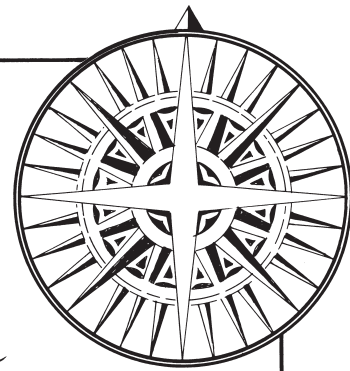




Compass

THE BOULDER GROUP NEWSLETTER



Volume XXIV Number 5

May 2008

In This Issue

<i>Note from the Editor</i>	1
<i>New Trips Section</i>	1
<i>CMC on Everest</i>	1
<i>Flatiron 10 Classics Climbs</i>	1
<i>Chairs Report</i>	2
<i>Orientation May 21</i>	2
<i>Volunteers Needed</i>	2
<i>May Trips & Activities</i>	3
<i>Crevasse Rescue Class</i>	5
<i>Freeheelers' Party Report</i>	5
<i>Cairns: A Book Review</i>	6
<i>Trip To the Heart of Europe</i>	6
<i>Classified Ad Rates</i>	6

Deadline for June issue is: May 9

Website: cmcboulder.org

To see online issues of the Compass, browse to: cmcboulder.org → Publications → Compass → Current Issue

Note from the Editor

The busy season of the BCMC is under way! This month sees the start of Basic Rock School, Hiking and Snow classes. After a long hiatus, the monthly Clubroom programs are resuming, and interesting shows are scheduled for May and June. Information on how to become a Trip Leader has been completely overhauled and rewritten in a new section on the website (see next column). Other changes are in store for the website this year, and will be announced as they become available.

There's been no word yet on the selection of a new Executive Director, but a selection should be made by this summer. Another important new face in

Continued on page 5, Editor's Note

New Trips Section On Website

Check out the New 'Trips' Section in the Boulder Group Website! A "Trips" section has been added to the Boulder Group's website that describes the newly revised trip leader approval process and other trip-related topics such as how to find, sign up for and submit trips. Go to www.cmcboulder.org and then click on "Trips". Highlights include 1) approval for any trip type automatically includes approval to lead A/B hikes; 2) changes to the approval process for rock climbing leaders; 3) changes for trip co-leader requirements; 4) and documentation on the process of how to become a trip leader. If you have any questions or comments, contact the Outings Chair, Gary Schmidt at outings@cmcboulder.org or 970-481-1048.

— contributed by Brenda Leach

CMC Members on Everest

Val Hovland is off to climb that really big mountain in Nepal! You can sign up for emails on either of the following sites (but the IMG site is quicker). The blog: monty-val-everest.blogspot.com. Also on the blog is a link to the slideshow Val gave at REI that summarizes past trips to Nepal and talks about Room to Read and the fundraiser to build a school in Nepal. The trip website: Through International Mountain Guides (the logistics provider): www.mountainguides.com/everest-south08.shtml.

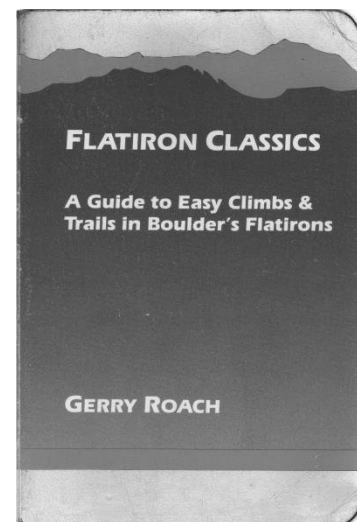
[Editor's Note: the Chinese plan to run the Olympic torch to Everest's summit greatly affects this trip. It is believed other CMC members are on the trip, but exact information was unavailable at press time. More reports to follow.]

Boulder Group to Climb all of the Classic Top Ten Flatiron Climbs

In 1987, Gerry Roach published "Flatiron Classics - A Guide to Easy Climbs and Trails in Boulder's Flatirons." The first two lines of the introduction sum up the purpose: "This book is a celebration of the joys that come from moving over easy rock. The Flatirons above Boulder, Colorado, offer the finest array of easy rock climbs anywhere."

Out of all the hundreds of routes, Gerry selected ten of these as the * CLASSIC TOP TEN * climbs in all of the Flatirons. The book's been out of print for years, but to celebrate the Flatirons and this guidebook, the Boulder Group has lined up leaders to get each of the CLASSIC TOP TEN climbs into the CMC trip schedule for 2008.

We expect these trips to fill up quickly, but we hope to be able to have at least one member complete all of the Classic Top Ten climbs this summer. Some details were finalized after the printed spring/summer trip schedule went to press, so please refer to the CMC web *Continued on page 5, Flatiron Classics*



The original 1987 edition, now out of print

Chair's Report

The following are the highlights of activities in the Boulder Group over the last month:

- Bill Strathearn, the CMC Interim Executive Director, attended our March Council meeting. We had a good discussion with Bill about various topics including membership renewal notices. We mentioned a few things that we'd like the state office to implement with membership renewal notices so that all CMC groups will benefit from them. These include restoring the membership renewal date on mailing labels (i.e., for the Compass) and emailing members 60-days and 30-days prior to their receiving a membership renewal form in the mail. Bill took this back to the state office and these initiatives are in the process of being implemented! Thanks to Bill and the state office for doing this.

- Congratulations to Amy Slaymaker for being approved as a Group II Rock Leader! Group II climbs include those that are rated 5.6 and 5.7.

- Thanks to the efforts of our Outings Committee members and Outings Chair, Gary Schmidt, we have many trips offered in the May-July Activity Schedule. That includes 29 A/B hikes, 27 rock climbs and 15 C/D hikes. Note that we're a little low on C/D hikes and encourage current C/D trip leaders to submit more trips. Or, if you're interested in becoming a C/D leader, please consider applying! See the article in this Compass on the new "Trips" section in the website.

- Jim Groh's Boulder hiking book team has chosen their hikes to write about and have made writing assignments.

- At the recommendation of our Conservation Chair, Kristyn Kilfoy, the Council voted to award Wildlands Restoration Volunteers a \$3000 grant for their projects in 2008. For more info on the grant process, go to www.cmcboulder.org/conservationProcess.html.

Respectfully submitted,
Brenda Leach
Boulder Group Chair

Monthly Program: Women in Corsica, May 1

On Thursday, May 1, 7 pm, join us for a slide show of Jean Aschenbrenner's and Teresa Gergen's 9-day hike of the mountains and coast of Corsica. Afterwards stick around for discussion and for networking between women in mountaineering. □

CMC Orientation for New Members, May 21

You are welcomed and encouraged to come and share your experiences with the club with new or prospective members. The program by Bernel Sawyer will cover all the club does – hiking, camping, peak bagging, rock climbing, snowshoeing, cross country skiing – so you are free to choose where you would like to contribute! Suggestions welcome! Please feel free to invite your friends. All free. Time: 7 to 8:15 p.m. Wednesday, May 21; BCMC Clubroom, 633 S. Broadway (around from Neptunes). For details: (303) 554-7688 and also check cmcboulder.org for directions and our online calendar of events. □

June Monthly Program: Hiking the Fjords of Norway

Wednesday, 6/11, 7pm: Join us in the clubroom for a presentation by Ann Stevens. She'll talk about hiking on the Sognefjord (the longest and deepest in the world); the Hardanger Fjord (many national traditions preserved in this area) and Sorfjord from the coastal town of Bergen. The presentation will also include hiking into some of the Norwegian National Parks, sampling their food and learning about Norwegian customs. □

Volunteers Needed

Monthly Program Director Sought

The Boulder Group would like to restart our Monthly Programs, historically held in the clubroom on the 2nd Wednesday of each month. Many thanks to Bob Guthrie for his several years with this effort. The duties of the Monthly Program Director include finding and booking interesting presentations, getting the word out

on the presentations and setting up the clubroom, possibly including a social hour before the presentation. You'll have a team of Marketing Committee volunteers to help you out. This is a great way to meet some really exceptional folks! If you're interested, please contact Brenda Leach at chair@cmcboulder.org or 303-525-3660.

New Compass Editor Needed

The search is on for a new editor for the Compass. This could be your chance at an exciting, challenging and stimulating opportunity to learn valuable journalistic skills "on the job" in a position that is central to the information clearinghouse for the Boulder CMC. Applicants should have some experience with the Club, the responsibility to deliver a monthly newsletter, and a desire to help the Club grow; some computer acumen helpful. If interested, please send an email to compass@cmcboulder.org. □

Mailing Party: May 22

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

compass

Editor: Rick Casey

email: compass@cmcboulder.org

Published: Monthly by Boulder Group, Colorado Mountain Club, 633 South Broadway, Unit N, Boulder 80305, mailed the third week of previous month

Boulder Group Chair: Brenda Leach

email: chair@cmcboulder.org

To subscribe to GPS, the weekly

e-newsletter: cmcboulder.org → Publications → GPS → E-GPS

Clubroom hours: Open Monday through Thursday, 5 to 7 pm

Clubroom Telephone: 303-554-7688

email for general CMC information: bemc@cmcboulder.org

website: cmcboulder.org

e-Compass subscription: cmcboulder.org → Publications → Compass → E-Compass

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

May 2008 Trips & Activities

May Trips, from page 4

as participants desire. Early start with the intention of getting to the meadow near dawn in order to capture that magical golden hour. Moderate pace to the meadow with casual pace the balance. Boulder Trail Mileage:11 Elevation Gain:2300 Drive Distance:58 Topo Map(s):Panorama Pk Leader:Tom Crosman 720-494-1732 tom@crosman.org Trip#4962

Tour the Monastery Area Climb Spend a day pulling on crystals in this remote but very scenic sport climbing area west of Loveland. The huff and puff hike is worth it. We'll do a number of routes in the 5.7 to 5.10 range. If you're really brave there are some 5.13's and 5.14's put up by Tommy Caldwell. Boulder Leader:Gary Schmidt 970-481-1048 gsch@frii.net Trip#5173

Saturday, May 31

West Creek Falls Moderate A

Casual pace

Trek to photogenic waterfalls in NE RMNP. Calypso orchids, shooting stars and clematis vines will be in bloom.

Boulder Trail Mileage:4 Elevation Gain:600 Drive Distance:70 Topo Map(s):Estes Park, Glen Haven Leader:Caryl Lynn Shields 303-665-6312 bu-chloe111@aol.com Trip#5353

Dragontail Couloir Moderate D-E

Semi-tech

Moderate pace

Steep snow climb, with possibility of some rock climbing. Previous steep snow experience required. Helmet, ice axe, harness, crampons required. This is a technical climb. Boulder Trail Mileage:6 Elevation Gain:2540 Drive Distance:90 Topo Map(s):McHenry's Peak Leader:Todd Nelson 303-417-9166 toddnelson@comcast.net Trip#5620 □

Crevasse Rescue Class, May 28

It's that time of year again to brush up on your glacier travel skills before heading to Mt. Rainier, South America, Denali or other mountains around the world where crevasses pose a danger! The ACRS

Seminar includes a lecture, field day, and detailed workbook. The lecture will be held at the CMC clubhouse on Wednesday, May 28th. We will be reviewing knots, safe glacier team travel, and various rescue techniques including the "C" & "Z" rescue pulley systems.

The following Sunday, June 1st, we will simulate crevasse conditions by hanging victims over a cornice on top of Loveland Pass. There will be lots of hands-on practice for students performing as rescuers and victims.

Cost of the seminar is only \$35.00 for Denver members, and \$10 more for members of other CMC Groups. This seminar is open to HAMS graduates and those with comparable experience; this is not an introductory course. This course is intended to be a detailed and complete review of glacier travel and crevasse rescue.

Deadline for sign-up is Wednesday, May 14th. If you have not taken the CMC HAMS School, or you have questions, please contact the leader for permission to participate prior to registration: Brendan Oldham, 303-810-6014, brendan_oldham@yahoo.com. □

Editor's Note, from page 1

the state office is Anya Byers, hired as the Recreation Planning Coordinator. She'll be working in the Conservation Department under Bryan Martin, and will be representing the CMC's interests at events such as BLM public planning sessions. As we all know, with the increased development pressure on public lands all over Colorado, this input is much needed! Welcome aboard Anya! □

Heart of Europe trip, from page 6

will climb Mount Snezka (5,256 feet) in this National Park, the high point of Czech Republic. The cost of trip includes lodging in hotels and huts, transportation in Czech, breakfast and some meals. The price does not include airfare or travel insurance. Final cost will depend on currency exchange. B/C Level hiking required. Maximum participants is 15. For more information contact the trip leaders, Renata and John Collard. Dates: May 23 - June 6, 2009, Cost: \$1950. Contact: 303-617-4773 or Renata.Collard [at] uchsc.edu □

"Free Heeler's" Loveland Party: A Tradition Continues



Ray and Linda cooking at the hut

The "Free Heeler's" party tradition continued April 5 at the Loveland hut at the top of Lift #2, much to the enjoyment of the small crowd who attended. Mike Miller had organized this event for years, but was not in town this time, and asked Ray Meng and Linda Johnson with the Denver CMC to take it on. With some help ferrying loads up the lifts to the hut on the slope, all went well. I enjoyed meeting other CMC'ers there, and taking in the grand view of Loveland Valley from the woodfire stove heated hut. For a small charge (\$6) to cover costs, it was a fine way to take lunch on the slopes. For your future reference, you don't have to be a telemarker to partake!

— contributed by Rick Casey

Flatirons Classics, from page 1

site for up-to-date info. Come to the kickoff meeting, May 8th, 7pm at the CMC Boulder Clubroom at the clubroom, or email questions or comments to Tom Wilson at ams@cmcboulder.org.

- 5/8 Organizational meeting and kickoff
- 5/24 Stairway to Heaven (Amy Slaymaker)
- 6/7 The Maiden (Tonya Riggs)
- 6/21 Back Porch (Tom Wilson)
- 7/5 Fatiron (Tom Wilson)
- 7/19 First Flatiron (Gary Schmidt)
- 8/2 Third Flatiron - includes two of the Top Ten Classics (Brenda Leach)
- 8/16 Green Mountain Pinnacle (Larry Pedigo)
- 8/30 The Matron (Tom Wilson)
- 9/13 Pellea (Bruce Immele)
- 9/26 Classic Top Ten Picture Show and Celebration. □

May 2008 Trips & Activities

Thursday, May 01

Women Adventuring in Corsica--slide-show Seminar
Women Adventuring in Corsica--the slide show of Jean Aschenbrenner's and Teresa Gergen's 9 day hike of the the costal and mountains of Corsica. Afterwards stick around for mountain women networking. 7pm Boulder CMC clubroom, 303 786 9411 Boulder Leader: Jill Yarger 303-541-9481 jill.yarger@prodigy.net Trip#5539

Saturday, May 03

Saturday Social for Spirit
Difficulty: A
Let's start late and finish early for a spring Wildflower seeking trip close to town. Duration: 9:00 AM to noon or so. Destination dependent on where the best flowers are on Boulder Mountain Parks. Boulder Trail Mileage:5 Elevation Gain:800 Leader:Marilyn Fellows 303-499-6099 Marilyn@Gracie-Realty.com Trip#5621

Boulder Slips
Top Roping 5.8
Join us for a seige on this newly developed crag in Boulder Canyon. Nice climbs in the 5.8-5.10 range. Boulder Leader:Ron Olsen 303-928-9153 ronolsen@comcast.net Trip#5680

Sunday, May 04

St. Vrain Mtn. 12,162'
Adv. II Ski Tour
Ski Mountaineering
Moderate pace
Ski a remote peak on the Indian Peaks Wilderness Area - Rocky Mountain National Park boundary. Beautiful views of Mt. Meeker and Longs Pk. Strong telemark/downhill skills, climbing skins and avalanche gear required. Optional after ski dinner. Register with leader between 9 AM and 9 PM only. Boulder Trail Mileage:8 Elevation Gain:3500 Drive Distance:50 Topo Map(s):Allens Park Leader:Steven Haymes 303-444-4765 Trip#5342

Yellowspur
Grade III, Redgarden Wall 5.10

Eldorado Canyon State Park
This is one of the all time classics of Eldorado Canyon. Enjoy seven pitches of varied climbing on this route with spectacular position and exposure. Boulder Leader:Michael Amato 303-665-6370 mamato1577@comcast.net Trip#5272

Tuesday, May 06

Hiking 2Lecture
Navigation ; Route Finding
Lecture #2
Learning to find your way with a topo map and compass is a fundamental skill to safely enjoying the outdoors. This course covers navigation, route-finding problems, navigating in adverse conditions, weather, clothing, and trip planning. Prerequisites are Hiking 1. Lecutre 4/29, 5/6, 5/13 Field Trip: 5/17-18 weekend (either Sat or Sun). Sign-ups begin at the 2/26 BMS Spring/Summer Schools Overview and Signup. Boulder Leader: Samuel Levis 303-665-1310 bhs@cmcboulder.org Trip#4851

Bastille Crack II Climb
Afternoon Climb 5.7
This is truly an Eldorado Classic! Climb 5 pitches of cracks ranging from hand jams to finger cracks up the nearly vertical Bastille Wall. Boulder Leader:Irina Overeem 303-735-5486 Overeem@Colorado.edu Trip#5654

Wednesday, May 07

Afterwork Social Hike Moderate A
On Trail Casual pace
A relaxing, slow-to-moderate paced, 2 to 3 hour hike close to Boulder. Don't call- just show up before 6:00 pm at the Boulder Group Club Room (Behind Neptune Mountaineering and above the video store at Table Mesa and Broadway). Be prepared for any weather with good footwear, water and a light. Optional after-hike food and drink. Trail Mileage: 4-6 Elevation Gain: 100-1000 Drive Distance: 1-10 Boulder Trail Mileage:5 Elevation Gain:600 Drive Distance:5 Topo Map(s):Boulder, Eldorado Springs Leader:Steven Haymes 303-444-4765 Trip#5393

Boulder Direct I Climb
Wind Tower 5.5

Friction your way up a large boulder and then work your way up two pitches of cracks through a hole in the top. This is an excellent beginners climb. Boulder Leader:Jean Aschenbrenner 303-786-9411 Trip#5678

Thursday, May 08

TOP TEN Classic Flatirons Tour
Special Organizational meeting
In 1987 Gerry Roach published a book entitled "Flatiron Classics" A Guide to Easy Climbs and Trails in Boulder's Flatirons. Of the over 250 routes described in this book, 52 are rated CLASSIC, and ten selected routes are rated TOP TEN Classic. The book has been out of print for some time, but the classic routes remain. In 2008, the Boulder Group will celebrate this guidebook and the Flatirons by doing each of the TOP TEN classic climbs. Each of these climbs is flagged in the schedule as *Top Ten Classic*. Attend this meeting to learn more about the book, the Flatirons, and how you can participate in these climbs. Boulder CMC Clubroom at 7-8pm, no signup required. Boulder Leader:Tom Wilson 303-247-1450 ams@cmcboulder.org Trip#5632

Friday, May 09

Homestead Meadows Easy B
Hike back into fascinating history, visiting several homesteads. Observe many artifacts and learn the culture and lifestyle of our early settlers, circa late 1800s-1918. Boulder Trail Mileage:8 Elevation Gain:1400 Topo Map(s): Panorama Pk Leader:Ruth Eastman 303-652-3097 ruthanneastman@msn.com Trip#5751

Saturday, May 10

The Spy I Climb
Flatirons 5.4
Climb this distinctive fin by the First Flatiron in 2 pitches. The top is only 10' wide. Short Rappel, and hike down. Priority sign up for spring 08 BRS students. Boulder Trail Mileage:3 Leader: Jill Yarger 303-541-9481 jill.yarger@prodigy.net Trip#5446

May 2008 Trips & Activities

Sunday, May 11

Long John Wall in Eldorado Canyon
III Climb 5.8
We'll start with P1 (5.8) of Break on Through. P2 (5.8) consists of a finger crack and a roof. Stem your way up P3 (5.8) using the finger/hand crack. Finish with P4 (5.5). Rap down. Boulder Leader: Brenda Leach 303-525-3660 brenda_leach@yahoo.com Trip#5130

Wednesday, May 14

Afterwork Social Hike Easy A
A relaxing, slow-to-moderate paced, 2 to 3 hour hike close to Boulder. Don't call just show up before 6:00 pm at the Boulder Group Club Room (Behind Neptune Mountaineering and above the video store at Table Mesa and Broadway). Be prepared for any weather with good footwear, water and a light. Optional after-hike food and drink. Trail Mileage: 4-6 Elevation Gain: 100-1000 Drive Distance: 1-10 Boulder Trail Mileage: 4 Elevation Gain: 100 Drive Distance: 1 Topo Map(s): Boulder, Eldorado Springs Leader: Rada Perovic 303-985-3263 denali@interfold.com Trip#5666

Wind Ridge II Climb
Wind Tower 5.6
Climb this great and airy Eldorado three-star face and crack climb. Two pitches, walk off. Boulder Leader: Jean Aschenbrenner 303-786-9411 Trip#5679

Thursday, May 15
Disappearing Crack Area Climb
5.6
A little bit of everything on this climb at the Dome in Boulder Canyon: crack, friction and others. Afternoon climb. Limit 2 Boulder Leader: Bruce Immele 303-903-4517 bimmele@msn.com Trip#5714
Riviera Top Roping
Boulder Canyon 5.7
A sunny disposition makes this Boulder Canyon slab a popular destination. Lots of variety for all levels. We'll do several routes ranging from 5.6 to 5.10. Meet at 3:00 p.m. to beat the rush. Boulder Leader: Gary Schmidt 970-481-1048 gsch@frii.net Trip#5172

Sunday, May 18

Walker Ranch Loop Easy B
On Trail
Casual pace
Circle hike crosses S. Boulder Creek twice with varied up and down terrain, steep in places. Good vistas. Occasional stops for spring flowers. Boulder Trail Mileage: 8 Elevation Gain: 1500 Drive Distance: 20 Topo Map(s): Eldorado Springs Leader: Caryl Lynn Shields 303-665-6312 buchloe111@aol.com Trip#5351

James Peak 13,294'
Adv. II Ski Tour
Free Heel Skiing Section
Ski Mountaineering
A classic Front Range high alpine tour and a relatively safe introduction to ski mountaineering. Strong telemark/down-hill skills, climbing skins and avalanche gear required. Limit 7. Register with leader between 9 AM and 9 PM only. Boulder Trail Mileage: 8 Elevation Gain: 2900 Drive Distance: 140 Topo Map(s): Empire Leader: Steven Haymes 303-444-4765 Trip#5343

Tuesday, May 20

Lower Ruper III Climb
Redgarden Wall 5.8
Enjoy the first half of this classic Kor route on a nice exposed part of Redgarden. The three pitches we will do have a mix of thin crack, wider crack and an exciting and exposed traverse. Boulder Leader: Larry Allen Pedigo 303-960-8627 larry_pedigo@yahoo.com Trip#5433

Wednesday, May 21

Afterwork Social Hike Easy A
A relaxing, slow-to-moderate paced, 2 to 3 hour hike close to Boulder. Don't call just show up before 6:00 pm at the Boulder Group Club Room (Behind Neptune Mountaineering and above the video store at Table Mesa and Broadway). Be prepared for any weather with good footwear, water and a light. Optional after-hike food and drink. Trail Mileage: 4-6 Elevation Gain: 100-1000 Drive Distance: 1-10 Boulder Trail Mileage: 4

Elevation Gain: 100 Drive Distance: 1
Topo Map(s): Boulder, Eldorado Springs
Leader: Connie Schwab 303-516-9797
cjs230@juno.com Trip#5667

Saturday, May 24

Stairway to Heaven I Climb
Top Ten Classic 5.4
This 1000-foot climb ascends the entire length of Ridge One at the mouth of Skunk Canyon. Boulder Leader: Amy Slaymaker 720-530-6703 amyslaymaker@yahoo.com James A Illg 774-994-7270 jimillg@hotmail.com Trip#5633

Wednesday, May 28

Afterwork Social Hike Easy A
A relaxing, slow-to-moderate paced, 2 to 3 hour hike close to Boulder. Don't call just show up before 6:00 pm at the Boulder Group Club Room (Behind Neptune Mountaineering and above the video store at Table Mesa and Broadway). Be prepared for any weather with good footwear, water and a light. Optional after-hike food and drink. Leader: Karen L Baldwin 303-420-8162 karenlbaldwin@hotmail.com Trip#5668

The Dome East Slab I Climb
After work climb 5.5
Walk the bridge over Boulder Creek, then follow a disappearing crack on this classic fun climb in Boulder Canyon. Meet at 3:30 p.m. Boulder Leader: Gary Schmidt 970-481-1048 gsch@frii.net Trip#5175

Thursday, May 29

Rewritten 5.7 II Climb
A classic six pitch climb that gets you high off the ground in Eldorado Canyon. Boulder Leader: Irina Overeem 303-735-5486 Overeem@Colorado.edu Trip#5683

Friday, May 30

Homestead Meadows Moderate B
Photo Hike Moderate pace
This trip is a photographer's delight with many old homesteads to capture. Hike up Lion Gulch. We'll explore and shoot as many of the old homesteads and scenery

Continued on page 5, May Trips

compass

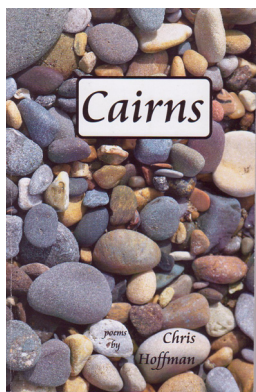
Colorado Mountain Club
Table Mesa Shopping Center
633 South Broadway, Unit N
Boulder, CO 80305

Address Service Requested

Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage
Paid
Boulder, CO
Permit No 528

printed on 100% post-consumer
recycled paper

Book Review: Cairns



Cairns is a delightful book of poetry about landscapes of the West, family, love and finding meaning in life in contemporary society based on a deep connection to the Earth. The author is Chris Hoffman,

a Boulder CMC member. It seems an appropriate book to review in the Compass because it deals so closely with Nature, in settings that will be familiar to many: raft trips through the Canyonlands, backpacking in the Mt. Zirkel Wilderness, communing with animal spirits and ghosts of the Anasazi, and sea kayaking. Arresting phrases capture natural images so naturally you know the author has deeply experienced them: “O to go boy-ant on the liquid muscle of the sea...” or, experiencing the desert’s vastness: “Go there/For the nothing that is there.” Just as many of us find refuge and rejuvena-

tion through our outdoor activities, reading through these poems was similarly healing and strengthening. Most are written in loose, free-form structure, easily followed, but there are a few tightly rhymed, a few prose paragraphs, a few amusements thrown in, a few haiku-like. Altogether, it was quite enjoyable to find a contemporary author finding deep satisfaction from Nature and a reverence for life, intuitively seeking meaning and stability in these modern times, and conveying it so well.

Chris Hoffman, *Cairns*, Windstorm Creative: Port Orchard, WA. 2005.

— contributed by Rick Casey

Trip to the Heart of Europe

CMC Adventure Travel trip from Prague to National Parks of Czech Republic

This trip is for those who would like to explore nature, culture and history in a tiny country located in the center of Europe. As a native from this country, the leader selected a variety of attractive destinations and hikes in different National Parks. We will start by discovering the beauty of Prague. On the way south, we will visit one of the most beautiful

towns in Europe, Cesky Krumlov. We will travel to Sumava National Park and hike in a pristine forested mountain range with deep dark lakes and fascinating moors. We will stop to see world famous Pilsner Urquell brewery as beer is an essential part of Czech culture. We will explore sandstone formations in Nature Reserve Czech Paradise, famous among local climbers. We will traverse the Krkonose mountain range and stay in a well equipped hut on the ridge. We
Continued on page 5, Heart of Europe

Rent the Clubroom!

Contact clubroomreservations@cmcboulder.org for more info.

Compass Ad Rates

\$245	full page
\$150	half page
\$90	quarter page
\$55	eighth page
\$45	business card 2x3"
- all ads need black and white version, (color can be used in e-Compass)	
- ads must be prepaid and in PDF or JPG format.	
- contact: compass@cmcboulder.org	