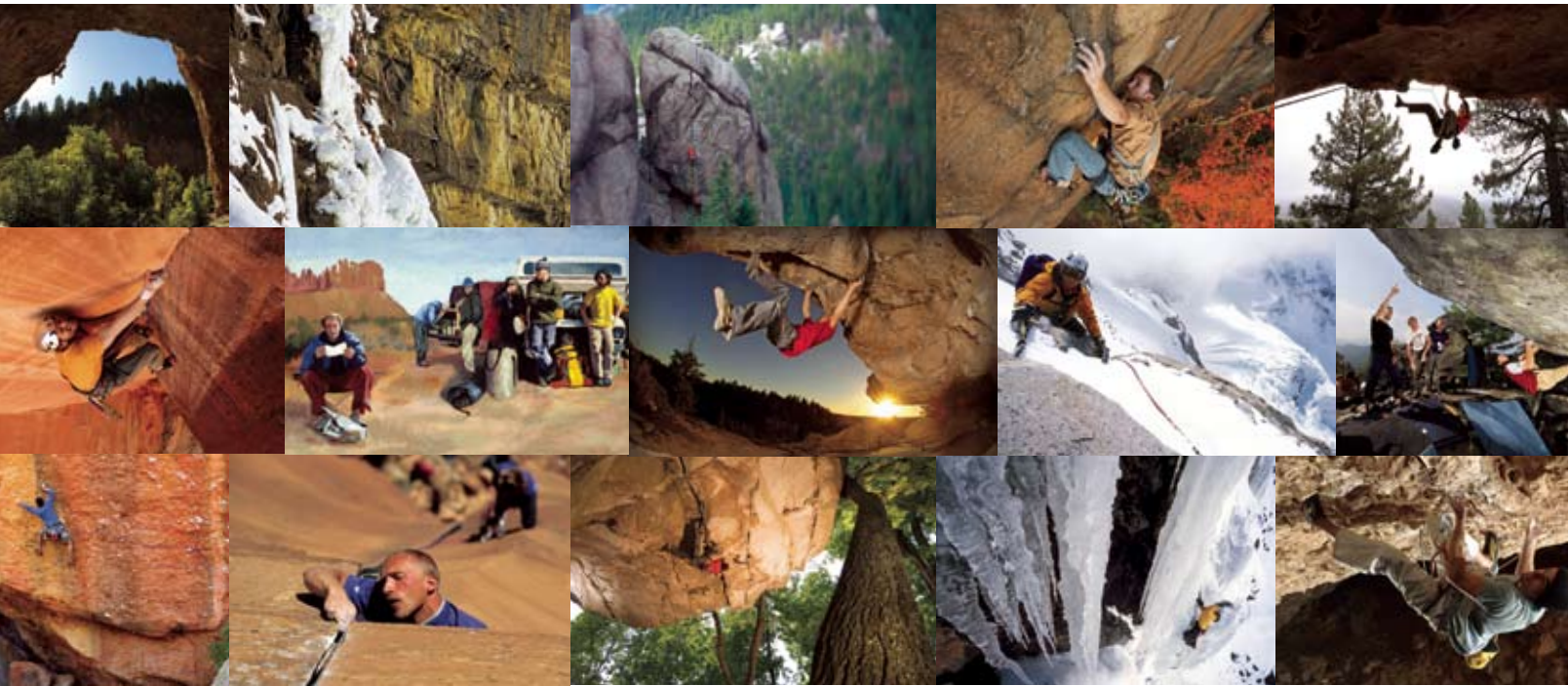


VERTICAL **TIMES**

THE NATIONAL PUBLICATION OF THE ACCESS FUND



your climbing future



2006 THE ANNUAL REPORT ISSUE

THE ACCESS FUND
PO BOX 17010
BOULDER, CO 80308

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

VOLUME 75 | APRIL 2007

INTRODUCTION |

THE AF PERSPECTIVE



For 16 years, since 1990, the Access Fund has been the country's only organization dedicated solely to keeping climbing areas open and conserving the climbing environment. In that time we have spent millions of dollars on land acquisitions, local conservation projects, support for grassroots activism, climber education, and representation in the public policy arena. We have grown to over 15,000 members and affiliates and gained the support of the climbing industry. We work with countless corporate and community partners, 60 affiliated local climber organizations, and 50 regional coordinators to advocate on behalf of the 1+ million active climbers in the USA.

In 2006 our board of directors adopted a new strategic objective that places our resources strongly in support of acquisitions, easements and other land protection methods for the benefit of the climbing community. While we have been involved with this kind of land conservation since our beginning, this new strategic commitment involves strengthening our profile even more by developing the resources necessary to protect and preserve threatened climbing areas and adding a staff position in the years ahead.

In September of 2006 we held a conference bringing together the organization's national network of regional coordinators and leaders of affiliated Local Climbing Organizations as well as board members and staff to better inform ourselves on the importance of land acquisitions and what support the climbing community seeks from the Access Fund. This conference underscored the Access Fund's commitment to the promotion of local grass-roots activism and outreach by focusing on preservation of access to private lands.

In 2006 the Access Fund awarded over \$80,000 in Climbing Preservation Grants. These monies helped establish Local Climbing Organizations (LCO's), supported local land acquisitions, built or repaired trail systems, built toilets, restored erosion, created signage, produced brochures and assisted many other grassroots initiatives in California, Colorado, Connecticut, Kentucky, New Hampshire, North Carolina, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Texas, Utah, and West Virginia.



Seth Lytton on Bone Machine, Rifle, CO | © Keith Ladzinski

Adopt-A-Crag, our premier national stewardship event and program, had its most successful year ever with 121 events in 33 states involving over 5500 individual climbers. From Yosemite, CA to Boat rock, GA, climbers contributed over \$1/2 million in volunteer time to our land managers.

Our national policy efforts continue in Washington D.C. affecting legislation and regulatory initiatives that benefit climbing in the United States. An example of a policy success in 2006 was our effort on the Oak Flat Arizona License proposal. We have now completed final negotiations with Resolution Copper Company (RCC), and the license is signed. This was part of our advocacy on a land exchange bill in front of the US Congress (still pending) that would have been the largest single loss of climbing resources in the country.

Our role in the Outdoor Alliance; consisting of the Access Fund, American Canoe Association, American Hiking Society, American Whitewater, International Mountain Bicycling Association and Winter Wild Lands Alliance, continues to leverage our presence in Washington DC to lobby on behalf of all recreational users in areas of common concern. Highlights include both high level and staff meetings with all agencies and Congress on funding, access and recreational infrastructure.

2006 was a successful and productive year for the Access Fund thanks to strong support from climbers throughout the country. Challenges remain, but we continue to advocate on behalf of our members, partners and 1+ million active climbers in the US. We look forward to increasing and improving our grassroots support of climbers around the country working in unison to keep their climbing areas open and conserving the climbing environment for future generations. Together with a focused mission, long term commitment to self-regulation and local activism we are well prepared to continue to address the issues in the years ahead.



Steve Matous

Steve Matous, Executive

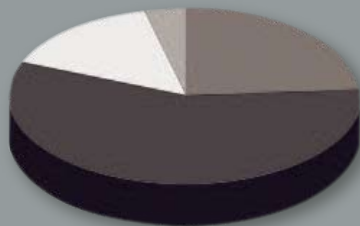


Dan Nordstrom

Dan Nordstrom, President

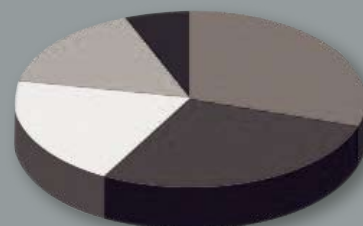
2006 SOURCE OF FUNDS

- Individual, Foundation and Organization Support 57%
- In-Kind Contributions 15%
- Corporate & Grants 24%
- Other 4%



2006 USE OF FUNDS

- National Policy, Acquisitions & Special Programs 30%
- Climber Outreach, Advocacy & Communication 28%
- Fundraising and Administrative 20%
- General Communications 16%
- Other 6%



ACCESS AND ACQUISITIONS

Building collaborative relationships is the secret to resolving most access issues. Discussion between climbers and land managers will result in climbing-management policies based on mutual agreement. The Access Fund and all of its Affiliated Local Climbing Organizations and Regional Coordinators strive to achieve a win-win solution when working with public land managing agencies.

Gaining public access on private land is perhaps the most challenging permission to acquire and is often only achieved after a few individuals build a solid relationship with a land owner which sometimes requires years. Sometimes the only way to ensure climbing access in perpetuity is to acquire the land. The Access Fund has always supported the preservation and conservation of climbing resources in perpetuity through land acquisitions and land easements by investing in the promotion of local grass-roots activism and outreach. This is accomplished by providing technical resources as well as financial support through the Access Fund Climbing Preservation Grants Program.

» MADRONE WALL, PORTLAND • OR

In January, Hardscrabble property (a.k.a. Madrone Wall) became part of an area for Clackamas River Watershed Protection resulting in its preservation as a public park, never to be sold to a private interest or mined.

» YOSEMITE • CA

The Access Fund represented and defended the interests of climbers in meetings with several Yosemite National Park (YNP) land managers and planners regarding a host of management plans that could affect climbing access or the climbing experience. These NPS planning initiatives in YNP include a Camp 4 remodel, the Tuolumne River and Meadows Plan, the Merced River Wild and Scenic River quota issues, an El Capitan Meadows Restoration Plan and general climbing management concerns such as fixed anchors/ropes on El Capitan and bear boxes for wall climbers which the Access Fund provided a grant for in 2005.

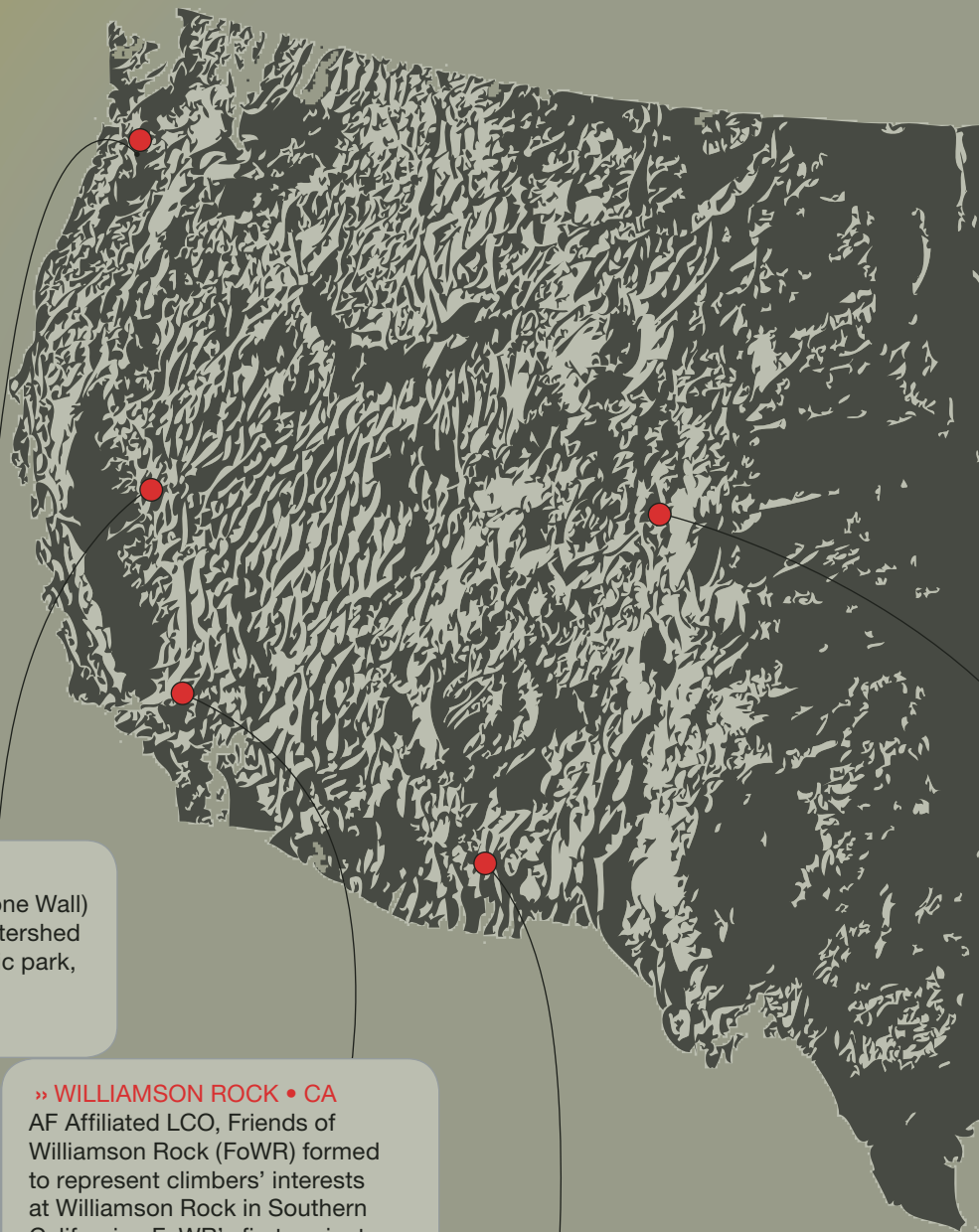
» WILLIAMSON ROCK • CA

AF Affiliated LCO, Friends of Williamson Rock (FoWR) formed to represent climbers' interests at Williamson Rock in Southern California. FoWR's first project is to work closely with USFS to address access, stewardship and climbing management issues as they relate to the Mountain Yellow-Legged Frog in order to reopen Williamson Rock to rock climbing.

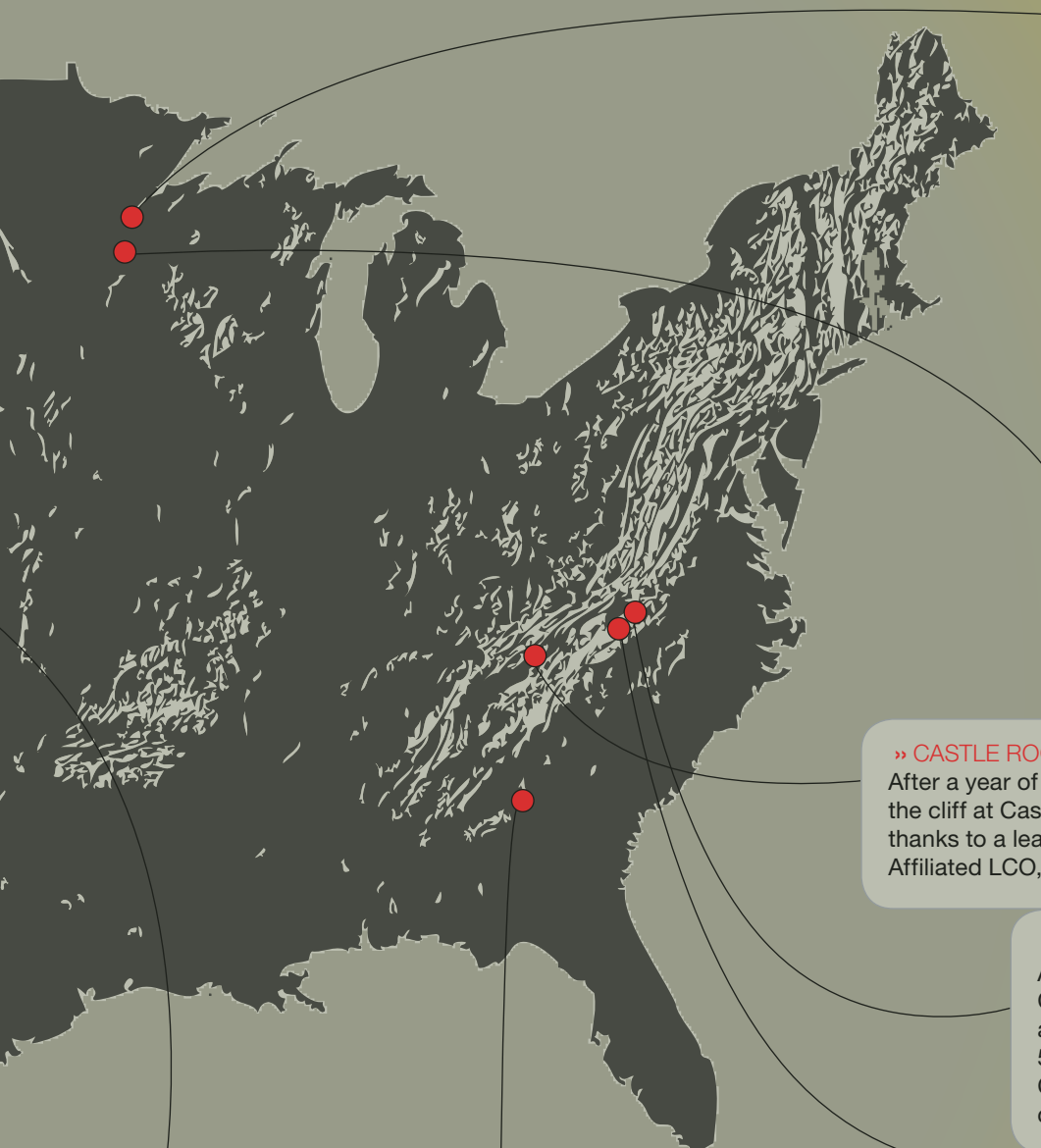
See what the access fund has been doing in your area. Visit: www.accessfund.org/regions

» COCHISE STRONGHOLD • AZ

As a result of dedicated, on-site monitoring conducted by the Southern Arizona Climbers Coalition and current monitoring results, the Coronado National Forest reevaluated far reaching seasonal closures and permitted year round access into the Rockfellow Dome Park, an important climbing resource.



See what the access fund has been doing in your area. Visit: www.accessfund.org/regions



» SANDSTONE • MN

AF Affiliated LCO Minnesota Climbers Association assisted in legalizing rock and ice climbing in a quaint sandstone quarry in east-central Minnesota. Over the winter of 2005-2006, a climbing management plan, including wordage for ice farming, was drafted by climbers and ultimately accepted by the city of Sandstone.

» TAYLOR FALLS • MN

A long-closed rock formation, Devil's Chair, within Minnesota's side of the two-state park, Interstate Park was officially reopened thanks to the negotiations by AF Affiliated LCO Minnesota Climbers Association. The MCA's annual Adopt-a-Crag event has been held in the park since 2000.

» CASTLE ROCK • TN

After a year of negotiations with local landowners, the cliff at Castle Rock (TN) is now open for climbing thanks to a lease agreement negotiated by AF Affiliated LCO, the Southeastern Climbers Coalition.

» LAUREL KNOB • NC

AF Affiliated LCO, Carolina Climbers Coalition closed on its Laurel Knob acquisition on February 15th, 2006. The 50-acre purchase near Cashiers, North Carolina opens up a previously closed climbing area.

» CHIMNEY ROCK • NC

Due in part to the efforts of the climbing community, the state of North Carolina purchased Chimney Rock for \$24 million adding 2000 acres to the new Hickory Nut Gorge State Park. AF Affiliated LCO, the Carolina Climbers Coalition is well represented on the Park Planning Board, to ensure that climbing will be able to continue in the park.

» THE FLATIRONS • CO

After more than a decade of diligence and relationship-building by AF Affiliated LCO Flatirons Climbers Coalition with Boulder's Open Space and Mountain Park's, the FCC achieved a significant relaxation of the bolting ban that has been in place in the Flatirons for 16 years.

» BOAT ROCK • GA

AF Affiliated LCO, the Southeastern Climbers Coalition, paid off their Boat Rock mortgage ahead of schedule, thanks in large part to the Triple Crown Bouldering Series.

POLICY

The Access Fund is the leading voice of the climbing community in the political and land management arenas. Much of the AF policy work occurs in Washington DC with key officials, bringing the climbing community to the table on key issues. Some of these issues are resolved quickly while others require a longterm commitment of resources to resolve.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2006

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE MANAGEMENT POLICIES

In 2006 the Access Fund lobbied to defeat proposed changes to National Park Service (NPS) policies that could have led to the increased degradation of our national parks and negatively influenced the experiences of the growing numbers of climbers nationwide.

The NPS had proposed changes that would lessen the NPS "impairment" standard for allowed park uses. The AF, in response, argued (<http://accessfund.org/pdf/dmp05.pdf>) that the existing 2001 policies

serve the parks well and could be even more effective if implemented more consistently and appropriately. As part of this advocacy, the AF issued an action alert to climbers across the country and submitted administrative comments directly to the NPS. Our work for park protection joined a broad coalition of recreational and environmental interests who were instrumental in eventually defeating the ill-conceived proposed changes.

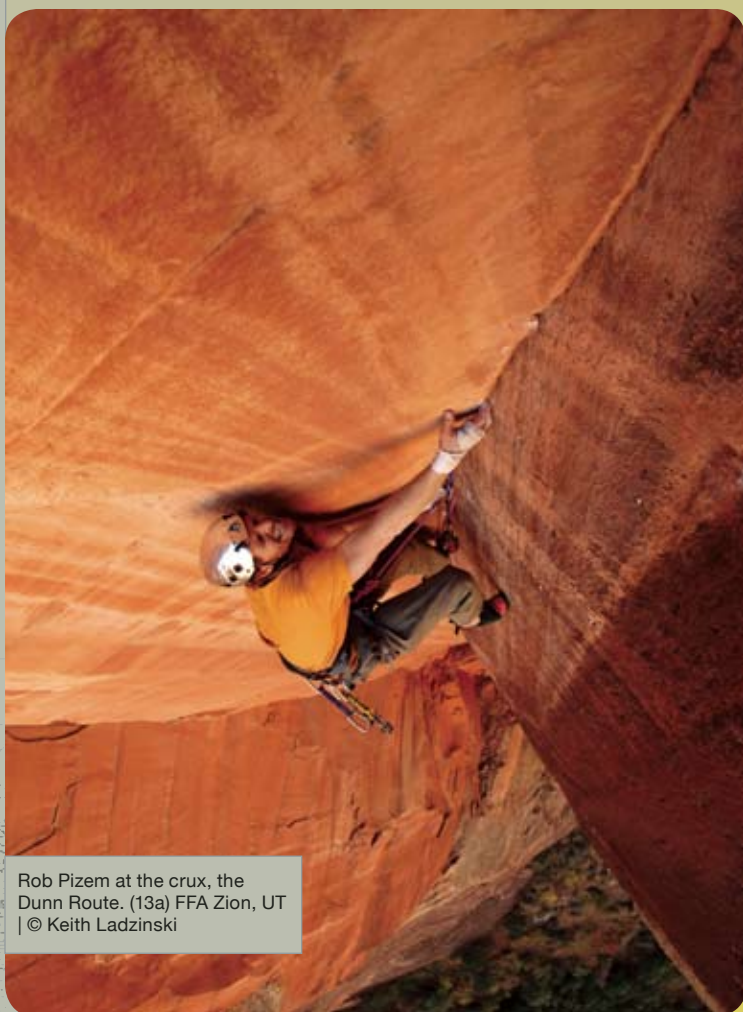
ARCHES NATIONAL PARK, UT

In 2006 the Access Fund met with congressional representatives and National Park Service officials in Utah and Washington, DC to minimize negative affects on climbing access in Arches National Park resulting from the controversial 2006 ascent of Delicate Arch. A glaring media spotlight and criticism of the climbing community from numerous groups, individuals, and public leaders led to dramatically increased climbing restrictions in Arches including a ban on all new fixed anchors. The new rules limited climbing access to numerous unclimbed first ascents throughout the park as well as historic desert towers requiring pitons.

In an effort to head off bad climbing publicity and recover climbing access in Arches National Park, the Access Fund met with park officials to talk about the new restrictions and proposed a climbing management plan to provide for reasonable recreational use while also addressing NPS concerns. The Access Fund also helped organize a group of regular Arches climbers dedicated to rehabilitating the park's relationship with climbers which resulted in a climber-run program to replace dozens of unsightly rappel slings visible to the general visitor on numerous routes located above park roads and trails. The result of this advocacy has been a scheduled climbing management plan for 2007 that will incorporate both Arches NP as well as adjacent Canyonlands National Park.

OAK FLAT, QUEEN CREEK CANYON, AZ

The Access Fund's efforts to preserve climbing opportunities at Arizona's Oak Flat and Queen Creek Canyon achieved success in 2006 following the execution of a recreational use license with Resolution Copper Company (RCC). For the last several years the Access Fund policy program worked to protect climbing access to these central Arizona areas threatened by a massive copper mining proposal. This recreational use license will preserve climbing access to two climbing areas in Queen Creek Canyon and the primary bouldering areas at Oak Flat proper. (see www.accessfund.org/display/page/PR/40).



Rob Pizem at the crux, the Dunn Route. (13a) FFA Zion, UT
| © Keith Ladzinski

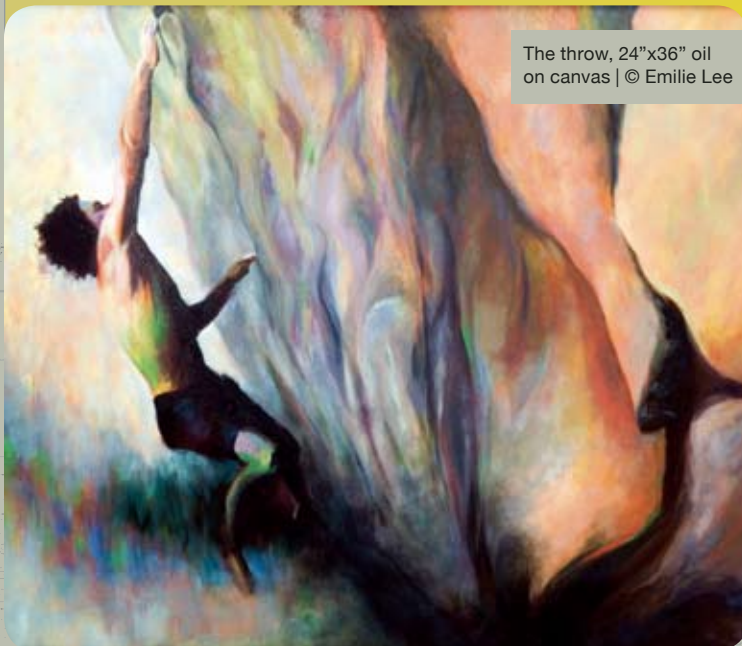
Final negotiations with RCC resulted in a waiver process for climbers accessing the properties with Access Fund Affiliated Local Climbing Organization Friends of Queen Creek (www.friendsofqueen creek.org) helping implement climber obligations including locating kiosks and providing visitors with waivers and information about the licensed property.

US FOREST SERVICE LAND SALE PROPOSAL

In 2006 the Access Fund helped defeat efforts to privatize vast areas of public lands across the country that had threatened recreational opportunities including climbing.

The US Forest Service (USFS) proposed selling over 200,000 acres in 31 states—some of which include climbing areas—to fund a law requiring the government help pay for school and public services in rural parts of the country. The AF issued an action alert to climbers nationwide asking them to search the USFS auction list to ensure that their local climbing areas on federal land wouldn't be sold to private interests.

The AF also submitted administrative comments on the land sale proposal, urging the USFS to look at alternate ways to fund the schools and public services obligation. The Access Fund's position, shared by numerous other interest groups, favors federal funding for rural schools and roads but opposes the permanent loss of public lands that would only temporarily support this important program. The USFS land sale proposal was eventually rejected but continues to re-emerge in various Congressional and USFS proposals.



The throw, 24"x36" oil on canvas | © Emilie Lee

GRASSROOTS

The Access Fund Grassroots Program consists of over 50 Regional Coordinators, 60 Affiliated Local Climbing Organizations (LCOs), and the Programs Team at the Access Fund. Together known as the Action Network, we continue to develop and implement a shared vision of success.

The fundamental goal of organizing locally, regionally, and nationally goes well beyond immediate issues or crisis. Through the Action Network, unity and power is built affecting positive change for climbers' interests. We continue to move toward a vision where a victory in North Carolina is a victory in California is a victory in Wisconsin.

HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2006

The Access Fund spent face-to-face time with volunteers and constituents across the country in Washington DC, Virginia, Nevada, California, Washington, Idaho, Utah, Colorado, West Virginia, Wyoming, Georgia, North Carolina, Tennessee, and Alabama.

WASHINGTON DC AND VA

In late winter, the Access Fund met with the Access Fund Regional Coordinator Thomas Ling and Friends of Great Falls to draft administrative comments for upcoming revisions to the NPS management policies which could fundamentally alter how climbing environments are managed and maintained in national parks.

CA AND NV

In the spring, the Access Fund visited southern California and Nevada and met with members of the Friends of Williamson Rock, San Diego Alliance of Climbers, Friends of Joshua Tree, and the Las Vegas Climbers Liaison Council—all Access Fund Affiliated LCOs.

While in California, the Access Fund strategized with locals on how to work with the United States Forest Service to reopen the popular Southern California climbing area, Williamson Rock. The Access Fund also met with climbers and activists in San Diego and Joshua Tree to discuss current access concerns and how the Access Fund can best serve their needs.

» continued on page 8

The Access Fund facilitated a meeting with members of the Las Vegas Climbers Liaison Council (LVCLC) to discuss the Bureau of Land Management's Wilderness Plan, specifically the local climbing community's position on fixed anchors in the Wilderness. A consensus was agreed upon by all who attended which helped inform the final LVCLC proposal submitted on June 30th.

ID

In June, the Access Fund met with climbers in Pocatello, Ketchum and Boise advocating for public participation and a reasonable solution to address the absolute climbing ban on the Twin Sisters formation in City of Rocks National Reserve (CIRO). Meetings that were held with staff from the offices of the national Senators and Congressmen afforded the Access Fund an opportunity to advocate directly to key decision-makers.

CA

In late September, the Access Fund attended the 3rd Annual Yosemite Facelift Adopt-a-Crag. By connecting with climbers, encouraging participation and "walking our talk", the Access Fund provided a grassroots push for the significance and importance of stewardship at our climbing areas. For the Yosemite Facelift, the Access

Fund awarded Ken Yager and the Yosemite Climbers Association the REI Adopt-a-Crag of the Year Award and a \$1,000 grant to help cover the cost of clean-up tools and materials.

GA, NC, TN, AND AL

In the fall, the Access Fund traveled from Georgia up to western North Carolina, across through Tennessee and south into Alabama. The Access Fund toured climbing areas with local activists to better understand access issues at each individual crag, conducted meetings with public land managers, regional and local climbing organizations including Eastern Tennessee Climbers Coalition and Access Fund Affiliated LCOs the Boone Climbers Coalition, Carolina Climbers Coalition and the Southeastern Climbers Coalition.

NATIONAL ACTIVIST CONFERENCE, CO

To kick off our increased commitment to acquisitions, the Access Fund hosted a 2-day climber-activists national conference focusing on preservation of access to private lands. The event united over 25 Access Fund regional coordinators and leaders of Affiliated Local Climbing Organizations from across the country to discuss strategies for preserving access, conserving the climbing environment and promoting effective outreach and advocacy at the grassroots level.



Luke Kretschmar, 'Michael's Crack' 5.11+, Needles, Black Hills, SD | ©Andrew Burr

ADOPT-A-CRAG 2006

In 2006 **5,500 volunteers** contributed an estimated **30,000 volunteer hours** at **121 Adopt-a-Crag events** in 33 states, Canada and Puerto Rico. Our combined efforts contributed an estimated **\$540,000.00*** worth of volunteer time making 2006 the largest Adopt-a-Crag season ever.

Tony Holmes, event organizer for the 4th Annual Broughton's Bluff Adopt-a-Crag, comments:

"Teaming up with Oregon State Parks has proven to be a symbiotic relationship. Utilizing the unique insight the Access Fund has on climber-sensitive issues, Oregon State Parks is able to not only support, but encourage rock climbing at this venue. The volunteer base the Adopt-a-Crag draws every year is another way much needed projects can get accomplished when land managers are faced with an ever-dwindling source of funds to our recreation areas."

Adopt-a-Crag would not be possible without the generous support of its sponsors who also present the following awards for exemplary events:

The REI Adopt-a-Crag of the Year Award was presented to **Ken Yager, the Yosemite Climbing Association, and all who participated in the 3rd Annual Yosemite Facelift**. 5 days, 1,100 volunteers, over 9,200 volunteer, and over 25,000 pounds of trash collected in Yosemite National Park!

The GORE-TEX® Products Adopt-a-Crag Stewardship Award was presented to **Cameron Cross, David Trevino, and the City of Fort Collins for the Piano Boulders Trail Day**. Previously closed to climbing, this event marked the official opening of the area and shows the effectiveness of locals, land managers and the Access Fund working together to responsibly improve climbing access.

The CLIF Bar Adopt-a-Crag Conservation Award was awarded to **Rick Bost and the East Tennessee Climbers Coalition for the 7th Annual Obed Adopt-a-Crag**. Nearly 500 volunteers participated in trash removal, trail improvements, anchor replacement and many other projects at 5 different areas.

To learn more visit www.accessfund.org/adopt

* The Independent Sector in 2005 cites \$18.04/hr as the monetary value of volunteer time. Visit www.independentsector.org for details.

BOULDERPROJECT 2006

The boulderProject is an Access Fund initiative that communicates how climbers, the environment, and access are all connected.

A need for the boulderProject arose from the growing trend of new climbers being introduced to the sport through indoor gyms and frontcountry bouldering areas without the direct mentorship and "environmental appreciation" that were key components of past generations. By enriching the sense of community, empowering climbers with knowledge and awareness, and encouraging climbers to proactively conserve their climbing environments, the boulderProject guides the transition from indoors to outdoors.

2006 saw the relaunching of the new and improved **boulderProject.org** thanks to the financial and resource backing of Urban Climber Magazine. boulderProject.org provides an online venue for new and young climbers to build a community around the ethos and resources of minimum impact climbing. By creating a profile, climbers can share their motivations for climbing and connect with others who also value and conserve our outdoor climbing areas. Among other tips and resources available on the site, we've introduced **6 low impact teaching activities** for use by indoor youth programs and teams to teach environmentally responsible practices in an indoor setting alongside the physical skills of climbing.

In 2007 look for growth of the program and dissemination of the message and resources through climbing gyms across the country. The Access Fund will be at the National Climbing Wall Management Summit in April to show climbing gym personnel how to build the low impact teaching activities into the curriculum of their indoor youth programs. Utilizing various climbing media forums, participation at events, and collaboration with the outdoor industry, the boulderProject will continue to gain recognition and support from today's youth climbing culture.

To learn more visit www.boulderProject.org

THE BOULDER project
An AccessFund Initiative

2006 | ACCESS FUND DONORS

ABOVE THE CLOUDS
\$10,000+

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The Community Foundation
The Seattle Foundation
Kyle & Cindy Lefkoff

GRANITE
\$9,999-\$2,500

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Michael Webster
Chris Wegener
Bryan White
Wayne Wiebe
Donald Williams
Scott Williams
Rick & Pam Winberg
Clark Wright
Linda Yancey
Peter & Rebecca Zurcher

2006 MEMORIALS

The AF Memorial Fund was founded in 1998 to honor individuals who cared about the mountain environment. The following memorials were established in 2006.

Mark Allen Brewer
Tom Dunwiddie
Jim Eisenhard
Henry Everding
Reese Martin

'Axel' Thomas Roering
Terry Selna
Todd Skinner
Ryan Young

2006 | CORPORATE PARTNERS

TITANIUM — \$50,000+

Haynes and Boone LLP — 2003

DIAMOND PLUS — \$20,000+

Black Diamond Equipment — 1991
REI — 1991

DIAMOND MEDIA — \$20,000+

Backpacker Magazine — 2004
Climbing — 1991
Rock & Ice — 1993
Urban Climber Magazine — 2004

PLATINUM PLUS — \$15,000+

Mountain Gear — 1995
Petzl/Charlet Moser — 1991
prAna — 1995

PLATINUM — \$10,000+

CLIF Bar — 1995
Eastern Mountain Sports — 1993
Patagonia — 1992
The North Face — 1995

GOLD PLUS — \$7,500+

Amadeus Consulting Group — 2004
Archer Law Offices P.C. — 2003
Boulder Rock Club &
Colorado Mountain School — 1996
GORE-TEX® products — 1991
Nalgene — 1992
Outdoor Research — 1999
Trango USA & Stonewear Designs — 1992

GOLD — \$5,000+

American Bouldering Series — 2000
Big Up Productions — 2003
Campmor — 1991
Gregory Mountain Products — 1993
La Sportiva — 1994
MSR/Therm-a-Rest — 1995
New England Ropes - Maxim — 1992
Omega Pacific — 1992
SCARPA North America — 2006
The Spot Bouldering Gym — 2003
Touchstone Climbing Inc. — 1998

SILVER — \$2,500+

All Terrain — 2003
Arc'teryx — 1998
BlueWater — 1992
Boston Rock Gym — 2006
FalconGuides — 1998
Mammut USA — 1991
Marmot — 1999
Metolius — 1991
Misty Mountain Threadworks — 1994
Mountain Hardwear — 1996
Mountain Khakis — 2006
New Belgium Brewing Co. — 2000
Sterling Rope — 1994

MAJOR — \$1,000+

bluetrop consulting — 2003
CAMP USA — 2004
Cloudveil — 1998
Crazy Creek Products — 1992
EVOLVE Sports — 2006
Exum Mountain Guides — 2005
Montrail — 2002
Mountainsmith — 2003
Osprey — 2003
Phoenix Rock Gym — 1997
Planet Granite Climbing Gyms — 2004
Redpoint, Inc. — 2000
RESTOP — 2006
Rock and Snow, Inc. — 2003
Royal Robbins — 1992
SuperTopo.com — 2003
Vertical World — 2006
Weathered Stone — 1999
Yates Gear — 1993

CONTRIBUTING — \$500+

Advanced Base Camp — 1992
Adventure 16 — 2006
Alpine Ascents International — 1998
Avery Brewing Company — 1998
Climbing Rope Bracelets — 2005
Eagle Creek — 2005
Eastern Sierras Medicus
Anodynos Corp — 2006
Excalibur DMM/Wild Country
Five Ten — 2004
Flannel Design — 2001
Fortress Worldwide — 2006
Fox Mountain Guides &
Climbing School — 2005
GearEXPRESS.com — 2003
Higher Ground Roasters — 2003
Julbo — 2005
JustRopes.com — 2004
Kristin Carpenter
Public Relations — 2003
Mountain Tools — 1991
Mountaineers Books — 1992
NEice.com — 2005
Nemo Equipment — 2005
Nicros — 1997
Outdoor Retailer — 1991
Pacific Edge Climbing Gym — 1995
PMI — 1991
Real Cheap Sports — 2003
Schwartz Communications, Inc. — 2003
Sickle Climbing — 2001
Stone Age Climbing — 1997
Stone Moves — 2005
Tom K. Michael, D.D.S., P.S. — 2000
Travel Country Outdoors — 2002
Vasque — 2001
YourClimbing.com — 2006

MEDIA PARTNERS

Alpinist — 2003
Andrew Burr Photography — 2006
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Second Chance Films — 2004
Sender Films — 2005
Sharp Publishing — 2004
She Sends — 2004
SNEWS — 2002
Stark Contrast Photography — 2005
summitjournal.com — 2006
Thoos — 2006

2006 | COMMUNITY PARTNERS

ACC ROCK

Ace Adventure Center
Action Outfitters
Adams State Adventure Program
Adventures Edge
Alaska Rock Gym
Allegheny College Outdoor Program
Alpine Ascents International
Alpine Club of Canada- Toronto Access
Committee
Alpine Shop, Ltd.
AMC - NY Chapter Mountaineering
Committee
Antiques & Oddities, Inc.
Appalachian Mountain Guides, Inc
Arizona Mountaineering Club
Atlantic Climbing School
Austin Rock Gym
Avery Brewing Company
Banshee Computing Corp.
Black Dome Mountain Sports
Blue Ridge Mountaineering Association
Blue Star Camps
Boulder Mountaineering School
Boulders Climbing Gym
Camp Birch Trail for Girls, Inc.
Carolina Adventures, University of NC
CASBC
Cascade Crags Indoor Climbing
Cascade Guiding Service
CATS
Climb Aloha
Climb Max
CLIMBX
Club Sport
Colgate University Outdoor Education
Program
Colorado Outward Bound
Colvin Center Climbing Gym
Coyote Corner
Cragmont Climbing Club
Cross Country Connection
CU Outdoor Program
Down Wind Sports
Eagle Rock School
Eagle Nest Foundation
Endy's
Erehwon Mountain Outfitter
Ethos Mountain Works
Expeditions Unlimited
Explorers Club of Pittsburgh
Fort Lewis College Climbing Club
Fox Mountain Guides
Georgia Outdoor Recreation Program
Granite Arch Climbing Center
Great Outdoor Provision Company
Hamilton College
Hampshire College Outdoor Program
Higher Ground Rock Climbing Centre
Homestead Inn & Spa
Hurst Sports Center
Idaho State University
Illinois Climbing Club
Inner Strength Rock Gym
International Wilderness Adventures
Joshua Tree Outfitters
Joshua Tree Rock Climbing School
Kent Mountain Adventure Center Inc.
Kern River Rock, LLC
Kooteni Climbers
Lancaster Climbing Club
Little Rock Climbing Center
Lover's Leap Guides
Mazamas
Michigan Ice Fest
Midwest Mountaineering
Minnesota Climbers Association
Mizzou Climbing Club
Mountain Goat Outfitters
MTU Ridge Roamers
Newenglandbouldering.com
Nomad Ventures
North Carolina Outward Bound School,
Director of Operations
North Wall, Inc
Northlander Climbing
NU Climbing Club
NW Adventures
Old Town Outfitters
Outek
Pacific Edge
Paradise Rock Gym, Inc
Pennsylvania Mountaineering Association
Peregrine Outfitters
Phoenix Rock Gym
Pipe Works
Poly Escapes
Prairie Walls, Inc
Pruett Publishing Company
Quest Corporate Institute
Reality Climbing
Redpoint Production, Inc.
Rim of the World Climbing Club
Riverat Whitewater Toys
Rock Ice and Mountain Club
Rockbound
Rockn' & Jamn'
Rocks and Ropes of Tucson
Rocwood
Rok Haus Indoor Climbing Gym
Sanctuary Rock Gym
Santa Fe Climbing Gym
Sierra Mountain Center
Skagit Alpine Club
Skinny Skis
Southern California Mountaineers Association
Southern Oregon Climbing Club
Southern Sierra Climbers Association
Southforkice.com
Spokane Mountaineers
Starved Rock Outfitters
Stone Age Climbing Gym, Inc / NMCRA
Stone Gardens
Stonehenge
Summit Rock Gym
Sunrift Adventures
Talus Climbing Service
Terra Firma
Texas Tech Outdoor Pursuit Center
The Backpackers Shop
The Bag and Pack Shop
The Climbing Place
The Mountaineer
The Mountaineers - Rec Access Committee
The Rock Barn- Rhinoceros Mountain Guides
The Spot Bouldering Gym
The Warriors Way
Trailhead Sports
Triple Crown
UCSB- Adventure Programs
Uli, Inc
UMD - Vertical Pursuits
University of Pennsylvania Outing Club
University of Tennessee Outdoor Recreation
Upper Limits
Uprising Rock Climbing Center
USA Climbing
Ute Mountaineer
Vail Rock & Ice Guides, LLC.
Vertex Climbing Center
Vertical Access
Vertical Adventures
Vertical Dreams
Vertical Endeavors - St. Paul
Vertical Hold Sport Climbing Center
W-Trek Outfitters
Water Stone Outdoors
Western State College Department of
Recreation
Whitman College Outing Program
Wild GUYde Adventures
Wilderness Education Program
Wilderness Exchange
Wilderness Exchange Unlimited
WildRays Photography
Wildside
Wilkes-Barre Rock Climbing Gym
Williams Outing Club
Wilson's Eastside Sports
X-TREME Rock Climbing Center
Yosemite Fitness
Zen Lizard Systems

In February 2007, the Access Fund traveled to Hueco Tanks for the annual Hueco Rock Rodeo to advocate the Access Fund's position and strategy and meet with park staff regarding the current status of access and potential threats to climbing at Hueco Tanks.

News of a potential transfer of Hueco Tanks from the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) to the Texas Historical Commission (THC) surfaced in December 2006. In early February a letter from THC to the Access Fund stated that "Hueco Tanks had been removed from the list for transfer". However, as the premiere cultural resource in the state, it is possible that this issue will resurface.

Additionally, there is a bill up for approval in the Texas Legislature which would provide a much needed increase of funding for Texas' state and local parks (including Reimer's Ranch).

During the visit to Hueco Tanks, the Access Fund met with Hueco Tanks Park Superintendent and Complex Manger to discuss strategy in support of TPWD's management and offer the resources of the Access Fund to achieve the common interests of the park and climbers. The Access Fund circulated a petition at the Hueco Rock Rodeo to educate climbers on the issue and gain signatures from Texan residents supporting the management of Hueco by TPWD and the allocation of additional funding to Texas State Parks.

During the third week of March the Access Fund was back in Texas to conduct an Austin-based lobbying initiative that included Texas climbers and other allied interest groups in meeting with Texas legislators and public land agency officials to preserve the financial security of Texas State Parks and Hueco Tanks in particular.

Sign up for E-News at www.accessfund.org to stay up to date on this issue.

The Access Fund would like to thank all the contributing artists that donated work over the last 18 months.

Your work celebrates all forms of climbing and the climbing environment. You have made us look so good and inspired us all to get out and go climbing. Thank you!

- Bennett Barthelemy
- Andrew Burr
- David Clifford
- Jeremy Collins
- Jonathan Copp
- Eric Draper
- John Evans
- Andrew Kornylak
- Keith Ladzinski
- Emilie Lee
- Randall Levensaler
- Andrew Querner
- Corey Rich
- Celin Serbo
- Harrison Shull
- Brian Solano
- Matt Stark
- Mike Tea
- Nathan Welton



| © Andrew Querner

REGIONAL COORDINATORS & local climbing organizations



We would like to welcome the following Regional Coordinators and Local Climbing organizations who joined the Access Fund Grassroots Network in 2006

Regional Coordinators

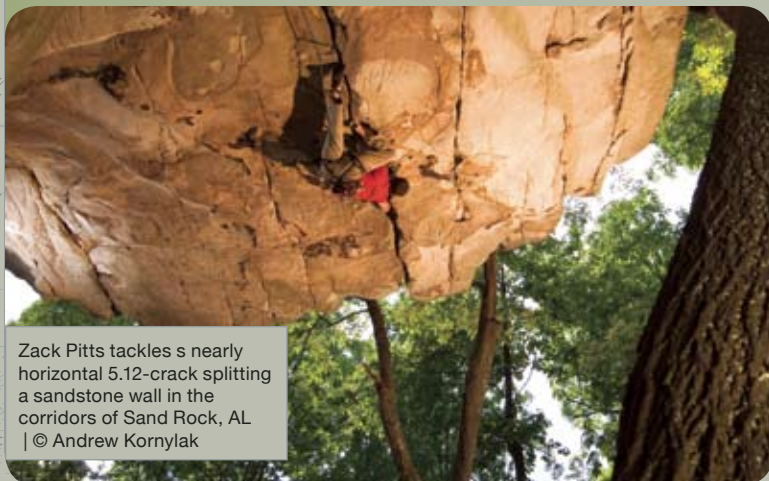
Ocean Eiler, Metro DC Area
Paul Vidal, Red River Gorge, Kentucky
Tom Donnelly, San Diego, California
Jamie Fields, Northern Nevada
Christopher Spatz, Catskill/Gunks, New York
Will Cobb, Northern Arizona

Affiliated Local Climbing Organizations

Access Colorado
Adirondack Mountaineering Coalition, New York
Climbing Conservancy of Central Pennsylvania
Northeastern Vermont Climbers' Alliance
Concho Valley Climbers Association, Texas
Roaring Fork Climbers Coalition, Colorado
Friends of Williamson Rock, California

A big thank you from the American Climbing Community to those Regional Coordinators who retired in 2006!

Tod Anderson, Jefferson Co Open Space, Colorado
Aram Attarian, North Carolina
Lance Brock, TN/AL/GA
Kelly Brown, Obed River, Tennessee
Kerry Cobb, North Arizona
Jonathan Eells, San Bernardino, California
Jeremy Ford, Delaware
Heather Furman, Vermont
Bob Harrington, East Side Sierra, California
Chris Manzuk, San Diego, California
Duane Martenson, Black Hills South Dakota
Chris Moratz, Catskill/Gunks, New York
Al Rubin, Western Massachusetts
Shannon Stuart-Smith, Red River Gorge, Kentucky
Lonny Whitcomb, Pennsylvania



Zack Pitts tackles a nearly horizontal 5.12-crack splitting a sandstone wall in the corridors of Sand Rock, AL
| © Andrew Kornylak

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Beaver Theodosakis, CA
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Steve Matous — Executive Director
303.545.6772 x101, steve@accessfund.org

Jason Keith — Policy Director
303.545.6772 x102, jason@accessfund.org

Deanne Buck — Programs Director
303.545.6772 x112, deanne@accessfund.org

Kristo Torgersen — Associate Programs Director
303.545.6772 x105, kristo@accessfund.org

Chris Archer — General Counsel
303.449.0427, chris@archerlawoffices.com

Robb Shurr — Director of Marketing & Business Development
303.545.6772 x100, robb@accessfund.org

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303.545.6772 x113, whitney@accessfund.org

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303.545.6772 x106, kerry@accessfund.org

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303.545.6772 x103, randy@accessfund.org

Ellen Jardine — Business & Finance Manager
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Judy Ware — Office Associate
303.545.6772 x104, judy@accessfund.org

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Boulder, CO 80302

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These partners are businesses that put their money where their mouth is to support the Future of Climbing. Please consider the important contribution these partners make to your climbing future. They support the Access Fund and you. We encourage you to support them.

TITANIUM — \$50,000+

Haynes and Boone LLP — 2003

DIAMOND PLUS — \$20,000+

Black Diamond Equipment — 1991
REI — 1991

DIAMOND MEDIA — \$20,000+

Backpacker Magazine — 2004
Climbing — 1991
Rock & Ice — 1993
Urban Climber Magazine — 2004

PLATINUM PLUS — \$15,000+

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CLIF Bar — 1995
Eastern Mountain Sports — 1993
Patagonia — 1992
The North Face — 1995

GOLD PLUS — \$7,500+

Amadeus Consulting Group — 2004
Archer Law Offices P.C. — 2003
ASHA Carpets — 2007
Boulder Rock Club &
Colorado Mountain School — 1996
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Nalgene — 1992
Outdoor Research — 1999
Touchstone Climbing Inc. — 1998
Trango USA & Stonewear Designs — 1992

GOLD — \$5,000+

American Bouldering Series — 2000
Big Up Productions — 2003
Campmor — 1991
Gregory Mountain Products — 1993
La Sportiva — 1994
New England Ropes - Maxim — 1992
SCARPA North America — 2006
The Spot Bouldering Gym — 2003

SILVER — \$2,500+

All Terrain — 2003
Arc'teryx — 1998
BlueWater — 1992
Boston Rock Gym — 2006
FalconGuides — 1998
Mammut USA — 1991
Marmot — 1999
Metolius — 1991
Misty Mountain Threadworks — 1994
Mountain Hardwear — 1996
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New Belgium Brewing Co. — 2000
Sterling Rope — 1994

MAJOR — \$1,000+

bluetrope consulting — 2003
CAMP USA — 2004
Cloudveil — 1998
Crazy Creek Products — 1992
EVOLVE Sports — 2006

Exum Mountain Guides — 2005
Flannel Design — 2001
Mad Rock — 2007
Montrail — 2002
Mountainsmith — 2003
MSR/Therm-a-Rest/Platypus — 1995
Osprey — 2003
Outdoor Retailer — 1991
Phoenix Rock Gym — 1997
Planet Granite Climbing Gyms — 2004
Redpoint, Inc. — 2000
RESTOP — 2006
ROCK'n & JAM'n — 2007
Royal Robbins — 1992
Sherrill Tree & Climbing Supply — 2005
SuperTopo.com — 2003
Vertical World — 2006
Weathered Stone — 1999
Yates Gear — 1993
YourClimbing.com — 2006

CONTRIBUTING — \$500+

Advanced Base Camp — 1992
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Alpine Ascents International — 1998
Avery Brewing Company — 1998
Chope Designs, LLC — 2006
Climbing Rope Bracelets — 2005
Eagle Creek — 2005
Eastern Sierras Medicus
Anodynos Corp — 2006
Excalibur DMM/Wild Country
Extreme Engineering — 2004
Five Ten — 2004
Flannel Design — 2001
Fortress Worldwide — 2006
Fox Mountain Guides &
Climbing School — 2005
GearEXPRESS.com — 2003
Higher Ground Roasters — 2003
Julbo — 2005
JustRopes.com — 2004
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Mountain Tools — 1991
Mountaineers Books — 1992
NEice.com — 2005
Nicros — 1997
Pacific Edge Climbing Gym — 1995
PMI — 1991
Real Cheap Sports — 2003
Rock and Snow, Inc. — 2003
Schwartz Communications, Inc. — 2003
Sickle Climbing — 2001
Stone Age Climbing — 1997
Stone Moves — 2005
Tom K. Michael, D.D.S., P.S. — 2000
Travel Country Outdoors — 2002
Untraditional Marketing — 2007
Vasque — 2001

MEDIA PARTNERS

Alpinist — 2003
Andrew Burr Photography — 2006
Andrew Kornylak Photography — 2006
Andrew Querner Photography — 2006
ASANA PackWorks — 2005

Blue Ridge Outdoors Magazine — 1997
Camp4.com — 2002
Corey Rich Photography — 2002
CragCam Productions — 2006
Dan Bailey Photography — 2002
DrTopo.com — 2003
Emilie Lee — 2006
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Second Chance Films — 2004
Sender Films — 2005
Sharpend Publishing — 2004
She Sends — 2004
SNEWS — 2002
Stark Contrast Photography — 2005
summitjournal.com — 2006
Thoos — 2006

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.



Touchstone Climbing Inc. is one of the most well-known indoor climbing operations in the world. Born in 1994 with the idea of bringing indoor climbing to San Francisco, Touchstone has grown into a family of six gyms in northern California and has hosted more national accredited roped climbing competitions than any other organization.

Not only is Touchstone a high level Corporate Partner, they help with the ever-important work of getting the Access Fund message out to a broader climber base.

Thanks for all you do for the climbing community!

REFER a friend



IT'S SO EASY!

Know a climber who's not a member? Get them to join and receive free stuff. The more people you get to join, the more free stuff you get!

A EVERY TIME your name is entered as a referrer, you are entered into a contest to win a rope*.

B REFER TWO FRIENDS and receive a Nalgene Flask. **REFER FOUR FRIENDS** and receive a Nalgene Flask and a dri-release wool T-shirt from Outdoor Research.

REFER SIX FRIENDS and receive a Nalgene Flask, a dri-release wool T-shirt from Outdoor Research, and a North Face merino wool beanie cap.



C THE TWO TOP REFERRERS will receive a bonus gift package worth over \$150

REFER your friends by sending them to this **NEW link:** www.accessfund.org/AFfriend, or give them this card.



*substitutions of equal or greater value may apply. See www.accessfund.org/join/rules.php for official rules.

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GET 30% OFF



GET 20% OFF



GET 15% OFF



GET 15% OFF

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 **At \$100 or more, you qualify for a gift as part of the Access Fund MEMBERSHIP INCENTIVE PROGRAM (Please visit www.accessfund.org/support/mip.php)

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NOTE: The Access Fund occasionally lends its mailing list to organizations involved in issues you may also find of interest. If you wish NOT to have your name exchanged, please check here. Thank you.

Local Climbing Organizations and 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. 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, Programs Director, at 303-545-6772 x112 or deanne@accessfund.org

Alabama

Southeastern Climbers Coalition*

Arkansas

Southeastern Climbers Coalition*

Arizona

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

California

Cragmont Climbing Club
Eastern Sierra Climbers Coalition*
Friends of Joshua Tree*
Friends of Pinnacles
Friends of Williamson Rock*
San Diego Alliance of Climbers*
Southern Sierra Climbers Association*
Yosemite Climbing Association*

Colorado

Access Colorado*
Action Committee for Eldorado*
Colorado Springs Climbers Alliance*
Flatirons Climbing Council*
Northern Colorado Climbers Coalition*
Roaring Fork Climbers Coalition*

Connecticut

Ragged Mountain Foundation*

Georgia

Southeastern Climbers Coalition*

Iowa

Eastern Iowa Climbers Coalition*

Idaho

Boise Climbers Alliance*
Kootenai Climbers*

Illinois

Illinois Climbers Association*

Kentucky

Red River Gorge Climbers Coalition*
Southeastern Climbers Coalition*

Massachusetts

Appalachian Mountain Club
Boston Chapter*
Western Massachusetts Climbers Coalition*

Michigan

Grand Ledges Climbers Coalition

Minnesota

Minnesota Climbers Association*

Missouri

Climbers Alliance of Mid-Missouri*
Kansas City Climbing Club*

Montana

Southwest Montana Climbers Coalition

North Carolina

Boone Climbers Coalition*
Carolina Climbers Coalition*
Pisgah Climbers Association*
Southeastern Climbers Coalition*

New Hampshire

Rumney Climbers Association*

New Jersey

Access NJ*

New Mexico

CRAG-New Mexico*

Nevada

Las Vegas Climbers Liaison Council*

New York

Adirondack Mountaineering Coalition*
Gunks Climbers Coalition*

Ohio

Ohio Climbers Association*

Oklahoma

Chandler Park Climbers Coalition*
Wichita Mountains Climbers Coalition*

Oregon

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

Pennsylvania

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

South Carolina

Carolina Climbers Coalition*
Pisgah Climbers Association*
Southeastern Climbers Coalition*

South Dakota

Black Hills Climbers Coalition*

Tennessee

Southeastern Climbers Coalition*

Texas

Central Texas Mountaineers*
Climbers of Hueco Tanks*
Concho Valley Climbers Association*
Texas Mountaineers

Utah

Friends of Indian Creek*
Salt Lake Climbers Alliance*

Virginia

Friends of Great Falls Coalition*
Shenandoah National Park Climbers Alliance

Vermont

CRAG-VT*
Northeastern Vermont Climber's Alliance

Washington

Washington Climbers Coalition*

Wisconsin

Wisconsin Outdoor Access*

West Virginia

Coopers Rock Regional Climbing Coalition*
New River Alliance of Climbers*
Southeastern Climbers Coalition*

Canada

Climbers Access Society of British Columbia*

» to contact your local LCO or to view a LCO website go to: www.accessfund.org/partners/affiliates.php

Vertical Times April 2007 | Vol. 75

Printing is generously supported by **Urban Climber Magazine**. The Access Fund is a national non-profit organization dedicated to keeping climbing areas open and conserving the climbing environment. *Vertical Times* is the membership newsletter of the Access Fund published six times a year in February, April, June, August, October, and December. Printed with 100% soy based inks on 10% recycled fiber paper.

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