

# VERTICAL **TIMES**

*THE NATIONAL PUBLICATION OF THE ACCESS FUND*



VOLUME 72 | OCTOBER 2006

# INTRODUCTION |

## THE AF PERSPECTIVE



In late September over thirty climber activists from all over the country joined together in Eldorado Springs, Colorado to discuss, debate and plan how to continue our work together to preserve access to climbing on private lands and conserve this environment for the future.

The location itself, once a privately owned resort and now a state park, is a great example of how private areas that are important to the climbing community can be preserved for the enjoyment of many.

In Yosemite, over five days last week, the climber-created third annual Yosemite Face lift picked up over 20,000 (yes that is twenty thousand) pounds of trash and made an incredible impression on climbers, park visitors and the NPS alike. I had the pleasure of working shoulder to shoulder with Ken Yager and his crew on ground as the Access Fund supported this stewardship project with money and resources.

These are just two examples of how we, as climbers and good stewards of the land, are working toward achieving our goal “keeping climbing areas open and conserving the climbing environment” as well as realize our vision of “a future in which climbing and access to climbing resources are viewed as legitimate, valued and positive uses of he land; where climbers respect and appreciate the places they climb so that the climbing environment is conserved for current and future generations”.

None of this would be possible without your support. Thank you for your time, stewardship, and dollars.

Fall is a great time to get out and enjoy good climbing weather. It is also a time to get involved and make a difference in your local community and in our climbing community as a whole. It's as easy as lifting a shovel, picking up micro-trash, and renewing your membership.

I'll see you out there!

*Steve Matous*



Looking for trouble. Kelly Cordes heads up the Ruth Glacier, Alaska Range, AK | © Jonathan Copp





Avalanche on K6, Karakoram Range, Pakistan | © Jonathan Copp

## Human-Powered User Groups

### Join Forces

Washington DC - Human-powered outdoor recreation user groups Access Fund (AF), American Whitewater (AW), American Canoe Association (ACA), American Hiking Society (AHS), International Mountain Biking Association (IMBA), and Winter Wildlands Alliance (WWA) have joined forces to establish the Outdoor Alliance. Designed to be a coalition of national, local and regional human-powered recreation groups, the Outdoor Alliance seeks to protect and secure quality outdoor recreation opportunities on the nation's public lands and waters through the collective voice and influence of human-powered outdoor recreation participants.

While almost 150 million Americans annually participate in recreation activities such as hiking, mountain biking, climbing, canoeing, kayaking and backcountry skiing, the political voice of this large constituency is not at all reflective of its size, and is often overshadowed by broader groups with different recreational agendas.

Supported in part by a generous grant from the Turner Foundation, the Outdoor Alliance will address the need for an increased human-powered outdoor recreation voice by helping its member groups improve their grassroots organization and outreach capabilities, by educating decision makers about the size, characteristics, and needs of the human-powered outdoor recreation constituency, by coordinating and mobilizing the alliance's collective grassroots on key issues, and by developing unified public messages.

The Outdoor Alliance is designed as a true coalition—that is, it is not an independent umbrella organization, but rather a group of organizations working towards the same goal. The steering committee, comprised of AF, AW, ACA, AHS, IMBA, and WWA (representing water, land, and snow activities), has primary responsibility for developing the information and communication resources needed to coordinate and support future member initiatives.

Our own Access Fund Executive Director, Steve Matous, has been elected Chairman of the Outdoor Alliance and states: “The Alliance supports responsible stewardship of the lands, waters, air and habitat that are vital to a quality outdoor recreation experience.” Mike Van Abel, Executive Director of the International Mountain Bicycling Association adds: “The Outdoor Alliance is the national voice promoting sustainable outdoor element sports and activities where participants carve, drop, hike and climb through a multitude of different natural environments across the country creating ever growing opportunities for healthy recreation.”

The Outdoor Alliance has retained Adam Cramer and his Washington, D.C. firm, Leiter & Cramer PLLC to serve as its policy architect and counsel and to provide unified guidance to the member groups in stewardship and public policy initiatives.

For more information, Contact Adam Cramer, Leiter & Cramer PLLC, [abc@leitercramer.com](mailto:abc@leitercramer.com), 202.386.7671.

## 2006 Activist Summit

The Access Fund hosted a national conference for climber-activists on September 23rd and 24th at Eldorado State Park outside of Boulder, Colorado focusing on preservation of access to private lands. The event united the organization's national network of regional coordinators and leaders of affiliated local climbing organizations for a day and a half of discussion, presentation, and debate. Over twenty-five attendees from across the country gathered to discuss strategies for preserving access, conserving the climbing environment and promoting effective outreach and advocacy at the grassroots level.

Speakers included experts in the fields of easements, acquisitions, strategic planning, and effective grassroots advocacy. Topics included: Access Fund, Affiliates, and the Climbing Community: Working Together to Ensure Climbing in Perpetuity; Feathers of the Acquisition Quiver, a review of all possible tools to preserve access to climbing areas in perpetuity; Fee Simple Acquisition might not be Simple . . . How to "acquire" the climbing area through a variety of means; Ensuring the Permanence of Conservation Easements; and The Three Part Planning Process: Strategic, Annual and Fundraising Plans.

"To effectively preserve access in perpetuity to climbing areas on private lands the entire climbing community must work together toward a common vision," said Deanne Buck, National Programs Director. "In addition to a common vision, we need to familiarize ourselves with the multitude of options to creatively preserve access, including easements, acquisitions, leases, and facilitating transfers. Over a one and a half day period, we successfully worked toward a common vision and expanded our "feathers of the acquisition quiver."

The Conference underscores the Access Fund's commitment to preserving access by investing in the promotion of local grass-roots activism and outreach. The event also provided an excellent forum for activists from around the country to share their ideas, experience, resources and knowledge needed to preserve climbing access and protect the natural environment. This is the fifth such event held by the Access Fund in its fifteen-year history.

Special thanks to local businesses who provided support: Brett and the Boulder Mountain Lodge, Adam and Avery's Brewing, all the folks at Eldorado State Park, Rob and Vic's Coffee Shop, Moe's Bagel, Daily Harvest,

Jose and Patricia for the amazing catered dinner, and Izze.

". . . left feeling energized and inspired about what the WMCC and the Access Fund can do towards protecting out climbing resources. I think that the direction the Access Fund is taking towards acquisitions is a positive step forward and will greatly improve our ability on a local level, to do what we can and need to do to secure climbing access in perpetuity." Jeff Squire, Western Massachusetts Climber's Coalition, President

"I'd like to express my warm appreciation to all of those in attendance for your time, energy and ideas about Access constraints and opportunities. I learned a lot I will use here in Arizona. I also wanted to extend my sincere wishes for good luck with your continuing efforts in preserving "our" climbing areas, wherever they may be across the country." Erik Filsinger, Arizona Mountaineering Club, Access Director

"THANK YOU for putting together such a great event. We both feel incredibly fortunate to have been part of the summit. I can't tell you how much we've taken away from it and I think it's going to make a huge difference to our local climbing organization, C3PA, as well." Scott Woods and Ieva Perkons, Climbing Conservancy of Central Pennsylvania Founders



## 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:

Title Sponsor |  
 Recreational Equipment, Inc. (REI) [www.rei.com](http://www.rei.com)

Presenting Sponsor |  
 GORE-TEX® Products [www.gore-tex.com](http://www.gore-tex.com)

Contributing Sponsor |  
 CLIF Bar [www.clifbar.com](http://www.clifbar.com)



## The Access Fund's Seventh Annual Adopt-a-Crag Celebration

*REI Title Sponsor, GORE-TEX Products Presenting Sponsor & CLIF Bar Contributing Sponsor*

The Access Fund is proud to announce that the seventh annual Adopt-a-Crag season is in full swing! Marked by the September Adopt-a-Crag Celebration month, Adopt-a-Crag has evolved into a year-round program.

Adopt-a-Crag is the Access Fund's signature stewardship event, a national commitment by the climbing community to natural resource stewardship and volunteerism, bringing climbers together to celebrate their crags and communities. It is the largest overall volunteer effort by the climbing community year after year.

See a need at your crag? Want a good excuse to bring the community together? It's not too late to organize and register an event at [www.accessfund.org/adopt](http://www.accessfund.org/adopt) or contact Kristo Torgersen, 303-545-6772 x105 [Kristo@accessfund.org](mailto:Kristo@accessfund.org)

To find an event in your area: [www.accessfund.org/events/aac.php](http://www.accessfund.org/events/aac.php)

## THE PLANNER: FALL EVENTS CALENDAR

**OCT-NOV** Josh Lowell and Peter Mortimer's Nationwide Reel Rock Tour. Over 50 location/dates across the nation  
[www.reelrocktour.com](http://www.reelrocktour.com)

**10/13-10/15** Miguel's & Torrent Falls/Mark's BBQ, Slade, KY. RRGCC Rocktoberfest 2006  
[www.rrgcc.org](http://www.rrgcc.org)

**10/27-10/29** Climb Smart, Indian Cove, JT National Park, CA.  
[www.friendsofjosh.org/](http://www.friendsofjosh.org/)

**11/11** The Jamestown Adopt-a-Crag [www.seclimbers.org](http://www.seclimbers.org)

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

**10/14** Portland Rock Gym, OR. PDX Ice Festival, [www.portlandrockgym.com](http://www.portlandrockgym.com)

**10/15** Lumpy Ridge, Estes Park, CO. The Lumpy Trails Day, Greg Sievers, [gsievers57@cs.com](mailto:gsievers57@cs.com)

**11/18** Moss Rock Preserve, Hoover, AL. Chalky Dreams Bouldering Comp [www.seclimbers.org](http://www.seclimbers.org)

for more event information visit: <http://www.accessfund.org/events>





## Help John Bachar

By Malcolm Daly

John Bachar was seriously injured in a car accident while he was driving home on August 14th from the Outdoor Retailer trade show. He sustained multiple spinal fractures and will be faced with huge medical bills for the surgeries, physical therapy and recovery. The crash resulted in the tragic death of Steve Karafa, president of Acopa (the climbing shoes manufacturer), and minor injuries to John's partner Anastasia.

John, known for his legendary and inspiring solo ascents of some of the world's highest-standard climbing was (and still is) an inspiration to me and many climbers. From his first free ascent of Astroman to his bold solos of 5.12s (an unimaginable level of difficulty to me at the time), to bringing the first sticky rubber shoes into the US market, Bachar set new levels of performance for me and many of my partners to aspire.

John needs our help now. Below are four great ways you can contribute:

[www.bachar.gr-outdoors.net](http://www.bachar.gr-outdoors.net)

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

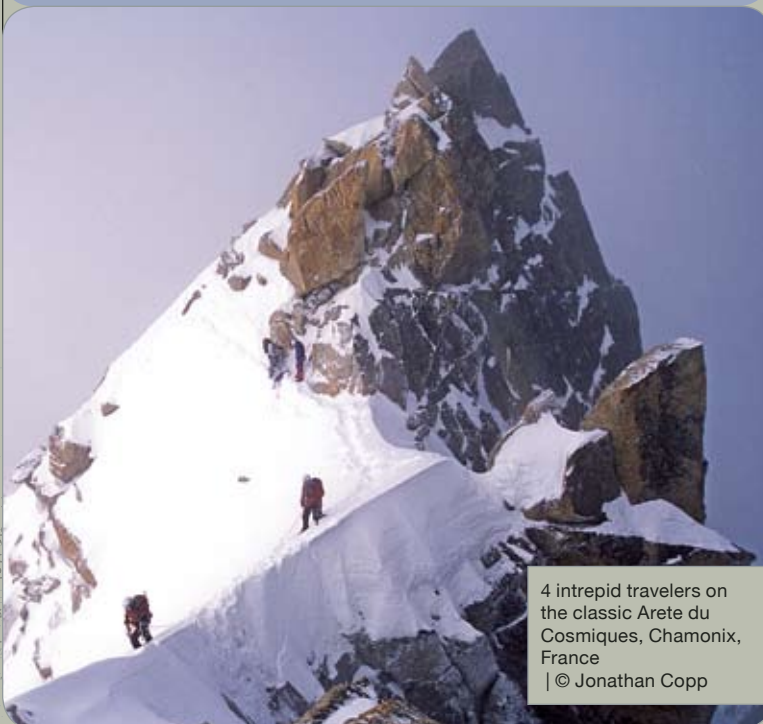
[www.peaklightimages.com](http://www.peaklightimages.com)

[www.cirrus-digital.com/bachar.html](http://www.cirrus-digital.com/bachar.html)

Thanks in advance for helping John out!

*"Many of my best images have an even better story behind them. And many of those have to do with objectives in far out places. But without the protection of our climbing resources back at home, there would be no trips to climbing objectives abroad."*

Jonny Copp, Access Fund Ambassador, has had his passport stolen by a monkey in India, been given a test run with a machine-gun in Pakistan, been robbed in Reno, and has starved in Patagonia. He is known for high level alpinism and has made impressive first ascents worldwide, including the first alpine style ascent of Grade VII, on Shipton Spire. He applies the idea that less is more in terms of equipment and supplies, and still believes that the summit means something but that ascent style is everything. He's been the recipient of a number of grants to fund explorations. Jonny's photography and writing has been published in magazines, journals, books and film. (Check out some of Jonny's stuff at [www.coppworks.com](http://www.coppworks.com)) JC is also the founder of the Boulder Adventure Film Festival and Dirt Days, Boulder's own festival dedicated to adventurers, independent filmmakers and activists: [www.BoulderAdventureFilm.com](http://www.BoulderAdventureFilm.com).



4 intrepid travelers on the classic Arete du Cosmiques, Chamonix, France  
| © Jonathan Copp





## Upcoming Changes for Little Rock City, TN

Brad McLeod, Southeastern Climbers Coalition

Below are the current parameters for upcoming changes to visitation at LRC (The Stone Fort)-All changes will be in place beginning October 1, 2006. These changes are being made by the landowner with the long-term goal of maintaining access for climbers.

1. Implement a \$5 per climber parking fee using an online payment system in conjunction with the current system of registration. To clarify, ALL climbers visiting the boulderfield will be required to pay \$5 for each visit to the property.

The number of daily visitors will also be increased to 40.

2. Yearly group/school user fee per institution will be applied. Current schools using LRC as a site for outdoor programs include McCallie, Baylor, and GPS. These institutions will NOT be required to register for visitation during the week (Monday thru Friday). Therefore, these groups will not affect the number of passes during weekdays. However, all participating school programs will be required to register individual climbers during the weekends.

The Triple Crown Bouldering Series will be charged for it's use of the boulderfield as well.

\*\*In regard to all groups and individual climbers, everyone will be required to sign a liability waiver.

3. All climbers will "check-in" at the clubhouse before entering the boulderfield. A Montlake employee will verify each climber by the daily registration page on the SCC ([www.seclimbers.org](http://www.seclimbers.org)) website. In addition to monitoring visitation to the property, this will also offer a way to educate new climbers to the appropriate visitation procedure.

4. A Montlake employee dedicated to an 8am to 5:30pm day will be on duty in the fall. In addition, the SCC will select 10 representatives from the climbing community. These ten representatives will be required to perform several duties at LRC during each of their visits, and will help maintain and monitor climber visitation to the boulderfield. If you are interested in information regarding one of these positions, please see the SCC message board <http://seclimbers.org/modules.php?name=News&file=article&sid=340>

5. The name of LRC will be changed to The Stone Fort per the owner's request

6. A yearly pass for climbers who frequently visit the property will be available for purchase beginning October 1, 2006. The price for the pass will be \$150. Yearly pass holders will still be required to register each day. A yearly pass does not guarantee visitation on high volume days. Once the system has received 40 registrants on a given day, the pass system will close for that particular day-it will still be first come, first served each day for everyone.

Climbers that purchase a year pass will still be required to register for each visit to the boulderfield-all other rules apply to year pass holders as well.

In the meantime, please support Montlake with these upcoming changes; they have certainly supported us.

## RRGCC & Charmane Oil Sign Dispute Agreement

Bill Strachan, Executive Director Red River Gorge Climbers' Coalition (RRGCC)

After more than two years of negotiation between the RRGCC and Charmane Oil Company concerning each parties use of the Pendergrass-Murray Recreational Preserve (PMRP), an Alternative Dispute Resolution Agreement has been signed.

Ever since the RRGCC announced its intention to purchase the 700-acre tract of land in Lee County, Kentucky that is now known as the PMRP, there have been tensions between climbers and Charmane Oil who operates an oil extraction lease on the property. Shortly after the PMRP was purchased in January 2004, the RRGCC obtained a Temporary Restraining Order from the Lee County Circuit Court prohibiting Charmane from blocking or impeding climbers' access to the property.

While there has generally been a display of mutual respect between climbers and the oil company since the issuance of the TRO, the RRGCC has been working through a mediation process imposed upon Charmane by the Court. In working through this mediation process the RRGCC has finally reached its goal of having an acceptable, recognized means of resolving any future disputes between climbers and the oil company.



## Southwest Colorado Update

Steve Johnson, Southwest Colorado Regional Coordinator

### Falls Wall and Bridal Veil Falls, Telluride, Colorado

The Falls Wall is located next to Bridal Veil Falls at an elevation of over 9500 feet. It has recently seen development of several hundred sport climbs of up to 300 ft. on high quality conglomerate rock. The Falls Wall is covered in Charlie Fowler and Damon Johnston's guide, *Telluride Rocks*, 3rd Edition, and is one of the premier alpine sport crags in Colorado.

The Falls Wall cliffs are located on United States Forest Service property. The approach from the Bridal Veil Road (County road K-69), at the base of the tram that connects to the Bridal Veil powerhouse (one switchback below the base of Bridal Veil Falls), crosses private property currently owned by Idarado Mining Company. The Town of Telluride has obtained a large Great Outdoors Colorado grant for acquisition of this property, known as the Kentucky Placer. The Kentucky Placer extends for almost a mile to connect with the Telluride Town Park. Telluride is in the process of completing its due diligence investigation and additional fund raising for the purchase. If all goes well, the purchase will legalize the access to the Falls Wall in time for the 2007 climbing season.

In addition, the base of the Kentucky Placer appears to extend to the base of Bridal Veil Falls. A pending survey should help locate the exact corners, as problematic as it is with steep cliffs, etc. This may or may not prove to be the solution to legally getting to and up Bridal Veil Falls, though it would not cover the walkoff at the top.

### Railroad Grade Ice, Ophir, Colorado

A section of the old Denver and Rio Grande Western Railroad known as the Ophir Loop below Ophir, Colorado provides a flat base along several hundred yards of moderate to hard short ice slabs and mixed smears known as the Railroad Grade Ice. This base area is also known as the Galloping Goose Trail which the United States Forest Service has established in the region. The Railroad Grade Ice is located on private property and there are conflicting jurisdictional claims to the Galloping Goose Trail itself.

A federal land exchange was proposed several years ago that would result in acquisition of the Railroad Grade Ice area by the Forest Service. That land exchange,

unfortunately, has recently fallen through. The United States Forest Service, however, appears determined to secure ownership of the Galloping Goose Trail and access to it over an intervening parcel from State Highway 145 at the top of Ophir Loop. In the meantime, the Railroad Grade Ice remains closed to the public.

### Wilson Peak

Wilson Peak is a scenic 14,000 ft. peak featured on the Coors beer commercials. It crowns a massif with three of Colorado's southwestern most 14er's. Two years ago, a land owner closed trails in Silver Pick Basin which provided access to the classic Southwest Ridge of Wilson Peak, as well as trails also connecting into Navajo Basin for climbers interested in summiting Mount Wilson and El Diente Peak. The landowner did so following USFS denial of his numerous efforts to exchange 38 above-timberline mining claims (constituting approximately 238 acres) for over 2000 acres of developable properties on Wilson Mesa outside of Telluride. The claims include a strip of land near the summit of Wilson Peak.

A Wilson Peak Protection Fund has been set up to evaluate alternative access, provide signage and education to hikers, and possibly to restore access over existing historic trails. Initial efforts may include funding a USFS-led survey to definitively establish trail and claim locations, estimated to cost over \$57,000.00. Donations may be sent to the Colorado Mountain Club, 710 Tenth Street, Ste. 200, Golden, Colorado 80401, ATTN: Cathy McGuire. Checks should be made out to the Colorado Mountain Club with a notation in the remarks line of Wilson Peak Fund.

The Wilson Peak Protection Fund was established after extensive negotiations with the landowner over one year failed. The goal was to acquire a recreational easement over the mining claims. During the negotiations, the landowner expressed major concern over liability to hikers and climbers as a major reason for its closure. In 2005, the Colorado General Assembly passed House Bill 1049, which afforded immunity to landowners who allow members of the public to cross over historically used trails for recreational purposes at no charge. While this bill was pending, the landowner instead decided to offer, "pay to play" access, charging \$100 per climber/hiker per day. As a result, the new liability protections will not be available to the landowner. The landowners website can be found at [www.wilsonpeakaccess.com](http://www.wilsonpeakaccess.com). The Telluride Mountain Club discourages the public and guides from paying any access fee. >>





The landowner has also announced plans to commence gold mining in Silver Pick basin as part of an apparent effort to force the public and the Forest Service to approve the unbalanced land exchange proposal.

In the meantime, Wilson Peak climbers can skirt the mining claims by crossing very loose scree slopes above and east of the Silverpick Road and traversing on trails and scrambling into the upper Silver Pick Basin. This leads to the West Face, where the summit can be legally accessed up steep snow or scree and talus. The two other 14er's can continue to be legally accessed from Navajo Basin. For more information, see: [charlieontheloose.blogspot.com](mailto:charlieontheloose.blogspot.com); [www.summitpost.com](http://www.summitpost.com); [www.14ers.com](http://www.14ers.com).

## Owls Head Cliff, NH

*Tom Richardson*

The 380+/- acre Owls Head Cliff property is currently listed for sale with a real estate broker. If sold on the private market the property would likely be developed into second homes/vacation homes and an incredible community recreation resource and critical wildlife habitat could be permanently lost.

In addition to possessing 800+/- vertical feet of shear granite cliff face of Owls Head (1,967 ft.), the property also contains 6,000+/- feet of stream frontage along both sides of Oliverian Brook (a tributary of the Connecticut River) including a small waterfall. Approximately one-half mile southeast of the property the infamous Appalachian Trail passes through Oliverian Notch and the Jeffers Brook Shelter and Blueberry Mountain Trail are also in close proximity to the Owls Head Cliff property.

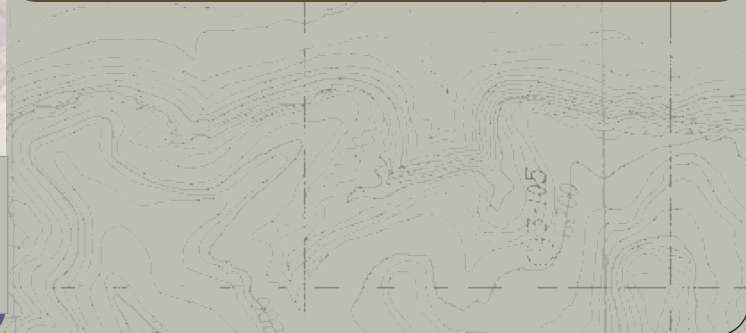
The Trust for Public Lands (TPL) with support from the Access Fund is leading an effort to have this property purchased by the White Mountain National Forest. The Trust for Public Land's goal is to permanently conserve the 380+/- acre Owl's Head Cliff property for people and wildlife, by conveying it to the U.S. Forest Service for inclusion in the White Mountain National Forest.

Support for this project is needed in the form of letters and other contact with US Forest Service management, elected officials and conservation organizations. This project will take time, at least several months, possibly a few years. This property is too unique to let it be used for anything but public or conservation land. Many people are interested in maintaining the cliff's availability for rock climbing.

Owls Head Cliff general info: [www.owlsheadcliff.org](http://www.owlsheadcliff.org)



Jeff Hollenbaugh and Michael Scott working out the details on Snowpatch Spire, Bugaboos, Canada | © Jonathan Copp





## Act Now To Save Climbing At Opies Kitchen In Southern Illinois

Crab Orchard National Wildlife Refuge (CONWR), more commonly known as Devils Kitchen or Opies Kitchen, is planning to officially shut its doors to all forms of rock climbing. This plan, if put into effect, would close access to the well-known Opies Kitchen bouldering area. But it's not too late. We are asking every climber who has visited either Southern Illinois or Opies Kitchen to write a letter in hopes of saving this place.

**ALL LETTERS AND EMAILS MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN FRIDAY, OCTOBER 20TH**

### ACT TODAY

Send a letter or email to Robyn Thorson, Regional Director and let her know what an important and unique resource Opies Kitchen is to climbers. Urge Ms. Thorson to consider rock climbing as a compatible use at CONWR. CONWR is a unique natural area and climbing resource of significant importance for southern Illinoisans.

### Send emails to:

r3planning@fws.gov

Robyn Thorson, Regional Director  
Great Lakes-Big Rivers Region of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

In the Subject Line, please state: Rock Climbing is a Compatible Use of CONWR lands

Please send a copy to: David Chancellor, SoIll Holds, Inc., david@soillholds.com

### More letter writing tips:

- Because rock climbing is a known activity, CONWR is obligated to conduct a compatibility determination upon the request of a user-group
- Importance of the area as a climbers' destination
- Uniqueness of climbing at Opies Kitchen as compared to other climbing resources in the area (be sure to state why)
- Importance of Opies Kitchen to you personally
- Frequency of So Ill climbing
- Your respect to the wilderness
- Your willingness to self-regulate and commitment toward stewardship
- Rock climbing is an appropriate, sustainable, low impact, form of muscle-powered recreation. The motives of climbers are not distinct from hikers, runners, cyclists, swimmers, hunters, wildlife observers, or other recreational users at CONWR

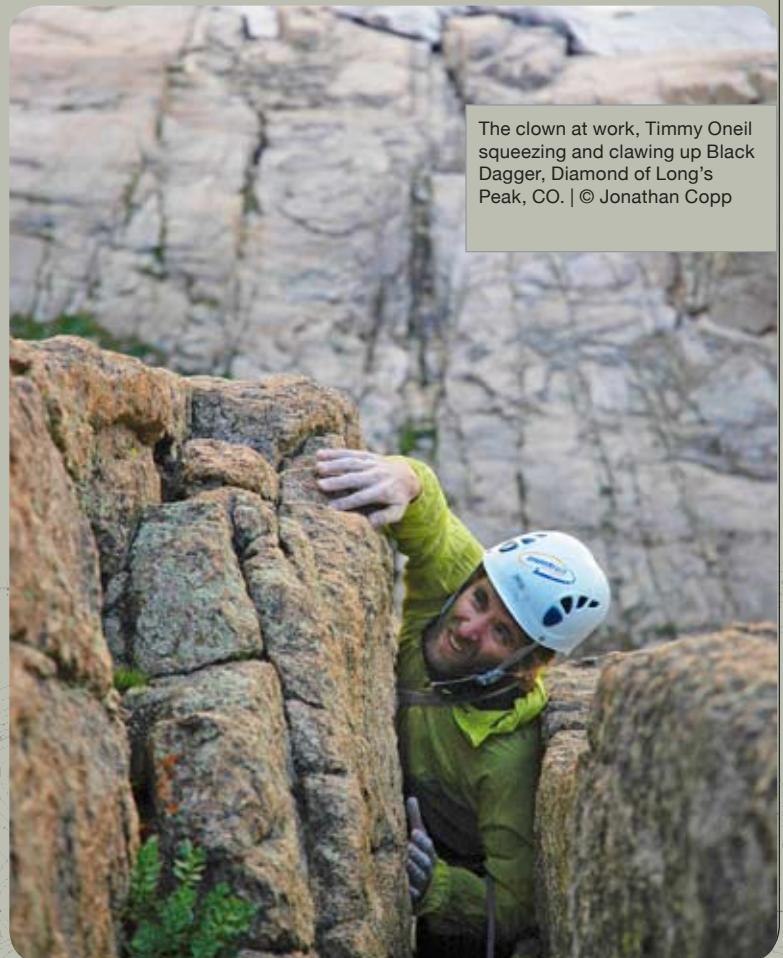
who seek urban escape, exercise and a variety of other enriching outcomes when visiting public lands.

•Contact info (include name and email)

### Background

Last fall CONWR held open forums for the public to make suggestions on its draft management plan. A final plan was issued in September 2006 which officially banned rock climbing as an activity at CONWR by stating, "[r]ecreational and technical rock climbing would not be permitted on the Refuge. This includes free-style rock climbing, rappelling and technical rock climbing." The reasoning for this closure is, "Climbing opportunities can be found at nearby Giant City State Park."

We are working for the reconsideration of rock climbing as a compatible use of CONWR. Our goal is for CONWR to evaluate rock climbing as it has all other uses of CONWR land, instead of unilaterally declaring an uninformed closure.



The clown at work, Timmy Oneil squeezing and clawing up Black Dagger, Diamond of Long's Peak, CO. | © Jonathan Copp



PHOTO | © ANDREW BURR

# THE BOULDER project

An AccessFund Initiative

› FEEDING YOUR HABIT

YOUR VIRTUAL SUPPORT GROUP, REMIXED  
[WWW.BOULDERPROJECT.ORG](http://WWW.BOULDERPROJECT.ORG)





## SUPER-SPECIAL HOLIDAY PACKAGE

Retail value- over \$145 (applies to super-sized package)

ACCESS FUND | memberSHOP

### BASIC PACKAGE- \$48 includes:

#### •Access Fund Membership

Your Access Fund membership- the essential gear for climbing. It keeps you climbing and assures that your grandkids have places to play. Don't leave home without it.

#### •The North Face Access Fund Beanie

Perfect blockheater for long ice-routes, crisp bouldering sessions, or a bad hair day. 100% Merino wool. One Size.

#### •Petzl TIKKINA

2 LED headlamp produces long-lasting, white and even light. Water resistant when the weather gets nasty.

#### •Marmot Travel Mug

Super swank stainless steel, insulated mug with adjustable lid.

#### •Higher Ground Coffee Access Fund Blend

Support the preservation of our shared passion with your morning cup. Ten Percent of proceeds fund keeping climbing areas open and conserve the climbing environment.

#### •Royal Robbins First Aid Kit

Be prepared for you next epic.

#### •Clif Bars

Seasonal assortment of Pumpkin Spice, Caramel Apple Cobbler, and Iced Gingerbread. Mmmmm. Certified organic and no trans fats to clog your arteries.

### QUANTITIES LIMITED! ORDER TODAY!

[www.accessfund.org/holiday](http://www.accessfund.org/holiday)

*\$7 shipping and handling applies to all domestic orders. \$15 for international. Quantities limited.*

*Access Fund reserves the right to substitute similar products of equal or greater value.*

### BASIC UPGRADE- \$55

*Basic Package + Access Fund T-shirt*

100% Organic Cotton prAna T-shirts. With our T, you can rebel against corporate dress codes and battle for climbers' rights at the same time.

### SUPER-SIZED- \$75

*Basic package + Access Fund T-shirt + Black Diamond Bullet Pack*

The Bullet is a tough and versatile daypack able to withstand repeated abuse. If things get wide and gnarly, it quickly converts into a haul bag. Custom made and co-branded with the Access Fund logo.



Kelly Cordes, Deprivation, North Buttress of Mount Hunter, AK. Photo | © Jonathan Copp



Check out the MemberSHOP for deals on Access Fund Schwag and special discounted offers from our partners  
[www.accessfund.org/membershop](http://www.accessfund.org/membershop)

**Access Fund Prana Hoodies**

100% Cotton | Member Price \$38.00



*Rock is  
FINITE  
Keep  
Access  
INFINITE!*

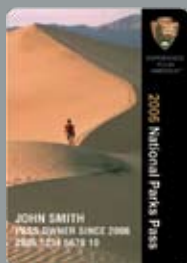
**prAna Access Fund Tee Shirts**

100% Organic Cotton | Member Price \$18.00



**Pass It On!**

Hey Climbers—give back to the Access Fund when you purchase your National Parks Pass from our website! \$10.00 of each pass purchase will be donated back to the Access Fund! Check it out on our MemberSHOP or at [www.nationalparks.org/accessfund](http://www.nationalparks.org/accessfund)



**URBANCLIMBER**  
MAGAZINE

GET 15% OFF

**Alpinist**

GET 15% OFF

**Climbing**  
MAGAZINE

GET 20% OFF

**ROCK&ICE**  
THE WORLD'S CLIMBING MAGAZINE

GET 30% OFF

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**OFFICERS**

*President*  
Dan Nordstrom, WA  
*Vice President*  
Heather Furman, VT  
*Secretary*  
Marte Lightstone, NM  
*Treasurer*  
King Grant, CT

**HONORARY BOARD MEMBERS**

Larry Gustafson, TX  
Michael Kennedy, CO  
John Juraschek, NC  
Armando Menocal, WY  
Dave Rosenstein, NJ  
Bill Supple, VT

**BOARD MEMBERS**

Aimee Barnes, UT  
Anne-Worley Bauknight, CO  
Leslie Brown, WA  
Tommy Caldwell, CO  
Andrew Carson, WY  
Keith Cole, Washington, DC  
Linda Givler, WA  
Kyle Lefkoff, CO  
Sam Lightner, Jr., WY  
Corey Rich, CA  
Jeff Widen, CO  
David Wilson, GA

**STAFF**

**Steve Matous — Executive Director**

303.545.6772 x101, [steve@accessfund.org](mailto:steve@accessfund.org)

**Jason Keith — Policy Director**

303.545.6772 x102, [jason@accessfund.org](mailto:jason@accessfund.org)

**Deanne Buck — Programs Director**

303.545.6772 x112, [deanne@accessfund.org](mailto:deanne@accessfund.org)

**Kristo Torgersen — Associate Programs Director**

303.545.6772 x105, [kristo@accessfund.org](mailto:kristo@accessfund.org)

**Chris Archer — General Counsel**

303.449.0427, [chris@archerlawoffices.com](mailto:chris@archerlawoffices.com)

**Robb Shurr — Director of Marketing & Business Development**

303.545.6772 x100, [robb@accessfund.org](mailto:robb@accessfund.org)

**Whitney Self — Development Director**

303.545.6772 x113, [whitney@accessfund.org](mailto:whitney@accessfund.org)

**Kerry Cowan — Membership Director**

303.545.6772 x106, [kerry@accessfund.org](mailto:kerry@accessfund.org)

**Randy Levensaler — Media Manager**

303.545.6772 x103, [randy@accessfund.org](mailto:randy@accessfund.org)

**Ellen Jardine — Business & Finance Manager**

303.545.6772 x107, [ellen@accessfund.org](mailto:ellen@accessfund.org)

**Judy Ware — Office Associate**

303.545.6772 x104, [judy@accessfund.org](mailto:judy@accessfund.org)

**THE ACCESS FUND**

Phone: 303-545-6772 Fax: 303-545-6774  
 SHIPPING ADDRESS MAILING ADDRESS  
 207 Canyon Blvd. P.O. Box 17010  
 Suite 201S Boulder, CO 80308  
 Boulder, CO 80302

## 2006 | Access Fund Corporate Partners

These partners are businesses that put their money where their mouth is to support the Future of Climbing. Please consider the important contribution these partners make to your climbing future. They support the Access Fund and you. We encourage you to support them.

### TITANIUM — \$50,000+

Haynes and Boone LLP — 2003

### DIAMOND PLUS — \$20,000+

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  
Matrosch 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  
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

### 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.



GORE-TEX® probably had something to do with keeping you dry and comfortable during your last epic. They also have a big something to do with making sure you have a place to epic (err, climb).

Over the years GORE-TEX® has contributed a lot to the climbing community besides keeping you dry and comfortable from head to toe. GORE-TEX® is the Presenting Sponsor of Adopt-a-Crag and has been a Corporate Partner since the very beginning 15 years ago.

GORE-TEX® outerwear carries the Guaranteed to Keep You Dry® promise. Through their enormous, continuous support of the Access Fund, we propose they also adopt the Guaranteed to You Climbing promise.

Thanks for keeping us dry and keeping us climbing! [www.gore-tex.com](http://www.gore-tex.com)



# REFER a friend



“If you don’t vote in an election, you can’t criticize its outcome. Likewise, if you’re unhappy with the management of your favorite climbing areas, you can: **a) Get involved** by joining the Access Fund and your Local Climbing Organization, or **b) Shut your pie-hole.**”  
*Excerpt from the Spring '06 Black Diamond catalog*

## Now We Need Your Help...and We're Busting Out The Schwag!

**It's 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!



**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.

**The two top referrers will receive a bonus gift package worth over \$150.** *You are the greatest testimony to the benefit of membership!*

**REFER your friends by sending them to this link:**  
[www.accessfund.org/support](http://www.accessfund.org/support)  
 or give them this form. ....

- They must enter your name in the “Referred by” box on the join form in order for their membership to count towards your total tally.
- Awards will be sent on a monthly basis as your referrals accumulate.
- Program will reset December, 31st 2006 so you have until the end of the year to receive these gifts.
- The Access Fund reserves the right to substitute any gift based on availability.



**YES! I WANT TO JOIN THE ACCESS FUND**

your climbing future

- \$35     \$250 \*\*  
 \$50\*     \$500 \*\*  
 \$100\*\*     \$1,000  
 \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Other     \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Sign up as a Monthly Donor (\$5 minimum per month)

**\*At \$50 or more, we'd like to send you an Access Fund T-Shirt. Please circle your T-Shirt style/size: Men's T Women's T S M L XL no, thanks.**  
**\*\*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](http://www.accessfund.org/support/mip.php))**

YOUR NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY, STATE, ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE (include area code): \_\_\_\_\_

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.

THE ACCESS FUND PO BOX 17010 BOULDER, CO 80308  
 888.8.MEMBER  
[www.accessfund.org](http://www.accessfund.org)

- I have written a check, made payable to the Access Fund.  
 Please charge my (circle one):    Visa    MasterCard    Discover    AMEX

Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Billing Address (if different) \_\_\_\_\_

Save paper, printing, & mailing costs! I'd like to receive AF news and updates electronically, and hold delivery of the printed *Vertical Times* newsletter to my home. My current email is:

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

## 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](mailto: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\*

### 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\*  
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](http://www.accessfund.org/partners/affiliates.php)

*Vertical Times* October 2006 | Vol. 72

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: Swingin' and Singin', Zoe Hart on Red Mountain Pass, San Juans, Colorado  
| © Jonathan Copp