

# The Arizona Mountaineer

September 2011



Suzanne on *"Burn Notice"* a 5.11 route at  
Powerline Crag, Blue Ridge Reservoir  
Story by Scott Frankel, pg 14

# The Arizona Mountaineering Club

Meetings: The member meeting location is:

Granite Reef Senior Center  
1700 North Granite Reef Road  
Scottsdale, Arizona 85257

The meeting time is 7:00 to 9:00 PM.

Check Calendar for date.

Board Meetings: Board meetings are open to all members and are held two Mondays prior to the Club meeting.

Dues: Dues cover January through December. A single membership is \$30.00 per year: \$35.00 for a family. Those joining after June 30 pay \$15 or \$18. 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:

Website:

[www.amcaz.org](http://www.amcaz.org)

Mail:

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

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President	Bill Fallon	602-996-9790
Vice-President	John Gray	480-363-3248
Secretary	Kim McClintic	480-213-2629
Treasurer	Curtis Stone	602-370-0786
Director-2	Eric Evans	602-218-3060
Director-2	Steve Crane	480-812-5447
Director-1	Gretchen Hawkins	520-907-2916
Director-1	Bruce McHenry	602-952-1379
Director-1	Jutta Ulrich	602-738-9064

## COMMITTEES

Archivist	Jef Sloat	602-316-1899
Classification	Nancy Birdwell	602-770-8326
Elections	John Keedy	623-412-1452
Equip. Rental	Bruce McHenry	602-952-1379
Email	Curtis Stone	602-370-0786
Land Advocacy	Erik Filsinger	480-314-1089
Co-Chair	John Keedy	623-412-1452
Librarian	David McClintic	602-885-5194
Membership	Rogil Schroeter	623-512-8465
Mountaineering	Bruce McHenry	602-952-1379
Newsletter	Cheryl Beaver	480-659-6078
Outings	Frank Vers	480-947-9435
Programs	Kim McClintic	480-213-2629
Technology	Steve Crane	480-812-5447
Trng & Schools	Bill Fallon	602-996-9790
ORC	Bill Fallon	602-996-9790
anchors	Eric Evans	602-218-3060
Lead	Mike Knarzer	602-751-1701

**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/join](https://www.accessfund.org/join)

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## Library

AMC Librarian:  
David McClintic 602-885-5194

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.

## Newsletter

The Arizona Mountaineer is published monthly by the AMC. The newsletter depends on contributions from it's members so PLEASE send us your articles and/or photos.

All submissions are subject to approval by the AMC newsletter committee:

*Cheryl Beaver, Tracy Fleming, Susan Harnage, and Jutta Ulrich*

Digital photos should preferably be in JPG format and 300 dpi. Articles can be in any standard word processing format.

Get a new piece of gear? Send us your reviews after you've tested it out. We'd love to hear about it

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.

Submit items for publication and direct any questions through email to Susan at [SHarnage@aol.com](mailto:SHarnage@aol.com).

## October NL Submission Deadline: September 1st

### September Birthdays

Bruce McHenry 2, James Kistler 4, Spencer Smith 7, Debbie Standal 7, Angela Mick 8,  
Kshama Patel 9, Susan Pitts 14, Paul Mandel 18, Randy Miller 20, Matt Kalina 22, Brian Feldmeier 25,  
Craig Anderson 26, Marc Mousseux 26, Lungi Niemczyk 29

## Welcome New Members

Gary Martinez, Laura Wilfong, Robert Franco, Roger Heyen

# Discount Directory

These merchants offer a discount to AMC members:

- **Arizona Hiking Shack** - 3244 E. Thomas Rd., Phoenix, AZ 85018, (602) 944-7723 www.hikingshack.com. 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. 10% off membership.
- **Phoenix Rock Gym** - 1353 E. University, Tempe, AZ 85281. 480-921-8322. 10% off membership.
- **Climbmax Gym** - 1330 W Auto Dr, Suite 112, Tempe, AZ 85284 - 480-626-7755. 10% off membership.
- **TUFA Gear Shop** - Located at these gyms: AZ on the Rocks, PRG, Climbmax, & Ape Index. 10% discount.

# Rental Equipment

<b>EQUIPMENT</b>	<b>Qty</b>	<b>\$Dep</b>	<b>1-3day</b>	<b>4-7day</b>
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
Avalanche Kit (probe & shovel)	2	10	5	8
Curved Ice Tools (pair)	2	40	20	35

Contact Bruce McHenry for information on how to rent AMC equipment. (602) 952-1379

# Treasurer's Report

## Arizona Mountaineering Club Income Statement Period Ended July 31, 2011

### INCOME

Admin (TRSM before scholarships)	0.00
Advertising	80.00
Dues	4,785.00
Grants Received	0.00
Interest	28.39
Mountaineering Schools	400.00
Rental Equipment	158.00
AARS Fall	190.00
AARS Spring	1,830.00
Basic Fall	350.00
Basic Spring	3,325.00
Lead Fall	0.00
Lead Spring	300.00
Training Other	475.00
Other	25.00

**TOTAL INCOME** **11,946.39**

### EXPENSES

Admin	1,903.83
Promotional	0.00
Bank chgs	0.00
Capital Expenditures	0.00
Equipment Maintenance	21.53
Grants Expended	0.00
Insurance	2,580.00
Land Advocacy Committee	145.22
Library	0.00
Newsletter	1,281.52
Outings	150.00
Outing Leaders	0.00
Programs Monthly Meeting	1,621.61
Training	5,714.29

**TOTAL EXPENSES** **13,418.00**

**OVERALL TOTAL** **(1,471.61)**

### ACCOUNT BALANCES

Checking & PayPal	9,244.68
Accounts Receivable	0.00
CD Account	15,000.00
<b>TOTAL CASH ASSETS</b>	<b>24,244.68</b>
AMC Outing Gear	3,467.43
<b>OVERALL TOTAL</b>	<b>27,712.11</b>



# AMC Board Minutes - August 8, 2011

1. Call to Order: 7:05 PM. Board members in attendance: John Gray, Curtis Stone, Bruce McHenry, Jutta Ulrich, Steven Crane, Eric Evans, Kim McClintic, Gretchen Hawkins. Committee Chair: Erik Filsinger. John Gray presided over the meeting in Bill Fallon's absence.
2. Minutes of the July board meeting as published in the newsletter and previously submitted to board members via email approved as submitted.
3. Treasurer's report was presented and approved.
4. Committee Reports:
  - a. Membership-241
  - b. Programs:
    - i. Lydia Pyne is the scheduled presenter for the August program. She will be discussing her recent experience climbing with the Alpine Club of Iran.
    - ii. Details are still being worked out for the September and October programs and will be posted on the website, Meetup. Com, and via email. November's Program is the Second Annual Activities Expo and December will be the Annual Holiday Party
  - c. Outings/Activities:
    - i. Weekly climbing nights at Climbmax (Tuesdays) and PRG (Thursdays).
    - ii. AMC presentation and climbing clinic slated for August 29 and 30 at the Tempe and PV REI's, respectively. Intro to climbing. Bill Fallon is in charge.
    - iii. Reminder to Outing Leaders: please consider scheduling an outing.
    - iv. The Grand Canyon Clean up is coming (September 30-October2nd). Several training sessions are being held. All participants are strongly advised to attend one of the trainings, even those who have participated in the past. Sign up, as well as the training schedule are available on Meet.up.com. Susan Harnage is the event organizer.
  - d. Land Advocacy:
    - i. QCC-nothing new.
    - ii. McDowell's: Construction is underway at 128<sup>th</sup> Street on the Tom's Thumb Trailhead Facilities. Postings indicate that access is closed on some weekends. Construction in this area may impact ORC in October.

# AMC Board Minutes - August 8, 2011 (cont)

## e. Training and Schools:

- i. Lead School is scheduled for September 13, 14, 15, 17, and 18. There is room for more students at this time. Registration and payment can be done on-line at the club website.
- ii. ORC (formerly known as Basic) is scheduled for October 11, 13, 15, 16, 18, 20, 22. Class will be held at Cactus Park. Registration is done through the club website.
- iii. Anchors is scheduled for November and will be held at Cactus Park.

## f. Technology Committee: On-going improvements are being made to the meet up site and the club website. It is now possible to make payments on the Meet.up site using PayPal.

## g. Newsletter Committee: The committee has been receiving excellent photos and articles. As newsletters have gotten longer, there are challenges in printing and mailing the printed copies. The Board discussed suggestions for moving routine information from the newsletter to the website; this will be discussed further at future board meetings. The deadline for the next month's newsletter, which becomes available on the same day as the monthly member meeting/program, is the first of the month.

## h. Mountaineering:

- i. Snow Skills class is scheduled for January 13-16. There will be a sign up cutoff date of December 16, in order to obtain the appropriate permits.
- ii. There will be an activity in Ouray sometime in Mid-February.
- iii. An additional training class will take place in March.
- iv. The club/mountaineering section is in need of additional avalanche beacons as one expired.

## 5. New Business: 2011 Mid-year (plus) Outing Leader report was reviewed. Outing leaders need to lead 2 outings a year to stay active and their membership fee is waived if they lead 4 outings per year. The report will be circulated to outing leaders.

## 6. Old Business: Gretchen Hawkins and John Gray are still working to compile club documents. Gretchen will collate the Outing Leader Application forms.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:52 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Kim McClintic, secretary.



AMC thanks Rockford Corporation for the use of their facilities for board meetings. Rockford is a local maker and distributor of high-end audio components for cars, trucks and boats.

# OUTDOOR ROCK CLIMBING

## FOR THE BEGINNING OUTDOOR CLIMBER



Instruction provided by  
*The Arizona Mountaineering Club*

During the 4 evening and 3 weekend day sessions, you will learn:  
**The Basics of Climbing Equipment, Climbing Technique, Knots, Rappelling, Belaying, & Self-Rescue.**

The class fee of \$175, plus \$15.00 membership for the remainder of the year (\$18.00 for families), covers equipment provided by the AMC and equipment that you get to keep including: a belay/rappel device, carabiners, prusik cords, climbing text and AMC membership for the remainder of the year.

To register online, go to:  
**[www.amcaz.org/basic.asp](http://www.amcaz.org/basic.asp)**

**Class Size is Limited to 40 - Reserve your spot now!**

For additional information, contact Eric Evans  
[AMCBasicSchool@gmail.com](mailto:AMCBasicSchool@gmail.com), or visit our website at:  
**[www.amcaz.org](http://www.amcaz.org)**



By the 3rd Class  
**You will be  
climbing  
outside!**

### Fall 2011 - Class Schedule

- October 11, - Tue - 5:30 - 10:00 PM
- October 13, - Thu - 6:00 - 10:00 PM
- October 15, - Sat - 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM
- October 16 - Sun - 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM
- October 18, - Tue - 6:00 - 10:00 PM
- October 20, - Thu - 6:00 - 10:00 PM
- October 22, - Sat - All Day - Grad Climb

### AMC Members Enjoy

- Basic to advanced rock climbing training
- Periodic meetings and outings
- Special Annual Events:
- Grand Canyon Cleanup
- Thanksgiving at Joshua Tree NP
- Camaraderie with other climbers
- The Arizona Mountaineer newsletter

# AMC Climbing Anchors School - Fall 2011

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	6:00 pm–9:30 pm	*Scottsdale Cactus Park
Nov. 10	Thursday	6:00 pm–9:30 pm	Scottsdale Cactus Park
Nov. 12	Saturday	8:00 am–4:00 pm	Sullivan’s Canyon, Chino Valley
Nov. 13	Sunday	7:00 am–5:00 pm	Promised Land, Chino Valley (Weather permitting)

*\* Cactus Park is located on the northeast corner of Cactus Rd. and Scottsdale Rd. in Scottsdale.*

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

**Cost:** \$95 plus membership if not already a member (\$30 for an individual and \$35 for a family). Membership is good through the end of next year - 2012. Please register thru PayPal on the AMC website [www.amcaz.org](http://www.amcaz.org), or by sending a check payable to AMC Anchors School to PO Box 11883, Tempe, AZ, 85284. No credit cards accepted. The registration fee is fully refundable if you cancel. Contact Nancy Birdwell by email: [Anchors.School@amcaz.org](mailto:Anchors.School@amcaz.org) for more info. 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.

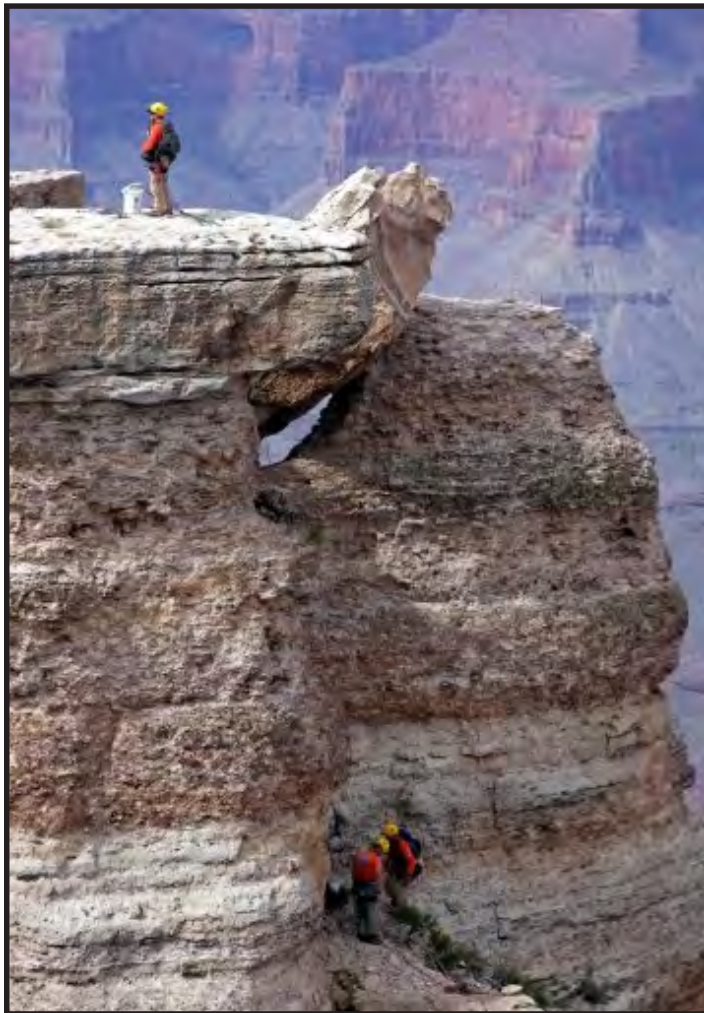
## Other gear you may want to bring:

- 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](http://www.amcaz.org).



## Grand Canyon Clean-Up & Climb



OCTOBER 1-2  
**2011**

**DON'T MISS  
AMC'S ANNUAL  
GRAND  
CANYON  
CLEAN-UP, CLIMB  
& CHILI COOK-OFF**

**It's time again for the annual Grand Canyon Over-The-Rim Clean-up!** For those new to this event, this is the AMC's 21st year of providing valuable clean-up services at the Grand Canyon. We have scoured the slopes below Mather Point and spruced up the view from the ice cream store at Bright Angel Lodge. We have appeared in numerous home movies we have never seen and entertained scores of innocents who ask, "Did you climb all the way from the bottom?" (And of course we always answer, "Yes!") Along the way, we have maintained a perfect safety record, gathered for an evening dinner/chili cook-off/campfire, and climbed the next day in the Kaibab limestone amphitheaters below the Rim. Come out and join us again this year!

# Grand Canyon Clean-Up & Climb (cont)

**The Cleanup is scheduled for Saturday, October 1st.** You must be a current AMC member and participate in one of this year's training sessions listed below in order to go over the side.

## **This year we are asking participants to do 3 things:**

1. Register via Meet-up
2. Complete the registration form by following this link: <http://bit.ly/GCclean-up2011>
3. Purchase a t-shirt in advance through the paypal link on Meet-up — these will be distributed on 10/1/11.

**Trash Rappel Training:** A special technique is used for areas that require rappelling. Training in this technique is highly recommended for anyone who wishes to “go over the edge” this year. Those who have not taken the training may still help out with other clean-up duties. We won't be teaching any of these techniques on-site at the Canyon. Please bring all the technical equipment listed below to the training session.

**~~Saturday, August 6th--South Mountain (7am & 9am)~~**

**~~Sunday, August 21st,--South Mountain (7am & 9am)~~**

**Saturday, September 24th--South Mountain (7am & 9am)**

*\*People will be assigned to time slots if the number of participants warrants 2 groups. Watch for an email with your time.*

## **Individual equipment needed for the Cleanup & practice sessions:**

- Helmet
- 3 prusiks (4', 6', 10')
- 1 climbing harness
- 1 rappel device
- 3 locking carabiners
- 1 24" sewn or tied sling (length when tied)
- High top hiking boots (no sandals or open-toed shoes)
- Gloves
- Long pants, long-sleeved shirt
- Sunscreen, lip balm
- Water & lunch
- Whistle
- Auto block (4ft (4mm) cord & locking biner)
- Extra slings and lockers for anchors (in case we run out of club gear) - suggested

Additional information about this event will be provided to registered participants at a later date.

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Remember--

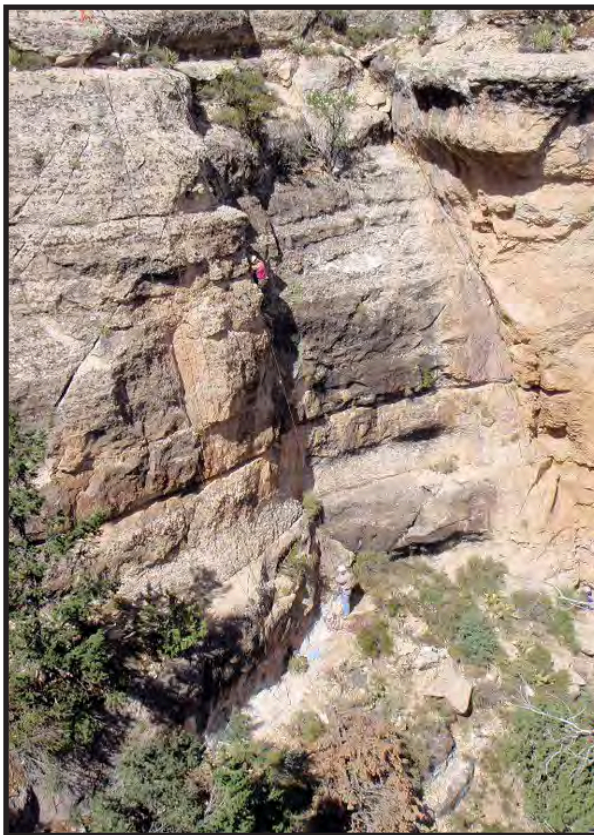
These events are only successful due to the efforts of many VOLUNTEERS. If you have some time that you can devote to helping organize this event, please contact Susan Harnage at your earliest convenience.

**SHarnage@aol.com**

# Grand Canyon Clean-Up & Climb (cont)

Although climbing has a long history in the Grand Canyon National Park, it has primarily been limited to the numerous towers and temples in remote locations of the backcountry. In the early 1990's climbers began to focus on the miles of undeveloped limestone in the Kaibab formations just below the rim. For the most part this formation is easily accessible, and the quality of the rock varies from miserable to excellent. On Sunday, October 2, 2011 we will be accessing the area that is located immediately north and west of the Bright Angel Lodge in Grand Canyon Village, below the Rim Trail that begins at the Bright Angel Trailhead. Climbs will vary in difficulty from 5.7 to 5.11. We will be utilizing a rap entry to access the area. The current plan is to set up routes early Sunday morning and climb until the afternoon.

*Climbing is a personal choice and requires personal responsibility. Climbing and associate activities are dangerous and can result in injury and/or death. Climbing exposes you to risks. Risks are not eliminated by training, or skill. By your participation in any AMC activity or event, you accept and assume any and all risks, including those created by negligence, connected to such activity or event.*



## The cook-off will follow the clean-up on Saturday.

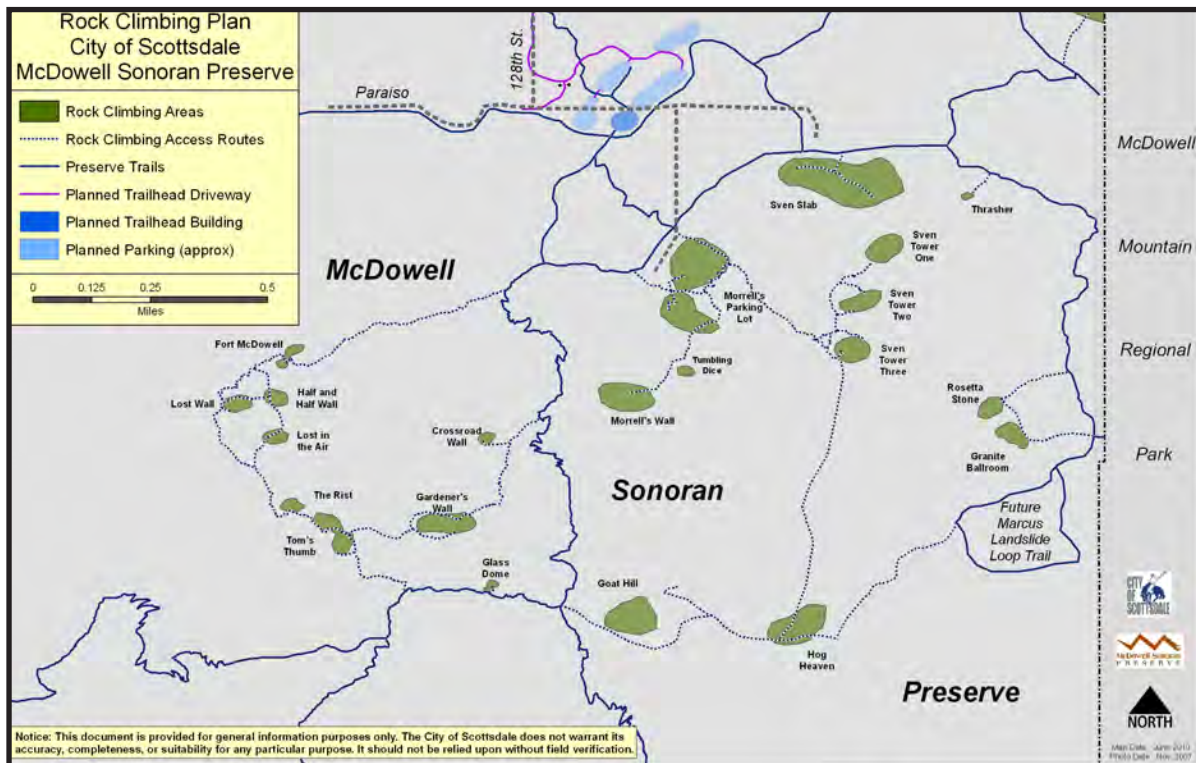
There will be prizes for 1st, 2nd and 3rd place.

**Rule #1:** Pre-cook a large pot of your favorite chili and bring it along (remember it's a people's choice contest, the larger the batch the more votes possible!)

Information and a complete list of contest rules will be sent to the members registered for the clean-up.



# McDowell Crags - Sven Tower III



Sven Tower III sits on the ridge line south of Sven Slab with up to 3-pitch climbs. The vertical height is over 250 feet. The position of the crag offers views down across the McDowell Mountain Regional Park, the Verde Valley, and Four Peaks in the distance. It is one of the three “Sven Towers” collection of crags that run north to south along the ridgeline. Cool breezes in the morning allow for even Summer climbing. A locator map is printed nearby.

**Approach.** From the temporary Tom’s Thumb trail head overflow lot near Morrell’s Boulder (large detached boulder near road/trail), hike up Mesquite Canyon. Trail markers obtained with funding from the Access Fund obtained in a grant by the AMC show further access trail splits. One junction takes you toward the top of the crag and on to Hog Heaven; the other takes you to the saddle between Sven Tower II and Sven Tower III that with some contouring down and around to the east arrives at the base of the crag.

Depending on level of fitness the approach is about 25 minutes.

**Routes.** The climbs are shown on the accompanying route photo. The easiest line is Right Rib and provides an excellent beginner lead with ample bolts plus supplementary cracks. Three pitches takes you to the top of Sven Tower III. The other routes provide interesting variations and stiffer challenges. Personally, I think the Left Rib and Ergon are two of the best climbs in the McDowells, or even in Central Arizona. Both are close to 150 feet long and will provide interesting challenges to leaders at those grades.

If you top out you can rap back to the platform/bowl with one rope from a two-bolt two rap ring station, or

# McDowell Crags - Sven Tower III (cont)

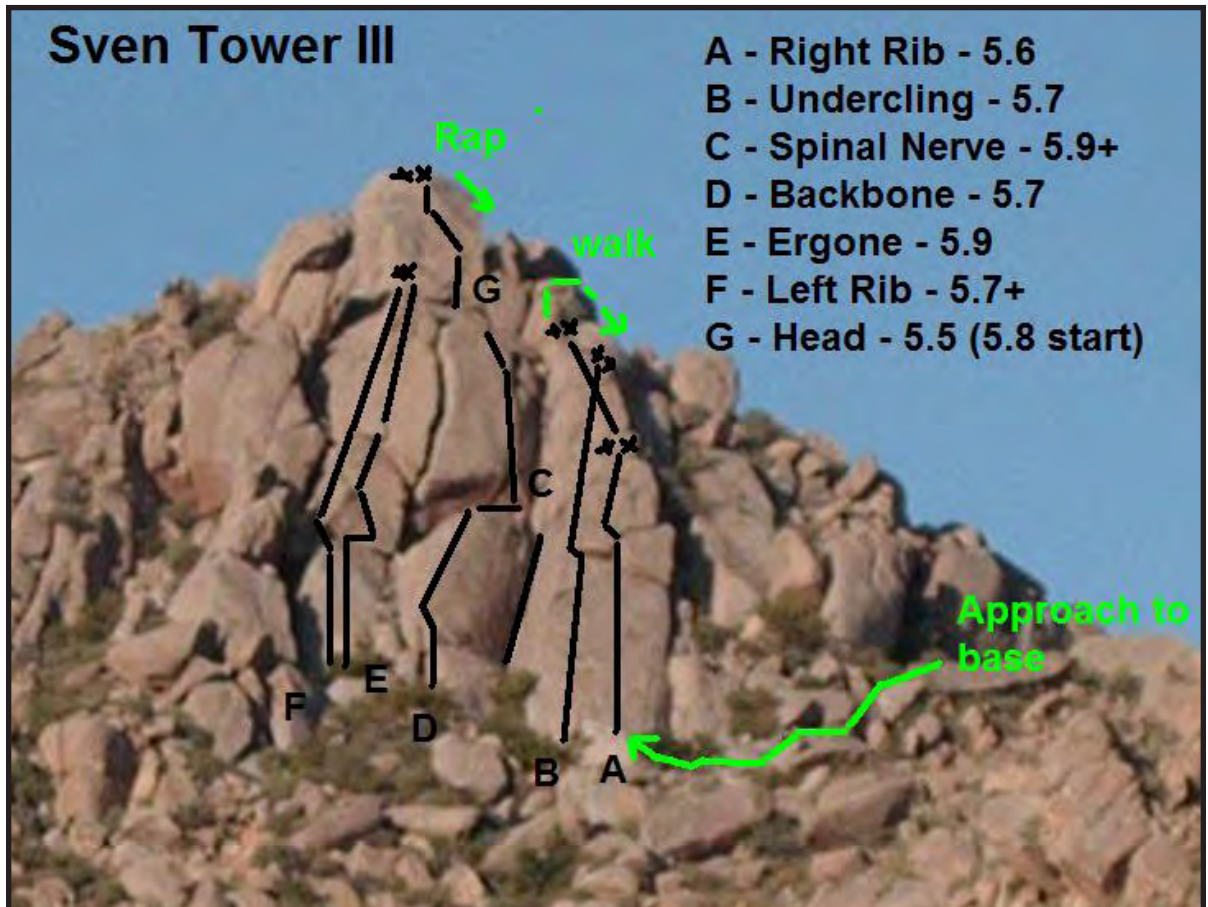
you can also walk off the back side with a circuitous down climb. You can also rap off the back from the same rap station.

In general bring a rack up to 4". There are bolts on blank sections of rock, but be prepared to use trad pro when cracks are present on the routes. Left Rib and Ergon could eat placements up to a dozen runners/draws.

It is also possible to hike toward the saddle south of Sven Tower III and take a signed path/scramble to platforms at about 2/3 height on the crag. Once there you can rap down with two ropes from the Left Rib/Ergon rap station (two bolts with rap rings) and do any of the climbs from there. The advantage is that you can leave your packs at the platform/bowl and simply walk off rather than have to return to the bottom to retrieve your packs. (Note: when you are pulling your rope from this rap station move as far left as you can to avoid cracks and rubble that can hang up a falling rope on the right.)

As with many of the routes I'm sharing in this series, the climbs are less frequently climbed and the ratings/descriptions can use some input, so if you sample this excellent crag, please let me know your reactions.

*Erik Filsinger*





# Powerline Crag at Blue Ridge Reservoir

The Blue Ridge Reservoir was created by the Phelps Dodge Corporation who dammed East Clear Creek back in 1963. They used this water for their mining operations at Morenci. In February of 2005, the ownership of this reservoir was transferred to the Salt River Project and has become a very popular place for boaters, fishermen, and rock climbers. Marty Karibin's guide of this area lists a number of promising rock climbing and bouldering areas. On a hot day in Phoenix, we (Karen, Suzanne, Susan, and I) decided to escape the heat by exploring the Powerline Crag climbing wall.

To get to the climbing area, take HWY-87 north from Pine to just past mile marker 295. Turn right onto signed FR751 and take the well graded dirt road until you see the power lines cross the road. There is a pullout on the right to park. If you reach the boat ramp you've gone too far.

The Powerline Crag is reached by a 10 minute scramble underneath the power lines towards the lake. It's not far at all, but the trail is not easy to follow through the heavy forest so progress is slow. Without exploring, you would never know there was a climbing area so close to the road, as the forest hides it well. There are about 27 short (30' high) climbs along this wall. We chose the easternmost side of the wall due to its mix of moderate and challenging routes. Since the routes were so short, we were able to efficiently use a single rope on multiple routes. We set Black Gold (5.8), Short Stuff (5.10-), and Liposuction (5.11-) with a single rope. Only afterwards did we realize we couldn't tie into the middle route because both ends were on other routes. We solved this by climbing the middle route with a figure 8 on a bight. 'Short Stuff'



*Blue Ridge Reservoir as seen from the Powerline Crag*

was by far our favorite route, as it consisted of a sequence of tough but fun moves on good rock while still getting the most out of the all too brief climb.

The typical four bolt sport climb at Powerline Crag feels like an extended boulder problem. The rock is limestone with occasional pockets, but more often edges for handholds. This style was consistent as we set top ropes on Picture Perfect (5.10), Grand Finally (5.9-), and On Call (5.7). All of the routes

## Powerline Crag at Blue Ridge Reservoir (cont)

we played on were bolted sport routes, with the exception of On Call, which was a crack climb that morphed into a chimney requiring trad gear.

Not ready to leave yet, we explored to the West and set up a top rope on Burn Notice (5.11) and No Preservatives Added (5.8). One thing we noticed with the harder climbs was the crux was consistently at the start of the route. It's quite possible that critical holds have broken off over the years, as we thought the starts were above the grade.

Still, climbing high above a forested lake made for a great way to spend a Saturday far



*Susan starts up "Short Stuff" 5.10*



*Karen climbing "No Preservatives Added" 5.8*

away from triple digit temperatures. Although there were plenty of boaters and fishermen, we had the climbing all to ourselves. We noticed there are a number of boulder problems along the waters edge. We decided for the next visit to Blue Ridge Reservoir we would rent some kayaks and explore along the lakeshore, stopping at the myriad of boulder problems that would taunt us from the shore.

*Scott Frankel*



# Havasu Canyon Trip May 2011



*Kathy Sharp, Erik Ringnes, Michele Bobik, Bill Fallon, Dave Cameron, Sam Plair, and Steve Sharp  
at the confluence of Havasu Creek and the Colorado River*

Several current and former AMC members went on a mid-May trip to Havasu Falls this year. We found that some of the waterfalls had changed considerably since May 2010, which is when we first saw the brand new waterfall that some are calling Rock Falls. This year we spent a long weekend camping, hiking, playing at the waterfalls, relaxing, and enjoying great company and scenery. Some of our crew did the long hike from the campground to the Colorado River and back one day, too.

(You can find more trip photos at: <http://www.flickr.com/photos/kathysharp/collections/>)

*Kathy Sharp*

# Havasu Canyon Trip May 2011 (cont)



*Top: Here is a last look at Havasu Falls from the trail as we are hiking out of Havasu Canyon in the morning.*

*Bottom left: These happy campers are Dave Cameron, Michele Bobik, Pam Metzger with daughters Andee and Sierra Kaczocha, and Bill Fallon.*

*Bottom right: Here you can see switchbacks carved into travertine and the upper ladder of the cave and chains trail (to the bottom of Mooney Falls).*





## Havasasu Canyon Trip May 2011 (cont)



*This is the new waterfall, Rock Falls, which we first saw in 2010.*



# Hidden Falls And Scouting The Grand



Yeah. I took a guide. What's it to you? The opportunity presented itself to assuage any lingering guilt at leaving my family to climb so, yeah, I took a guide. It may not be in the burliest style rife with implications of self reliance and a cavalier regard for the perceived dangers of the vertical world but I had the window and I took it. It turned out to be fairly rewarding, substituting a beautiful, comfortable day of climbing for an "adventure" in one of the great ranges of the lower forty eight.

I had originally contracted to climb a freestanding pillar near a sub peak of the grand called Baxter's Pinnacle. A 400' climb with a 5.8 crux near the summit block (or a 5.10 variation) was, I thought, an excellent way to introduce myself to the Tetons. When I met my guide, Ben, though, at the Exum Guides office, he informed me that due to record snowfall over the winter we would not be climbing Baxter's this day. My choices fell to the tourist wall of Hidden Falls or the more distant Guide's Wall. I chose the shorter approach.

## Hidden Falls And Scouting The Grand (cont)

After a short ferry ride across Jenny lake we arrived at the Hidden Falls dock and hiked the impeccably manicured trail to the wall where we unloaded and locked our gear in bear boxes to stave off all the hungry marmots. With the roaring falls beneath us and Jenny lake as our backdrop we climbed and scrambled all day in great weather. Despite the fact that the area is wired for beginners, heavily developed, with a lot of heavy traffic the climbing was quite pleasant and without a doubt it was the most beautiful place I could imagine for an introduction to climbing in Wyoming.

I'll spare the gory details of each individual pitch as the technical beta, while very useful for those planning a trip does little to inspire the casual reader who never entertained the idea of going. Suffice it to say, the exposure was less than breathtaking, though catastrophic in failure. Most of the climbing I did was fairly low angle without getting too pumpy or especially athletic. By the end of the day I was fighting to keep my eyes open and my shoulders burned in a familiar way.

After a near death sleep experience I enjoyed a day of rest with my family in Pinedale (with its own set of fantastic problems, from what I understand) and walked the streets celebrating their mountain man heritage at the Rendezvous festival. In the shadow of Gannett peak and the rest of the Wind River range I ate corn dogs and cotton candy with my daughter as I distractedly thought about the Cirque of the Towers and attacking the Wolf's Head, a 5.7 pillar red flagged as one of 50 North American classics in the book from circa 1965.

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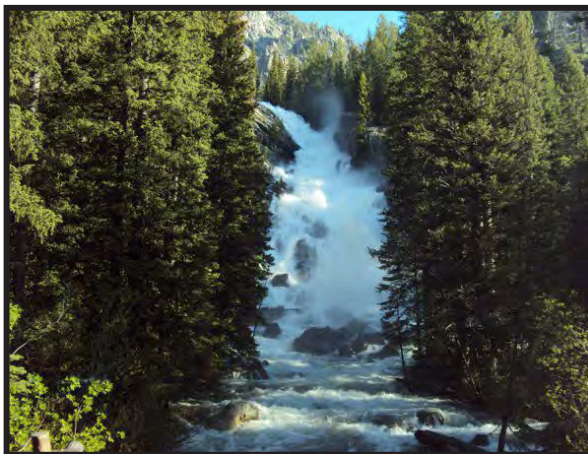


## Hidden Falls And Scouting The Grand (cont)

Because I had no partner, the following day I decided to lace up my hiking shoes and cruise back to Jackson to recon the lower haunches of the Grand which has been a dream of mine to climb since joining the club about 3 years ago. I passed the American Climber's Club ranch and thought about Yvon Chouinard, Royal Robbins, Paul Petzoldt, and all the climbers whose names I recognized who made those cabins and the surrounding area their homes all those years ago before the Tetons were a household name. It may seem a little corny but I did feel a sense of the climbing history these peaks evoke as I cruised down the highway that cuts right alongside.

Anyway, I hit the Lupine Meadow trailhead without any problem and very quickly realized exactly how developed this area is. With plenty of trash cans, a ton of parking, bathrooms, and a cement trail I knew that I would be able to cruise fast and light; and cruise I did. I jumped a couple of hikers on the way up, took a ton of pictures, saw the wildlife and hit Garnett Canyon with plenty of time to spare. Moving fast to Garnett Lake I met who I can only assume was a couple of rangers who suggested I move no higher than the lower saddle headwall as things start to steepen up and I had no ice axe. I took the advice and practically ran to the rock they pointed out that appears to serve as a rest station before moving into the upper mountain.

I saw a rope team on the way up the headwall carrying herculean packs. They must have been planning a long trip. One member fell at least twice as the team made very little prog-



## Hidden Falls And Scouting The Grand (cont)

ress as I watched. A lone glissader to their left made it as high as he wanted and wanted to descend quickly. I took the tip and boot skied back to what served as the moraine and hunkered in for the two hour plus hike back to the car.

My point is this; I think the Grand can be done in a long 12-14 hour day. I made the fork above Garnett Canyon, half the vertical distance in 2 1/2 hours. I believe that if one or two teams rolled onto the trailhead fit and confident they could blast the summit without carrying all the gear necessary for an overnigher. Though I am not a certified outing leader with the club I would love to help organize an outing to do the Grand and if, indeed, it can be done as quickly as I think then that would leave time for a more grandiose expedition in Wind River or a hit on one of the 50 classics that lie in the Cirque of the Towers a little further south in the range.

Ultimately, my business there is unfinished. The climbs there are spectacular and innumerable. You could climb there your entire life and probably never finish. The Teton climbing guide itself is something like five hundred pages long. The lakes, the waterfalls, and the entire alpine experience there is a little foreign to us down here in the valley and I believe it to be breathtaking. I can't wait to go back and hope I can convince a few people that it is a worthwhile undertaking to organize a sanctioned club event to go to this incredible range.

*Greg Crook*

## Calendar of Events - Outings/Schools/Events

### SEPTEMBER

- 5 Labor Day (Monday)
- 12 AMC Board Meeting
- 13 Lead School Sep 13, 14, 15, 17, 18
- 26 AMC Member Meeting

### OCTOBER

- 1 Grand Canyon Cleanup and Climb 1, 2
- 5 Outdoor Rock Climbing School Instructors Meeting
- 10 Columbus Day AMC Board Meeting
- 12 Outdoor Rock Climbing School Oct 11, 13, 15, 16, 18, 20, 22
- 24 AMC Member Meeting
- 29 Queen Creek Cleanup and Climb

### NOVEMBER

- 3 Anchors School Instructor Meeting
- 9 Anchors School Nov 8, 10, 12, 13
- 11 Veterans Day (Friday)
- 14 AMC Board Meeting
- 25 Thanksgiving at Joshua Tree
- 28 AMC Member Meeting

### DECEMBER

- 5 AMC Board Meeting
- 16 Holiday Party
- 19 AMC Member Meeting - Photo Contest
- 25 Christmas (Sunday)

# Calendar of Events - Outings/Schools/Events (cont)

*Footnotes: 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.*

## 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.*

<b>Tuesdays</b>	<b>Ape Index Gym Climbing - Rogil Schroeter (623) 512-8465</b>
<b>Wednesdays</b>	<b>North Mountain hikes after work. Rogil Schroeter (623) 512-8465</b>
<b>Thursdays</b>	<b>Phoenix Rock Gym Climbing - AMC Members \$10 admission with ID card. Curtis Stone - Kim McClintic</b>
<b>September 24</b>	<b>Annual Grand Canyon Rim to River day hike. Strenuous all day hike on Boucher Trail. Email Rogil@cox.net or call 623-512-8465.</b>

# 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 (602) 770-8326.

## Outing Leader

## Contact Info

Eric Evans .....	602-218-3060 .....	ea100@yahoo.com
Bill Fallon .....	602-996-9790 .....	bill.fallon@cox.net
Erik Filsinger .....		smorefil@aol.com
Jason Garvin.....	480-734-6801 .....	beach_bum43@hotmail.com
John Keedy.....	623-412-1452 .....	jwkeedy@cox.net
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