

JANUARY 2003

ARIZONA MOUNTAINEER



Bill and Tom's Excellent Adventure — a one-day ascent of El Cap in Yosemite Valley shown here at Texas Flake. This and other classic routes like the East Buttress of El Cap, Higher Cathedral Spire, Serenity Crack/Sons of Yesterday are topics of Tim Schneider's January Members Meeting Program at Los Olivos Center. Photo by Tim Schneider

THE ARIZONA MOUNTAINEERING CLUB

MEETINGS: The AMC normally meets the 4th Mon. each month (Nov. & Dec. meetings are usually the 3rd Mon.) at 7:00 pm at:

Los Olivos Senior Center
2802 E. Devonshire Ave.
Phoenix, Az.
(28th St. just north of Indian School Rd.)

BOARD MEETINGS: Board meetings are open to all members and are held two Mondays prior to the Club meeting at Los Olivos Center.

DUES: Dues cover January through December. A single membership is \$25.00 per year; \$30.00 for a family. Those joining after June 30 pay 50% of the yearly rates. 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

OTHER CORRESPONDENCE:

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

SCHOOLS: The AMC conducts several rock climbing, mountaineering and other outdoor skills schools each year. Contact the Training & Safety Committee for schedules and costs.

NEWSLETTER

Send stories and photos to Wally Vegors, 6151 N. 8th Ave., Phoenix, Az 85013 or e-mail <vegors@worldnet.att.net> Electronic photos should be 300 dpi in JPG.

(AMC0103)

BOARD OF DIRECTORS:

President	Erik Filsinger	480-314-1089
Vice-President	Bruce McHenry	602-952-1379
Secretary	John Keedy	623-412-1452
Treasurer	Tim Ward	602-212-1929
Director-1yr	Tom Conner	480-897-7623
Director-2yr	Mark Hubble	480-804-1822
Director-2yr	Scott Hoffman	623-580-8909
Director-1yr	Tim Schneider	480-497-8377
Director-1yr	Dave Larimer	480-425-9689

COMMITTEES:

Access	Jen Davies	480-473-3742
Classification	Scott Hoffman	623-580-8909
Conservation	Charlene Todd	480-917-5354
Elections	Don Thomas	480-892-9513
Equipment	James Iverson	602-395-1581
Equip Rental	Paul Norberg	602-808-9244
Email	Jeff Hatfield	480-783-8779
Librarian	Richard Kocher	480-966-5568
Membership	Rogil Schroeter	623-878-3914
Mntneering	Erik Filsinger	480-314-1089
Newsletter	Wally Vegors	602-246-9341
NL Distribution	Robert England	480-821-4243
Outings	Bruce McHenry	602-952-1379
Programs	Steven Tillery	602-224-9003
Trail Maint.	Jutta Ulrich	602-234-3579
Training	Wayne Schroeter	602-402-1631
Basic Class	Sally Larimer	480-425-9689
Anchors Class	Tom Conner	480-897-7623
Lead Class	Mick Strole	602-788-4031
T-shirts	Wendy Gaynor	602-547-2560
WebSite	Kirra	
.....	webadmin@azmountaineeringclub.org	

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Call (623) 878-2485
Email info@azmountaineeringclub.org
president@azmountaineeringclub.org
board@azmountaineeringclub.org
Web www.azmountaineeringclub.org

THE AMC ACCESS COMMITTEE: The Committee works by itself and with the national Access Fund to maintain public access to climbing areas. If you know of areas that are threatened with closures or climbing restrictions, please notify the Access Committee Chair, Jen Davies, 480-473-7342.

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 \$20 or more to: The Access Fund, P.O. Box 17010, Boulder, CO 80308, or giving it to the AMC Club Treasurer to be sent to The Access Fund in your name. A donation of \$20 or more is needed to receive Vertical Times, The Access Fund newsletter. One can also join electronically — <<http://www.accessfund.org/Join.html>>

THIS MONTH IN THE AMC

- 1 Index, Club Info.; Birthdays this month
- 2 Board Meeting Minutes; New Members; Elections in January
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- 4 Program: Yosemite Nose in one day
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AMC NEWSLETTER

The *Arizona Mountaineer* is published monthly by the AMC. Items for publication, subject to approval, should be sent to the editor at 6151 N. 8th Ave., Phoenix, 85013. Photos and other mountaineering photos are welcome (please submit prints). Climb write-ups ARE welcome. For info call the editor at 602-246-9341. Address e-mail to vegors@worldnet.att.net. Advertising in the *Arizona Mountaineer* is accepted, subject to approval, at the following rates:
Personal ads: free to members.
Business ads: \$5.00 for business card; \$10.00 for half page; \$20.00 for full page \$25.00 for inserts/mo

February Deadline: 17 January 2003

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

John Hewitt 2, Erik Beke 3, Marcela Niemczyk 4, Robert Reinhart 5, Bill Stinson 5, Cathy Wise 5, Lisa Barnes 6, Bill Fallon 6, Craig Parrish 7, John Carlisle 9, Jack Carlson 10, Donald Rubin 10, Emily Theobald 11, Tanya Sharp 13, Paul Sebesta 15, Eric Niemeyer 17, Rich Kocher 18, Mick Strole 18, Ken Akerman 19, Marilyn Grieser 19, Jacob Guzman 19, Kate Hansen 20, Dwight Hunley 20, Anders Flaaronning 21, Jason Lilly 21, Monica Miller 21, George Berger 23, Larry Mills 23, Vicki Kooney 26, Jeff Nielsen 27, David Self 28, Kirra Kurvink 29, Kevin Ryan 30, Jodie Ainlay 31

HOT STUFF!!!

**Remember how hot it was
In July and August?
So shut up about how cold you are as
you belay in a deep, sunless couloir.**

**You *can* climb on sun-warmed rock
in the Bradshaws and on Little
Granite Mountain this month.**

**Have you set your goals for 2003:
Up your skills .2 tick?
Climb *much* more often?**

AMC LIBRARY

You must be an AMC member; i. e., your name must be on the most current membership list.

The circulation period is 1 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.

MINUTES OF THE AMC BOARD MEETING: December 2, 2002

Board Members Present - Conner, Filsinger, Hoffman, Keedy, McHenry, Ward

Committee Members Present – Vegors

- I. A quorum being present, the meeting was called to order at 7PM.
- II. Minutes of the November 4 Board Meeting were approved as corrected. Correction is that McHenry was not present at that meeting.
- III. Treasurer's Report approved as submitted.
- IV. McHenry requested approval to purchase webbing and to repair the haul bag. Approved.
- V. President's Updates
 - A. The US Post Office postal box is closed. Mail is to be forwarded to the new mailbox for a year.
 - B. Motion made and seconded to discontinue verbal replies to inquiries on the AMC phone number. A recorded message will direct people to the Web site and to pick up a newsletter at the area climbing locations. Motion carried.
 - C. General Liability Insurance – McHenry will transition from Filsinger in attempting to find suitable coverage. We may be forced to get coverage with the cross insured exclusion or explore other options.
 - D. We have received our State Land Use permit for use on official AMC activities.
 - E. Training Committee – Motion made and seconded to appoint Wayne Schroeter to the position of Training Committee Chair. Motion carried.
 - F. 2003 Board nominations – Two or three positions remain without nominees. Filsinger will contact some people who have expressed interest.
 - G. The new Outing Signup sheet will soon be on the Web Site for download by Outing Leaders.
 - H. Filsinger will schedule an Outing Leaders Meeting for January 25, 2003.
- VI. Meeting adjourned at 8:55 PM

Rogil Advises: Avoid the rush during the elections at the January meeting – pay your dues early.

Elections for the Board in January

Renew your AMC membership and come out to vote at the January Member Meeting. Electing the Board of the AMC is one of the three chances for members to have a direct say in the governance of the Club, the other two being approval of the Budget and Amending the By-laws.

Our By-laws and State laws hold the Board as the responsible entity for running the organization and for setting its policies. All committees report to the Board, so it is your elected representatives that run the business of the AMC and it is important that you participate in choosing them.

If you want an absentee ballot, please contact our Elections Committee Chair, Don Thomas, at 480-892-9513. At the December Members meeting there is an opportunity for additional candidates to be nominated. Write-ins will be permitted on the January ballot.

The following are the list of nominated candidates to date:

President: Bruce McHenry
Vice President: Jutta Ulrich
Secretary: John Keedy
Treasurer: Tim Ward
Board Candidates (3 positions open): Kathy Granger, Jim Iverson, Richard Kocher, David Larimer, Richard Theobald, and Steve Helms-Tillery

Does your name belong on the list? Now's your chance.

NEW AMC MEMBERS

Paige Birdwell
Bill Broyles
Thomas Burmer
Scott Kirchhofer
Angie Sanich
Christian Sanich
Haley Smith

DISCOUNT DIRECTORY

The following merchants currently offer a discount to AMC members.

Arizona Hiking Shack - 11645 N. Cave Creek Rd., Phoenix, AZ 85020, 944-7723
Show your AMC membership card and get a 15% discount.

AMC RENTAL EQUIPMENT:

EQUIPMENT	Lb-Oz	Qty	Cost/Wk
Tents:			
4-season 2-3 man 7-6	1	1	10.00
4-season 2 man....	6-0	1	6.00
3-season 2 man....	5-0	3	5.00
4-season 1 man bivy.....	1-15	1	7.00
Sherpa Snowshoes	8		5.00
MSR Alpine snowshoes			15.00
Ski poles (var. sizes).....	4		0.50
Ice Crampons.....			15.00
Snow Crampons (sizes 6-14).....	10		2.00
In-step crampons.	1		2.00
Gaitors (Goretex)	2 pr		2.00
Ice axes (70-90 cm)	12		2.00
Snow shovel.....	1-10	2	5.00
Snow pickets;flukes	10 @		5.00
MSR Multifuel Stove.....	1		3.00
Yates Big Dudes .#6, #7			5.00
Haul bag	1		10.00
PortaLedge.....	1		50.00
Jumars.....	3		5.00
Climbing shoes.....	Various sizes		Call

EQUIPMENT RENTAL GUIDELINES: Your name must be on the most current membership list. Deposit required; varies by item; generally \$20-\$50. The two-personal-checks system works best. Advance reservation suggested. If not using the reserved equipment, please call and cancel. Call Linda Locke at 602-997-4235 for shoes. For everything else, call Paul Norberg at 602-808-9244 .

TREASURER'S REPORT

Statement of Operations

01/01/02 Thru 12/31/02

Category Description	Amount
INCOME	
Advertising.....	30.00
Equipment Rental (incl shoes).....	287.00
Interest.....	47.12
Membership Dues.....	8,107.50
Mountaineering Schools.....	1,200.00
Program Income	74.00
Tee Shirts & Etc.....	382.00
Training	18,600.00
From checking.....	1,000.00
Uncategorized99
TOTAL INCOME	29,728.61

EXPENSES

Access Committee.....	500.00
Administration	1,552.54
Bouldering Contest.....	300.00
Capital Exp	1,214.65
Classification.....	576.50
Equipment Maint	99.45
Insurance.....	956.01
Library	41.90
Merchandise Exp	644.40
Mountaineering.....	30.30
Newsletter.....	3,729.88
Outings	675.48
Programs	3,166.43
Service/Bank Charge	73.29
Training	7,858.48
Uncategorized	290.07
To savings.....	1,000.00
TOTAL EXPENSES	22,819.38

OVERALL FOR YEAR TO DATE.....6,909.23

ACCOUNT BALANCES (6/9/02)

CD Account.....	5,170.53
Savings	1,528.25
Checking	4,115.25
TOTAL ASSETS	\$10,813.89

Yosemite: The "Nose in a Day" and other Adventures

Tim Schneider.

Who says Yosemite is climbed out!?! That there is nothing left new to do there!?!?

Join us for a multimedia experience as Bill, Tom, Judy, Tim and Greg spend a week in the valley.

Various shots of Yosemite climbing history and Video from a one day ascent of
El Cap.



7:00 p.m., Los Olivos Center, 27 January 2003

PRESIDENT'S CORNER — Holiday Wishes

Perhaps not everyone felt the world change on September 11, 2001, but I think in immutable ways it did. Call it the loss of innocence. While I do not feel it appropriate to delve into the intricate issues and counter-positions that quite frankly can be used to justify a myriad of conflicting distal causes to current threats, I, for one, do feel a little threatened. And now we know that airliners could be brought down by a single handheld rocket launcher.

Is evil real and present? I feel that the historical climbing ethos is that people are inherently good, i. e., evil is not as human as it is corporate or societal. Maybe what 9/11 taught us is that evil is palatable and present. And now we must live with it.

But that is precisely the message of the Holidays. We must choose life, to be reborn in whatever rendition of good that is at the core of your beliefs. Good is not a given; it is a choice.

I wish for you the clarity to chose the good and to chose life. Experiencing that choice makes the Holidays all the richer. May goodness and light be yours always,
— Erik

The Bold, The Brave.....The Committee Chair for ... (gasp!) ... Outings

FYI - A new Outings Committee person is wanted!

The current Outings Committee Person (me!) is moving on and looking for a volunteer to take over the Outings function.

Your job is to help the Outing Leaders plan outings and activities for the club, and keep track of the activities calendar. The job takes about 2-3 hours a month, and can mostly be done by phone and e-mail. Occasionally offering pizza to the Outings Leaders is also a great way to schedule more outings.

The Outings Committee functions and procedures are documented in writing and I will help mentor the new person for a few months. If you are interested, contact Bruce McHenry to sign-up. Your fellow climbers will be eternally grateful to get lots of outings scheduled.

- Bruce McHenry



Dual threat people — Trash pickers in the morning; Pancake House climbers in the afternoon.

The AMC Makes a Big Difference

“Wow, if I had a before-and-after picture.” You heard that phrase a lot, if you were at the Queen Creek Clean-up and Climb event. Why? Because, after picking up 57 (that’s right 57!) bags of trash, AMCers were all feeling pretty good.

See we took our section of road, along with a particularly disgusting turnout – and turned it into something relatively trash-free. And it felt good to do a little bit of “community service” – to clean-up our world, just a bit.

And then after making a difference out on US 60 – well, we treated ourselves to the just rewards -- an afternoon of climbing the beautifully pocketed, sticky rhyolite down at the Pancake House.

Many thanks to all 34 trash picker-upper participants. And huge kudos go to Scott Hoffman for being the lead leader. Without an outing leader to volunteer to set up routes, this event would not be nearly as fun! Also many thanks go to Rogil & the other folks that helped to set up climbs.

I think everyone could tell by the quantity of big grins, challenging climbs, picked-up trash, and general good times – that the Queen Creek Clean-up was a resounding success. Thanks to everyone that participated! — Charlene Todd

Thanksgiving 2002 — Mill Creek—Icy Alpine Adventure

Kevin Ryan, Jutta Ulrich, Susan Morris and I took advantage of the Thanksgiving weekend to tune-up our ice leading skills. Accompanied by our spouses (or significant others) we all met Thursday night in Durango for dinner at the Ore House and were joined by Clay Patton, the owner of Southwest Adventures, and his wife. It was a Thanksgiving feast the way I like it - good friends, no cooking, and no clean up.

Friday morning we four ice climbers drove to Cascade Canyon, and given that the upper canyon looked thin and that we were there to practice leading we opted for the lower canyon bouldering area. If we were to give a name to the day that name would have to have the word "forgetting" in it. Kevin had forgotten his crampons; Susan had forgotten to match her boots to the crampons she brought (toe bail versus toe straps); and Jutta had forgotten her leashes. I can't complain - heck, last summer I forgot my gloves for the Monte Rosa climb.

In good resourcefulness, Kevin called his wife Hope, who promptly delivered the crampons from their hotel in Durango 30 miles away. Susan traded crampons with Jutta so that the boot-crampon system worked. And Jutta quickly built some leashes on the spot from tubular webbing she had. So we were off.

While for the decade prior to last year, the ice in Cascade Canyon has been in for a Thanksgiving adventure, this year it was in, but "thin." We spent the day enjoying the sunshine and practicing our climbing, pro placement, and leading sequence skills.

A dinner at Skinny's and reports from Ben and Hope on their daily activities were followed by a 6:30 a.m. departure for Silverton. Not knowing which roads were open, we had a priority list starting with South Mineral Creek's Campground Couloir if the USFS road was plowed. Our next priority was a climb I haven't done called Mill Creek, Chattanooga, which I found listed on page 189 in Cameron Burn's Colorado Ice Climber's Guide. It probably isn't that well known, as Clay hadn't even been in there. Our third choice was driving up to the reliable but well known Eureka classics like Second Gully, Stairway to Heaven, and many more, most of which we had done before.

While noting the thermometer reading 4 degrees as we drove into the coldest place on earth (aka Silverton, CO), we found a huge snowpile blocking access to South Mineral Creek. As Cameron describes, Mill Creek lies west of the large hairpin turn

about 7.5 miles up Red Mountain Pass as measured from the Silverton intersection on Highway 550. The area is riddled with serious avalanche slopes, so the road signs that prohibited parking or standing in certain areas dictated our parking. That meant we parked about a half-mile downhill from the distinctive highway turn and near the ghost town of Chattanooga.

Mill Creek is the stream forming the valley coming down from a high pass to the west of the road. Scenic peaks with rugged cliff bands formed the valley walls. The north-facing slope on the left was snow covered, but the south-facing slope on the right had more bare rock and grass showing through. Mill Creek is described as 1,000 feet of WI 3, but we couldn't see much ice except for possibly some in two deep clefts that were cut through respective cliff bands as the valley climbed up to the saddle.

In the brisk morning air we grabbed our snowshoes and hiked up the road. At the apex of the highway turn we donned our snowshoes and plunged up the valley. Weaving through a willowed meadow, Kevin broke trail (acclimatized as he is from living now in Flagstaff) with Jutta and Susan hot on his heels. A tremendously serious (i.e., real scary if loaded) 1,000 foot high avalanche slope was on our left as we entered the stream valley bottom - not a place to be in avalanche conditions. Fortunately our early season jaunt was paying off as the snowpack wasn't that deep.

We hiked in our snowshoes over several steeper stretches of the creek bottom. All in all we didn't see 1,000 feet of ice, and it may be that the deep snow was covering some stretches of sometimes climbable ice.

After about 45 minutes from the car (a hike that I would say is a little shorter than from Eureka up to Second Gully) we came to the first of the narrower clefts where the stream dropped through a cliff band. There were a couple of ice routes possible here. In point of fact it would have been possible to climb the bottom of the steepening gully on snow all the way to the top, but we were here to ice climb, so we eyed the slabby section immediately right of the gully bottom. Here the main bottom of the stream appeared to be cascading down, forming an ice slab about 50 feet across and probably 30 to 40 meters high.

(Continued on page 10)



Arizona Hiking Shack
11649 N. Cave Creek Rd.
Phoenix, AZ 85020
Phone: (602) 944-7723
www.hikingshack.com

We're located 1/8 mile south of Cactus
on Cave Creek Rd.

Three great reasons to shop at the Arizona Hiking Shack for all your climbing gear

1. The Arizona Hiking Shack has **IN STOCK** the largest selection of climbing gear in the Valley. Petzl, Metolius, Black Diamond, Misty Mountain, Omega, DMM, 5-10, Scarpa, La Sportiva, Yates, PMI, Sterling, 2-Cam, Climb Tech, Kong, Trango, Camp, Mammut, Boreal, Pica Mountaineering, and Trango are just a few of the brands we carry. If we don't have what you need in stock. . . we'll order it for you. . . with **FREE** shipping!

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

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

Joshua Tree Awards 2002 ... By Sheri

Smallest number of AMC'ers at J-Tree: 30.
Largest number of AMC'ers not at J-Tree: 35--
Afraid of a little rain, people?? **Best Surprise:**
Mick Strole and Sherrie Holbrook walking into
camp on Thanksgiving. **Biggest Surprise:** That
David Larimer only told one person that they were
coming. **Best Chef:** Clay Vollmer. Thanks for a
super job. Great outing blondies and fudge, too.
Best outing of the three days: David's at Short
Wall because it was the only day that there was no
rain and the sun shone on us from blue skies.
Fastest Outing: Jeff Hatfield's. Rain came down
fast and hard after about 2-3 hours. **Wettest Out-
ing:** See previous answer. **Longest recent drought
at J-Tree:** 6 months and that ended our second day.
Lots of happy plants and animals. **Surprise Out-
ing:** Rogil Shroeter's Trash Can Wall outing was
dropped due to morning rain and then replaced with
Pixie Rock in Indian Cove. Rain held off until
3:30, though it was raining in the park. **Biggest dis-
appointment:** Not getting to climb in the park at all
this year. **Biggest Joy:** Getting to climb for three
days in a row! **Most climbs done at an outing:** 12
(fingers say "Ouch!"). **Most common answer
given when a climber asked for beta:** "Go up."
Biggest shock of AMC'ers becoming hotel guests:
Chris Query and Gumbo. Something about there
being cable at the hotel. **Noisiest hotel to stay at:**
Motel 6. **Best deal on Rock Empire Cams:** 8
(count them) cams for \$200 at Coyote Corner.
(That's \$25 each for the division-challenged.) **Most
difficult guide to find:** Rock Climbing Joshua Tree
by Randy Vogel which is out of print. A surprise
few have been discovered at the J-Tree Visitor Cen-
ter in Oasis. **Best campfire game:** 20 questions the
last night with the last dozen campers. **Worst an-
swer:** Carl's RV **Early bird riser award:** Rogil
Schroeter (I only base this on past experience--see
next award) **Last out of the campground every-
day:** Kathi Reichert and Sheri Kenly. **Best and
Worst movie of the weekend:** Die Another Day
See it, if only for the 'realistic' surfing that 007 does
on a glacial tidal wave. Also, I can't believe NPR
hasn't done an expose on the Conflict Diamonds. (I
am not ruining the plot with these bits of info.)
Most Optimistic AMC'ers: Rogil, Tim, Richard,
Jeff, Karen, Diana, Kathi, Sheri, Carl, Sophie,
James, and Jason. This group remained despite
weather that didn't look promising and were re-
warded with great climbing and company. **Best
Tradition Upheld** Rocky's Pizza on Saturday
night. **Toughest climb:** The 3 star, Silent But
Deadly, 11b at Pixie Rock that most of us who at-

tempted or climbed it used the common climber help
phrase: "UP ROPE!" for every inch they gained before
weighting the rope again. **Most THANKS:** Go to all
who were there. Many people helped make Thanksgiv-
ing and its weekend a fun and memorable event. Thanks
to the planners, leaders, helpers and participants. I can't
wait for next year!

--Sheri Kenly

11/2002 AARS

Students:

Kevin Abney
Andrew Bates
Bill Broyles
Bill Campbell
Alan Carter
Tessa Cone
Steve Dilley
Dylan Downhill
Kris Edinger
Dan Frank
Scott Frankel
Tiina Hanni
Jeff Hewitt
Eve Hoffman
Nick Hoffman
Jennifer Iben
John Kynnyk
Richard Landry
Mara Linder
Monica Miller
Braden Niemczyk
Peter Niemczyk
Scott Parsons
Douglas Popadince
Larry Reinmuth
Christian Sanich
Elizabeth Serraglio
Michael Simonson
Karen Stafford
Ken Steven
Shawn Swenson
Brian Waichunas
Tanja Woyke

Instructors:

Nancy Birdwell
Michael Boylan
Debby Brown
Tom Conner
Philip Goebel
Daniel Gonzales
Kathleen Granger
Karol Harvey
Jeff Hatfield
Scott Hoffman
Ron Jachimowicz
John Keedy
Sheri Kenly
Mike Knarzer
Rich Kocher
Tim Lange
David Larimer
Sally Larimer
Anthony Mavis
Bruce McHenry
Terry Nelson
Stephen Pettitt
Chris Query
Lynn Readicker
Bruce Robbins
Daniel Romero
Lance Roth
Glen Schroering
Rogil Schroeter
Wayne Schroeter
Richard Theobald
Charlene Todd
Jutta Ulrich
Clay Vollmer
Tim Ward
Gary Youngblood

J—Tree ...by Jason

Joshua tree was a curious mix of wind and rain, low fog, excellent climbs, James Bond, hippie showers, Turkey dinner and thai food. I arrived late on Thanksgiving day From Bishop, Ca. to find Clay and his magnificent Turkey ensemble in full swing . He is AMC's own Emiril Lagasse. We all sat around the fire and gorged ourselves on Turkey and stuffing and pecan pie. Next morning we dragged our bloated bodies to Feudal Wall and climbed until early afternoon when it started to rain. We took everything down and headed into Joshua Tree town to the little hippie shop where I perused their new collection of nude climbing posters (yes, it's true) and others waited for showers. The line was long, but soon were clean and ready to cruise into Yucca Valley to watch the latest 007 movie called "Die Another Day." The only thing good about the film was seeing Hallie Berry in a string bikini and the commercial preview that featured a naked man dancing with a box around his waist which the ladies with us all enjoyed. I am now practicing at home with a box.

Later, Rogil and her crew led us over to Siam Cafe for Thai food. Thai food rhymes with typhoon, which is the way this stuff goes through you! I continued my usual pattern of committing heinous atrocities in public places by tipping over one of the tables and spilling everyone's water which ran over to the next table and down the front

of everyone's pants. Napkins were useless, so I ran to the men's room and tore the paper towel holder from the wall and dumped it in the middle of the restaurant. Nervous diners huddled close and held onto their children as we unravelled the entire roll and sopped up the mess. Excited chattering came from the kitchen and soon two cooks ran out with towels to help us. Later, when I tried to get the attention of the waitress, she gave me the evil eye and refused to come over. We were Lucky to get the fortune cookies.

Rain pelted my tent in the predawn grayness of a soggy Saturday morning as thunderclouds lurked above the high mountain ridges and thick white fog slithered down the canyons. It looked as though we were through with Joshua Tree, but then the sun emerged and we took a chance and set up climbs nearby. Blue sky prevailed all day as storm after storm passed us to the west. We climbed all day on routes like Silent Scream until the clouds closed in at three and rain began to fall. Some AMC members left for home the, other stayed to climb on Sunday. Sometimes it pays just to stick it out. Aloha.

- Jason Laird

FOUND

Two hexes. Likely from the last lead school. Must identify to claim. Contact Tim at 480.598.9124

FREE Estimates

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Thanksgiving on Ice — from page 6

As we got closer we could see the stream flowing under a thin layer of ice. Both Kevin and Susan have had experiences breaking through an ice climb into the gushing water beneath (on Whorehouse Hose a couple of years ago) so they weren't that enthusiastic about the first direct line. We moved uphill to try to catch something nearer the left edge of the climb. Here is perfectly transparent bubble of ice about 6 feet high and 4 feet across looked like a Disney-esque window on a winter stream.

There was a band of pretty good looking blue ice that led from just left of the transparent bubble up the cliff, so I figured that looked pretty good to me. After setting an anchor and donning my BD Zodiac Gear Sling with my screws, draws and rock gear, I approached the bottom of the climb. Luckily for me I have the ancient habit of probing with my ice ax as I near a crevasse or other suspicious territory. As I hit within two feet of the ice cliff a snowbridge broke through and I was looking down into the bowels of a moat some twenty feet deep formed between the accumulated snowpack and the stream covered rock wall. It disappeared under the snow to who knows where. A fall into those murky depths would not be a pleasant ride!

I leaned across and placed a 22 cm BD express screw in the solid ice just left of the moat and launched across, suggesting that we leave that screw in place for Jutta on her lead. Above the moat the climb was actually fairly uneventful, consisting of pretty poor quality aerated ice and frozen snow covered by a layer of ice that of course shattered off when met by an ice tool. The main event of course was climbing above that moat - it kept you on your toes.

After bringing Susan up she and I continued a new round of wallowing in deep snow toward the next deep cleft in a cliff band. We were by then constantly on guard about the stream noises underfoot, and when we entered a narrow cleft about 8 feet wide with 100 foot cliffs on each side, quite frankly the lack of visible climbable ice and the stream sounds lead us to retreat to wait for Jutta and Kevin.

Jutta had quickly dispatched the previous pitch and they quickly joined us, soon agreeing that we probably had already done the climbable ice that was present that day.

After descending back down the steep gully past our first pitch we took a more careful look at the 30-meter high flow in a secondary gully to the climber's

right of the original flow we climbed. Susan, Jutta and I walked over to it while Kevin who was not feeling chipper by then went down to his packs 100 meters below. I was roping up to take a go at it when I realized that it made sense for Jutta to have a crack at it. She is really strong and has been building a great resume of ice climbs, so this one had her name all over it.

With Jutta tying into the middle of my 60-meter rope, Susan and I tied into the respective ends. Susan belayed Jutta on the two ropes while I recorded the ascent with our cameras.

The climb appeared challenging and really was. It was about 6 to 8 feet wide, 30 meters high, with rock cliffs on each side. It had two sections of 80-degree ice, with the rest being about 70 degrees. I guess I would rate it WI 4.

Jutta did an absolutely fantastic job placing pro, stemming here, moving diagonally there, using the bluest ice for screws, etceteras. The climb was interesting because it required a number of different moves to accommodate the slightly snaky contours of the route. Both Susan and I yelled words of encouragement and congratulations as she moved up each section. She climbed very confidently, at least until the top, where a snow cornice and the end of the ice forced her left into some loose rock and into dead branches of a dwarf pine tree. She later said that it was unsettling coming off the near vertical ice onto the insubstantial ground of loose rocks, mud, and jumbled branches. In fact she was so focussed that she didn't hear our calls of "20 feet left," "10 feet left," "5 feet left," "no rope left" etc. as she disappeared from sight up and over the cliff. I knew she was only a couple of feet from a tree to anchor herself, so I quickly clipped into the belay and moved up over the lower easier ground for a few feet toward the first ice screw to allow her the needed rope length (You know, how Peter Habelarmoved his belay for Reinhold Messner in the Exit Cracks on their speed ascent of the Eigerwand).

Jutta first brought Susan up and then I climbed. I was really impressed that Jutta had led the thing in the style she did. On top rope it was very enjoyable, but I thought to myself that to be honest I would have puckered a little on lead. Definitely this pitch was a better climb than the first one we had done. We moved ourselves over to a tree nearer the edge above the right side of the climb where the fall line for the rappel placed us almost right back at our packs a few feet short of the 30-meter tails.

—(Continued on page 11)

Thanksgiving on Ice — from page 10

Being the obvious heaviest one in the party, I rappelled first with a back-up in place. It was a fantastic rappel straight down the fall-line of the climb. For future reference I noted that it could have taken some rock pro on the right wall of the gully. Jutta came next with Susan removing the back-up and coming last.

Kevin was feeling better by then and when we reached him he was ready to go. In fact Kevin and Susan pretty soon disappeared from sight and retrieved the car so that shortly after Jutta and I hit the hairpin turn we were able to jump in and head back.

After a pretty good Japanese dinner Saturday night, the various couples split to their respective agenda for the drive back. As is our practice, Susan and I headed back up hill for some strenuous exercise snowshoeing the last morning before the drive back. A storm had hit Saturday night and the roads were ice covered, so our drive to Coal Bank Hill Pass was slowish.

We did our normal two-hour hike up to near timberline on Engineer Mountain and back to the car. The drive home was, well,... familiar.

Discussion of Climb: Mill Creek, Chattanooga. WI 3 to 4. In what should have been a pretty good early season effort we found only scattered ice. We liked the adventure climbing aspect of snowshoeing over untrodden ground to someplace we hadn't been before and where we had to figure everything out for ourselves. There was plenty of exercise (a necessity for a good day), beautiful scenery, and at least one good climb.

Folks from a sport climbing background more oriented to the length of the ice and the quality of the climbing per se in known environments might look elsewhere, but, heck, if you don't try it out, how do you ever know?

— Erik Filsinger

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LEAD CLIMBING SCHOOL

ARIZONA MOUNTAINEERING CLUB

PURPOSE

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. There will be no "true" lead climbs during the class. 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, the differences between bolted routes and natural pro, and we will provide actual leading exercises.

DATES, TIMES AND PLACES FOR THE LEAD SCHOOL ARE:

Feb 25 Tuesday 6:30 pm - 9:30 pm Dreamy Draw Park
Feb 26 Wednesday 6:30 pm - 9:30 pm Dreamy Draw Park
Feb 27 Thursday 6:30 pm - 9:30 pm Dreamy Draw Park
Mar 1 Saturday 9:00 am - 5:00 pm Prescott (directions will be in syllabus)
Mar 2 Sunday 9:00 am - 5:00 pm Prescott (directions will be in syllabus)

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

ITEMS YOU NEED FOR THE CLASS:

- 1) \$75 plus membership (\$25 single, \$30 family), if not already a member. Register by sending a check payable to AMC Lead School to 6519 W. Aire Libre, Glendale, AZ, 85306. No credit cards accepted. (Please note: the registration fee is fully refundable if you cancel.) Call Rogil Schroeter at 623-878-3914 for more information. The number of students will be limited to 30.
- 2) All climbing gear (harness, prusiks, biners, etc.)

The following will not be needed the first night, if you want to wait to talk with us before making purchases

- 3) Helmet - mandatory
- 4) Specifically needed:
 - * 2 20' (untied length) slings, preferably different colors
 - * 2 10' (untied length) slings, preferably different colors
 - * Nut pick
 - * Quickdraws w/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
- 5) Hiking boots or shoes with stiff soles for Saturday, climbing shoes for Sunday
- 6) Optional: kneepads for Saturday (\$3-6 at Home Depot, \$5 volleyball pads at sporting goods stores)

ITINERARY

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 Prescott: practice natural pro placement (Sullivan Canyon)
Sun Prescott: practice leading on bolts (Watson Lake)

Rogil Schroeter
work: (602) 436-7309
mailto:Rogil.Schroeter@honeywell.com

A TEST OF CHARACTER

True — Arizona's state agencies are strapped for cash and have cut budgets to the point that their people are stretched thinner than ever .

True — AMC's group State Land Permit covers only organized club events, as schools, listed outings, etc. , that take place on state lands.

True — You might get away with a wildcat jaunt to climb, say, Little Granite without an individual (\$15) permit. Or you might not.

Also True — Some other jurisdictions can cite you for no permit. All can hassle you and spoil your day.

What is the meet and proper thing to do?

State Land 602-542-2616 www.land.stste.az.us

JOIN THE FUN — COME EARLY AND FOLD

One of the least glorious volunteer jobs in AMC is that of Newsletter Distributor. Unless a good crew pitches in to fold, staple and address the meeting night's crop of newsletters, he or she is in for up to 6 to 10 hours of mind-numbing work.

Now that's not to say that mind numbing work is not beneficial and necessary.. It is what has made this country great. Lord knows we all do enough of it. But, except for hoeing weeds or cleaning up after kids, we do get certain satisfactions from it. Still, folding newsletters is dull, dull, dull unless the table is surrounded with friends or, at least, co-members who may become your friends.

Despite e-mail subscriptions, we generally have about 300 newsletters that have to go the USPS route. We try to have them at Los Olivos soon after six. If it is convenient, stop by a bit early and help fold and staple or "wafer" or whatever you call it to make them stay closed. Incidentally, the hand work saves a batch of money for AMC..

We also need people to carry a dozen completed copies to stores and gyms around the valley. If it is not out of your way, check to see if a bundle needs to go to a store out your way as you leave.

— Ed

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Arizona Climbing Websites

As if there weren't enough things on the internet to waste your time, you might care to check out these Arizona climbing websites.

Arizona Bouldering ~ www.arizonaclimbing.com

Despite the name of the site, not all of it is about bouldering. There's a climber's forum, where people list new routes, first ascents, or look for climbing partners. There's a Topo section, listing routes and approach information for obscure areas many people have never even heard of. There's the obligatory Gallery of photos, which (unfortunately) contains only bouldering shots. And if you do some digging you'll come across such local tidbits as a new 5.11 route on Camelback Mountain and a potential bouldering area in South Mountain Park.

Also, check out the video of a climb at the Fortress on Mt. Lemmon. (I found that I had to access this from the main page, not from the Video page. Use the down arrow to scroll to the Oct. 10 update, then click on the link). In particular, watch the guys clowning around and taking *huge* pendulums after launching off from the start of the overhanging route.

Climb Arizona ~ www.climbaz.com

This site is devoted to climbing in Southern Arizona. In addition to interviews and recent news items, there are trip reports, pitch-by-pitch route beta, and photos from Babo, Cochise, and Mt. Lemmon. Also of note: the Hall of Horrors, showcasing the dark side of our sport. The route descriptions of the Lemmon climbs include an interesting feature: a chart showing the heights of (and runouts between) all of the bolts on the particular route. Many of the routes include photos showing such things as belay stances and rappel stations, and at least one of the Cochise multi-pitch routes shows photos of each pitch as viewed from the top and bottom of that pitch. Depending on the routes you want to climb, this site could be very useful.

Tucson Climber's Association ~ <http://tucsonclimbers.org>

The TCA is a climber's advocacy group that started up last year and is devoted to "stewardship, conservation and access" in Southern Arizona. This site is similar in content to the above site, but is easier to navigate and appears to be updated more frequently. There are basic descriptions of several

climbing areas given, but there are only a few route descriptions listed. The ones that are there appear to be fairly detailed, though.

Arizona's Vertical Web ~ <http://www.arizonas-vertical-web.com>

This site contains a listing of most of the summits within the Grand Canyon, and includes a photo of each one. (Click on the "Grand Canyon" link on the right side of the first page, or you'll never find it). The site itself contains very little information regarding the summits, but you can order a great guidebook by Pernell Tomasi that will give you the information you're looking for: "Grand Canyon Summits Select: An Obscure Compilation of Sixty-Nine Remote Ascent Routes in the Grand Canyon National Park Backcountry". Note that this book had a limited printing, and may in fact be sold out.

AdventureSmith, Inc. ~ <http://www.adventure-smith.com>

This mostly is a place to find ordering information on a great Prescott guidebook called, ironically enough, "A Climber's Guide to Prescott, AZ". It was written by Mike Smith, the same guy who runs AdventureSmith and its website. This is a great guidebook for Thumb Butte, Sullivan Canyon, and the somewhat obscure areas of Granite Basin and Skull Valley. The site also has a Prescott Climber's Bulletin for posting information, but no one uses it. (Note: I sent a message to the author to make sure he's still selling the book online. I never received a response. You might have better luck picking up a copy locally).

- — *Jeff Hatfield*

MISSED THE CALENDAR / OUTING LIST:

An "Alpine Seminar" on winter camping will be held on February 11th at the Paradise Valley REI store about 6:30 pm and will be repeated the next evening at the Tempe store. Unlike past sessions, these will be open to the public as well as to AMC members.

So chat up people you don't recognize. They may be your prospective climbing partners.

Wednesdays **North Mountain Hikes** after work. Rogil Schroeter 623-878-3914 or
rogil.schroeter@honeywell.com.

Commercially Provided Training and Events

The events listed below are provided by commercial outfitters for the benefit of AMC members. They are not AMC Outings, nor are they led by AM Outing Leaders, though they may be open only to AMC members. The commercial outfitter is solely responsible for all aspects of the outing, not AMC. While, in most cases, an AMC member may provide a service by AM collecting the names of prospective participants and handling the logistics of out-of-town events, participants will sign up directly with the commercial outfitter.

Dec 28-29 — **Multi-Pitch Ice Climbing** \$260 for two days or #210 for second day alone. The first day consists of skills refresher and the second is following a guided ascent of a multi-pitch ice classic. Held in Durango, Colo. Also March 29-30.

Dec 30-31 — **Lead Ice Climbing Skills** \$235 for the two days. The first day consists of learning the techniques of leading ice. The second day consists of putting those skills into place under supervision. Held in Durango, Colo.

Jan 11 evening, 12, 13 — **Avalanche Certification Course. Level I** \$200. Equivalent to other Level I Avalanche Certification courses held around the country. Held in Durango, Colo.

Jan 18-20 — **Beginning Ice Climbing** and optional Avalanche Awareness: \$200 (\$60 for avalanche awareness alone). This course gives the basic orientation to ice climbing using crampons and ice tools. Students climb on lower angle ice the first day and then progress as skills permit to near vertical ice on day 2. The third day consists of a day in the field learning basic avalanche awareness issues. Held in Durango, Colo. Also Feb 15-17.

Mar 1-2 — **Ouray Ice Climbing Improvement Seminar** \$250 for two days. For non-beginners who want to improve their ice climbing technique under the supervision of a professional instructor. Ouray, Colo.

Weekends — **3-day Winter Mountaineering Course** \$355 per person (Min. 2 or more). One day Avalanches, one Snow skills and Engineer Mt ascent 3rd day. These are full days in addition to travel to and from Durango.

For any of the above, contact Erik Filsinger at 480-314-1089 or Smorefil@aol.com.

A TEST OF CHARACTER

True — Arizona's state agencies are strapped for cash and have cut budgets to the point that their people are stretched thinner than ever.

True — AMC's group State Land Permit covers only organized club events, as schools, listed outings, etc., that take place on state lands.

True — You might get away with a wildcat jaunt to climb, say, Little Granite without an individual (\$15) permit. Or you might not.

Also True — Other jurisdictions can cite you for no permit.

What is the meet and proper thing to do?

State Land 602-542-2616 www.land.stste.az.us

AMC CALENDAR OF EVENTS

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.

WHEN & WHERE & WHAT & WHO

- Dec 20 **AMC Christmas Party.** Sally and Dave Larimer. Potluck - bring your favorite holiday dish. Great food and fun. "Secret Santa" is always a hoot - so bring a gift (\$15 or less) to exchange.
- Dec 28 2002--Jan 04, 2003 **Colorado, Ouray Ice Park.** Awesome Ice Climbing! Richard Horst. 602-953-9198.
- Jan 11 **Crown King** - Fabulous granite in the Bradshaw's. Limit 12. Awesome Sport Climbs, in the 5.9 range. Scott Hoffman
- Jan 11 **Little Granite Mountain,** probably Bobcat Boulder/The Loaf. Limit 15, need/want anchor setters, no dogs (seeing eye excepted). Tim Ward upsix@hotmail.com
- Feb 8 **Strenuous 11-mile hike** along the Superstition ridgeline. Fit, experienced hikers only. Contact Rogil 623-878-3914 or rogil.schroeter@honeywell.com.

To request outings: call outings chairperson Bruce McHenry 602-952-1379. To cancel after saying you will participate in a climb, call the outing leader as soon as possible; there may be a waiting list. Also, the leader will know not to wait for you on outing day.

* A group outing: Where possible a campsite is reserved by AMC. There is no designated leader although there may be a leader to work with non-leaders (call to find out) Call to find car-poolers. Parking may be limited or only for equipment vehicles.

BILLBOARD — Other Scheduled Events

Outings listed in this section are not AMC sanctioned outings. Any AMC member can list an event he or she is planning and which is open to other AMC members. The member does not have to be an approved AMC Outing Leader. If you wish to participate you should be physically and mentally prepared with the appropriate gear and should contact the member planning the outing. You are responsible for your own safety, not the person leading the outing. You should always be aware of the risks involved in outdoor activities and conduct yourself accordingly.

(Continued on page 15)

AMC OUTING LEADERS

Requirements for becoming a leader: take the basic, AARS 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 Scott

Sally Borg Larimer...480-425-9689	Tim Medlock.....719-494-1171	Jef Sloat.....602-316-1899
Tom Conner.....480-897-7623	Paul Norberg.....602-808-9244	Bill Stinson.....602-547-2560
Eric Filsinger.....602-906-1186	Paul Paonessa.....602-493-7356	Mick Strole.....602-788-4031
Jeff Hatfield.....480-783-8779	Chris Query.....480-967-9268	Rick Taylor.....623-487-8507
Scott Hoffman.....623-580-8909	Tim Schneider.....480-497-8377	Tim Ward.....602-212-1929
Richard Horst.....602-953-9198	Rogil Schroeter.....623-878-3914	Frank Vers.....480-947-9435
David Larimer.....480-425-9689	Wayne Schroeter.....602-402-1631	

January 2003

AMC Outing Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 <i>Sunrise 7:33</i> <i>Sunset 5:32</i> <i>Moonrise</i> <i>6:31am</i> Ouray Ice	2 <i>New Moon</i> Ouray Ice	3 Ouray Ice	4 Ouray Ice
5	6	7	8 <i>Sunrise 7:34</i> <i>Sunset 5:37</i> <i>Moonset 11:32</i> <i>pm</i>	9	10 <i>1st Quarter</i>	11 Bradshaws and Little Granite Climbs
12	13 Board Meeting	14	15 <i>Sunrise 7:33</i> <i>Sunset 5:44</i> <i>Moonrise 3:15</i> <i>pm</i>	16	17	18 <i>Full Moon</i>
19	20	21	22 <i>Sunrise 7:31</i> <i>Sunset 5:50</i> <i>Moonrise</i> <i>10:40 pm</i>	23	24	25 <i>Last Quarter</i>
26	27 Members Meeting — Yosemite Show	28	29 <i>Sunrise 7:27</i> <i>Sunset 5:57</i> <i>Moonrise 5:22</i> <i>am</i>	30	31	<i>New Moon</i>