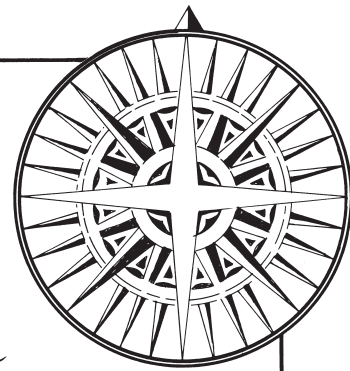




Compass

THE BOULDER GROUP NEWSLETTER



Volume XXV Number 2

February 2009

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Note from the Editor

As I ventured into my first issue of the *Compass* I realized how little I knew about the readership of this newsletter or about the demographics of the Boulder Group in general. Here are some statistics I learned about the age range for the 1150 members in our Boulder Group. The figures are accurate as of December 2008.

Age: Number of members

< 18 yrs: 62	51-60 yrs: 288
18-25 yrs: 53	61-70 yrs: 193
26-30 yrs: 58	71+ yrs: 98
31-40 yrs: 148	unknown: 53
41-50 yrs: 197	

Clearly our group runs the gamut in age range. I suspect we are just as diverse in our preferences of outdoor/mountain activities as well. I envision a newsletter that is of interest to the wide spectrum of readers with multifarious interests, and I request your assistance and support in making this a reality. Please consider sending your suggestions, comments, feedback, ideas, and action photos! Tell me what you would like to read about in your newsletter. I look forward to hearing from you!

~Tess DeLaney
compass@cmcboulder.org

Meet Boulder's New Chair, Dick Munro

Dick Munro became the Boulder Group's new chair this January. Dick is also the director of the BMS Snow Schools, a clubroom host, and a C/D trip leader. Below is a recent interview with Dick.

Q: *When did you join the club and why?*

A: At the suggestion of my wife, I joined in 2000. She thought I shouldn't continue to solo backpack in the Wind Rivers off-trail for more than a week at a time in late September.

Q: *What is your favorite aspect of the club?*

A: It's the people, period. They have a special affinity to fellow members and are more than willing to include other members in their activities.

Q: *What does the 'Chair' actually do?*

A: We have a job description that covers a page and a half of tasks. But the shorter answer is one of communication and coordination within the Boulder Group and to act as liaison with the CMC at the State and Group level. You also get to handle all the small issues that come up unexpectedly.

Q: *What is your vision or hope for the Boulder Colorado Mt. Club?*

A: I hope to increase volunteerism. We have a core group that gives and gives, but this devotion frequently causes burnout all too soon. Without volunteers we can't offer activities to our members, and thus the membership will continue to shrink. An idea is to break up tasks so no single person has to shoulder the load.



Dick at Thorong-La Pass in the Annapurna region of Nepal

Q: *What is your favorite CMC activity?*

A: Teaching snow climbing, climbing myself, and hiking with my wife.

Q: *What are your best CMC memories?*

A: My best memories stem from my treks and climbs in Nepal with fellow CMC members. There is nothing like living out of tents amidst incredible scenery with a small number of people for four weeks to appreciate how caring and giving our members really are.

Q: *What is your favorite summit story that you would like to share with the readers?*

A: A while ago my wife and I started to 'climb' Colorado's highest passes. After summiting Blue Lakes Pass in Yankee Boy Basin at 9 am (our only planned goal), my wife looked up at Mt. Sneffels and several groups of climbers going up the mountain in the distance and said, "Why don't we just climb up there from here?" The view from the top was magnificent, the clearest sky I have ever seen in the United States, deep blue to the horizon. By the way, that was my wife's first 14er. ♦

Chair's Report

I hope all of you have had a wonderful holiday season. As the Boulder Group gears up for another year, here are some of the highlights of past and future activities:

Because of the success of the Boulder Mountaineering Schools, this organization needed a slight administrative change to ease the load put on this committee. There will be a Summer Chair and a Winter Chair. The new Summer Chair is Roger Linfield with Cindy Gagnon heading the Winter group.

Thomas Rockwood, our Marketing Committee Chair, has been collaborating with the State staff to gather general data about our members to better determine how we can serve them better. Based on this information, we will be doing surveys of current and prospective members in the coming months. If you would like to see some activity we are not currently providing, please contact Thomas at marketing@cmcboulder.org or myself at chair@cmcboulder.org.

By the way, from the state data base on 1/7/09: the Boulder Group has 1211 members and 926 memberships.

If you are interested in participating in an upcoming Mountaineering School, either as a student or an instructor, save the date of March 3 – the start of the Spring sign-up for classes. An orientation meeting will be held in the clubroom starting at 7:00, so bring your check book for the best value experience in the area.

State has started to send out a quarterly Leader E-News to trip leaders. The intent is to improve communication between the CMC and our valued trip leaders. This can be a tool to share best practices for leaders and include a leader "tip of the month," as well as provide organizational updates that leaders need to know.

Finally, the printed Activity Schedule will now be sent out twice a year rather than quarterly due to member preference. There'll be a short publication that covers March through May. Then, the bi-yearly publication starts with May through October for the summer edition and November through April for the winter edition

Respectively submitted,

Dick Munro
Boulder Group Chair

Boulder Mountain Schools' Spring Session

This Spring, the Boulder Group will be offering the following courses:

Hiking 1, Hiking 2, Basic Rock, Basic Snow, GPS, Backpacking, Rock Leading, and Intermediate Snow. We will also be offering the ever-popular Basic Mountaineering School, which is actually a series of courses: Hiking 1 & 2, Basic Rock and Basic Snow. Signup for all schools begins Tuesday, March 3. For more information on all schools, please go to our website or contact bms@cmcboulder.org

Instructors Wanted for Spring BMS Session

The Spring Session of the Boulder Mountain Schools is looking for instructors to help teach any of our courses. The course schedule can be found online at www.cmcboulder.org. We will also be offering a number of training sessions during the month of March for our instructors. For more information, please contact bms@cmcboulder.org.

Ingvar Sodal Celebration

The friends of Ingvar Sodal, father of cross country skiing in Boulder, are celebrating his contributions with a four-day party from Feb. 18 through Feb. 21. Highlights include a night at Brainard Cabin and a grand evening at the Avalon. To sign up for the night at the cabin, including dinner, or to ask for in-town housing, e-mail Melba@qadas.com. The deadline is Feb. 17 for cabin sign-up. http://www.villageartscoalition.org/IN-GVAR_FLYER.pdf



Ingvar Sodal

Volunteer Opportunities!

Banff Film Festival 2/26, 2/27

Volunteer and see the Banff Film Festival for free! The CMC is in charge of finding volunteers to sell tickets for the film festival at the Paramount Theatre in Denver. Contact Susan Dowd at dowds@cmc.org if you're interested.

Clubroom Hosts Needed

Clubroom Hosts are needed Monday through Thursday from 5-7pm. Responsibilities are easy and you'll be rewarded by fulfilling a critical club role.

Mailing Party - February 19

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 19 at 5:30pm. Please just drop in.

Clubroom Open House

Experienced CMC members are wanted to share your enthusiasm and knowledge about hiking, camping, peak bagging, rock climbing, snowshoeing, or cross country skiing and more. Contact Bernel Sawyer at epsawyer@aol.com

To volunteer call the clubroom or email clubroom@cmcboulder.org

compass

Editor: Tessie DeLaney

Email: compass@cmcboulder.org

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Boulder Group Chair: Dick Munro

Email: chair@cmcboulder.org

Subscribe to GPS e-newsletter:
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Clubroom hours: Mon. -Thurs., 5 to 7 pm

Clubroom Telephone: 303-554-7688

CMC information: bcmc@cmcboulder.org

Website: cmcboulder.org

e-Compass subscription: cmc.org → login → Personal Data → e-newsletters

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

Tips & Techniques: Resources for Winter Conditions

Especially in winter, it's important to be able to check weather, road, and snow & ice conditions before taking off for a trip. Here are some web sites to get up-to-the-minute information:

Colorado Avalanche Info. Center

<http://avalanche.state.co.us>

C.D.O.T. road conditions

<http://www.cotrip.org/>

NOAA National Weather Service

<http://forecast.weather.gov/>

AccuWeather hourly forecast

<http://www.accuweather.com>

RMNP conditions (Total Climbing)

<http://www.totalclimbing.com>

Neptune Mountaineering "Conditions"

www.neptunemountaineering.com



Dave Slowey



Mark Nelson



Janine Fugere

February Program: Brainard Cabin, Feb 17 at 7pm

This month's program, coordinated by Alan Delamere, will bring together a forum of people who have helped maintain and update Brainard Cabin over the years. Their experiences will be shared through slides and discussion. Al Bartlett, the hut meister for 10 years in the 1950s (who made the tables and cabinets we still use today) will join us. Cabin tales abound. Come and share your cabin experiences with us. Light refreshments will be served.

Future Monthly Programs

Mar. 10 Rock Climbing at El Potrero Chico in Mexico, B. Leach

April 14 The Best Boulder Hikes book release party, J. Groh

May 12 Kurt Kunkle, Colorado Environmental Coalition, Colorado's Canyon Country Wilderness

June 9 Dave Sutherland, City of Boulder OSMP: The location of world class biodiverse hotspots in our OSMP

July 14 Baruntse Expedition, C. Lopez

Aug. 11 Film: Climbing Annapurna IV, T. Handwerk

Sept. 8 Kilimanjaro, T. Rockwood

Oct. 13 Members Claim 15 minutes of fame! - Open 'mic' night.

Nov. tbd Annual Dinner

Dec. 13 Christmas Potluck

Congratulations New Trip Leaders!

We want to extend congratulations to 3 new trip leaders – Janine Fugere, Mark Nelson and Dave Slowey. Janine is the Hiking School Director and was just approved as an A/B Hiking trip leader. Mark just recently rejoined the Boulder Group and has become reinstated as a Group III Rock trip leader. Dave is a longtime Colorado resident and skier and was just approved as a Ski Touring trip leader. Both Mark and Dave were also automatically approved to lead A/B Hiking trips as part of our trip leader approval policy. We look forward to their trips! We encourage our members to become trip leaders. If you're interested, go to www.cmcboulder.org/trips.

Conservation Committee

The Boulder Group CMC is starting up a conservation committee to identify topics relevant to Boulder. All Boulder Group CMC members are welcome to participate. The meeting is Feb 12 from 7pm - 8:30pm. For questions contact Chris Klotz at conservation@cmcboulder.org.

WeekDAY Warriors

Feb 4 7-9pm

Boulder CMC Clubroom

Brainstorming session hosted by Jean Aschenbrenner to discuss how we can create a community of members who are interested in weekDAY trips.

Successful XC Ski Tour School

The Boulder Group held a successful cross country ski touring school in December, instituting a new approach to its instruction. For the initial lesson the school was granted permission to utilize Eldora's ski area facilities where CMC instructors could teach fundamentals on Eldora's groomed Nordic trails and beginner slopes. Students were able to efficiently work at enhancing this lesson in the backcountry on the subsequent outing the following week. Additionally, the Boulder Group is emphasizing that students continue to refine their skills by signing up for the numerous easy/moderate ski trips being offered during the season. Many thanks to Eldora ski area for its enthusiastic participation in our school's efforts.

~ submitted by Bob Olson, Co-leader, Backcountry Cross Country Ski Touring School

February 2009 Trips & Activities

Editor's note: The following is a list of BCMC trips and events for the month. It is possible for trips to be changed or posted after this issue goes to press. Please check online for current trip status, to see club trip policies, or to learn about becoming a trip leader: cmcboulder.org/Trips.

To view trips online and register:

- ▶ Browse to cmc.org
- ▶ Login with your CMC member number and password. For first time users, the default password is your ZIP code.
- ▶ Click on 'Trip Signup' in left margin
- ▶ Enter trip selection parameters (CMC group, date range, etc) & click Search
- ▶ To register, click Register
- ▶ For Boulder trips, you must contact the leader by phone (preferred) or email; for Denver trips, you may register online.

Wednesday, February 4

Ice Climb

Ice Climbing location to be determined by the leader based on current ice conditions. Ice climbing lecture, field trip, and BMS are prerequisites for this trip. Register with leader Boulder Leader: Thomas Alan Walker 303-666-7199 tmwalkerco@comcast.net Trip#6782

Tele/AT Backcountry Ski Clinic Lecture #2

Survival Skiing and Navigation
No matter what your skiing level, you're bound to wind up on some terrain or snow conditions sometime that are just too hard to handle. In addition, ski navigation offers some unique problems from poor visibility to challenging terrain. The lecture will overview survival skiing and ski navigation techniques. For registered Tele/AT Backcountry ski clinic participants. Signup begins at the Nov 3BMS Winter Schools Overview and Signup Meeting. \$\$ Boulder Leader: Cindy L Gagnon 303-938-8564 gagnonc2@comcast.net Trip#6884

Saturday, February 7

Rogers Pass Lake Mod. III Ski Tour Blue Downhill

Follow the South Boulder Creek Trail through the trees to this lake at the base of Rogers Pass. Trail starts at East

Portal trailhead. Climbing skins strongly recommended. Boulder Trail Mileage:8 Elevation Gain:2000 Drive Distance:70 Topo Map(s):East Portal, Trails Illustrated - Winter Park-Rollins Pass Leader: Peter Gowen 303-494-5420 PJGowen@comcast.net Trip#6853

Iceberg Lakes Adv. II Ski Tour Black Downhill

From East Portal, ski on-trail to Arapaho Creek, continue off-trail to Crater Lakes, then past some small avalanche slopes to Clayton Lake, then continue above tree line to Iceberg Lakes. Snow conditions permitting, return with a 1000 ft. tree and powder run to the S. Boulder Creek trail. Strong telemark/downhill skills, climbing skins and avalanche gear required. Register with leader between 9 AM and 9 PM only. Boulder Trail Mileage:8 Elevation Gain:2500 Drive Distance:40 Topo Map(s):East Portal Leader:Steven Haymes 303-444-4765 Trip#6823

Sunday, February 8

Yankee Doodle Lake Mod. II Ski Tour
Start at Eldora Ski Area, then ski up Jenny Creek to Yankee Doodle Lake for a good day of skiing. Boulder Trail Mileage:10 Elevation Gain:1900 Drive Distance:110 Topo Map(s):Nederland Leader:Steve Priem 303-499-0577 s.priem@yahoo.com Trip#7175

Tele/AT Backcountry Ski clinic Adv. II Ski Tour

Field Trip #1 Survival Skills
With skis you can get farther into the backcountry faster than any other way, so winter survival skills are crucial for all levels of ski mountaineering. On this field trip participants will ski into the backcountry and learn and practice general backcountry survival skills. For registered 3-day Tele/AT Backcountry ski clinic participants. Boulder Leader: Cindy L Gagnon 303-938-8564 gagnonc2@comcast.net Trip#6886

Wednesday, February 11

Tele/AT Backcountry Ski clinic Lecture #3

See February 4 for description and details.

Friday, February 13

CMC/South Trail Easy II Ski Tour Easy Ski Tour Series

We'll ski both in and out the easy South Trail. Boulder Trail Mileage:6 Elevation Gain:400 Drive Distance:50 Topo Map(s):Ward Leader:Thomas Alan Walker 303-666-7199 tmwalkerco@comcast.net Warren Bradshaw 303-859-6083 brad@bajabb.com Trip#6786

Saturday, February 14

Red Rocks to Mtn Research Station Easy II Ski Tour - Easy Ski Tour series

Leave a car at the Mtn Research Station and ski from Red Rocks TH over Niwot Ridge with a gentle descent to the MRS Boulder Trail Mileage:6 Elevation Gain:200 Drive Distance:60 Topo Map(s):Ward (Brainard Lk area) Leader: Jason L Kintzel 303-776-1218 jkintzel@jcbaur.com Trip#6870

Sunday, February 15

Trail Ridge Rd Easy II Ski Tour Easy Ski Tour series

We'll ski on Trail Ridge Rd in RMNP from the winter closer at many Parks Curve as far as Rainbow curve or however far snow conditions permit. It is a 4 mile climb on a wide road with a gentle grade offering a superb view of the Mummy Range. Register with leaders. Boulder Trail Mileage:8 Topo Map(s):RMNP Trails Illustrated Leader:Janet Robertson jan@robsoft.com and David Robertson 303-442-7793 daver@robsoft.com Trip#6909

Tele/AT Backcountry Ski Clinic
Adv. II Ski Tour Survival Skiing
Field Trip #2 of Tele/AT bc ski clinic
Students will practice survival skiing techniques. For registered participants. Boulder Leader:Cindy L Gagnon 303-938-8564 gagnonc2@comcast.net Trip#6888

February 2009 Trips & Activities

Sunday, February 15 (cont.)

AT/Ski Mountaineering School

Registration & Application Deadline

The AT/Ski Mountaineering course, offered in conjunction with the Denver Group, is designed to acquaint CMC members with the skills, attitudes, and awareness needed for ski mountaineering tours, such as 13'er and 14'er ski descents in Colorado, and ski traverses such as the Haute Route in the Alps or the Wapta Traverse in Canada. Participants should be proficient on backcountry equipment (randonee skis, telemark skies, or split snowboards) and should be able to confidently handle Black slopes at ski resorts. The goal of the course is to prepare CMC members to make the transition from skiing groomed slopes at resorts to touring the off-piste environment in the mountains. The school consists of 3 lectures (3/3, 3/10, 3/17) and five field trips (3/14, 3/28, 4/18, 5/2, 5/16-18). Applications will be available at the 11/3 BMS Winter Schools Overview. \$\$ Boulder Leader: Cindy L Gagnon 303-938-8564 gagnonc2@comcast.net Trip#6962

Wednesday, February 18

Ice Climb

Ice Climbing location to be determined by the leader based on current ice conditions. Ice climbing lecture, field trip, and BMS are prerequisites for this trip. Register with leader Boulder Leader: Thomas Alan Walker 303-666-7199 tmwalkerco@comcast.net Warren Bradshaw 303-859-6083 brad@bajabb.com Trip#6783

Friday, February 20

Wind Ridge Sampler, II Climb, 5.6

We will plan on climbing either Wind Ridge or Calypso (or both!) depending on availability and time. Both classic Eldorado Canyon. Boulder Leader: Gary Schmidt 970-481-1048 gsch@frii.net Trip#7803

Saturday, February 21

Peaceful Valley or Hessie Easy II Ski Easy Ski Tour Series

The area we choose will depend on snow conditions. This tour is for beginners who have attended the Boulder ski clinic or have equivalent experience. Leaders will offer tips on technique improvements. Register with Leader BY PHONE ONLY. Boulder Trail Mileage:6 Elevation Gain:600 Drive Distance:50 Leader: Peter Birkeland 303-442-0304 birkelap@colorado.edu Trip#6908

Beaver Reservoir, Coney Flats

Adv. I Ski Tour, Peaceful Valley

From Peaceful Valley, climb up to Beaver Reservoir, ski to Coney Flats on gentle terrain, descend a nice jeep road into the Middle St Vrain, follow a trail to Camp Dick and return to the cars. Climbing skins advised. Register with leader. Boulder Trail Mileage:12 Elevation Gain:1400 Drive Distance:70 Topo Map(s):Allens Park, Ward Leader: Patricia Butler 303-440-0586 butler@csd.net Trip#6755

Sunday, February 22

Mammoth Gulch to Nebraska Hill Mod. III Ski Tour

From Mammoth Gulch, top out at 11,354' and find a fun way down. Register with leader. Boulder Trail Mileage:10 Elevation Gain:2800 Drive Distance:50 Topo Map(s):East Portal, Nederland Leader: Steve Priem 303-499-0577 s.priem@yahoo.com Trip#7176

Tele/AT Backcountry Ski Clinic Adv. II Ski Tour, Peak Skiing

Field Trip #3 of Tele/AT bc ski clinic.

Students will plan and ski a peak. Optional overnight trip for registered trip participants only. Register with leader. Boulder Leader: Cindy L Gagnon 303-938-8564 gagnonc2@comcast.net Trip#6887

Friday, February 27

CMC/South Trail Easy II Ski Tour

Easy Ski Tour Series

We'll ski both in and out the easy South Trail. Boulder Trail Mileage:6 Elevation Gain:400 Drive Distance:50 Topo Map(s):Ward Leader: Thomas Alan Walker 303-666-7199 tmwalkerco@comcast.net Warren Bradshaw 303-859-6083 brad@bajabb.com Trip#6787

Saturday, February 28

Saints John Easy II Ski Tour

Easy Ski Tour Series

Drive to Montezuma and ski an old mining road to the ghost town of Saints John on the slopes of Bear Mountain. After a moderately steep half mile, the trail proceeds gradually up the Saints John valley. Boulder Trail Mileage:3 Elevation Gain:400 Drive Distance:140 Topo Map(s):Montezuma Leader: Reed Bailey 303-499-3731 rbc@privatei.com Trip#6754

Deer Creek Mod. III Ski Tour

Blue Downhill

Start at the end of the plowed road above Montezuma and follow the 4wd road along Deer Creek to top of divide around 12360ft™. Climbing skins suggested for last pitch to the divide. Good telemarking terrain at top Boulder Trail Mileage:9 Elevation Gain:1800 Drive Distance:130 Topo Map(s):Trails Illustrated - Loveland Pass Leader: Peter Gowen 303-494-5420 PJGowen@comcast.net Trip#6855

Ärestua Hut Adv. I Ski Tour

From Lk Eldora Ski Area follow Jenny Crk Trail, past old mining cabins to the Ärestua Hut. We'll look for good downhill runs and return to the ski area. Register with leader. Boulder Trail Mileage:10 Elevation Gain:1600 Drive Distance:45 Topo Map(s):Nederland Leader: Cleve Armstrong 303-427-0845 cea80221@aol.com Trip#6612

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*Peggy Davenport, Brookie Gallagher, Jim Davis, Kirsten Kindt, Beth Davis,
and Peter Gowen at the Continental Divide Cabin at Tennessee Pass*

*That men want and try to climb mountains means everything. For it is the
ultimate wisdom of the mountains that man is never so much a man as when he is
striving for what is beyond his grasp, and that there is no battle worth winning save
that against his own ignorance and fear.*

~ James Ramsey Ullman

Reserve or Rent the Clubroom!

If you have a CMC EVENT where you need to use the clubroom, remember to *reserve* it first. Go to www.cmcbooulder.org/calendar.html to check the schedule.

If you have a NON-CMC EVENT, you will need to *rent* the clubroom. See our rental policy at www.cmcbooulder.org/clubroomPolicy.html. We have audio-visual projection, seating for about 60, kitchen, wireless internet connectivity and the best room rates in town!

For info or to request your reservation:
clubroomreservations@cmcboulder.org

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