



CHICAGO MOUNTAINEERING CLUB

The next CMC General Meeting will be Monday, October 13th, at 8:00 PM at SkrineChops, 7230 W. Madison St., Forest Park, IL (708) 771-7230.

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.

General Meeting Schedule



George Naxera at 16.2K above the Headwall on the West Buttress, Denali. Photo courtesy of G. Naxera.

This month's general meeting will be on October 13th. George Naxera will present his May trip to Denali.

The next general meeting will be November 10th.

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

New Meeting Location

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

The meeting will be at SkrineChops, 7230 W. Madison St, Forest Park. It is located between I-290 and the Chicago/Northwestern railroad tracks just one block west of Harlem Ave. For more information about SkrineChops check out their website at <http://www.skrinechops.com/>

New Member Applicants

First readings were made at the September 8th general meeting for four new applicants. They all have been climbing with the club this year in various capacities, whether rock climbing or ice climbing, indoor or outdoor, at the Mississippi Palisades or at Devil's Lake. The new applicants are Eva Szakacs, Dan Reinhart, Michael O'Connor, and Ron Briley.

Announcements

Attention Members!

Please take few minutes to update your personal contact information on the CMC website. Just go to www.cmcwebsite.org and use the Member Login tab located in the left-hand column. Once logged in, you can update your address, phone numbers and email address. This helps to keep you connected with the CMC and other members, and vice versa. Thanks!

For existing members, if you have forgotten your login info please contact the Technology Chair Matt Mead at cmctechnology@cmcwebsite.org for assistance. If you are a new member and don't know your login info please contact the Vice President Dave Kenealy at cmvicepres@cmcwebsite.org

Devil's Lake Guide Books

The new edition to the Devil's Lake guide book is done! It is out and in stores (\$19.95 list price). The new edition compiled by Olle Swartling and Pete Meyer has 120 new routes and 5 new climbing areas. There are landmark photographs for most of the major climbing areas and detailed diagrams for locating climbing routes in those areas. For the technically minded there are GPS waypoints, map coordinates, and altimeter readings in addition to the approach information for finding the climbing areas.

Quote

"Belief is the knowledge that we can do something. It's the inner feeling that what we undertake we can accomplish. In belief there is power; our eyes are opened; our opportunities become plain; our visions become realities. In the moment you carry this conviction...in that moment your dream will become a reality."

-Unknown author, probably an alpinist

Hillbilly Hollow Climbing Area

Coming up early Friday for the Old Timers/New Climber Outing, Ronn Fieldhouse and Karen Gisburne used the time to scout out a new climbing area northeast of Devil's Lake. Hillbilly Hollow is a small sandstone climbing area with sport and trad routes ranging from 5.6 to 5.13 in difficulty. The climbing area is located behind the southbound rest area on 39/51 near mile marker 120, 7 miles north of Westfield (exit 113). We took 33 east from Baraboo hoping it runs into 39/51. Once on 39/51 we headed north for about 35 miles till we hit exit 124 at Coloma. This is the exit to legally turn around and head south on 39/51. When we arrived at the rest area there were several cars in the parking lot but we saw only one guy with climbing gear and it turned out he would be the only other person we would see on the rock that day.

The trailhead is behind the southeast side of the building, by the men's washroom. The trail is a dirt path through woods heading moderately uphill. It was a fairly short walk, maybe 5-10 minutes before we hit the split in the trail. The right branch takes a sharp uphill turn heading to the top of the climbs where top ropes can be set. The left branch heads downhill along the ridgeline to the base of the climbs. We wanted to check out the sport routes, so we took the left path down. As we rounded the corner to the first few climbs, the man from the parking lot was sitting at the top of the ridge setting up his rope. He was setting the first sport route, End of the Innocence, so we decided to head farther down to find the other climbs. The trail at this point changes from the dirt path to small boulders to scramble over. The major group of climbs is tucked away in a canyon. There are two large boulders, one with a face shape kind of like George Washington, which we had to squeeze through to get to the climbs.

Once through 5.6 Dihedral appears head to the right and PWB Arête (5.9) is on the left. Using the randomly ordered climbing guide we tried orienting ourselves and figuring out which climbs were which. After getting a pretty good idea of what was what we decided to start on PWB, nothing like a 5.9 warm-up. Ronn lead up the arête with only minor pause. The ever famous phrase "trust the feet" comes to mind while climbing this route. The holds are small and limited making us tackle the route in different ways, a lead dyno, stretch

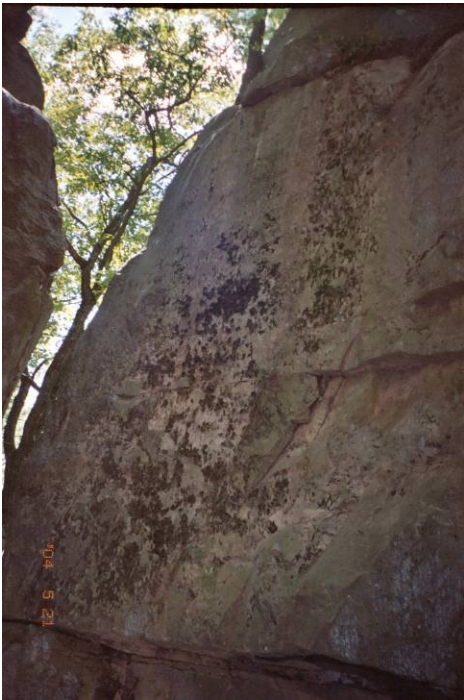
around the corner verse a very high step, mantle up. After we both successfully got to the top, the other climber appeared at the top of the opposite wall looking for Swiss Cheese (5.8). The direct start (5.10) caught our attention, overhung, no apparent feet, and few hands to first bolt. Since we were going to lead the route we headed to End of the Innocence (5.7) till he was done. Directly left of End of the Innocence is Curse of the Drill (5.7) that I wanted to climb mainly because of the name. We started on Innocence then moved over to Curse of the Drill with Ronn leading both. The climbs started with easy walkups to the first bolts 15ft up. After that they turned into nice face climbs, most of the handholds straight forward and grippy but they can make you think in a spot or two. Compared to PWB, this rock is a little grittier with sand collecting on some of the ledges.

With the two climbs completed we walked back to Swiss Cheese. At this point the climber was done and checking out PWB Arête. Ronn again lead off going with the less direct start that is interesting for both climber and belayer. Once the first bolt is reached the climb is smooth and fun but all agreed too short. The rock is plated and juggy making it one of those routes you wish would go on for 80ft. We spent some time talking with the guy we saw all day, Steve, a climber from St. Paul. After helping him set Pine Tree Crack we called it a day to do some other sightseeing in the area. Surveying the routes and access, it's a good place to go before Southern IL to practice sport leading, setting anchors, and rappelling. The scenery is like part of Jackson Falls was broken off and dropped in the middle of Wisconsin. The ridgeline comes up in the middle of a forest. It is a nice place for a day trip if weather is bad or we just want to climb something different.

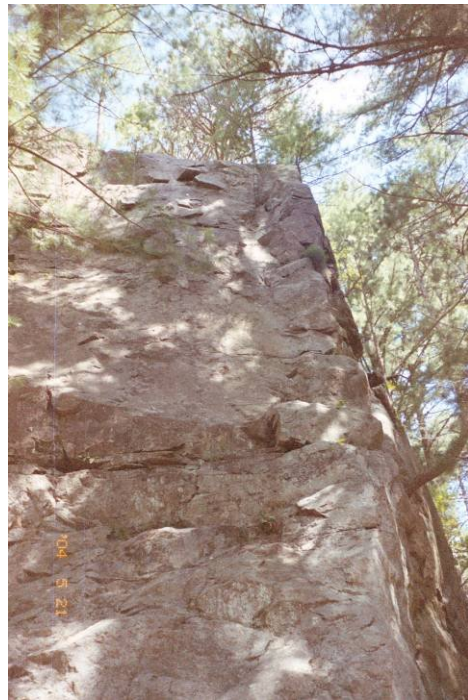
Karen Gisburne

Getting There

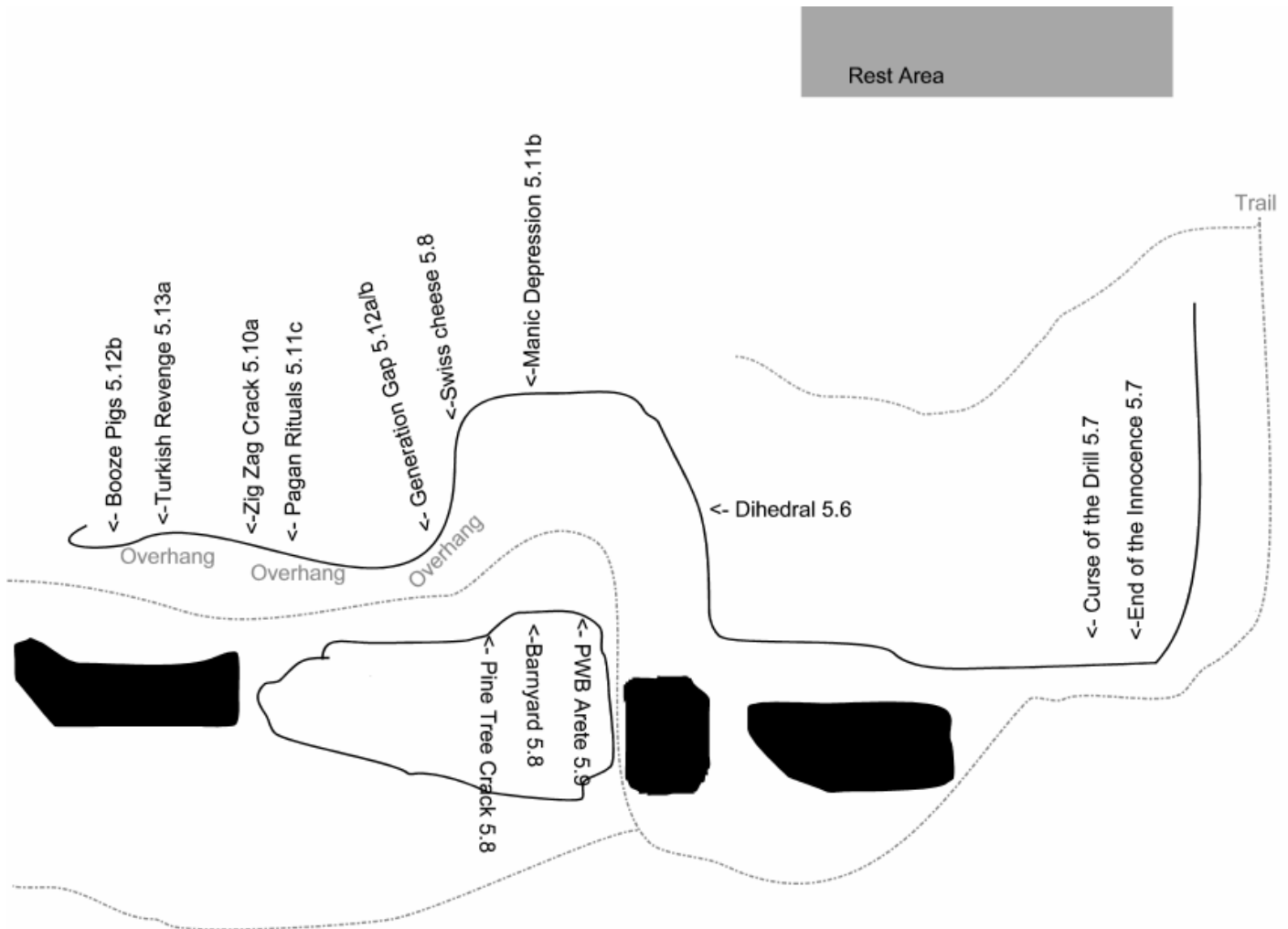
To find the Wayside start out southbound on Highway 39/51 from the Highway 21 interchange or further north. (Note: if approaching from the south one has to drive 5 min. past the wayside exit at Highway 21 and return southbound -- or poach the turnaround immediately north of the wayside "for emergency vehicles only") The wayside is located at about mile marker 120 (approx. 7 miles north of Westfield exit 113). Once in the wayside locate the shelter/bathrooms. Walk around the shelter on the left (east) side and locate a trail into the woods approx. 50 ft southeast of the shelter. Follow this trail through the woods, and slightly uphill. Upon reaching the shoulder of the ridgeline (this will all be apparent at the time), continue left to follow the trail into the canyon and the base of the climbs - or go right to access the top of the routes.



PWB Arete photo courtesy of K. Gisburne



End of Innocence photo courtesy of K. Gisburne



Hillbilly Hallow Climbing Area Map (courtesy of Ronn Fieldhouse)

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: cmcsecretary@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

It is hard to believe the outdoor season is fast approaching its end. There only two more outings up at the lake for this year then it is one last outing down to Southern IL and another outdoor season comes to an end.

So don't miss your chance to enjoy the fall colors and participate in the debate of whether the colors are better the first weekend of October or the third.

This Month:

October 4-5 at Devil's Lake State Park
October 18-19 at Devil's Lake State Park

Upcoming Dates:

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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