

# The Arizona Mountaineer

July 2013



Erik Filsinger on North Ridge Route, Snowdon Peak - Story on page 10  
Photo: Cheryl Beaver

# 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  
PO Box 30163  
Mesa, AZ 85275-0163

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	Erik Filsinger	smorefil@aol.com
Treasurer	Thad Colgrove	602-795-2167
Director-2	Eric Evans	602-218-3060
Director-2	Cheryl Beaver	cherylbeaver@cox.net
Director-2	Douglas Matson	douglas.matson@gmail.com
Director-2	Gavin Storey	gavinxd@yahoo.com
Director-1	David Arthur Sampson	dasampson@gmailcom

## COMMITTEES

Archivist	Jef Sloat	602-316-1899
Classification	Nancy Lust	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	Jeff Crosby	amcazemail@gmail.com
Land Advocacy	Erik Filsinger	smorefil@aol.com
Co-Chair	John Keedy	623-412-1452
Librarian	David McClintic	602-885-5194
Membership	Erin Matson	480-818-9306
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](mailto: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](mailto: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 Lust at (602) 770-8326.

### Outing Leader

### Contact Info

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
John Keedy.....	623-412-1452 jwkeedy@cox.net
Mike Knarzer .....	602-751-1701 thrashndangle@gmail.com
Douglas Matson .....	480-648-3009 douglas.matson@gmail.com
David McClintic.....	602-885-5194 david.mcclintic@cox.net
Bruce McHenry.....	602-717-8956 bamchenry@att.net
Chris Meyer .....	Sun2stone@cox.net
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

## Treasurer's Report

### Arizona Mountaineering Club Income Statement Period Ended May 2013

#### INCOME

Advertising	0.00
Dues	3,605.00
Grants Received	0.00
Interest	22.45
Mountaineering Schools	1,190.00
Rental Equipment	233.00
AARS Fall	0.00
AARS Spring	1,995.00
Basic Fall	0.00
Basic Spring	5,575.00
Lead Fall	0.00
Lead Spring	760.00
Training Other	5.00
Merchandise & Other	1,262.00

---

<b>TOTAL INCOME</b>	<b>14,647.45</b>
---------------------	------------------

#### EXPENSES

Admin	1,125.13
Promotional	1,526.86
Bank chgs	328.67
Capital Expenditures	0.00
Equipment Maintenance	27.61
Grants Expended	0.00
Insurance	0.00
Land Advocacy Committee	41.20
Library	0.00
Newsletter	500.59
Outings	73.59
Outing Leaders	0.00
Programs Monthly Meeting	1,827.94
Training	5,150.00

---

<b>TOTAL EXPENSES</b>	<b>10,601.59</b>
-----------------------	------------------

<b>OVERALL TOTAL</b>	<b>4,045.86</b>
----------------------	-----------------

#### ACCOUNT BALANCES

Checking & PayPal	19,406.68
Accounts Receivable	0.00
CD Account	15,000.00
<b>TOTAL CASH ASSETS</b>	<b>34,406.68</b>
AMC Outing Gear	0.00
<b>OVERALL TOTAL</b>	<b>34,406.68</b>

## Contents

2	Who does what, Committees, Addresses and Numbers
3	Outing Leaders,
4	New Members, Birthdays,
5	Board Meeting Minutes
7	Pasta Slab - Little Granite Mt.
10	Snowdon Peak and Eureka Ice Climbs in Summer
14	Calendar, Billboard,
15	Hiking Shack Ad
16	Grand Canyon Clean-up

## 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](http://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.

**AUGUST NEWSLETTER SUBMISSION DEADLINE: JULY 1ST**

## New Members

Wes Plumb, Tevor Boswell, Laura Howey, Bobby Payne, Joe Vaughan, Brenda Tyler

## July Birthdays

John Scott 2, Tom Folwell 3, Thomas Loeff 4, Terry Nelson 6, David Sampson 8, Brenda Tyler 11, Geoff Chalmers 13, Jaci Frantz 13, Christopher Kosko 13, Deborah Roether 14, Cadence Calaci 15, Jerry Smit 16, Louise Johnson 18, Christine Panopio 23, Valerie Paulus 24, Daniel VanHerpen 29

## AMC Monthly Member Meeting

**No Meeting In July**  
**See You in August!**



# AMC Board Minutes - June 10, 2013

Call to order: Bill Fallon called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m.

Board Members present: Cheryl Beaver, Bill Fallon, David Sampson, Douglas Matson, Erik Filsinger, Gavin Storey, Thad Colgrove

Board Members absent: Eric Evans, John Gray

Minutes: The Minutes of the May 5, 2013 Board meeting were approved as published.

Treasurer's Report: Treasurer's Report for May was approved.

## Committee Reports:

Membership – The current number of dues paid members stands at 245

Programs – No report. June is the annual Gear Swap. July – no meeting.

Outings/Activities – None noted.

Upcoming activities include: Curtis Stone – June 22 – The Overlook

Land Advocacy – Erik gave an update on Scottsdale's McDowell Sonoran Preserve access issues. He also discussed news from the Southern Arizona Climbers Coalition.

T & S – Bill and Erik will begin working on the Fall COS permits.

Newsletter Committee – Cheryl indicated that the upcoming newsletter is in process.

Technology Team – No report.

## New Business

Transition of Bruce McHenry duties by year end

Statutory agent – Bruce will remain

Insurance & risk management – duties will be taken on by AMC Treasurer

Yahoo groups email mgmt – TBD – potential party being asked

Mountaineering Chair & rental gear – Discussion of needs and potential models for finding a new Chair, potentially outside AMC party – Erik to follow-up

Outing Leader Reimbursement – According the club policy, Douglas Matson will be reimbursed half up to a maximum of \$250 for his attendance and training in a WFR class.

## Old Business

AMC Mission Statement – David Sampson will send a redraft of the AMC Mission statement. Board members agreed to review and provide comments at the next Board meeting.

# AMC Board Minutes - June 10, 2013 (cont)

Outing Leader Apprentice Process – David Sampson presented an overview of the various forms and processes that currently exist. David S, David M, and Douglas M will review the package and suggest possible streamlining as well as seek to ensure consistency.

Advanced Climbing Seminars (ACS) – Advanced Climbing Seminars (ACS) – Erik reviewed the proposal he had made at the last Board meeting. The Board was pleased that David Sampson accepted the leadership role for the Advanced Climbing Seminars. Erik will provide David support in reviewing past programs and identifying potential leaders for potential seminars in the series. Erik and Cheryl will offer a Self-Rescue Seminar in the Fall. David stated his goal is to find volunteers who will offer the seminars for free. AMC may charge nominal fees to offset costs.

Thanksgiving J-Tree event – Group site is reserved. Tiina Perlman will be the activity coordinator. The Board is seeking a lead Outing Leader for the event. Bill will ask David McClintic to solicit an OL.

AMC Web Site – Bill Fallon gave an update. Progress is being made.

Archiving and Maintenance of Club Records – The Board discussed a formal proposal made by Bill, who will revise and resubmit at the next Board meeting.

Outing Leader Dues Waivers – Bill will visit with David M. to make sure that all OL's have input on the process and alternatives.

AMC Canyoneering Interest Group – No report – (Last meeting John Gray had agreed to take on the task of setting up an initial structure of individuals to pursue this topic.)

Club Docs – Bill stated that he is continuing this project with his goal being to update the official documents available on the web site. The next step (for someone else) would be to organize the documents for easier review, identification and use of policies. There is significant difficulty at the current time with ease of use of the club docs.

## Future Agenda Items

## Adjourn

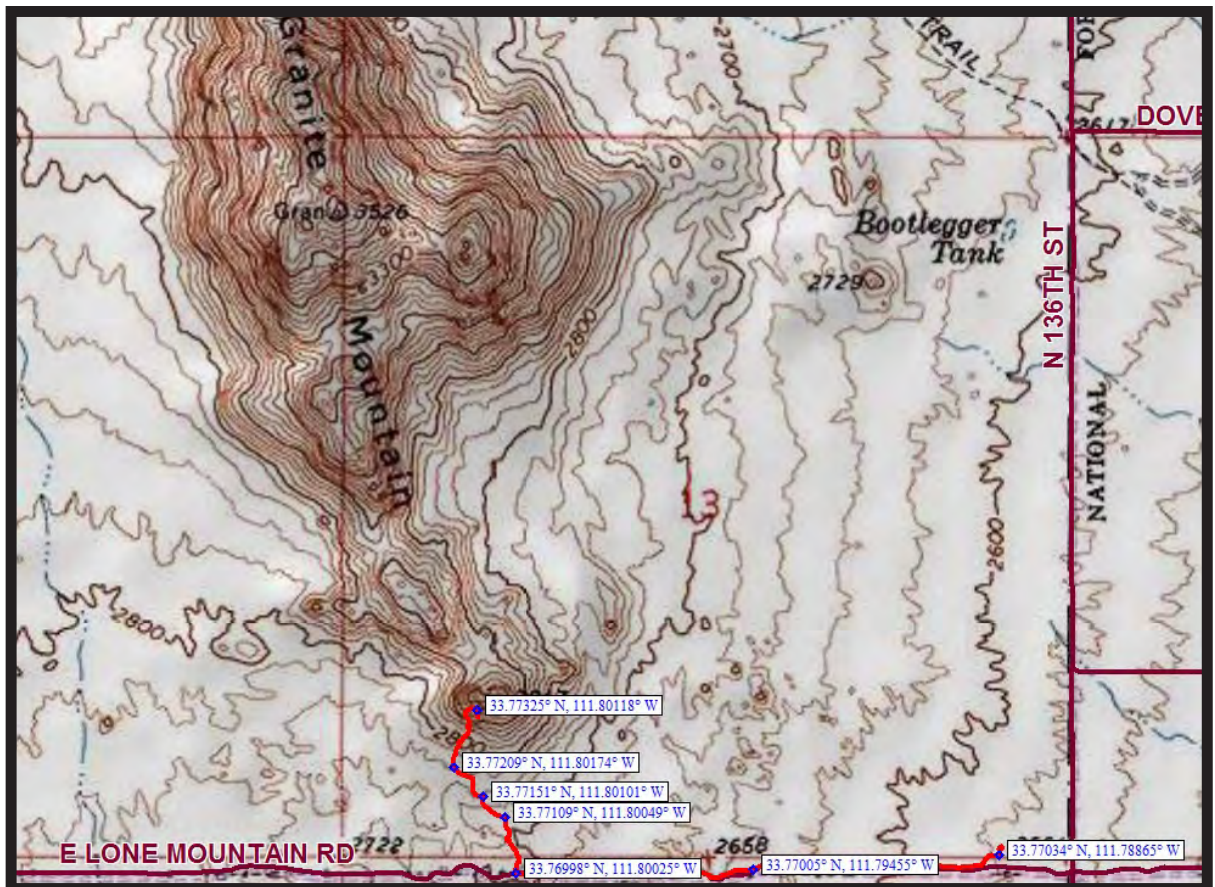
The meeting was adjourned at 9:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Erik Filsinger, AMC Secretary

## Pasta Slab – Little Granite Mountain

With the purchase of the former State Trust Land around Little Granite Mountain and the placement of a new parking lot access at 136th Street and the Power Line Road, it is possible to start sharing some of the neat climbing areas that have been saved in that area. New trails have been/are being constructed so it is not possible to give you a City approved climbing access route map yet, but you can start checking out some of these great areas with the materials provided.

Most climbers who have been to Little Granite Mountain will have to become re-educated to access. Almost all of the old trail heads, access points and access trails are now gone. New official city trail heads and trails are being constructed and Pasta Slab is probably the closest in rock climbing area on Little Granite Mountain (save for the Den which lies about 10 minutes or .5 miles west along the Power Line). It sits underneath the rock crag called Pasta Pinnacle and has some great easy 5th class climbs making it an excellent place to take beginners and families.

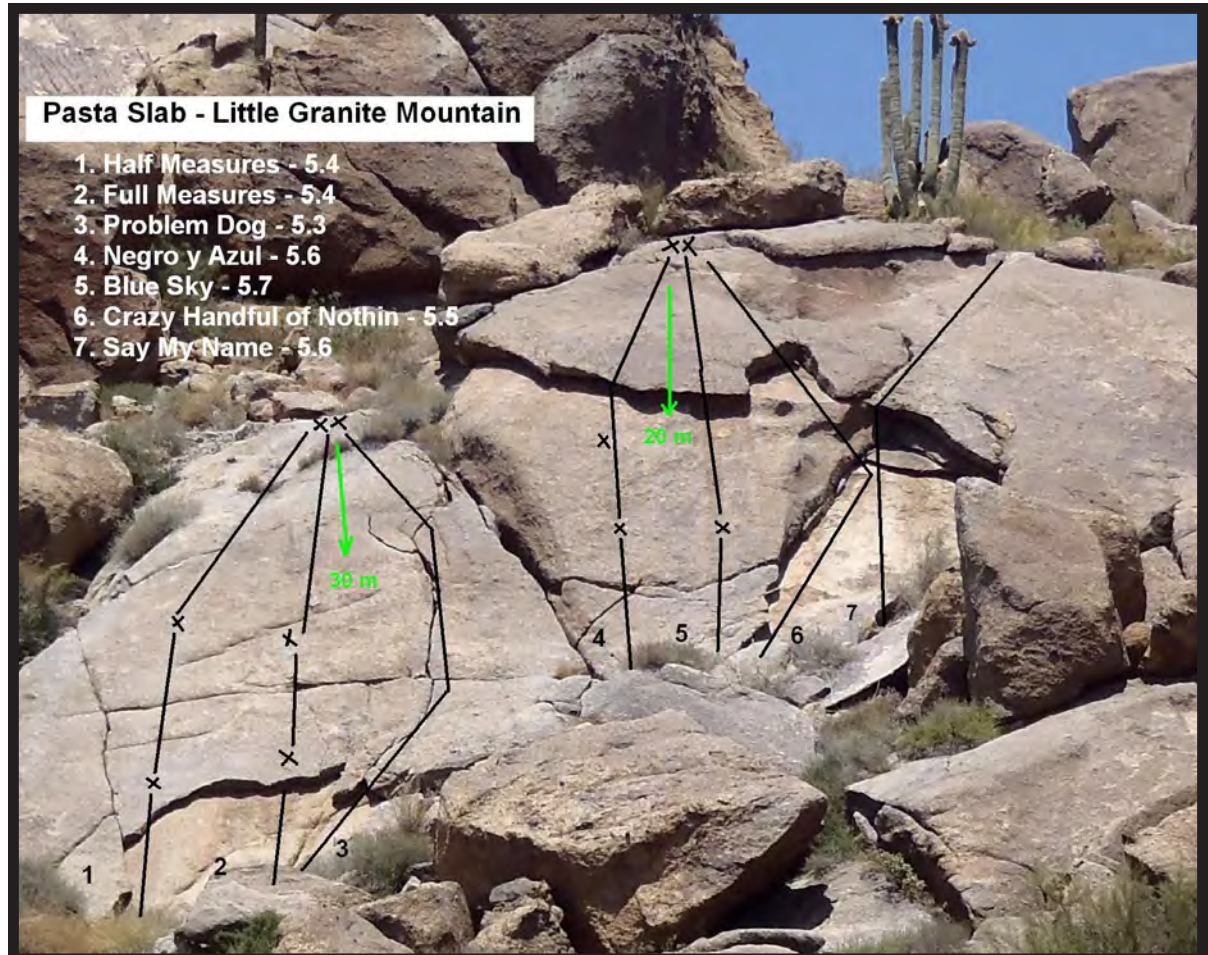




The accompanying locator map with GPS will assist you in navigating to the crag. In general, head west along the Power Line dirt road until you arrive at a diagonal trail just past some boulders that connects the Power Line road with the new Little Granite Mountain Loop trail. Please note that there are new official city trails that leave from the Trail Head at 136th Street and the Power Line but they are “scenic” (read long and circumlocutious). Hiking the way shown herein will take about 45 minutes to reach the crag whereas following the trails from the parking lot may take over an hour.

Once on the Little Granite Mountain Loop trail, continue heading west for less than 5 minutes until you are directly underneath Pasta Slab. A cairned climber’s path leads up through the brush to the crag.

The following climbs can be lead or top-roped. A “walk-up” to the top involves following the diagonal ledge system under the climbs from left to right and scrambling up and around the right side of the crag. Two rap anchors serve as good raps at the end of the climbing day.





As depicted on the route photo, the routes are:

**1. Half Measures** – 30 meters – 5.4. Follow a crack on the left side of the formation and up over a small roof to a bolt. Climb up past horizontal cracks (large gear would be needed to protect them – 5” to 6”). Climb past another bolt and then follow a water streak up and right to a cold shut anchor.

**2. Full Measures** – 30 meters – 5.4. Starting on a short slab just right of the prior route, climb up over the small roof, past a bolt, to some horizontal cracks (large gear), and past another bolt to a horizontal crack (2”) and to the cold shut anchor.

**3. Problem Dog** – 30 meters – 5.3. Prominent curving crack with multiple gear placements to cold shut anchor.

**4. Negro Y Azul** – 20 meters – 5.6. Starting further right past a chimney feature follow a steeper slab up past two bolts and over a roof, trending right to a cold shut anchor.

**5. Blue Sky** – 20 meters – 5.7. Ten feet right of the previous climb follow up a slippery slab with water stain past a bolt to a roof. Gear placement with longer runner under roof. Make move over roof and to cold shut anchor.

**6. Crazy Handful of Nothin** – 5.5. Follow the right facing corner to top of small slab feature and work left up through 4 foot high roof and then trend left to cold shut anchor.

**7. Say My Name** – 5.6. Climb face right of previous route to apex and through roof to cold shut anchor.

The aforementioned walk off is possible climber’s right, or rappel from cold shut anchors. Single rack will work up to 4”. If you want to further protect left hand climbs consider bringing something for a 5” crack.

Submitted by Erik Filsinger

# Snowdon Peak and Eureka Ice Climbs in Summer

## A Trip Report

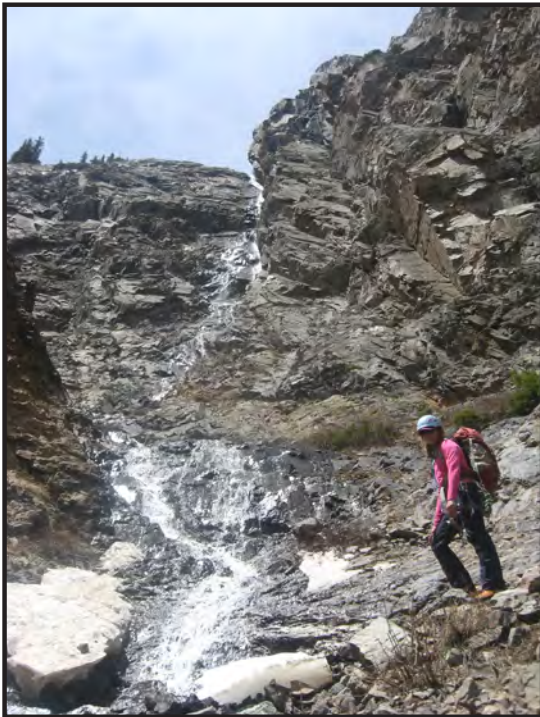
On Memorial Day weekend Cheryl Beaver and I traveled to Southwest Colorado to explore our alpine interests. There is a new campground at Eureka, about 10 miles east of Silverton, where historically I have stayed with AMC mountaineering groups. Later in the summer it is a fee site, but it was free during our stay. The campground has great views of the surrounding peaks and there was only one other party camping there.

Most of Saturday was taken in driving there and we were blocked by rushing water and ice from getting in to Whore House Hose, a marvelous 5-pitch winter ice climb, but it was good to stretch our legs before dinner of salad and Tortellini.

Sunday our first objective was Second Gully. Cheryl had a new pair of mountaineering boots and we wanted to test them out on alpine terrain.



Second Gully Rock



Goldrush

We scrambled up right of the Second Gully waterfall to an area just above the end of the first ice pitch. We roped up when the climbing in mountaineering boots became challenging (see photo – Second Gully rock). Cheryl's boots worked great. I lead a couple of low 5th class rock pitches right of the running water in rock shoes and before long we emerged on top of the ice climb. For interest to those ice climbers, there are now bolted and chained anchors at the top of each of the ice climbing pitches.

The day was beautiful and warm and we ate lunch on the level area climber's right of the top of the ice. We descended skier's left down the descent gully, involving one rap off of bolts and chains and down the steepest and narrowest section. This drops you out by the bottom of Goldrush, which was running beautifully (see photo Goldrush).

Avalanche snow was still bridging the main stream

below the road in the bottom of the valley so we were able to cross easily to the south side and hike down and then up to the base of Stairway to Heaven. I had never rock climbed Stairway, so we put on our rock shoes and scrambled up the first two pitches of the winter ice climb on rock climber's left of the running water and some remaining ice.

Our descent involved that great snow couloir underneath Stairway (See photo Stairway to Heaven). Both it and the one west of it under Highway to Nowhere were in the great as always Memorial Day shape that had served me and the AMC well in the past for snow travel and ice ax arrest practice. (Note – for anyone wishing to practice alpine snow skills, remember that Snowbowl after the ski area closes and Eureka on Memorial Day always has good snow for snow skills practicing and AMC'ers planning summer trips should take advantage to hone their skills.)

After a nice pot roast meal back at camp and an early night, we woke up to the alarm at 3:30 a.m. AZ time for our alpine ascent of Snowdon Peak (13,077 ft). We drove up past Molas Pass and parked at Andrews Lake. Sunrise was just about ready to happen as we hiked up the Crater Lake trail to the flat marshy areas west of Snowdon. This also has been the location of a number of AMC outings and basecamps in the past and brought back fond memories of good times with good people. One Memorial Day I remembered John Keedy's perch as base camp manager communicating with the 5 teams of AMC'ers taking different ascent routes to the summit. Good times.

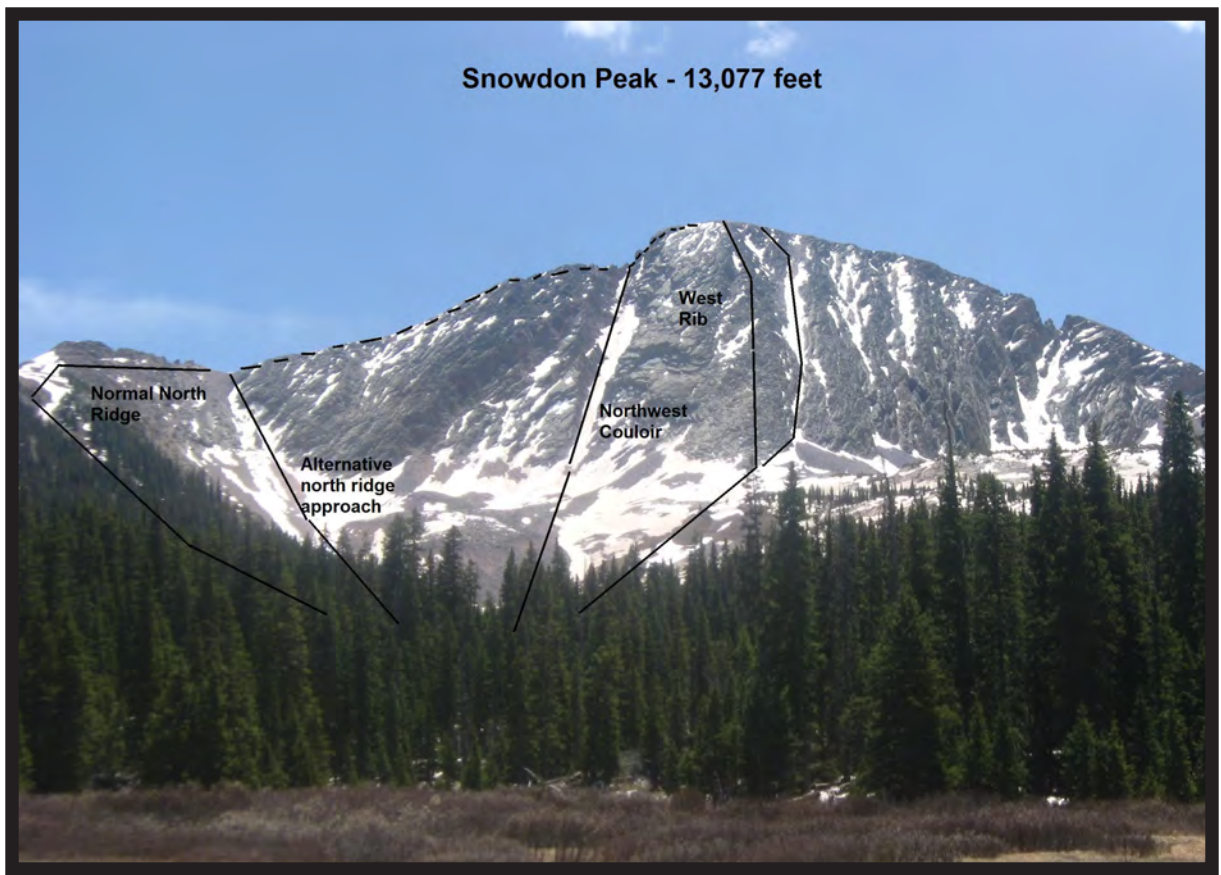
The accompanying route photo shows a number of lines I have had AMC'ers do over the years. I've personally had fun on the direct west rib line, the prominent snow couloir, and this repeat of the regular route on the north ridge.

Surprisingly there was a pretty good trail from the main trail most of the way to the saddle on Snowdon's north



Stairway to Heaven





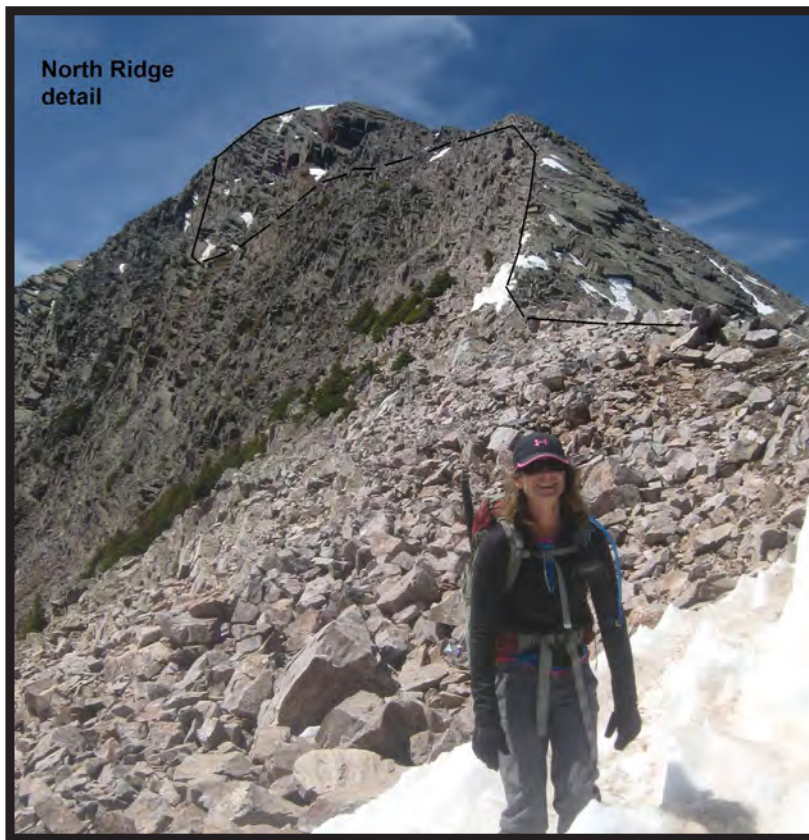
Snowdon - Routes

ridge. The downside was that most of the trail through the woods was snow covered and almost impossible to follow. Fortunately I had a pretty good recollection of where it was, so Cheryl and I stayed on track to the base of Snowdon and then followed the couloir left of the peak up to the saddle (See attached route photo of Snowdon Peak).

The summit ridge from the saddle is dramatic looking but very doable. We followed the ridge-line on rock and snow, some times dropping to the east side to pass obstacles. While the upper mountain can be climbed more or less directly (the route I did with James Perey and Valerie Bednar after we climbed the prominent northwest couloir route), this time we followed the standard ascent which bridges out onto the north face and winds up some couloirs involving 4th class rock scrambling (See attached route photo of North Ridge route).

Cheryl topped out on the summit ridge and was first to the broad summit, which is about as big as a football field. It had taken us about 5 hours from the parking lot at Andrews Lake to the summit, a time extended by my slow pace. It was about 9:30 AZ time, having started about 4:30 AZ time.

The summit views were 360 degrees of snow capped mountains. As folks probably know, the amcaz.org 12



North Ridge Route

whole SW area of Colorado is rich with 14,000 foot peaks as well as high 13'ers. The weather was perfect and warm. After some food, we descended back down the ascent route and made it back smoothly to the car by 12:30 AZ time.

Snowdon, along with its sister and brother peaks in the area, offers a super early season venue for those seeking to train their alpine legs and skills.

~ Erik Filsinger

# AMC 2013 Calendar

## 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

## 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





**We've got room!**



**We can even put our tents on the floor now!**







**SAVE  
THE DATE**

**SEPTEMBER 28-29**

**2013**

**DON'T MISS**

**AMC'S ANNUAL**

**GRAND**

**CANYON**

**CLEAN-UP, CLIMB**

**& CHILI COOK-OFF**