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Another Successful Annual Dinner
contributed by Jim Groh

On Sunday, November 6, the Boulder Group held its traditional Annual Dinner. A crowd of 110 attended to socialize, have dinner, elect the Group’s council officers for next year, and finally, hear the stories of three high-mountain expeditions of our fellow CMCers. The socializing was, as always, lots of fun. Many familiar faces were there. The food was good, as was the wine, and the beer (take it from me!)

The torch (really the CMC branding iron) was passed from Doug Turley to Tonya Riggs, the next Boulder Group Chair. The Group conferred the prestigious Ellingwood Award to Gary Neptune for his long climbing career and invaluable service to the CMC. And Cindy Gagnon honored John Brooks for graduating from the Boulder Mountaineering School.

The featured speakers were as exciting as any we’ve had in previous years.

Gillian Collins showed slides and narrated her group’s expedition to the Cordillera Blanca in Peru. She and teammates Mark Scott-Nash and Will Cramer climbed several mountains in that range.

Val Hovland showed a few slides from her recent successful, but harrowing, trip to Shishapangma, but had not yet had time to prepare more. She did show a video that she made of her 2004 climb of Ama Dablam in Nepal with team members Tonya Riggs, Cindy Gagnon, and Ted Handwerk. They summited after some difficult climbing: imagine climbing 5.9.

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December’s CMC Profile:
Dawn DuPriest

[Editor’s Note: The subject of this month’s profile, Dawn DuPriest, has been instrumental during this difficult transition year for the schools in mountaineering and rock leading. Her tireless hours of work for the club and naturally cheery personality has been appreciated by many; so she richly deserves some recognition by the club. I structured this profile as an interview, which I had to negotiate by email due to our busy schedules.]

You live in Ft Collins; how are we so lucky to get you to commit to all this time to the Boulder CMC?

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Basic Rock School, September 2005

Contributed by James Garnett

(captions by the editor)

The infamous rapelling past the #*! knot test...

Dawn Dupriest as Belay Test Meister...

Rope management is one of the many skills learned in BMS...

See: you can rappel one-handed!

Volunteers Needed!

CMC Archivist

Anyone who is interested in contributing to the organization of the Boulder Group’s archives, please call the Clubroom at 303-554-7688.

Mailing party December 22

Come to the Clubroom and help mail out the January Compass! This is a relaxed way to meet people and give something back to your favorite club.

The next issue will be ready to mail on Thursday, December 22, at 5:30pm, so please just drop in. Phone Sheila at 303-554-7688 for more information.

The infamous rapelling past the #*! knot test...

And Kent and Cathleen Groninger showed photos of their climb of Mount Everest. This year the monsoons failed to push the jet stream away from the mountain, so no one summited in the short three-week “weather window.” Kent and Cathleen and the rest of their team wisely left the mountain after many tries, having reached Camp 3 on the Lhotse Face.

If you missed the Annual Dinner this

year, you should consider coming next year! Think of it as the Boulder Group’s biggest outing, with lots of old friends, good food, wine, and beer, great photos, and exciting stories. No sweat, no sunburn, no stinky polypro, no weather worries, no exposure. And we’re pretty sure no one bivvied there!

2006 Boulder Officers Elected

On Sunday, November 6, the following Boulder Group Council Officers for 2006 were elected at the Annual Meeting, an essential part of the Annual Dinner:

Council Officers for 2006

Chair         Tonya Riggs
Vice-Chair    Tom Wilson
Secretary     Susan Flack
Treasurer     Paul Culnan
At-Large Member Nickie Kelly

Avery Beer Donation Appreciated

We would like to thank Avery Brewing Co. for donating three cases of their excellent beer for the annual dinner.

Free Pilates Mat Classes

John Keller’s free pilates mat classes continues! If interested, contact John at 303-530-9291 or jkellerhome@earthlink.net.

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at 20,000 feet with a pack and without guide service! And making a video of it to boot!

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For most of my career, I worked with Susan Baker, who also lives in Fort Collins (and look how much time she has put into the CMC, at the group and state level). It was Susan who told me about Boulder’s BMS course. I took BMS, assisted in BMS next, and before long my “network” in the CMC was all in Boulder. It was really natural to stay involved with the Boulder group since all of my friends and climbing partners are there.

*When did you first join the CMC, and what’s been your experience of it?*

I joined in 1997 specifically to take BMS. I’ve been pretty active in the group since then, assisting and then instructing in BMS, taking part in and leading trips.

*What’s your feeling about the reasons the BMS and RLS needed to change their class offerings?*

The feeling had been simmering around the BMS committee and elsewhere in the group for quite some time. There were several related reasons. Everyone noticed that there was quite a bit of overlap between what was taught in the Hiking School versus BMS, and we felt we could make better use of our resources if we removed the overlap. We also felt that in today’s world it is difficult to get people to commit to too many weeks in a row for a school, so by shortening the time commitment we could appeal to more people. We hope it helps attract more students and retain more instructors in the long run. Finally, we wanted to offer more options to folks who didn’t want an all-in-one course. Someone may want a navigation workshop without having to go through the entire hiking school or mountaineering school. Someone else may wish to take a basic rock climbing course but does not want to climb on snow. Our new lineup gives everyone options to take as many or as few of these classes as they want. It’s much more flexible.

*What do you think the club should do to improve what it offers to the public?*

We offer a great deal to the public already. We help the community enjoy and conserve the mountain environment around us. The issues I see are those of attracting new members, and then retaining and developing members once they are in the club. They are both in essence publicity problems. Outward-facing publicity will help us attract new members, and good documentation and publicity within the club will help members see how they can contribute, involve themselves, and give back once they are members.

*How do find the time to give so much to the Club when you’re a young mother?*

Am I young? You’re too kind. I have a LOT of help! The BMS committee is tremendous and we have really pulled together as a team. I have the support of a wonderful husband who picks up my slack at home. Being a mom is a lifelong lesson in managing your priorities. I have to stay flexible.

**HAMS trip to Kilimanjaro next January**

Steve Bonowski will be leading his sixth trip to Kilimanjaro, starting January 20, and are inviting those qualified to join the expedition. A further description of the trip by Steve follows: HAMS uses the Machame Route on Kili, staying at the famous Marangu Hotel. The trip includes a four day budget safari to the Serengeti, Ngorongoro Crater and Lake Manyara. There will be an optional one week extension in Kenya.

Pre-trip conditioning hikes and climbs available. Nights are a mixture of a rustic hotel with full amenities, travelers camps, and camping out. Good physical conditioning and familiarity with Third World travel suggested. Posted price includes air fare, lodging, ground transport, visa costs, Park fees, most meals, leader expenses, and CMC outings fee. Cost does not include shots, medications, trip insurance, a few meals, bar tab, and souvenirs. Final cost may vary slightly depending on air fare and currency exchange rates. Trip packets available from the trip leader, Steve Bonowski, P.O. Box 280286, Lakewood CO 80228-0286, or nztrekker@earthlink.net. Elevation; 19,340’, January 20 - February 3, 2007, $4,760, including air fare.

**BACKCOUNTRY SKI TOURING CLINIC IN EARLY JANUARY**

If you have not tried backcountry ski touring, or want to improve your technique, this clinic is for you. This clinic is for beginners (never skied), advanced beginners (maybe downhilled, or cross countried a few times), and intermediate (downhilled, or cross countried some but need to improve) skiers. A 3-hour lecture will be held Tuesday evening, January 3, at 7 PM at Neptune Mountaineering (right next to the Boulder Clubroom). The lecture covers clothing, equipment, and technique. This is followed by one or two days (Jan. 7 and 14) in the backcountry emphasizing the diagonal stride, uphill and downhill technique, and turns. We will also inform you about ski trips for these abilities throughout the winter. There will be about 4-5 students per instructor. Beginners should come out on both ski days and others are encouraged to do so. Participants should be fit enough to handle a full day of moderate exercise at altitude. Anyone can attend the lecture, but participation in the ski days is limited, so call the clubroom, 303-554-7688, early to sign up and pay the $15 fee in advance. For those that do not own equipment, we will be able to get rentals at a discount. Call Pete Birkeland, 303-442-0304, about the rentals or if you have any other questions. Pat Butler and Pete Birkeland, co-leaders
December 2005 Trips

Reminder to Group Leaders:
The Outings Committee reminds you that if you have scheduled a ‘leader’s choice’ trip, for safety reasons you need to leave word at the Clubroom before the trip happens where you plan to go.
December Meeting Potluck

The December Council meeting will be a combination of business and pleasure. On Sunday, December 11, in the clubroom, Council business will start at 4pm, then a potluck will begin at 5pm. Any and all members invited!

Pakistan Relief Effort by AAC

The American Alpine Club is coordinating with the Alpine Club of Pakistan to help bring relief to people who live in the foothills areas of Pakistan that are being overlooked by the larger disaster response effort. This is an opportunity for us to help pay back to those who have played an integral part in helping American climbs in the Karakoram. For more information and to donate, go to www.americanalpineclub.org/pakistanrelief.asp.

Trick or Treat for Leaders and Instructors

Contributed by Phil Congdon

On Monday October 31st a prize drawing was held for trip leaders and school instructors. We would like to thank those individuals and companies who donated prizes for this drawing. Gary Neptune, Dave Covill and John Mitchler, Dave Cooper, Craig Luebben, Gerry Roach, Charlie and Diane Winger, Active Imprints, Boulder Army Store, Boulder Mt Repair, Dark Horse, EMS, Golite, Mont Bell, Old Chicago, Oskar Blues, REI, Russi Sherpani, Sierra Designs, Southern Sun, The Spot Bouldering Gym, Tom’s Tavern, Trango and Walnut Brewery. Due to their generosity we were able to award prizes, including a tent, to 38 lucky leaders and instructors.

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**Commercial Use Permit Comments Still Sought**

You can still submit your comments to the Boulder Open Space managers, an issue that could have a big adverse impact on the CMC. To read the Club’s position on the issue, see:
http://bcn.boulder.co.us/recreation/bcmc

To submit your comment, see the webpage
http://www.ci.boulder.co.us/openspace/visitor_plan/commercial_use/comm-use-comment.htm.

**Iceland Hiking Next Summer**

When: June 24-July 6, 2006 . Cost: $4,318

The price of the trip includes airfare from Minneapolis to Reykjavik in Iceland. Much of Iceland has hardly changed since the first Viking settlers saw them more than 1,100 years ago. We’ll view Iceland’s spectacular waterfalls, visit some of its many geothermal areas, enjoy an afternoon of whale watching, visit the capital and small fishing villages. The weather in the summer is refreshing, usually in the 70’s and the long days allow exploration any time of day or night.

The price includes all land costs including transfer from the airport to Reykjavik, all overnight accommodations in modern hotels, flight on Icelandic Air from Minneapolis to Reykjavik and most breakfasts and dinners. Lunches can be purchased at local markets. Hikes will be moderate and hikers must be able to handle at least B level hikes. For more information contact Betsy Weitkamp at 303-722-1656 or at coloradobetsy@yahoo.com.

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**Compass ad rates**

- $245 full page
- $150 half page
- $90 quarter page
- $55 eighth page
- $45 business card (2”x3”)

- all ads are black and white
- ads must be prepaid and ready for printing; pdf format preferred.