climbing wall or contribute \$75.00. Jutta will send out email request for people to man the climbing wall.

D. AMC Credit Card – Clay is in possession of that card and will manage its use.

E. The AMC need a replacement Email coordinator as Jeff Hatfield is stepping down.

F. Wally has compiled the recent survey and will coordinate with Jutta and the Board.

Equipment Rental Policy – Erik submitted a new policy covering AMC Equipment Rental along with a checkout form. The policy reads:

“Equipment Rental Committee Policy

The AMC Equipment Rental Committee shall follow the procedures outlined below:

All equipment rentals shall be only to current AMC members.

AMC members renting equipment shall contact the Rental Committee Chair and arrange a time for pick-up and drop-off of rentals.

Rental rates shall be as published in the AMC Newsletter.

Two checks shall be collected from the renter. The first being for the rental amount. It will be placed into AMC accounts. The second check shall be a deposit

held against the return of the item. It will be held and given back to the renter upon return of the equipment. If the return is not timely, is damaged, or is lost, the second check shall be held against the late amounts due or against any replacement or repair required.

The AMC Member renting the equipment shall be expected to replace any lost or damaged equipment.

An AMC rental form (found under the Forms section of the website) will be used and will identify the name and contact information of the renter, the items rented, the rent due, as well as the replacement cost, along with statements indicating the renter’s responsibilities for returning or replacing the items.”

Motion made by Wayne and seconded by Clay to approve the Equipment Rental Committee Policy.

Passed

Present AMC Membership is 390.

Newsletter – Wally needs more copy.

Outings – J-Tree was discussed. We have reservations for 60 at Indian Cover # 1 for Wednesday and Thursday, also reservations for 30 in Indian Cove Family campsites. Friday and Saturday is still up in the air, but it seems people will have to make other arrangements. An alternative to camp on BLM land near J-Tree is being explored.

Programs – No report.

Proposed 2006 Budget was distributed for discussion. Changes were made. Clay will revise and distribute to the Board and Committee Chairs. Board will vote on 2006 Budget Proposal at the November Board Meeting, to be submitted to the Membership at the December Membership Meeting.

a. Wayne submitted revised AMC Outing Policy which reads:

(Continued on page 14)

Meeting Dates for Rest of 2005

Board

Members Meeting

Nov 7

Nov 21

Dec 5

Dec 19

Party — Dec 9

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 Inside Phoenix Rock Gym at 1353 E. University Dr., Tempe.. 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
MSR Alpine snowshoes	5	32	10	16
Ice Crampons	5	26	8	13
Ice axes (70 cm)	6	16	5	8
Ice axes (90 cm)	5	14	5	7
Snow shovel	1	8	3	4
PortaLedge	1	100	30	50
Climbing shoes			Various sizes	Call

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Treasurer's Report

Statement of Operations

to 1 October 05

Category Description	Amount
INCOME	
Access	202.00
Advertising	50.00
Dues 2005	4,933.00
Return of NSF expenses	31.00
Friends of Queen Creek	320.00
Interest	122.01
Merchandise (Tee Shirts & Etc)	399.00
Mountaineering Schools	537.00
Rental Income (incl shoes)	59.00
T&S School Rental Income	175.00
Training Income	11,535.00

TOTAL INCOME 18,513.01

EXPENSES

Access Fund Payment	202.00
Administration	801.43
Capital Exp	302.60
Classification	1,030.00
Friends of Queen Creek	320.00
Insurance	4,337.25
Library	30.00
Newsletter	2,872.15
Outings	94.18
Programs & Monthly Meeting Exp	4,323.23
Service/Bank Charge	73.00
Training	6,376.24

TOTAL EXPENSES 20,762.08

OVERALL FOR YEAR TO DATE (2,249.07)

ACCOUNT BALANCES

CD Account 1/21/06	10,121.73
Checking 12/31/05	9,482.30

TOTAL CASH ASSETS 19,604.03
Other Assets (gear) 2,048.25

OVERALL TOTAL 21,652.28

AMC programs present:

Canyoneering Arizona

Author Tyler Williams will trace the progression of canyoneering from its backpacking roots to the technical rope-intensive slots found in his recently revised guidebook.

Tyler Williams is a writer, photographer, and most of all a dedicated funhog. He moved to Arizona with his family in 1977, when his father traded professional football coaching for cattle ranching. Williams attended NAU for two years before adventure called. For nine years, Tyler traveled as an itinerant river guide from Idaho to West Virginia. In 1998 he wrote *Canyoneering Arizona*. *Grand Canyon River Hikes* followed in 2001, and *Whitewater Classics* was released in 2004. Tyler has also written and photographed for *Paddler*, *Canoe & Kayak*, and *Back Country* magazines, among others. He has completed over 100 multi-day hiking routes and paddled nearly 200 rivers worldwide. Williams was a featured athlete in *Backpacker* magazine's "tough dayhikers." Tyler lives in Flagstaff with his wife Lisa, and dog Kaibab.

AMC's November program will be at the Washington Adult Center
2240 West Citrus Way between Bethany Home Rd. and Glendale Ave.
7:00 p.m. on Monday, November 21st

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I wouldn't be doing my job as president if I did not remind you once in a while that we are a volunteer organization. Everything we do happens because one of the AMC members makes sure it gets done. Some of the hardest working members are committee chairs whom we sometimes take for granted: the lead instructors of the schools we offer, the newsletter editor, membership, programs, website and e-mail – these are just a few of the functions that take quite a bit of time, often behind the scenes. Some of our members have done the work for many years, it's all volunteer work, and the rest of us benefit.

Sometimes it's time to get new people involved. I am asking you to take a close look at yourself and to volunteer for one of the positions. You don't have to do it forever, but consider giving a few hours every month for a year. We want you to consider running for the Board; we need someone to be responsible for e-mail/voice mail; we are looking for members to help run some of the classes, and you may want to consider becoming an outing leader.

We also want you to get involved in our community projects. As climbers and hikers we want to give back where possible to help preserve our environment and to help promote the good reputation of our local climbing community. Please mark October 29 on your calendar: a group will go to the Oak Flats campground area and pick up trash and then climb in Queen Creek. Another small group will help with the climbing wall at the Washington Adult Rec. Center (9am-12noon). If you have an hour or two, please call me to sign up.

Jutta

Adopt-a-Crag Labors

Sisyphus rolling his rock uphill has nothing on the AMC'ers who responded to the call of the Access Fund to get out and clean up our climbing areas.

For the umpteenth time AMC members went Over the Rim at the Grand Canyon this fall to gather paper cups, hats, camera lens caps, coins, old batteries and other assorted junk pitched over the side or snatched by sudden winds. A bonus this year — a body that someone lost. Possibly more on this later.

Phoenix-bound members performed the more mundane but much needed task of picking up glass, cans and bottle caps from The Beardsley Boulders area. It is now a Phoenix Parks-owned parcel, which offers at least the possibility of good things in the future. About 20 stoop laborers gathered buckets full of glass shards, enough to fill two pickup truck beds. As a reward for their help they were "permitted" to plant a dozen or fifteen eight-inch saguaros in the shade of palo verde trees.



At present the Beardsley Boulders is gated off but within walking distance for climbers; hopefully not for high-school partiers. Local shops sell a \$2 guide to it. Use the middle east road for best semi -access.

Via Ferrata in Italy by John Keedy

After months of planning, preparation and conditioning, Debbie Fuentes, Rogil Schroeter and I departed Phoenix on US Airways bound for Cortina de Ampezzo, Italy via Philadelphia and Munich, Germany. It was Friday, September 16 and the weather was the typical 100 plus, but we were looking forward to cooler weather in the Dolomite Mountains of northern Italy, and did we get it!! But more about that later.

I want to thank Tom Conner for introducing me to the Via Ferrata of Italy about two years ago. The Via Ferrata were developed by the Italian Army in the First World War when they were fighting against the Austrians on their northern border to enable soldiers to carry heavy loads up steep terrain without needing to be rock climbers. Metal rungs, ladders, chains and cables were installed to facilitate aid climbing. These routes were renovated and improved by Alpine Clubs and local governments to enhance tourism. The area is quite crowded in July and August when Europeans normally take their holidays, but September is supposed to be the best time to be there with typically good weather and few tourists.

The flight from Phoenix to Philadelphia and on to Munich was essentially uneventful, with a little more legroom on the international flight. While descending into Munich we were greeted with heavy overcast and rain showers, but that was a pleasant change from Phoenix weather. We met our guide Thia Klebaur, from OnTop Mountaineering of Canmore AB, outside the customs area, loaded our baggage into his car and headed south toward Italy. This was the first day of Oktoberfest in Munich so we ran into a lot of traffic and it took us a couple of hours to really get going on the Autobahn. We didn't get very far out of Munich when the car's oil sensor let out a loud chirp. Beating on the dash and instrument panel didn't help so Thia took the next exit and got off the Autobahn. It's still raining, getting worse and soon to be dark. Looking under the car we could see oil draining from the back of the engine, not a good sign. Thank goodness for cell phones, Thia called and arranged for alternate transportation, but we would have a couple of hours to wait. A local businessman stopped and asked if he could help. Thia asked him to take us down the road to a Gasthaus where we could get out of the rain and have a meal. Under pressure, enough of my German came back to allow us to order what turned out to be a delicious meal of Weinerschnitzel and noodles topped



The Dolomites John Keedy

off with some good German beer and a piece of apple Strudel.

By the time we got started again, it was dark and really just about the time we were supposed to arrive in Cortina, but we still have three or four hours to drive, under normal conditions. We left Germany and crossed Austria, still in the rain so we couldn't see much. After entering Italy, we took secondary roads east into the Dolomites and across three mountain passes toward Cortina most of which consist of multiple switchbacks. The rain got worse and as we started to top out over the first pass the rain started sticking to the windshield in the form of snow, but it wasn't sticking to the road and we went back down and across the valley. The second pass was higher and by the time we reached the saddle, the snow was about an inch deep. Traction broke loose a couple times on sharp turns, but Thia was skillful and able to control the skid. We still have another pass to go over before reaching Cortina and none of us is feeling particularly at ease. The last pass had about three inches of snow as we crossed over and it was treacherous at best. We are not prepared for winter conditions, but here they are.

We arrived at our B & B, the Casa Tua, about 10:30 pm, met the fourth member of our group, Jim Harwood and settled in for the night. We plan tomor-

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Sun Ribbon Arête by Mike Knarzer

Sometimes a climb grabs hold of you and doesn't let go. It just sticks in your head until you finally step up and do it. One such climb for me was Sun Ribbon Arête on Temple Crag, located in the John Muir Wilderness area of California's Sierra Nevada. It is easy to understand the allure of such a climb. An 18 pitch 5.10a route that follows a thin arête up 2000' of quality Sierra granite in a remote & spectacular alpine setting is enough to get my attention. Add a mandatory tyrolean traverse halfway up, and it was just too much to resist. So, after a couple years of saying "One of these days..." I finally got to it.

Labor Day Weekend seemed like a good choice for a few reasons, primarily to avoid afternoon storms. Also, the previous Labor Day weekend AMC'ers Samantha Hicks, Tim Lee, Bill Van, and myself had climbed the East Buttress of Mt. Whitney (5.7, 11 pitches), so why not make it a tradition?

Tim Lee and I left on August 31st for Bishop, CA, taking the scenic route through Death Valley. We asked around Bishop about free camping nearby and were told there was absolutely no free camping around and that all pay sites would be full. However, after a very short drive north of town we found an empty, free, and legal campsite. So much for local beta.

Early next morning we drove to the ranger station before it opened and got our permit. We drove to the North Fork of Big Pine trailhead, geared up, and started our 6 mile approach to 7 Lakes Basin. The hike was beautiful, following Big Pine Creek through wildflower filled meadows and aspen groves guarded by giant granite walls and peaks. The creek is really just one long, roaring cascade, with almost continuous small waterfalls and a few big ones. Eventually we turned a corner and got our first glimpse of Temple Crag. The first thing you notice is the enormous Dark Star Buttress jutting out from the center. Just east of this were the 3 Celestial Arêtes: Sun Ribbon Arête, Moon Goddess Arête (5.9, 14 pitches), and Venusian Blind (5.7, 12 pitches). We arrived at the creatively named First Lake, a glacially fed, turquoise blue tarn situated at the base of Temple Crag. We soon passed Second Lake, a larger version of the first, then arrived at Third Lake. We set up camp between Second and

Third lakes, ate dinner at sunset, and went for a night hike. That night I lay awake under the stars for hours, too energized to sleep.

Though we had boldly spoken of leaving by 5 AM, we arose around 6 & left around 7. The approach was about 1/2 mile of steep scrambling, followed by a small snowfield. Another party was climbing Venusian Blind and had fixed a rope across the snowfield. We gladly used it, then Tim led a short pitch, after which we did a small, scary traverse across some ice to arrive at the base of the climb.

After scrambling up a ledge, Tim quickly led the first pitch, a 5.7 chimney. As planned, we simul-climbed the next 2 pitches. When I got to the 4th pitch, an exposed 5.7 up the slender arête, I kept on simul-climbing. "Um, what are you doing?" asked Tim. "I'm going up" I said. "When you get to the bottom stop and put me on belay. Is that ok?" "Sure" he replied. In the interest of time, we had planned to mostly ignore the standard belays and just climb until we ran out of rope, then set up a belay wherever that happened to be. So when Tim alerted me that I had only 10' of rope left, I set up a belay on a small ledge. Tim started climbing, and only then did I finally look around and admire the scenery. The 8 lakes of 7 lakes basin were laid out in succession over 2000' below, separated by the cascading creek. Some of them were a bright turquoise blue, which contrasted beautifully with the huge granite peaks surrounding the basin. To our left was the jagged Moon Goddess Arête; to our right was the massive Dark Star Buttress. Below us was only air. Tim arrived and we swapped leads on a few more pitches until arriving at the tyrolean traverse.

The arête disappeared in front of us, re-appearing about 20' away. Another 5' farther was a small block that we were to lasso to set up the tyrolean. Tim & I each grabbed a coil of rope with several feet hanging loose in between. We counted to 3 and threw, but missed. A few more tries and we eventually succeeded. We made a loop with the block and the anchor (2 old pitons and 2 fixed nuts), tensioned the loop

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Thunder Mountain, 13,108 feet, Grizzly Gulch, CO, Class 4/5.0

This past Labor Day Susan Morris and I planned to bag one of the last high 13'ers left on my list in SW Colorado, Jagged Mountain. Some say that it is the finest peak climb in CO, but all say it is one of the few Colorado mountains that require a minimum of a two-day approach from any angle.

Shouldering quite heavier than reasonable packs for the 11.3 miles approach to base camp, we climbed up the well-maintained multi-use trail from the head of Vallecito Lake near Durango. Rumor had it that some avalanche debris had wiped out portions of the trail, but we were not mentally prepared for the absolute trauma a major series of avalanches could visit upon a valley. Two-foot in diameter major trees were cast about like matchsticks hundreds of yards up the far hillside. Trying to hike through the debris was a major effort, especially with a 65 lb pack full of backpacking and climbing gear. Some logs had to be slid under, some shimmied along, and others grotesquely climbed over.

The downed timber and forest wreckage was so deep that major sections of avalanche ice remained insulated underneath the accumulation. In more than one spot the ice was several hundred yards wide and near 10 feet deep -- still in August no less.

At one point a major bridge was simply gone, remnants of concrete and steel scattered a hundred yards up the opposite bank. Vallecito creek was still running and the only dry crossing in one point was to walk 10 feet above the raging waters on a thankfully two-foot wide log miraculously braced at both ends.

Once beyond the worst of the first day's jumble, we camped and revisited our plans. Five seasoned CO climbers had just tried Jagged and hadn't summited anything, being stopped by the accumulative hindrance of three additional major avalanches in the Sunlight drainage approach itself.

We decided to keep our options open, but upon rising the next day, the cumulative effects of the avalanche crossings the first day were paying their toll, at least on me. At 8.3 miles up the Vallecito Creek trail, Johnson Creek enters from the west. It is an alternative, if longer, access to Chicago Basin over Colum-

bine Pass.

As Susan and I were debating our options the weather was turning dark and a brother and sister team joined us at the trail juncture. He, Tom, in particular was interested in gaining a summit, although they didn't have technical gear. Laura was enjoying her 25th birthday and wanted her brother to summit.

Responding to a question about what peaks were available in the area, I swept my hand toward the large mountain immediately above the creek confluence, "Well, that wouldn't be a bad objective. See... gain the ridge over there, and follow it to the summit block. You'd have to be careful there among the cliffs, but you probably could work your way through."

As I said it, our trip plans began to coalesce in my mind. I said to Susan, "Let's take them up there."

After camping in the marvelous meadow, and being dosed suitably by the afternoon showers, we formulated an early departure with Laura and Tom.

Rain once again plagued the night and we waited another hour before morning departure in hopes of something drier.

The route was actually fairly straightforward. Hike up Johnson Creek trail until it became convenient to catch the SE ridge of Thunder Mountain which swept in a long semi-circle from the trail to the summit. Occasionally a game trail presented itself, but generally we simply followed the ridge line.

Given our later start, dropping cloud cover yet again, and being the slowest member of the group, near timberline with the ascent route laid out in front of us, I suggested that Susan lead Tom and Laura up and that I would follow them at my own speed.

The three-some soon were scrambling above me up scree to the shoulder, and then to the summit. Some fourth class (maybe 5.0, lots of exposure and hands needed for upward progress) scrambling led them to the false summit, where I saw them a short distance above me.

Soon, they were on the summit, and a short time

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Climbing Anchors School Arizona Mountaineering Club Fall 2005

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: Gain experience setting anchors by practicing "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 instructor supervision and then spend the day climbing.

Class schedule:

Nov 8	Tuesday	6:30 pm–9:30 pm	*Dreamy Draw Park (Phoenix)
Nov 10	Thursday	6:00 pm–9:30 pm	Dreamy Draw Park
Nov 12	Saturday	8:00 am–4:00 pm	North Scottsdale
Nov 13	Sunday	7:00 am–5:00 pm	Climbing area to be announced during class

-*To get to Dreamy Draw Park take SR 51 (Piestewa 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, rapel, 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 (\$13 for an individual and \$15 for a family). Membership is good through Dec., 2005. 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 info@amcaz.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.amcaz.org.



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, Mammot, 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.

Help Wanted

Advertising Chair

We need someone to handle newsletter advertising and perhaps solicit more discounts from merchants for Club members.

Newsletter

Like writing? Like publishing? We are looking for someone interested in taking over the editing of the newsletter. Should have a computer with good graphics capability. We will provide software and training.

Outing Leaders

Become a paragon of virtue exalted to the heavens by grateful AMC'ers. Wayne S. can tell you how.

School Leaders

The Training and Schools Committee (T&S) is looking for people who are interested in becoming more involved in the schools. Some of us who have been teaching for a while would like to start developing replacements. If the idea of teaching interests you, please talk to Sally Larimer, Robert England or Wayne Schroeter or email T&S at wayne@iWayne.com. It is much easier for us to train people gradually than to try to get replacements quickly.

Yahoo Group Monitors

We are looking for two members who can help manage our Internet mail groups. This will take very little time, so if you don't have much time but wanted to contribute to the club, consider this opportunity. We have three groups to monitor. There is minimal maintenance, perhaps occasionally changing a name.

Need Email/Voicemail Volunteer

The club is seeking someone to take over the AMC email and voicemail functions before the end of the year. Total time investment per month is on the order of 2-3 hours. Whoever takes over will receive detailed instructions and can work with the current email administrator to ease the transition. Below is an overview of this position's responsibilities.

Email Responsibilities:

- a.. Set up a separate address book with all AMC members (one-time process, plus updates)
- b.. Check email on a daily basis, or at least every other day
- c.. Maintain the list by adding, deleting and changing addresses per Rogil's monthly updates
- d.. Send out emails from Board members
- e.. Send out monthly meeting reminders
- f.. Send out the electronic newsletter link
- g.. Respond to inquires by answering questions or directing people to the responsible party
- h.. Send out membership information as requested (unusual, since most people now use the online forms)
- i.. Notify Rogil of email address problems so she can contact the member for updated information

Voicemail Responsibilities:

- a.. Check voicemail at least once per week
- b.. Respond to inquires by answering questions or directing people to the responsible party
- c.. Send out membership information as requested

If you're interested in helping with this important club function, please send a message to the current email administrator at azmountaineering@cox.net, or email the Board members at board@amcaz.org.

Thanks!

Climbing Wall Operators Needed

The Washington Adult Center will have the City of Phoenix-owned artificial climbing wall in its patio area on October 29th. It has asked the AMC to provide operators to fit people into harnesses so they can try climbing. The wall has an automatic belay/lowering system. The city provides liability insurance for volunteers. If you are not going to Queen Creek and can spare an hour or two, please come help. Call Jutta at 602-234-3579 for details.

New leaders hatched

An attentive group of 16 attended three evenings of lectures, demonstrations and slide shows at Dreamy Draw Park on three late September evenings—posing questions, brain synapses firing and memory banks fully engaged. (Teachers of ordinary 7th-graders would kill for such a class.)

But when ambition places one on the sharp end of a rope, as happened the very next Saturday and Sunday, an understanding of good technique, the common snarls to avoid, and knowledge of how to not get into uninvited trouble was worth every bit of the long hours spent sitting on concrete picnic table benches.

As usual, nearly a dozen AMC'ers helped teach the classes and assist with the days on the rocks. Many Thanks.... And Congratulations to the new group of Lead School Graduates. You are now hatched. Next thing is to grow out those pinfeathers, fly a lot, and become a fully fledged AMC outing leader.

Lead school students for Sept 2005:

Jodie Bostrom
Suzanne Cook
Shannon Flowers
Matthew Fritze
Jason Garvan
Victor Henckel
Michael Kreitz
Peter Neubauer
Paul Pacheco
Matt Percy
Bonnie Roill
Douglas Roill
Tricia Rudloff
Kelly Trainor
Jon Weir
Justin York

Instructors for Sept 2005
Lead school:

Nancy Birdwell
Mark Christiani
Bill Fallon
John Keedy
Tim Lange
Paul Mandel
Scott Parsons
Rogil Schroeter
Wayne Schroeter
Kathy Sharp
Paul Valenzuela

Board Minutes *(Continued from page 4)*

"II. AMC Group Outings (eff. 10-17-2005)

A. Group outings are intended to be social climbing experiences with no supervision. They may or may not be organized by an AMC Outing Leader. If they are organized by an AMC Outing Leader, the Leader will only be responsible for organizing the time, date, meeting places, and any necessary camping. The AMC Outing Leader may also set anchors, but will not be responsible for supervising any climbing activity or for monitoring the anchors they set. Participants are responsible for their own climbing activities, their own climbing partners, and for monitoring anchors, whether set by an AMC Outing Leader or not. Participants are also responsible for their own conduct and safety at the campsite and during any approaches to and from the climbing areas. If any AMC equipment is used for the outing, the participants using that equipment are responsible for checking the equipment before use and for using the equipment properly and in the safest manner possible. The campsite, where possible, may be reserved and paid for by the AMC. Parking may be first-come, first-served."

Motion to approve by Wayne, seconded by Jeff.
Passed.

Wayne mad a motion to amend the Classification Policy Paragraph B to include the phrase "unless approved by the Board." The full paragraph will now read:

"B. Prospective outing leaders for AMC rock climbing outings will submit the appropriate Outing Leader Application (Top Rope or Multi-Pitch) to the Classification Committee Chair. The application shall be accompanied by evidence of current First Aid certification and current certification in CPR/Life Support. Candidates must have been a member of the AMC for at least one year, unless approved by the Board."

Motion to approve by Wayne, second by John.
Passed.

Clay expressed concern over a negative budget submission.

Motion to adjourn by Wayne seconded by John.
Passed

Bourbon Street—Vegas Style

The second weekend of September 05 was good to me. I met up with my friend and climbing partner Kevin Dalhstrom, of Fort Worth, Texas and a couple of his friends from their Texas climbing club out of Dallas. Kevin made us all wonderful arrangements at a beautiful condo home in Las Vegas. Wow we had it all. What a pleasure, to arrive downstairs in the morning and have your climbing partners ask, “how do you like your eggs”? Over easy, and yes, I will be your belay slave...!

I contacted Larry DeAngelo in Vegas and asked if he would join us for a route and perhaps host and lead another friend of mine up as John Kynyk called at the last minute and was able to meet up in Vegas as well. (Larry is the historian writer in the Red Rocks Super Topo guide book). Larry called me back and was able to seal the deal.

Kevin, John and myself met Larry at the trail head pull off on the way back to Whiskey Peak located in the Black Velvet climbing area of Red Rocks. We discussed a couple of options for climbs. Then Larry recommended that we do two teams of two on his new route “Bourbon Street”, six pitches located to the right of Frogland a classic 5.8+. After Larry visited and verified with Kevin that he was comfortable at leading 5.10 trad we were off to Bourbon Street for a shot of this new route.

Larry and John roped up and led the way as the first team. Larry DeAngelo is an “old school trad guy”. Swami belts are in for Larry and hip belays are on...! Nor does he have the need to carry the half dome rack!

Kevin and I were up next. Kevin at 6’3 in his early 30’s cruised the first two pitches that were stiff and in my face at 5’5. Some very long reach sections. The start of the second pitch crack was difficult for John and myself due to height variance. If I had led this pitch I am sure I would have done a French free move here. Once you get past the start you encounter a beautiful crack line to the left. It looks intimidating but protects well and offers some awesome ring locks for those with big fingers. I was able to use opposing finger pressure. The feet were small and balancey. You then move right on to a small traverse ledge, be careful the climb is new and still has some loose rocks.

The climb goes for six pitches and gets three stars *** in my books. As it offers a variety of climbing techniques from hand jams, finger locks, smearing, balance, weight transitions and mantle moves with



Kevin, Larry and John Monica Miller

very intricate rock for selection of holds. Over all quality rock and protects well with medium to small pro.

Bourbon Street is a great alternative to the crowds you may encounter on Frogland. But you should be a solid 5.9 leader for this route. As it is a step up in technical difficulty on the sharp end of the rope as I have climbed Frogland on lead swings in May 04. Both routes are classics.

For more information on climbing Bourbon Street see www.climbingredrocks.com

I also recommend getting a copy of Larry DeAngelo’s new guidebook “Red Rock Odyssey” see www.verexpress.com

The second weekend in September is a fine time climb in Red Rocks, no crowds. The weather was beautiful and I racked up another 16 successful pitches of vertical rock for my ascent log.

- *Monica D. Miller*

Calling All Climbers: Time for J-Tree!

Aren't the holidays great! One of the great things about holidays is traditions. And spending Thanksgiving at Joshua Tree is a hallowed AMC Tradition for good reason.

The climbing at Joshua Tree is one word—AWESOME! Hundreds of routes, and days of climbing. There are easy top rope 5.7s to hangnail 5.12s. Lots of leads to test your skills, or seconding on routes that stretch your abilities. Even the infamous “bumper belays” and being surrounded by climbing walls all around you.

Thursday November 24 will be the traditional AMC Thanksgiving dinner—it is potluck bring your best recipe.

Some folks may go out early, you can drive straight from work in 5 hours. If you go early, make camping arrangements.

NOTE CHANGE IN CAMPSITES

AMC has reserved from noon Wednesday, 11/23 through noon Friday 11/25:

Indian Cove group site #1—60 campers and 20 cars. The Indian Cove site will be used for the annual Turkey day Dinner!

We also have 5 reserved family sites (6 people, 2 cars) for Friday and Saturday night—there will be a lottery on Thanksgiving day to pick the 5 lucky winners. All other camping is on your own.

All campsites are primitive, no water or electricity. If possible bring wood for evening campfires. The towns of Joshua Tree and 29 Palms are about 20 minutes away if you need a meal, motel, or shower. Space is very limited, CARPOOLING is highly desirable.

To get there, go towards Los Angeles on I-10 passing through Blythe and Desert Center. Watch for the Joshua Tree Cottonwood entrance. Drive north through the park to 29 Palms, then drive west to the Indian Cove entrance. If you hit Joshua Tree, you have gone too far. There are usually about 40 to 60 AMCs in attendance, some folks go all week, some go for a day or two.

Weather is variable. Days are usually warm and

sunny, nights will be chilly, and it is usually windy. Nothing is certain, so be prepared to get scorched, rained, snowed, or whatever. There are numerous guidebooks available in the local shops, it is a good idea to own one for the correct portion of the park.

THANKSGIVING DINNER AT J-TREE.

Thanksgiving Dinner at J-tree is usually a gustatory delight of epicurean heights. However a volunteer is needed to coordinate all the tastes.

You can contribute your favorite recipe and bring other items needed. Sign-up to bring side dishes, salads, breads, desserts, and meats. Dishes should be prepared and ready to serve. Stoves are usually available to keep food warm. Non-food items are also needed: Stoves and fuel, folding tables, lanterns, large pots, serving spoons, tablecloths, firewood, water to wash up. Bring your own utensils, beverages, dishes, and a chair.

Contact Clay Vollmer at 602-595-7266 to coordinate.

Thank You, Thank You!

Thanks to everyone who contributed stories and photos to this issue — the biggest of the year. Having an informative and entertaining newsletter depends entirely on you club members who go out of your way to pass on your experiences.

It is not that hard — send a photo or write a few lines about your next foray into the wild vertical yonder.

Thanks again. — Ed.

Sun Ribbon Arete *(Continued from page 9)*

as tight as we could using a munter hitch, and tied it off. I was supposed to be the ‘guinea pig’ and go first, but had managed to get my personal anchor caught in the tensioned mess of webbing, so Tim boldly started the tyrolean traverse. When he reached the other side, I released the tension, rotated the knot over to Tim, and he re-tensioned the loop while I adjusted my personal anchor.

I then started across, feeling the adrenaline as I looked down at all that air below. Upon arriving at the other side, we quickly untied the rope and Tim started leading the next pitch, a 5.6-ish traverse.

The following pitch was a 5.10a traverse leading to a 5.9 handcrack. I stepped off of the arête to the right which immediately provided massive exposure. Although the traversing moves weren’t too technically hard, they were airy & committing. I became sketched at the last move, a sideways lunge to a good handhold in a crack, which despite my fears I stuck. I placed 2 cams to calm my nerves, climbed the handcrack, and continued on above, getting runout on some rotten rock until finally finding good rock to set up a belay. We swapped several more leads, along with some more simul-climbing. Once the rope became stuck and Tim actually did another Tyrolean traverse to free it. The climb seemed to go on almost forever until I finally came to the start of the last pitch, which was mostly 4th-class with easy climbing but a 3000’ drop-off. We un-roped, and while I coiled the rope, Tim scrambled to the top to scope out our descent.

There wasn’t much time to enjoy the 12,999’ summit, so after a brief pause to soak up the surrounding peaks and Palisade Glacier, Tim pointed down a giant boulder field and said “I think we go down that way until we find a rappel.” We scrambled down a long, steep, disjointed trail as the sky turned from dusk to dark. When it seemed we could hike no farther, a rap station materialized ahead and down I went. Unfortunately I reached the end of the ropes long before the ground, so after slinging a chock-stone I called “off rappel” and warned Tim as he came down. We slung a small horn to back up the chock-stone and rappelled again, this time reaching the ground. After scrambling down another loose trail, we seemed to be trapped by

steep, slick snowfields. It seemed a rappel down one of the snowfields would get us to the route back, but we were unsure. After much debate, we decided to do the safe thing and just wait until morning when we could see.

We found a small ledge out of the wind, spread out my rope for a cushion, unfolded our space-blanket, and tried to sleep. It was cold but not freezing. We slept intermittently, and by morning had torn the thin, flimsy blanket to shreds. At first light it was clear that the previously mentioned rappel would easily lead us to safety. We could have been sleeping in warm sleeping bags all night! However there were no regrets; we made the safe decision.

While hiking down to camp that Saturday morning we passed a party hiking up to climb Venusian Blind. Our haggard appearance and night on a ledge probably did not help to inspire confidence in their day ahead. After arriving at camp we ate, packed up, and hiked out.

We scrapped our plans to climb Incredible Hulk and detoured to Yosemite. We were lucky enough to end our trip with a surprisingly crowd-free ascent of the classic Nutcracker (5.8, 6 pitches), The Valley’s first climb using all clean pro. It was a fun, mellow way to end a memorable Labor Day weekend!

- Mike Knarzer

NEW AMC MEMBERS

Bill Arndt
Chantell Cornett
Jennifer Derse
Jonathan Diller
Ron Donaldson
Tom Folwell
John Kadylak
Dana Medema
Kevin Medema
Dayna Mueller
Tim Pickett
George Roso
Randi Sheer
Bobby Yang

Alpine Rock Seminar Nov. 5th

The AMC Mountaineering Committee's 1-day Alpine Rock Seminar will take place in two weeks. The hands-on training is for climbers with solid rock climbing skills who are interested in alpine adventures in mountainous conditions. It is recommended that participants all have taken the AMC Basic, AARS, and Lead Schools.

Topics include: mountainous terrain, weather, altitude, judgment, equipment and team considerations. During the field exercise, alpine rope work, including double rope techniques, route finding, alpine considerations for anchoring and belaying, alternatives for descending will be discussed and demonstrated. Silent communication will be shown and practiced. The Seminar will be held locally on Saturday, November 5 at a place yet to be determined.

This is not an introductory seminar. Rather, it is designed for those who are already accomplished in their craft but want to apply it in the mountains. If you are interested in the topic but not sure you are ready, the Alpine Rock seminar is offered yearly in the Fall.

For details or questions contact Erik Filsinger, AMC Mountaineering Chair, at smorefil@aol.com. AMC Class fees will be \$50 for new students and \$25 for refresher students. Number of participants limited.

Thunder Mtn *(Continued from page 15)*

later I joined them. Across Grizzly Gulch the south face of Windom, infinitely more impressive than the regular route, and the backside of the high 13'er Jupiter I'd climbed in 1977, were just the first of rows of alpine ridges stretching in all four directions.

We left in short order, and actually just got to camp before the storm broke for that day. Tent bound for several hours, we caught up on some rest. After a short break in the weather we used to cook supper, we were once again forced to dive into the tents for a storm that lasted until morning.

Benefiting from the route finding hassles of the approach, our hike out was accomplished without major drama.

After some beer and real food at Steamworks that night, Susan and I ran a few laps at the X-Rock climbing area five short minutes from our hotel. Later, as always, the long drive home.

Nevertheless, I would heartily recommend that folks trekking up the Vallecito Creek trail consider a day's camp at the confluence of Vallecito with Johnson creeks and ascend that pretty mountain that dominates your view—Thunder Mountain.

Check it out. You won't find anyone else there I'll wager. Heck, it isn't even in Rosebrough's San Juan guidebook, just the old stand-by CMC compendium.

- Erik Filsinger

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>



Post-grad Clean and Climb at Queen Creek

It is a traditional introduction to one of the neat places held dear in AMC's hearts — the Queen Creek/Oak Flats area up the hill east of Superior. AMC's basic school graduates are introduced to one or several of our favorite climbing gems—Pancake House, The Mine, The Canyon itself, or any of a dozen other choice faces and spires.

But this only after the recent Basic Climbing School graduates have "paid their dues" by cleaning up a mile long stretch of highway 60 near the turnoff to Oak Flat Campground. That usually takes only an hour or two. Veterans are welcome too, of course.

This is the area that will be changed into a gaping, off limits, unclimbable and horrid hole in the ground if British investors get their way—with our Congress delisting Oak Flats as an area devoted solely to recreation as now guaranteed by decree of the U.S. Govern-

ment.

But make October 29th a happy day—help with the cleanup and then go climb the routes set up by AMC leaders. There are no limits.

Getting there: One can still camp overnight at the Oak Flat USFS campground a quarter mile south of the turnoff. There are toilets and a host but no water.

Or you could drive that morning from your home to arrive at the Oak Flat road turnoff by 9:00.

Or you could be in the Mesa Community College's southwesternmost parking lot by 8:00 a.m. and trust that some kind climber will stop by and offer you a ride. With gas at \$3.00 per gallon, it is the meet, right and proper thing to do for poolers to contribute to filling the poolee's gas tank, don't you think?

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.

Via Ferrata *(Continued from page 8)*

row to head out in the morning on a two day trek from Lagazuoi Pass to Rifugio Lagazuoi for the night and then on to Fourcla Travenanzes, and ascent of Tofana di Rozes by the Via Ferrata Lapella. We'll see. Had a great breakfast with cereal, yogurt, cheese, prosciutto, bread, hard rolls, jam, juice and coffee. We got up to Lagazuoi Pass and found several inches of snow, but we are going to make a go it and see how it is up higher. As we ascended, the snow got deeper, the wind was howling and the snow still coming down at times. We did make it to the first Refugio, but it was a struggle. During lunch, which was fabulous, we made the decision to go back down to Lagazuoi Pass via the First World War tunnels and reconsider our options. Over dinner, we made the decision to head south to Lake Garda area, three hours south where another On-Top Mountaineering group would meet us in the town of Arco. They were snowed out in the Brenta area as well.

Up early and piled into the car for the three hour drive to Arco where we stayed at a very B & B and did day trips rather than the hut to hut itinerary we had planned earlier. We did Rio Sallagoni, an interesting slot canyon with a cable crossing of the canyon and a castle on top of the hill above the slot canyon. Next day we tackled the longest Ferrata in Italy named after an early pioneer Ernesto che Guevara. This was 1380 meters (4480 Ft) of nearly sheer cliff. We did six Ferrata during our stay in Arco. All were challenging and every one brought different scenery while climbing as well as from on top. The weather was great with temperatures in the mid 40s at night and high 70 during the day.

Another highlight of this trip was the food. As northern Italy was part of the Austro-Hungarian Empire before World War I, most of the people consider themselves Austrian by ethnicity. All the road signs, street signs and even the menus in the restaurants are in both German and Italian. The food also reflects the mixing of Italian and German cuisine with lots of pasta and gnocchi dishes as well as stews, goulash and meat dishes. Didn't know which way to go, everything was so good.

On Thursday we drove back north to Cortina to finish out our Ferrata adventure in that area as the snow had nearly all melted by then. Early Friday morning we headed up to Rifugio Auronzo where we started one of the classic Ferrata Torre Toblino where we also hiked around the very impressive formation



From right to left, Rogil Schroeter, John Keedy, Debbie Fuentes and guide

Tre Cime di Lavaredo or the Three Sisters of Lavar-endo. Torre Tobline is a formation with several off-width cracks leading to the summit. Some pieces of the old wooden ladders are still in the cracks, left from WWI.

Metal ladders and cables line the route in the most difficult, steep and overhung areas. The guide book states "The route climbs steeply up the back of a pronounced corner, on good but small holds leading to an airy traverse into the foot of the chimney which is the exciting crux of the route." After another airy traverse and up a series of very exposed ladders, we reached the summit. From here you can see well into Austria to the north as well as a wonderful 360-degree vista of mountains and canyons and deep gorges some thousands of feet deep. After descending the other side of the mountain we arrived at Rifugio Locatelli where we had a good lunch before our trek around Tre Cime di Lavaredo. It took about three hours back to the car but such a beautiful trek.

Saturday was a travel day and we arrived in Munich in mid afternoon. Rather than have dinner, we decided to go to the Oktoberfest and see what that was all about. The crowds were massive and it was quite a change from the solitude we experienced on the trails and in the mountains. We tasted some of the local drinks and food before retreating back to the hotel for a good nights sleep and pack for the return trip.

- John Keedy

Calendar of Events (Continued from page 20)

Car-pooling is optional on all outings and is not part of the outing. The outing begins at the trailhead designated by the Outing Leader and ends at the same place. Each participant should bring a First Aid kit. If you leave the outing, with or without the leader's permission, you are considered to be on your own until you rejoin the group. Each participant will be required to sign an AMC Activity Release Form at the beginning of the outing. 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.

***Group outings** are intended to be social climbing experiences with no supervision. They may or may not be organized by an AMC Outing Leader. If they are organized by an AMC Outing Leader, the Leader will only be responsible for organizing the time, date, meeting places, and any necessary camping. The AMC Outing Leader may also set anchors, but will not be responsible for supervising any climbing activity or for monitoring the anchors they set. Participants are responsible for their own climbing activities, their own climbing partners, and for monitoring anchors, whether set by an AMC Outing Leader or not. Participants are also responsible for their own conduct and safety at the campsite and during any approaches to and from the climbing areas. If any AMC equipment is used for the outing, the participants using that equipment are responsible for checking the equipment before use and for using the equipment properly and in the safest manner possible. The campsite, where possible, may be reserved and paid for by the AMC. Parking may be first-come, first-served.*

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

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.

Feb 18-20 **AMC Beginning Ice Climbing and Avalanche Awareness Course** offered by Southwest Adventures, a guide service based in Durango, Colorado, President's Day Weekend (Feb 18-20). (This is not an official AMC event.) Learn the basics of ice climbing in a top rope situation. Group gear provided. Rentals available. 4 person minimum at \$205 per person for Basic Ice and \$60 per person for Avalanche Awareness. For further information on the class, contact Erik Filsinger at smorefil@aol.com.

Calendar of Events

AMC Outings

Please note: It is suggested that Outing participants donate gas money to the Outing Leader, and that car-poolers share the cost of gas for the driver. See footnotes below for other info about outings.

- Oct 27-30 **Hueco Tanks, Texas.** The bouldering mecca of the world!!!! You have watched people climb boulders for years, tried it at the local gym or even outside. So let's go on a road trip to Texas this October. There is no need of experience, just the passion to climb and learn. Hueco has everything from easy to V-hard. This will be a bouldering workshop to help you boulder safer and stronger, but most of all have fun!!! Since Hueco is a Texas State Historical Site I need to make reservations. You must confirm reservations and pay the balance of \$4.00 a day (\$12.00 for the trip) by September 15, 2005. Contact Richard Horst 623-434-4769.
- Oct 29 **Queen Creek Cleanup and Climb.** See page 14 for details.
- Nov 2 **Anchors School Instructor Meeting.** Details will be emailed to potential instructors.
- Nov 5 **Alpine Rock Seminar.** See page 15 for details. This is designed as an advanced sharing session for folks who have solid leading skills but want to venture into alpine and mountainous terrain. \$50 for new students. \$25 for refresher students. For information and details contact Erik Filsinger at smorefil@aol.com. Class size limited.
- Nov 8, 10, 12,13 **AMC Anchors School.** See page 11 for details.
- Nov 19 **Teddy Bear Wall,** South Mountain Park. John Keedy will be offering a NO LIMIT OUTING to Teddy Bear Wall. This will be a climb and picnic at South Mountain Park on Saturday, Nov. 19th. For more information, call John Keedy at 623-412-1452 or e-mail him at jwkeedy@cox.net.
- Nov 23-27 **Thanksgiving at J-Tree (group outing).** Info on page 10. Group outings are not supervised (see below).
- Dec 3 **Mt Lemmon,** Tucson. "The Ruins" Come and join Mike Knarzer and Monica Miller for some fabulous winter climbing at The Ruins that offer over 30 climbs ranging from 5.9 to 5.11. Optional overnight camping at Molino Campground located between mile post 5 and 6 on the lower portion of the mountain. Limit 12. Contact Monica Miller at monkmiller510@yahoo.com.
- Dec 9 **AMC Holiday Party.** Place to be announced later.

Footnotes: (on continued page)

(Calendar continued on page 19)

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 Nancy Birdwell at (480) 821-1932.

Tom Conner	480-897-7623	Mike Knarzer.....	602-751-1701	Chris Query.....	602-323-5927
Robert England	480-821-4243	Tim Lange	480-598-9124	Tim Schneider.....	480-497-8377
Erik Filsinger	602-906-1186	David Larimer	480-425-9689	Rogil Schroeter	623-512-8465
Jeff Hatfield	480-897-1750	Sally Borg Larimer ...	480-425-9689	Wayne Schroeter	602-402-1631
Scott Hoffman	623-580-8909	Tim Medlock	480-963-3496	Jef Sloat	602-316-1899
Richard Horst	623-434-4769	Monica Miller.....	623-362-0456	Mick Strole	520-856-3335
David Johnson.....	623-486-7387	Paul Norberg.....	602-808-9244	Frank Vers.....	480-947-9435
John Keedy.....	623-412-1452	Paul Paonessa	602-493-7356	Tim Ward.....	602-212-1929

NOVEMBER 2005

AMC Outing Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 <i>CAMRA Mtg</i> <i>New moon</i>	2 An- chors Instr Mtg Sunrise 6:48 Sunset 5:35 No moon	3	4	5 Alpine Rock Sem.
6	7 <i>Board Mtg</i>	8 Anchors Class 1st Qtr Moon	9 <i>Sunrise 6:55 Sunset 5:29 M-rise 2 pm</i>	10 Anchors Class	11	12 Anchors Class
13 Anchors Class	14	15 <i>Full Moon</i>	16 <i>Sunrise 7:01 Sunset 5:22 M-rise 11:23p</i>	17	18	19 Teddy Bear Wall
20	21 <i>Members Meeting</i>	22	23 Thanks- giving at J tree Sunrise 7:07 Sunset 5:22	24 Thanks- giving at J tree	25 Thanks- giving at Jtree	26 Thanks- giving at Jtree
27 Thanks giving at J tree	28	29	30 <i>Sunrise 7:14 Sunset 5:20 No moon</i>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p>NOTE Celestial events occur about 10 minutes earlier on Arizona's eastern border; 10 later on its western edge.</p> </div>		