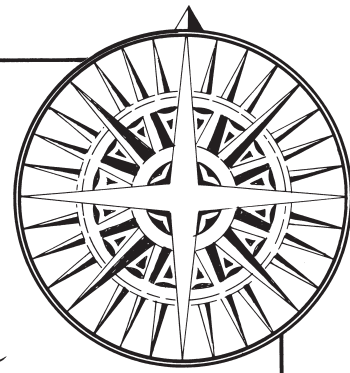




Compass

THE BOULDER GROUP NEWSLETTER



Volume XXVI Number 7

July 2010

In This Issue

<i>Editor's Note</i>	1
<i>Boulder Open House</i>	1
<i>Fall Schools Sign-Up Night</i>	1
<i>Chair's Report</i>	2
<i>Volunteer Opportunities</i>	2
<i>July Trips</i>	3
<i>Cabin Fall Work Parties</i>	4
<i>From the CEO</i>	4
<i>BCNA Classes</i>	5
<i>Trip to Ecuador</i>	5
<i>CMC State Outing</i>	5

Editor's Note

Summer is in full swing, and so is the CMC, with a host of activities for all members. Please see the note from Katie Blackett, our CEO, on page four for her coverage of activities beyond the trip schedule.

Of particular notice to me this past month was the unusual spate of rock climbing accidents. Within the space of a few weeks, there were four separate incidents in Eldorado Canyon, resulting in one fatality, and two other critical injuries. All involved very experienced climbers, or unusual rockfall in a highly active area. There is no systematic explanation for this concentration of accidents, other than the increase in climbing activity as the weather warmed up in June. The accident involving a simul-climbing party was particularly unusual, as this experienced party was attempting an endurance event unprecedented in the canyon: 100 pitches in a day. For those interested, more details can be found at the climbing websites, such as mountain-

Fall Schools Sign-Up Night

Monday, August 16, 7pm

This year's fall schools will include Hiking I, Hiking II, Basic Rock School and GPS Navigation. See www.cmcboulder.org/bms/fallSchedule.html for the course dates. The first opportunity to sign up for classes is at the Fall Schools Sign-Up Night on Monday, August 16, in the BCMA clubroom. Please note that applications will be available online and in the clubroom on August 9, but will not be accepted until the Sign-Up Night. Attending the Sign-Up Night gives you a higher priority of getting into the schools. Applications may still be submitted to the clubroom after August 16. Contact bms@cmcboulder.org if you have questions. Bring your checkbook!

project.com and rockclimbing.com. The real heroes in all this, of course, is the Rocky Mountain Rescue Group, who performed all the rescues, with assistance of Eldorado Park rangers. Other climbers at the scene of the accidents also did what they could to help, which is inspiring to read about.

Nonetheless, climbing remains an overall safe sport, where the subjective danger can be highly controlled. These skills are well taught in our Basic Rock School and Rock Leading School classes. I encourage anyone considering rock climbing as a new sport, or who wants a safety refresher, to check them out each spring and fall.

— Rick Casey,
Compass Editor and
Webteam / Council Liaison Person

Boulder CMC Open House

July 21st, 7-8 pm

Where: At the clubroom, around the corner from Neptune's
Inviting new and prospective CMC members to learn more about the club and its many classes, trips, and activities. Experienced members will be on hand to share their enthusiasm and knowledge about hiking, camping, peak bagging, rock climbing, snow shoeing, cross-country skiing, and more. Bring a friend!

Share Your Pictures!



CMC member Larry Pedigo on second pitch of Ruper, 5.8, Eldorado Canyon

Did you know you can upload your pictures to the Boulder website? See the front page, where 12 random photos are selected each time the page reloads. There have not been many new photos lately, so this is an invitation to share your photos at cmcboulder.org. You can also annotate them with identifying information.

Chair's Report

Greetings Fellow Club Members:

As you know, CMC's state office is moving ahead with a re-branding of our venerable organization. It is proving to be a trying and controversial project but one which is, in my view, necessitated by, as they say, the facts on the ground. The salient fact is declining membership statewide. It is easy to forget that fact looking at things from a Boulder perspective in view of our group's fairly steady membership over the past several years. But even Boulder's numbers don't look promising. For the past two years, our membership numbers have bounced around 75 percent of the year 2002 benchmark. In absolute numbers, membership in April stood at 1143, at 1131 in May and at 1102 in June. State-wide, the decline is steeper. These are absolute declines in a state whose population continues to grow absolutely.

I bring this up simply because I think it is important that we rally around the big-ger cause which is to build membership and otherwise invigorate the club. It is somewhat disheartening to pore through a barrage of ill-tempered emails from club members elsewhere in the state. These emails roundly criticize the state officials and board for daring to re-think CMC's image and questioning their motives. I am not much one for conspiracy theories. I believe our state colleagues are doing the best they can to make CMC an even stronger, more vibrant organization and to build on the club's strengths which, indeed, are the schools and trips offered by the local groups.

Your Boulder Group Council has been supportive in principle of the re-branding effort and has offered constructive criticism of the various logos and taglines sent along for our review. We recognize the value of building membership if for no other reason than an infusion of new members will help us continue to fill the myriad volunteer roles that CMC depends on. The state has been receptive to our comments and we look forward to the next iteration of re-branding ideas.

On a lighter note, I am happy to announce that we have confirmed an exciting speaker for our Annual Dinner

on Nov. 6 at the Avalon Ballroom in Boulder. He is Howard Snyder -- for the mountaineers among us, or for those of us of a certain age, Howard is best known for his participation in the 1967 Wilcox-Mount McKinley Expedition (as Denali was known then). Although Howard and his fellow Coloradoans summited, seven other expedition members perished in the horrific storms engulfing that tempestuous peak. The event has been well-chronicled in books such as Howard's own "In the Hall of the Mountain King" and in James Tabor's more recent "Forever on the Mountain". It was a tragedy that deeply affected the National Park Service and even involved such an august individual as Bradford Washburn.

Although he has given many presentations over the years, this will be Howard's first presentation on the event here in the Boulder Valley. Howard now lives in Alberta, Canada. Howard will also reflect on his days as a Boulder CMC member and trip leader and on his memories of Boulder from the 1960's.

It should be a wonderful evening so please pencil it in your personal calendar (and invite all your friends as well). With the help of Council Member Paul Raab, a publicity push for the event will begin next month (and we may have a related surprise announcement). And, before closing, I would like to thank Paul for securing Mr. Snyder's confirmation as our speaker. It is quite a coup and a testimony to the power of the volunteer spirit embodied in CMC.

Respectfully Submitted,

John Fernandez, Boulder Chair

Annual Dinner Chair Needed

The Boulder CMC Annual Dinner, traditionally held in early November, needs a volunteer with excellent organizational skills who enjoys creating hospitality. You will have excellent guidance and support, from a well honed format perfected over the past few years. For information, please contact chair@cmcboulder.org.

Volunteer Opportunities

To volunteer call 303-554-7768 or email clubroom@cmcboulder.org

Clubroom Hosts Needed

Clubroom Hosts are needed Monday through Thursday from 5-7 pm

New GPS Editor Wanted

The Boulder CMC is in need of a new GPS editor. Gain valuable skills while filling a key position in the Boulder Club. If interested please email chair@cmcboulder.org.

Wanted: Your Stories!

The Compass newsletter wants to hear from you! Please consider sharing your personal stories or consider writing an article of interest for a future issue. Email compass@cmcboulder.org.

New Compass Editor Wanted

If you have the time, and would like to gain valuable experience with the Boulder CMC, please consider volunteering as editor for the Compass. You will gain a rich experience of how the Club functions by overseeing the production of a tradition that has been published continuously for decades. You will also get experience in using inDesign, a standard software tool in professional graphic design. If so, please contact the editor at compass@cmcboulder.org.

compass

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Published: Monthly by Boulder Group, Colorado Mountain Club, 633 South Broadway, Unit N, Boulder 80305

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

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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.

July 2010 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 www.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.
- ▶ Schools require previous signup. Info at www.cmcboulder.org

Wednesday, July 7

After Work Social Hike Moderate A
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 at Table Mesa and Broadway). Be prepared for any weather with good footwear, water and a light. Optional after-hike food and drink. Boulder Trail Mileage:5 Elevation Gain:600 Drive Distance:5 Topo Map(s):Boulder, Eldorado Springs Leader:Steven Haymes 303-444-4765 srhaymes@yahoo.com Trip#11417

Friday, July 9

Eldorado Classic Climb Series / Flakes/
Whistle Stop III Climb
Redgarden Wall 5.9
Climb these adjoining Eldorado classics, whistling your way up finger cracks to a moderate roof, and flaking out on a dihedral to another roof, continuing diagonally up on a face to the top. Limit 2 participants. Boulder Leader:Brenda Leach 303-525-3660 brenda_leach@yahoo.com Trip#12420

Saturday, July 10

GPS Navigation Field Trip
Field Trip
Lecture for course to provide a review of map and compass from Hiking II, to teach how to plan a trip with a GPS, and

then how to navigate in the field with a map and compass, a map and compass and a GPS, and a GPS alone. The course will include two lectures on Tue. 6/15 & Tue. 6/22 at 6:30 PM, and one field trip on Sun. 7/10/10. Students are required to provide their own compass and GPS. Signup begins at the March 1 BMS Spring Overview and Signup Meeting. Register with leader between 9:00 AM and 9:00 PM only. Boulder Topo Map(s):Morrison Leader:Steven Haymes 303-444-4765 srhaymes@yahoo.com Trip#11423

Sunday, July 11

North Face Couliors Flattop Mountain
Moderate D-E,
Semi-tech, Moderate pace
Ascend the steep central couloir on the North face of Flattop mountain. Descend Ptarmigan Glacier. Ice axe, crampons, harness, helmet required. Boulder Trail Mileage:6 Elevation Gain:2400 Leader: Todd Nelson 303-417-9166 toddlnelson@comcast.net Trip#11298

Wednesday, July 14

Wednesday Evening Endeavors
Moderate A, After Work Hike
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 at Table Mesa and Broadway). Be prepared for any weather with good footwear, water and a light. Optional after-hike food and drink. Boulder Trail Mileage:6 Elevation Gain:800 Drive Distance:5 Topo Map(s):Boulder/Eldorado Springs Leader:Marilyn Fellows 303-499-6099 Marilyngfellows@yahoo.com Trip#11490

Thursday, July 15

WeekDAY Warrior Gathering Special
Come share stories and plan activities for weekDAYS. 7-9 Boulder clubroom. Pls bring snack or drink to share. no signups - just show up. Boulder Leader: Jean Aschenbrenner 303-786-9411 jeanusch@hotmail.com Trip#12533

Friday, July 16 – July 18

Backpacking School Field Trip (2 Night Option) Field Trip, On Trail
Moderate pace

This is the two-night field trip of the Backpacking School. This course covers equipment, trip planning, site selection, meals, leave no trace principles, bear-bagging, and more for an enjoyable backpacking experience. Prerequisites: Hiking 1 & Hiking 2. One lecture on Tue. 6/8/10 at 6:30 PM. Field trips: 6/12-13 (one-night option), 7/16-18 (two-night option). Students may choose to attend either or both Field Trips. Sign Ups begin at the 3/1/10 BMS Spring & Summer Schools Overview and Signup (CMC Boulder Group Clubroom - 7 PM). Boulder Trail Mileage:8 Elevation Gain:1200 Drive Distance:60 Leader:Janine A Fugere 303-931-6151 janine_fugere@yahoo.com Trip#11365

Saturday, July 17

IPWA Wildflower hike Moderate B
Fast pace

We'll hike swiftly up Niwot Ridge from Long Lake (near Brainard), checking out flowers on the way up and spending more time to identify them on the return. Leader is an amateur botanist who loves to learn new plants. Boulder Trail Mileage:8 Elevation Gain:900 Drive Distance:45 Leader:Patricia Butler 303-440-0586 butler@csd.net Trip#12215

Washington Irving,
Rock climb, 5.6

This classic, single pitch moderate is on the West Ridge in Eldorado Canyon. Excellent beginner's climb, as can be top roped once led. Contact Rick Casey, caseyrick@gmail.com

Wednesday, July 21

Boulder CMC Open House
Lecture

At the clubroom, around the corner from Neptune's
Inviting new and prospective CMC members to learn more about the club and its many classes, trips, and activities. Experienced members will be on hand to share their enthusiasm and knowledge about hiking, camping, peak bagging,

rock climbing, snow shoeing, cross-country skiing, and more. Bring a friend!
Boulder Leader: Samuel Levis 303-665-1310 samuellevis@hotmail.com
Trip#12417

Cabin Fall Work Parties

The fall work parties to prepare the cabins for winter are always fun events and fill up quick. If you want to learn more about the cabins, and meet a lot of fun people, make sure you sign up early! They will be listed as Work Party Trips at the state website.

Ärestua Cabin Annual Work Party:

Saturday, Sept 18.

Help get our

beautiful Guinn Mountain cabin ready for the winter. Projects include

- wood cutting, hauling, splitting, and stacking; cleaning the cabin

inside; and some small repairs. Bring: work boots/shoes, work gloves, your lunch, chain saw if you own one.

Sign-up is not necessary but is appreciated. Be prepared for hot/dry

&/or wet/cold. Meet at the hut or the Rollinsville Store at 8:00am.

For more info, contact: Mark Buchanan (303) 717-1187, or arestuahut@gmail.com

Brainard Cabin Annual Work Party: Saturday Sept 25. Come for any part of either day to help haul, split & stack wood, clean the inside of the cabin, and make minor repairs.

Bring: work boots/shoes, work gloves, and your lunch. Be prepared for hot/dry &/or wet/cold.

Sign-up is not necessary but is appreciated, especially if you plan to stay Saturday night. Meet at the cabin, or car pool at 8:00 AM from the parking lot in the N.E. corner of Iris and Broadway in North Boulder. For more info, contact: Jason Kintzel (303) 776-1218, or cabins@cmcboulder.org



From the CEO

Outdoor Recreation & Open Space Initiative:

In April, President Obama issued a memo to the Departments of the Interior and Agriculture and the heads of the Environmental Protection Agency, and the Council on Environmental Quality. The memo kicked off the President's new outdoor recreation and open space initiative America's Great Outdoors. In the memo, the President stated, "We must look to the private sector and nonprofit organizations, as well as towns, cities, and States, and the people who live and work in them, to identify the places that mean the most to Americans." To that end, they have set up a website (link to site <http://www.doi.gov/americasgreatoutdoors/>) that is designed to solicit input and ideas from the public on themes such as "reconnecting with the great outdoors", "private land conservation" and "public land conservation". CMC's Conservation Department will be submitting comments as well as working with the outdoor recreation and conservation community to secure a live listening session in the Denver metro area sometime this summer. Stay tuned for another update on this soon.

Appalachian Mountain Club to join in on regional mountain club benefits sharing: The regional mountain clubs met in early May as part of our yearly partnership agreement. Andy Falender, Executive Director of the Appalachian Mountain Club attended the meetings after hearing about the good work the clubs have done together. Andy signed the shared membership benefits agreement, which will allow all CMC members to utilize the membership benefits of the Appalachian Mountain Club members. Check out their website at www.outdoors.org. They have an amazing hut system that I suggest everyone look into for a vacation.

Trip Participant Survey:

As a reminder, once per quarter, the State office will be sending a trip participant survey to a random group of members throughout the state to find out about their experience with the club. The results will be used to help us reach our goal of being the best outdoor recreation organization in the State. The anony-

mous results will be shared with Group Chairs. I thank many of you who provided feedback on the survey questions.

President's Corner:

In the past few weeks you might have heard or read about the proposed fees for the four fourteeners in South Colony Basin. A few CMC members have inquired about the CMC position on the matter. After a long discussion these past few weeks with the Board's Executive Committee, staff, volunteers and our organizational partners, we've decided that at the current time, it does NOT make sense for the Club to take an official position. Instead in Wednesday's Rucksack, there will be a comprehensive article so that individual CMC members can make an informed decision and if they choose, they can give individual input into the proposed plan.

The Forest Service asking for input is only the first step of a longer process. Since you are in a leadership capacity, if you are asked, please encourage others to be part of the Forest Service process, and ask them to provide thoughtful feedback. As you know, the Forest Service has been a valued partner of the CMC for decades, and thus, we would like to cooperate with their request.

As a reminder, all media inquiries need to go through the CEO, Katie Blackett. The conservation department, acting in support of the work of the CMC organization, may make public representation of CMC on conservation related matters. Individual members are welcome to make statements about their personal perspectives, but should do so as individuals and not representing the organization.

Thank You Hidden Gems Supporters: Sometimes Hidden Gems proponents are referred to as "the silent majority," making it hard to show the public and politicians how many of us actually support the Hidden Gems. Well, last week Gemsters showed up in force, dispelling this myth. Literally hundreds of us turned out to public meetings held by Congressman Jared Polis in Boulder, Edwards and Breckenridge. Thank you! More info at: <http://www.whiteriverwild.org/>

continued on page 5

Summer Opportunities for Kids!
CMC has a variety of summer adventure day camps for youth. Rock Climbing, hiking, and nature study are part of the fun! Register today at:
http://www.cmc.org/youth_education/index.htm#summer

— *Katie Blackett*
CEO, Colorado Mountain Club

BCNA Classes

[Editor's Note: Boulder County Nature Association (BCNA) is a non-profit dedicated to teaching about Nature. Find out more at www.bcna.org.]

Walking Through the Seasons in the Ponderosa Pine Forest: Summer and Fall — Dianne Andrews

In this class we walk the same trail in summer and fall, exploring some of the stories the forest has to tell—stories that reveal the relationships that shape life in the forest. Summer is a time to observe the fledging of young birds, the antics of small mammals, the flight of butterflies, and the continuing procession of wildflowers. Fall is a time to watch migrant birds heading south, wildlife preparing for winter, and autumnal colors returning to trees and shrubs.

Indoor class: Thursday, July 15, 6:30 to 8:30 pm. Field class: Saturday, July 17, 8 am to 1 pm. Field class: Saturday, September 18, 8 am to 1 pm

Tuition: \$90 (\$80 for BCNA members). Limited to 12 participants.
To register, contact Dianne at (303) 823-6779 or dandrews@boulder.net

Exploring Colorado Hummingbirds — Steve and Debbie Bouricius

Hummingbirds remain one of the least studied of all bird groups, and their complex lifestyle poses continuing challenges to researchers. We will examine the life cycle of hummingbirds and their status in Colorado. We will observe and learn to identify them at private locations where they are attracted in concentrated numbers, and then get a close-up look into the art and science of hummingbird banding research.

Indoor class: Sunday, July 25, 7:30 to 9 am
Field class: Sunday, July 25, 9 am to 2 pm. Tuition: \$65 (\$55 for BCNA members). Limited to 12 participants.
To register, contact Steve at (970) 434-5918 or bouricii@earthlink.net

Boulder Bugs: An Introduction to the World under our Feet! — Scott Severs

Discover the hidden world of insects and spiders. The classroom session will focus on the identification features of the major orders of spiders and their kin, grasshoppers, true bugs, beetles, social insects (bees and ants) and others. In the field we will practice our newly learned identification skills, see how insects interact with each other, and observe the roles they play in the local environment and in our daily lives.

Indoor class: Wednesday, August 4, 6:30 to 8:30 pm. Field class: Sunday, August 8, 9 am to noon

Tuition: \$55 (\$50 BCNA members). Limited to 8 participants.
To register, contact Scott at (303) 684-6430 or rostrhamus@aol.com

Mushrooms of the Front Range — Jennifer Frazer

Thousands of species of mushrooms lurk in the woods and yards of Colorado. This class will cover basic mushroom biology, important mushroom toxins, common Colorado mushrooms, how mushrooms make a living, and how to recognize major mushroom families. We'll also learn how to make the beautiful spore prints that can be vital to identification. In the field, you'll get hands-on experience collecting and identifying mushrooms, and be trained in the lost art of the mushroom hoot.

Indoor class: Thursday, August 19, 6:45 pm to 8:45 pm. Field class: Saturday, August 21, 9 am to 1 pm. Field class: Saturday, September 4, 9 am to 1 pm
Tuition: \$80 (\$70 for BCNA members). Limited to 12 participants.
To register, contact Jennifer at (303) 549-8276 or ranatrafusca@yahoo.com □

Hiking and Exploring in Ecuador

Dates: September 6–17, 2010
Price: \$2,501 + air travel

Travel to a private preserve nestled in a rustic mountain setting in the Pichincha Foothills where you will find peace and tranquility. Experience Ecuador's bird and animal life, following the footsteps of the ancient Incas on the Last Inca Emperor's Trails. Take in incredible views of the mountains and volcanoes and enjoy superb photo opportunities. Our starting point will be Quito. After arriving we will explore the capital of Ecuador, learning about colonial art, history, archaeology and folklore. In the preserve we will trek to the Highland Rainforest, with opportunities to visit five sacred waterfalls. There are 250 varieties of native medicinal plants in the region and we will learn about some of them. While hiking in a wild virgin cloud forest around Pichincha Mountain and trekking jungle trails, we will observe a variety of birds, including hummingbirds at feeders. Ecuador is a paradise of about 450 bird species, majestic waterfalls, and 300 varieties of orchids. A visit to the world famous Otavala Indian Market will give you a chance to shop for local handmade products.

Guided hikes at a moderate to easy hiking level on 8 days of the trip will be in the itinerary including after dark hikes to hear wild voices of the night jungle. There will be an optional 5 or 7 day trip to the Galapagos Islands before the trip. For more information, please contact: Betsy Weitkamp at 303-722-1656 or elaw@q.com.

CMC State Outing

CMC's In-State Outing will be held near Silverton, CO, the last week in July and first week in August, at the Mountain Studies Institute field station. Visiting scientists from the Institute will present lectures on the alpine environment. This is a passenger car drive-in site, with plenty of tent sites, 4 RV hook-up sites, and 6 rustic cabins. There is some indoor space; please inquire. An outdoor dining tent provide sheltered dining. Register at the state web site, at cmc.org/iso. Only a few spots left!