

VERTICAL TIMES



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Ice is Nice and will Suffice

“Ice” climbing has taken many new turns and twists since I began climbing leashless (yes leashless) with wooden shafts and “wart hogs” for protection. We thought we were making advances when we added leashes to our tools, but there were those amongst us who debated whether hanging on our tools was “aid climbing” or not. Today climbers do amazing things leashless, on rock, with points on the rear of their crampons and gymnastic moves that are impressive to say the least.

One of the things I learned early on was that “ice climbers never fall” and “full conditions” were not only fun but the reason to go ice climbing. We learned over many seasons what “soft”, “candlestick”, “dinner plate” good and bad ice was. As the seasons progressed we found these little escapes from the rest of the world to be great times for friendship, contemplation and training for the alpine and mountain routes on other continents. When we were no longer the only ones at the Rigid Designator (local IV favorite in Vail CO) on a typical

weekend, we debated how to protect the area and quickly went further afield in search of more ice and fewer people.

Through all of this we came to enjoy and respect both the challenge of the medium as well our own limitations. Avalanches and other forces of nature reinforced our respect and bond with our natural surroundings. We debated not only the latest techniques and tools but also why had the Breach Wall on Kilimanjaro, the Ice Window on Kenya, the Black couloir on the Grand and many other ice routes not formed again. As good stewards of the land we continue to ask these questions. More and more of us enjoy “ice” climbing (in what ever form) and the Access Fund continues to work hard to conserve access but we also need to continue questioning. Respect for the bond we have with our natural surroundings and healthy ethical debate will ensure the ice climbers of 2020 can get out and experience the full conditions and past it on to the next generation.

Pray for cold and wet, I am!

Steve

EDITOR'S NOTE: Welcome to the newly redesigned Vertical Times. To cut costs on printing and devote more resources to Your Climbing Future, we at the Access Fund have changed paper and chosen a different format to more effectively keep you informed of climbing access news around the country. Please let us know what you think of the redesign by sending your comments about Vertical Times to af-news@accessfund.org

Cover Photo: A climber enjoys the majesty of the Ouray Ice Park. Since 1990, the Access Fund has contributed over \$10,000 to Ouray to support ice climbing and has helped the annual Ouray Ice Festival since its inception. (by John Heisel)

Inset Photo: Steve Matous savors a “cold and wet” during a late 70's ice climbing session in Rocky Mountain National Park, Colorado. (by Connie McDonald)

national focus **Rumors Fuel Speculation Surrounding Largest Potential Climbing Closure in American History**

In response to rumors claiming that there is little chance of saving Oak Flat, AZ (a popular climbing and recreation area outside of Phoenix and home to the Phoenix Boulder Blast) from being closed and mined, the Access Fund urges outdoor recreationists and businesses to keep fighting for access and maintain a unified voice.

Resolution Copper Company (RCC), the mining company pushing to close Oak Flat for mining purposes, insists that public access to Oak Flat must be closed forever because of the possibility of massive subsidence due to their preferred mining method. The Access Fund and Friends of Queen Creek (FoQC) oppose the closure and emphasize that there is a way to mine the copper under Oak Flat without destroying the surface.

RCC does not currently have the right to mine beneath Oak Flat and in the process destroy the surface because of an executive order protecting the area. However, RCC is working to sidestep this protection through a legislative land swap. Unlike other areas subject to federal mining laws, Public Land Order 1229, executed in 1954 under Eisenhower and then upheld by Nixon in 1974, protects Oak Flat from mining and sets it aside for recreation. Access Fund Policy Director Jason Keith states "Currently, there is too little information for anyone, including elected officials, to support their land swap proposal. We have a couple things on our side. First, RCC must overcome the executive order prohibiting mining at Oak Flat, and second, it has been proven elsewhere that mines can be profitable while still maintaining the environmental and ecological integrity of the land."

The Access Fund has extensively lobbied the offices of US Senators Kyl and McCain, US Representative Renzi, Arizona Governor Napolitano, local officials, Tonto National Forest, Arizona BLM, Central Arizona Project, state agencies, and the organizer of the Phoenix Boulder Blast. These efforts have led to a coalition that includes over a thousand FoQC members, the Arizona Mountaineering Club, The Sierra Club and Audubon Society, members of the outdoor industry, motorized enthusiasts, canyoneering groups, Arizona businesses,



The Queen Creek Boulder Blast (pictured above) has been cancelled for 2005 as the future of climbing at Oak Flat, Arizona remains uncertain.

academics, and watchdog groups that focus on mining and land exchanges. The Access Fund also benefits from the advice of respected and experienced mining engineers and public interest law groups who specialize in mining issues.

"While RCC is a multi-national company with multi-billion dollar resources- they're up against a long standing executive order and extremely committed user groups" says Steve Matous, the Access Fund's Executive Director. The Access Fund has started a letter writing campaign opposing the impending land exchange bill. The Access Fund and the Friends of Queen Creek urge people to join them to find a better way for Resolution Copper to contribute to the AZ economy without taking from the AZ environment.

For more information about how to contact your elected officials on this issue, see www.accessfund.org/programs/Queen_letter_6_04.html or email the Access Fund's Policy Director Jason Keith at Jason@accessfund.org.

Visit www.friendsofqueenecreek.com/ for more information.

Editor's Note: The Phoenix Boulder Blast has been cancelled for 2005. See PBB website for more information: <http://www.boulderblast.com/>

Judge rules against Access Fund Suit in Response to Unlawful Climbing Ban at Cave Rock

On Friday January 28, 2005 a Federal judge ruled against the Access Fund's lawsuit that requested the courts overturn the United States Forest Services ruling banning climbing at Cave Rock. As in any legal proceedings in the American court system the Access Fund has the right to appeal and is now considering the options. While the USFS says they will implement the decision as soon as possible since the court has ruled, The Access Fund has 30 days in which to file a notice of appeal. During this time, all recreational activities that are currently permitted will be allowed to continue. Rock climbing is allowed on existing routes. The temporary order that prohibits installation of new fixed anchors remains in place.

Background

In August 2003, the USFS Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit released its Record of Decision (ROD) banning climbing at Cave Rock. On September 19, 2003, the Access Fund filed an administrative appeal on constitutional and procedural grounds in order to over turn the ban. On November 5th, 2003, the USFS issued its appeal decision to uphold the climbing ban.

In late November, through negotiations with the USFS and their attorneys, the Access Fund was able to obtain an administrative stay that stopped implementation of the ROD until a U.S. District Court ruled on the matter. With the current Federal court ruling the Access fund has until late February to file its notice of intent to appeal, however no decision for an appeal has been made at this time.

WEST

Boulder Canyon, CO Ice Update

The Access Fund and local climbers are seeking approval from the city of Boulder to release water to create ice in the "historic" area of the canyon by legally "tapping" into the Barker pipeline. Recreational use of this area for ice climbing goes back at least to the early 1960s. The historic Boulder Canyon ice climbing areas are located on Boulder County Open Space land. Historically, water for the ice has come from leaks in the pipeline that runs along the south side of Boulder Canyon from Barker Dam to Koessler Lake. A few years ago, the City of Boulder purchased the dam, reservoir and pipeline, and is now in the process of repairing this pipeline to prevent the loss of water from these and other leaks. The goal for this project is to ensure that ice climbing continues in the traditional (historic) areas once the leaks in the pipeline have been fixed. The city has given tentative approval for the project, but a number of key issues still need to be worked out. If all goes well, the ice flows should be in by the winter of 2005/2006.

Jefferson County Releases Draft Climbing Management Guidelines (Comments due by February 28, 2005)

Jefferson County Open Space (JCOS) is currently in the process of developing climbing management guidelines. Following the finalization of the guidelines, site specific climbing management plans will be developed for each of the significant climbing areas in JCOS including Clear Creek Canyon, Cathedral Spires, North Table Mountain, Windy Saddle, and Mt. Lindo. The guidelines can be viewed at: www.co.jefferson.co.us/ext/dpt/comm_res/openspac/climbing.htm

The guidelines focus heavily on restricting fixed anchors, along with possible restrictions and closures. Of particular concern, the guidelines prohibit the placement of new fixed anchors until site specific management plans are developed for each park. In effect, this is a ban on bolts that could last indefinitely. The guidelines also give JCOS broad authority to restrict or close certain areas deemed as "sensitive" although no criteria are listed for that designation. Please take a moment to view the guidelines and submit your comments to: Colleen Gadd, Jefferson County Open Space

700 Jefferson County Parkway, Suite 200, Golden, CO 80401

Comments can also be sent via fax to 303-271-5997 or email to: trock@jeffco.us

It's vital that guidelines for these significant climbing areas are developed with input from the climbing community. Therefore, please urge JCOS to work with the climbing community in revising the guidelines. For more information, please contact access and acquisitions director Shawn Tierney at shawn@accessfund.org

MIDWEST

Hans Florine Slideshow in Evansville, Indiana

World renowned speed climber, Hans Florine, will be visiting Vertical eXcape in Evansville Indiana on February 27th & 28th. On February 27th, Vertical eXcape will host Boulder Bash '05 and Hans will enter the open division in the competition. After the competition is over, Hans will be putting on a slide show (Cost will either be \$5 or \$10 for people who did not participate in Boulder Bash '05 for participants from the comp the slide show is free). On Monday February the 28th Hans will host his climbing clinic that focuses on climbing technique. There will be a clinic in the morning and in the evening, cost will be \$60.

Hans won the 1995, 96, and 97 X Games Speed Climbing Championship but most notably climbed The Nose route (31 pitches of 2900' of climbing on El Capitan, Yosemite Valley) in 2 hours, 48 minutes, and 30 seconds with teammate Yuji Hirayama. Hans is also known for his speed alpine ascents. Hans will donate a portion of proceeds from his events to the Access Fund.

To see Hans's complete tour schedule, visit <http://www.speedclimb.com/hans/slideshow.htm>

Lake Ouachita, AR Information

(from rockclimbing.com)

I'm a park ranger at Ouachita. We do have some fine climbing bluffs here but we enforce Title 36 327.5c

"Diving, jumping or swinging from trees, bridges or other structures which cross or are adjacent to project waters is prohibited."

We have "No Diving" buoys near some of the most popular sites, the closest message commercially available, but all visitors are required by law to heed printed regulations posted in the parks and available around the lake at fee booths, and from rangers.

Our lake patrol as well as rangers on foot can issue a citation carrying a \$50 fine for first offense. A day or two in federal court is possible for repeat offenses.

Please get the word out. We want our visitors to go home with good memories of this beautiful lake. This regulation is valid on all U.S. Army Corps of Engineers lakes. The reason for the regulation is all too common severe injuries and deaths due to accidents around such places. Many inexperienced visitors see more experienced people climb and jump but are not aware of the many dangers.

Jim (via Rockclimbing.com "Access and Issues & Closures" Forum)

4th Annual No Holds Barred Climbing Competition, IL

Saturday March 5th at Vertical Endeavors Climbing Gym, Warrenville, Illinois. For more information, visit <http://www.verticalendeavors.com/ve/precomp.htm>

SOUTHEAST

The CCC reforms and pushes forward to protect North Carolina Climbing!

(submitted by Anthony Love, Boone Climbers Coalition)

The Carolina Climbers Coalition <http://www.carolinaclimbers.org> was originally formed to help preserve our access to climbing in North Carolina State Parks. 11 years later, we are still enjoying our access to the climbing in NC's state parks but the strain on other climbing areas continues to beckon their attention. This year the CCC reorganized itself to better serve the needs of the climbing community to meet the challenges ahead. Some of the goals that were set at one of the first public meetings in October were to create a new web site that serves the organization, continue to show support for the ongoing access challenge at the Asheboro Boulders, continue to meet the impending issues of land sale at Rumbling Bald. A new web site for the CCC has been designed and will be live soon, a t-shirt was designed and is being sold all over NC to raise money for a lease of the land at Asheboro once it is reopened, and a calendar, which is also being sold around the state, is continuing to generate funds which we can contribute to the potential purchase of land at Rumbling Bald. Once the new web site is live, both items as well as a form for donations and memberships will be for sale online.

Ice Climbing at Highway 215

(submitted by Adam Fox, Fox Mountain Guides)

Some of the most popular locations to try out ice climbing for the first time in the Southeast are the numerous road cuts. One of the busier spots is 'Highway 215' in NC, popular for its easy access and the reliability of its formations. This ice climbing area is located in the Pisgah National Forest on USFS land, but falls under Department of Transportation's jurisdiction. At a recent meeting with the USFS Rangers it was discussed that the DOT is aware, and concerned over ice climbing at this location. The Highway 215 road cuts are incredibly close to the side of the road, the routes being less than 10 feet from the edge of the Highway. The DOT's main concern is ice climbers milling around at the edge of the highway. In an effort to work proactively and not jeopardize our access to this ice climbing location we should carpool and then park away from the climbing areas. Do not park on the side of the Highway in the immediate vicinity of the climbing. There are various suitable parking locations along the highway. Try to create a single location for your party's equipment as far from the roadside as possible and stay on one side of the road. As cars pass pretty infrequently, if possible stop climbing while cars pass in an effort to reduce the chance of climbers dislodging ice. In an attempt to reduce overall numbers at Highway 215, try and avoid this busy spot on weekends if possible. Ask locals, Outfitters, Guide Services or refer to the local ice climbing guidebook for ideas of other great top-ropeable and leadable locations in the area.

NORTHEAST

Bolton Quarry Protected for Climbing, VT

(submitted by Nicole Ballinger, CRAG-VT)

The Climbing Resource Access Group of Vermont (CRAG-VT) closed on its purchase of a parcel known as the Bolton Quarry on December 20, 2004.

Located in the town of Bolton, this 30-acre parcel includes cliffs with stunning vertical ice pillars for winter ice climbing and aesthetically pleasing rock climbs. CRAG-VT's acquisition of the Quarry is the first land conservation purchase specifically for rock and ice climbing in Vermont-and one of only a couple in the United States.

"We are thrilled to have accomplished this goal," said CRAG-VT President Heather Furman. "Creating climbing opportunities in Vermont is critical. With limited public resources, CRAG-VT focuses on the variety of tools available for protecting private land and helps private landowners keep their property open to climbers."

The Vermont Housing and Conservation Board (VHCB), the Vermont Recreation Trails Grant Program, the Access Fund, Mammut/Climb High, and CRAG-VT members provided funding for the Bolton Quarry acquisition.

The Quarry will be permanently protected for climbing and recreation under a conservation easement held by the Vermont Land Trust and VHCB. CRAG-VT has drafted an interim management plan, and will improve the road access, create a parking area, and build a small information kiosk next spring. CRAG-VT will also communicate with neighboring landowners to discuss their concerns regarding the Quarry management. Until work is done on the Quarry parking, CRAG-VT advises climbers to carpool as there is only room for 3 cars. Park ONLY at the W&CV Telecom hut on Green Mountain Drive, and not block any driveways or truck access to the Telecom hut.

"Landowner relations and natural resource protection are important to CRAG-VT," said Nicole Ballinger, CRAG-VT Board Member. "We encourage both landowners and climbers to contact us with concerns about climbing access and natural resource issues."

CRAG-VT is non-profit membership organization that works for access and conservation of Vermont climbing resources-both rock and ice. CRAG-VT owns one other property for climbing access, the Lower West Bolton cliff, which was donated to the organization in 2003.

For more information, visit www.cragvt.org.

North East Ice

To keep up with the latest about ice climbing in the Northeast, visit the North East Ice website at: <http://neice.com/> The site announces ice-related events, has a forum and presents many tips and beta for climbing in the frozen realm. Also, North East Ice is a proud Access Fund Corporate Partner.

Access Fund Grants Program

Next Grant Deadline: June 15th

The Access Fund Grants Program funds projects that preserve or enhance climbing opportunities and conserve the climbing environment throughout the United States.

We fund projects that meet the following criteria:

1. Encourage access to or enhance opportunities for climbing.
2. Are supported by the climbing community.
3. Raise awareness about climber responsibilities through stewardship projects.
4. Develop or support partnerships with resource management agencies, conservation organizations, land trusts and local climbing groups.
5. Reduce climber impacts on natural and cultural resources within the climbing environment.
6. Develop understanding and knowledge about natural and cultural resource values where the information is used to open climbing areas or mitigate climbing impacts.

Who Can Apply?

We welcome applications from the following: (Note: Tax Exempt 501 (c) 3 status is not a pre-requisite)

1. Local climbing groups, individuals or organizations.
2. Governmental agencies that wish to sponsor or organize a local project.
3. Research groups/conservation organizations, land trusts.

When to Apply

Grant applications are reviewed in three cycles each year:

- Spring 15th February
- Summer 15th June
- Fall 15th September

For More Information contact Shawn Tierney, Grants Program Coordinator 303-545-6772 (x105) or shawn@accessfund.org

Examples of Grants Awarded

1. Climbing Facilities/Improvements –trail design/construction, erosion-control projects, toilets, camping, parking.
 - Mohonk Preserve, NY – \$10,000 for a composting toilet in the Trapps area of the Gunks.
 - Indian Creek, UT - \$4,000 for trail design and construction in the Broken Tooth and Scarface areas.
2. Grassroots activism – start-up costs and support for local climber organizations.
 - Illinois Climbers Association, IL - \$1,800 for organization start up and incorporation costs.
 - Tucson Climbers Association, AZ - \$1,500 for organization start up and incorporation costs.
3. Acquisitions –Land acquisitions funding.
 - Utah Open Lands, UT - \$20,000 for the acquisition of land adjacent to Castleton Tower.
 - Southeastern Climbers Coalition, GA - \$10,000 for the acquisition of the Boat Rock boulders.
4. Education outreach – brochures, kiosks, posters, signage, special events.

- Salt Lake Climber's Alliance, UT - \$3,900 for a climbing information brochure.
- Pisgah Climbers Association, NC - \$1,000 for an informational kiosk.

5. Conservation/Resource – wildlife, and vegetation monitoring, cultural resource surveys, research projects, revegetation projects.
 - Obed Wild and Scenic River, TN - \$2,500 to conduct studies on the use, demographics and economic impact of climbing in the Obed.
 - Joshua Tree National Park, CA - vegetation surveys, and GPS location of climbing areas in relation to Threatened & Endangered species sites.

Raptors and Climbers: Seasonal Wildlife Restrictions Go Into Effect February 1

Our actions speak louder than words. Support for legitimate seasonal wildlife restrictions conserves access by demonstrating that climbers and wildlife can co-exist. Climbers have a good record of supporting raptor nesting restrictions and continued compliance is critical to develop and maintain good relations with resource managers.

Numerous crags are closed to humans each year to allow our cliff dwelling wildlife a chance to reproduce undisturbed. Wildlife closures come in all shapes and sizes and include closures for plants as well as animals. By far the most common is seasonal restrictions to protect cliff-nesting raptors targeted at peregrine falcons, prairie falcons and golden eagles. Each year the Access Fund lists seasonal raptor closures for use in planning a visit to an area. Always check signs on site for the latest update. Details can change and restrictions may have been shifted or lifted early. Seasonal wildlife closures give our cliff wildlife the protection it needs at its most vulnerable time. With climber's support such arrangements demonstrate that climbing can coexist with wildlife protection efforts. For a complete list of seasonal closures around the country, please visit: <http://accessfund.org/access/> If you have new information, recognize information on our website that needs changing, or have a concern that a closure in your area is excessive or unwarranted, please contact Shawn Tierney at: shawn@accessfund.org

SPOTLIGHT: HOW TO GET INVOLVED

How can climbers help land managers?

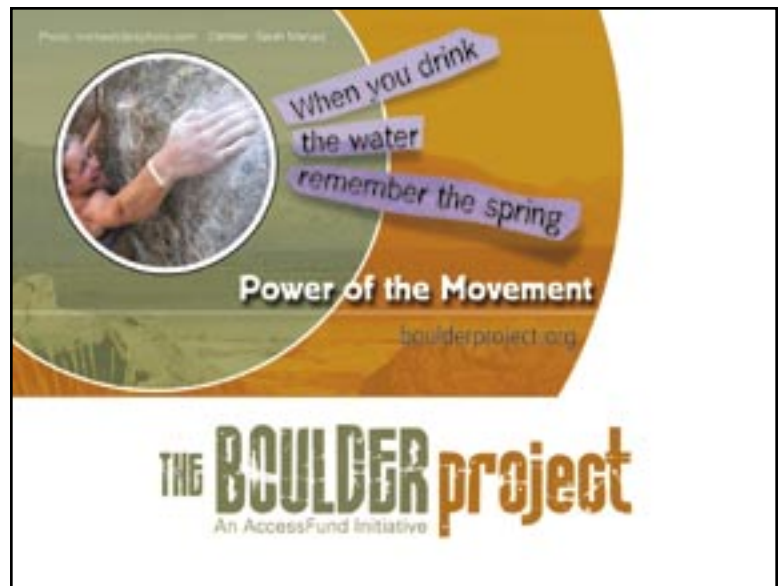
Climbers can get involved with a range of tasks such as raptor monitoring, wording for signs or brochures, identifying the best place to put wildlife signs, and providing observations on raptor sightings or unusual behavior. Sometimes climbers have assisted managers on raptor banding projects, where climbing skills are required to access cliff ledges. If you would like to become more involved, contact the park manager or biologist for your area and ask about volunteer opportunities.

boulderProject—power of the movement

Trad racks, ice screws and even ropes are not the chosen tools of the trade for many in our climbing community. Protection in the form of pads keep some climbers out of harms way as they push the limits of power and finesse on smaller summits. The explosive growth of bouldering is astounding as what was once an activity to rehearse specific moves on lazy rest days has grown up as a legitimate cornerstone of climbing. The evolution of bouldering has been long and now the light shines on small rocks, pad people and an augmented dossier of access concerns.

The boulderProject is an Access Fund initiative that communicates how climbers, the environment, and access are all interconnected. It schools climbers in bouldering-area stewardship and conservation actions, the unique impacts of bouldering on the climbing environment, and rock ecosystems. As many climbers begin in the gyms and move outside, they often lack a John Gill or Lynn Hill to show them the ropes (so to speak). The boulderProject steps up to fill this void and keep climbers climbing no matter what they're climbing.

Several Access Fund corporate partners have stepped up with boulderProject ads (Rock & Ice and Urban Climber) and even prime space on packaging (Metolius). Mountain Gear has signed on as a supporting sponsor and encourages other companies to do the same. Find out how you can become a part of the boulderProject movement because the future of climbing is in all of our hands. Contact Robb Shurr, our Director of Marketing and Business Development, at robb@accessfund.org for more details.



Postcard (above) distributed to young climbers through climbing gyms and at events with special help from the American Bouldering Series (ABS).

While not all of us can send the latest V13 test-piece (and may not even care to try), we can all do our part to show respect for others, our crags and the environments in which we play.

Local Low Down

Check websites, guidebooks, and talk to locals. Not only do locals know the best lines, they know the bettah beta to keep the areas open. Who knows, they might even show you around.

Boulder Green

Nature frickin' rules and keeping nature pristine helps to keep it ... well... natural. Some tips to keep it clean:

- ☞ Speak up when the actions of others threaten access. Remember it's your climbing future at stake.
- ☞ Pick up & pack out tape, spilled chalk, and wrappers.
- ☞ Brush off with a *nylon* brush or shirt slap tick marks & holds after you send the problem
- ☞ Never chip, alter, sculpt, glue-on holds, or landscape. Your project is someone else's warm-up.
- ☞ Limit posse size & sprawl

Pad Lightly

Pads can save your ankles; however they kill small trees, cactus and other vegetation. Some tips to coexist:

- ☞ Clever pad placements and attentive spotters turn dangerous landings into safe, enviro-friendly LZs.
- ☞ Place your pads on rocks or areas free of vegetation.

The Road More Traveled

Whoa there off-roader! Stay on existing trails.

- ☞ Off-trail travel between boulders creates a network of trails and is a major problem at many areas.

Hard Choices

What, no trail? If you have to choose the lesser of two evils ... keep you and your gear on hard, durable surfaces. Uh, like rocks.

Way Old-School

One of the quickest ways to shut down an area is to climb on or around rock art and cultural sites.

- ☞ If someone way older and wiser than you was there first, and we don't mean John Gill, find a new problem on a different boulder.

A Climber's Best Friend

Before Fido experiences the great outdoors, make sure he reads up on low-impact practices (with four paws it's doubly important). What? Fido can't read? Well, then it's up to all of us to make sure our furry friends comply or it's to the dog house for both them and us.

Whas 'sup?

Someone owns the land that you're bouldering on and chances are it's not you.

- ☞ Know who owns or manages the land and abide by their regulations, including closures.

The New Frontier

New areas warrant special care. Check out boulderProject.org for info.

Keep it Real

You can wax on and wax off as much as you want, just be sure to climb like the guy from Kung Fu (he didn't make any prints when walking on rice paper). All right, cheesy kung-fu references over. *Carry on.*

Text (above) taken from a bookmark distributed by our partners.

ACCESS FUND Merchandise

members take 10% Off



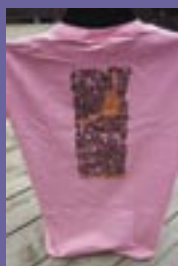
Our stylish cap with the Access Fund logo embroidered on the front. Velcro strap allows adjustment to most sizes.

\$9.95 BLOWOUT! (while supplies last)



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

\$8



Women's Patagonia Beneficial T's with Access Fund logo on the front. Preshrunk. Fit for women.

Sizes S, M, L
\$20



Men's Patagonia Beneficial T's with Access Fund logo on the front.

Sizes S, M, L, XL
\$20



Blowout! North Face Redpoint Jacket with embroidered AF logo — Size XL Only. \$125. (call to order)

To order online, visit
<http://www.accessfund.org/> and click "AF Store"
or call 888-863-6237 x107.

Hey Community Partners! You can order great Access Fund Gear at wholesale prices. Call for more information.

Vertical Times, February 2005, volume 62.

The Access Fund is a national non-profit organization dedicated to keeping climbing areas open and conserving the climbing environment.

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Access & Acquisitions Director

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Grassroots Coordinator

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Publications Director

John Heisel john@accessfund.org

Membership Director

Kerry Cowan kerry@accessfund.org

Director of Operations

Cindy Trotter cindy@accessfund.org

Office Associate

Judy Ware judy@accessfund.org

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The Access Fund
MAILING:
PO Box 17010
Boulder, CO 80308

SHIPPING:
207 Canyon, Ste. 201 South
Boulder, CO 80302
PHONE: 303-545-6772
FAX: 303-545-6774

www.accessfund.org

Available Online

Access Fund Member Handbook Online

The Member Handbook is a complete source of information about access issues, Access Fund programs, letter writing and other advocacy tools, and a primer on ways to get involved at your local crags. Look inside for:

- Tips for writing political action letters.
- What to do about climbing access problems.
- Guidelines about how to climb responsibly.

Download the PDF file at:
accessfund.org/ and click "Resources"

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Presently, over 1987 members have chosen our online option — a savings to the Access Fund of over \$9000 per year to be utilized in protecting YOUR CLIMBING FUTURE!

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As a contributing member, you'll notice exciting new benefits when you join or renew at a \$50.00 minimum.

(The tax-deductible amount of your contribution is limited to the excess of money over the value of goods received.)

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\$1000
North Face Tadpole Tent

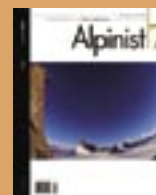
(value= \$115)

RECEIVE:



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(value= \$46)



\$250
Outdoor Research Electron Pullover

(Value= \$30)



\$100
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(Value= \$9)



\$50
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(Value=no taxable value)



\$35 Basic Membership
(Value=your climbing future)

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Click "JOIN"

TITANIUM – \$50,000+

Haynes and Boone LLP – 2003

DIAMOND PLUS – \$20,000+

Black Diamond Equipment – 1991
 Galyan's – 1999
 REI – 1991

DIAMOND MEDIA – \$20,000+

Backpacker Magazine – 2004
Climbing – 1991
Rock & Ice – 1993
 URBAN CLIMBER MAGAZINE – 2004

PLATINUM – \$10,000+

CLIF Bar – 1995
 Petzl/Charlet Moser – 1991
 prAna – 1995
 Patagonia – 1992
 The North Face – 1995

GOLD PLUS – \$7,500+

Archer Law Offices P.C. – 2003
 MSR / Therm-a-Rest – 1995
 Nike ACG – 2002
 W.L. Gore – 1991

GOLD – \$5,000+

Campmor – 1991
 Climb High/Mammut – 1991
 La Sportiva – 1994
 Maxim Ropes – 1992
 Nalgene – 1992
 Omega Pacific – 1992
 Outdoor Research – 1999
 The Spot Bouldering Gym – 2003
 Trango USA & Stonewear Designs – 1992
 Weathered Stone – 1999

SILVER – \$2,500+

All Terrain – 2003
 Arc'teryx – 1998
 BlueWater – 1992
 Boulder Rock Club – 1996
 Dana Design – 2003
 FalconGuides – 1998
 Gregory Mountain Products – 1993
 Marmot – 1999
 Metolius – 1991
 Misty Mountain Threadworks – 1994
 Mountain Gear – 1995
 Mountain Hardwear – 1996
 New Belgium Brewing Co. – 2000
 Salomon – 2003
 Sterling Rope – 1994
 Touchstone Climbing Inc. – 1998
 Vasque – 2003

MAJOR – \$1,000+

Amadeus Consulting Group – 2004
 American Bouldering Series – 2000
 Asolo – 2003
 Big Up Productions – 2003
 bluetropo Consulting – 2003
 CAMP USA – 2004
 Cloudveil – 1998

Crazy Creek Products – 1992

Lowie Alpine – 1991
 Montrail – 2002
 Phoenix Rock Gym – 1997
 Planet Granite Climbing Gyms – 2004
 Redpoint, Inc. – 2000
 Rock and Snow, Inc. – 2003
 Schwartz Communications, Inc. – 2003
 SuperTopo.com – 2003
 Thule – 2003
 Ultimate Ascents International – 2003
 VooDoo Holds – 2001
 Yates Gear – 1993

CONTRIBUTING – \$500+

Advanced Base Camp – 1992
 Alpine Ascents International – 1998
 Anker Climbing Equipment – 2003
 Avery Brewing Company – 1998
 AZ on the Rocks – 2003
 Bearing Images – 2000
 ClimbingBoulder.com – 2001
 Excalibur DMM/Wild Country/Red Chili USA – 1995
 Extreme Engineering – 2004
 Five Ten – 2004
 Flannel Design – 2001
 GearExpress.com – 2003
 Higher Ground Roasters – 2003
 JustRopes.com – 2004
 Kind Coffee – 2003
 Kristin Carpenter Public Relations – 2003
 Moonstone Mountain Equipment – 2003
 Mountaineers Books – 1992
 Mountain Madness – 2000
 Mountainsmith – 2003
 Mountain Tools – 1991
 Nicros – 1997
 Osprey – 2003
 Outland Mountain Shop – 2003
 Pacific Edge Climbing Gym – 1995
 Phoenix BoulderBlast – 1997
 PMI – 1991
 Real Cheap Sports – 2003
 Royal Robbins – 1992
 Sickie Climbing – 2001
 Tom K. Michael, D.D.S., P.S. – 2000
 Travel Country Outdoors – 2002
 2 Trails – 2002

MEDIA PARTNERS

Alpinist – 2003
Blue Ridge Outdoors Magazine – 1997
 Camp4.com – 2002
 Coreyography – 2002
 Dan Bailey Photography – 2002
 DrTopo.com – 2003
 GetBeta.com – 2004
Gripped: The Climbing Magazine – 2004
Hooked on the Outdoors – 2002
 Integrity 7 Productions – 2004
 Patitucci Photo – 2003
 Second Chance Films – 2004
 Sharpend Publishing – 2000
She Sends – 2004
 SNEWS – 2002



Our Partners support us in many different ways. Here are some examples of their support through catalog features. Omega Pacific 2004/2005 Catalog (top), Metolius 2005 Catalog (middle), and Black Diamond 2004 Catalog (bottom). Also thanks to Black Diamond for featuring "Climbers and Copper" (about Queen Creek access) in their recent catalog, and Kristen Carpenter Public Relations for running a catalog feature.

To find out more ways your company can help, or if your company has done something for the AF, we'd like to know about it. Contact Robb Shurr at robb@accessfund.org.

Thanks

Due to the huge volume of events that the Access Fund participates in, we are unable to thank all AF-related events due to space constraints. Beginning March 1st, check out accessfund.org "Event Thanks" section where we will acknowledge competitions.

Special thanks to volunteers at the Access Fund

Headquarters: Dave Gentry (membership assistance), Dave Goldstein (computer wizardry), and Keith Garvey (for donating a computer).

Thanks for volunteering at Access Fund related events:

Thanks to all the Outdoor Retailer booth volunteers: Celin Serbo, Raichle Farrelly, Bonnie Uresk, Hilary Silberman, Jackie Pellett, Jennifer Baker, Sean Blackwell, Garth Pellett

Thanks for hosting an Access Fund event:

Montrail benefit fundraiser at the Outdoor Retailer show. Thanks to Riley Morton from Lenticular Pictures, Peter Mortimer, Timmy O'Neill, Menno van Wyk, Scott Tucker, Jim Donini, and all the Montrail folks for helping the Access Fund raise over \$1200 at the "Parallelojams" premiere on January 30th.

Thanks for Volunteering with Access Fund-related Issues:

Bruce Pech for help with Boulder Canyon Ice issues, and Dr. Rob Roy Ramey for help with raptor issues.

EVENTS

Red Rock Rendezvous Returns To Las Vegas For Second Annual Event Benefiting The Access Fund

The second annual "Mountain Gear Presents Red Rock Rendezvous" will return to the Red Rock Canyon National Conservation Area near Las Vegas for a climbing festival to benefit The Access Fund. The event will take place March 18 - 20, 2005. For more information and to register, call 800.829.2009. or visit www.mgear.com/rrr.

Smith Rock 13th Annual "Spring Thing" Volunteer Day

Join the Smith Rock Group on Saturday, May 7th for a day of fun and work at world famous Smith Rock State Park. The event begins at 8am with registration at Smith Rock Park and concludes with a dinner, auction, and raffle. All money raised goes directly to fund future events, purchase project supplies, and preserve your climbing future. For more information: www.smithrock.com or bandc@teleport.com

Banff Film Fest

Hosted by REI. Proceeds support the Access Fund. Feb. 28th - March 1st. Boulder Theater, Boulder, CO.

Donate Your Old Car to the AF!

Now there is a free, convenient service for donating a car, truck, or RV, for a tax-deductible gift to the Access Fund. You can donate online or call 866-332-1778 to make your donation. Your contribution will help us keep your favorite crag open and give you a tax break. They pick up the vehicle and you get a tax credit for amount of sale. The website has more information on tax deductions and FAQs (frequently asked questions). The web address is: www.v-dac.com/org/?id=943131165

New Access Fund Website!

The Access Fund is proud to announce the launch of its newly redesigned website. After a year of development, the new website is live, as of January 28th, at www.accessfund.org/ The site was designed by Ray Snead of Bluetropo Consulting and is a product of extensive research and work by Access Fund Staff, supporters and consultants. Please check out the new website and send us your comments, feedback or suggestions to af-eneews@accessfund.org



Jason Keith, policy director, talks to a visitor of the Access Fund booth at the Outdoor Retailer (OR). The late January event united people from throughout the outdoor industry and was a big success for the Access Fund.



The Access Fund
PO Box 17010
Boulder, CO 80308

your climbing future

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Local Climbing Organizations and Affiliates (*Denotes Affiliates)

A local climbing organization (LCO) is an organization, association, or access committee working primarily or exclusively to keep climbing areas open, conserve the climbing environment, and promote responsible climbing at the local or regional level. LCOs are the liaison between the climbing community and the land managers and owners for the crags within their region. Affiliates are LCOs who have joined the Access Fund Affiliate Program. If you are an LCO listed below and are not an Access Fund Affiliate, please contact Deanne Buck, grassroots coordinator at 303-545-6772 x112, or via E-mail at deanne@accessfund.org.

Alabama Southeastern Climbers Coalition*	Georgia Southeastern Climbers Coalition*	Nevada Las Vegas Climbers Liaison Council*	Pennsylvania Lancaster Climbing Club - Access Project* Pennsylvania Alliance of Climbers*
Arizona Arizona Mountaineering Club Friends of Queen Creek* Northern Arizona Climbers Coalition* Tucson Climbers Association*	Idaho Kootenai Climbers* Boise Climbers Alliance*	New Mexico CRAG-New Mexico*	South Dakota Black Hills Climbers Coalition*
Arkansas Southeastern Climbers Coalition*	Illinois Illinois Climbers Association	New Jersey Access NJ*	Tennessee Southeastern Climbers Coalition*
California Bigfoot Country Climbers' Association* Boulder Clean-Joshua Tree Bouldering Group* Cragmont Climbing Club Eastern Sierra Climbers Coalition* Friends of Joshua Tree* San Diego Alliance of Climbers* Friends of Pinnacles San Diego Climbers Coalition* Southern Sierra Climbers Association*	Iowa Eastern Iowa Climbers Coalition*	New York Gunks Climbers Coalition*	Texas Central Texas Mountaineers* Climbers of Hueco Tanks* Texas Mountaineers
Canada Climbers Access Society of British Columbia*	Kentucky Red River Gorge Climbers Coalition* Southeastern Climbers Coalition*	North and South Carolina Boone Climber's Coalition* Carolina Climbers Coalition* Pisgah Climbers Association* Southeastern Climbers Coalition*	Utah Salt Lake Climbers Alliance*
Colorado Action Committee for Eldorado* Colorado Springs Climbers Coalition* Flatirons Climbing Council*	Massachusetts Appalachian Mountain Club – Boston Chapter* Western Massachusetts Climbers Coalition*	Ohio Ohio Climbers Association*	Vermont CRAG-VT*
Connecticut Ragged Mountain Foundation*	Michigan Grand Ledges Climbers Coalition	Oklahoma Wichita Mountains Climbers Coalition*	Washington Washington Climbers Coalition*
	Missouri Climbers Alliance of Mid-Missouri*	Oregon AAC - Oregon Section, Access Committee* Mazamas Oregon Climbers Coalition* Smith Rock Climbers	West Virginia Cooper's Rock Regional Climbers Coalition* New River Alliance of Climbers* Southeastern Climbers Coalition*
	Minnesota Minnesota Climbers Association*		Wisconsin Wisconsin Outdoor Access*