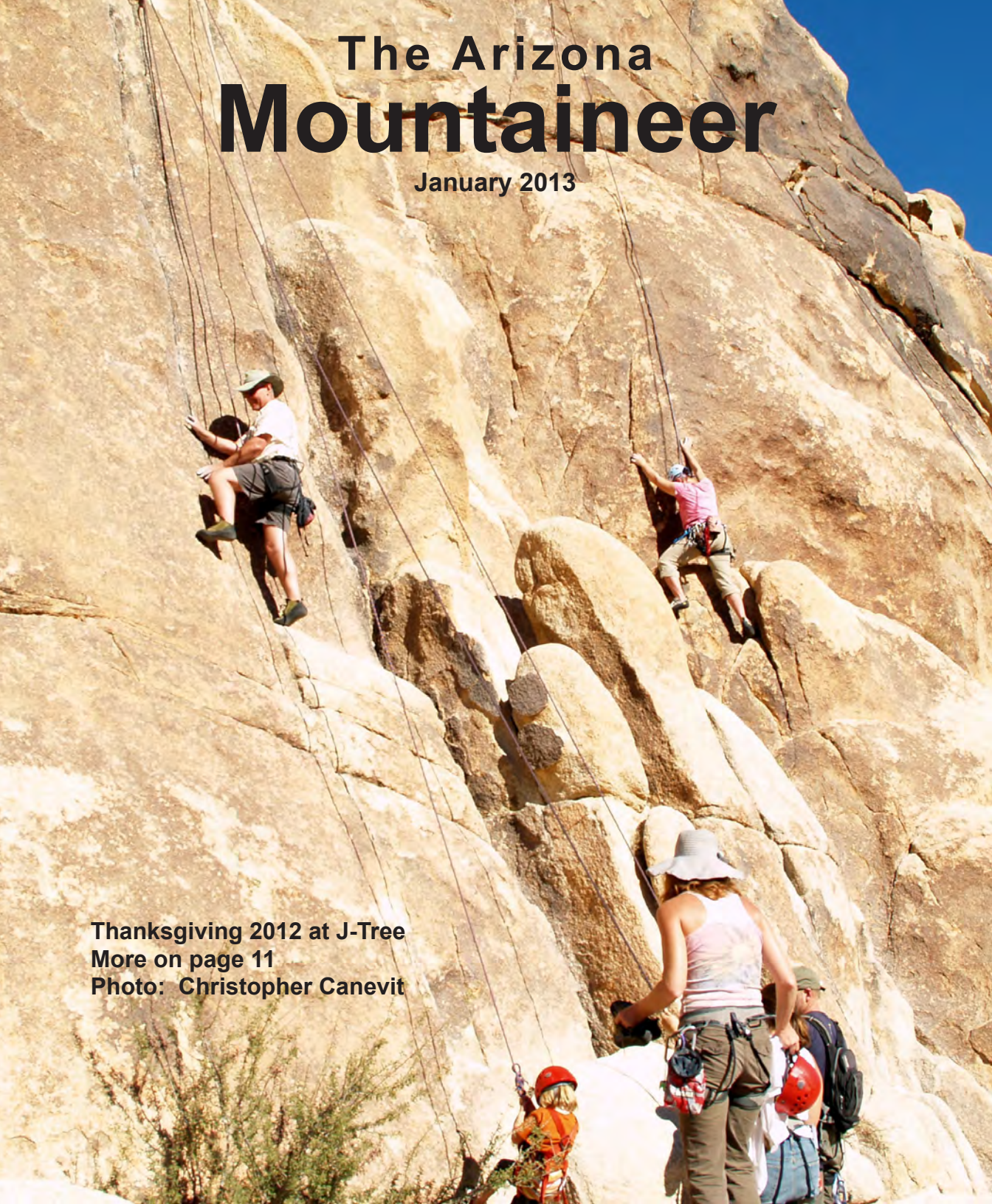


The Arizona Mountaineer

January 2013

Thanksgiving 2012 at J-Tree
More on page 11
Photo: Christopher Canevit



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

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-2	Cheryl Beaver	cherylbeaver@cox.net
Director-2	Douglas Matson	douglas.matson@gmail.com
Director-1	Daniel Gonzales	602 550-08371

COMMITTEES

Archivist	Jef Sloat	602-316-1899
Classification	Nancy Birdwell	602-770-8326
Climbing Shoe Rental	Linda Locke	602-371-9300
Elections	John Keedy	623-412-1452
Equip. Rental	Bruce McHenry	602-952-1379
Email	Curtis Stone	602-370-0786
Land Advocacy	Erik Filsinger	smorefil@aol.com.
Co-Chair	John Keedy	623-412-1452
Librarian	David McClintic	602-885-5194
Membership	Rogil Schroeter	623-512-8465
Mountaineering	Bruce McHenry	602-717-8956
Newsletter	Cheryl Beaver	cherylbeaver@cox.net
Outings	Dave McClintic	602-885-5194
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 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 at smorefil@aol.com.

Newsletter: The Arizona Mountaineer is published monthly by the AMC. The newsletter depends on contributions from its members so PLEASE send us your articles, gear reviews and/or photos.

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

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. Contact Dave McClintic at 602-885-5194 about billing. All ads are to be submitted to the newsletter committee by the 1st of the month prior to the month to be published.

Submit items for publication and direct any questions through email to Susan at SHarnage@aol.com. All submissions are subject to approval by the AMC newsletter committee: Cheryl Beaver, Tracy Fleming, Susan Harnage, and Jutta Ulrich.

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.

<u>Outing Leader</u>	<u>Contact Info</u>
Steven Crane	480-812-5447 stevencrane@live.com
Eric Evans	602-218-3060 eae100@yahoo.com
Bill Fallon	602-996-9790 bill.fallon@cox.net
Erik Filsinger	smorefil@aol.com
Jason Garvan	480-734-6801 beach_bum43@hotmail.com
John Keedy	623-412-1452 jwkeedy@cox.net
Mike Knarzer	602-751-1701 thrashndangle@gmail.com
David McClintic	602-885-5194 david.mcclintic@cox.net
Bruce McHenry	602-717-8956 bamchenry@att.net
Chris Meyer	Sun2stone@cox.net
Monica Miller	623-362-0456
Jeff Nagel	602-318-9538 azfreedheart@yahoo.com
Rogil Schroeter	623-512-8465 rogil@cox.net
Curtis Stone	602-370-0786 curtis_j_stone@yahoo.com
Frank Vers	480-947-9435 climbrox@gmail.com
Justin York	480-229-8660

Treasurer's Report

Arizona Mountaineering Club Income Statement Period Ended November 2012

INCOME

Advertising	0.00
Dues	4,308.56
Grants Received	0.00
Interest	22.54
Mountaineering Schools	600.00
Rental Equipment	20.00
AARS Fall	2,660.00
AARS Spring	945.00
Basic Fall	4,860.00
Basic Spring	3,380.00
Lead Fall	742.00
Lead Spring	570.00
Training Other	0.00
Merchandise & Other	680.00
TOTAL INCOME	18,788.10

EXPENSES

Admin	1,626.02
Promotional	700.59
Bank chgs	532.44
Capital Expenditures	0.00
Equipment Maintenance	70.00
Grants Expended	0.00
Insurance	1,220.00
Land Advocacy Committee	51.62
Library	0.00
Newsletter	1,257.81
Outings	821.01
Outing Leaders	344.30
Programs Monthly Meeting	1,298.86
Training	6,875.97
TOTAL EXPENSES	14,798.62

OVERALL TOTAL 3,989.48

ACCOUNT BALANCES

Checking & PayPal	16,818.71
Accounts Receivable	0.00
CD Account	15,000.00
TOTAL CASH ASSETS	31,818.71
AMC Outing Gear	0.00
OVERALL TOTAL	31,818.71

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2	Who does what, Committees, Addresses and Numbers
3	Outing Leaders, Treasurer's report
4	Contents, Discounts, AMC Elections
5	Board Meeting Minutes
6	New Members, Membership Committee
7	AMC Member Meeting /Photo Contest/ Elections
8	Mountaineering Classes and Outings
9	AMC Lead Class Flyer
10	AMC Anchors Class Follow up
11	J-tree Follow up
13	Telephone Canyon- Zion National Park
15	Tom's Thumb Trailhead
17	Calendar
18	Billboard, Birthdays, McDowell Mt Preserve
19	Hiking Shack Ad
20	Basic Climbing Class Fall 2013

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.
- **Climbmax Gym** - 1330 W Auto Dr, Suite 112, Tempe, AZ 85284 - 480-626-7755. 10% off membership.
- **Phoenix Rock Gym** - 1353 E. University, Tempe, AZ 85281. 480-921-8322. 10% off membership.

February Newsletter Submission Deadline: January 1st

Hot Stuff !!!

It's time to renew your AMC membership

Send checks (\$30 individual/\$35 family) to: AMC Membership
6519 W. Aire Libre, Glendale, AZ 85306

Or pay on-line at: <http://www.amcaz.org/membership.asp>

AMC Elections Are In January!

No, this is not your Draft Notice, but the AMC does want you to participate in the governance of your club. If you have an interest in how the club is run and what decisions are made about training and schools, publicity, finance, membership, outings, programs, activities, newsletter, land advocacy, or technology, this should get you excited. You belong on the Board of Directors.



Election of Officers and Directors will be at the January Membership Meeting. All that is required is that you have been a member of the AMC for a year, are current on your dues and are over 18. Please do consider running for one of the open positions on the Board.

All officer positions are elected every year; President, Vice-President, Secretary and Treasurer. There are three Director positions open this year as well.

Email the Election Chair, John Keedy at jwkeedy@cox.net or call at 623-337-6517.

amcaz.org 4

AMC Board Minutes - December 3, 2012

1. Call to order: 6:55 PM Board Members present: Bill Fallon, John Gray, Curtis Stone, Douglas Matson, Kim McClintic, Cheryl Beaver, Steven Crane, Eric Evans. Committee Chairs Present: Erik Filsinger, John Keedy. Members present: Gavin Storey.
2. Minutes of November Board meeting, as published in the newsletter, were approved.
3. Treasurer's report for Nov. was reviewed & approved. Report to be published in the Jan. newsletter.
4. Committee Reports:
 - (a) Membership- 308. Bill will investigate notifications of PayPal Payments for club membership dues.
 - (b) Programs:
 - i. Thanks to Sean Peters for the November program featuring climbs in the inner Grand Canyon.
 - ii. Dec. program: Annual Holiday Party on December 14th. There will be an optional gift exchange
 - iii. January program: Club elections and annual photo contest. Pay your dues, vote, and enter the photo contest. Categories: Alpine, Canyoneering, Scenic, Humor, and Climbing.
 - iv. February: Mike Libeck. Mike is currently in Antarctica. There will be a raffle.
 - (c) Outings and Activities:
 - i. Upcoming:
 - A. Alpine Rock- Dec. 8 (Bruce McHenry)
 - B. Hiking Tour of the Sven Towers and Hog Heaven-December 9-(Erik Filsinger)
 - C. Holiday Party-December 14
 - D. Jacuzzi Spire-December 30- (Rogil, Douglas)
 - ii. Recent Past:
 - A. Fall Anchors School- Nov. 13, 15, 17, 18 (Eric Evans)
 - B. J-Tree Thanksgiving Holiday- Nov. 21-25 (Tiina Perlman, Curtis Stone)
 - C. The Mace Outing- Nov. 17 (Frank Vers)
 - D. McDowell Adopt-A-Crag Mesquite Canyon Trail Project- Dec. 1 (Paul Paonessa)
 - (d) Land Advocacy:
 - i. Queen Creek-Resolution Copper made an announcement this week that they will be laying off a large number of employees. No change from earlier reports of climber access areas. In the near future QCC will be announcing the permit procedures for rock climbing on Resolution's private land. The intent will be to keep it to a one time electronic sign-up.
 - ii. McDowell Sonoran Preserve-Erik presented a map of the preserve and the areas that currently have Climber Access routes. New land acquired by the MSC, north of Dynamite, will need climber involvement for Climber Access route development. This includes the following climbing areas: The Den, Little Granite Mountain, and Cholla Mountain.
 - iii. There is to be an exploration of a Land Advocacy policy for future trail projects in which AMC is involved.

AMC Board Minutes - December 3, 2012 cont

- (e) Training & Schools:
 - i. Lead School-Feb. 2013 (Mike Knarzer)
 - ii. Basic- Mar. 2013 (Bill Fallon)
- (f) Newsletter: Please send submissions to: Susan Harnage.
- (g) Technology Team: 2013 was updated on the website. Paul Laughlin has offered to help with the club website.
- 5. New Business:
 - (a) 2013 Election: (Election chair: John Keedy) Reviewed the slate of candidates. Candidates may be submitted by email to John Keedy up until the January Board Meeting.
 - (b) Holiday Party: Dec. 14 (Curtis Stone, Dave McClintic)
 - (c) T-Shirt status: 19 have been sold. A computer will be brought to the upcoming member meetings to encourage members to buy t-shirts and to provide them with an opportunity to do so.
 - (d) Board approved a reimbursement to Bill Fallon for 50% of his WFR recert fee of \$147.50.
- 6. Executive Session: Steven Crane was approved as a multi-pitch outing leader. Congratulations, Steven.
- 7. The meeting was adjourned at 9:27

Respectfully submitted, Kim McClintic, Club 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.

Have you ordered your AMC t-shirt yet?

Options include performance and ladies T-shirts in addition to the traditional Hanes Beefy-T.

To order go online to: <http://www.amcaz.org/tshirts.asp>

For questions regarding the T-shirts, contact Cheryl at cherylbeaver@cox.net.

Congratulations Steven Crane!!

Steven was voted in by the board as an AMC multipitch outing leader at the December meeting.

Looking for someone to take over membership committee

Someone who is good with detail. Contact Rogil@cox.net or 623-512-8465

Welcome New Members!

Elizabeth Everly, Darryl Truss, Ben Van Hook, Kyle Van Hook

AMC Annual Photo Contest & Club Elections

Monday, January 28, 2013

7:00 PM

Please consider entering a photo or two or three.

Contest categories are:

Climbing (rock), Alpine (snow and ice), Scenic, Canyoneering, and Humor.

Photos need to be printed (not on CD or computer).

You must pay your 2013 club dues in order to enter the contest. Dues must be paid in order to vote for the photos and to vote in the club election.

Prizes will be awarded!



Aaron Locander's 2012 winning entry

Located at Granite Reef Senior Center
Granite Reef Senior Center
1700 N. Granite Reef Rd., Scottsdale

Contact Kim with questions. canyonkim@gmail.com

AMC Mountaineering

Outings & Classes

(after all, we are a “Mountaineering” club)



Ice Climbing Outing – Ouray, CO:

Swing and hook ice at the Ouray Ice Park, Ouray Co. February 15-18, 2013. Carpool Friday, climb Saturday and Sunday, carpool back Monday. Shared expenses for gas and hotel. Awesome top rope climbing on South Park, New Funtier, Scottish Gullies and other ice parks walls. No leading, no backcountry. This is an outing: previous ice climbing experience is preferred. Prerequisite: Leader Approval. Space is limited.

Deadline to sign up is January, 1, 2013.

Contact Bruce McHenry at bamchenry@att.net

AMC Beginning Ice Climbing Seminar, Ouray, Colorado

Learn to Ice Climb!

AMC Mountaineering presents Beginning Ice Climbing Seminar at the world famous Ouray Ice Park in Ouray, Colorado, March 8-11, 2013. Learn to ice climb in the “little Switzerland” of

the Rocky Mountains. Instruction will focus on standard ice climbing equipment and its use, proper technique (body positioning, footwork, tool placement), and belaying and rappelling for ice climbers.

Cost: \$80. Includes group climbing equipment (ropes, etc.), use of AMC ice tools and crampons.

Participants must provide helmet, harness, belay/rappel device, personal anchors, cold weather clothing/gear, and crampon compatible mountaineering boots. (Boots are available for rent at Ouray Mountain Sports, limited supplies). A complete gear list will be provided to participants. Participants must have taken AMC Outdoor Rock School or equivalent.

Participants will share transportation and lodging costs in Ouray. Participants are responsible for all meals and incidentals.

Deadline – sign up by February 1, 2013. Limit is 4.

Contact Bruce McHenry at bamchenry@att.net to register or for questions.

AMC Lead School Class ~ Spring 2013

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

Class curriculum:

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

Class schedule:

Feb 12	Tuesday	6:30 pm–9:30 pm	*Chateau de Vie 5 Clubhouse, Scottsdale, AZ
Feb 13	Wednesday	6:30 pm–9:30 pm	Chateau de Vie 5 Clubhouse, Scottsdale, AZ
Feb 14	Thursday	6:30 pm–9:30 pm	Chateau de Vie 5 Clubhouse, Scottsdale, AZ
Feb 16	Saturday	9:00 am–5:00 pm	Prescott (directions will be in syllabus)
Feb 17	Sunday	9:00 am–5:00 pm	Prescott or Scottsdale (directions will be in syllabus)

*Address for the Chateau de Vie 5 Clubhouse: 5900 N 83rd St.

Directions: From McDonald Rd East of Hayden Rd and West of Granite Reef, turn south on 83rd St. Take the 2nd right into the parking lot. The Clubhouse is the only free standing building in the complex.

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: \$95 plus membership if not already a member (\$30 for an individual and \$35 for a family).

Membership is good through Dec., 2013. Register by the Paypal link on the website (<http://www.amcaz.org/leadRegistration.asp>) or if you need to send a check you can contact Nancy Birdwell amcleadschool@gmail.com for the address. No credit cards accepted. (Please note: the registration fee is fully refundable if you cancel.) Email amcleadschool@gmail.com for more information. The number of students will be limited to 30.

Equipment required for the class:

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

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

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

Congratulations AMC Anchors Students!



Students

David Anderson
Anthony Cadorin
Christopher Canevit
Dave Cech
Dave Chan
Anne Dacanay
Peter Ekama
Deneshia Ferraris

Greg Frantz
Jaci Frantz
Quinney Fu
Justin Getelman
Sarah Gwynn
Kelly Hiatt
Mal Hooper
Dorothea Jackson

Justin Jones
Tasha Kankaanpaa
Kevin Karg
Paul Laughlin
Patrick McDermott
Maureen Nowland
Stephen Nowland
Elizabeth Parmer

Chara Price
Michael Ramey
John Scott
David Tai
Alex Taylor
Cindy Yuen

Instructors

Ronald Auerbach
Cheryl Beaver
David Cameron
Mark Christiani
Chris Curtis
Eric Evans

Bill Fallon
John Farrell
Daniel Gonzales
John Gray
Jacob Hancock
Michael Lust

Nancy Lust
Douglas Matson
Erin Matson
David McClintic
Kim McClintic
Rogil Schroeter

Angela Storey
Gavin Storey
Jeff Watkins
Justin York

Thanksgiving at J Tree 2012

The AMC just completed another successful Thanksgiving in Joshua Tree National Park. We had hot deep fried turkeys, hot climbs and hot weather.

The traditional pot luck dinner coordinated and hosted by AMC was a wonderful evening dinner in one of the most spectacular settings in Southern California. The tables were set and decorated with lovely clothes and décor and great camp handmade dishes prepared on site. We appreciate all the efforts and love that went into the prepared dishes. Curtis Stone, deep fried 3 small turkeys to perfection. There were fresh cut simmered green beans creamed, mushroom gravy, wonderful scalloped potatoes with cheese and chopped jalapeno, traditional Finland red beets with herring and whip cream, hummus, tatziki, kalamata olives, grilled flat bread, warm brie cheese topped with fresh fig jam, chicken chili, chips n salsa and some good cold beers to sip at this festive occasion.

Now the weather report, in the 10 out of 12 years that I have been to this AMC tradition I have never experienced mid 70s and 50s for day and evening temps for 3 days in a row! Wind, it never occurred. By Saturday we had to rethink our climbing plans in order to seek shade climbs that are never typically climbed this time of year. Thin Wall here we come, located in the picturesque Real Hidden Valley!

This year's Outing Leaders Rogil Schroeter, Monica Miller and Curtis Stone hosted several areas that in-

cluded; Feudal Wall, AFPA Rock, Thin Wall, Morbid Mound and The Palisades. Everyone got to climb and sightsee in and around the park with these selected locations. Cameras were clicking and shoes were sticking!

Thank you all for your participation in planning, coordinating and gear hauling for this event. It is due to the volunteer efforts of all members that make this event happen. Special thanks to this year's event organizers, Tiina and John Perlman, Cathy Wise and Curtis Stone. Now for an honorary recognition; Rogil has probably attended and hosted AMC climbing in Joshua tree for about 20 years. And this year she served once again after recovering from double by-pass heart surgery earlier this year. No one has a heart bigger than this special lady. We love, admire and appreciate you Rogil as you are the Matriarch of Arizona climbing. Thank you for sharing your knowledge, love and time in teaching so many of us this wonderful sport of climbing, you Rock! And we are all blessed in making your acquaintance.

In closing, it was great to see old friends and make new ones. We had several climbers come from the Northern California regions, Atlanta Georgia and Arizona to make this traditional AMC trip. Blessings to all and may the tradition continue.

Keep climbing,

~Monica D. Miller

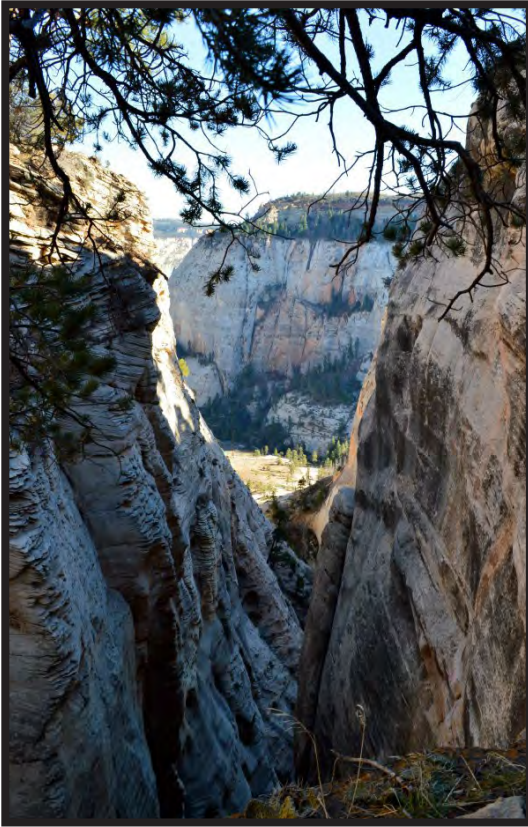
Photos: Anne Tian



Continued on page 12



Telephone Canyon – Zion National Park



A change of pace for the long Thanksgiving weekend; canyoneering instead of climbing. Met up with some Utah buddies at Zion National Park. I have not been to Zion since I was 12 years old and should have gone back much sooner: the park is stunningly majestic! Similar rock colors to Sedona, but a wonderful pure beauty all to itself. It's a 7 hour drive to Zion from Phoenix. If you take the western route that goes via Las Vegas and St. George – bonus – you go through the Virgin River Gorge, home to some of the hardest rock climbing routes in the USA.

The group stayed at Watchman campground, which you can reserve through the NPS reservation system. Friday night was for making s'mores at the campfire and deciding on routes for Saturday. Six of us opted for Telephone, a canyon up on the Zion west rim.

Zion requires permits for the canyons, the permit office opens at 8am and I suggest you get there early; which we did not. Telephone Canyon is a long day as you will see.

Drive or take park shuttle to the Grotto Picnic area and start up the West Rim Trail. Hiking directions to Telephone are in numerous guidebooks and websites, no need for me to reinvent the wheel. First half of the hike is very steep including a section called Walter's Wiggles - twenty-one, steep, man-made switchbacks taking you up to Scouts Landing. At the top of the Wiggles a right turn takes you to Angels Landing trail. We turned left to the West Rim Spring. Continue on

through Refrigerator Canyon, climbing steeply up past Behunin Canyon to the junction with the Telephone Canyon Route. The hike to the head of Telephone is 3.6 miles with over 2,500 feet of elevation gain (ugh!).

Telephone Canyon is only about 1/4 mile long, but it is one rappel after another. Our group did 16 raps total, about a 1,000' of elevation drop. There are a few sections that may be down climbed depending on your skill levels. I carry a 40' section of webbing with both Talon and Cliffhanger Hooks on it for a hand line; was useful on a few sections. Raps range from 30' to 160'. There were 6 of us, all fairly experienced. We carried 2 60m ropes and a 60m pull cord. Even with the efficiency of setting up the next rap while finishing the last one, it takes time to do that many rappels. Winter sunset





is 5pm, and the narrow canyon gets dark immediately. We did the last 5 rappels in the dark with headlights – which is awesome! Telephone Canyon is not technically difficult, rated 3A III. But rapping into a big dark hole at night is interesting to say the least: is that rock or a pool of icy cold water? Due to lack of rain the canyon was mostly dry, with a few half-full potholes and mud pits, wet suits were not necessary.

After the last rappel is a few hundred yards of debris, logs, boulders, etc. Pick your way through that back to the slick rock of the lower canyon. Head ‘right’ (south) and you will find the West Rim trail again. Two hours of downhill (yaah!) hiking got us back to the car and in town for Mexican food and beers!

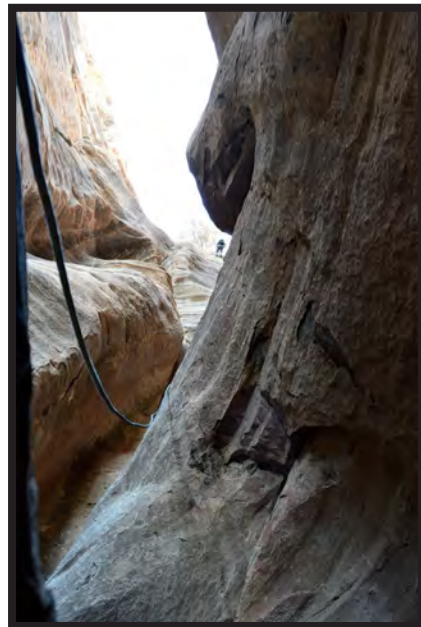
The guidebooks all say Telephone is an 8-10 hour day, including the hikes. Had we started at 8am, we would have been out in daylight. An 11am start put us in the dark for the last 5 raps and hike out, and back to the car at 9pm. Note: the nearby town of Springdale has lots of good restaurant options, but most all close at 8pm, even on Friday and Saturday night. We were lucky to find the local Mexican restaurant still open at 9:30pm.

On Sunday my Utah buddies opted for another canyon

before heading home. With my long drive back to Phoenix I did some short and very beautiful hikes: I recommend the Emerald Pool trail!

Zion– like all the beautiful places we travel – has many more options to explore. I’m definitely heading back much sooner next time: who’s in?

~Bruce McHenry



A Long Time Coming – Tom’s Thumb Trail Head



The ribbon cutting with Council Member Ron McCullagh, Tom Kreuser, Mayor Jim Lane, and Vice Mayor Dennis Robbins. Photo: Erik Filsinger

ship between the AMC and Scottsdale that when the City was planning to do the Grand Opening of the new Tom’s Thumb Trailhead, it invited Tom Kreuser, the climber after whom Tom’s Thumb was named, to help in the ceremony and “cut the ribbon.”

The day was a grand success. Tom and the Mayor (see photo nearby) cut the ribbon, which in this case involved disconnecting a carabiner from the loops of two climbing ropes. I was able to walk Tom around to the onlookers and introduce him to Mayor Lane, Vice Mayor Robbins, and City Council member Klapp. I also introduced Tom to the City Manager, the heads of the Fire and Police Departments, and the senior members of the City Preserve staff. Tom and his lovely wife Wendy seemed to greatly enjoy themselves, with Tom pointing out the accurate date of his first ascent and the circuitous approach route (up the ridge from the west past what is now Lost Wall).

Congrats to the City and to Tom, and to the AMC for its fine work over many, many years.

Here are some words from the grand man himself – Tom Kreuser

The City of Scottsdale had its official opening for the Tom’s Thumb Trailhead and Trail on October 18th. It was an honor for me to be invited to take part in the “ribbon cutting” ceremony. Actually a rope and carabiner unclipping replaced the traditional ribbon because rock climbing has been such an important activity in this area of the McDowell Sonoran Preserve for over forty-five years. In 1963, I and two friends, Bill Sewrey and Diana Hartrim, were the first from The Arizona Mountain-

When a group of local conservationists, including AMC’er Paul Diefenderfer, met in the early 1990’s, the idea of a Preserve owned and operated by the City of Scottsdale was born. I became involved with the McDowell Sonoran Preserve in the mid- to late-1990’s, and have “babied” the climbing crags and access routes over what seems like countless meetings and years. Last year the City of Scottsdale approved the official climbing policies and map, and this year the Tom’s Thumb Trailhead was constructed and built. We have a lot to be grateful for.

The City of Scottsdale has been a solid partner with the AMC in preserving and accessing the historic climbing crags. In turn, the AMC will continue to assist the City with its communications to the climbing community and to building and maintaining the climbing access routes. It is in large part in recognition of that partner-



Tom in front of his name sake.

Photo: Wendy Kreuser

A Long Time Coming – Tom’s Thumb Trail Head (cont)

ering Club to climb that large granite block atop the McDowells. Doug Black the then president of the AMC heard our climbing report at the AMC meeting and suggested we call the large granite pinnacle “Tom’s Thumb.” Over the years “Tom’s Thumb” has come into common usage. So this was the explanation for me being present at the official opening last month. The City of Scottsdale and the residents of Scottsdale need to be congratulated on their successful effort to preserve this magnificent piece of desert real estate – The McDowell Sonoran Preserve

Tom’s Thumb Trailhead is the newest in a series of entrances to the Preserve affording access to the northern end of the McDowell Mountains and the great historic climbing that exists in this area. The Trailhead provides parking for over two-hundred cars and a separate area for horse trailers. The architecturally designed trailhead building offers shade, lots of seating, restrooms, trash receptacles, informative displays and posters, as well as sighting tubes to view the geology of the area. The site is off the grid so has skylights and composting toilets. The thing to remember is “No Water” is available at the site, bring your own. From the shaded patio one has a fabulous view of the granite pinnacles and walls of the Tom’s Thumb basin. Scottsdale’s own “little Yosemite”. Climbing and granite being the key words there. The Trailhead parking area and building is handicap accessible and is a great place to have your Aunt Annie or Grandma and Grandpa visit because of its remoteness and again fabulous views to the north of Carefree and the Tonto National Forest. Views to the east are of the Mazatals and sweeping vistas of Four Peaks. The main Tom’s Thumb Trail has designated climber access routes branching off of it to access the climbing walls in the area. If you haven’t seen the new trailhead, journey out. I can guarantee it may be your first trip, but it won’t be your last. Climb on.

~Tom “The Thumb” Kreuser

Submitted by Erik Filsinger, AMC Land Advocacy Chair.



Photos: Tom Kreuser

AMC 2013 Calendar

JANUARY

- 9 Alpine Seminar: Glacier Travel, Snow Skills and Crevasse Rescue Jan 9, 11-13
- 14 AMC Board Meeting (Deadline for submitting nominations for 2013 Election)
- 21 Martin Luther King Day (Monday)
- 28 AMC Member Meeting – Elections and photo contest, Member dues are due

FEBRUARY

- 11 AMC Board Meeting
- 12 Lead School - Feb 12, 13, 14, 16, 17
- 18 Presidents Day (Monday)
- 25 AMC Member Meeting

MARCH

- 6 Basic Outdoor Rock Climbing School Instructors Meeting
- 8-11 Ice Climbing Seminar – Ouray, CO
- 11 AMC Board Meeting
- 12 Basic Outdoor Rock Climbing School Mar 12, 14, 16, 17, 19, 21, 23
- 25 AMC Member Meeting
- 31 AMC Anniversary

APRIL

- 3 Anchors School Instructor Meeting
- 6 Queen Creek Cleanup and Climb
- 8 AMC Board Meeting
- 9 Anchors School - Apr 9, 11, 13, 14
- 22 AMC Member Meeting

MAY

- 6 AMC Board Meeting
- 20 AMC Member Meeting
- 25-27 Memorial Day Weekend - Alpine Climb
- 27 Memorial Day (Monday)

JUNE

- 10 AMC Board Meeting

- 24 AMC Member Meeting - Swap Meet

JULY

- Jul 4 Independence Day (Thursday)
- Jul 8 AMC Board Meeting
- (No Member Meeting in July)

AUGUST

- 12 AMC Board Meeting
- 26 AMC Member Meeting

SEPTEMBER

- 2 Labor Day (Monday)
- 9 AMC Board Meeting
- 10 Lead School - Sep 10, 11, 12, 14, 15
- 23 AMC Member Meeting
- 28 Grand Canyon Clean Up

OCTOBER

- 9 Basic Outdoor Rock Climbing School Instructors Meeting
- 14 Columbus Day AMC Board Meeting
- 15 Basic Outdoor Rock Climbing School - 15, 17, 19, 29, 22, 24, 26
- 28 AMC Member Meeting

NOVEMBER

- 2 Queen Creek Cleanup and Climb
- 4 AMC Board Meeting
- 6 Anchors School Instructor Meeting
- 11 Veterans Day (Monday)
- 12 Anchors School - Nov 12, 14, 16, 17
- 18 AMC Member Meeting –Activities Expo
- 28 Thanksgiving at Joshua Tree

DECEMBER

- 2 AMC Board Meeting
- 7 Alpine Rock Seminar
- 13 Holiday Party

Jacuzzi Spire Outing - Sunday, December 30 2012

Douglas Matson will be leading an apprentice outing with Rogil Schroeter.

Watch for more information on Meet-up. <http://www.meetup.com/Arizona-Mountaineering-Club/>

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.

AMC is also on meetup. For official and unofficial outings go to:

<http://www.meetup.com/Arizona-Mountaineering-Club/>

- Tuesdays **North Mountain hikes after work.** Rogil Schroeter (623) 512-8465
- Wednesdays **Ape Index Gym Climbing** - Rogil Schroeter (623) 512-8465
- Thursdays **Phoenix Rock Gym Climbing** - AMC Members \$10 admission with ID card.
Curtis Stone - Kim McClintic
- Feb 9 **Annual Superstition Ridgeline Hike:** Strenuous 13+ miles all-day-hike. More detail
at: http://kathysharp.freehostingcloud.com/announcements/hike_supesRidge.html
If you wish to attend, please contact Rogil@cox.net or Bill.Fallon@cox.net before Feb 2.

January Birthdays

Nathan Ekama 4, Marcela Niemczyk 4, Cathy Wise 5, Bill Fallon 6, Rose Courtney 7, Jack Carlson 10, Elizabeth Parmer 12, Dave Cech 18, Rich Kocher 18, Nestor Garcia 19, John Hensing 25, Suzanne Cook 28, Peiting Lien 28, Christopher Meyer 29, Karen Stafford 29, Adam Saieed 30

Scottsdale adds 6,400 acres to McDowell Sonoran Preserve

On November 21, 2012 the City of Scottsdale was the successful bidder at the State Land Department auction on three parcels totaling about 6,400 acres on the north side of the Preserve which is all north of Dynamite Boulevard (Rio Verde Road) and mostly north of the power lines. With these additions the Preserve now totals almost 28,000 acres. These lands are especially important additions because they connect the Preserve to the Tonto National Forest to the north. The acquisition of this land completed the wildlife linkage between the McDowell Mountains and the Tonto National Forest.

This most recent is also important to climbers because those new lands include Little Granite Mountain and Cholla Mountain, as well as the Den. While for the past set of years, the AMC has followed the City lead and not been aggressive in its use of those lands, historically places like the Den, Loafer Wall and Lost Bandana Wall have been rich in AMC tradition.

I have been part of the City's Trail Planning for the new Preserve lands north of Dynamite and have had preliminary discussions with regard to the climber access routes. Hopefully over the next year or two we will see AMC'ers involved in specific layouts and building of those climber access routes.

Please reach out to me if you are interested in "adopting" these great climbing areas for some of your "give back" to the community.

Submitted by Erik Filsinger
AMC Land Advocacy Chair



We've got room!



We can even put our tents on the floor now!



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 \$195, plus \$30.00 membership for the remainder of the year (\$35.00 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

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

For additional information, contact Eric Evans
AMCBasicSchool@gmail.com, or visit our website at:

www.amcaz.org



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

Spring 2013 - Class Schedule

March 12 - Tue - 5:30 PM - 10:00 PM
March 14 - Thu - 6:00 PM - 10:00 PM
March 16 - Sat - 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM
March 17 - Sun - 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM
March 19 - Tue - 6:00 PM - 10:00 PM
March 21 - Thu - 6:00 PM - 10:00 PM
March 23 - 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