



# Chicago Mountaineering Club

The next CMC General Meeting will be Monday, September 10<sup>th</sup>, at 8:00 PM at the Goose Island Brewery, 1800 N Clybourn Ave., Chicago IL (312) 915-0071.

General Meetings are open to the public and held on the second Monday of each month, September through May. Everyone is welcome. The CMC Board meets before the General Meeting from 6:30 to 7:45pm. These Board meetings are open to CMC members. CMC Board Meeting Minutes are available to members on the club website. Everyone is encouraged to stay informed and get involved.

## Old Timers / New Climbers Outing

Saturday-Sunday, August 25-26<sup>th</sup>  
MFC Campground, Devil's Lake

The one Can't Miss club event for the summer. Life is too short to miss your one chance to attend the 2007 Old Timers New Climbers Outing. This year promises to be at least as enjoyable as the last. Above average as they say. As usual, the club will provide bonhomie and jolly good times, along with grilled burgers, brats, dogs, a veggie option, and the fixings. (Given our Club's post Privy Saga poverty, though, a small donation to offset this cost would be most appreciated.) Please bring a side dish to pass. Anything you like: salads, cheese, chips, dessert, stop off at the local farm stands along the way, etc. Oh and of course bring your favorite libations.

As you should know by now, this is another big year for member anniversaries.

Member since 1947:	Loren Jahn
Members since 1957:	Thomas Robinson George Pokorny Charlie Pierce Peggy Pierce Fred Gunzel

For current Devil's Lake climbers, Charlie and Peggy are no strangers. They are campground regulars, and Charlie still puts time in on the trails and on the rocks. They're looking forward to celebrating this anniversary

at the campground, so please come out and join in with them.

Tom Robinson lives in Texas, so it will be a big surprise if he makes it to the Outing. Tom went on many western outings through the years including the 1971 CMC Outing to the Tonquin Valley (where the club went again this year) and the '79 outing to the Chicago Basin in Colorado. We hope to see Fred at the outing. Fred was also on the '71 Tonquin outing, and was part of the '67 outing to the Wind River Range, and many others. George of course was a long time CMC Librarian who helped build the collection and safeguard it for several decades. He is also a former Club president, and his climbing included an early ascent of the famed Snowpatch Spire in the Bugaboos and other trips to Canada and the American West. Will we see Mr. Jahn in the campground for his 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary? I hope so.

Old hand Alex Andrews is rumored to be back for the outing this year. Is he still up for the challenge of Devil's Lake quartzite? Come and see. If you haven't been to the Lake recently, put in the effort to make this weekend. Effort is usually worth it.

## Memories from Peggy and Charlie Pierce

The following was first written by Charlie and Peggy Pierce for the Club's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary edition of the Mountaineer in 1990. They first climbed with the club on Labor Day weekend in 1957 and have been devoted members ever since.

WE REMEMBER----

Rattlesnakes living in a pile of saw mill slabs near our group camp fire site.

Two slit trenches for our first campground toilets.

A very young Ann Pierce proudly telling Olle Swartling that she had just climbed her first F6 – "Sunken Pillar."

Roseann Cleveland beating Jim Bishop at chinups in the campground 'people tree'.

Ann O'Neill climbing the crux of "Pah-Tooeey." She said the key was faith. Those watching said faith was fine, but that she made the crux because of her good technique.

A cold, sleepless night on Vestal Peak in the Colorado Grenadiers tied to the same piton with Mary O'Connor and Bob Demkowicz.

Loud cries of mirth and anguish from Betsy Frantz with her knee stuck in "Impossible Crack" on Devil's Doorway.

A pregnant Roseann Cleveland climbing tied in with the rope above her baby (Danny).

Climbing at a time before chocks, figure 8s, stitch plates, 'friends', or seat harnesses.

Jack Weisman, martini in hand, doing his duty as chef at the yearly Lamb Roast.

Marv David's banjo playing at the campfires.

The "Old Pavilion" at the south end of Devil's Lake.

The 'after climbing' sport of stacking up empty Effinger beer bottles at the Devil's Lake south end "Beer Stube".

Climbing at Devil's Lake with Mac McDaniel and Harry Lumby in 1957. We never saw them again!

Alice Eix commenting that Joe Stettner climbed like a spider and Paul Stettner climbed like a squirrel.

Dave Slinger doing difficult climbs during his crepe soled work shoe climbing period.

The "Sullivan Boys" and their converted hearse. (Rod Harris is the still making the road trip up from Sullivan; though the hearse was given up many many years ago.)

Jim Hagan's voice from his tent after whippoorwills had kept us awake for hours. He asked, "I wonder how fried whippoorwill would taste?"

Olle Swartling teaching Ann Pierce to drink from a cup – Beer of course!

A young lady who concluded that The Chicago Mountaineers were a very sophisticated lot since we poked fun at two of her favorite foods: Velveeta Cheese and Wonder Bread.

Watching Joe Stettner spend several hours with a star drill and hammer installing the stainless steel anchor on top of Cleopatra's Needle.

A whimsical campfire discussion about the phallic significance of the piton. Frances Mullen, then the Mountaineer editor said, "If you will write an article about it, I'll publish it!"

Complimenting Olle Swartling for leading a pitch in the Cascades with slippery, unstable rocks over several hundred feet of space. He explained, "when I got to

the crux, two angels flew up and helped me to the top of the pitch."

Athan Pantsios (Greek) and Fickri Sekerci (Turkish) drinking red Greek wine at the campfire and agreeing that the Greeks and Turks, then fighting on Cyprus, were a bunch of IDIOTS.

Herbert Keishold leading the Birthday Crack (on his birthday) with 2 or 3 pitons.

A determined young lady who raised the difficulty of the Birthday Crack by pulling out a chockstone at the crux.

John Gill doing a typical Devil's Lake "Gill Problem." A spectator observed, 'Any skilled 6'6" rock climbing and gymnast who can chin himself with either arm can do that climb!'

Removing and lending my pants (Charlie Pierce) to a young grandmother in my party so that she could do a body rappel and not ruin her new nylon slacks.

Roger Wiegand singing Handel's Hallelujah Chorus with two words used alternatively – Aardvark and Zygote.

Peggy Pierce peeling off at the crux of the then unnamed Sun Top Climb and hooking the back of her sun top on a tree. She finally pushed away from the tree with her foot and was lowered to the ground with her modesty still intact.

### Stettner Ledges 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Climb

By Dave Kenealy.

First climbed by Paul and Joe Stettner in 1927, the Stettner's Ledges Route (Grade III, 5.8) on Longs Peak in Rocky Mountain National Park remains a great classic. This bold ascent by the Stettners – with a rope from a local hardware store – was reportedly the most difficult climb done in North America at the time, and remained so for many years. Joe and Paul went on to help found the CMC.

Rob White called me in May, and asked if I would like to give it a try. Rob was climbing in RMNP with Devin Strickland and Aaron Smith, but had three days at the end of his trip available to climb – but with no partner. I flew out to Denver Thursday June 28th on a cheap ticket, met Rob in Boulder, and we stayed at Jack Gorby's cabin (thanks, Jack) right near RMNP. We walked into Chasm Lake (about 11,800') the next day and bivied at one of the caves – a beautiful hike through alpine forest and tundra.

On Saturday we left the bivy about 5:15 AM and headed up the snow to the base of the route (ice axe required). It is not recommended to climb this route on a Saturday, due to potential rockfall from parties on the popular Broadway traverse above, but the schedule was set. The start occurs among broken

rock, and there is a choice of lines. Climbing in packs, Rob took the first pitch, and I took the second, running it out 175' and overshooting the famous alcove belay. We downclimbed 20' to the left in order to belay from this famed position (note that the fixed pins appear to be gone). The third pitch is the crux, and Rob lead it well while I seconded and hauled the two packs. The face climbing and two stretches of laybacking on this pitch provide fantastic climbing. The fourth, fifth and sixth pitches go at 5.5 and 5.6, and we alternated leads and ran out most of the 60 meter rope on every pitch. We had completed Stettner's Ledges! After gaining Broadway, we checked our time and decided to continue about 1400' to the summit via the Keiners Route.



R. White above the crux moves on the 'Piton Ladder' pitch. D.K. photo. June, 2007.

Traversing Broadway mostly un-roped, we moved carefully and belayed across the two "one-move" spots that were very exposed. Working North about 800' to the base of the Upper Keiner's Route (III 5.4), we stopped to find the start of the route. It wasn't obvious, so I led up the Notch Couloir about 30-40' on unprotected 60-70 degree poor snow, keeping some weight against the adjacent rock wall so the steps didn't shear out. Bit of a mental crux here! (We had previous thoughts of finishing the climb up the Notch, but reports of poor snow conditions changes our minds.) Rob followed to the belay ledge and took the next two pitches in one lead, reaching 3<sup>rd</sup> class rock, leading to the Staircase stretch of the route. About 500' above, there is a final pitch, about 5.3 or so, to the summit boulder field. Rob added an extra bit to the route though, leading up a little used and difficult to protect 5.6 pitch for 180'.

After a brief stay on the summit, we descended the North Face in the steps of Paul and Joe to the top of the Cables Route in snow flurries, and made three rappels off permanent eyebolts to the lower snowfield. The wind was strong enough to drive the snowfields water straight up and off the rock. The next 2-3 hours was spent dropping down into the Chasm Lake cirque from "The Camel", working down boulder fields and finally making fast progress down the snow to the bivy

cave. Arrived at 9 PM after a very full day. Eighty years later it's still a fantastic route – thank you Stettners!

## WI Firewood Ban

From the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources.

"Firewood can harbor many different kinds of invasive pests and diseases that are harmful to Wisconsin's trees – both in forest and urban settings. Gypsy moth, oak wilt, and the emerald ash borer are just a few examples of pests and diseases that hitch hike on firewood, making their way easily into previously unaffected, healthy areas. This poses a serious threat to trees throughout the state. To protect our parks and forests from these firewood hitch hikers, the Wisconsin DNR has created a permanent rule, effective December 1, 2006, which prohibits bringing firewood onto any DNR properties from more than 50 miles away or from outside of Wisconsin. This includes campsites in state parks and forests."

Although our club campground is not on DNR property, we should follow the spirit of the law here.

Acceptable firewood includes:

- Firewood purchased within 50 miles of a state forest, park, or other state-managed property.
- AND harvested in Wisconsin.
- Firewood from a vendor that is certified by the Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection.
- Dimensional and untreated lumber scraps, such as 2-by-4s and 2-by-6s.

A new firewood information line is available with the very latest information regarding firewood and Wisconsin DNR properties. The toll-free number is: 1-877-303-WOOD (9663).

## Notices

Goodbye to...

Member Donna Martino and her husband Walt are moving to Colorado in September. Another victim to the westward pull. Donna has been an invaluable CMC Board member over the last several years, and an important ambassador for the club with the Chicago outdoor community. She, and Walt, will be missed. Good luck in Colorado.

New Members...

Membership first readings were given for the following at the May meeting:

Matt Haraburda  
Matt Sickler  
Dan Oefner

Second readings will be done in September. Welcome guys.

**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.

#### 2007 Fall Outings Schedule

All outings are open to everyone, members and nonmembers alike. These fall outings are typically the best weekends of the year. Miss them at your own health's peril.

Aug 25-26: Devil's Lake  
Old Timers / New Climbers Outing  
Sept 8-9: Devil's Lake  
Sept 22-23: Devil's Lake  
Oct 6-7: Devil's Lake  
Oct 20-21: Devil's Lake  
Nov 3-4: Shawnee National Forest  
Jackson Falls/Draper's Bluff  
(Experience climbers)

If you have questions or need additional information, please contact our Outings Chair Jamie Norris at [cmcoutings@cmcwebsite.org](mailto:cmcoutings@cmcwebsite.org)

#### Mountaineer articles needed

There must be an inner writer in at least some of you? This is a great opportunity to get published and share your experiences with fellow club members. To keep this long tradition of the Mountaineer alive requires member participation.

URGENT: The CMC plans to publish the Mountaineer, the club's climbing journal, by the end of this year. Members are encouraged to submit trip reports, stories, poems, anecdotes, photos, or any other material related to your climbing adventures over the past 3 years. The deadline for inclusion is October 1, 2007. Please include the following information as appropriate: names of members that were in attendance, date of trip, location of trip, and any other details about the climb. Forward your items and/or any questions to the CMC Publications Chair at [cmcpublicationschair@cmcwebsite.org](mailto:cmcpublicationschair@cmcwebsite.org). Thank you!  
George Naxera

#### In Memory

Thanks to Judy and Bob Demkowicz for submitting the following:

Martha Meyer Quivey, member in the 60's died on April 1, 2007. She had been battling cancer for about 18 months. Martha left the Chicago area in the early 70's, lived in Oslo, Norway from 1977 until 2003. She had a stellar career as a nurse educator, faculty member of University of Oslo, member of WHO and the International Council of Nurses. Her presence will be missed.