

|Nside

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The Access Fund is a national, nonprofit organization dedicated to keeping climbing areas open & conserving the climbing environment. Since its incorporation in 1990, the Access Fund has provided more than \$1 million for climbing conservation and education across the US. We've paid for land purchases, climbers' campgrounds, educational brochures, toilets, signs, and scientific research on climbers' impact on birds of prey and cliffdwelling plants. For more information, please contact us:

www.accessfund.org phone: 303-545-6772 address: P.O. Box 17010 Boulder, CO 80308

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This issue date: October 1, 2002. Volume #49. Price: \$30/year. Editorial Director: John Heisel

Editorial Director: John Heisel Editors: Kate Cavicchio and Steve Matous

Cover: A climber traverses the West Butress of Denali where the Access Fund is working to ease climber impacts through the Clean Mountain Can Project. Is the AF doing enough in alpine environments?

Photo courtesy of Kelly Cordes

Letter from Steve Matous

Access and Conservation in the Mountain Environment

Climbing, like access issues, comes in many forms. When we go bouldering or rock climbing, the crags are often nearby — an easy stroll from the car. However, our aspirations often involve the challenges of climbing in alpine environments that are further a field.

Climbing in the mountains also has its access issues often due to the increased numbers of ice and alpine climbers. Traditionally the Access Fund has focused on issues related to rock climbing, but recently we have been working with federal land managers to ensure that mountaineering restrictions are reasonable and fairly applied.

In Denali National Park (DNP), we awarded a \$5,480 grant for positioning 200 "Clean Mountain Cans" on popular routes at 14,000 feet. The project combats waste disposal problems at high altitude and could eliminate the need for high altitude toilets. Also in DNP, we have opposed new fees, insurance requirements, and rescue recovery costs which discriminate against climbers. We do not oppose these fees when they are appropriate, reasonable, and levied to all users of the park.

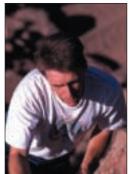
We continue to lobby in Washington, DC seeking to remedy unfair aspects of the Northwest Pass that would discriminate against climbers. This pass would impose new fees and charge low impact users like climbers more than motorized users simply because climbers can be easily charged when they obtain a climbing permit.

What mountaineering concerns do you have? Email your thoughts to us at jason@access-

fund.org with "alpine editorial" as the subject.

Best Regards,

Stre Matous
Executive Director



Virginia Park Se tor issu

Peregrine Monitoring at The New River Gorge

In October Access Fund Policy Director Jason Keith traveled to the New River Gorge (NRG) in West

Virginia to meet with the National Park Service (NPS) and discuss raptor issues. Over the last several months, the Access Fund has been negotiating with the NPS regarding their proposed closure of the

Endless Wall to provide speculative habitat for migrant peregrine falcons. Because there has never been a peregrine nest sited at The New and past attempts to introduce peregrines into the area have failed — the Access Fund urged the NPS to implement a monitoring program in lieu of a closure to determine whether peregrines are even present at The New. In October Jason Keith and AF board member Gene Kistler met with several NPS staff members at the NRG to identify cooperative ways the Access Fund can help the Park implement its monitoring plan. Access Fund assistance may include helping with educational signage and spreading the word among the climbing community as to the goals and scope of the monitoring program. The NRG should have a draft of its upcoming climbing management plan ready for public review in the next few months. For more information, email jason@accessfund.org.

Idaho's Castle Rock Ranch Still in Limbo

The Access Fund has been in contact with Idaho state park officials who will be in charge of managing the fantastic Castle Rock Ranch near the City of Rocks. "Castles" is now tentatively slated to open (at the earliest) next spring because the National Park Service has not yet completed the requisite environmental assessments. The steps remaining before Castles can be opened to the public are as follows: the NPS must write the environmental assessment (EA) for the transfer of the property from the

NPS to the Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation (IDPR). The NPS then does an "inhouse" review of the EA and releases it to the public for comment (hopefully sometime this November). After the public comment period, the real estate transfer process begins. After transfer, City of Rocks Superintendent Wallace Keck (who will also manage Castles) will submit an interim operation plan for approval by the IDPR. Under this interim plan, it is likely that public use of Castle Rock Ranch will include dispersed day-use including hiking, climbing, and sightseeing. Later, IDPR will partner on a General Management Plan (complete with a climbing management component) with the USFS and BLM who own the property on the backside of Castles property. During this process, trails and minor visitor facilities will be developed. As you may remember, the Access Fund provided critical "bridge" funding for the acquisition of Castles in 1999, and Congress authorized the fed-to-state transfer of the property two years ago. In October Access Fund Policy Director Jason Keith met with US Senators Craig (R-ID) and Thomas (R-WY, Ranking Minority Member on the Senate Subcommittee on National Parks) to lobby for speeding up the requisite environmental assessment. Once complete, IDPR can devise a management plan for Castles and open it to climbing. For the latest, email jason@accessfund.org.

Lake Willoughby Update

The Vermont Department of Forests Parks and Recreation (FPR) have announced the release of the Draft Management Plan for Willoughby State Forest. This includes management of the Willoughby cliffs for both rock and ice climbing. Ice climbing access to Mt. Pisgah and Mt. Hor will continue, as will rock climbing on Mt. Wheeler. FPR's long-term goal is to develop a climbing management plan for the cliffs. For more information, visit the Climbing Resource Access Group of Vermont (CRAG-VT) at www.cragvt.org. This site includes a link to the Management Plan.



Access Fund Policy Director Jason Keith and AF Board Member Gene Kistler meet with NPS officials at the New River Gorge to discuss alternatives to closing the Endless Wall.

Enchanted Tower,



Pletta, AF Regional Coordinator)

The road that accesses the Enchanted Tower crosses private land through the Cleaveland Ranch. The landowners have installed a locked gate on this road and are denying access to hunters due to problems in the past. Currently,

they are allowing climbers access and have provided the combination for the gate to NM CRAG, the local climber's organization. The ranchers recently complained that people are still driving too fast on the road and arriving late at night. Excessive speeds on the dirt road lead to washboarding and increased maintenance costs for the ranch. Further, headlights late at night disturb the ranchers, and there is a possibility climbers might be locked out unless they abide by the rules below. Please do share this information with fellow climbers.

- Access to the Enchanted Tower from the east is generously provided by the Cleaveland Ranch and can be revoked at any time.
- The landowners have requested that visitors refrain from driving past the ranch after dark.
- If you arrive after dark, please camp at Datil Well Campground approximately 2 miles east on Hwy 60 and drive into the canyon the following morning.
- Drive slowly 15 mph max through the ranch.
- For additional information on access to this area, contact Bryan Pletta, 505-341-2016, stoneagegym@earthlink.net

Development Threatens Red Rocks Viewshed

On October 1, The Las Vegas Sun reported that developers have scrapped — at least for now — the controversial project on the east side of Red Rocks National Conservation Area outside of Las Vegas, Nevada. County staff recently evaluated the proposal, and recommended denving the land use approval due to environmental concerns and the stress the project would cause the municipal services. Many locals and government officials opposed this proposal.

The proposed housing development would have changed the view from many of Red Rock's classics such as Frogman, Chrimson Chrysalis, and Solar Slab are safe from urbanized Las Vegas subdivisions.

The Access Fund will stay apprised of any new developments — to keep up on this issue stay tuned to our Virtual Times E-News or visit www.redrock.org.

NORTHEAST

Lower West Bolton Land Donation, VT

(Report submitted by CRAG-VT)



CRAG-VT is currently in the process of receiving a donation of approximately 10 acres at the popular cliff known as Lower West Bolton. This donation will ensure that this important resource to the Vermont climbing community, will remain open for all to use in the future, and will allow CRAG-VT to continue working with landowners at other local areas to secure legal access for climbers. In order to complete the transaction of the Lower West Bolton property, CRAG-VT needs to have the 10-acre parcel surveyed. The total cost for this project is around \$5,000 dollars including the survey, legal costs, closing costs, etc. In addition, CRAG-VT is working with the Bolton Conservation Commission to develop a longterm management plan for all of the climbing areas in Bolton Notch. CRAG-VT needs your help to complete the Lower West project and continue their work on access issues in the state. Check out their new website at www.cragvt.org for more details and membership information.

SOUTHEAST

Access news for North Carolina (Report submitted by AF Regional Coordinator Aram Attarian)



Southern Mountains

Thanks to a generous grant from the Access Fund, the Pisgah Climbers Association (PCA) and the United States Forest Service constructed a new Climbers' Information Kiosk at the Sun Wall Trail (the Nose area) parking area. Local building suppliers donated discounted construction materials.

The "official" opening of the new climbers trail to the North Face of Looking Glass has been delayed due to the discovery of a rare/endangered plant species. For now, the trail project is on hold until the area can be re-

A major project being undertaken by the PCA involves rehabilitating and protecting the staging areas beneath the three major climbing routes at the Nose area (The Nose, Peregrine,

and Sundial Crack). The Nose Restoration Project will address the constantly eroding floor of the Nose area by re-building the base of the routes. The project is scheduled for completion during Spring-Fall 2003.

The PCA is also working on developing a draft report of Commercial Use Standards which commercial users must follow when applying for permits in Pisgah National Forest. For more information on the PCA, visit www.pisgahclimbers.com.

Central Piedmont

After two years of negotiations with a private land owner, the Asheboro Boulders (Ridges Mountain) are open to the public. A lease was developed with the landowner and requires an annual fee of \$1500. Two portable toilets were installed by request of the landowner. The Access Fund paid for the first year lease, while the Carolina Climbers' Coalition and a generous donation from climber Jon Lane covered the toilet expenses. Kudos to Mike Dean for working with the landowner, and to Sean Coburn for compiling the lease. The CCC will manage the area.

Northern Mountains

Climbers in the Boone area have been working closely with National Park Service staff on a number of projects: anchor placement on the summit of Shiprock, Tanawha Trail maintenance, construction of fencing to discourage parking along the Blue Ridge Parkway, distribution of climber information at local climbing shops, and a fixed anchor moratorium.

Currently, the Boone Climbers' Coalition is assisting the NPS in developing a Climbing Management Plan for the Blue Ridge Parkway/ Grandfather Mountain Corridor. The primary issues include: fixed anchors, endangered flora and fauna, trampling at staging and bouldering areas, parking, and increasing impacts.



Grandfather Mountain Corridor, North Carolina

ACCESS FUND Merchandise

members take 10% Off

Christmas Sale! Order by December 1 and receive free shipping (\$25 minimum)



Crazy for Access Fund Crazy Creek Chairs Sale!

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Our stylish cap with the Access Fund logo embroidered on the front. Velcro strap allows adjustment to most sizes.

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The Access Fund O'Piner is an essential tool for twelve ounce curls after a day of rock climbing! \$8



"Join" t-shirt. Color graphics on front and back.

Sizes S, M, L, XL.

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To order visit "Merchandise" at www.accessfund.org or call Cindy, 888-863-6237 x107.

Hey Community Partners! You can now order great Access Fund Gear at wholesale prices online on our website at https://www.accessfund.org/wholesale/gear.pl

ADOPT-A-CRAG DAY 2002

Congratulations to everyone who was involved with the 3rd Annual Adopt-a-Crag Day! We sponsored 86 events this year, spanning 33 states (and one in British Columbia!) and drawing together nearly 3,000 dedicated volunteers.

Special thanks to Title Sponsor REI,
Presenting Sponsor W.L. Gore, and Supporting
Sponsor CLIF Bar. Without the generous financial contributions of these industry leaders,
Adopt-a-Crag Day would not be possible.

Thanks are also in order to event organizers nationwide — those folks who planned Adopt-a-Crag Day logistics for their communities, who rallied climbers to get their hands dirty, who tenaciously promoted stewardship and activism across the country.

"If you care about this climbing area and want to see it taken care of, don't just use it. Give something back."

Paul Blanchard, Friends of Joshua Tree

"What a day it was! Our work schedule was ambitious to say the least...climbers' positive impact on the park took a great leap forward on September 7 at the Moss Rock Preserve."

Lee Means, Southeastern Climbers' Coalition

"We had 32 people attend. The youngest was 15, the oldest 80."

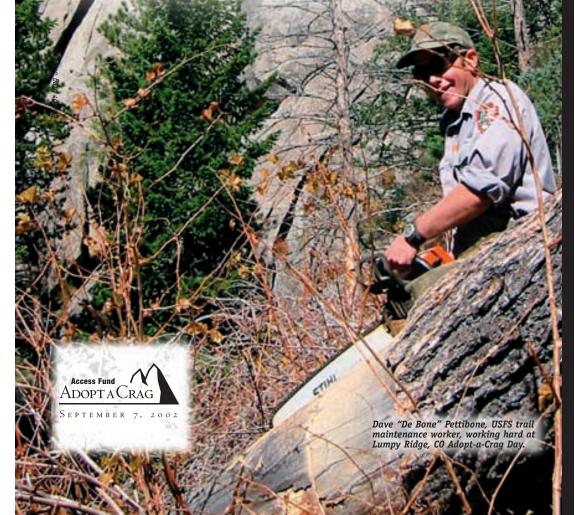
Gary Pate, Palisades Clean and Climb II

"We're just doin' our job!"

Kenny Gash -Cody, WY

"Having such an array of projects, all sponsored by grassroots local groups, was a wakeup call to climbers in the Carolinas. Expect great things from us in the future."

Sean Cobourn, Carolina Climbers Coalition member and AF regional coordinator





• Moss Rock Preserve, AL (Lee Meansall) Signs to Moss Rock, completed steps and the Southeastern Climbing Coalition crew.

• Moores Wall (Sean Barb-1 photo) • Palisades Clean and Climb II, AL (Gary Pate-1) • Looking Glass Rock, NC (Brandon Calloway-3) Ranger talks to climbers, Grant Bullard signs in,

and trail work.

• Cathedral Rock, NH (Cristin Bailey-1) • Cedar Bluff Trail Restoration Project, IL (Eric Ulner-1) • Quincy Quarry, Boston, MA (Greg Hull-Allen-1) • Alaska (Wayne Fuller) • Index, WA (Scott Harder-1)

• Index, WA (Scott • Rodeo Wall, Harder-1) Crew. • Truckee, CA (Susan Sheffield-1) Hans and Eric • Little Cottonwood Canyon, UT (Greg Echelmeier-2) • Phoenix, AZ (Paul Reinshagen-1) Arizona Mountaineering Club group photo.

Jackson Hole, WY (Susan Garlow-1) • Tree planting at Independence Pass, CO (Jason Keith-2) Heather Clark rappels and volunteers plant trees. • "Trash Bash" at Flagstaff Mtn., Boulder, CO (John Heisel-2)

• Pebble Rock restoration project, Flagstaff Mtn., Boulder, CO (Shawn Tierney-2) • Lumpy Ridge, Estes Park, CO (Greg Sievers-3) Kerry Cowan helpsmaintain her favorite crag, volunteers dig holes, and build stairs to the Book.

letters

This letter is in response to the letter from Sam Davidson and the Policy Update in the

Vertical Time Issue #48. I spent over 90 days in

Hueco Tanks as a certified volunteer/commercial quide beginning in the fall of 2000. I would like to make it clear that Hueco Tanks was never "closed" to climbers as implied by the Access Fund (Vol. 23, 29 and other posted news updates). Therefore, it is absurd to imply that Hueco can "now be open for climbing!" and it is preposterous to thank the Access Fund for "opening" Hueco Tanks for climbing. There have been only slight changes to the PUP since its inception in 1999, only one of which increases access. The increasing number of visitors at Hueco Tanks is due to the dedicated climbers who have gone through the FREE guide training, taken visitors on guided tours, built clean and comfortable campgrounds, and most importantly, have built positive relations with the park and local staff; working with them to make climbing at Hueco a positive experience. Whereas, the proposed legal action and negative propaganda circulated by the Access Fund has only strained relations between the park and climbers. Overall, I have been disappointed with Access Fund's actions, lack of actions, its combative, negative attitude towards the park, and lack of respect for the activeclimbers who are really making it happen.

Jessica Franco, Certified Texas State Parks Volunteer Guide

The Access Fund Responds:

Hueco Tanks State Historical Park was closed to all roped climbing in 1988 for four weeks (because of illegal bolting), and closed to all visitors for two weeks in 1992 (due to litigation instigated by an archaeological society). Original drafts of the Public Use Plan (PUP) included an alternative that would have closed the park to all climbing; current restrictions under the PUP require a certified guide for all areas except North Mountain. Specific areas remain closed to climbing. For 10+ years, the Access Fund has been advocating at Hueco on behalf of the national climbing community, providing thousands of dollars towards resource protection in the process. Our work has included helping establish local climbing organizations, negotiating with park managers, funding educational initiatives, providing legislative testimony, and researching administrative records. A quick review of Access Fund newsletters reveals our consistent sharing of credit with "local climbers" and "climbers from around the world." Anytime one organization advocates on behalf of a larger group, toes will get stepped on. Nonetheless, the Access Fund strives to support local climbers, while not stealing their influence or thunder in the process. We believe that good working relationships include giving credit where it is due, and admitting to past mistakes. We will continue to advocate on behalf of climbers at Hueco, but will try harder to highlight the good work of the many locals such as Jessica that strive to facilitate access at Hueco while staying in touch with the climbing community. The Access Fund is tentatively planning to hold its February board meeting at Hueco stop by and give us a piece of your mind!

2002 Access Fund Awards Exiting Board Members

For distinguished service on the Board of Directors

Conrad Anker	since 1996
Chris Archer	1994
Charlotte Fox	1996
Larry Gustafson	1996
Becky Hall	1994
Reese Martin	1998
Kathleen Beamer	2001
Eric Hobday	1998

Sharp End Awards

The Sharp End Award is presented for leadership and activism in preserving climbing access and the climbing environment CLIF Bar, Black Diamond Equipment, Kurt Smith, George Bracksieck, Greg Sievers, and Shannon Stuart-Smith

- Land Manager of the Year
 Chris Stubs NPS, Obed River, TN
- Regional Coordinator of the Year Heather Hibbard
- Mark Bebie Award is presented to Becky Hall. America's outstanding activist for the cause of preserving climbing access and the climbing environment.
- Service as President Award to Becky Hall for distinguished volunteer service as President of the Access Fund (2000-2002).
- The First Annual Michael Kennedy Board Excellence Award is presented for exceptional leadership and commitment to the Access Fund's mission to Chris Archer, Larry Gustafson and Eric Hobday.
- Award of appreciation to Sam Davidson in recognition of 11 years of exemplary service, dedication and vision on behalf of the entire climbing community 1991-2002.



The Daniel Boone National Forest recognized the Access Fund with the Certificate of Appreciation for its support and financial contributions towards the maintenance of recreational facilities and the protection of cultural resources within the Red River Gorge Geological Area.

Access Fund Corporate Partners

For companies that care about climbing, Access Fund corporate partnerships are dedicated to the environment, access, conservation, adventure, and the diversity of the climbing experience, nationwide. Please endorse these companies that support the Access Fund and your climbing future.

Featured Partner: "Black Diamond was founded with an underlying commitment to champion the preservation of, and access to, mountain and crag environments. The Access Fund represents and protects the interests of all American climbers and all visitors who come to America to climb. It is truly our national climbing organization. If you care about climbing, and you want to give future generations something to care about, then you should join and support the Access Fund. It is the number one climbing organization Black Diamond supports and we invite you to join us in this worthwhile cause." Peter Metcalf — CEO, Black Diamond

DIAMOND—\$20,000+

- Black Diamond Equipment/Bibler-Scarpa
 - Climbing
 - Galyan's
 - REI
 - Rock & Ice

PLATINUM—\$10,000+

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 - prAna
 - The North Face

GOLD PLUS—\$7,500+

- CLIF Bar
- W.L. Gore

GOLD-\$5,000+

- Campmor
- Climb High/Mammut
 - La Sportiva
 - Maxim Ropes
 - Nalgene
- Omega Pacific Mountaineering
 - Patagonia
- Trango USA & Stonewear Designs
 - Weathered Stone

SILVER—\$2,500+

- BlueWater
 - Boreal
- Boulder Rock Club
 - Corplan
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 - FalconGuides
- Gregory Mountain Products
 - Kelty
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- New Belgium Brewing Co.
- Outpost Wildermess Adventure
 - Sterling Rope
 - Touchstone Climbing Inc.

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 - Arc'teryx
- Cascade Designs/ Therm-a-Rest
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 - Mountain Gear
- Mountain Hardwear
- Outdoor Research
- Phoenix Rock Gym
 - PMI
 - PuR
- Redpoint, Inc.
- Shoreline Mountain Products
- Torrent Falls Bed & Breakfast
 - Yates Gear

CONTRIBUTING—\$500+

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 - ClimbingBoulder.com
- Cloudveil Mountain Works
- Excalibur DMM/Wild Country/Red Chili USA
 - Flannel Design
 - Go-Lite
 - Gravity Kills Company
 - Jagged Edge Mountain Gear
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 - Megalith
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 - Outside Magazine
 - TexasClimbers.com
 - Vbouldering

The Access Fund

your climbing future

Now is the time to help the Access Fund plan for your grandchildren's climbing future. The Access Fund has all the resources to make planned giving easy.



Give a planned gift; it is the best way to leave an enduring legacy for climbing.

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- * Charitable Gift Annuity
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- * Name The Access Fund as a beneficiary in your life insurance policy or retirement plan



If your gift is \$10,000 or more, you may designate it for one of the following categories: Acquisitions, Advocacy & Activism, Membership, Conservation, Adopt-a-Crag, Education, Climbing Preservation Grants or Unrestricted. For more information on the Access Fund's planned giving program, contact Heather Clark, development director, 303-545-6772 x.100 or heather@accessfund.org.

MEET MIKE OUSLEY, FREELANCE GRAPHIC DESIGNER FOR THE FUND

I began climbing in 1981 on Phoenixarea sandbag routes when standard bolt protection was Rawl quarter-inchers and Leeper or SMC hangers. At that time, there were no such things as climbing gyms, "sport" or "trad;" free climbing was face, crack or just "climbing." Although I had been climbing maybe once or twice before, summiting El Capitan (EC) in Yosemite seemed like a worthy goal.

After finishing Arizona State University's graphic design program in 1988, I moved to Boston to begin my creative career and climb at Cathedral Ledge, Cannon Cliff and the Gunks. Later, I bagged Tangerine Trip on EC and decided that soloing walls was something I wanted to do more of. My solo EC roster now consists of The Trip, Zodiac, North America Wall, the Shield from Mammoth, Wall of Early Morning Light and South Seas to Pacific Ocean Wall. I've climbed several other EC routes with partners as well, including the Muir Wall last June with my wife, Moria, in 17 days. For complete story, visit http://ousleycreative.com/honey.html.

I've worked as a graphic designer, art director and creative director for various agencies and studios since the mid-eighties. My work has been published internationally, and has garnered numerous creative industry awards. I began doing work for the Access Fund in 1997, producing calendars, promotional material, ads, logos and miscellaneous collateral. I do pro bono work for the Fund regularly in addition to acting as creative consultant and vendor. Recently, I volunteered my time by designing the "Only Climbing" t-shirt for the Fund.

I'm a member of and/or make donations to: Access Fund, American Alpine Club, American Safe Climbing Association, Humane Society of the United States, NORML and Surfrider Foundation. I can be reached at mikeo@ousleycreative.com.



Event Beta

- 11/2 Great Barrington,MA Kickin Access 2002 Old Egremont Club 413-528-9712
- 11/7 Burlington, VT Kickin' Access 2002 Outdoor Gear Exchange 802-860-0190
- 11/9 Asheville, NC 8th Annual Fall Flash Fest CLIMBMAX, INC 828-252-9996
- 11/9 North Conway, NH Kickin Access 2002 - Craggers 603-356-8877
- 11/12 San Diego, CA Randy Leavitt Slide Show - Vertical Hold Sport Climbing Center 858-586-7572
- 11/12 Woburn, MA Kickin Access 2002 -Boston Rock Gym 781-935-7325
- 11/16 Springdale, UT Adopt-a-Crag in Zion National Park 435-772-0185
- 11/16 Santa Clara, CA Cranberry Crank Planet Granite 408-727-2777
- 11/16 Rockford, IL ABS 3 Competition GAR Indoor Climbing Center 815-645-6447
- 11/17 San Francisco, CA 3rd Annual Climb 4 Yosemite rbender@tides.org
- 11/20 Wallingford, CT Kickin Access 2002 Prime Climb Gym 203-265-7880
- 11/23 Bloomington, IL Hangdog Jamboree -Upper Limits 309-829-8255
- 11/23 Pontiac, MI- Kurt Smith slide show -Planet Rock 248-334-3904
- 11/26 Dayton, OH Kickin Access 2002 Urban Kraq Climbing Center 937-224-5724
- 12/3 Charlotte, NC Kickin Access 2002 Inner Peaks Climbing Center 704-844-6677
- 12/4 Athens, GA Kickin Access 2002 Charbons 706-548-7225
- 12/7 Atlanta, GA Float the Boat Boulder Competition - Southeastern Climbers Coalition 404-329-1519
- 12/7 Kennesaw, GA Kickin Access 2002 Escalade 770-794-1575
- 12/14 tba, AR Kickin Access 2002 -Horseshoe Canyon Ranch 870-446-2555
- 12/17 Arcadia, OK Kickin Access 2002 OKC Rocks 405-319-1400
- 1/18/03 Ouray, CO Ouray Ice Festival 2003 ourayicefestival.com

Spray

The following businesses deserve many thanks for promoting Kurt and Elaina, and for Kickin' Access:

Rockreation in Salt Lake City, Barrel
Mountaineering in Bozeman, Granite Sports in
South Dakota, The Alamo in Idaho, Climb Max
in Portland, Squamish's Brew Pub, REI Seattle,
the Frenchman's Coulee campground, Redpoint
near Smith Rock, Spokane's Mountain Goat
Outfitters and Wild Walls, Boulders Gym in
Madison, Vertical Ecsape and the climbing community of Jackson's Falls, Planet Rock in Ann
Arbor, Blue Ridge Outdoors in Blacksburg,
Fayetteville's one and only Waterstone
Outdoors, the Old Egremont Club in Great
Barrington, Burlington's Outdoor Gear
Exchange, and Craggers in North Conway

For Sponsoring Competitions, Signings, Slide Shows, and Benefits:

Rocktoberfest and the Red River Gorge Climbers' Coalition, the Challenge Rock School, Peter Johnson, the gang from Mountain Hardware, National Geographic Adventure Magazine, Erehwon Mountain Outfitters, Granite Arch Climbing Center, and GoLite

Adopt-a-Crag Day of the year awards and winners of the Adopt photo contest will be announced in Vertical Times #50! Stay tuned! In the meantime, check out the pictures and recap on page 6.

Check out www.accessfund.org for Kurt and Elaina's fall schedule. This second annual event is a traveling climbers' party that promotes awareness of local access issues and raises money and memberships for the Access Fund. The event features a bouldering slide show by Kurt Smith, dyno and pull-up comps, live music by DJ Highball, gear auctions and raffles. Click on the events page for a list of Kickin Access events near your area.



Elaina Arenz hands out prizes as Kurt Smith works the microphone at a recent Kickin Access show in Jackson Hole, Wyoming.

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