



CHICAGO MOUNTAINEERING CLUB

The next CMC General Meeting will be Monday, September 8th, at 8:00 PM at Lotties Pub, 1925 W. Cortland, Chicago IL (773) 489-0738.

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.

CMC Board Meeting Minutes are available to members on the club website. Everyone is encouraged to stay informed and get involved.

New Meeting Location

For this month only we are checking out a new meeting location to possibly replace Goose Island Brewery when it closes at the end of the year.

Meeting location will be at Lotties Pub, 1925 W. Cortland. It is located less than a mile from 90/94 just south of Armitage Ave Exit. The basement room is reserved for the meeting. For more information about Lotties check out their website at <http://www.lottiespub.com/>

General Meeting Schedule

First general meeting for the fall is on Monday September 8th.

Next general meeting will be on October 13th. George Naxera will present his May trip to Denali.

If you would like to give a presentation this fall, please contact the Programs Chair Devin Strickland at cmcprograms@cmcwebsite.org.

Trip Reports

I'm happy to report that CMC Board Member George Naxera successfully climbed Mt McKinley (Denali) in June. He was part of a 6-man unguided team. Four of the six team members reached the summit. They began the trip on May 17th and summited on June 1st via the West Buttress route. George said the weather and the altitude were the 2 biggest challenges. Standing at an elevation 20,320ft, Denali is North America's highest peak. His team was stuck at 14K camp for 8 days due to high winds and cold temperatures at the higher elevations. Temperatures were as cold as -30(F) a couple of nights with winds blowing up to 90-110 MPH.



George Naxera at the summit of Denali on June 1st. Photo Courtesy of George.

George posted daily dispatches and some photos which can be viewed on the website below.

<http://www.summitpost.org/trip-report/399039/denali-expedition-2008-daily-updates.html>

George is also going to give a slideshow presentation about the expedition during the monthly CMC meeting on October 13th.

Congratulations George! We look forward to seeing your photos.

In Memoriam

Allen Drachman, a long-time member of the Chicago Mountaineering Club passed away on Wednesday, June 25th. He was 92 years old. He did a lot of climbing with Fred Graf and Gil Carpenter back in the 1980's. Our condolences go out to Dave Drachman and family for the loss of a wonderful father and climber.

New Member

After his second reading at the May meeting, Kevin Fields is our newest member. Please join me in welcoming him to the CMC.

Applicants for Membership

At the May 12th general meeting, the first reading for membership was made for Marco Arroyo. Marco climbed the club last year at Devil's Lake.

Mississippi Palisades Outing

This year's outdoor climbing season opened with the traditional trip to Mississippi Palisades State Park on May 3rd and 4th. The weather forecast was poor, but while not perfect, it turned out better than expected. Fri. afternoon was partly sunny and pleasant and except for a 20 min. shower at dinner time, we stayed dry. People slowly came in throughout the evening and by Sat. morning we had 12 ready climbers, only 5 were CMC members. We all went to Sentinel Rock and had it pretty much to ourselves. We set up Sentinel Rock, 2nd crack, Nosey, and 4th crack. Up on Sentinel Rock the chilly wind was blowing and the mist was swirling and we kidded each other about this being a real alpine experience. The cold rock and windy conditions was making this a less than joyful climb, and by noon we decided to head back to the shelter for lunch and to then go to Twin Sisters. The sun came partly out, and the Sisters area is more sheltered and we all started enjoying a decent climbing day. We had several ropes up on each of Twin Sisters, Open Bible, and Brothers Buttress. Saturday night was cool and pleasant around the campfire.

On Sunday morning several people packed up to leave and others arrived and we now had 15 climbers with 9 of them, CMC members. We went back to Sentinel Rock and both Hideo and Matt Haraburda lead this. We had ropes up on 1st crack, 2nd crack, 3rd crack, 4th crack, nosey, the corner, and 2 on Sentinel Rock. We had a pretty nice day and everyone got in plenty of climbing.

The wild flowers around Sentinel Rock were spectacular and the ones I remember were: common trillium, trillium grandiflora, nodding trillium, Dutchman's breeches, big merrybells, Virginia bluebells, hepatica, bloodroot, wild ginger, Jack in the Pulpit, and shooting stars. This area is one of the best spring wild flower viewing places I have ever seen.

Jamie Norris, Outings Chair



Northe Saunders ready to topout Sentinel Rock, May 2008. Photo courtesy of Jamie Norris.

Access Fund

At the April Board Meeting, the board members voted and approved the CMC joining the Access Fund as an Affiliate Member.

"An Access Fund Affiliate is a climbing organization, association, or access committee working to keep climbing areas open, conserve the climbing environment, and promote responsible climbing at the local or regional level."** Affiliates are volunteer organizations that act as liaisons between the climbing community and land managers and crag owners in their region.

The Access Fund provides great benefits to its affiliate members including support when dealing with land managers and owners of climbing areas, assistance to new and existing organizations with internal issues of club operation or organizing events, and help with stewardships the club spearheads, whether it is trail maintenance, clean-ups or fundraisers. In addition any club member who wants to join the Access Fund will receive a \$5 discount on their membership (not good on renewals).

Check out the website for information about the affiliation. We now have a link to the Access Fund website on the homepage.

Volunteer Weekend



South Shore Rd by the boat launch on July 26th. K. Gisburne.

This June brought a massive amount of rain to the Midwest region. Many areas throughout Iowa, Illinois, and Wisconsin experienced major flooding, including the Wisconsin Dells, Baraboo, and Devil's Lake State Park. It was big news when the levee broke at Lake Dalton, completely draining the lake down to a pit of mud. The Baraboo River hit a record high with waters flooding out portions of major highways. Devil's Lake State Park was closed from June 14-25th due to flooding of the lake, washed out roads/trails, and fallen trees. This led to the cancellation of the June 14-15th outing. South Shore Road was closed from mid-June till the first week of August. Some of the trails were closed due to trailheads under water and washed out boardwalks. Parfrey's Glenn is closed for the rest of the season due to trail damage. The flood waters left a lot

of clean up for the park to handle and opportunity for volunteers to give back to the park.

On July 26th a group of CMC members gathered at Devil's Lake to volunteer at the park. The group included Bev Anderson, John Wanner, Mike and Sylvia Burian, Keith and Julia Bielat, Jamie Norris, Ronn Fieldhouse, Randy Shaw, Bob Blaisdell, and Karen Gisburne. We met at the North Shore Visitor Center parking lot to find out what our tasks would be. After meeting Randy and Pat, our supervisors for the day, we were given the details for our task. Three trees near the beach area came down in the flooding and needed to be removed before the trail and surrounding area could be reopened to the public. The trees were already cut up into logs and large brush and our task was to load the wood onto vehicles for transportation off site. Once the trees were clear we would go to Greenwood, where they split, package, and store the firewood that they sell at the park, to bundle logs.

With gloves in hand we headed down to the beach area to see what awaited us. The first tree to clear went right across the trail. The brush was sorted out and stack on the trucks/trailer to go to one location for burning. After the brush was gone the logs were loaded onto the truck to go to Greenwood. With nine eager workers the first tree was cleared in no time. We then moved on to the second tree which fell on the lawn. The same process was followed, sort out and load the brush then load the logs. After the trucks were loaded up 2-3 people would go with Randy or Pat to help unload the wood while the rest stayed and continue sorting the wood for the next load. By 11:30am the second tree was done and we moved to the third tree farther up the lawn. By this time we had the method down and loading up the brush took no time at all. Once the brush was gone the group started splitting up. Only a few people were needed to help load the logs so some of the group head over to Greenwood to start bagging firewood. When all the logs were loaded on the truck, the rest of the group headed over to Greenwood. The split logs were bundled in mash bags and stacked on a skid. As we went through the bags, several times we thought we were out before more bags were found. After putting in close to two good hours we were given permission to call it a day plus we finally did run out of bags.

With the work done and most of the afternoon still free, the group split up temporarily to go hiking, swimming, and fishing before regrouping for a much deserved dinner at Hooties. On Sunday, the group hit the rocks heading to Sun-Top Tower/Great Tower area for a full day of climbing.

Karen Gisburne



Ronn, Bob, Mike, and Randy hard at work bundling up firewood. K. Gisburne.

-To all of our volunteers, thank you so much for coming and helping out. The park staff really appreciated all the hard work you did. It was a big help to them in their cleanup efforts.

Keith

Old Timers/New Climbers Outing

This year brought together over 50 members and non-members for the annual Old Timers/New Climbers outing on August 16-17th. The weather for the weekend was perfect with 50s for nighttime sleeping and 70s for the daytime activities. On Saturday, the large group split into two climbing groups. One group headed to Four Brother/Pseudo Hawk's Nest and the other went to Birthday Rocks. After a good day of climbing everyone came together for the traditional Saturday evening picnic. The club provided meats, sandwich fixings, and corn on the cob. Jamie, Mike, and others served as the cooks (Thanks all!) preparing the meat and corn for the group. Everyone brought a dish to share from salads to chips/crackers to dessert. There was more than enough food to go around. After dinner the group gathered around the fire pit and surrounding picnic tables to catch up, share stories, and have a good time. On Sunday the climbers again split into two groups. One group headed up to The Guillotine and the other group hung various climbs along Rainy Wednesday Tower and Many Pines Buttress.



Group shot of everyone at the picnic. K. Bielat

From:**Chicago Mountaineering Club**

c/o Karen Gisburne
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TO:

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

FIRST CLASS MAIL

NEWSLETTER: Please submit your comments, announcements, outings or personal climbing reports, items of interest, ephemera, or questions to the Editor: Karen Gisburne. e-mail: cmsecretary@cmcwebsite.org. Also, please contact me if your newsletter was damaged in the mail and you would like a fresh copy sent.

2008 Outdoor Climbing Schedule

If you still haven't dusted off those climbing shoes and head to the lake this year, there is still time. The second half of the season is underway with only 5 more outings remaining for this season.

This Month:

September 6-7 at Devil's Lake State Park
September 20-21 at Devil's Lake State Park

Upcoming Dates:

October 4-5 at Devil's Lake State Park
October 18-19 at Devil's Lake State Park
November 1-2 at Shawnee National Forest
Experienced climbers only

All outings are open to members and guest. For more information about the outings contact Outings Chair Jamie Norris at cmcoutings@cmcwebsite.org.

2008 CMC Board of Directors

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