

VERTICAL **TIMES**

THE NATIONAL PUBLICATION OF THE ACCESS FUND



your climbing future



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IN THIS ISSUE:
SHARP END AWARDS
ADOPT-A-CRAG AWARDS
SOUTHEAST ROAD TRIP REPORT
HOLIDAY GIFTS!

VOLUME 73 | DECEMBER 2006

INTRODUCTION |

THE AF PERSPECTIVE



This Month's Access Fund Editorial is written by Jeff Jackson, Editor of Rock & Ice.

I started climbing in Texas in 1977 and in the last 30 years I've seen almost every crag in that rock-rich country closed or restricted. I've been asked to leave, outlawed, yelled at and shot at. I've attended countless meetings, bull sessions and chautauquas where local climbers have debated ways to ensure or re-establish access to these cliffs. Unfortunately, the passionate petitions of local climbers invariably fell on deaf ears. Land managers, private owners or government officials always seemed to have bigger fish to fry. They looked at us with varying degrees of enmity, as a clout-less nuisance, while most landowners equated the skinny, shirtless cadre of trespassers with a chthonian race straight from the bowels of some underground city. I've heard the same words repeated again and again. The politeness of the rejoinder depends on the individual: "Sorry, but no," "No," and "Hell, no!" The door closes on negotiations and one can almost hear the hiss of a hermetic seal.

I recently moved to Colorado and helped to develop a cool little crag right outside my new hometown of Carbondale. Good shade, close to the road, 60 feet tall—by the end of the summer we had 45 clip-ups ready to go, most of them 5.10 and 5.11. The cliff was an instant hit with local climbers. The high school started using it as a classroom for the climbing team and people showed up from as far away as the Front Range to check out the gently overhanging, pumpu lines.

Then the government got wind of the climbing. In a meeting on October 11, the BLM told us that the area was under a special designation and that we couldn't climb there anymore. Luckily, we had the Access Fund on our side. The AF policy director, Jason Keith, challenged the agency's right to categorically single us out and shut climbing down. Hunters, hikers, campers, ATV enthusiasts, skiers and snowmobilers all use the area. Why not climbers? Had the agency gone through the proper process for closing the area? What about public input? When the law-enforcement agent started talking about levying fines, it was Jason who said, in no uncertain terms, "Sorry, but no."

The Access Fund has since helped us form the Roaring Fork Climber's Coalition, written countless letters to grumpy officials and helped our little community to stare down the overwhelming machinery of governmental bureaucracy. Thanks to the Access Fund, this time the climbers have clout and there's still hope for our crag.

The Access Fund is able to do what they do because of you. You're a member, so you know why it's important to support the organization that supports you. I urge you to tell others why they need to step up, keep your membership current, and always remember that in order to climb the rock you have to be able to access it.

Jeff Jackson, Editor, Rock and Ice



Mihai Popa climbs Area of Doubt, A 5.13 on a steep sandstone wall at Little River Canyon. One of the deepest canyons east of the Mississippi, the Canyon is lined with miles of sandstone bluffs. | © Andrew Kornylak | Aurora Photos

2006 Access Fund Sharp End Award Recipients

Because of space constraints, we are not able to say all that we'd like to say about these outstanding, dedicated volunteers. Please visit the press release on our website for the full descriptions of these amazing individuals' accomplishments. <http://www.accessfund.org/display/page/PR/48>

Each year the Access Fund recognizes individuals and businesses that volunteer their efforts and shine above the rest in their commitment and work on behalf of the American climbing community for preserving climbing access and the climbing environment. This year's awards and recipients are:

Sharp End Award: *For leadership and activism in preserving climbing access and the climbing environment.*

Doug Colwell

Doug is a long time activist in Idaho and has spent countless hours on efforts to reopen the famed Twin Sisters to climbing.

Randall Leavitt

Randy is a standout Access Fund Ambassador, member, and volunteer on behalf of the entire climbing community.

Christopher Spatz

Chris has played a significant role in the negotiations to open the Rosendale Water Works bouldering area in NY and in the creation of a Memorandum of Understanding between Mohonk Preserve and the Gunks Climbers' Coalition.

prAna

Recognized for above and beyond contributions of staff time, resources and financial support of the Access Fund's advocacy work.

Urban Climber Magazine

Recognized for above and beyond contributions of staff time, resources and financial support of the Access Fund's advocacy work.

Land Manager of the Year: *Given to a professional resource manager who has demonstrated a commitment to preserving climbing opportunities and a progressive approach to public lands management.*

Cal Hite, Park Superintendent New River Gorge

Cal Hite is recognized for his recent work with climbing

activists and his effective and cooperative management style over the last several years.

Reese Martin Memorial Award Regional Coordinator of the Year: *For leadership and activism in preserving climbing access and the climbing environment, and specifically for their volunteer work as an Access Fund representative.*

Kellie Rice

Based in Oregon, Kellie is recognized for above and beyond the expectations of the position.

The Bebie Leadership Award: *presented to America's outstanding activist(s) for the cause of preserving climbing access and the climbing environment.*

Ken Yager

Ken is the organizer of the Yosemite Facelift, the largest climber led stewardship event (and Adopt-A-Crag) in the nation.

Menocal Lifetime Achievement Award: *Presented periodically to individuals who have demonstrated remarkable commitment to the cause of preserving climbing access and the climbing environment, and who have contributed substantially to the progress of the Access Fund over many years.*

Sean Cobourn

Sean was a founding member of the Access Fund, served on the first Board of Directors, has been an Access Fund volunteer Regional Coordinator since 1991 and only recently stepped down as president of the Carolina Climbers Coalition.

In the last two years he is responsible for the creation of Hickory Nut Gorge State Park in North Carolina which forever protects the climbing at Rumbling Bald and the successful fundraising of over \$250,000 to purchase the privately held Laurel Knob, saving it from land development.

Michael Kennedy Award: *Presented periodically for outstanding leadership and commitment to the Access Fund mission as a Board member of the Access Fund.*

Dan Nordstrom

As Board President, Dan drives forward new initiatives and tackles hard issues while maintaining focus on the Access Fund's core mission.

2006 ADOPT A CRAG | WRAP UP

Presented by Title Sponsor Recreational Equipment, Inc. (REI), Presenting Sponsor GORE-TEX® Products, and Contributing Sponsor CLIF Bar

The Access Fund would like to thank everyone who participated at an Adopt-a-Crag event in 2006 and congratulate the event organizers who made the 7th Annual Adopt-a-Crag the biggest year ever! Adopt-a-Crag is the largest communal climber volunteer effort every year and shows land managers how climbers take care of the places they play while celebrating their crag through stewardship efforts that maintain the climbing environment and strengthen the reputation of the climbing community.

Newly incorporated as a 'year-round' program, Adopt-a-Crag 2006 was able to better accommodate event organizers in arranging stewardship projects dependent on need, season, and other local factors. The majority of events still occurred during the traditional months of September and October, which has become the Adopt-a-Crag Celebration Season.



Adopt-a-Crag 2006 exceeded expectations with **5,500 volunteers logging over 30,000 volunteer hours at 120 events** in 33 states, Puerto Rico, and British Columbia. This amazing effort from the climbing community equates to over \$540,000.00* of volunteer time devoted to conserving our climbing areas.

Adopt-a-Crag provides a national "voice" and resources to the many local stewardship events organized within the climbing community each year and would not be possible without the generous support of its sponsors. **Title Sponsor Recreational Equipment, Inc. (REI), Presenting Sponsor GORE-TEX® Products, and Contributing Sponsor CLIF Bar** provide the essential financial backing allowing the Access Fund to support each and every Adopt-a-Crag that is registered.



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



ADOPT A CRAG SPONSORS

Adopt-a-Crag would not be possible without the enormous support of its sponsors providing key financial backing, allowing the Access Fund to provide each Adopt-a-Crag event with resources to organize and volunteer gifts and clean-up materials. A very special thank you to:

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2006 ADOPT A CRAG | AWARDS



Each year awards are given Adopt-a-Crag events and organizers that went above and beyond. This year's Adopt-a-Crag Awards are presented to:

The Access Fund and REI are proud to present the Adopt-a-Crag of the Year Award to:

Ken Yager, the Yosemite Climbing Association, and all who participated in the 3rd Annual Yosemite Facelift. This year's event broke all of its own previously established Adopt-a-Crag records and would not be possible without

the tireless drive and enthusiasm of event organizer and Yosemite Climbing Association President, Ken Yager. For 5 days at the end of September over 1,100 volunteers representing a variety of park user groups contributing over 9,200 volunteer hours collected over 25,000 pounds of trash in Yosemite National Park!

Ken Yager's enormous efforts are further evidenced by being awarded a Lifetime Achievement Award from Yosemite National Park and the Bebie Leadership Award from the Access Fund this year. The Access Fund also provided a grant that provided clean-up tools for the Facelift. With no intentions of downsizing or slowing down we look forward to next year's Yosemite Facelift. In 2005 this event was awarded the Adopt-a-Crag Conservation Award.



The Access Fund and GORE-TEX® Products are proud to present the Adopt-a-Crag Stewardship Award to:

Cameron Cross, David Trevino, and the City of Fort Collins for the Piano Boulders Trail Day. On October 7th 23 volunteers at Horsetooth Reservoir in Colorado created a user friendly and environmentally sustainable trail system at the newly opened Piano Boulders. Previously closed to climbing, Dave Trevino and other

members of the City of Fort Collins Natural Areas Program contacted the Access Fund and local climbing activist Cameron Cross to officially open this bouldering area to the public. After receiving a grant from the Access Fund for necessary materials, volunteers conducted trail improvements, restoration and revegetation projects, informational signage, and installed a fence at the parking area to redirect foot traffic. This exemplary project shows the effectiveness of locals, land managers and the Access Fund working together to responsibly improve climbing access. Thank you to all the volunteers involved.



The Access Fund and CLIF Bar are proud to present the Adopt-a-Crag Conservation Award to:

Rick Bost and the East Tennessee Climbers Coalition for the 7th Annual Obed Adopt-a-Crag. Hosted on September 9th, this year's event was the Obed's best Adopt-a-Crag ever with over 130 volunteers contributing nearly 500 volunteer hours to a variety of projects throughout the Obed. Fueled by a free breakfast provided by the National Park Service, volunteers participated in trash removal, trail improvements, anchor replacement, restoration of fire rings and many other projects at 5 different areas. Proceeds from the day's sale of water were donated to the Access Fund. We extend a big thank you to all the volunteers and applaud their efforts to conserve the climbing environment at the Obed.



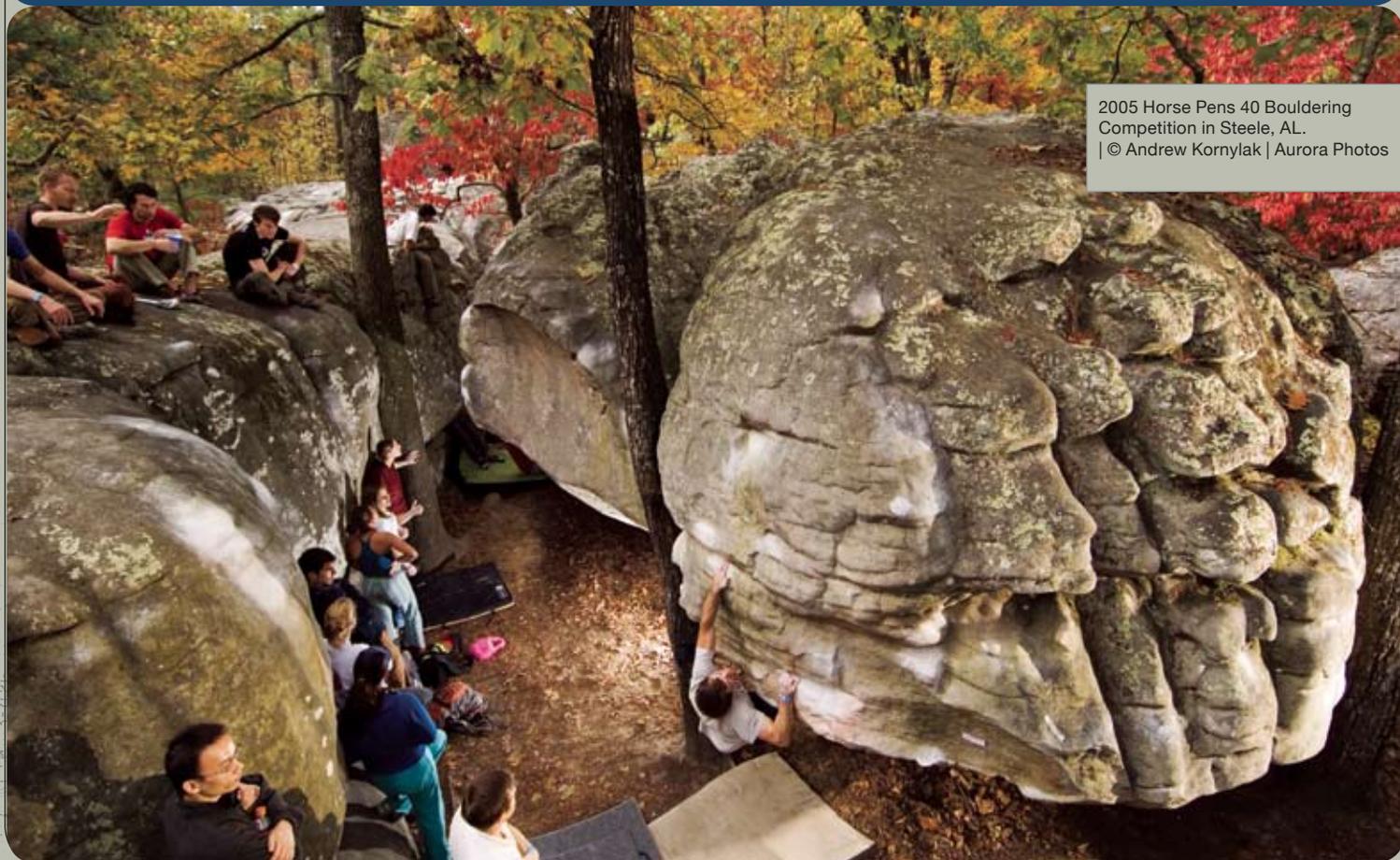
SOUTHEAST | ROAD TRIP REPORT

On the road with Kristo Torgersen, Access Fund Associate Programs Director

This Fall I toured America's southeast to engage and inform climbers of strategies for improving local access and to reaffirm relationships between local climbers, climbing organizations, and land managers. Traveling from Georgia up to western North Carolina, across through Tennessee and south into Alabama, I conducted meetings with public land managers, regional and local climbing organizations, and advocated on behalf of the Access Fund at crags and events.

Climbing access in the South is not always as black and white as "open or closed". From climbing as a low priority on public lands, to handshake access for select locals, or privately owned off-limits crags, climbing access in the South covers the gamut of possibilities.

In the ongoing effort to secure access in perpetuity, three climbing areas I visited represent remarkable victories for the Access Fund, climbers, and the organizations that spearheaded their acquisitions. Sean Cobourn took me to Laurel Knob near Cashiers, NC; a 1,200ft. granite wall that was off-limits until the CCC signed title on it earlier this year. Later that week I met with the new SCC President, Michelle Connell at Jamestown, AL, a crag purchased by the SCC with help from the Access Fund in 2005. I also had an opportunity to tour Boat Rock, GA with SCC founder Brad McLeod who spearheaded the area's purchase in 2001 to protect this tract of boulders in urban Atlanta from developers' bulldozers. Both the SCC and CCC have done an excellent job of managing these properties and maintaining them through community driven stewardship efforts and are using them as stepping stones for pursuing other regional acquisitions.



2005 Horse Pens 40 Bouldering Competition in Steele, AL.
| © Andrew Kornylak | Aurora Photos

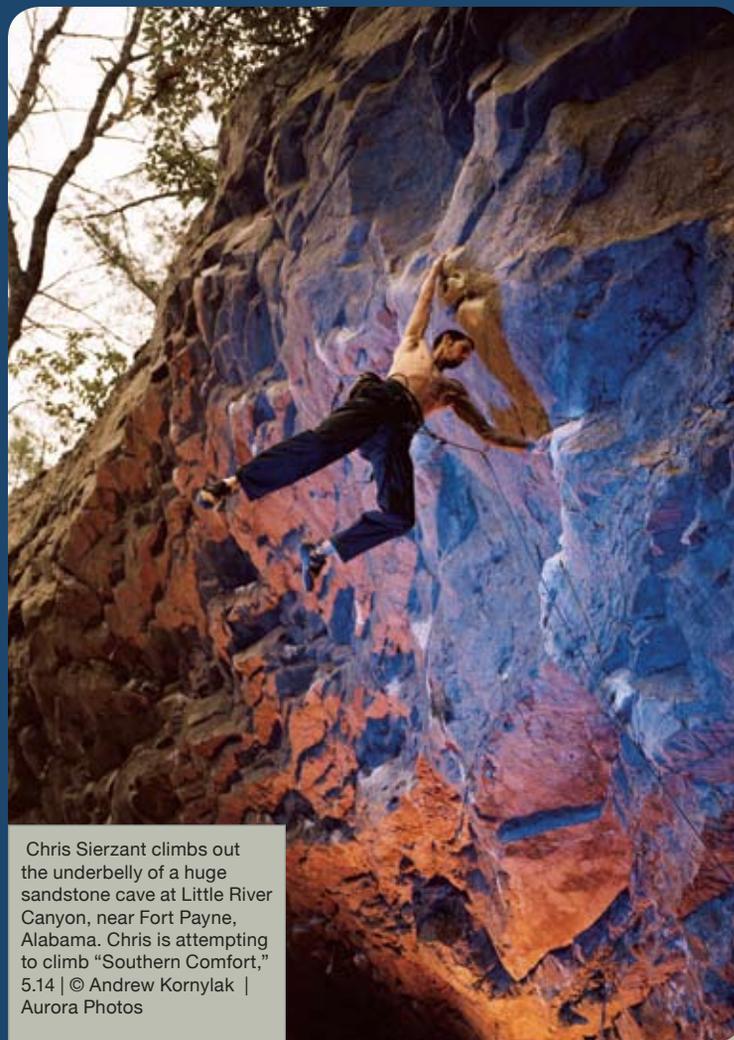
I also met with land managers at two popular areas on public land; Lost Wall and Rock Town at Crockford Pigeon Mountain Wildlife Management Area (managed by DNR) in La Fayette, GA and Sunset Rock at Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park.

At Crockford Pigeon Mountain, limited funds, staff, and resources have hindered the DNR's ability to actively manage recreation as the area's management priority is focused on wildlife and habitat. At Sunset Rock, recreation is also not a primary management priority being a National Military Park, though climbers and the Park staff have worked closely to make climbing viable at Sunset Rock through fixed anchor management, trail work, and other stewardship efforts. Climbing on these public lands is not a right, but a privilege reliant on the climbing community building positive relationships with land managers and taking personal responsibility for mitigating climbers' impacts through stewardship.

On November 1st I facilitated a meeting with local climbers in Chattanooga, TN to encourage locals to settle their differences from past issues and agree to work together towards reaching common goals we all share as climbers; improved access and promoting a responsible community. A meeting date was set to rekindle, establish structure, and devise a gameplan for the local organization, the Chattanooga Climbers Alliance (CCA). The new CCA will play an important role in the local, regional, and national representation of climbers.

the Access Fund was present for the great weather, quality bouldering and rockin' after party that made the 2006 Horse Pens 40 Triple Crown one to remember! Over 450 competitors and 200 spectators attended this annual event founded on raising awareness and dollars for local organizations SCC and CCC. Together, the Access Fund and SCC organized a raffle that raised \$1,100 for our organizations. Kurt Smith kept the evenings crowd well entertained with slideshows, raffle, music, and DJs and helped to raise an additional \$1,100 to help pay off the SCC's Boat Rock mortgage.

At every stop along my trip I was met by friendly folks with generous personalities who shared some amazing crags and gave me an insider's perspective on access in the South. I realize now that "southern hospitality" is more than just a mason jar of moonshine. I would like to thank Brad McLeod, John Dorough, Steven Farmer, Dave Wilson, Chad Wykle, Jim Horton, Michelle Connell, Matthew Gant, Scott Howell, Paul Morley, Sean Cobourn and everyone else who made this trip both highly productive and enjoyable.



Chris Sierzant climbs out the underbelly of a huge sandstone cave at Little River Canyon, near Fort Payne, Alabama. Chris is attempting to climb "Southern Comfort," 5.14 | © Andrew Kornylak | Aurora Photos



Climbers' Proposal for Management Planning Accepted at Kentucky's Red River Gorge

Recently the Forest Service accepted a climbers' "Limits of Acceptable Change" proposal that minimizes management intervention and allows for the review of new route proposals. The Forest Service may now approve new bolts except in "pristine" zones where existing bolts may remain or be replaced. All established climbing areas are considered to be approved pending the completion of cultural and natural resource surveys. For more information see <http://www.fs.fed.us/r8/boone/lac/> and <http://www.rrgcc.org/>.

New River Gorge Update: Park Plans GMP and Climbers Challenge Proposed Rim Development, WV

The National Park Service (NPS) continues its General Management Plan (GMP) process for West Virginia's New River Gorge National River that will provide the foundation for decision making in the park for the next fifteen to twenty years including direction that will affect climbing and camping opportunities. For more details see www.newriverclimbing.net/ and www.nps.gov/neri/parkmgmt/planning.htm. Also, a coalition of local interests including the New River Alliance of Climbers has challenged a controversial housing proposal planned for the rim of the New River Gorge to ensure a reasonable

development that does not adversely impact the world-class view of the Gorge. See www.hintonnews.net/state/060605-shns-nrg.html or www.plateauactionnetwork.org/ for more background on this issue of critical interest to climbers.



Blowing Rock, NC - A group of climbers watch and point out holds as a competitor climbs out the underside of "The Blade" a V5-rated fin of granite at the Hound Ears boulderfield. | © Andrew Kornylak | Aurora Photos



Shelf Road: Cactus Cliffs Road Closure, CO

Liz Nichol, Outreach Coordinator, Rocky Mountain Field Institute

Beginning November 2006 the road leading to the Cactus Cliffs climbing area from Shelf Road will be closed. The BLM has decided to close this steep, un-maintained road due to liability issues and the requests of private property owners along the road. **Cactus Cliffs, Spiney Ridge, and The Gymnasium are still open to climbing.**

There is a new trail leading to Cactus Cliffs from The Bank. This is now the fastest, most convenient way to approach the area. The trail was built in August by the Rocky Mountain Field Institute with the help of AmeriCorps volunteers and a grant from the Access Fund. It is approximately 1.5 miles long. Please park in the newly expanded parking area at The Bank.

PLEASE DO NOT PARK ALONG SHELF ROAD.

For more information contact BLM at 719-269-8500
Thank you for your cooperation.

Last Chance Canyon, NM

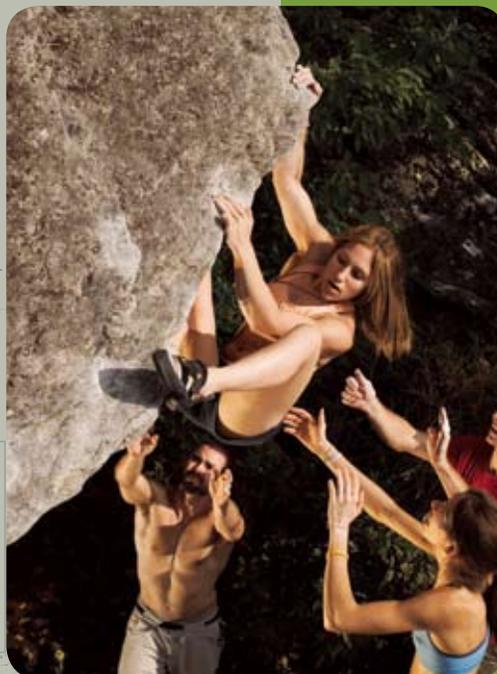
By Jason Fields, Regional Coordinator

The US Forest Service is currently developing a recreation management plan for Last Chance Canyon and as such has requested that all climbing route development be halted until they have time to draft the plan. The restrictions include no new bolting and no new trails or campsites. They also request that while you are in the canyon you refrain from entering "the Hermit's Cave" and "Solstice Cave" because of the possible archaeological resources located within.

Other than the above mentioned restrictions all other climbing remains open.

Please direct any questions to Jason Fields at v15wannabe@yahoo.com

Alexandrea Puccio, spotted by Andrea Szekely and two other climbers ascends The Blade, a V5-rated fin of granite during the 2005 Hound Ears Bouldering Competition. | © Andrew Kornylak | Aurora Photos



Lawsuit Derails Yosemite National Park Management Plans, CA

On November 3rd a federal judge ruled on a lawsuit filed by the Friends of Yosemite Valley (<http://www.bigwalls.net/climb/camp4yosemite/pages/2COMPLAI2.html>) resulting in a stoppage of "all ground disturbing projects in Yosemite" except for some minor road maintenance on the Valley Loop Road. What this means is that the National Park Service (NPS) is prevented from continuing the Lodge redevelopment project or Camp 4 expansion until a new Merced River Plan is developed and survives any future litigation. Last Friday's decision ruled that the NPS must prepare another plan that protects the wild and scenic Merced River before proceeding with any construction activities. The NPS had argued that it should be allowed to proceed with multiple construction projects within the river corridor.

Under the Wild and Scenic River Act, Yosemite National park must have a plan to regulate development near the banks of the Merced. In 1997 the Merced River Plan became the central focus of the debates about Yosemite's future when it flooded and wiped out campgrounds, lodging and parking areas. The Friends of Yosemite Valley felt the Merced River Plan failed to adequately protect the river corridor, and sued. In 2004 the U.S. 9th Circuit Court of Appeals directed NPS officials to revise their Merced River plan, but according to the recent court ruling Yosemite National Park failed to redraft the plan in a way adequately protects the river.

For more, see www.fresnobee.com/263/story/11668.html or www.napavalleyregister.com/articles/2006/11/10/sports/outdoors/doc4553fbc214436934670931.txt. Another hearing is scheduled for next January but it looks likely that it might take the NPS another two years to finish their latest Merced River Plan before they may commence work on the Lodge redevelopment or Camp 4 expansion. For more information, contact AF Policy Director Jason Keith at jason@accessfund.org.



Park Service Begins Management Plan Affecting Climbing and Bouldering Near Newhalem, WA

The National Park Service (NPS) recently announced that it will begin the process of crafting a General Management Plan (GMP) for Ross Lake National Recreation Area which lies adjacent to North Cascades National Park 1 ½ hours north of Seattle. This updated GMP will describe the general path that the NPS intends to follow in managing the Ross Lake NRA over the next fifteen to twenty years. For planning details and to submit your own comments see <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/projectHome.cfm?parkID=337&projectId=16940>

An issue in this plan will be the future of climbing access to extensive climbing resources in the Skagit River Gorge which climbers had begun developing in 2001. After the NPS became aware of the new climbing and bouldering activity they asked climbers to stop developing new routes and bouldering areas pending a specific climbing management plan (CMP) that has yet to materialize. This GMP will address all aspects of ecosystem management and public uses of the NRA and thus the GMP will take several years to plan for and implement. Local climbers are hoping for a quicker result, especially after five years waiting for a CMP. In late October, the NPS completed a series of public “workshops” in Washington State and British Columbia to assess public opinion on the direction of the plan and what specific values should be protected. These meetings were well-attended by Access Fund representatives and members of the **Washington Climbers Coalition (WCC)** (www.washingtonclimbers.org). For more information about the details of the plan and climbing resources near Newhalem, contact the WCC or email Access Fund Policy Director Jason Keith at Jason@accessfund.org.

Farley Ledge, MA

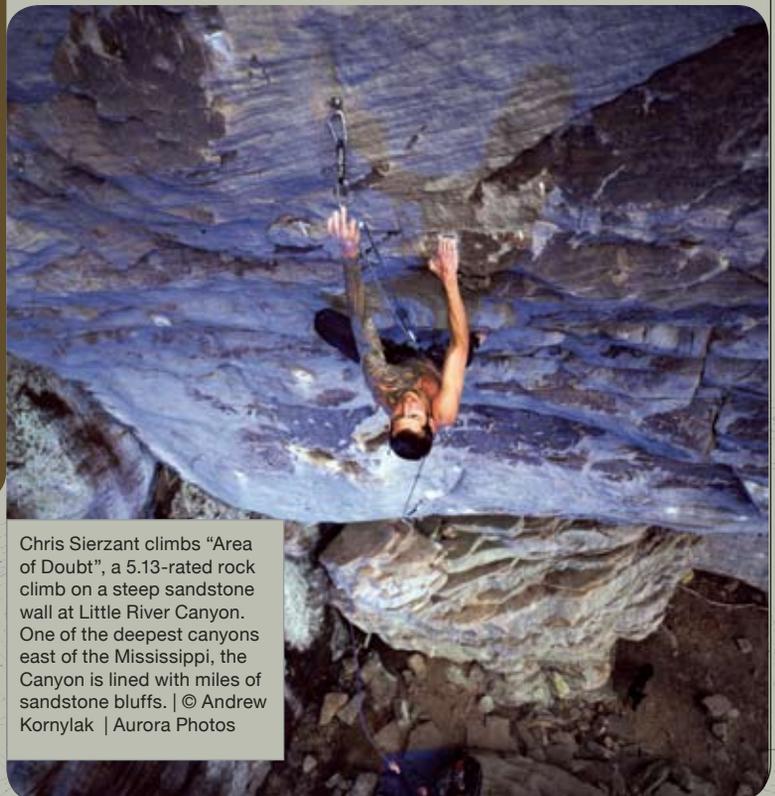
By Jeff Squire, Regional Coordinator and President Western Massachusetts Climbers' Coalition

The Western Massachusetts Climbers' Coalition is in the early stages of acquiring a 9-acre property abutting Farley Ledge, arguably the best piece of rock between Rumney and the Gunks. The purchase would be for the creation of a permanent parking lot, approach trail, protection of natural buffers, and to prevent potential development close to the cliffs.

Farley Ledge is largely owned by Northeast Utilities, but their site license contains a recreational stipulation requiring that they provide recreational opportunities. As a result, access issues have always been over the parking and approach trails.

Farley has already been closed four times due to growing crowds and abutting landowner concerns. The WMCC's goal is to put an end to this cycle permanently through the acquisition of this property. The goal is to raise \$75,000 by spring 2007 when the current landowner would like to close.

Visit www.westernmacc.com to learn more. It would be a shame to lose this opportunity and be faced with new homes less than 100' from the cliff!



Chris Sierzant climbs “Area of Doubt”, a 5.13-rated rock climb on a steep sandstone wall at Little River Canyon. One of the deepest canyons east of the Mississippi, the Canyon is lined with miles of sandstone bluffs. | © Andrew Kornylak | Aurora Photos



THE BENEFITS OF GIVING

The Access Fund is a 501 (c) 3 nonprofit organization and **donations are tax-deductible to the fullest extent of the law.** Because of the income tax charitable deduction, individuals who **contribute by December 31st** and itemize can significantly reduce their income taxes for 2006!

There are many ways to give:

- Gifts of Cash
- Gifts of Stock
- Bequests
- Gifts of Real Estate

Further Options or Information

A variety of other options are available including gifts of Life Insurance and Life Income Gifts. Please visit our website at www.accessfund.org/support/jrg.php or contact Whitney Self, Development Director, at whitney@accessfund.org

Happy Holidays and thank you for your year-end support—as well as support throughout the year!

Pass It On!

www.accessfund.org/membership

Higher Ground Coffee Access Fund Blend – 10% of proceeds fund preservation and maintenance of our climbing areas. www.highergroundroasters.com/accessfund.html

Did you know that Access Fund members receive free shipping on web orders from **Mountain Gear**? You must access the Mountain Gear site through the AF MemberSHOP after you login with your AF member ID#. www.accessfund.org/membership

Buy a CLIF Bar Cool Tag – Renewable wind energy credit keeps about 300 lbs of CO2 out of the air and helps the Rosebud Sioux Tribe build a wind farm in South Dakota. www.accessfund.org/membership

Purchase your National Parks Pass from our website and the AF gets \$10.00 from each pass sold. www.nationalparks.org/accessfund be sure to pass the word on to your friends & family!

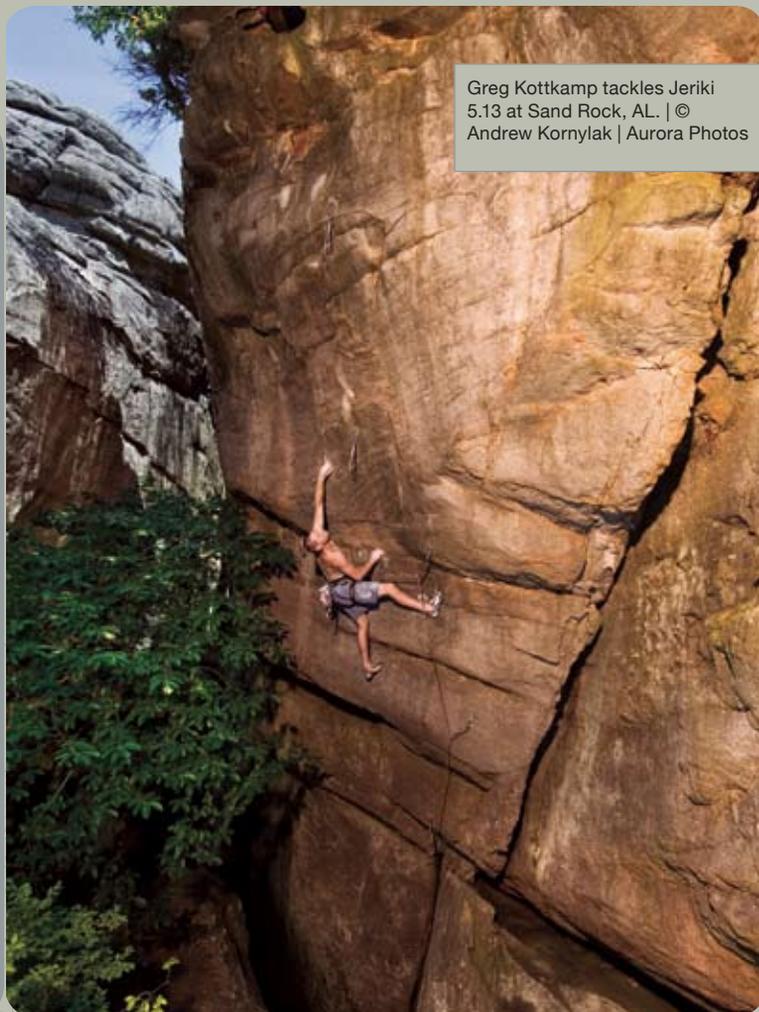
Born in Ohio in 1974, Andrew has been climbing since 1992. In 2000, while living in Arizona, Andrew left his job as a software developer to pursue photography full-time, developing a unique style with lighting techniques and intimate knowledge of his subject matter to create extraordinary visions. He recently moved to Atlanta, Georgia, where he lives with his wife and three-year-old son, and enjoys the best climbin' in the world.

Andrew's clients include National Geographic Adventure, Climbing, Rock and Ice and Prana.

His photos have also appeared in newspapers, travel and guide books. His photography is also part of permanent collections at several galleries and retailers.

Andrew is a member of Aurora Photos www.auroraphotos.com, as part of their exclusive Outdoor Collection.

View Andrew's web site at www.akornphoto.com



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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
Sherrill Tree & Climbing Supply — 2005
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+

Asolo — 2003
bluetrope consulting — 2003
CAMP USA — 2004

Cloudveil — 1998
Crazy Creek Products — 1992
EVOLVE Sports — 2006
Exum Mountain Guides — 2005
Lowe Alpine Systems — 1991
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
AZ on the Rocks — 2003
Bearing Images — 2000
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
Kind Coffee — 2003
Kristin Carpenter
Public Relations — 2003
Matrosh Inc.- AustriAlpinUSA — 2005
Mountain Tools — 1991
Mountaineers Books — 1992
NEice.com — 2005
Nemo Equipment — 2005
Nicros — 1997
Outdoor Retailer — 1991
Pacific Edge Climbing Gym — 1995
PMI — 1991
Portland Rock Gym — 2005
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

Andrew Querner Photography — 2006
ASANA PackWorks — 2005
Blue Ridge Outdoors Magazine — 1997
Camp4.com — 2002
Coreyography — 2002
CragCam Productions — 2006
Dan Bailey Photography — 2002
DrTopo.com — 2003
GetBeta.com — 2004
Gripped: The Climbing Magazine — 2004
Griz Guides — 2006
Harrison Shull Photography — 2006
Integrity 7 Productions — 2004
Lenticular Pictures — 2005
Michael Clark Photography — 2004
Mike Tea Illustration and Design — 2006
N'East Magazine — 2006
Nathan Welton Photography — 2005
Ousley Creative — 2001
Patitucci Photo — 2003
Rockclimbing.com — 2006
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.

ROCK & ICE

THE WORLD'S CLIMBING MAGAZINE

Hope you read the Editorial on the first page of this Vertical Times. It was written by Jeff Jackson, Editor of Rock and Ice.

As a Diamond Media Partner since 1993, Rock and Ice always goes the extra step to support the mission of the AF. Recently they've taken a BIG step in reducing their environmental foot by moving to a new uber-format that lessens paper waste. Yah!

Rock and Ice is climber-owner and climber-loved. Thanks for helping keep us all out on the rocks.

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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 **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.

Referred by / name and email address _____

The Access Fund is a 501 (c) (3) nonprofit organization. Donations are tax-deductible to the full extent of the law.

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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

Bigfoot Country Climbers' Association*
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*

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*

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 December 2006 | Vol. 73

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.

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



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