

VERTICAL TIMES



THE NATIONAL PUBLICATION OF THE ACCESS FUND
VOLUME 63 | APRIL 2005

de-vel-op-ment: an incident that
causes a situation to change



The future of climbing is in all our hands...

USE YOUR PIONEER

As climbers, we develop sweet lines and pure routes – from ultra classic cruisers to acclaimed test-pieces. Today, we face another form of development; one that threatens the soul of climbing. Here bulldozers and earthmovers replace our tools of sweat and imagination.

Conservation vs. Development. Protection vs. Progress. Restraint vs. Sprawl. This tension is ever present throughout the country; this struggle transcends party lines and tax brackets. Population cycles now waxing have created a booming development industry. From developing deserts into green lawns and golf courses, drilling Alaska's wilderness for fossil fuels, bulldozing boulders for strip malls, destroying protected areas for mining – these things have an underlying connection that is seldom discussed. Obsolescence.

How does all of this affect the future of climbing? Oak Flat, Arizona is in jeopardy of being closed by a copper mine and completely destroyed. A portion of the Red River Gorge, Kentucky is closed by an oil and gas company despite being purchased by the local climbing organization with help from the Access Fund. A housing developer is planning a luxury home tract on the rim of the New River Gorge, West Virginia that could affect climbing. Casinos and new communities creep closer to Red Rocks, Nevada every day. These are just a few recent *here today, gone tomorrow* developments that could make climbing in these areas obsolete.

Think this development storyline is new? Just north of Yosemite Valley in Yosemite National Park lies the sprawling O'Shaughnessy Dam. This dam has supplied water and electricity to the Bay area nearly 150 miles away since its completion in 1923. In its deep blue are hidden jewels- the Hetch Hetchy Valley full of unclaimed first ascents possibly as bold as El Cap and Half Dome. As happened many times before and since, we encroached on and engulfed wilderness to support, among other things, more development.

As climbers we do our share of development. This point is true. The quest for creation, the passion for first ascents, the drive for new lines, and the pursuit for undiscovered terrain, but there is something fundamentally different here. The ends. As climbers, we develop to maintain and create areas to recreate. To enjoy the environment. This development usually conserves or improves with minimal impacts and is hardly ever done for financial rewards.

If your vision of the future of climbing is a Jiffy Mart on the top of El Cap, you're a member of the wrong group. The Access Fund envisions a climbing climate that is unspoiled and maintainable. Minimum impact practices can help us get there but we also need to speak up. Together we can assure that future generations of climbers also experience a climbing environment full of promise and potential.

— Robb Shurr

TABLE OF CONTENTS

EDITORIAL . . .	P. 2
NATIONAL . . .	P. 3
REGIONAL . . .	P. 4-5
GRASSROOTS . . .	P. 6
CORPORATE UPDATE . . .	P. 10
EVENTS, THANKS YOUS . . .	P. 11
ACCESS FUND AFFILIATES . . .	P. 12

Cover Photos by Pete Cassam (left), Michael Williams (right)

Above: Michael Clark

Access Fund Appeals Unlawful US Forest Service Climbing Ban at Cave Rock, Nevada to the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals

The Access Fund will appeal the ruling made by a federal judge upholding a decision by the US Forest Service (USFS) to ban climbing at Cave Rock. Cave Rock is a multi-use recreational area in Nevada on the shores of Lake Tahoe, and the Access Fund believes the climbing ban violates both the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution and the Administrative Procedure Act.

On December 15, 2003, the Access Fund filed suit in Nevada Federal District Court requesting the court overturn a USFS decision to ban climbing at Cave Rock. On January 28, 2005 a federal judge in Reno, Nevada ruled against the Access Fund's lawsuit. The Access Fund Board of Directors responded on March 15, 2005 by voting to appeal the district court's ruling to the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals. On February 16, 2005 Lake Tahoe Basin Management Unit Forest Supervisor Maribeth Gustafson signed an order to begin implementation of the climbing ban with the posting of signs to inform visitors of the prohibition. The USFS also announced its intent to remove the safety protection bolts found at Cave Rock even if the Access Fund appealed the federal judge's ruling. On March 28, 2005 the Access Fund filed its appeal with the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals on the USFS ban.

According to the forest supervisor's decision, climbing is the only activity to be prohibited while other "compatible" recreational activities such as hiking, fishing, and picnicking will be allowed to continue because these other activities do not conflict with the "feeling and association" of Cave Rock. US Hwy 50, which runs through Cave Rock via a dynamited tunnel, lies just a few feet away from the climbing area. The Access Fund seeks a more balanced decision from the Ninth Circuit Appeals Court that would allow limited climbing at Cave Rock to continue in a way that does not negatively impact traditional Washoe religious practices.

The USFS's Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) declares that Cave Rock "is being damaged by certain uses, including rock climbing." However, the same FEIS determines that the physical effect of climbing on Cave Rock is insignificant. This contradiction reveals that the physical impact of climbing is not the primary issue justifying the closure. Rather, as stated on page 3-19 of the FEIS, it is the mere "presence of rock climbers and their permanently implanted equipment . . . [that] diminishes the setting, feel and association" of Cave Rock.

"The Access Fund has a long and exemplary history of compromise on similar climbing access issues such as Devils Tower in Wyoming, and the Red River Gorge in Kentucky," stated Jason Keith, policy director for the Access Fund. "At both of these areas, land managers have found ways to balance the interests of recreational and cultural user groups." The Access Fund will continue to educate climbers on culturally sensitive climbing issues. For example, the Cave Rock climbing guidebook asks climbers to "Climb and behave in a respectful manner. Cave Rock is an important spiritual site to the Washoe.

Either treat it with respect and reverence or leave." Despite the climbing community's ongoing efforts to create a mutually agreeable solution, the Access Fund is compelled to continue its challenge of the unlawful climbing ban and appeal the district court's ruling. Not doing so could create a legal precedent leading to future unreasonable and unnecessary closures of public lands nationwide. Check out accessfund.org/ for more information.

New Developments In Fight To Save Arizona's Oak Flat!!

The Arizona congressional delegation is about to introduce a land exchange bill into Congress that will lead to the destruction of the Oak Flat bouldering area east of Phoenix. For more background on this issue see accessfund.org/pdf/oakflat2.pdf

The Access Fund recently received a copy of the draft Southeastern Arizona Land Exchange and Conservation Act of 2005 at accessfund.org/pdf/SEALACA_draft_3-05.pdf. The draft bill fails to identify the "replacement climbing areas" promised to the climbing community. This is because they will be located on public land – which we (as the public) already own! Furthermore, the land exchange bill fails to consider the massive environmental destruction that will occur at Oak Flat and environs if this land exchange – and the consequential mining proposal – are allowed to go forward unchallenged. We have to fill our elected officials mailboxes letting them know there is a better approach to this mine.

Although recreation at Oak Flat has been protected from mining by executive order for over 50 years (see accessfund.org/pdf/Purposes-Mining.pdf) these prohibitions could be swept aside by this impending land exchange bill. Your help is urgently needed to preserve the unique climbing opportunities on the public land at Oak Flat. For talking points addressing the bill's many problems, a Congressional letter-writing template, and the addresses of your US Senators and Representatives: accessfund.org/pdf/OakFlat_TalkPoints_3-11-05.pdf

Arizona climbers need your help today. The only way we can save Oak Flat is by demanding that our elected officials consider a more balanced approach in the Southeastern Arizona Land Exchange and Conservation Act of 2005 – take a few minutes and write them today!



Queen Creek Activists, Kirra Kurvink (from the Arizona Mountaineering Club), Dave Rosenstein, Curt Shannon of the FoQC, Jason Keith, and Leslie Brown at Queen Creek in February.

WEST



Ibex, Utah bouldering and climbing threatened

(Report by Nathan Smith, Access Fund Regional Coordinator)

In January 2005, part of the world famous bouldering area known as Ibex came under attack. Located 50 miles outside of Delta Utah, the Ibex area is composed of a mixture of BLM, State of Utah School and Institutional Trust Lands. A Utah mining company has leased a section of land from SITLA in order to mine for silica. This parcel of land contains both bouldering and routes. Representatives from the Access Fund and the Salt Lake Climbers Alliance are working to try to preserve this climbing resource.

Bishop, California Update

(Report by Joe Pollini, Bureau of Land Management Bishop Field Office, CA)

Sad Boulders parking development at the bottom of Chalk Bluff is finishing up. Climbers are starting to realize the change and have begun staging at the new parking area below. The trail is developed to the top, so climbers can access all bouldering areas from the new staging area. Our ultimate goal is to bring the upper road to its 1998 appearance, physical condition, and character. With the compliance of the climbing community and other user groups, we can achieve this goal without closing the road. We will, however, continue to keep the short segment to the archeological site closed. Scott Justham, Jim Jennings, Diana Pietrasanata, Rich Williams, and Jeff Starost, as well as the BLM, Eastern Sierra Climbers Coalition, Inyo County, and DWP deserve credit for making all of this happen.

Black Cliffs, Idaho Update

(Report by Mike Lanza, President, Boise Climbers Alliance)

The Boise Climbers Alliance is pleased to report that we have completed our trail project at the Black Cliffs, popular crags with more than 350 established sport/trad routes just 10 minutes drive from Boise. Volunteers helped reconstruct heavily eroded access trails and built sections of new trail in several areas, installed signage, and repaired damage from erosion. Also, a contractor was hired to install a gate blocking access to a jeep road to the Short Cliff where there were severe erosion problems. A \$3,000 grant from the Access Fund and a \$1,000 grant from The American Alpine Club supported the work. The BCA also recently installed informational signs about voluntary raptor closures. For more info on raptor closures nationwide, visit: accessfund.org/access/index.php/

CENTRAL



New "Throne" at Sam's Throne, Arkansas

A grant was awarded to the Forest Service for the purchase and installation of a CXT vault toilet at Sam's Throne. The Forest Service is in the process of upgrading the area to include a primitive campground and additional day use parking area with informational kiosk.

From the Desk of Terrell Hope, Ozark National Forest Service

As a District Resource Manager, I was excited to hear that our proposal for an Access Fund Grant was funded. I see the grant as the catalyst for the development of Sam's Throne primarily for climbers. The grant is providing an opportunity to leverage additional funds, possibly enough funds to complete the needed development to accommodate the current use of the climbing community. The complete plans consist of 40 designated camping sites, a 40-car parking lot for day use, and toilet facilities. The climbing community has been great. They are energetic and excited about the improvements at Sam's Throne on the Ozark National Forest. This grant, along with volunteers, will enable us to make significant progress at this site.



From the Trenches: Grady Bagwell bivied for the Access Fund and Red River Gorge Climbers Coalition for seven days last summer at the Urban Krag Climbing Gym in Dayton, Ohio. He raised \$1166 for the two organizations during the marathon portaledge campout inside the gym. Grady would return to earth every four hours for bathroom breaks, yet persevered for over 165 hours in this portaledge.



SOUTHEAST



Housing Development Proposed at New River Gorge!

(From the National Parks Conservation Association)

The New River Gorge National River, a world-class white water rafting and rock climbing destination and jewel of our National Park System, is at risk of being developed for luxury houses. Land Resource Companies (LRC), an Atlanta-based developer, is proposing a 2,200-house development on 4,300 acres along ten miles of the canyon rim; 613 acres of this land lies within the Congressionally designated boundary for the park and the rest is directly adjacent. In order to move forward with the current development proposal LRC must get Fayette County, West Virginia to change the zoning of the land from its current designation of “land conservation” to “planned development.”

Jamestown Acquisition Nears Closing

(Report by Brad McLeod, Board Member, Southeastern Climbers Coalition)

The Southeastern Climbers Coalition (SCC) announces that the contract for the 3.14 acre Jamestown climbing tract (1600 feet of cliff-line) was signed by the landowner, March 3, 2005. Jamestown is located in northeast Alabama and is a mile-long sandstone cliff that has been closed since 1993.

The area is now scheduled to re-open in May 2005. The tract is to be purchased for \$19,000, of which a \$1,000 earnest check was submitted as a down payment. Now, the challenge is to raise approximately \$18,000 over the next 60 days and the crag is forever ours. So far, we have raised approximately \$6,800. The Access Fund also awarded a \$5000 grant last fall to assist the purchase.

Access to the tract will be available by accessing land owned by Alabama Power Company (APC). We have obtained a ROW easement and have purchased a 1 million dollar general liability policy to cover the hiking easement. We encourage climbers to join the SCC and help us to raise money for this tract.

Please donate to Jamestown now online at: seclimbers.org/modules.php?name=membership Checks may be mailed to: The SCC 275 Stone Mill Trail NE Atlanta, GA 30328. If you would like to donate funds or have any questions, or would like a copy of the business plan, email Brad McLeod at mbmcleod@mindspring.com

For the complete report, visit seclimbers.org

NORTHEAST



Potential for More Climbing at the Shawangunks

(Report by Chris Moratz, Regional Coordinator—Shawangunks)

Climbers in the Shawangunks are now faced with the opportunity to further expand rock climbing along the Shawangunk Ridge, along the same lines as was done about 10 years ago that led to the opening of Peterskill climbing area. The timing of this issue is related to a coming expansion of Minnewaska State Park (which presently includes the Peterskill climbing area), the details of which are not yet public. The total number of cliffs we would like to include the consideration of future climbing number near a half dozen and include ice climbing. Some of the appropriate “new” cliffs would be very near to Peterskill—expanding the climbing there very significantly—and basically require drafting proposed climbing management plans and doing the research to support those plans for approved by the official executors. Recently, a some new and very enthusiastic volunteers joined to assist the project. What we really need now are two or three more volunteers specific only to access projects that would help us finish our work. Our goal is to finish with the bulk of the work by this fall to have it ready to submit for review and eventual approval with the hope of approval and implementation approximately within the next 2-3 years.

It was also mentioned by the Peterskill management that a volunteer trail maintenance crew would be a very good idea to support climbing there. We plan to organize the Adopt- a-Crag event later this year again at Peterskill. We are told that while TNC and NYNJTC handle trails elsewhere in the park, this does not include Peterskill.

We most need local climbers to inventory and document climbing resources and history, perform biological studies and compile them into a proposal. If interested, email gcc@gunksclimbers.org. We have gotten some very valuable “indirect” contributions to our group recently, for example the free printing of our new Gunks Access Fund brochure including the campground map for the M.U.A. Our rescue fund has grown to over five thousand dollars - a considerable amount with which we plan to buy needed rescue equipment or donate as defrayment for rescue costs this Spring. Many thanks to everyone who has contributed to the cause of Access in the Gunks recently.” For more info, visit gunksclimbers.org/

Access Fund Awards \$43,000 in Climbing Preservation Grants to Support Climber Activism, Land Acquisition, Conservation and Education

The Access Fund awarded \$45,480 in its first round of grant funding for 2005. Awarded three times annually, Climbing Preservation Grants provide financial assistance for local climber activism and protection of the climbing environment. The grants will be distributed for trail improvements, land acquisition, education and assistance for a newly formed local climber organization.

“The Access Fund is committed to preserving the climbing experience for present and future generations,” said Shawn Tierney, Access and Acquisitions Director. “We’re proud to fund these important initiatives on behalf of our members and the entire climbing community.”

The following grants were awarded:

Jamestown, Alabama

The Southeastern Climbers Coalition received a grant to help pay for the purchase of the Jamestown climbing area. The crag, which was on land privately owned, has been closed since the early 1990s. Many of the best climbing areas in Alabama are closed due to private landowner issues.

Sam’s Throne, Arkansas

The Forest Service received a grant to purchase an installation of a CXT vault toilet at Sam’s Throne. The Forest Service is in the process of upgrading the area to include a primitive campground and additional day use parking area with informational kiosk.

French’s Dome, Oregon

The Forest Service received a grant to help pay for a slope stabilization and belay platform construction project at a popular climbing destination near Mt. Hood. Heavy use at this site has resulted in erosion and vegetation loss at the base of the rock and outlying areas. The project will involve the construction of rock retaining walls, a trail on the northeast side of the formation that will direct use, and revegetation in areas that are no longer in the travel zone.

Friends of East Mountain, Massachusetts

The Friends of East Mountain received a grant for a trail kiosk and site map for climbing areas and trails at Great Barrington.

Rocky Mountain Field Institute, Colorado

The Rocky Mountain Field Institute received a grant for the Crestone Needle Restoration Project. The goal of the project

is to preserve Crestone Needle (14,197’) by constructing a sustainable summit route, and restoring badly damaged and heavily eroded areas along the route’s perimeter.

Rodeo Wall, Wyoming

The Forest Service received a grant for trail maintenance and base area improvements at this popular climbing area in the Snake River Canyon south of Jackson. The improvements will mitigate erosion problems and unintentional expansion of the trail.

Las Vegas Climbers Liaison Council (LVLC), Nevada

LVCLC received a start-up and organizational grant is dedicated to ensuring climbing access, encouraging stewardship of the environment, and cultivating a sense of community in a world-class climbing destination. Red Rock Canyon faces ever more threatening issues from encroaching development, increased land use, and access challenges as a result of issues imposed by the federal government.

Blackline Buttress, Montana

The Forest Service for the Blackline Buttress received a grant for trail rehabilitation and a construction project. The targeted trail is 1.5-2 miles long, with roughly 800 feet of elevation gain. The trail needs drainage work, downhill retaining walls, and retreading. The grant will be used for materials, an informational bulletin board, and trail marker signs.

Blackleaf Canyon, Montana

The Teton River Watershed Group received a grant for educational outreach for the Blackleaf Canyon climbing area. Working with the Forest Service, the climbing community is interested in proactively addressing emerging issues at this increasingly popular area. Parking, human waste, grizzly bear food order regulations, and access trails have been identified as key areas of concern.

Dome and Elephant Buttress, Colorado

The Silver Lake Ditch Company received a grant for restoration work at the Dome and Elephant Buttresses. Work will focus on ditch restoration and mitigating erosion caused by foot traffic at this heavily used site near Boulder.

Madrone Wall, Oregon

The Madrone Wall Preservation Committee received a grant for ongoing public outreach work in the effort to protect Madrone Wall. The group is working to reopen the site to public access and lobbying to get the site permanently protected as a park or open space property. Madrone Wall has been closed since 1997.

SPOTLIGHT: Our actions speak louder than words

Each spring the talk around the Nalgene bottle (the climber's version of the water cooler) centers on raptor closures. As a climbing advocate the word closure probably makes you shutter. But wait- raptor closures are part of the seasonal cycle of climbing.

Most places have spring, summer, fall, and winter but many also have raptor season. The weather does not allow us to climb year round and neither do the birds. During raptor season it's necessary to avoid nesting areas so that the little newbie birds have a chance to start life on the right...err...wing.

Adhering to seasonal closures is one way to show land managers we care about of the places we climb. And this directly affects access. This spring think raptor season and don't ruffle any feathers.

Minimizing Fecal Impacts When Camping and Climbing

Many of our favorite climbing areas are bulging at the seams with over-use, yet also have limited toilets facilities to accommodate our "needs." Although we all love places like Indian Creek and Cochise Stronghold, many of our favorite areas are straining from the weight of our "collective waste."

Although the use of catholes (6"-8" deep; 200' from any water, trails or camps; bury or pack out your paper) may work for camping locations that are less frequently traveled, at high use camping areas think about packing out your waste.

Wag Bags and similar human waste disposal products have been used for years on river trips where no toilets are available, and climber-waste works the same as everyone else's. The next time you are planning an overnight climbing trip to an area that lacks toilets, consider either bringing a portable toilet or using Pooh Powder, a revolutionary product that promotes the decay process of human waste. Both products can be purchased from Phillips Environmental Products at thepett.com/ or at your local outdoor shop. Let's protect our favorite climbing/camping areas and take action to minimize our impacts.



Ace Kvale

On extended trips or when camping away from toilets, consider using a portable toilet or Pooh Powder to help conserve your climbing and camping environment.

Editor's Note: Spring is here, the birds are singing and the Access Fund is proud to have a fresh new website and Vertical Times redesign. Below is feedback from AF supporters about these vehicles to support YOUR CLIMBING FUTURE.



I like the new webbie. It's pretty easy to bump through a few pages and get right to the info you want. Colors look sweet too, nice job!!

*Wayne Fuller
Anchorage, Alaska*

The new website is awesome! Such an improvement over the old one. If I need to send any content for our area, I would be happy to do so.

*Kerry Cobb
Flagstaff, AZ*

I just checked out the new website organized by region and state. Congratulations to all for finally getting the organization to a place where it is clearly meaningful to individual climbers and the places they climb.

"All politics is local"--you sent it this time!

*Bob Margulis
(Seattle, Washington)*

Awesome layout. This issue [*Vertical Times* #62] seemed to have more to it. The important part is to get the word out, not just how it looks. Pub still looks good.

*Benjamin Bryan
DelRio, Texas*

I think the format change for the *Vertical Times* is great, especially with the increased amount of content. I do think the cover needs a little color tweaking though.

*Brandon Walton
Boulder, Colorado*

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Vertical Times, April 2005, volume 63.

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 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.
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Vertical Times, the Access Fund's bimonthly print newsletter you are reading, provides news on policy, area reports, events, action alerts, grants, and more. It is a benefit to members and non-members alike. **If you are not a member, please join at accessfund.org.** The AF is now offering this unique publication electronically to decrease printing and mailing costs, thus allocating more funds to protect YOUR CLIMBING FUTURE. If you choose to take part in this effort, and cease shipment of the *Vertical Times* to your home, please E-mail your name and address with "Remove Vertical Times" as the subject to: memberservices@accessfund.org

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This Month's Featured Partner

Editor's Note: Each edition we will highlight a partner that has gone above and beyond in keeping climbing areas open and conserving the climbing environment.

MOUNTAIN GEAR

A corporate partner since 1995, Mountain Gear works hard on the Access Fund's behalf. Getting people involved in the outdoors is one part business and two parts passion for Mountain Gear's chief Paul Fish.

Mountain Gear touches millions of climbers with a retail storefront in Spokane, WA, a thriving national catalog, and an online store. Fish takes this responsibility very seriously and knows that in order to have places to play for future generations the community must be strong now.

Rain and wind didn't come close to dampening the spirits of the climbing community March 18th-20th at the second annual Red Rock Rendezvous in Red Rocks, NV. Mountain Gear organized the three day event with over 400 attendees from all over the world climbing together, as a community, in the middle of the desert.

Festival-goers had the option of participating in two half-day clinics, which were taught by over 30 of the top names in climbing. Access Fund ambassadors Conrad Anker, Tommy Caldwell, Malcolm Daly, Jim Donini, Jared Ogden, Beth Rodden, Mark Synnott, and Jack Tackle were just some of the instructors teaching skills from "leading for the chicken-hearted" to "climbing like a girl".

Proceeds from the Red Rock Rendezvous benefited the Access Fund and we thank Mountain Gear for putting on a world-class event. For Paul Fish the event's success is simple to gauge and it has nothing to do with money or overall attendance. When he found out that some of the attendees came from North Carolina to learn how to climb, Fish grinned ear to ear and announced the event a success. Here's to Mountain Gear for doing their part for the climbing community!

For more on Mountain Gear and the Red Rock Rendezvous check out mgear.com/rrr/

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URBAN CLIMBER MAGAZINE — 2004

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Bearing Images — 2000
ClimbingBoulder.com — 2001
Eagle Creek — 2005
Excalibur DMM/Wild Country/Red Chili USA — 1995
Extreme Engineering — 2004
Five Ten — 2004
Flannel Design — 2001
GearExpress.com — 2003
Higher Ground Roasters — 2003
Julbo — 2005
JustRopes.com — 2004
Kind Coffee — 2003
Kristin Carpenter Public Relations — 2003
Matrosch Inc.- AustriAlpinUSA — 2005
Moonstone Mountain Equipment — 2003
Mountain Madness — 2000
Mountain Tools — 1991
Mountaineers Books — 1992
Mountainsmith — 2003
NEice.com — 2005
Nicros — 1997
Osprey — 2003
Outland Mountain Shop — 2003
Pacific Edge Climbing Gym — 1995
PMI — 1991
Real Cheap Sports — 2003
Royal Robbins — 1992
Saltic Climbing/Trekking — 2003
Sickle Climbing — 2001
Stone Age Climbing — 1997
Schwartz Communications, Inc. — 2003
Tom K. Michael, D.D.S., P.S. — 2000
Travel Country Outdoors — 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
Integrity 7 Productions — 2004
Michael Clark Photography — 2004
Ousley Creative — 2001
Patitucci Photo — 2003
Second Chance Films — 2004
Sharpnd Publishing — 2004
She Sends — 2004
SNEWS — 2002

Thanks

Donate Your Old Car to the AF!

Thanks for helping out at Access Fund Headquarters:

Chris Parks, Dave Gentry, and Dave Goldstein (office volunteer work), Sergio Ballivian (sergiophoto.com) for Photoshop tutoring, and Will Mouat (outstanding legal eagle research).

Thanks for going above and beyond:

Paul Diefendorfer for hosting the Oak Flat climbers meeting at his Phoenix Rock Gym.

Brian Rhodes for a successful fundraiser, membership drive, and clean-up at Garden of the Gods, CO.

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 the amount of sale. The website has more information on tax deductions and FAQs (frequently asked questions). The web address is: v-dac.com/org/?id=943131165/

Master Trail Builder and Former Access Fund Board Member, Jim Angell, Dies

EVENTS

Check out the latest Access Fund affiliated events

<http://www.accessfund.org/events/events.php>

To streamline the events process, the AF has created a new page on the website under the EVENTS tab where interested people or groups can complete a webform for their event. If your event qualifies, membership materials and goodies may be sent additionally. All events the AF is involved with will be included on the event schedule. The deadline for event registration is one month prior to event. To register an event, visit: <http://www.accessfund.org/events/index.php/>

5/7 Smith Rock "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 to preserve your climbing future. For more info, smithrock.com/ or bm41@bendnet.com

5/20-22 New River Rendezvous

The Rendezvous is a fun, friendly, down-home three day celebration of climbers, climbing and the New River Gorge. Enjoy free camping on the rim of the Gorge courtesy of the National Park Service. Gather with friends, relax, compete, play, laugh and climb here in the laid back atmosphere of southern West Virginia, America's best kept secret! For more information, visit waterstoneoutdoors.com/

5/28—5/30 Acadia National Park, Bar Harbor, ME. Acadia Climbing Festival, nerock.com/

7/07—7/10 Lander, WY. International Climbers Fest, climbersfestival.org/

Master trail builder Jim Angell passed away at the end of February. He was 76. Jim was President of Corplan, Inc. and provided trail design and construction expertise for more than twenty years for many state and federal land agencies in the U.S. Jim was an original Board member of the Access Fund, and provided more than a decade of service for the AF at climbing areas across the country. That work alone was significantly responsible for turning the tide in the early 1990's as land managers threatened to close area after area due to environmental impacts from climbing's exploding popularity.

Remembrance from Marion Hutchison, who worked with Jim on numerous trail projects in Oklahoma:

"Jim was critically opinionated and sometimes difficult to work with, but he knew what he was doing and he did it very well. But he was also a kind, generous and sensitive man. I remember him buying beers for more than thirty volunteers at the Old Plantation after a hard day of trail work in the Narrows and raising a cheer to their efforts. And, I remember walking back to the parking lot at Quartz to meet him for lunch after a difficult morning of brush clearing to find him in his pick-up listening to Mozart, eating smoked salmon, and drinking a Guinness. He was without question one-of-a-kind.

Thanks Jim, for everything that you did for us at the Refuge and Quartz. May your spirit live on along those trails and in the hearts of all of those who worked beside you."

All who knew Jim will dearly miss his spirit, fondness for climbers and great enthusiasm for the crags.



Jim Angell



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 level. LCOs are the liaison between the climbing community and their local land managers and land owners. Affiliates are LCOs who have joined the Access Fund Affiliate Program. If you are an LCO listed below and not an Access Fund Affiliate, please contact Deanne Buck, grassroots coordinator, at 303-545-6772 x112 or deanne@accessfund.org.

Alabama

Southeastern Climbers Coalition*

Arizona

Arizona Mountaineering Club
Friends of Queen Creek*
Northern Arizona Climbers Coalition*
Prescott Climbers' Coalition*
Tucson Climbers Association*

Arkansas

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*

Canada

Climbers Access Society of British Columbia*

Colorado

Action Committee for Eldorado*
Colorado Springs Climbers Coalition*
Flatirons Climbing Council*

Northern Colorado Climbers'

Coalition
Connecticut
Ragged Mountain Foundation*
Georgia
Southeastern Climbers Coalition*

Idaho

Kootenai Climbers*
Boise Climbers Alliance*

Illinois

Illinois Climbers Association

Iowa

Eastern Iowa Climbers Coalition*

Kentucky

Red River Gorge Climbers Coalition*
Southeastern Climbers Coalition*

Massachusetts

Appalachian Mountain Club – Boston Chapter*
Western Massachusetts Climbers Coalition*

Michigan

Grand Ledges Climbers Coalition

Missouri

Climbers Alliance of Mid-Missouri*

Minnesota

Minnesota Climbers Association*

Nevada

Las Vegas Climbers Liaison Council*

New Mexico

CRAG-New Mexico*

New Jersey

Access NJ*

New York

Gunks Climbers Coalition*

North and South Carolina

Boone Climber's Coalition*
Carolina Climbers Coalition*
Pisgah Climbers Association*
Southeastern Climbers Coalition*

Ohio

Ohio Climbers Association*

Oklahoma

Wichita Mountains Climbers Coalition*

Oregon

AAC - Oregon Section, Access Committee*
Mazamas
Oregon Climbers Coalition*
Smith Rock Group

Pennsylvania

Lancaster Climbing Club - Access Project*
Pennsylvania Alliance of Climbers*

South Dakota

Black Hills Climbers Coalition*

Tennessee

Southeastern Climbers Coalition*

Texas

Central Texas Mountaineers*
Climbers of Hueco Tanks*
Texas Mountaineers

Utah

Salt Lake Climbers Alliance*

Vermont

CRAG-VT*

Washington

Washington Climbers Coalition*

West Virginia

Cooper's Rock Regional Climbers Coalition*
New River Alliance of Climbers*
Southeastern Climbers Coalition*

Wisconsin

Wisconsin Outdoor Access*