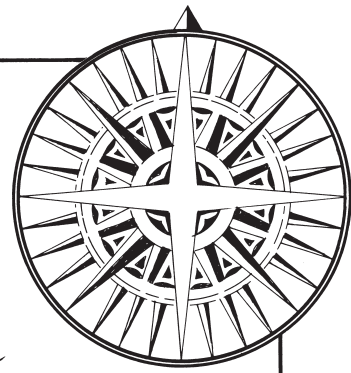




Compass

THE BOULDER GROUP NEWSLETTER



Volume XXII Number 2

February 2006

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Tom Wilson enjoying a climbing day on the Forth Elephant Buttress in Boulder Canyon

Introducing the Council Vice Chair: Tom Wilson

Editor's Note: This month's profile focuses on your new Council Vice Chairperson, Tom Wilson. Tom has been involved with the Club and the teaching schools for over five years.

When did you join the club and what got you interested?

Well, actually like every great story, it starts with meeting a woman. I was working in Nevada at the time trying to keep up a long-distance relationship with someone here in Boulder. She was taking BMS and could not stop raving about it, so I joined the CMC - Sheila told me I was the only Boulder group member living in Nevada at the time. To make a long story short, the relationship didn't work out but I moved back to Boulder

in the fall of 1999 in time to take BMS myself. I'd always been interested in the outdoors and the CMC was a great fit for me. I have been active in the club ever since.

What have been the different things you've done with the club, and what have you enjoyed the most?

Gee whiz, I'd have to say I've enjoyed teaching. I've been lucky to have had some of the best and most fun BMS classes in the history of the club. You get to help people do things they never dreamed they could do. Just last night I had a beer with two of my ex-BMS students who were just back from separate climbs in Mexico and Ecuador. The energy is contagious and it's fun.

As the new vice chairperson, what goals continued on page 3, Profile

Tragedy on Mt Kilimanjaro

Editor's note: the following is an announcement from Kristy Judd in reaction to the sad news from Mt Kilimanjaro

Friday, 6 January 2006

To all Board members and Denver, Boulder, Pikes Peak and San Juan Councils:

If you haven't heard the news today, I am so sorry to report that we've had a fatality and a few serious injuries on our HAMS trip to Kilimanjaro. Fourteen of our members (three stayed behind due to altitude sickness) left Arrowhead Glacier Camp Wednesday morning at 6:30am. Their goal was Crater Camp at 18,000' by 1pm for lunch and to spend the night. The plan was to summit the next day. While on the route, a huge and unexpected rock slide occurred. Members had to run out of the dangerous path. Unfortunately, Kristian Ferguson was killed. His wife Jodi Coochise was also on the trip. The assistant leader was hit in the head and required stitches; another member broke their femur, but the remaining injuries were minor. All are off the mountain and at the Springsland Hotel. Members on the trip are from the Boulder, Denver, Pikes Peak and San Juan Groups. Please feel free to have them call me.

CMC members provided immediate medical care and worked with porters to get the injured off the mountain and to the Moshi hospital. Some of the members on their way home; others are continuing the trip. One member on the trip wrote this in an e-mail and I'm hoping

continued on page 2, Kilimanjaro

CMC Conservation Grants: Become Part of a Tradition

If you have ever wanted to contribute directly to helping conserve or restore lands for recreation, here is your chance. The CMC has been a leading organization for conservation for over 90 years, with a long list of accomplishments, ready to assist individuals who have a project they would like to suggest. Become part of the tradition that helped establish Rocky Mountain National Park, Eldorado Canyon State Park, Dinosaur National Monument, the famous "Blue Line" above Boulder, Indian Peaks Wilderness Area, and James Peak Wilderness Area, among many other projects, large and small.

The deadline for grants is March 1, 2006. The following guidelines have been developed to guide the Conservation and Trails Committee in evaluating applications for these funds. The guidelines are advisory only:

1. Projects generally should include involvement by and/or benefit CMC Boulder Group members. Funds may be given to projects sponsored by other organizations (such as the Fourteeners Initiative) if they benefit CMC Boulder Group members. The extent to which a project benefits CMC Boulder Group members will be a consideration;
2. Trails are a priority for Bob Farley funds; other types of activities are a priority for the conservation fee funds;
3. Eligible expenses include, but are not limited to, construction materials, signs, revegetation supplies, tools, t-shirts, food for volunteer appreciation, advertising costs, mapping equipment, and consulting fees (providing the consultant is a professional and not a CMC member);
4. Projects that have or will receive matching funds are preferred, but a project will not be rejected simply for lack of matching funds;
5. Conservation and preservation are priorities for projects;
6. Projects should be desired by the applicable public land agency from which there should be at least preliminary

approval for the project by the time the application is made; and

7. The applicants(s) shall play a role in organizing the project, including coordinating with the applicable public land agency.

Application deadlines are March 1. The Conservation and Trails Committee will make a recommendation to the Council within fourteen days of the application deadline. A written acceptance or rejection will be provided to each applicant. Grant applications will be entertained at other times of the year if there should be special circumstances that would preclude the applicant from applying by the March 1 deadline. For Example; in the situation that an applicant had an opportunity to take advantage of another grant provided they could get a matching grant from CMC in time, or perhaps if the applicant needed funding for a fall restoration project due to a summer fire.

Written applications may be mailed to Beverly Gholson, 3550 Cloverleaf Drive, Boulder, 80304, or via email at bvgholson@aol.com; Beverly can be contacted at 303-449-1101. Applications should provide the name, address, and phone number of the applicants(s), describe how the project falls within the above guidelines, and include a proposed budget and timetable for completion of the project. □

Volunteers Needed!

Mailing party February 23

Come to the Clubroom and help mail out the March 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, February 23, at 5:30pm, so please just drop in. Phone Sheila at 303-554-7688 for more information.

CMC Archivist

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

Kilimanjaro

continued from page 1

she won't mind that I share it with you. It says so much: "The rest of us have decided to finish the trip, two will return to the mountain, the rest will do the safari. Even though there is a few more weeks for some of us, the rest of the time is bittersweet. I do hope to see some of you soon. ... I have realized life is too short, Mine could have been puffed away very easily yesterday. I will be living life to the fullest and no one should ever complain about the simple things in life when Chris doesn't have life to enjoy anymore...thanks and see you soon".

CMC members are doing a great job supporting these folks from here and I'm sure we'll all have plenty to do once all of them are home. Next steps will include an investigation by the State and Denver S&L Committees and HAMS. We'll offer counseling and care for the members, and a memorial service, if desired. Please let me know if anyone has questions.

Kristy Judd
Executive Director
The Colorado Mountain Club
303-996-2742
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compass

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website: cmcboulder.org

We welcome announcements, articles, letters, artwork, and photos, especially from recent CMC trips and events.

DEADLINE: Please submit material to the Editor **by the first Friday** of the month for inclusion in the following month's issue.

March deadline: Feb 10

A Tale of Two CMC Members

Editors Note:

The following piece, short fiction, is unusual for the Compass. This is the second of a two part series designed to illustrate difficult issues currently facing the club and to help foster understanding between trip leaders and participants. We hope you enjoy them and would welcome any comments or feedback you may have.

The Second Tale

Jeff was frustrated. At 13,000 ft in the South Couloir on Quandary Peak at 11:30 a.m., the trip was coming apart, and he knew it was partly his fault. Jeff had been leading trips and assisting for over two years now, and he had just filled out the paperwork to get approved as a senior instructor for BMS in the fall. The CMC had been a good find for him. He'd moved to Colorado eight years ago to attend CU. His school buddies had said that he had to go to the mountains when in Colorado, and they had gone as often as they could, climbing half the 14ers in four years. Looking back now, he laughed at how inexperienced they were when they started. They'd had no training, and he was pretty sure it had been pure luck that one of them hadn't been killed that one time in the snow on Capital. Now he led groups on both peak and rock climbs and loved to see beginners take to the mountains the way he had. Until today all of his trips had gone really well. Of course he'd heard the older leaders complaining about "problem participants", scheduling problems, and had worked through all those accident scenarios in the leadership seminar. But nothing like that had happened on any of his trips. Well... there was the time he'd caught a student on spaghetti practice unclipping the wrong carabiner from the anchor. And last summer he thought he was going to have to cancel a trip when he had to travel for work, but the scheduler on the committee had found another leader to take the trip. He'd planned this trip nine months before during the standard scheduling cycle but now he was wishing he'd stayed home. They'd met at 5 a.m. to drive to Breckenridge, but one participant had been late and another hadn't shown up

at all. No call or anything, and he knew he'd waited too long for them. He was also paying for breaking a cardinal rule of phone screening: He hadn't checked the references for all the participants. One member had been slow, had been having gear trouble, and now he could see his co-leader about 300 feet below them on a rock outcrop patiently working with him. Did they have one of his boots off? The rest of the group had become strung out ahead as they kicked steps up the ever-softening snow and he had just gotten them all back together. They were 1,000 feet below the summit, and he could see that the clouds were closing in. He knew the only thing left to do now was figure out how to tell everyone that they would have to turn back.

Hopefully, a little understanding and courtesy will go a long way.

May the mountains keep you safe.

— contributed by John Keller

Calling All Summer Leaders: Time for Trips

Trip leaders, once again it's time to submit trips for the Summer Activity Schedule. This schedule will include trips from May 1st, 2006 through Oct 31st, 2006. Trips must be submitted to the Trip Schedulers no later than Friday, March 3rd, and if you can get them in earlier it is always helpful. Trip Schedulers are:

A,B trips: Ruth Eastman, ruthanneastman@msn.com, 303-652-3097

C,D trips: Ann Keane, a_keane@indra.com, 303-258-9390

Rock climbs: Chris Glascock, the14er-climber@comcast.net, 720-887-5964

Snow/Ice Climbs: Andrew Halperin, ahalper@cisco.com, 720-562-6740

Ski trips: Patricia Butler, butler@csd.net, 303-440-0586

If you have other questions about leading or scheduling trips, please contact outings@cmcboulder.org or 303-554-5546.

— contributed by Seth Allen

Continued from page 1, Profile

would you like to accomplish for the club, if any?

I see the club at a crossroads and it's an exciting place to be. In a lot of ways the old glory days of the club are over. We're not the only game in town anymore for climbers and hikers, and our membership numbers are making that very clear. We need to look pretty hard at what we want the club to be and how we can make it happen.

The great news is that I'm starting to see a some huge cultural changes in the club. BMS is a good example. When I joined the club I don't think anyone would have dared to suggest changing the BMS curriculum, but this past year the BMS committee has recruited people from inside and outside the committee for the tremendous task of reviewing every part of the curriculum. It's not that we've been doing anything wrong, but we can do better and we have a lot of people who care. As vice chair I want to help recruit and support the people who will put this kind of effort into the club, and I think the best way to do that's through personal contact.

Do you have any personal goals you're trying to achieve in the outdoor sports the club is involved in?

That's a hard one. I tend to be a generalist - I climb some rock, I do a few peaks, I climb a little ice, and now I'm doing a bunch of skiing. Last summer I thought I wanted to start leading 5.9 rock, but it didn't take long to realize that my real passion is for alpine climbing and I backed off a few grades and climbed in The Park a lot.

Beyond that, I'm hoping to travel more. I don't have any hard goals, but I've got a whole list of things I want to do and a lot of them are outside of Colorado and the US. For me I guess skills like climbing are the means to an end, and that's to be able to go places and do things I never thought were possible. □



February 2006 Trips

SPECIAL NOTE:

All AMS (Advanced Mountaineering School) lectures and classes were cancelled due to low sign up this fall, and so do not appear.

Wednesday, February 1

Avalanche Level 2 Lecture
Lecture #2

For registered participants of the Avalanche Level 2 Certification. Attendance at 5 lectures and 3 field trip required. (See 1/31/06 listing for more details). Meet at Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church, Boulder 6:30 pm. 0/0'. 0 mi. Pat O'Brien, (303) 926-9548. Cindy Gagnon, (303) 938-8564. (Trip#31587)

Friday, February 3

Womens Ice Climbing Trip Ice Climb
Cindy will select a location for this womens ice toprope, based on current conditions. BMS and Ice Clinic or equivalent. Cindy Gagnon, (303) 938-8564. (Trip#31722)

Saturday, February 4

Avalanche Level 2- Field Trip #1
For registered participants of the Avalanche Level 2 Certification. Attendance at 3 lectures and 2 field trip required. (See 1/31/06 listing for more details). 0/0'. 0 mi. Pat O'Brien, (303) 926-9548. Cindy Gagnon, (303) 938-8564. (Trip#31585)

Arestua Hut Mod. Ski Tour

Tired of early starts? Join the "crack of noon" club for an afternoon ski to the Arestua Cabin above Eldora Ski area and return via Yankee Doodle Lake. Nederland. 10/1,600'. 45 mi. Register with leader. Steve Priem, (303) 499-9024. (Trip#31688)

Arapaho Lakes Telemark Adv. I Ski Tour
Climb steadily to the lakes. Enjoy a 1000 ft tree and powder run back to a fast trail. Climbing skins and good tele/downhill skills required. Avalanche gear. Call leader between 9 am and 9 pm only. East Portal.

7/2,000'. 40 mi. Register with leader. Steven Haymes, (303) 444-4765. (Trip#31670)

Brainard Lake Mod. Snowshoe
Brainard Lake Snowshoe Loop. Ward. 8/800'. 12 mi. Todd Nelson, (303) 417-9166. (Trip#31620)

Saturday-Sunday February 4-5

Winter Camping & Snow Structures
Field Trip

Weekend Field Trip

For registered participants in the Winter Camping and Snow Structures Clinic.

This clinic is geared toward those with minimal winter camping experience, and topics will include tenting and snow structures. See 1/18/06 for more details. Meet at Boulder Group club room, 633 S. Broadway, Unit N. 7:00 pm. Ward. Willy Gully, (303) 939-8382.

Sunday, February 5

Flagstaff Mtn Loop 6,872' Easy B
Hike up the East face of Flagstaff Mtn on the main trail, then hike on around the back side and return via Gregory Canyon. 5/1,200'. Bruce Immele, (303) 903-4517. (Trip#31627)

Monday, February 6

Tele/AT Backcountry Ski Clinic Lecture
(Ski)

Lecture #1

Backcountry Survival Skills

To provide basic back country /peak skiing safety skills for the Colorado backcountry, including Backcountry Survival skills, Backcountry Survival skiing and peak skiing/navigation. Open to Intermediate or above Telemark/AT skiers. Clinic consists of 3 lectures (2/6/06, 2/22/06 & 3/01/06) and 3 field trips (2/19/06, 2/26/06, 3/11/06). (Deadline for sign up was Jan 15, 2005.) Meet at Boulder Group club room. 7:00 pm. Cindy Gagnon, (303) 938-8564. (Trip#31576)

Avalanche Level 2- Lecture

Lecture 3

For registered participants of the Avalanche Level 2 Certification. Attendance at 5 lectures and 3 field trip required. (See 1/31/06 listing for more details). Meet at Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church, Boulder 6:30 pm. 0/0'. 0 mi. Pat O'Brien, (303) 926-9548. Cindy Gagnon, (303) 938-8564. (Trip#31588)

Baldy Bowl Mod. II Ski Tour
Telemark Practice

From Boreas Pass Road, ski up the western slopes of Bald Mtn. on a road with views of the Tenmile Range. Bowl has moderate and gentle slopes and treed glades on which to telemark. Boreas Pass. 6/2,000'. 16 mi. Register with leader. Ronald Spoerl, (303) 494-7977. (Trip#31680)

Wednesday, February 8

Avalanche Level 2- Lecture 4

For registered participants of the Avalanche Level 2 Certification. Attendance at 5 lectures and 3 field trip required. (See 1/31/06 listing for more details). Meet at Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church, Boulder 6:30 pm. Pat O'Brien, (303) 926-9548. Cindy Gagnon, (303) 938-8564. (Trip#31614)

Thursday, February 9

Avalanche Level 2- Lecture 5

For registered participants of the Avalanche Level 2 Certification. Attendance at 5 lectures and 3 field trip required. (See 1/31/06 listing for more details). Meet at Mt. Calvary Lutheran Church, Boulder 6:30 pm. Pat O'Brien, (303) 926-9548. Cindy Gagnon, (303) 938-8564. (Trip#31615)

Friday, February 10

Leaders Choice Ice Climb

Sharpen those tools and strap on the crampons. Ice season is here. Come join Tom on a trip of his choice based on current conditions. BMS and Ice Clinic or equivalent. Tom Walker, (303) 666-7199. (Trip#31720)

Saturday, February 11

Avalanche Level 2- Field Trip #2

For registered participants of the Avalanche Level 2 Certification. Attendance at 3 lectures and 2 field trip required. (See 1/31/06 listing for more details). Pat O'Brien, (303) 926-9548. Cindy Gagnon, (303) 938-8564. (Trip#31586)

West Ridge Sampler Area Climb

Eldorado Canyon 5.7

The West Ridge is home to some great moderate routes: Washington Irving, Verschneidung, Mescaline,

February 2006 Trips *continued*

Dandi-line, Dr. Michael Solar, Duh Dihe-dral, Knight's move, P1 of Purple Haze, and Ice 9. We will do some or all of these and more as time and inclination allow. Limit two people. BMS-B re-quired. Larry A. Pedigo, (720) 887-3882.

Coney Flats ski tour Easy Ski Tour
From Beaver Reservoir glide into the valley below dramatic Sawtooth Mtn. Allens Park/Ward. 8/900'. 6 mi. Register with leader. Patricia Butler, (303) 440-0586. (Trip#31667)

Black Lake Mod. Snowshoe
Ascend on drainages in Glacier Gorge past Mills and Jewel Lakes. Advance on snow-covered Ribbon Falls to Black Lake. Meet at Park Hdqtrs. McHenry's Pk. 9/1,400'. Phillip Congdon, (303) 926-1408. (Trip#31624)

Tibet via Mount Everest

Please join intrepid Boulder CMCer's Bob Guthrie and Steve Poulsen as they recount their 'Seven Weeks in Tibet,' the 2005 Spring North Ridge assault of Everest – the same fascinating route Mallory and Irvine tracked back in the early twenties. The culmination of many years of climbing, both Steve and Bob had fantasized at taking a whack at the big E. While Steve has been to Nepal many times, it was a first time trip to the culturally rich and geographically stark and vast where the average elevation is 14,000 feet! From the serene Portola in Lhasa, the heart of this high ancient ocean plateau, through the dramatic mountain lined valleys, down rugged roads to historic old forts, and in to emerging twenty first century cities with yak dung heated internet cafes. Finally on to the North side base camp and the famous East Rongbok monastery at 17,500 feet full of climbers, dreamers, bikers, & trekkers from all parts of the world.

We will share our experiences and slides of our 6 man team made up of 3 Swedes and 3 yanks, one of which became the first Chinese American to summit (along with Magnus our Swede), Neil Jing on

continued in column 3

Spring Schools Signup Begins February 28

Join us on Tuesday, February 28, at 6:30 in the Boulder Group Clubroom, for an orientation and sign-up for our spring mountaineering schools. The session will include a presentation on the new school lineup and applications for all schools will be available! Bring your checkbook. The signup session will include:

Hiking I: Basic Wilderness Survival
Lectures: Tuesdays 3/28 & 4/4.
Field trip: 4/8-9 weekend (either Sat or Sun).

Basic Rock School
Lectures: 4/11 & 4/18. Field Trips: 4/22-23, 4/29-30, & 5/6-7 weekends (either Sat or Sun)

Basic Snow Travel
Lecture: 5/2. Field Trip : 5/13-14 week-end (either Sat or Sun)

Hiking II: Navigation and Routefinding
Lectures: 5/9 & 5/16. Field Trip: 5/20-21 weekend (either Sat or Sun)

Backpacking School
Lecture:6/13. Field Trips: 6/17 & 6/24-25 overnight weekend

Rock Leading School (RLS)
Lecture: 6/7. Field Trips: 6/10, 6/17 & 6/24

Intermediate Snow School
Lecture: 6/6
Field Trips: 6/11 & 7/16

Boulder Mountaineering School (BMS) is available as a combination of courses: Hiking I, Hiking II, Basic Rock School, and Basic Snow Travel. Boulder Hiking School (BHS) is available as Hiking I, Hiking II, Basic Snow Travel, and Backpacking School. Sign up for BMS or BHS for a substantial discount on the individual courses!

Tell a friend! Word of mouth is our most powerful marketing tool. For more information on the schools, send e-mail to bms@cmcboulder.org or bhs@cmcboulder.org. If you would like to help instruct any of these schools,

contact Cindy Gagnon at gagnonc2@comcast.net.

Basic Rock School Gets a Face Lift

Basic Rock School (BRS) is the rock climbing portion of the old Boulder Mountaineering School (BMS). In August of 2005, the BMS Committee secured a grant from the Eckart Roder Educational Fund (more information at <http://www.cmc.org/roder>) to restructure and update its basic schools. The committee decided to use the money to hire a certified guide to help us review and update our rock climbing curriculum. A large group of instructors and committee members got involved in the process, attending dozens of meetings, sorting through ideas, and finally attending two planning sessions and a training day with Craig Luebben (<http://www.craigluebben.com>). Craig is an AMGA-certified Rock Guide Instructor, author, and gear tester who has worked with the CMC many times in the past. With the help of Craig and all of the volunteers, we can now unveil a modern Basic Rock School this spring containing new knots, belaying and rappelling techniques, self-rescue

Overseas Trips: CMC Outings to Bolivia and the Alps

Openings are still available on the following trips:

Bolivia (mountaineering): June, 2006
Bernese/Swiss Alps (trekking): September, 2006

Visit the CMC web site for more details or contact Steve Bonowski (nztrekker@earthlink.net) for a trip packet.

Tibet via Mount Everest *continued from column 1*

May 21, 2005 which was the first summit day of the 2005 season. The Summit Climb team of Sherpas and Tibetan altitude guides was recognized for setting the fixed ropes through the second step and up on to the North Ridge. The expected date and time is Tuesday, Feb 14 in the Clubroom at 7:30 pm.

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Publicity Chairperson Needed

It has become obvious that publicity is the most important function for the Boulder Group to increase community visibility and grow our membership. The Boulder Group's most pressing need right now is someone with experience and vision to chair the Publicity Committee. The position involves setting the general direction of the Group's publicity efforts, coordinating the efforts of several members who are already doing publicity tasks, and attending the Boulder Group Council meetings on the second Monday of each month to report on the committee's doings and relay ideas from the Council to the committee.

This is a great opportunity for the right person who wants to get experience with public relations, marketing, the outdoor sports industry and managing a non-profit organization — as well as have fun with a great outdoor organization! Please contact Tonya Riggs at chair@cmcboulder.org, or call the Clubroom at 303-554-7688.

Rock School Facelift

continued from page 5

techniques, and general safety tips to think about. Thanks to all who helped this restructuring happen; stay tuned for more changes in 2006! □



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.
- contact Editor with ad before deadline.

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