

Vertical Times



THE NATIONAL PUBLICATION OF THE ACCESS FUND
VOLUME 59, AUGUST 2004

**INTERVIEW WITH
EMILY HARRINGTON**

**BLM RELEASES INDIAN CREK
RECREATION PLAN**

Reaching Out to Generation Y

"What is the Access Fund?" asked a curious teenager with a skull cap at the Phoenix Bouldering competition a few years back. Standing before our booth, he scanned our brochures and pamphlets with curiosity.

"Where do you live?" I responded.

"Flagstaff, Arizona,"

"Well, the Access Fund is a bit like an animal rights group for climbers," I began, "Instead of protecting dogs and cats from abuse, we protect climbers' access to climb on public and private lands. We're a national organization, so we represent all American climbers, boulderers, mountaineers – you name it in the vertical world. In Flagstaff, for example, we have organized trail projects, paid for signs at climbing areas, given grants..."

The young climbers' eyes lit up with my explosion of information, "So you're kinda like the United Skateboarding Association, except for rock climbers?"

"Yeah, something like that," I responded. "Are you interested in joining, because we really depend on members like you to help us continue our work across the country."

"Uh, no I'm not a joiner, but I sure could use some stickers?"

"Sure," I said handing him our two of our logo decals. Then he darted off to the next booth as if being chased by the "law" leaving me in a state of shell-shocked disillusionment.

Having spent my early climbing years in North Carolina, the Access Fund was

as integral to climbing and bouldering outdoors as magnesium carbonate. When my favorite bouldering area was closed for development, the Access Fund was there. When we had questions about how to deal with the National Park Service in order to create new trails, the Fund was there, when a new kiosk was needed at a local crag...you get the picture.

Whether you are a younger climber, perhaps just learning to climb or a seasoned teenager with more trips to Hueco than the average 30-something boulder toad, the Fund is your organization.

As the Access Fund ascends into its fifteenth year of operation, we realize how critical younger climbers are to our survival and are striving to capture their/your attention through awareness drives such as "The Boulder Project" and advertising campaigns such as the "Use Your Power" series that will premiere in *URBAN CLIMBER MAGAZINE* this September.

So read on -- we have a candid interview with Emily Harrington, Access Fund Ambassador, Rock Star and world class climber, on page 12, dozens of Adopt-a-Crag events for you to give back to your favorite climbing area, and crucial climbing news such as area reports by region on page 6 and the Indian Creek Action Alert on page 3. If you skim through this issue and are still unsure of "what is the Access Fund," please surf our website at accessfund.org for more.

Climb Strong,

John Heisel

On the cover: Access Fund Rockstar, Emily Harrington, onsights Canabis (5.12c) in Arco, Italy. See page 12 for a complete e-interview with Emily — direct from an internet cafe in Australia. *Photo by Matt Segal.*

BLM Releases Indian Creek Recreation Plan — Public Comments Needed By August 31

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) just released its Draft Indian Creek Recreation Plan (www.blm.gov/utah/monticello/ICEA.pdf), which presents alternatives for managing camping and climbing at Indian Creek. The BLM's "preferred" Alternative B provides for self-management with a one-year no fees trial period. In areas where more developed facilities and services are provided, fees would be charged. These areas include Hamburger Rock Campground and the new Shay Mountain Vista Campground. If you support less management and no fees write the BLM by August 31 and urge them to select Alternative B for the Indian Creek Plan.

This will be the last time the public has an opportunity to comment on and influence the BLM's decision-making on how Indian Creek should be managed.

Preferred Alternative B Climbing Management

Actual climbing restrictions are few. No climbing would be allowed on routes that may impact cultural resources. The BLM would also seasonally close and post climbing routes which adversely impact nesting raptors. The establishment of new

routes and placing of bolts and anchors would be allowed.

Camping

Undesignated dispersed camping within the Indian Creek Corridor would be allowed. As needs are identified, closure of areas to dispersed camping would be addressed through revisions to the Resource Management Plan (RMP) or emergency closures. Such areas may include: areas which can only be accessed by crossing private land, areas in which camping is found to be in conflict with cultural resources, and/or areas in which camping is found to be in conflict with natural resources. Campfires are restricted to fire rings where fire rings are available. Where fire rings are not available, and in dispersed camping areas, fires would be subject to "Leave No Trace" standards. Wood collecting would be prohibited throughout the entire Indian Creek Corridor planning area.

The "Bridger Jack" and "Creek Pasture" camping areas would be designated and developed according to formal site plans. Facilities at these sites may include the installation of fire rings, educational kiosks or signs, delineated parking areas, and campsite marker posts, and toilets. A one-year trial pack-in/pack-out policy would be enforced for handling human waste issues. If waste problems persist or increase, portable toilets would be required or restrooms would be installed. No fees would be charged for use of



Jeff Widen

If adopted, the new Indian Creek Recreation Plan calls for the "Bridger Jack" (above) and "Creek Pasture" camping areas to be developed according to formal site plans. Public comments responding to this plan are needed by **August 31st**.

these areas unless it is determined that restrooms are needed. At that point, options for covering the cost of installation and maintenance of restrooms would be explored.

Dispersed camping at the “Cottonwoods Camp” and “Superbowl” camping areas would be allowed, but not encouraged. No facilities or services would be implemented, and therefore, no fees would be charged. A one-year trial pack-in/pack-out policy would be enforced for these areas. If at the end of the trial period, this policy were not found to be effective, a recommendation would be made that the Resource Management Plan close these areas to dispersed camping.

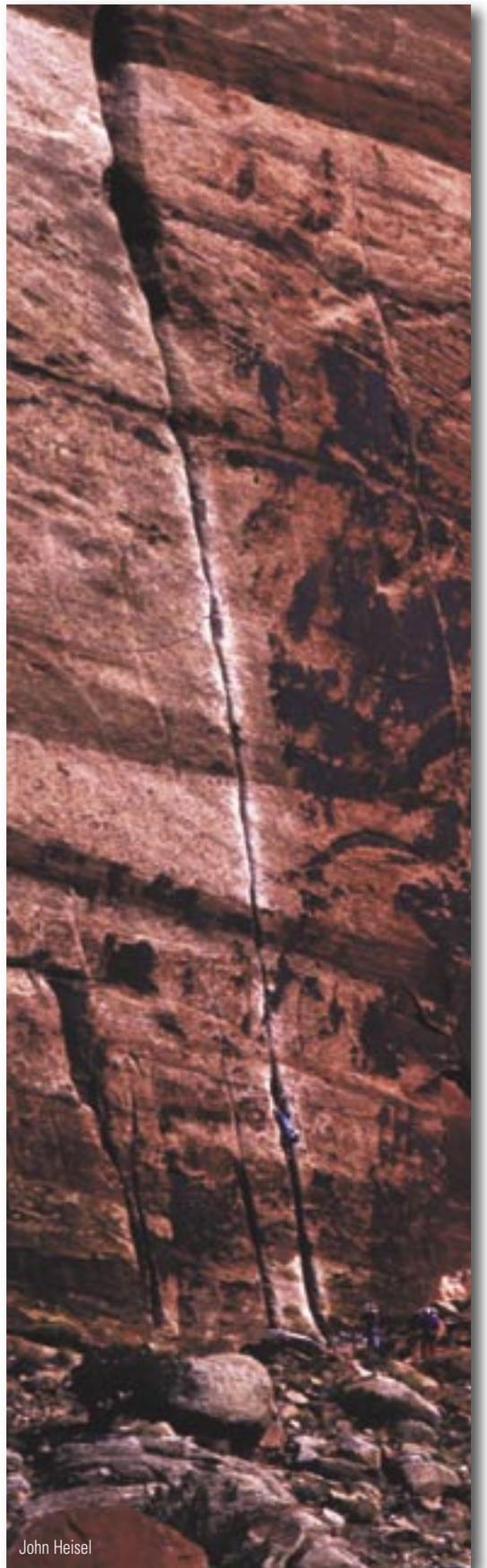
Sanitation and Garbage

A one-year trial period pack-in/pack-out policy would be enforced for all areas without restrooms and garbage receptacles. If problems with human waste persist or increase, portable toilets would be required or restrooms would be installed in these areas. Dog waste must be buried or disposed of properly.

The following standards would be applied and enforced during the trial period:

- Adherence to the Leave No Trace standards is required.
- Provision and use of a “wag bag” system or portable toilet is required.
- Use of cat holes for human waste is prohibited.
- Leaving or burying toilet paper is prohibited.
- Packing out all trash and garbage is required.
- Screening or filtering of grey water is required before dumping.

The pack-in/pack-out policy would remain in place as long as both the public and BLM think that it is working. If at any time in the future the BLM determines that the pack-in/pack-out policy is no longer effective, permanent restrooms would be installed and fees would be charged to cover the costs of construction and maintenance of the restrooms.



John Heisel

The area around classics such as “Generic Crack” in Donnelly Canyon would be developed according to a formal BLM site plan — the plan may include kiosk installation, new trails, and no charges for use of the area.

Donnelly Canyon

Donnelly Canyon would also be developed according to a formal BLM site plan. Adequate parking and restroom facilities may be installed depending on yet to be determined land ownership boundaries. The Donnelly Canyon site plan may also include the installation of educational kiosks or signs, and the establishment of recreational access trails. No fees would be charged for use of this area.

Alternative B is a really good deal for climbers, especially considering what might have been proposed. It is clear that the Monticello BLM seeks to establish a model land management plan where public preferences are emphasized. We control the future of Indian Creek. While a few "improvements" will be made to designated camping locations at Bridger Jack and Creek Pasture, the thrust of Alternative B will allow climbers to self-manage themselves by requiring folks to pack out their own waste. Nearly all of the dispersed camping will be retained and there will be no fees charged for access to or camping at Indian Creek, at least until the BLM determines that facilities are needed to mitigate unacceptable human sanitation and garbage impacts. In short, Alternative B has very few restrictions while still providing a vision for limiting future user impacts. The community that uses Indian Creek (climbers) will be able to control the level of BLM management by showing that we can take care of the area without fees or restrictions. As long as we take care of the place it will remain largely undeveloped and free.

So, if you support self-regulation, less BLM involvement in your Indian Creek experience (while still retaining access to your favorite camping sites), no fees, and a plan for preserving the existing primitive character of the area, write the BLM and urge them to select Alternative B for the Indian Creek Plan.

Comments should be sent by August 31 to the Monticello Field Office of the Bureau of Land Management: Attention, Scott Berkenfield Supervisory Outdoor Recreation Planner, Box 7, Monticello, Utah, 84534 or by email at Scott_Berkenfield@blm.gov.

Vertical Times, August 2004, volume 59.

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

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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 \$2 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.

Vertical Times is the membership newsletter of the Access Fund published six times a year in February, April, June, August, October, and December.

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AREA REPORTS

Elected officials in Provo are paying \$200,000 to keep the rocks in Rock Canyon, UT

(Story reprinted from The Salt Lake Tribune)

To prevent more excavation at a quarry in the bucolic canyon east of the Provo LDS Temple, City Council members Tuesday approved giving \$200,000 to Red Slab LLC, a Provo group that will use the cash to purchase a half-interest on 84 acres from owners Greg Sperry and Design West.

Provo, in turn, will get a conservation easement on the land from members of Red Slab - Sen. John Valentine, R-Orem; his legal partner Phillip Lowry; and Sen. Curt Bramble, R-Provo - to preserve the land in perpetuity. The trio also has committed to raising cash to buy the remaining 50 percent interest on the land from quarry owner Richard Davis.

If the matter winds up in court, Red Slab will pay for litigation.

"This is remarkable," Mayor Lewis Billings said. "There isn't going to be any windfall of millions of dollars of profits in anyone's pockets. [Red Slab members] are doing this because they want to preserve this for the community."

After negotiations with the city to purchase his land fell through, Davis paid Michael McPhilomy and son Michael McPhilomy Jr. last October to begin quarrying rock from the entrance of the canyon between Squaw Peak and Y Mountain, a popular hangout each day for hundreds of hikers and rock climbers.

Provo responded by pressing charges against the father-son team for excavating without the proper permits. City legal experts also began researching a way to stop Davis, who has a mining claim.

An avid rock climber, Valentine was incensed in February when he saw the excavation and its destruction of Table Rock, one of his favorite climbing formations. To prevent further damage, he and Lowry organized Red Slab, named for the area jeopardized by Davis' quarry.

"Rock Canyon is a jewel," Valentine said at Tuesday's meeting. "We do this because we believe passionately in saving

this entrance to a very beautiful canyon. This canyon is something of very great importance to the future of this city. It provides the vistas. It provides the views. Provo City would not be the same without the beautiful mountains to the east. If those mountains are torn down, or if they become a rock quarry, that is something that all of us in future generations will rue the day we didn't take care of it."

Besides a haven for hikers and climbers, Rock Canyon is vital for Provo, which taps streams in the area for part of its water supply.

Montana Conservation Corps Assists Devils Tower National Monument, WY

(Submitted by Jim Cheatham)

Thanks to efforts by the Montana Conservation Corps (MCC), Devils Tower National Monument has a new trail and fewer exotic plants. During June and July 2004, the Billings, Montana based MCC crew worked within the park on two separate occasions, totaling over two weeks.

During June, the MCC joined the National Park Service (NPS) resource management staff and treated exotic invasive plants using manual and chemical methods. During July, the crew of five returned and constructed a new trail. The new trail connects two existing loops trails, the Joyner Ridge Trail and the Red Beds Trail. The crew's vigorous work ethic helped them to endure and excel under the hot summer conditions. Superintendent Eckert stated, "The National Park Service is a proud partner of the Montana Conservation Corps who have helped us to complete our first General Management Plan (GMP) action." The connector trail is called for in the park's 2002 GMP.

The MCC is a non-profit organization



Volunteers from the Montana Conservation Corps take a break while building new trails last June at Devils Tower.

with a mission to equip young people with tools for life while they complete projects of lasting benefit to the environment and communities of Montana, and neighboring regions. MCC volunteers commit 5-9 months of national service and are eligible for educational awards through the AmeriCorps program. To learn more about the MCC program, visit their website at www.mtcorgs.org.

"Spring Thing" at Smith Rocks, OR

On May 8, 2004 nearly 150 people showed up at Smith Rock State Park to take part in the 12th Annual "Spring Thing." Although mostly climbers, others such as hikers, Mt bikers, bird watchers, school groups and the boy scouts all volunteered their day to help Oregon Parks and Recreation Department maintain trails and make improvements to one of the most visited parks in Central Oregon.

Work projects included adding erosion control measures, planting native plants in impacted areas, picking up litter and making climbing area enhancements and trail improvements. The big project this year was completing the rock walls at Morning Glory Wall area, which was started last year. Pressure treated timbers and rebar were removed and replaced with dry stacked basalt rock, which is commonly used as landscaping throughout central Oregon. Due to the popularity of Smith Rock, the wood and rebar are just not holding up to the amount of use. The new rock walls create stable erosion retaining walls, large flat areas for climbing gear organization, and look better than the pressure treated wood. Another series of rock walls was started in the Dihedrals in a similar manner.

An amazing amount of work also occurred in Agro Gully and Shipwreck Wall areas. Last winter the high amounts of snow and moisture loosened up the dirt. Much of the work in Agro Gully focused on shoring up some loose rocks and scree slopes. Shipwreck Wall, specifically the trail to the main part of the wall, saw excellent improvements. Large rocks were used to create step and ledges for hiking and climbing. Loose scree was removed from above the trail to prevent dirt and rock from

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falling onto the trail.

Rope-de-Dope, the main entrance trail and Misery Ridge trail were also cleaned and improved. A split rail fence was installed near the river below the Dihedrals to prevent people from walking on the fragile hillside. A couple of groups worked along the Crooked River shoreline to clean up trash left from high water and to pull noxious weeds.

The Smith Rock Group is a non-profit organization, which works with Smith Rock State Park to help maintain the recreation opportunities in the park. Many people in the group live near the park and spend countless hours organizing this yearly event. Although it is only one day there is a large amount of effort that must occur before and after the event to ensure success. The group spends several months lining up the volunteer projects with park staff. About 20 yards of rock was needed to construct the rock walls this year. The rock had to be moved in a truck then by tractor and finally by a motorized wheelbarrow. At one site the ground was so steep that all the rock had to be carried by hand for the last 100feet. All this work had to be done by the Smith Rock Group before the day of the event, due to the limited amount of equipment and congestion on the trails.

In the evening, dinner was served to the volunteers. Recognition was given to "Ranger Dave" Slaght for all his work with the group and climbing community. This was Dave's last

day at Smith, since he has been promoted to a Team Leader at Cove Palisades State Park at Lake Billy Chinook. Dave thanked the volunteers for helping, recognizing that the work accomplished saved the park thousands of dollars. Dave introduced the new Ranger, Thad Fitzhenry who had already started work at Smith Rock.

The volunteers were treated with a slide show of everyone working throughout the day. A slide show of a trip to Cuba was given free of charge from Brittany Griffith and Timmy O'Neil, which had the audience rolling with laughter.

Various climbing gear companies donated product or services, which was raffled or auctioned to raise over \$3,000, for supplies and materials for next years project. Support for the event was excellent. Salomon provided the largest contribution with gear for the auction. Metolius, Evolv, Entre Prises, Black Diamond, Patagonia, and Redpoint/First Ascent all made substantial donations. Other significant contributions were received from Sunset Realty, Inclimb Gym, Michael Geisen, Bluewater, Metabolic Maintenance, Stone Age, Portland Rock Gym, Eagle Crest, Solid Rock Climbers for Christ, The Greens at Redmond, Five Ten, Crooked River Ranch, Petzl, Chaco, Kelty, Courtney Lower, Misty Mountain Threadwear, Wild County, Red Chili, Cascade Designs/MSR, Clif Bar, Athletic Club of Bend, Liberty Mountain, SmithRock.com and Rockhard.



Volunteers improve trails at Smith Rock's "Spring Thing" in May. Nearly 150 people participated in the event.

GRASSROOTS

Access Fund Awards \$9000 in Climbing Preservation Grants

The Access Fund has awarded \$9,000 in its second round of grant funding for 2004. 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, education and start-up assistance for newly formed local climber organizations.

"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:

- Gunks Climbers Coalition, New York
The Gunks Climbers Coalition was awarded a grant for campground improvements at the New York Department of Environmental Conservation Multiple Use Area. Improvements will include a new and more detailed campground map, signs and clearer designation of camping sites. The free campground, which has been used by climbers for decades, is located adjacent to the Mohonk Preserve.

- French's Dome, Oregon

The Forest Service was awarded 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.

- Washington Climbers Coalition, WA
A grant was awarded to the Washington Climbers Coalition for start-up and orga-



The Access Fund recently awarded the Gunks Climbers Coalition a grant for campground improvements.

nizational expenses. The newly formed group will represent climbers' interests in the state, and will work closely with public and private landowners to address access, stewardship and climbing management issues.

- Bolton Quarry Acquisition Project, VT
The Climbing Resource Access Group of Vermont (CRAG-VT) was awarded a grant to assist with the acquisition of the Bolton Quarry climbing area. Bolton Quarry is a locally and regionally significant rock and ice climbing area. CRAG-VT recently negotiated to purchase the crag and surrounding 30-acre parcel for recreational use and protection. Climbing will be allowed and access to the crag will be guaranteed in perpetuity. This grant supplements a grant awarded by the AF in the fall of 2003 for the acquisition.

Adopt-a-Crag Challenge Update

There is still time to sign up to be a part of this year's Adopt-a-Crag. Our goal is to support 89 Adopt-a-Crags around the country. If we were to climb Yosemite's Half Dome, Northwest Face (23 pitches), The Nose (31 pitches), and Salathe Wall (35 pitches) in a day, we would complete 89 pitches of climbing. As with all dreams and goals, we can't do it alone. We need you to help us reach our goal. To date we have 65+ events. We are over halfway to our goal. We have topped-out on Half-Dome and the Nose, and are inching our way up the Salathe Wall.

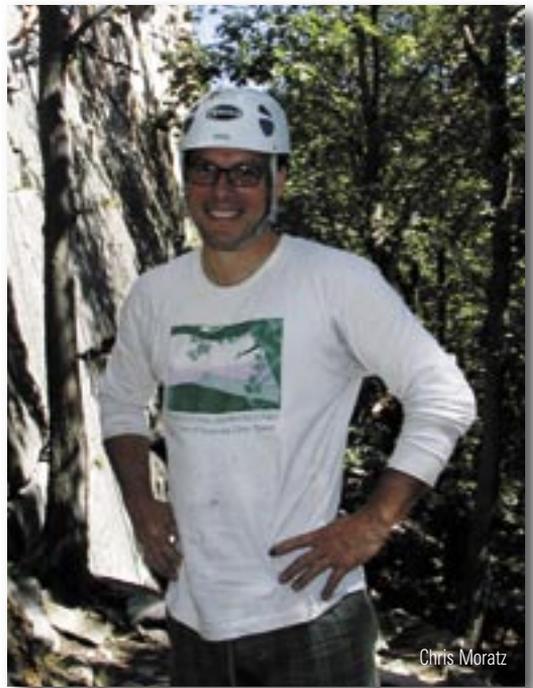
Adopt-a-Crag is an excellent avenue for building alliances and partnerships and to plan for the future. Be it a crag clean-up of 8 volunteers or a fundraiser, comp, and trail work day with 100 volunteers Adopt-a-Crag is about giving back to those places we love and use on a regular basis. Adopt-a-Crag inspires activism, advocacy, volunteerism, and stewardship. In the four years since the inception of Adopt-a-Crag, climbers around the country have built and restored thousands of miles of trails, hauled tons of trash, and completed thousands of conservation initiatives.

This year we have expanded Adopt-a-Crag to encompass the entire month of September. We made this change to encourage organizers to schedule their Adopt-a-Crag event on a day that works best for their community and to partner with other organizations. As in the past, you can get all your Adopt-a-Crag information and register online at www.AccessFund.org.

Chris Moratz new Regional Coordinator for the Shawangunks

Recently Chris Moratz, who has been involved with the Gunks Climbers' Coalition since its inception, was designated Regional Coordinator for the Gunks and Catskills. Here is some information about him:

William Christopher "Chris" Moratz born in Pasadena, California in 1961 grew up with many moves and changes all around the US and Europe. Chris started rock climbing in 1980, discovering the Shawangunks from his home base of Ithaca, NY at the time. After a traditional "old school" apprenticeship of a few years, he was a regular at the cliffs. Over the years Chris kept a fairly low profile and climbed with only a few regular partners, with his Gunks climbing career interrupted first in 1986 when a foreign assignment took him to live in Germany for an extended period of over two years -fortunately right "next door" to the Frankenjura- then returning in 1989 when his life took another turn with marriage and life in Western NY followed by the Boston area. After a divorce in 1994, he decided to settle permanently in his



Access Fund Regional Coordinator, Chris Moratz, pauses for a photo during last year's Adopt-a-Crag event at the Mac Wall.

beloved Shawangunks, after all, this sense of place has never been equaled for Chris in any other region in which he has lived. In 1995, his long standing dream came true when he purchased a house on Sandhill Road in the Town of Shawangunk with a beautiful view of Skytop. His corporate engineering job again took him away to Germany from 2001 to 2002 but since then he has enjoyed the local mountains more than ever. Favorite climbing area outside the Gunks? Red River Gorge in Kentucky, since his sister Karen (a professional flautist) resides in Indianapolis not far away and the family was at home in southern Indiana for a few years growing up.

In addition to rock climbing, Chris also boulders frequently at a moderate level. His favorite cliff is Millbrook, which admittedly both terrifies and fascinates like no other climbing area. "It reminds me of a remote mountain fastness or citadel, shrouded in mystery, with unique, unparalleled imposing beauty and wildness, a place where the climbing gods dwell." Chris along with the GCC, Access Fund and other organizations is currently working on a access project there.

Since this is one of the greatest climbing areas anywhere and a great commu-

nity, Chris feels lucky to serve and “give back” to a place that has given him so much.

When not climbing rock, ice or bouldering, Chris is an avid road cyclist in the summer and a cross country skier (member of the ski patrol at Minnewaska State Park) in the winter. First and foremost an artist and creative person, he also maintains a small art pottery studio out of his house on Sandhill Road. His profession in mechanical engineering has turned into a 15 year career with the same company and a staff-level position.

If you have questions about the GCC, getting involved or any climbing access related question call 845-895-8978 or visit <http://gunksclimbers.org/index.shtml>

Access Fund's Adopt-A-Crag Helps Protect Climbing Areas

(Submitted by Sally Martin, REI)

Alaska's Chugach State Park south of Anchorage and California's Stoney Point Park in the San Fernando Valley are two of the country's popular outdoor destinations. Each year these areas attract hundreds of climbing and bouldering enthusiasts, with steep crags of rugged rock masses projecting upward and outward. The sites are also two of the many locations around the country which will benefit from the Access Fund's fifth annual Adopt-a-Crag initiative sponsored by REI, Clif Bar and Gore.

Next month, the Access Fund is encouraging climbers and other outdoor enthusiasts to give back to these and other climbing areas, by adopting a crag and working to conserve some of the country's favorite climbing environments. Events differ based on their locations and specific needs, but each will feature an element of conservation, an air of giving back and a spirit of celebration. Typical activities include litter and graffiti removal, erosion control, trail construction and wild-life documentation.

While it's exciting to see the growth in popularity, the sheer volume of traffic also means personal frustration for climbing and bouldering enthusiasts such as Rick Agnelli, a hiker who frequents Stoney Point Park and is a regular Adopt-a-Crag volunteer. Generally, he says, recreationists are aware of their impact, and they

Access Fund **ADOPT A CRAG**

S E P T E M B E R 2 0 0 4

clean up after themselves. But there are those who hike to the top of the rocky outcropping overlooking the valley after the park is closed. They come to take in the view and to party, and then they leave behind bottles, cans and other refuse. “This is not the way I want to experience the outdoors, so I like to do my part as an Adopt-a-Crag volunteer,” he added.

REI member Wayne Fuller who's been a volunteer with the program at Alaska's Chugach State Park for the past three years concurs. “It's a fair amount of work cleaning up the trash and graffiti, but it's also a lot of fun, and rewarding to know that our efforts provide a benefit to all users of the area.”

This year, throughout September, more than 65 Adopt-a-Crag events are planned for climbing and bouldering areas around the country. In the four years since the inception of Adopt-a-Crag, outdoor enthusiasts around the country have built and restored thousands of miles of trails, hauled tons of trash and completed thousands of conservation initiatives. “It's like Earth Day for the climbing community,” adds Fuller.

For more information about Adopt-a-Crag, see page 16 or visit:

www.accessfund.org/events/events_events_adopt.html



Volunteers pickup trash at Alaska's by Seward Highway in Anchorage. Wayne Fuller organized the 2003 event which will occur again this year on September 21st.

MEET THE AF

(Interview with Emily Harrington, Access Fund Ambassador and Rock Star via email)

ACCESS FUND: Where in Australia are you. What are you doing there? How is the climbing.

EMILY HARRINGTON: I'm in Sydney right now, just having some time alone in the city. I've been shopping, going to shows and museums, exploring. This is the end of my trip but most of it was spent in the Grampians in Southwest Australia. It was amazing. There's so much rock and so many areas to go to. The rest of our trip was spent in Nowra (sport climbing), Point Perpendicular (sea cliff trad climbing), Armidale (granite bouldering), and Bungonia Gorge (River Polished granite bouldering). The best climbing was in the Grampians, but Bungonia Gorge had the most concentrated rock with so much untapped potential.

AF: What are some of your greatest climbing achievements?

EH: Competitions-2004 Adult Difficulty National Champion, 9th place 2003 Difficulty World Championships Outdoors- hardest redpoints: *Dolce Vita* (5.13c) Ceuse, France
Fluff Boy (5.13c) Rifle, Colorado
Onsights: *Skin Boat* (5.13a) Red River Gorge, Kentucky

AF: What are your favorite areas?
Ceuse and the Red River Gorge are my favorite Sport Climbing areas, while Rocky Mountain National Park is my favorite bouldering area.

AF: So, you just graduated from high school. How was it to balance being a student and professional climber?

EH: I didn't really climb seriously the past year or two, but it wasn't really because school got in the way. I wasn't into the whole high school scene, I just went through the motions of doing what I needed to do. I've been just hanging out with my friends, enjoying climbing, and planning for this Australia trip for the past year. I haven't really been focused on competitions or training.

AF: Was it hard to fit in at high school as a climber? What did your classmates think of rock climbing?

EH: They didn't get it. I didn't try to fit in or make anybody understand. I had a couple good friends, but most of the time I hung out with my friends who weren't in high school.

AF: Do you have any immediate or long-

term plans for the future?

This fall, I'll be attending the University of Colorado as an International Affairs major, climbing in Rocky Mountain National Park, going sport climbing in Spain in October, a Difficulty World Cup in Slovenia in December (and I'll be training seriously for this one), and trying to put together our climbing film. It's called THE AUSTRALIA PROJECT and it's set to premiere on December 2nd at the Boulder Theater. (www.bsproductions.us)

AF: What do your parents think about you being a climber?

EH: My dad loves climbing, maybe even more than I do. He's extremely supportive and has allowed me to do so much in climbing. My mom doesn't climb, but she supports me just as much. I owe so much to them. They're the ones who paid for all the plane tickets around the country, to Europe, etc...

AF: Do you have any advice for young people starting out climbing?

EH: I would say that if I had to do it all over again, I would focus less on competitions and discover climbing outdoors earlier. I know for many kids around the country, that's not a possibility because of where they live, but learning how to rock climb is what kept me involved in the sport and I think it's important for every climber to experience.

AF: Are you an Access Fund member? If so, why do you think it is important for young climbers to be AF members?

EH: I am an access fund member and I think every climber should become a member as a way to give back to the sport that gives so much to them. It is important to become even more aware of the problems we face with climbing areas around the country and to actively take part in preserving them not only for today but for the future.



"Every climber should become a member as a way to give back to the sport that gives so much to them," says Emily.

Available Online

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Access and Conservation Access Fund Member Handbook Online

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

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

- Download the PDF file at:
accessfund.org/pdf/memb-handbook.pdf

Vertical Times Also Online

Vertical Times, the Access Fund's bimonthly print newsletter, 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 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 E-mail your name and address with "Remove Vertical Times" as the subject to:

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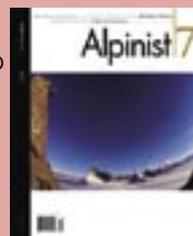
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"The focus of URBAN CLIMBER MAGAZINE is tomorrow, not yesterday. Without the Access Fund, today's climbing areas are threatened for tomorrow's use. URBAN CLIMBER MAGAZINE is dedicated to promoting the Access Fund's conservation projects, land acquisitions and climbing policy to the new generation of climbers."

Matt Burbach, Editor, *URBAN CLIMBER MAGAZINE*

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Events & Thanks

- 9/3 Portland, OR Smith Rock Festival, Kellie Rice
- 9/11 Eldorado Springs, CO Celebrate Eldorado 2004, Rick Casey 303-345-8893 celebrateeldo@aceeldo.org
- 9/12 Boulder, CO Bouldering Day at Carter Lake, Mike Thompson, 303-442-7566
- 9/18 Pocatello, ID Pocatello Pump, Peter Joyce, (208) 282-3912
- 11/1 Bloomington, IL 11th Annual Hangdog Jamboree, Jody Pollack, 309-829-8255
- 11/6 El Paso, TX Red Bull RockJam, Rob Rice, 915-855-0142

Thanks for your support through general events and projects

Armando Menocal, Jared Ogden, Skinny Skis, Jennifer Barrett and the International Climbers Festival crew, Dustin Buckthal at the Outdoor Program in Portland, OR, Luke Mehall & Tim Hoganson and the Western State Recreation Program, Mike Libeck, Frank Abissi and the Higher Ground Rock Climbing Centre, Gene & Maura Kistler, Water Stone Outdoors, Gainesville Rock Gym and Robert Easton.

Please welcome our new Corporate Partners

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Staff Update

In August, 2004, Heather Clark resigned as the Access Fund Development Director. After 6 years of service for the Fund, Heather has moved onto other climbs and pursuits. Presently Michael Lindsey, director of major gifts, is handling all inquiries related to development.

Reese Martin Killed in Paragliding Accident

It is with a heavy heart that we report that our dear friend, Reese Martin, was killed in a paragliding accident on Friday, July 9th. Reese was an amazing man, a good friend, climbing partner and Access Fund board member, supporter and donor. Reese had an enthusiasm and passion for life, friends, family, climbing and adventure. He will be truly missed.

Reese began climbing in 1971, and had climbed in the Pacific Northwest, California, Alaska, Nepal, Peru, Canada, Europe and Thailand, authoring over 100 new routes. Reese started out as a regional coordinator in California for the Access Fund and then joined as a member of the Access Fund board of directors. He replaced hundreds of bolts for the American Safe Climbing Association and was an American Alpine Club member.

Reese was married to Charlotte Fox of Aspen, also a former Access Fund director. Charlotte and Reese met and married while serving on the board of the Access Fund. Ms. Fox has asked that a memorial fund be set up in Reese's name. Please send donations, in lieu of flowers, to the Reese Martin Memorial Fund, c/o The Access Fund, PO Box 17010, Boulder, CO 80308. For questions or information please call 303.545.6772 x113.



Reese Martin



The Access Fund
PO Box 17010
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your climbing future

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Adopt-a-Crag Events (as of 8/17/04) For more info, visit
www.accessfund.org/events/aac_events_st.php

CANADA

09/11 Squamish, Canada, - Little Smoke Bluffs

AK

08/21 Anchorage, AK. Seward Highway

AL

09/11 Sandrock, AL. Sandrock
09/18 Collinsville, AL. Griffin Falls

CA

09/25 Santa Barbara, CA. Gibraltar Rock Clean-Up
09/25 Santa Monica Mountains, CA. Echo Cliffs Trail Work and Crag Clean-up
09/19 San Bourn Park, CA. San Bourn Park
10/02 Northridge, CA. Stoney Point Clean-Up
09/25 Corona Del Mar Beach, CA. Private's Cove
09/04 San Diego County, CA. Mount Woodson
09/25 San Diego, CA. El Cajon
09/11 & 09/12/2004, Idyllwild, CA. Tahquitz and Suicide Peaks Clean-a-Crag
09/18 Perris, CA. Big Rock Clean-a-Crag
09/25 Los Angeles, San Bernadino National Forest, CA. Mount Williamson Clean-a-Crag

CO

10/02 Castlewood Canyon State Park, CO. 2nd Annual Castlewood Clean-Up (9am)
09/12 Boulder (Carter Lake), CO. 4th Annual Carter Lake EMS Bouldering Day and Crag Clean-Up
10/23 Estes Park, CO. Lumpy Ridge, Rocky Mountain National Park
09/25 Fort Collins, CO. Duncan's Ridge
09/11 Rifle, CO. Rifle Mountain Park Clean-Up

GA

09/11 Lafayette, GA. Lost Wall Trail Day, Pigeon Mountain
09/11 Toccoa, GA. Currahee Mountain
09/04 Tallulah Falls, GA. Tallulah Gorge State Park

IA

09/11 Monticello, IA. 7th Annual Wild Iowa-Pictured Rocks Clean-up

ID

09/11 Pocatella, ID. Ross Park Sunny Side

Climbing Area Clean-Up
09/12 Coeur d'Alene, ID. Post Falls

MA

09/11 Rose Ledge, Northfield, MA. Rose Ledge Trail Maintenance

MD

09/19 Carderock, MD. Carderock Access Clean-Up Day

ME

09/19 Clifton, ME. Clifton

MN

09/12 Duluth, MN. North Shore

MO

09/21 Tuesday evening, Columbia, MO. Capen Park Crag Clean-Up

NC

09/04 Brevard, NC. at Looking Glass Rock
09/18 Pinnacle, NC. at Pilot Mountain State Park
09/11 Hager's Mountain, Cary, NC. 3rd Annual Hager's Mountain
09/18 Danbury, NC. at Hanging Rock State Park- Moore's Wall
09/04 Jonas Ridge, NC. Table Rock
09/04 Brevard, NC. Looking Glass Rock

NH

09/04 & 09/05/2004, North Conway, NH. Cathedral Ledges and Whitehorse Ledge Climbing Access Trail Reconstruction

NJ

09/25 & 09/26, Stephens State Park, NJ. Allamuchy

NM

09/11 Sitting Bull Falls, NM. Third Annual at Sitting Bull Falls National Forest

NY

09/25 New Paltz, NY. The Gunks Boulder and Trash Clean-Up

OK

09/11 & 09/12/2004, Wichita Mountains Wildlife Refuge, OK. Narrows Trail Project

OR

09/18 Lewis and Clark State Park, OR. at the Bluffs, Tony Holmes, Regional Coordinator, nwwilderness@aol.com
09/18 Rocky Butte, OR. Rocky Butte Rendezvous
09/19 Rabbit Ears National Forest, OR. Rabbit Ears Reanchoring

RI

Date TBA, Lincoln Woods State Park, RI. Lincoln Woods Clean-Up

SD

09/19 Garretson, SD. Palisades State Park

TN

10/09 TBA, TN. Southeastern Climbers Coalition at either Sunset Rock or Little Rock City
09/11 Obed River, TN. 5th Annual Obed Wild and Scenic River

UT

10/04 Salt Lake City, UT. American Fork Canyon

VA

09/18 Great Falls Park, VA. at Great Falls Park
09/18 Iron Gate, Clifton Forge, VA. Roanoke College
09/18 Dragons Tooth, VA. Dragons Tooth
09/18 Salem, VA. Hanging Rock
09/18 Roanoke, VA. McAfee's Knob

VT

09/25 Bolton, VT. West Bolton Crags Trail Days

WA

09/25 Anacortes, WA. Mount Erie

WI

10/16 Near Madison, WI. Devil's Lake State Park

WV

10/10 Coopers Rock, WV. Coopers Rock

WY

09/11 Cody, WY. Shosone River Canyon Clean-Up