

Vertical Times

JUNE 2003

#52



your climbing future

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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 cliff-dwelling plants. For more information, please **contact us**:

www.accessfund.org
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Vertical Times is the membership newsletter of the Access Fund published six times a year in February, April, June, August, October, and December. Authorizing organization: The Access Fund, 2475 Broadway, Boulder, CO 80304.

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Editorial Director: John Heisel
Editors: Kate Cavicchio, Kerry Cowan,
and Steve Matous

Cover: Board Member and Access Fund Ambassador Tommy Caldwell boulders in Utah. The AF recently introduced the Athlete Ambassadors and Rockstars team. See page 15 for more information.

Photo courtesy of Dan Patitucci.

Note from Steve Matous, Executive Director

Our world is unsettled. The economy is struggling, and Americans are risking their lives in conflict. At times like this, we tend to question the way we live, and whether our lifestyles have relevance in the global arena. Through several emails, American service men and women have shared their opinions about the Access Fund's work and expressed consistent support. "As a member of the nation's only organization committed to nationwide access preservation, I applaud you for all the work you do to preserve our climbing resources," said Army Captain Jason Nicholson, stationed in Afghanistan.

To make a difference globally, we must act locally. For climbers, this means commitment to self-regulation and local activism, and developing strong partnerships for the management of the lands we use.

Many of these partnerships are created through our grants program, which has provided over one million dollars since 1990 for campgrounds, trail building and reconstruction, waste facilities, and other essential services. Our Adopt-a-Crag program unites our support for grassroots activism with stewardship and enhances relationships between climbers and land managers.

In these uncertain times, we must continue our work to protect *your climbing future*. We need your help to make a difference and keep your climbing areas open.

Just Send It!

Steve Matous

**Access Fund Awards
\$17,000 in Climbing
Preservation Grants to
Support Climber
Activism, Conservation,
and Education**

The Access Fund awarded \$17,000 in its first round of grant funding for 2003. Awarded three times annually, Climbing

Preservation Grants offer financial assistance for local climber activism and protection of the climbing environment. The grants will provide trail improvements, education, and campground maintenance.

"The Access Fund is committed to preserving the climbing experience for present and future generations," said Shawn Tierney, access and acquisitions director. "To put this commitment into action, we allocate approximately 15% of our annual budget to grants. In 2002, we spent over \$120,000 on grants. We're proud to fund these important initiatives on behalf of our members and the entire climbing community."

The following grants were awarded:

- **The Rocky Mountain Field Institute (RMFI)** received \$4,500 for trail building and



Jason Keith, policy director, speaks to students from Colorado College prior to trail work at Bridger Jack Butte, Indian Creek. The AF granted the Rocky Mountain Field Institute \$4500 for the project.

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erosion control work on the Bridger Jack trail at Indian Creek, Utah. While considerable progress has been made in recent years, the mitigation of impacts to the fragile desert landscape continues to be a critical need at Indian Creek Canyon. RMFI has received generous Access Fund support for Indian Creek projects during the past 5 years.

• **The Appalachian Mountain Club (AMC)** received \$4,000 for trail reconstruction work at Square Ledge, a popular and heavily used climbing site in the White Mountain National Forest. Square Ledge stands above the AMC's Pinkham Notch Visitor Center, which receives 200,000 visitors annually. Over 12,000 hikers and climbers use the Square Ledge trail, and overuse of this area has caused extensive erosion and safety concerns.

• **The Bureau of Land Management Bishop Field Office** received \$5,000 to assist with campground maintenance and resource protection on the Volcanic Tablelands. This area includes the Happy and Sad Boulders and the Pleasant Valley Campground around Bishop. The Access Fund provided a \$9,750 grant to the BLM in 2002, which was directed towards a number of projects, including: campground management, education, outreach, and cultural resource surveys. These projects will reduce impacts on the Tablelands while supporting climbing access.

• **The Flatirons Climbing Council (FCC)**, a grassroots climber's organization received \$2500. The group represents climbers' interests in the Flatirons, and will work closely with the City of Boulder Open Space and Mountain Parks Department to address stewardship and climbing management issues. See page 7 for news about the FCC's "pilot" program for fixed anchors in the Flatirons.

• **The Northern Arizona Climbers Coalition**, a grassroots climbers' group, received \$1000 to organize and carry out trail and restoration efforts at Le Petit Verdon (aka "The Pit,"), a popular and heavily used climbing area near Flagstaff.

Policy Update

Access Fund Relocates CLIMBERS FOR POLITICAL ACTION to Capitol Hill

The Access Fund has moved the Climbers for Political Action (CPA) event to Capitol Hill. We initially planned to hold the event at Great Falls Park, but because May 15 is a voting day, we changed the venue to better accommodate congressional leaders.

WHO: The Access Fund, U.S. Congressional members and staff, federal land agency officials and their staff, local climbing organizations, local climbers, environmental groups, local and national media, support staff and volunteers
WHEN: Thursday May 15, 2003 from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.

WHERE: In the Congressional Room at The Holiday Inn on the Hill just a few blocks from the Capitol at 415 New Jersey Avenue NW. Phone: (202)-638-1616.

WHY: CPA is intended to improve the connections between climbers and government, and galvanize climber activism in support of legislation and regulatory initiatives that benefit climbing in the United States. The event will provide a forum for legislators and agency officials to speak on public lands policy, and for agency officials to illustrate their land management goals. Also, it will give climbers and environmentalists an opportunity to respond to these initiatives.

HOW: We are scheduling brief remarks by Congressional members and agency officials between approximately 1:30 and 3:30 p.m. Speakers will brief the audience on their public land management policies. Also, the event will touch on the benefits of public-private partnerships on public lands.

Representative Mark Udall (D-CO) is the keynote speaker. Mark Rey, Department of Agriculture undersecretary for Natural Resources and the Environment, is also scheduled to speak. Several additional Congressional members and agency officials have indicated that they will be available to present remarks concerning their public lands management policies.

For more information visit www.accessfund.org/programs/pr.html.



**Access Fund Land
Donation Helps Create
Natural Area at Quartz
Mountain, Oklahoma**

In March, the Quartz Mountain Arts & Conference Center and Nature Park announced the newest addition of private land to its recently designated Baldy Point Natural Area in Southwest Oklahoma. The 60-acre property, known for high quality granite bouldering, was purchased by the Access Fund and donated to the State of Oklahoma for preservation and management.

This is the latest in a series of land transfers managed by the Access Fund. "Our goal is to put climbing resources such as Baldy Point into safe hands," said Shawn Tierney, director of acquisitions for the Access Fund. "We want to ensure that these pristine areas will never be commercially developed, and will always be accessible to climbers."

The Baldy Point donation is one of several long-term projects being championed by the Access Fund. These acquisitions typically take years of planning and negotiations with landowners, the Park Service,

and local volunteers. "This is the final piece of a four-year effort," noted Tierney. "It would not have been possible without the cooperation of all parties involved, and the dedication of Access Fund Regional Coordinator, Marion Hutchison."

Prior to the Access Fund's involvement, the Baldy Point park was privately owned by Dr. Suzy Spradlin of Oakland, California, who inherited the land. In 1999 Spradlin began working with the Access Fund to save the pristine area. She sold the first 60-acre parcel of land—known as Baldy Point—to the Access Fund in 2001. The Access Fund in turn transferred the popular rock climbing area to the state of Oklahoma. "This is one of the most magnificent natural areas in Oklahoma," said Steve Kemp, Chief Park Ranger. "We're excited about protecting this valuable resource and providing the public with some very unique outdoor experiences." Terry Mosley, Executive Director of the facility, added his thanks to the Access Fund and the original landowner. "We're certainly very appreciative of the contributions made by the Access Fund and Dr. Spradlin to the future of this park," he remarked. "Thanks to their generosity and vision, many new recreational and educational opportunities will be available for our guests."

•*AREA REPORTS continued on next page*



The Access Fund recently helped create the Baldy Point Natural Area, a 60-acre parcel with high quality bouldering on excellent granite in wooded areas. The property is close to Baldy Point (pictured above) , which the AF acquired in 2001 and donated to the State of Oklahoma.

SOUTHEAST Obed News

(Submitted by Frank Harvey, Access Fund regional coordinator)



Big South Fork General Management Plan

The new draft management plan for the Big South Fork (BSF), can be accessed and reviewed at www.nps.gov/biso/index.htm. The draft acknowledges climbing as a legitimate user activity. The current ban on establishment of bolted routes will continue until the climbing management plan for the BSF is established. Comment deadline is May 15th. Questions should be addressed to Chris Stubbs at 423-569-2404 ext. 231. Email comments to biso_superintendent@nps.gov or by mail to Superintendent, Big South Fork NRRRA, 4564 Leatherwood Road, Oneida, TN 37841.

Obed workday – May 17 is the national river clean-up day.

Obed Rebolting – Kris Stoehr (Obed unit manager) is ready to help climbers with an application for rebolting of Obid routes. The Southeastern Climbers Coalition will fund this work, yet input is needed regarding names and details of what needs to be rebolted. Email this information to faharvey2@earthlink.net.

WEST Mystery Towers For Sale, Utah



SITLA (Utah State Institutional Trust Lands Administration) is selling a state school trust lands parcel containing the dramatic Mystery Towers near the Fisher Towers. SITLA, who is also selling off a parcel containing the traditional climbers' campground at the base of Castleton Tower (see www.castlerockcollaboration.org), is now assessing the market for the Mystery Towers. The Mystery Towers—massive rocks comprised of wildly eroded Cutler Sandstone with a Moenkopi caprock—are infamous in the history of American climbing history because of their unique, challenging, and often terrifying character. Colorado climbers George Hurley and Bill Forrest were some of the first climbers to ascend the principal summits in the Mystery Towers group—The Citadel,

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Beyond the Fisher Towers lie the Mystery Towers, famous sandstone towers located on Utah state trust land that is for sale. The Nature Conservancy's efforts to purchase this parcel may ensure that existing land in this area is protected and climbing access is maintained.

Gothic Nightmare, and Doric Column in the late sixties. Despite the dirty and scary nature of the routes, these towers continue to be climbed due to their distinctive rock type, style of climbing, and isolated location. This combination of bizarre and committing climbing (at a very high technical standard) with remoteness and difficulty of approach (a virtual canyoneering expedition in its own right) make the Mystery Towers absolutely exceptional and an American climbing treasure that should be protected. The Mystery Towers could be sold to a private party, thus restricting climbing access. This spring The Nature Conservancy made a bid on the "Onion Hill" parcel, and the Access Fund rallied the climbing community to support their efforts and help ensure continued access. At press time, the fate of the towers remained—a mystery...

City of Boulder Agrees to Fixed Hardware Pilot Program in the Flatirons, CO

The City of Boulder Open Space and Mountain Parks Department (OSMP), in a "Memorandum of Understanding" signed on February 6, 2003, agreed to a "pilot" program for the placement of new fixed anchors in the Flatirons. The pilot program, developed by the Flatirons Climbing Council (FCC) establishes a permit process that allows the climbing community to comment on proposed routes that require fixed gear, and is similar to the fixed hardware review process in Eldorado Canyon, Colorado. The pilot program will be in effect at Dinosaur Mountain for two years, then evaluated for its effectiveness.

The FCC will administer the permit process through a Fixed Hardware Review Committee (FHRC) and will serve in an advisory capacity only. OSMP will make the final determination as to whether proposed routes are allowed. The permit process operates under the guiding princi-

•*AREA REPORTS continued on next page*

VERTICAL TIMES NEWSLETTER NOW ONLINE

"Vertical Times," the Access Fund's bimonthly print newsletter, provides up-to-date 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 www.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 email your name/address to cindy@accessfund.org with "Remove Vertical Times" as the subject.

Presently, over 300 members have chosen our online option — a savings to the Access Fund of \$900 per year to be utilized in protecting YOUR CLIMBING FUTURE.

To view back issues of Vertical Times as PDF files, please visit:
www.accessfund.org/vertical_times

ple that actions, which affect all climbers, should not be taken without input and consensus from the community.

The Flatirons Climbing Council is a non-profit 501 (c) 3 organization formed as a collaborative effort between the Access Fund, American Alpine Club, Colorado Mountain Club, and the Action Committee for Eldorado to protect and preserve the diverse climbing resources of the Flatirons.

The Boise Climbers Alliance Announces Raptor Closures

The Boise Climbers Alliance (BCA), with the support of the Idaho Department of Fish and Game, has once again posted buffer-zone signs at the Black Cliffs, in historical nesting areas for raptors, including prairie falcons and golden eagles. The BCA asks that climbers voluntarily avoid routes in the vicinity of the buffer-zone while the signs are posted. There are also signs at the Black Cliffs trailheads explaining the raptor-protection plan.

For more information visit <http://boiseclimbs.com>.

The Access Fund Announces New Website Resources

Local Climbing Organization page

with a list of 25+ LCO's and links to their websites (linked from Regional Coordinator Page):

www.accessfund.org/whoweare/who_lco.html

Administrative Comments page

with links to Access Fund letters to land managers, politicians etc. (linked from "Who We Are" page):

www.accessfund.org/whoweare/comments.html

Press Releases linked from home page:

www.accessfund.org

Mayford Peery Donates \$10,000 to Access Fund for the Golden Cliffs Preserve, CO

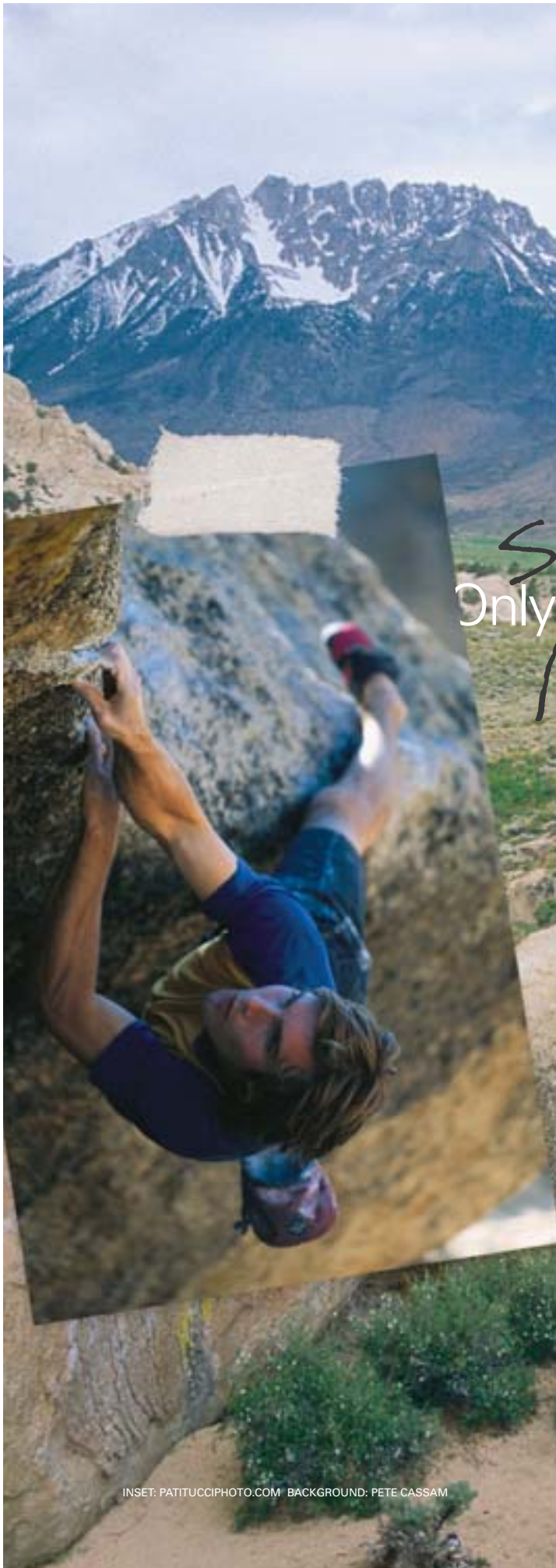
In March, long time Access Fund supporter Mayford Peery of Golden, Colorado, forgave the final \$10,000 payment due on a loan made to the Access Fund. In 1999 Peery loaned \$75,000 to the AF to expedite construction of the \$110,000 trail head facilities at the Golden Cliffs Preserve. Since then, the AF has paid \$55,000 toward the principal amount of the loan, and was prepared each of the

past two years to make the payments according to the loan agreement. However, in 2002 and again in March of this year, Peery elected to forgive the \$10,000 payments due, essentially donating a total of \$20,000 to the Access Fund over the past two years. Mayford Peery has been the most prolific donor in the Access Fund's 13-year history. In 1995, he donated the 28-acre Golden Cliffs Preserve, which at that time was appraised at nearly \$450,000. By extending the \$75,000 loan for construction of the trail head facilities, he enabled the Access Fund to "officially" open the area for public access. The Golden Cliffs Preserve, according to Access Fund estimates, sees more than 30,000 climber visits annually, making it one of the most popular crags in Colorado's Front Range.

"Mayford Peery's philanthropy is one of the great stories in the preservation of American climbing areas," said Rick Thompson, president of the Access Fund Land Foundation. "We hope his remarkable generosity will serve to inspire others, and we extend our deepest gratitude to Mayford for all he has done for climbing. Bravo!"



Mayford Peery at the Golden Cliffs Preserve



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Meet the Access Fund

INTERVIEW WITH PAUL MINAULT, REGIONAL COORDINATOR —
by John Heisel, Publications Director

JH: How long have you been climbing?

PM: 20 years.

JH: What type of climbing do you prefer?

PM: Trad climbing and long rock routes. I like to go up, get off the ground and explore. I don't like walking between short routes. It's a waste of time. I also like doing new routes or at least routes I haven't done before.

JH: How long have you been a Regional Coordinator?

PM: Since the AF began. I was a founding member.

JH: Why did you become an RC?

PM: Climbing is the world's best sport, and we can't have people jerking us around with it.

JH: What climbing areas do you represent as a Regional Coordinator?

PM: Climbing in the Sierra Nevada, Pinnacles National Monument, Mt. Shasta, Yosemite, Lover's Leap, Donner Summit, Mt. Whitney, Sierra Crest, and Lake Tahoe.

JH: What do you do for a living?

PM: I am a lawyer in Mill Valley, San Francisco, who works on land use and environmental law. I deal a lot with federal, state, and local agencies.

JH: What can people do to help climbing access in their area?

PM: Most important is for people to find one area they can bond with and feel own-

ership for then do whatever they can at that area. The problem is that in areas that apathy flourishes in areas that are rich with climbing resources.

JH: What are a few of the issues you've worked on over the years?

PM: The Twin sisters lawsuit, Arkansas Red River Gorge, Camp 4 preservation, the building of a campground at Lover's Leap, the climbers' access trail projects at Sunnyside Jam crack near Yosemite falls, and planning efforts at Yosemite to name a few. Also, I worked on the fixed anchors issue and prepared the climbing management plan for Yosemite National Park.

JH: How many hours on average do you volunteer for the AF annually?

PM: Less now, but probably a couple hundred hours presently.

JH: How can individuals get involved to help climbing access in your region in Northern California?

PM: Say, "I am a chief" and set up projects to maintain trails, replace bolts, and pick up trash and advocate with land managers and landowners.

JH: Why should climbers join the AF?

PM: They should feel responsibility to give back to the resources and the sport. By joining the AF, you acknowledge all the people before you who have worked for climbing access.

JH: Any last thoughts or comments?

PM: I'm a historian by training. I often look at a route and wonder if people are going to be climbing it in 200 years, and if so what will the holds be like? I'm 57 years old, and don't want to take too many more 100 foot falls like I took last year! I also wonder if climbing will disappear as people become interested in other things...



Paul Minault savors the summit during a circumambulation of El Capitan in Yosemite Valley, CA.

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Letters

ENVIRONMENTAL ECONOMICS —

On rockclimbing.com, a thread entitled "Bishop Locals Rule" said, "We made a mad dash to Bishop this weekend — hit the Happys and the Buttermilks on Friday and the Sads on Saturday. We were amazed at how clean the areas were, how well kept the trails were, and how nice the locals were. Serious props to Bishop climbers who keep their areas beautiful! Thanks."

There's no finer praise then being mentioned in dispatches. It's a credit to the Bishop climbing community, the Access Fund, and local land management agencies that stewardship in Bishop is being praised, written and talked about by climbers.

This successful access lesson is well documented at many climbing areas across America. Intimate relations with local land managers, the guidance of the Access Fund, the involvement of local climbing businesses and energetic local activism. In the Bishop case, the local climbers were, from the outset and before the crowds arrived, very aware of trying to avoid a "Hueco Tanks scenario."

Climber impact has stabilized at the Bishop climbing areas despite rising numbers of visitors. With the lessons learned, an interagency group is now involved in a dialogue to draw up a climbing management plan (not just for bouldering) for the whole of the Eastern Sierra climbing region. Local land managers appear happy, make positive noises and access is generally unfettered. Of course laurels are not being rested on and access work of course is always ongoing.

These rising numbers of climbers visiting Bishop have had another very important effect that I believe is also tied in with safeguarding access.

With increasing numbers, climbers are making a significant positive impact on the local economy. The perception that all climbers live in the dirt on a paupers stipend is being dispelled (OK some of us do operate on a shoestring budget). Local businesses are recognizing the purchasing power of climbers and are racking their brains (and asking local climbers) as to what services they can provide for this

year-round onslaught of people. This realization was helped along last October when the Petzl Roc Trip came to town. This climbing festival featuring elite climbers attracted over 600 climbers. Petzl took over a whole hotel, restaurants were full, and coffee shops were buzzing. In addition, Petzl raised \$8,000 for the Access Fund and worked closely with the Forest Service and the BLM to organize the event.

Last November, local climbers organized the first Eastern Sierra Mountain Fest which attracted a healthy crowd. Each March, Bishop hosts the Banff Mountain Film Festival. Also, at Mill Creek Station, climber Roger Derryberry organizes a regular outdoor music festival whose patrons are mainly climbers. Events like these make a big difference to Bishop.

When climbers are seen as responsible users and guardians of the local environment and are making a significant contribution to their local economy it helps access to the crags and boulders. In many climbing towns, the land managers and local business leaders are the decision-makers. It's important to keep both happy. One edge of the access sword is responsible stewardship of the land, which reduces our impact. The other edge is the purchasing power of climbers that increases the bottom line of local businesses, creates employment, and increases revenue.

*Mick Ryan
Bishop, CA*



"Happy Trails" abound in Bishop thanks to efforts from local climbers, the BLM, and \$9,750 in grants from the Access Fund.

Access Fund Summit Club

These members gave \$250+ to the Access Fund between 12/7/02 and 3/31/03.

Drew Allan	Jeffrey Hamblin	Chris Parks
Edmund Andrews	Peter Harvey	Parmelee Foundation, Inc.
Emmy Andrews	Eric Haszakiewicz	Gary Pate
Jason Appelstein	Lisa Martin & Eric Hennings	Thomas Patterson
Larry Arthur	Joseph Hettinger	Mayford Peery
Jon Banks	Duncan Highsmith	Rockie Pennington
Thomas Beehler	Scot Hillman	Lisa Foss & Robert Price
Dina Boon & Jim Bennett	Bert Honea	David Rikert
David Benson	Robert & Ellen Hostetler	Mrs. Richard Ringoen
Dan Bereck	Harold Hunt	Peggy Sayer
Bill Berkley	Willie Hunt	Mark Schambra
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George Carr Jr. & Amy Derbyshire	Wayne Lashley	Barry Sullivan
Steve & Amy DeWeese	James Lasseter	Todd & Donette Swain
Ed Diffendal	John Lee	John Taladay
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Stephen Dodson	Sam Lightner, Jr	Ajax Greene & Lillian Thiemann
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Patty Faust	Mikko Mannisto	Kevin Wagner
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Charlotte Fox	Steve Matous	Christopher Walker
Frank Galey	Thomas & Sarah Matthews	Chris Wegener
James Garrett	Jim Mattson, Jr	Erik Weihenmayer
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Christopher Greyell	Armando Menocal	Rick & Pam Winberg
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Robert Hall	Brad Mushovic	
	Wally Naylor	
	Lori Nixon	
	Dan Nordstrom	
	David Osborn	

Access Fund Corporate Partners

Initiated in 1991, this program consists of over 95 businesses dedicated to preserving America's diverse climbing resources. After each company's name appears the year it became a corporate partner. Please support these companies, which support **YOUR CLIMBING FUTURE.**

Featured Partner—REI: "REI is a proud and long-time supporter of the Access Fund because of the balanced, strategic and collaborative approach they take. Combining stewardship and conservation programs is beneficial for all of us who enjoy outdoor recreation."

—Dennis Madsen, REI President and CEO

DIAMOND-\$20,000+

Black Diamond Equipment/
Bibler-Scarpa – 1991
Climbing – 1991
Galyan's – 1999
REI – 1991
Rock & Ice – 1993

PLATINUM-\$10,000+

CLIF Bar – 1995
Nike ACG – 2002
Petzl/Charlet Moser – 1992
prAna – 1995
The North Face – 1995

GOLD PLUS-\$7,500+

Cascade Designs/ Therm-a-Rest – 1995
W.L. Gore – 1991

GOLD-\$5,000+

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

SILVER-\$2,500+

BlueWater – 1992
Boulder Rock Club – 1996
Dana Design – 2003
EMS – 2002
FalconGuides – 1998
Gregory Mountain Products – 1993
Metolius – 1991
Misty Mountain Threadworks – 1994
Mountain Gear – 1995
Mountain Hardwear – 1996
New Belgium Brewing Co. – 2000
Outpost Wilderness Adventure – 2001
Salomon – 2003
Sterling Rope – 1994
Touchstone Climbing Inc. – 2002
Vasque – 2003

MAJOR-\$1,000+

American Bouldering Series – 2000
Arc'teryx – 1998
Asolo – 2003
Cloudveil Mountain Works – 1998
Crazy Creek Products – 1992
Jagged Edge Mountain Gear – 2000
Lowe Alpine Systems – 1991
Marmot – 1999

Outdoor Research – 1999

Phoenix Rock Gym – 1997
PMI – 1991

Pusher/Cordless/S7 – 1998

Redpoint, Inc. – 2000

Shoreline Mountain Products – 2001

Sports Basement – 2003

Torrent Falls Bed & Breakfast – 2002

Yates Gear – 1993

CONTRIBUTING-\$500+

Advanced Base Camp – 1992

Alpine Ascents International – 1998

All Terrain – 2003

Anker Climbing Equipment - 2003

Avery Brewing Company – 1998

Bearing Images – 2000

ClimbingBoulder.com – 2001

Excalibur DMM/Wild Country/
Red Chili USA – 1995

Flannel Design – 2001

Montrail – 2002

Moonstone – 2003

Mountaineers Books – 1992

Mountain Madness – 2000

Mountainsmith – 2003

Mountain Tools – 1991

Nicros – 1997

Osprey – 2003

Outland Mountain Shop – 2003

Pacific Edge Climbing Gym – 2003

Phoenix Bouldering Comp – 1997

Real Cheap Sports – 2003

Royal Robbins – 1992

Saltic Climbing/Trekking – 2003

Schwartz Communications, Inc. – 2003

Sickle Climbing – 2001

Stone Age Climbing – 1997

TirelessTrekker.com – 2002

Tom K. Michael, D.D.S., P.S. – 2000

Travel Country Outdoors – 2002

Ultimate Ascents International – 2003

Verve – 1996

VooDoo Holds – 2001

MEDIA PARTNERS

Alpinist - 2003

Berger & Associates – 2003

Blue – 1997

Blue Ridge Outdoors Magazine – 1997

Coreyography – 2002

Dan Bailey Photography – 2002

Ousley Creative – 2001

Outside Magazine – 2002

Patitucci Photo – 2003

Vbouldering – 2001

Event Beta

5/3 Twin Falls, ID - Clean Up Dierkes Lake - River at Whitewater Toys (208) 735-8692

5/3 Atlanta, GA - 7th Annual Rocktown Trail Days - Challenge Rock Climbing School (404) 237-4021

5/10 San Rafael, CA - St. Helena Clean Up - Marin Outdoors and the RIM Club (707) 765-4512

5/10 Santa Clara, CA - Cranko de Mayo - Planet Granite (408) 727-2777

5/16 Fayetteville, WV - New River Gorge Climbers' Rendezvous - Water Stone Outdoors (304) 574-2425

5/24 Bar Harbor, ME - 2nd Annual Acadia Climbing Festival - Atlantic Climbing School (207) 288-2521

6/14 Sebastopol, CA - RIM Club Conrad Anker slide show (707)-824-0543

7/10-13 Lander, WY - International Climbers' Festival (307) 332-4541

For current events, please visit:
www.accessfund.org/events/events_events.html

Thanks

The Access Fund extends its gratitude to the following businesses, organizations, and individuals who have helped impart the Access Fund's message at events around the country:

- Harrison Hood and Ice Festival
- the R.I.M. Club
- Pipe Works
- Rocknasium in Adventure's Edge
- Davis, CA –special thanks to Jan
- Jesse Brown's Nomad Ventures
- Outdoors
- Jeremy at the
- Hans and Jacqueline Aspen Recreation
- Florine Center
- Stone Age Gym in Texas Tech
- Albuquerque University
- Taos Mountain Climbmax
- Outfitters
- The Mountaineer
- Sangre De Cristo in Keene Valley
- Mountain Works
- Rockreation Sport
- Down Wind Sports Climbing Centers
- and everyone
- Kurt and Elaina
- involved at Munising Smith

The Access Fund Introduces Athlete Ambassadors and RockStars

The Access Fund is proud to present the Athlete Ambassador Team and RockStars on its website. The Athlete Ambassadors and RockStars are professional climbers who publicly represent the Access Fund and impart its mission of keeping climbing areas open and conserving the climbing environment. The Team page will feature the names of Athlete Ambassadors and RockStars, with links to each climber's photo, biography, list of sponsors, and testimonial heralding why he or she supports the Access Fund.

Athlete Ambassadors include: Conrad Anker, Elaina Arenz-Smith, Tommy Caldwell, Kelly Cordes, Malcolm Daly, Jim Donini, Hans Florine, Charlotte Fox, Lynn Hill, Randy Leavitt, Mike Libecki, Scott Milton, Jared Ogden, Timmy O'Neil, Lisa Rands, Beth Rodden, Kurt Smith, Mark Synott, Jack Tackle, Pete Takeda and Robbie Williams. The RockStars contingent includes: Megan Emmons, Emily Harrington, and Adam Stack. Each of these climbers has demonstrated a willingness to endorse the Access Fund at their slide shows and events, and has expressed a commitment to preserving America's diverse climbing resources.

"The Access Fund is delighted to feature our dedicated team members on our website," said Heather Clark, Access Fund development director. "These climbers are interested in improving and maintaining climbing access while educating others on the importance of conservation and preservation."

Each month, the Access Fund will feature a new team member on the main page, while consistently updating Ambassadors' information, sponsors, etc. In the near future, websites of the climbers' sponsors will provide links to the Access Fund Ambassador Team page.

To view the Ambassador page, please visit: www.accessfund.org/ambassadors.



The Access Fund
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Boulder, CO 80308

your climbing future

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MARCUS PORTER

Idaho's Castle Rocks Opens to Climbing—After years of anticipation, Castle Rocks State Park will open to climbing on Memorial Day Weekend. These 400-foot cliffs of Castle Rock Ranch were privately owned until recently. The Castle Rock Ranch Acquisition Act of 2000 authorized the National Park Service to purchase the 1,240-acre ranch with funding provided by the Conservation Fund and the Access Fund. The AF will publish a brochure for the area in May. A complete report will follow in Vertical Times #53 and on our website.