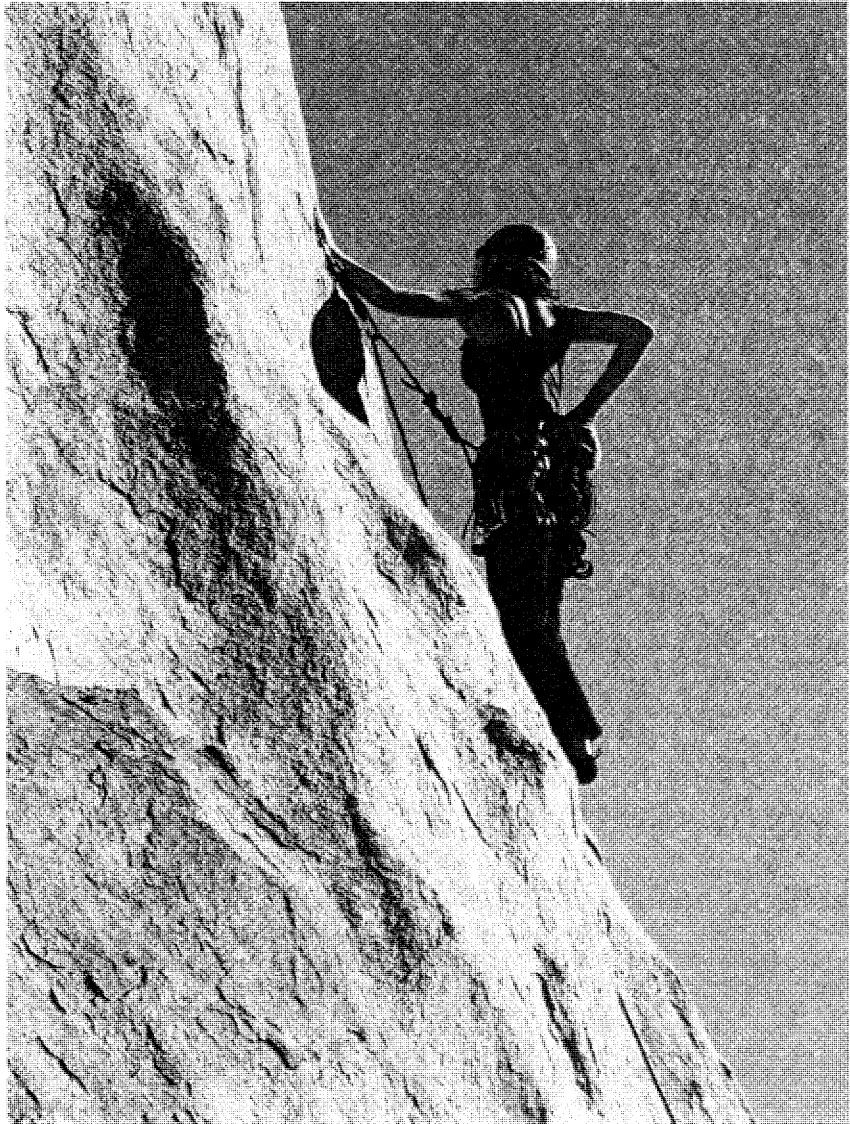


JANUARY 2005

ARIZONA MOUNTAINEER

Samantha Hicks cruises Dazed and Confused in J-Tree sunshine. Turn to page 16 to see a wintry landscape showing 10 inches of snow that fell in Sunday's storm, ample enough to construct 5-foot tall snowmen.

Photo by
Monica Miller



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

The January 2005 member meeting site is not certain yet. We will email the location, or go to the website prior to January 24.

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

Mail:

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

Board of Directors:

President..... Bruce McHenry . 602-952-1379
Vice-President Jutta Ulrich 602-234-3579
Secretary John Keedy 623-412-1452
Treasurer Clay Vollmer 602-595-7266
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:

Advertising..... Open
Archivist..... Jef Sloat..... 602-316-1899
Classification David Larimer.... 480-425-9689
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..... Tom Conner..... 480-897-7623
 Lead Class Wayne Schroeter 602-402-1631
T-shirts..... Sally Larimer 480-425-9689
WebSite..... Kirra
webadmin@azmountaineeringclub.org

The AMC Access Committee: The Committee works by itself and with the national Access Fund to maintain public access to climbing areas. If you know of areas that are threatened with closures or climbing restrictions, please notify the Access Fund representative Jutta Ulrich at (602) 234-3579.

The Access Fund: This is a national, non-profit, climber's organization that works to maintain access to climbing areas nationwide. Climbers can join The Access Fund by mailing an annual, tax-deductible donation of \$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

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 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.

NOT STUFF!!

BE RESOLUTE!
Join in defending
Queen Creek and other
threatened climbing areas.
Improve your skills on
rock, plastic, snow and ice
thru classes and practice.
Help make the AMC
work for all of us: volunteer
to teach, lead, make AMC
function — and have fun!

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.**)2005

February Deadline: 15 January

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Andrew White 3, Jeanette Christopher 4, Marcela Niemczyk 4, Dani Atlas 5, Alisa Reinhardt 5, Lisa Barnes 6, Bill Fallon 6, John Carlisle 9, Michael Turvey 9, Nicole Bennett 10, Jack Carlson 10, Donald Rubin 10, Bob Zimering 10, Joshua Jarowicz 11, Emily Theobald 11, Elizabeth Hardt 12, Tanya Sharp 13, Rich Kocher 18, Beatriz Martinez 18, Mick Strole 18, Jerry Arendell 19, Sean Stouffer 19, Kate Hansen 20, Monica Miller 21, Heather Simmons 24, William Briggs 25, Vicki Kooney 26, Suzanne Cook 28, Kirra Kurvink 29, Bryson Ochoa 29, Dick Severson 29, Steven Aron 30, Lee Morrell 30, Jodie Ainlay 31

Minutes of the AMC Board Meeting: December 1, 2004

Board Members Present: Bruce Mc Henry, Clay Vollmer, Jutta Ulrich, John Keedy, Wayne Schroeter

Committee Chairs Present: Wally Vegors
Members Present: Jeff Nagel, Robert England
Meeting called to order at 7 PM with quorum present. No Minutes from November Board Meeting as there was not a quorum.

Treasurer's Report

1. Clay reported that there is an unbalance between the Quicken accounting software and the actual bank balance in our favor that has evidently been carried over from the past. Motion made and seconded for Clay to make an adjustment of \$227.08 to the Quicken Ledger to bring it in balance with the actual amount in the bank account. Motion carried.
2. Clay reported that he has changed the account type with the bank to eliminate the monthly charges.
3. Discussion concerning surplus funds in our bank accounts and what to do with it. The surplus for this year is \$4412.13. Action taken. Motion made, seconded and carried to accept the Treasurer's Report.

AMC Membership is now at 436.

Old Business

- A. Motion made, seconded and carried to keep the Basic Class cost at \$160 rather than \$185.
- B. Wally reports that the Newsletter needs more articles. Wally also recommends that the club look for another person to work on the newsletter. Bruce will make an announcement at the Membership meeting and in the newsletter.
- C. John was asked to make a 2005 meeting schedule and email it to the Board.
- D. Meeting location was discussed. Bruce will look into Pueblo Grande as an alternate location.
- E. Motion made, seconded and carried to adopt the new AMC Release Form and AMC Activity Release Form. Wayne will reword the Bylaws to conform to the new Release Forms.
- F. No slate of candidates has been received from David Van Hook for the 2005 election of Officers and Board positions. So far the following have volunteered to run for the positions listed:
Jutta Ulrich - President
Robert England - Secretary
Clay Vollmer - Treasurer

Jeff Nagel - Director
John Keedy - Director

New Business

- G. Erik Filsinger submitted a proposal to have Southwest Adventures conduct Beginning Ice Climbing Seminar on Presidents Day weekend. Motion made, seconded and carried to approve this proposal.
- H. Bruce will contact Erik concerning other providers and how to list them in the newsletter.
- I. The State Land Recreational Use permit has been applied for.
- J. Liability Insurance – we have the binder but not the policy. Bruce is working that issue.
- K. Outings –
 1. Wayne suggested that an agenda item be included in each Board meeting to discuss Outings for the next month (s).
 2. Wayne suggested that the AMC purchase the website name AMCAZ.org to make it easier and simpler to identify us on the web. Motion made, seconded and carried to purchase that Web Address. Wayne will contact Kirra to accomplish this.
 3. After discussion, motion made, seconded and carried to adopt AZMTNCLUB@Yahoo.com as an official AMC chat group.
 4. Motion made, seconded and carried to have Kirra provide a link on our web site to the Yahoo group.
- L. Food for thought – How can the AMC do more activities with the various climbing gyms to support their activities and in turn obtain good will and cooperation from them?

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

NEW MEMBERS

William Briggs
Marc Henning
Stew McClintic
Brian Mix

Dan Payne
Kimberly Spencer
Jesse Valles

Dues be Due

It is that time again — \$25 for a single or \$30 for a family

See Rogil at a meeting or send your check to the address on page 2.

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
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			

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 Erik Filsinger at 480-314-1089.

Dues Paying Time Again

Need to refresh your dues by January in order to vote and participate in '05 AMC activities. The tab is \$25 for an individual or \$30 for a family. If you can't pay at a meeting, mail your check to:

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

Treasurer's Report

Statement of Operations
01Jan 04 Thru 01 Dec 04
Category Description

Amount

Category Description	Amount
INCOME	
Advertising.....	160.00
Decals	8.00
Dues.....	7,977.00
Friends of Queen Creek	384.00
Merchandise (Tee Shirts & Etc).....	615.00
Mountaineering Schools	400.00
Program Income	101.00
Rental Income (incl shoes).....	605.00
Training	18,450.00
Uncategorized	60.00

TOTAL INCOME 28,760.00

EXPENSES

Administration.....	736.70
Bouldering Contest.....	300.00
Capital Exp	1,070.93
Classification.....	537.00
Equipment Maint.....	63.00
Friends of Queen Creek	384.00
Insurance.....	4,843.13
Land Advocacy Committee.....	250.00
Library	60.00
Merchandise Exp.....	260.50
Mountaineering	70.57
Newsletter	3,253.90
Outings	513.05
Programs.....	4,734.34
Service/Bank Charge.....	82.12
Training	7,136.55
Uncategorized	53.08

TOTAL EXPENSES 24,347.37

OVERALL FOR YEAR TO DATE 4,412.63

ACCOUNT BALANCES (01 Dec 04)

CD Account	5,270.63
Savings	1,679.59
Checking.....	13,309.95

TOTAL CASH ASSETS 20,260.44
Other Assets (Library and gear) 5,967.75

OVERALL TOTAL 26,228.19

January Program

Please plan on coming to the January meeting on January 24. Sheri did not have confirmation at press-time for the planned program, but should shortly.

We will notify members by email and the website and through the Yahoo Group azmtclub@Yahoo.com when the details are available.

We will also be having elections in January, so come and socialize and vote!

We also don't have confirmation on where the meeting will take place, but when we know the location we will post it along with the details of the program. We are seeking a larger venue to better accommodate our members.

AMC Holiday Party

What: AMC Holiday Party

When: Friday, Dec. 17, starting at 6:00 pm

Where: at the home of Jutta Ulrich and Ben Norris, 1234 E. Luke Ave., Phoenix 85014. (602-234-3579).

All AMC members and their family/guests are invited to the AMC Holiday party on Dec. 17. This is a nice way to share some good times during the holiday season; typically we have a great turnout.

The AMC will provide a ham and soft drinks and ice. If you come, please bring a dish to share (salad, casserole, fried chicken, dessert, etc.). Also bring your favorite beverage if you want something other than soda or water or ice tea.

A long-standing tradition is the gift exchange. If you would like to participate, bring a wrapped gift (typically the value is \$5–10).

Directions:

You can get to our house only from 12th Street or 13th Street (NE of 12th St. and Missouri). If you come on SR 51, get off at Bethany Home, then go west to 12th Street.

From Bethany Home Rd., go south on 12th Street, past Montebello and a private drive, then left into Luke Ave. If you miss it, go left on Marshall or Missouri to circle around to 13th Street and again to Luke Ave.

From Camelback or further south, go north on 12th Street, past Missouri and Marshall, then right on Luke Ave.

Look for a single-family home with lawn and a small rickety brown fence.

— *Jutta Ulrich*

MEMBERS' PAGE

Get Involved!

The Board is looking for volunteers to fill the following committee positions:

Activities/Outings Chair — schedule outings and events, maintain activities calendar, recruit new Outing Leaders, and generally promote the club.

Assistant Newsletter Editor — assist with writing and production of the monthly newsletter. Wally could use the most help in having someone who can write up club outings and functions, as he is not always available to attend these.

If you are interested contact a Board Member.
—Bruce

AMC Queen Creek Clean & Climb

The Semi-Annual Queen Creek Clean Up & Climb was held on October 30, 2004. As always, the weather was perfect and the turnout was good. Fifteen participants gathered and bagged sixteen bags of roadside trash along the mile of AMC highway on either side of the Oak Flats turnoff.

Afterwards, the day was spent at the Pancake House in Upper Devil's Canyon. Scott Hoffman spirited the outing and along with Monica Miller, Kirra Kurvink, Kirsten Brock and Mike Knarzer, set up enough climbs to keep everyone busy and challenged.

Special thanks to members Richard Theobald, Jan Harding, Ron Auerbach, Terri Nelson, Kim Peterson, Suzy Allegra, Scott Parsons, Daniel Foster, and P.J. O'Connell. (Names taken from memory and the sign-in sheet and waivers)

Everyone is invited to come and enjoy any and all outings in the Queen Creek area since its days as a climbing mecca may be numbered. As the threat of closures and mining loom ahead, we might also want to give our united support to the Friends of Queen Creek. They are a group who have been working diligently to keep this area open to climbers and other outdoor enthusiasts.

See www.friendsofqueencreek.com and www.rockclimbing.com.

Submitted by Tiina, John & Emily Perlman

Reflections from a Newbie —

... on Climbing and the Scorpion Ridge Outing

I'm hooked; I'm addicted, I admit it! Rock climbing is an amazing sport... and the climb at Scorpion Ridge was another example of the fun, fearlessness, empowerment, and empathy of climbing with AMC.

I am not your typical "outdoorsy" person... I am not a hiker, biker, or camper, but I'm in love with climbing because it's so much more than just an outdoors sport. It's a head game as well as a physical activity.

I emailed Jeff Nagel, our OL, before signing up, not sure that I could handle the approach or the climb. He was understanding and assured me that I could do this; that it was the easiest approach and climb he was leading for quite a while.

After we arrived at the destination, we hiked the hills up to the site, wandering without a trail, through cacti, catsclaw, and other unidentified plants. For this non-hiker it was a challenge. For the rest of the group, it was a walk in the park (or so it seemed)!

Scorpion Ridge, about ½ mile south of the Lake Roosevelt turnoff on SR87, is probably Quartzite rock. Jeff gave us all the warnings to be aware of loose rocks etc. Even then, it was a challenge to remember to test each hand-hold and footing before weighting it. Ask John Keedy, who took a hard fall while leading Bombs over Baghdad. We were all scared for him and worried, but they don't call him "Salty Dog" for nothing. He checked his arms, hands, legs, and feet, and when they all moved, he continued leading!

We were in teams of twos or threes. A few climbs were two pitch climbs, but our OL's decided that it would be better to make them long single pitches instead. The routes were all somewhere between 170-175 feet high, rated 5.4 to 5.7+. Clay Vollmer thought the route our group first took was a 5.7. The second route I took with Jeff and Danny Gonzales seemed

about the same in difficulty. (But what do I know? I'm only a beginner!)

We all got two climbs in and the sun was setting fast. (The climb is on the east side of the ridge.) Jeff had suggested we bring headlamps, which was a good thing because it was close to dark when we started down the trail-less hill. I had purchased one hiking stick before my grad climb after needing to hold hands coming down from our class climbs at Little Granite Mountain. (I didn't want to be that wimpy again.)

A dear climbing colleague (Melissa or Valerie?— I was too worried about the descent!) lent me her second stick for the hike down... and I thought that would work. I found out that I feel more confident in my footing on the rocks than I do on a challenging, gravelly hill down! (What's wrong with that picture?) The group passed me by early on, and I kept taking tender steps in the dark. Thanks to P.J. O'Connell, who stayed with me til the end, I arrived at the cars before daybreak. (

What I appreciate most is the camaraderie, caring, understanding and patience everyone in AMC has for beginners like me. I love the sport. I know I'll continue to stretch my abilities and get stronger each time I climb. It may take me the rest of this lifetime, but I'm willing to keep growing... It's the combination of challenging physical ability (thank God I've been working out for a few years, otherwise, I'd really be a wimp!) and the mind makes this such a fascinating sport.

To all my climbing companions (including those whose names I haven't mentioned), thank you so much for making it such a great day! I hope to see you all again soon.

Climb on!

— *Suzu Allegra*

Queen Creek Update

The Friends of Queen Creek has received an Access Fund grant for \$1,100 to print brochures, file 501c-3 (h) status, and for other printing. FoQC has also received \$384 from the AMC from gear raffles at the October and November general meetings and \$156 from the Flapper Fest. We have given interviews to several local and state publications regarding FoQC issues. At least two letters to the editor appeared in the Arizona Republic supporting permanent public access to the Queen Creek area. We have scheduled speaking engagements with some local area groups to help let others know what might happen to the Queen Creek area.

The Access Fund policy director will visit leaders in Arizona this December to plan activities and generate support. A FoQC Action Committee was formed with 9 new volunteers to educate and inform different groups about Queen Creek issues.

Our newly printed brochures are being distributed via local retailers, rock gyms and to groups. We will continue to encourage supporters to write letters to our US Congressmen, especially Rep. Rick Renzi (R, NE Arizona & Queen Creek area) asking them to oppose any form of land swap involving the Queen Creek area. Other activities are being planned.

- P. Clay Vollmer

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.

Lead Climbing School
Arizona Mountaineering Club
Spring 2005

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

Class curriculum:

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

Class schedule:

Feb 8	Tuesday	6:30 pm–9:30 pm	*Dreamy Draw Park
Feb 9	Wednesday	6:30 pm–9:30 pm	Dreamy Draw Park
Feb 10	Thursday	6:30 pm–9:30 pm	Dreamy Draw Park
Feb 12	Saturday	9:00 am–5:00 pm	Prescott (directions will be in syllabus)
Feb 13	Sunday	9:00 am–5:00 pm	Prescott or Scottsdale (directions will be in syllabus)

*To get to Dreamy Draw Park take SR 51 (Piestewa Peak Parkway) to Northern and turn east. This dead-ends at the Park. We will be at the big ramada next to the parking lot. Directions to the other locations will be given out then.

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

Cost: \$75 plus membership if not already a member (\$25 for an individual and \$30 for a family). Membership is good through Dec., 2005. Register by sending a check payable to AMC Lead School to 1654 W. Boston St, Chandler, AZ, 85224. No credit cards accepted. (Please note: the registration fee is fully refundable if you cancel.) Call Nancy Birdwell at 480-821-1932 or email lead.school@AzMountaineeringClub.org for more information. The number of students will be limited to 30.

Equipment required for the class:

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

1. All climbing gear (harness, prusiks, biners, etc.)
2. Helmet—mandatory for all on-rock sessions
3. Specifically needed:
 - 2 20' slings (untied length), preferably different colors
 - 2 10' slings (untied length), preferably different colors
 - 1 20' cordelette (20-foot length of 7 mm cord)
 - Nut pick
 - Quickdraws with biners—at least 5 per person
 - All pro that you own, which may include cams, hexes, wired nuts, Tri-cams, etc.
 - Consider combining with another person to have enough gear
4. Hiking boots or shoes with stiff soles for Saturday, climbing shoes for Sunday
5. Optional: kneepads for Saturday (\$3–6 at Home Depot, \$5 volleyball pads at sporting goods stores)

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

Bylaw Change Proposal

The Board is recommending the following change to the bylaws:

Current bylaw 2:

2. Membership.
 - a Membership in the AMC is open to everyone. The Membership of the AMC shall be comprised of the Members.
 - b All persons who are current in their Member dues and who maintain a current assumption of risk and release of liability (the "Release") on file are Members of the AMC.
 - c The Board of Directors shall establish the amount of Member dues and the time and manner of payment.
 - d Member conduct may be governed by policies adopted by the Board.

Proposed bylaw 2, change underlined:

2. Membership.
 - a Membership in the AMC is open to everyone. The Membership of the AMC shall be comprised of the Members.
 - b All persons who are current in their Member dues and who maintain an AMC assumption of risk and release of liability form (the "Release") on file are Members of the AMC.
 - c The Board of Directors shall establish the amount of Member dues and the time and manner of payment.
 - d Member conduct may be governed by policies adopted by the Board.

The reason for this change is that we are updating the AMC release form to better protect the club. We will try to get as many people as possible to sign the new release form, but will not be able to get everyone to do so, based on past experience. To avoid dropping these people from the club, we need to take into account that we have an older release form already signed by them. We will require the new release form to be signed for every individual activity (such as outings and classes), however, so that people who participate in activities will sign by default.

The Board

Anchors School

The November Anchors School came off as planned, except that instead of going to the Promised Land, we headed for Queen Creek. Prescott had the promise of too much rain. The students got to set 2-5 anchors each on Sunday, a departure from our normal practice. The weather held, although it did get chilly.

Once again, we had an excellent turnout of instructors. In fact, we had more instructors than students in total. I can't tell you how much easier it makes the classes go when there are that many instructors. Students, as you go about the recreation of climbing with the AMC, thank those who came out, and come out yourselves next time. It's an excellent way to refresh your skills.

- Wayne

Instructors:

Ronald Auerbach
Nancy Birdwell
Debby Brown
Mark Christiani
Tom Conner
Julie Dehlin
Robert England
Bill Fallon
Daniel Gonzales
Alexander Hardt
Gabriel Howe
Mike Knarzer
John Kynyk
Tim Lange
Sally Larimer
Paul Mandel
Jeffry Nagel
Terry Nelson
Melissa Neubauer
Sonia Overholser
Scott Parsons
Bruce Robbins
Wayne Schroeter
Jef Sloat
Charlene Todd

Students:

Courtney Lyn Barnes
Paul Beakley
Christine Bolick
Mark Chauvin
James Duggan
Richard Ellis
Peter Emerson
Shannon Flowers
Deborah Fuentes
Charity Gonzales
Marc Henning
Scott LeGear
Terri Mavis
David McClintic
Clare Mix
Peter Neubauer
Elisa Scinto
Dick Severson
Michael Turvey
Paul Valenzuela

Avalanche Awareness Might Save Your Life

I turned on my laptop and was dismayed at reading the Colorado Avalanche Information Center's forecast—the Avalanche Rose was all black. High avalanche danger. Instead of ice climbing, Slade, Deb and I dug snow pits and conducted Snowshoe Rutschblock tests on Coal Bank Hill and Molas Passes. Reading of 1—very unstable.

Meanwhile on First Gully in Eureka a life and death drama was unfolding. Two out-of-state ice climbers were getting in their first climb of the season when an avalanche ripped them off and carried them 70 yards. Fortunately they were able to summon help, but not before a second slide carried them off again. Across the narrow valley an ice climber was carried off Stairway to Heaven.

Miraculously he was uninjured.

These dramas unfolded the Sunday before Thanksgiving, where, like me, many ice climbers take in the best ice of the season. Wednesday I rode on the chairlift at Purgatory with one of the members of the Mountain Rescue Association that had to litter the injured climbers off. A spunky gal, she was still shaken by the risk she had to place herself in during the rescue. Another slide barely missed the rescue party.

The big, grizzled CDOT avalanche tester glanced over at my AZ plates Friday. “Where did you say your friends were at?” He swirled some snow crystals around in his glove. “Lime Creek,” I replied. I got the story of the previous Sunday all over again. “They didn't know that there were 13,000 foot mountains above those ice climbs.” “Yeah,” I replied. “Gullies are the mountain's garbage chutes.” I liked him.

Dan Bolin, Susan Morris and I had a wonderful, if blizzardly, climb of Second Gully this past Saturday. Wonderful stuff, but even if the Avalanche Rose

was Moderate with only pockets of Considerable there was a lurking danger. Three big 60-meter rap-pels and we were off, but we kept a wary eye to the lurking Death above us.

For AZ crag climbers, a day out is one of relative safety. For a mountaineer, a day out is one where the palatable taste of Death is ever present. I have not been on a technical mountain climb when some objective danger was not present. Rocks whistling by are part of the scenery. It is a different world than pre-cleaned AZ climbing terrain. Risk is managed, not avoided. I am not sure everyone is aware of that.

But in the mountains we can owe it to ourselves and loved ones to manage the ever-present Death. You should not go backcountry ice climbing, or do much mountaineering for that matter, if you don't have a proper perspective on the dangers involved and how to manage them. I've been living with Death since my first mountaineering trip to Lake O'Hara in 1955. I have seen the bodies in many places, Snowmass Lake, Crestone Needle... But I have been lucky and have tried to stack the odds in my favor, God willing.

Contact me at smorefil@aol.com if you are interested in learning more.

- Erik Filsinger, Mountaineering Chair

Dues be Due

It is that time again — \$25 for a single or
\$30 for a family

See Rogil at a meeting or send your check
to the address on page 2.

Thanks to Those Who Keep the Club Running!

The AMC runs on volunteers, some of whom labor in obscurity and behind the scenes to allow the club to function. This is the time of year to recognize and appreciate these individuals; say thanks when you see them on the rocks.

The Membership Committee, headed by Rogil, takes care of all the paperwork, the registrations, the class signups, the mailing labels, etc. Slawa Ciula handles the Basic School registration and Nancy Birdwell does the Anchors and Lead Schools. Robert England creates mailing labels for newsletters and other special purposes, and Ron Logan helps out on special mailings. Rogil deserves special mention as she has been the Membership Chair for over ten years.

The Outings Chair schedules outings and makes sure the outing announcements get in the newsletter. Monica Miller has performed this duty for the past two years, and has just stepped down. The Outing Leaders themselves donate time on weekends to help newer climbers experience the vertical world. This year's Outing Leaders are Tom Conner, Erik Filsinger, Jeff Hatfield, Scott Hoffman, Richard Horst, David Johnson, John Keedy, Tim Lange, David Larimer, Sally Borg Larimer, Tim Medlock, Jeff Nagel, Paul Norberg, Paul Paonessa, Chris Query, Tim Schneider, Rogil Schroeter, Wayne Schroeter, Jef Sloat, Mick Strole, Rick Taylor, Frank Vers and Tim Ward.

The T&S Committee brings you the classes, with Sally Larimer entertaining students in Basic School, Tom Conner taking students to the next level in Anchors School and Wayne Schroeter handling the Lead School. Erik Filsinger teaches Mountaineering classes and seminars and works with commercial guides to offer ice-climbing outings. Jeff Hatfield rounds out the T&S Committee. In addition to the T&S Committee itself, the club has numerous volunteers who help with classes, way too numerous to list here. We thank you for the effort.

The Land Advocacy Committee is chaired by Erik Filsinger. This committee watches land use issues that affect our access to and use of climbing areas.

Our other committees consist of an individual, sometimes one who expends huge amounts of time. Wally Vegors is our Newsletter editor, putting in many hours a month on our monthly publication. Wally may devote more time to the AMC than anyone else in the club. Wally is another volunteer who deserves special

recognition, having handled the newsletter for more than ten years now.

Kirra Kurvink also donates a lot of time in maintaining our website, which requires constant monitoring and updating.

Sheri Kenly this year took over the job of finding us a program every month. It has been an especially difficult challenge dealing with our temporary homelessness (due to construction at Los Olivos).

Dave Larimer as Classification Chair processes Outing Leader applications, ensuring that candidates know the path to follow and consolidating the information for Board action.

Dave Van Hook is the local political boss, the Election Chair, preparing ballots and setting up slates of candidates.

The club receives email every day, and uses email to communicate in between newsletters. This daily job is handled by Jeff Hatfield, who juggles a baby, a wife, school and a mouse-click.

Erik Filsinger handles our Equipment Rental, offering up crampons and ice axes to winter aficionados.

In order to keep us found, Chris Query offered his Land Navigation class again this year, an introduction to orienteering.

Rich Kocher has played Librarian for a while now, doling out guidebooks and adventure tomes and buying new ones when appropriate.

At every member meeting, Sally Larimer offers up our T-shirts and other AMC items. She's so smooth she can talk you into two shirts when one would do.

Jef Sloat is our Archivist, storing past Club records.

The AMC Board spends a lot of time in monthly meetings running the affairs of the club. President Bruce McHenry just found something that has eluded us for some time, a liability insurance policy that covers all of our needs. Vice-President Jutta Ulrich piloted the effort to revamp our Outing Leader approval policy. Treasurer Tim Ward left in mid-year to move to Las Vegas, and Clay Vollmer took his place. Secretary John Keedy maintains all our official records. Directors Scott Hoffman, Rich Kocher, Erik Filsinger, Lynn Readicker and Wayne Schroeter round out the Board.

Say thank you to these people, and consider volunteering yourself for a period of time. It's what makes the AMC go.



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, Mammut, Boreal, Pica Mountaineering, and Trango are just a few of the brands we carry. If we don't have what you need in stock. . . we'll order it for you. . . with **FREE** shipping!

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

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

A Very Kachina Reunion

Members of the Kachinas, the first group to really explore climbing on Phoenix-area rock, recently held a reunion at Gary Driggs' home. They discussed the first climbing they did and some came to the November AMC meeting, where both the Kachinas and CAMRA (Central Arizona Mountain Rescue Association) presented a plaque to the AMC commemorating the origins of CAMRA. The early AMCRT (AMC Rescue Team) was their forerunner, and operated until the late 80's as the Phoenix-area high-angle rescue team. Some current members still recall logging some helicopter practice with AMCRT.

The Kachinas, a Boy Scout Explorer group, did the first ascent of local summits such as Pinnacle Peak and Tom's Thumb, the first link-up of all of Four Peaks summits, the first ascents of desert summits such as Courthouse Rock and Eagletail Peak, and an impressive climb of Agathla, a large volcanic outcropping familiar to all who travel to Indian Creek. Ben Pedrick's name may be familiar to those who have climbed his chimney on Camelback Mountain.

Gary Driggs (far-right in the photo below) has presented a program about Camelback to the AMC in the past, and hopefully will again in the future.



Members of the Kachinas, a Boy Scout Explorer group from the 40's and 50's, were the first explorers of Phoenix rock. They put up routes on Camelback and claimed a first ascent of Pinnacle Peak via the South Crack, 5.3.

A Winter Wonderland at the Joshua Tree Thanksgiving

When you are trying to stick to the rock, snow is not what you want to see. But the early crew that visited Joshua Tree before Thanksgiving got a bunch of it. So much, in fact, that the Park Service closed the roads in the park. Rumor has it that Rogil cross-country skied on two clip-sticks, Monica used nut tools as ice axes and Dave's pink underwear froze (which made him giggle a lot).

By the time most of the crew showed up for Thanksgiving dinner, the snow was present only in patches and shady areas. Clay's traditional Cajun-fried turkey went fast, and word of it spread throughout nearby campsites. We think neighbors partook, explaining that they were new members who had just signed up.

Dave and Sally hosted the group activity on Thursday at Feudal Wall and Rogil set up Short Wall

on Friday. Half the group wandered off to the Park for multi-pitch while the rest stayed near the warm top-ropes.

Jeff and Justin Hatfield set up Little Rock Candy Mountain on Saturday; Jeff still needs a little help with some of the harder setups, but Justin thinks he's teachable.

It was an eye-opening experience for those who had never gone before, but have sworn to return again and again. Even the threat of rain and much colder temps on Sunday dissuaded only a few: the wimpy and the wobbly. Those who stayed got in some more (albeit cold) climbs before returning from Neverland.

It's winter camp for grownups, folks, and although it was one of the coldest in memory for part of the time, the rest of the trip was warmer than usual. Hope you all come back next year.



Early goes to this year's Joshua Tree Thanksgiving woke to several inches of new snow on Sunday, not the usual daytime shirt-sleeve weather most had expected. Photo by Bruce Robbins

Calendar of Events (Continued from page 18)

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 19-21 **Beginning Ice Climbing and Avalanche Awareness.** Offered by Southwest Adventures in Durango, Colorado. \$205 to AMC members (\$150 for ice alone and \$55 for avalanche alone). Contact smorefil@aol.com for background info or email Nate at info@mtnguide.net directly to register.

Elections January 2005

'Nother Dang Election

But this one should be less acrimonious, the claims mostly truthful, the ideology a lot less divisive, with kinder press attacks, gentler slurs and innuendos and with genuine affection for the helpful intent of all candidates. AMC will need to select new officers and board members at its January meeting.

Actually, two will be carryovers for another year—Wayne Schroeter and Scott Hoffman. That still leaves yjree board positions up for grabs. The officers are de-facto board members, of course.

If you are interested in serving as a board member or officer, the man to see is Elections Chair Dave Van Hook. All officer positions are open to challenge, including President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer. A ballot will be printed listing the candidates for each position.

The board has "job descriptions" for all officer slots and most committee head positions. Call the Secretary for this information. Members can run for office after one year's membership in AMC.

At presstime, the elections slate looks like this:

President	Jutta Ulrich
Vice-Pres.	Open
Treasurer	Clay Vollmer
Secretary	Robert England
Director	Bill Fallon
Director	John Keedy
Director	Jeff Nagel
Director	Lynn Readicker
Director	Dave Van Hook

Individuals can declare candidacy at the December member meeting or at the January Board meeting. This is your club—let's make it run!

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The world's first rock climbing chalk that sooths 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>



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.

- Dec 13 **Regular meeting.** Bring photos for photo contest; a dozen slides of your year's activities, munchies. At the Pyle Center, Rural and Southern in Tempe, 7:00.
- Dec 17 **AMC Christmas Party.** At Jutta Ulrich's. See page 7 for details.
- Jan 8 **Jacuzzi Spires—Don't Bug Me.** 3 pitches, 5.6. Limit 4, with 2 OL Helpers. Meet at 7:30 a.m. at Safeway parking lot in Anthem in east end of parking lot toward the McDonalds. Moderately long, strenuous hike to climb, plan on possibly brisk to downright frigid weather. Contact Info: call Jeff Nagel at 602-318-9538 or e-mail azfreedheart@aol.com HELMETS REQUIRED
- Jan 9 **Superstition Mountains—Zonerland.** Routes range from 5.9 to 5.11 on great rock in a beautiful, classic area. Strenuous hike in, limit 8. For additional details contact Frank Vers at 480-947-9435.
- Jan 10 **AMC Board Meeting.**
- Jan 24 **AMC Member Meeting.**
- Feb 8 **Lead School.** Feb 8,9,10,12,13. See page 10.

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

(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		

January 2005

AMC Outing Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3 Moon Last Quarter	4	5 Sunrise 7:33 Sunset 5:35 Mrise 2:17a	6	7	8 Jaccuzzi Spires
9 Zoner-land	10 New moon AMC Board Meeting	11	12 Sunrise 7:33 Sunset 5:41 Mset 8:31p	13	14	15
16 First Qtr	17	18	19 Sunrise 7:31 Sunset 5:47 Mset 3:53a	20	21	22
23	24 AMC Member Meeting - Elections -	25 Full Moon	26 Sunrise 7:25 Sunset 5:54 Mrist 7:12p	27	28	29
30	31	NOTE - events occur about 10 minutes earlier on Arizona's eastern edge and 10 later on the west.				

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

The January 2005 member meeting site is not certain yet. We will email the location, or go to the website prior to January 24.

Oh – And dues be due.