CMC Member Rediscover Alive! Epic

Fans of survival epics will remember this one: the rugby team whose plane crashed in the Andes, how they lived for over two months in the high mountains in little more than their shirtsleeves, what they ate to survive, and how two of them climbed over the mountains to escape and get help for the others. The story inspired a book, Alive!, by Piers Paul Read, that could sit proudly on any bookshelf beside Endurance by Alfred Lansing or Touching the Void by Joe Simpson. A movie of the same name came along later, and now a CMC member has added several more chapters to the story.

The story: in 1972, an amateur rugby team from Montevideo, Uruguay, chartered a plane to fly them and some of their families, friends, and supporters, to a match in Santiago, Chile. Young suburbanites from near sea level, they were clothed for a spring outing near sea level on the other side of the Andes.

But the pilot wrongly started his descent into Santiago before he had cleared the mountains. The plane dropped out of the clouds to a horrifying view of mountain peaks fifteen feet off the wings. There was a deafening crash as a wing hit the mountain. The wing sheared off, somersaulted over the fuselage, and cut off the tail. The other wing broke off, and the fuselage, minus the wings and tail, struck the ground at over 200 knots. The fuselage, with its terrified occupants, became a hellish toboggan that careened down a couloir and out into a snowfield. As it decelerated, the nose crushed around (continued on page 3, Alive!)

The story: in 1972, an amateur rugby team from Montevideo, Uruguay, chartered a plane to fly them and some of their families, friends, and supporters, to a match in Santiago, Chile. Young suburbanites from near sea level, they were clothed for a spring outing near sea level on the other side of the Andes.

But the pilot wrongly started his descent into Santiago before he had cleared the mountains. The plane dropped out of the clouds to a horrifying view of mountain peaks fifteen feet off the wings. There was a deafening crash as a wing hit the mountain. The wing sheared off, somersaulted over the fuselage, and cut off the tail. The other wing broke off, and the fuselage, minus the wings and tail, struck the ground at over 200 knots. The fuselage, with its terrified occupants, became a hellish toboggan that careened down a couloir and out into a snowfield. As it decelerated, the nose crushed around (continued on page 3, Alive!)

Editor’s Note: This month’s profile is on Clint Locks, current director of the Rock Lead School (RLS) in the Boulder Mountain Schools (BMS) of the CMC. I am assisting with the Rock Lead School this year, and attest to Clint’s energetic leadership. This interview focuses on the changes within BMS in the past year; but note Clint’s mention of his upcoming monthly programs this fall.

When did you first join the Club and why? Was there any influential person?

I joined the Club in 1999, at the prompting of one Mark Nelson. He was, at that time, a central part of the Committee and my roommate, and is still a close friend.

How long have you been working with (continued on page 2, Profile)
New Website Goes Live!

The new website was switched over from its trial location to the club’s official domain name -- cmcboulder.org -- on June 10. Please check it out. The Council and BMS plan on making use of the website’s potential as a communications and marketing tool in the coming year; and part of that plan will be getting feedback from YOU to provide better service to our members. Note that there is a new feature for uploading your pictures about club activities you would like to share, under menu item ‘Group/Share Your Photos.’ Tom Crosman has done an outstanding job of making this happen technically; but much remains to be done to shape the site and keep content fresh. Any volunteers wanting to get involved in maintaining content are encouraged to apply. Please contact Rick Casey at compass@cmcboulder.org.

Mailing party June 22

Come to the Clubroom and help mail out the July 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, July 22, at 5:30pm, so please just drop in. Phone Sheila at 303-554-7688 for more information.

CMC Booth: Our Club’s Publicity Tool

Over the Memorial Day weekend, your Boulder Group had a booth at the Boulder Creek Fest. Many volunteers helped make it a success. Anton Solovyev helped set up and take down the 10’ x 10’ tent, and it was heavy! Curtis Williams, Rick Casey, Cindy Gagnon, Terry Hardie, Bernel Sawyer, Jason Kintzel, Otto Verdoner, Hanna Marschall, and Sharon Martin, all put in three-hour shifts in the booth, representing the club. Thanks to Paul Culnan who volunteered as well. We got six new memberships and distributed lots of brochures. Thank you to all our esteemed volunteers!

contributed by Jim Groh

The booth was also used the following Saturday, June 3, at the SoBo Festival. Thanks to Otto Verdoner, Doug Turley, Nickie Kelly, Deanna Hoover and Susan Flack who filled in time facing the public. We only sold two maps and no memberships, but had steady public interest and answered lots of questions.

contributed by Rick Casey

Volunteers Needed

Publicity Chair Open

The Boulder CMC is seeking someone to chair the Publicity Committee. The position will help direct and improve the publicity and marketing efforts of the club and its schools. It’s a great opportunity to get experience in public relations, working with the new website, marketing and the outdoor sports industry. Please contact Jim Groh at publicity@cmcboulder.org, or call the Clubroom at 303-554-7688.

continued on page 5, Profile

Are there other changes you think the club, especially the Boulder group, should be pursuing?

I think we must continue to embrace a spirit of self-critique, openness, and a focus on who we’re serving and why we exist. Also, being a volunteer organization, it’s very important to balance energy with return. We’re getting better and better at that.

What do you think are the personal benefits to the students coming through this school? Do the students comment of their personal growth, both physical and mental, as a result of the classes?

As far as the students commenting on their growth due to the Rock Leading School—yeah, they do. It brings them to a higher level of self-confidence, and allows them to undertake climbing goals they otherwise would just dream about or, worse, abandon. I see a lot of students who graduated from earlier years in RLS move into leadership roles with the Club.

The changes are generally good, and needed. I think it’s easy for any organization to become stagnant and set in their beliefs, processes, and strategies. It was high time to look at our practices with a critical eye and make the changes we deemed necessary. I believe that the re-structuring of the BMS (now more appropriately called BRS-Boulder Rock School) are for the better, and will more effectively serve our community here in Boulder. I’m actually very excited about where the Club is going, and am seeing a lot of that same enthusiasm from students and other members.

The Boulder Mountain Schools are for the better, and will more appropriately called BRS-Boulder Rock School? Are the benefits yet from why those changes were made?

I assisted with Mark in 2003, then took over the leadership of the School in 2004.

I know the Boulder Mountain Schools have been undergoing a lot of change in the past year. What are your comments on those changes, and have you seen any of the benefits yet from why those changes were made?

As far as the students commenting on their personal growth, both physical and mental, as a result of the classes? Don’t you think these changes needed? I think it’s easy for any organization to become stagnant and set in their beliefs, processes, and strategies. It was high time to look at our practices with a critical eye and make the changes we deemed necessary. I believe that the re-structuring of the BMS (now more appropriately called BRS-Boulder Rock School) are for the better, and will more effectively serve our community here in Boulder. I’m actually very excited about where the Club is going, and am seeing a lot of that same enthusiasm from students and other members.

Volunteers Needed

Publicity Chair Open

The Boulder CMC is seeking someone to chair the Publicity Committee. The position will help direct and improve the publicity and marketing efforts of the club and its schools. It is a great opportunity to get experience in public relations, working with the new website, marketing and the outdoor sports industry. Please contact Jim Groh at publicity@cmcboulder.org, or call the Clubroom at 303-554-7688.
Heard On The Trail...

Everest Peace Expedition Successful

The 2006 Everest Peace Expedition successfully summited on May 18, incredibly placing all ten members plus assisting Sherpas on the summit, an outstanding achievement aided by favorable weather. Our girl Tonya Riggs (the Council chairperson) was among them. Way to go Tonya! Word is she broke out into song upon reaching Everest’s summit! There is an amazing video taken at the summit that you can see on the website. Although there were some tense moments on the descent for an injured team member, fortunately everyone returned safely eventually. Read all about it at www.humanedgetech.com/expedition/peace.

Conservation statement made to USFS

Sandy Hollingsworth, our conservation chair, attended a USFS meeting May 17 concerning use of Forest Service lands regarding camping, campfires and shooting. She submitted a statement regarding the BCMC’s position on these matters. Anyone wanting any information, or who would like to have input on conservation issues, send email to conservation@cmcboulder.org.

Action Photo of the Month:

BMC’ers climbing north side of Mt Fletcher on June 11. The recent warm temps and quick melting snowpack forced trip leader Seth Allen to switch to this route from climbing Quandary Peak due to lack of snow.

TO SUBMIT YOUR ACTION PHOTO OF THE MONTH: Go to cmcboulder.org and click on Groups/Share Your Photo and send email about it to the Editor, compass@cmcboulder.org

Profile: Clint Lock continued from page 2

I believe that the CMC is a valuable asset to the local climbing community; it’s really rewarding to know that I’m helping keep the Club going, and encouraging new blood in the organization.

Lastly, what has been your greatest enjoyment from participating in the club?

My greatest joy in the Club has, and continues to be, bringing the passion I have for climbing, the outdoors, environmentalism, and connecting people within the Boulder population. The CMC has a strong heritage. One thing I love is being able to call myself a member and advocate of that heritage. In November, I’ll be presenting the CMC monthly program. It will be in the form of a poetry reading. I’ll be sharing some of my more artistic and evocative written works about nature, climbing, relationships, and the current state of our community. I could describe it as a series of pastoral and romantic poems, peppered with a couple of (true!) adventure stories, and including a few cautionary tales, which are always an important piece of keeping our perspectives sharp and fresh. I’m really looking forward to that. It’s one more way I can give to the Club. We choose our own destinies; it’s up to us. And that’s all the more true in volunteer organizations like the Colorado Mountain Club that rely on a high commitment from a few people. I’m proud of what we have here.

I remember you talking
about mudstorms
And how beautiful the sunsets are.
And I ask how they can be with no clouds,
And you say it’s the sand in the sky-
The sand acting like water.
And I think that many times
I am sand acting like water
Or water colliding with sand,
And falling like root beer Jello drops
To the ground.
And I pray for all the people
Walking on all the streets
Who are at the mercy
Of sand and water.

TO SUBMIT YOUR ACTION PHOTO OF THE MONTH: Go to cmcboulder.org and click on Groups/Share Your Photo and send email about it to the Editor, compass@cmcboulder.org

Alive! Epic Rediscovered continued from page 3

dent of the story of the Andes survivors for years, and the crash site was nearby. So on a few spare days on his expedition, he hiked into the valley from below. He found the crash site and the memorial cairn built by the rescuers. Then, searching a valley above the crash site, next to the valley long supposed to be the one the fuselage came down, Ricardo found an entire four-blade propeller and other airplane parts that revised the theory of where the plane hit the ridge. He continued searching in this valley and found a jacket containing the wallet and passport of one of the survivors, Eduardo Strauch. Ricardo contacted Eduardo. They met and became friends. Last spring Ricardo brought Eduardo to the American Mountaineering Center in Golden, where he translated as Eduardo spoke for the first time of his ordeal and survival.

But the story doesn’t end there. Ricardo the mountaineer was naturally fascinated with the escape trek. So last December, funded by the National Geographic Society, Ricardo and fellow mountaineers Mario Perez and James Vlahos retraced the entire route of Parrado and Canessa. Peña was nearly exhausted by the final push to the ridge at 15,000 feet. The 1972 feat became only more monumental!

All 16 survivors are still friends, and many are still neighbors in the suburb of Montevideo where they grew up. Peña has met them and has just completed another visit to the crash site with some of them to uncover more secrets of the epic story. Stay tuned!

Ricardo is organizing yet another trip to the crash site in February 2007 with Eduardo Strauch, that’s open to all CMC members. For information on this trip, as well as text and a photo gallery of his recent visits, go to his web site, www.alpineexpeditions.net. The April issue of the National Geographic Adventure magazine chronicles the December expedition in text and color photos. The issue may no longer be in the bookstores, but we have a copy in the Boulder Group clubroom.

—contributed by Jim Groh
July 2006 Trips

Wednesday, June 28
Afterwork Social Hike Easy A
Enjoy a relaxing 1-2 hour hike on south Boulder Mountain Parks. Meet at 6:00 p.m. at the Boulder CMC Club Room, no call needed. Leader: Debbie Tewell.

Sunday, July 2
Lake Dorothy Moderate B
Arapahoe Pass On Trail
From the Buckingham Campground follow a well-defined trail up the south side of a long wildflower-covered valley to the lake, which sits under Neva Peak. Monarch Lake. 7/1,940’. 6 mi. Louie Genduso, (303)518-8948. (Trip#33336)

Tuesday, July 4
Twin Sisters Pk. 11,428’ Difficult B
Traverse up a steep, timbered trail for views of Longs Peak, Mt. Meeker and the Mummy Range. Early start. Longs Pk. 7/2,700’. 136 mi. Tom Walker, (303)666-7199. (Trip#33325)

Wednesday, July 5
Afterwork Social Hike Easy A
Enjoy a relaxing 1-2 hour hike on south Boulder Mountain Parks. Meet at 6:00 p.m. at the Boulder CMC Club Room, no call needed. Leader: Steven Haymes, (303)444-4765

Friday, July 7
Thunder Lake Difficult B
Trek to an alpine lake in Wild Basin below Tanima Pk. Check with leaders for meeting time/place. Allens Park/Isolation Pk. 14/2,075’. Ruth Eastman, (303)652-3097. Laurette S Terrell, (970)669-8828. (Trip#33387)

Friday, July 14
The Dome Area Climb
Boulder Canyon II Climb
Elephant Buttresses/The Dome Sampler. There are a host of great moderate climbs in this area such as The Standard Route, The Owl, East of the Sun, Cozy Hang, and Disappearing Crack. We will do one or several as time and inclination allow. Jason Shatek, (303)995-3600. (Trip#33405)

Saturday, July 15
Upper Diamond Lake Easy B
On Trail
[TRIP CHANGE: Appears as July 22 in schedule]
From the Fourth of July Trailhead, we will hike to Diamond Lake and then continue on to upper Diamond Lake.

The glacial geology will be discussed along the way. East Portal. 7/2,000’. 126 mi. Peter Birkeland, (303)442-0304. (Trip#33347)

Sunday, July 16
Bob, Betty and Woodland Lakes Loop Easy C Off Trail
Hike through abundant wildflowers to Betty and Bob Lakes at treeline. Climb the ridge and then descend to Skyscraper Reservoir. Continue out passed Woodland Lake and several waterfalls. Register with leader between 9 AM and 9 PM only. Nederland/East Portal. 12/2,800’. 50 mi. Steven Haymes, (303)444-4765. (Trip#33423)

Intermediate Snow School
Snow Practice Field Trip

Wednesday, July 19
Afterwork Social Hike Easy A
Enjoy a relaxing 1-2 hour hike on south Boulder Mountain Parks. Meet at 6:00 p.m. at the Boulder CMC Club Room, no call needed. Leader: Connie Schwab.

East Slab I Climb
The Dome 5.5 boulder canyon
Walk the bridge over Boulder Creek, then follow a disappearing crack on this short, fun climb in Boulder Canyon. Before work climb. Start climbing at 6 am and be to work by 9:30. Limit two. Bruce Immele, (303)903-4517. (Trip#33387)

Friday, July 21
Thunder Lake Difficult B
Trek to an alpine lake in Wild Basin below Tanima Pk. Check with leaders for meeting time/place. Allens Park/Isolation Pk. 14/2,075’. Ruth Eastman, (303)652-3097. Laurette S Terrell, (970)669-8828. (Trip#33326)
**July 2006 Trips**

**Saturday, July 22**

Half Mtn. 11,482
Difficult B  Off Trail
Too tired to do a whole mountain? Sign up for Half Mountain. Start at Glacier Gorge and then hike part of North Long’s Peak trail. Scramble up to summit. Different views of Glacier Gorge, surrounding peaks and tourist at Mills Lake. McHenrys Pk. 5/2,250’. 150 mi. Phillip Congdon, (303)926-1408. (Trip#33346)

Cob Rock III Climb
boulder canyon 5.8
Take advantage of the shade on the granite at Cob Rock as we climb two pitches: North Face Left is a 1-pitch climb. Northwest Corner is a 2-pitch climb. Brenda Leach, (303)525-3660. (Trip#33378)

**Saturday July 22**

Butler Gulch – JOINT TRIP WITH DENVER GROUP
Moderate B

Wildflower hike for those who want to know more about flower identification. Hike along old mining road through the forest to a bowl with lots of options for wildflowers. Extension to Continental Divide possible, depending on flowers. Wander along the stream for best flower opportunities. Some bogs, steep terrain, and scrambling to find the wildflowers! Be prepared for lots of stops to make species identifications. Moderate pace in between stops. Berthoud Pass. 6/1,500. 100 mi. Mary Roberts (DN) 303-733-3746; Pat Butler (BL) 303-440-0586

**Sunday, July 23**

Joe Mills Mtn 11,078’ Difficult B
Mt. Wuh 10,761’ Scrambling
From Bear Lake in RMNP, hike on trail to Joe Mills SW ridge, climb ridge to summit. Bushwhack NW to saddle and continue to Mt. Wuh. Descend E ridge to Bierstadt Lake Trail and return to Bear Lake. McHenrys Pk. 7/2,300’. 100 mi. Register with leader. David U Longenecker, (303)440-7023. (Trip#33342)

**Wednesday, July 26**

Afterwork Social Hike Easy A
Enjoy a relaxing 1-2 hour hike on south Boulder Mountain Parks. Meet at 6:00 p.m. at the Boulder CMC Club Room, no call needed. Leader: Jim Groh, (303)604-0024. (Trip#33370)

**Saturday, July 29**

Middle St Vrain Weed Hike
Moderate C
Do your part for conservation! Join the 9th annual trip to control noxious weeds in the Indian Peaks Wilderness Area. In partnership with the US Forest Service, we’ll hike swiftly up the Middle St. Vrain, pulling Canada thistle on our way down. It’s a long, but rewarding day. Register with leader. Patricia Butler (303)440-0586. Allens Park/Isolation Pk. 12/1,700’. 60 mi. Patricia Butler, (303)440-0586. (Trip#33425)

**Attention Trip Leaders and Potential Trip Leaders!**

The mid-summer call for trips is still open. Please submit new trips on 8/1/2006 through 10/31/2006 to the Trip Schedulers no later than Saturday, July 15, and if you can get them in earlier, it’s always helpful. Trip Schedulers are: AB Trips: Ruth Eastman, ruthanneastman@msn.com, 303-652-3097; CD Trips: Ann Keane, a_keane@indra.com, 303-258-9390; Rock Climbs: Chris Glascock, the14erclimber@comcast.net, 720-887-5964; If you want to become a leader to submit trips in August, September, or October, please turn in a complete leadership application on or before June 15th. If you have other questions about leading or scheduling trips, please email outings@cmcboulder.org or call 303-554-5546.

continued from page 1, Alive!
Canoeing and Hiking in British Columbia
August 13 to August 18, 2006
$1,435, excl. air fare
Begins in Calgary, Canada. Enters Banff National Park, on to Kootenay National Park, with camping along the Kootenay River, including contact with Ktunaxa Indian tribe. For more information please contact Betsy Weitkamp at 303-722-1656 or coloradobetsy@yahoo.com

Day Hikes in Canyon de Chelly
October 15-20, 2006.
$1,133 for 6 days and 5 nights in the canyon, plus travel expenses to and from Chinle, AZ.
B-rated day hikes from campgrounds into spectacular and unique Canyon de Chelly. Longest hike 10 miles round trip. Price includes, cook, Navajo guide, permits and fees, and all camp gear except sleeping bag and pad. Much contact with resident Navajo culture.

Trekking in New Zealand
February 24 - March 11, 2007
$3,765, incl. airfare.
“Flagship tracks” in Lord of the Rings country. Price includes ground transportation, boat ride on Milford Sound, lodging, any group gear, CMC outing fee, and track fees. Final cost may vary depending on airfares and the currency exchange rate. Be prepared to backpack 35 lb. loads on occasional moderately steep grades and at a CMC B/C level. Snow or sleet may be encountered on high passes. For trip packet contact Bill Farrow, at bfarrow@comcast.net, or 1539 Lodge Ln, Boulder, CO 80303. Packet is available only by regular mail. No phone calls, please.

Lumpy Ridge Closures
The following sites have been extended through August 1 - Alligator Rock, and Twin Owls, Rock One. The closure at Deer Ridge Buttress and Sheep Mountain has been extended through May 31. These closures include the named formations as well as areas extending 100 yards in all directions from these formations. The perimeter around Alligator Rock extends for 200 yards in all directions. Closures include all climbing routes, outcroppings, cliffs, faces, ascent and descent routes and climber access trails to the named rock formations. The following closures have been lifted - Bateman Rock, Batman Pinnacle, Checkerboard Rock, Lightning Rock, Thunder Buttress, and The Parish. Closure maps and notices can be found at http://www.nps.gov/romo/planning/areaclosures.html