



# Chicago Mountaineering Club

The next CMC General Meeting will be Monday, May 8<sup>th</sup>, at 8:00 PM at the Goose Island Brewery, 1800 N Clybourn Ave., Chicago IL (312) 915-0071. There will be a CMC Board Meeting immediately preceding the General Meeting at 6:30. CMC members are welcome to attend the Board meetings.

General Meetings are open to the public and held on the second Monday of each month, September through May. Everyone is welcome.

CMC Board Meeting Minutes are available to members on the club website. Everyone is encouraged to stay informed and get involved. If you do not know how to log in, please contact the webmaster at [cmcwebmaster@cmcwebsite.org](mailto:cmcwebmaster@cmcwebsite.org).

## General Meeting Schedule

May 8<sup>th</sup>, 8:00pm: Climber Spring Tune Up. Details to come, but this will be a peer workshop set up to review some basics in preparation for the 2006 outdoor season – what you should have in your first aid kit, how to pack your pack, what you can expect at CMC Devil's Lake Outings, etc.

The next General Meeting will not be until Monday, September 11<sup>th</sup>. Enjoy the summer.

## Fred Beckey Documentary

"For me, the appeal of climbing came from a complex of motives ranging from a longing to escape from the artificial civilized order and its social and political controls to a need for self-rejuvenation and a desire to restore my sense of proportion. I could see everywhere there was a penalty for too much comfort. An adventurous goal helps one discover those essential human qualities – curiosity, patience, fear, alertness, willpower, and bodily energy. I found climbing gave a unique sense of control over one's destiny."  
-Fred Beckey

This American Alpine Club notice in from CMC/AAC member Ben Kweton:

The American Alpine Club has accepted a challenge grant from Yvon Chouinard to support the feature length documentary film about AAC club member and

prolific route opener, Fred Beckey.

Every once in a great while an individual lives a life that is so unique and inspiring that their story must be preserved for posterity. Fred, now in his 80's, will venture to the remote Sichuan region of China to attempt the first ascent of a 19,000 ft peak. Despite strong efforts, the peak (as of 2/06) remains unclimbed.

For many years, the first ascent of this stunning and isolated mountain has been Beckey's dream. More than ever, time is a factor for Fred. The expedition to China will be the culmination of over 70 years of climbing achievements and the thread of an important historical documentary. This portion of the project needs initial funding to provide Beckey with a window of opportunity in the 2006 April-May climbing season. Those of you that have climbed with Fred Beckey, enjoyed his lectures, used his books to navigate high and wild places or experienced one of his classic routes, already know a piece of the extraordinary life he has led and the impact he has had on climbing and climbing history. He is a legend. Today Fred, like always, remains inspired by one core focus: to climb.

"There is no more prolific and important American climber than Fred. This story has to be told."  
-Yvon Chouinard

"Fred Beckey is the quintessential American climber, a man of awesome energy, roaming the mountains at will, leaving his name on top of many a peak. (He) has climbed more virgin summits than any other American, perhaps any other human."  
-Royal Robbins

"Beckey's unparalleled number of first ascents notwithstanding; it is his decades of relentless exploration of North America's alpine wilderness that leaves me most in awe. His story needs to be told."  
-Jim Donini

The American Alpine Club has received a matching grant. This is a great opportunity for individuals to give back to a man that has done so much for climbing. If you want to help see Fred Beckey's story told, your donations to the AAC for this project will be matched by one of Beckey's most influential

apprentices, Yvon Chouinard, of up to a total of \$7,000.

Ways to donate:

-Make checks payable to the American Alpine Club and mention Beckey in the memo line or in a note.

-Visit the club's website at

<http://www.americanalpineclub.org/>

and click on "make a donation" to use your credit card.

Please mention Beckey in the comments field.

-Call Nigel Gregory at the AAC office to make a gift of stock or other property. (303) 384-0110 ext. 15

Donations of \$500 and up will receive a signed copy of the completed film, sure to become a vital piece of climbing history.

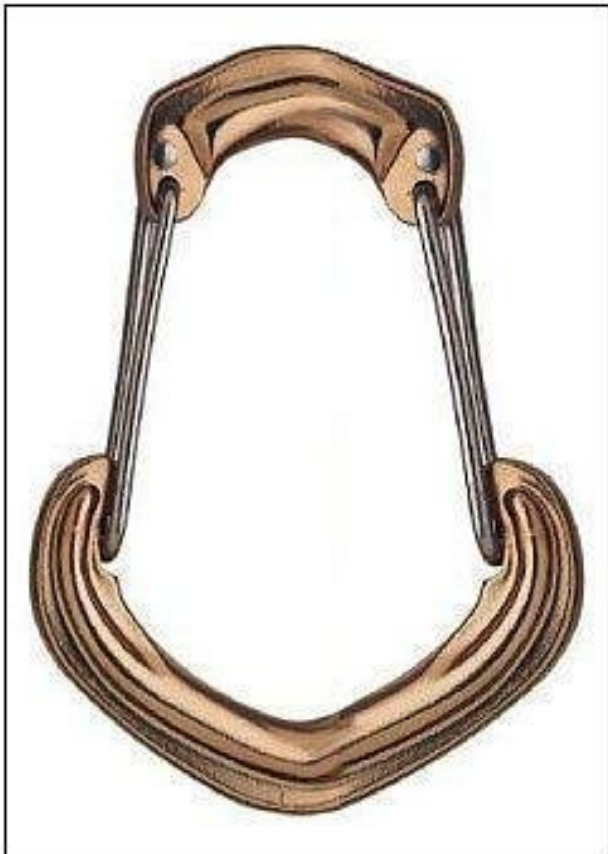
Please remember, time is a major consideration for this project to get off the ground and for Fred to make it to China by spring of '06.

For more information please see:

[www.throughachildseyesproductions.com](http://www.throughachildseyesproductions.com).

### Product Review

Paul Szymanski sent in this photo of a revolutionary new carabiner. Often we read these extravagant claims for new climbing gear, but here is something



that might live up to all the hype. This new 'biner supposedly allows climbers to double clip and will vastly improve descent speeds. I haven't had the chance to test it myself, but I think I'll pass on this

one. At the very least it will increase the Darwin factor at the local crag. Paul claims this new 'biner did NOT come from Poland, but I ask you fellow climbers to be the judge of that. Methinks this will be popular with sport climbers, but more prudent mountaineers will stick with the tried and true.

### Notices

Thanks to D. Martino for the following:

Access Fund. Are you a member? Since 1990, the Access Fund has been the only national advocacy organization that keeps climbing areas open and conserves the climbing environment. The Access Fund supports and represents over 1.6 million climbers nationwide in ALL forms of climbing; Rock Climbing, Ice Climbing, Mountaineering, and Bouldering. Five core programs support the mission on national and local levels: public policy, stewardship & conservation (including grants), grassroots activism, climber education, and land acquisition.

If we want to keep climbing, we should all support The Access Fund.

To learn more or to join or renew your membership visit [www.accessfund.org](http://www.accessfund.org) or contact Kerry Cowan, Membership Director, at [kerry@accessfund.org](mailto:kerry@accessfund.org) or call 888.8.MEMBER (888.863.6237) x106.

Continental Divide Trail. HELP BUILD HISTORY! Join others across the nation to build the Continental Divide National Scenic Trail. Volunteers are needed to explore routes, build and repair trail, install trail signs and construct bridges along this 3,100 mile national legacy trail between Canada and Mexico. When completed, the CDT will open opportunities to experience dramatic scenery, abundant wildlife, diverse cultures and American history. The Continental Divide Trail Alliance is looking for volunteers starting this summer throughout the fall in Montana, Idaho, Wyoming, Colorado and New Mexico.

Visit [www.cdtrail.org/volpc](http://www.cdtrail.org/volpc) for the dates in each state or call 303.838.3760 or 888.909.CDTA.

Banff Mountain Film Festival.

When: April 22nd

Where: Park West

322 W. Armitage

Chicago, IL

The 30th annual Banff Mountain Film Festival, presented by National Geographic and Dunham Bootmakers, brings you the world's best mountain films. Experience the adventure of climbing, mountain expeditions, remote cultures, and the world's last great wild places — all brought to life on the big screen.

Doors open at 7:00pm, and the films begin at 7:30. Tickets are \$15 and there is a cash bar. The festival is being hosted by Race Logix Inc. Multisport Shop in Evanston. Order your tickets by calling Race Logix at 847.733.7732.

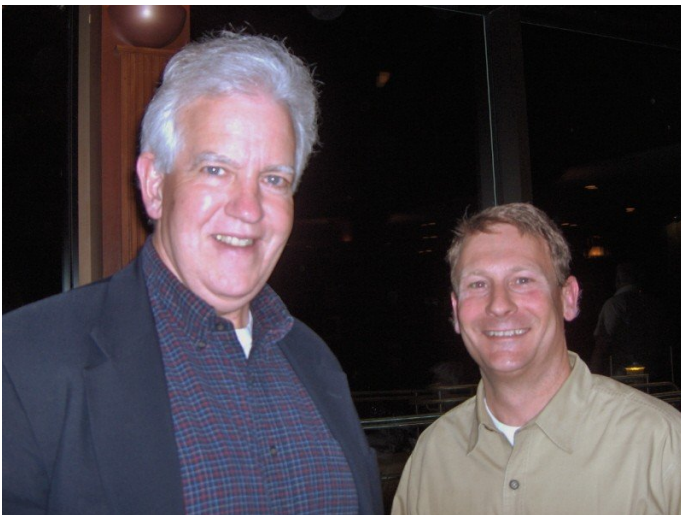
## Annual Dinner Recap

The CMC/AAC Annual Dinner was held on April 2<sup>nd</sup> at the Chicago Yacht Club at Monroe Harbor in Chicago. Eighty-two climbers and guests from the CMC and AAC attended. This is always a great way to welcome the spring and the beginning of the climbing season. Fun was had by all.



CMCers proving North Face's new Dyad 22 ultralight two-person tent actually holds six.

Big winners in the raffle included Ben Kweton's father Phil who won the North Face tent, and Dinner MC Chris Young who won the Access Fund raffle prize - the North Face UltraLite sleeping bag. Through Donna Martino's sound fiscal management, the dinner came in \$1200 under budget and made \$130 for the Club (which will no doubt go to the campground privies.) In addition we raised \$200 for the Access Fund. Thanks once again to our speaker Phil Powers, to Ben Kweton for hosting us at the Chicago Yacht Club, to Donna M. for her tireless work, and to all the CMCers and AACers who came out. See you all next year.



CMC Treasurer Steve Broadie with guest speak Phil Powers.

PHIL POWERS ON NPR  
Phil Powers, Executive Director of the American Alpine

Club talks about the Practice of Slowing Down. Listen to the broadcast here:  
<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=5316322>  
or go to <http://www.americanalpineclub.org>.



Professor Jamie Norris and Aimee Edwards, with drinks, greeting guests.

We'd like to thank the following for their generous donations to our silent auction and raffle. Visit [www.cmcwebsite.org/dinner](http://www.cmcwebsite.org/dinner) for links to their Web sites:

Alpinist Magazine  
American Alpine Club  
American Alpine Institute  
Ames Adventure Outfitters / BlueWater, Montrail  
Tony Astill, author of Mt. Everest, The Reconnaissance 1935  
Climbing Magazine  
JetBoil, Inc.  
Metolius Mountain Products  
Moosejaw  
Pemba Serves / Petzl  
Prana  
Royal Robbins  
SweatVac, Inc.  
The North Face, Inc.  
Uncle Dan's  
XSport Fitness

Thanks to Debi Olenoski for the dinner photos.

## Campground Open!

Devil's Lake CMC Campground is officially open. We have a temporary port-o-let at the campground now, so it is officially open for the season. There was some discussion of a new committee being formed to decide on details of the port-a-pottie... but in the end a phone call was made, and voila, a new privy appeared. Construction on the new permanent outhouses should begin soon.

**From:**  
**Chicago Mountaineering Club**  
c/o Robert White  
1845 N. Orleans, Apt. 2R  
Chicago, IL 60614

**TO:**

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

FIRST CLASS MAIL

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NEWSLETTER: Please submit your comments, announcements, outings or personal climbing reports, items of interest, ephemera, or questions to the Editor: Robert White at 1845 N. Orleans Street, Apt. 2R, Chicago, IL 60614 or e-mail: [cmcsecretary@cmcwebsite.org](mailto:cmcsecretary@cmcwebsite.org). Also, please contact me if your newsletter was damaged in the mail and you would like a fresh copy sent.

#### 2006 Outdoor Outing Schedule

##### CMC Open Outings

Newcomers and non-members are welcome. [Non-members must be age 18 or over.] Don't miss the first outdoor outing of the season at Mississippi Palisades. Last year the weather forecast wasn't the greatest, but we ended up having a fine day. Please contact Jamie Norris, Outing Chair, for additional details.

April 29-30: Palisades State Park  
Savanna, Illinois  
(Experienced climbers)  
May 20-21: Devil's Lake State Park  
Baraboo, WI  
June 24-25: Devil's Lake  
Aug 12-13: Devil's Lake - Old Timers/New Climbers  
Sept 23-24: Devil's Lake  
Oct 21-22: Devil's Lake

##### CMC Member Outings

These outings are open to CMC members and their invited guests.

June 3-4: Devil's Lake – Lamb Roast (tentative)  
Sept 2-4: Devil's Lake  
Oct 7-8: Devil's Lake  
Nov 4-5: Shawnee National Forest

#### 2006 Board Members

##### Directors:

Pieter Fockens, Chris Young, Ron Rolnicki  
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President: Matt Mead  
[cmcpresident@cmcwebsite.org](mailto:cmcpresident@cmcwebsite.org)  
Vice President: Mike Burian  
[cmcvicepres@cmcwebsite.org](mailto:cmcvicepres@cmcwebsite.org)  
Secretary: Robert White  
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Treasurer: Steve Broadie  
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Outings Chair: Jamie Norris  
[cmcoutings@cmcwebsite.org](mailto:cmcoutings@cmcwebsite.org)  
Expedition Chair: Dave Kenealy  
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Program Chair: Donna Martino  
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Safety Chair: Jack Fletcher  
[cmcsafety@cmcwebsite.org](mailto:cmcsafety@cmcwebsite.org)  
Grounds Chair: Bill Dietrich  
[cmcgrounds@cmcwebsite.org](mailto:cmcgrounds@cmcwebsite.org)  
Conservation Chair: Donna Martino  
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