



# YOU'VE NEVER SEEN **THE AAC** LIKE THIS

Jason Kehl bouldering 20 miles deep in the Miyar Valley, Indian Himalaya.

📍 Mick Follari

Dear Climbers,

## IT'S DAWN, AND THIS IS OUR ALPINE START.

We've consulted the topos and experts. Our packs are filled with supplies. And we're deep into the approach, going strong.

This is not the start of a day in the Rockies, nor a weekend in the Cascades, nor an expedition in Nepal. Our objective is bigger—this is the genesis of a fully retooled American Alpine Club. You are part of this climbing adventure. Outlined in the pages of this booklet are the beginnings of a new AAC, and how they will impact you and your Club.

You told us what you wanted the AAC to do for the climbing community. Loaded with that information, we've embarked with a sensible Club commitment:

## MEMBERS COME FIRST.

To ensure that commitment, we've looked for the best from our past and combined it with what is most relevant to the future. Member benefits are better than ever. Unprecedented local staff and funding now assure that crag improvements, conservation projects, social events and mentorship opportunities prosper in your backyard. And never before have our online resources been so vast, powerful and forward thinking. We expect these changes will make us a better and stronger AAC—America's national organization that will support and advocate for *all* climbers better than ever.

We're under way. Page through to see the expedition in action. Involve a friend or partner.

## CELEBRATE YOUR NEW AAC.

**Steve Swenson**  
AAC President

Steve Swenson goes to work in the Canadian Rockies.  Cory Richards



# WE ASKED ONE CENTRAL QUESTION:

*If you could build The American Alpine Club from the ground up today, what would America's national climbing organization look like?*

## YOU ANSWERED:

### MEMBER BENEFITS

Membership must be an extraordinary value.

### COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

AAC time, energy and dollars must be spent locally.

### CLIMBING INFORMATION

Provide more high-quality climbing information online.


### CONTINUING OUR LEGACY

Honor and maintain core values and classic programs.

DONE.



AAC Bates Award winner Alex Honnold goes for broke on Moonlight Buttress (V 5.12+), Zion National Park, Utah.

 Celin Serbo / Aurora Photos

# NEVER BEFORE

Dozens of new benefits, now available to AAC members.



# MEMBER BENEFITS

With the goal of making your membership as valuable as possible, members now enjoy a wealth of new benefits—in addition to the AAC's classic benefits suite.

## New and Now Available


- \$10,000 in Rescue Benefits: New \$5,000 domestic **INSURANCE** in addition to current \$5,000 worldwide rescue service
- New Discounts: Gyms, Gear, Lodging, Guide Services
- New AAC Clubhouse in Kathmandu (\$15/night)
- Exclusive Insurance Deals: Health, Accident, Life, Trip, Travel

## It Doesn't Stop There

- Future AAC campgrounds in the Gunks and New River Gorge
- Increased Funding: \$15,000 in Mountain Fellowship Grants and \$20,000 in Spitzer Cutting Edge Grants

[americanalpineclub.org/benefits](https://americanalpineclub.org/benefits)



Chris Sharma gets serious on Es Pontas (5.15b?), Mallorca, Spain.  Corey Rich / Aurora Photos

# NEVER BEFORE

AAC programs, now built to power your community.



# COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

Climbing is, at its heart, local.

To support programs relevant to you, the AAC has dedicated more money and hired regional staff to expand volunteer opportunities, local events and conservation grants in your community.

## New in Your Backyard

- \$25,000 Cornerstone Grant for local crag conservation efforts
- Regional Coordinators in the Pacific Northwest and Northeast
- More **LOCAL** Programs and Support: Events, Conservation, Mentorship, Advocacy

## It Doesn't Stop There

- AAC money for local Sections and Chapters has more than doubled
- More Regional Coordinators across the country
- Coming Soon: Local grants to fund non-elite climbing trips

[chapters.americanalpineclub.org](https://chapters.americanalpineclub.org)



Mikey Schaefer on the first ascent of The Diablo Traverse (5.10 A2), Stikine Icecap, Alaska.  Colin Haley

# NEVER BEFORE

Ever-increasing climbing knowledge, now at your fingertips.



# CLIMBING INFORMATION

For more than 100 years, the Club has collected significant climbing books and archives. Now imagine all of that online. The recent launch of our new website is the first step in developing digital tools that climbers cannot live without.

## New Online

- Local Section Websites
- Trip Reports and Improved **MEMBER FEATURES**
- Powerful Library Search: 20,000+ guidebooks, videos, resources—all mailed for free

## It Doesn't Stop There

- Unparalleled online resources for trip planning and historical research
- Digital revamps for *The American Alpine Journal* and *Accidents in North American Mountaineering*

[aaj.americanalpineclub.org](http://aaj.americanalpineclub.org)

[booksearch.americanalpineclub.org](http://booksearch.americanalpineclub.org)

[americanalpineclub.org](http://americanalpineclub.org)



# CONTINUING OUR LEGACY

These bold new initiatives are born from a 109-year legacy of alpine values: Partnership, Creativity, Independence, Stewardship and Fortitude. Our roots endure, as do the benefits you've grown to know.

## Classic AAC Member Benefits

- \$5,000 international Global Rescue service
- Free copies of *The American Alpine Journal* and *Accidents in North American Mountaineering*
- Support for climbing conservation, access and advocacy
- Substantial discounts on *Alpinist*, *Climbing*, and *Rock & Ice* magazines
- Opportunity to apply for more than \$80,000 in annual grants
- Discounts at our Grand Teton Climbers' Ranch, Canadian and New Zealand huts and other lodging facilities around the world

**NEVER BEFORE**

