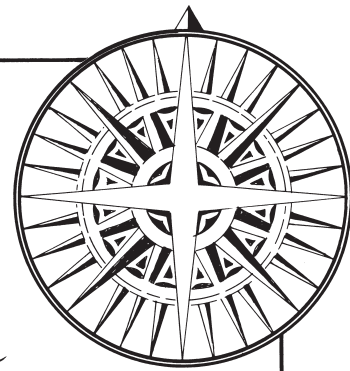




# Compass

THE BOULDER GROUP NEWSLETTER



Volume XXVI Number 12

December 2010

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## Editor's Note

As I conclude this final issue, it is with some satisfaction that I turn over the editorship to Donna Marino. She has been an earnest contributor to the club, having developed the online Leadership Training manual, and assisted in my Basic Rock School class. As a professional editor, I considered Donna much more capable than myself when I took this on! Please enjoy getting to know her through the interview that starts on this page.

Next, it is similarly gratifying to have been part of such a successful Annual Dinner last month. As Janine Fugere describes in the article in the next column, it was the most successful dinner we've yet held in the new potluck format, in many respects. As with each dinner, a new Chair is elected, and Janine looks

*continued on page 8, Editor's Note*

## Annual Dinner an Outstanding Success!

by Janine Fugere

The 2010 Annual Dinner was an outstanding success, with 212 attendees this year, a record since the event has been held at the Avalon Ballroom for the past five years. Increased publicity, the availability of online sign-ups for the first time, and a compelling keynote speaker all helped to contribute to the great turnout.



*Janine accepting the position as new Chair of the Boulder Group Council at the Annual Dinner*

A dedicated committee of volunteers helped plan and coordinate the dinner this year. Initial organization was led by Deb Halstead, who handled all the early planning until leaving in October to begin teaching English in Laguna

*continued on page 6, Annual Dinner*

## New Compass Editor: Donna Marino

by Rick Casey

*Editor's Note: It is with great pleasure that I introduce the next Compass Editor, Donna Marino. She is well qualified, experienced and a joy to work with. The following is a brief interview to get you acquainted with her. I'm sure she'll do a great job and hope you'll communicate with her via [compass@cmcboulder.org](mailto:compass@cmcboulder.org).*

*So Donna, how did you get involved in the CMC?*

I joined the CMC shortly after I moved to Boulder, about 10 years ago. I wasn't familiar with the area so I didn't know where to go for hikes. Also, I wanted to meet other folks who liked doing things outdoors. Once I got involved I began volunteering for various activities and got to know a great bunch of people.

*Was there anything in your background that led you to like being in the outdoors?*

Actually, it was growing up and living in a big city that made me to want to spend more time outdoors. As a kid, I longed to be out in open spaces and places that were wild. I always felt out of place living in such a congested area. By the time I moved here, I was so eager to be doing things outdoors that I'd just go wandering around on my own, frequently getting lost in the process. That's when I decided to join the CMC, so that I could experience the outdoors with other people – who knew what they were doing!

*Is there a particular moment or trip that continued on page 2, New Editor*

## Chair's Report

In one week, I step aside as Chair of the Boulder Group of the CMC. And I am happy to say I that take my "demo-tion" to status as Immediate Past Chair thoroughly delighted with the strength, enthusiasm and competence of the new Boulder Group Council and its new chair, Janine Fugere. CMC Boulder is in great hands.

It has been an honor to serve our membership of 1100. It is an amazing organization. We are instructors, trip leaders, hikers, climbers, skiers, conservationists and safety advocates. To get it all done, we have to be clubroom hosts, administrators, editors, writers, web masters, photographers, carpenters, PR mavens and dinner organizers. And we do all this without one paid person. We are all volunteers. We may find ourselves in a culture of "bowling alone" but among mountaineers, we are as social and committed as ever.

This got me thinking about the etymology of "volunteer". Of course, it comes from the Latin, "voluntarius", derived from the idea of "choice" or "to wish", especially in the sense of being or resulting from one's own free will. Voluntary implies the operation of unforced choice. If we don't choose it or wish it, it doesn't happen. One of the great traditions of CMC is to invite CMC graduates, the night of their graduation, to become assistant instructors or trip leaders. The transition happens that quickly. And here is why: no leaders, no instructors, no CMC. To paraphrase Teddy Roosevelt, "The first requisite of a good CMC citizen...is that he [or she] shall be able and willing to pull their weight". And CMC is full of good citizens.

Well, this has been my year of good stewardship to the CMC. It has been freely given -- and it has given me much in return. Thank you fellow council members and thank you all the CMC volunteers for having made this a wonderful and memorable year.

Respectfully Submitted,

John Fernandez, Boulder Chair

## Boulder CMC Open House

When: Jan. 19th, 7-8 pm  
Where: Clubroom

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!

---

*New Editor, from page 1*

*you recall as being a highlight of your experiences with the CMC?*

The highlight for me was when I took Basic Rock School. I'd previously taken a climbing class indoors and was curious to learn more. When I climbed outside, I just fell in love with the sport and had this craving to do it all the time. My instructors were better than I could have ever hoped for and they opened up a new and exciting world for me. I was very impressed with the level of training that a group like the CMC offered.



*Donna climbing at Lookout Mountain earlier this year*

*What do you consider is the best thing about the CMC's involvement with the community?*

*continued on page 4, New Editor*

## Boulder Group Holiday Party

When: Sunday, December 12, 6pm  
Where: Boulder CMC Clubroom  
Every year the Boulder Group has a Holiday Party open to all members, which follows the December Council meeting. Consider yourself invited! (RSVP not necessary) The traditional Holiday Party will be held in the BCMC Clubroom, around the corner from Neptune Mountaineering. The format will be potluck, BYOB and strictly informal. It will be a wonderful opportunity for you to meet your Council and State Board members, get familiar with them and ask any questions you might have.

### Volunteer Opportunities

Evening hosts are needed on an on-going basis, Monday through Thursday, 5-7pm. Please call the Clubroom at 303-554-7688 and leave a message to volunteer. It will be appreciated, and you'll be glad you did!

## compass

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All Boulder members automatically receive the Compass via email.

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

### DISCLAIMER

Events published in the Compass are for informational purposes only. They are not endorsed by the Boulder Group of the CMC except for the events that are explicitly led, taught or instructed by the Boulder Group. The Boulder Group of the CMC makes no assessment as to their merits. Participants are advised to make their own assessment as to whether to participate in these events.

## December 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](http://cmcboulder.org/Trips).*

*To view trips online and register:*

- ▶ Browse to [www.cmc.org](http://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](http://www.cmcboulder.org)

### Saturday, December 11

Rattlesnake Gulch - Eldorado Canyon State Park      Easy B

Casual pace

Follow Rattlesnake Gulch Trail 1.4 miles past spectacular views of the canyon and eastern plains to the remains of historic Craggs hotel, 600 feet above the trailhead. The trail continues as a .8 mile loop to a view of the Continental Divide and the railroad tracks, 1,200 feet above the trailhead, then returns back down the gulch. Total roundtrip distance about 3.6 miles. We'll hike &/or snowshoe depending on conditions. Contact trip leader Janine Fugere at [janine\\_fugere@yahoo.com](mailto:janine_fugere@yahoo.com) to sign up or for more information. Meeting place & time to be determined. Boulder Trail Mileage:4 Elevation Gain:1300 Topo Map(s):Eldorado Springs Leader: Janine A Fugere 303-931-6151 [janine\\_fugere@yahoo.com](mailto:janine_fugere@yahoo.com) Trip#13693

Brainard Lake Area

Easy III Ski Tour

Ski Skills Practice

Green Downhill Casual pace

Starting with the Lefthand Reservoir road, we will ski a loop with the Little Raven trail and either the North or South trails. Possible stop at the Brainard Lake cabin. Leader will provide tips and some time to practice. Register with leader BY PHONE between 9 AM and 9 PM only. Boulder Trail Mileage:7 Elevation Gain:400 Drive Distance:50 Topo

Map(s):Ward Leader:Steven Haymes  
303-444-4765 [srhaymes@yahoo.com](mailto:srhaymes@yahoo.com)  
Trip#13694

### Sunday, December 12

Dowdy Draw      Easy A

Take a leisurely ramble through one of Boulder's green belt areas. The hike starts at Eldorado Springs heading south up a gentle valley. Boulder Trail Mileage:4 Elevation Gain:100 Topo Map(s): Eldorado Springs Leader:Brenda Leach 303-525-3660 [brenda\\_leach@yahoo.com](mailto:brenda_leach@yahoo.com) Trip#13701

Brainard Lake Ski Tour

Easy class 3 ski tour. Drive 50 miles.

Ski 7 miles. 500' gain.

Drive to Red Rock trailhead near Brainard Lake. We will ski the Sourdough trail south to the lower Little Raven trail to the Lefthand Res. road on to the upper Little Raven trail to Brainard Lake and the Boulder group Cabin. Return on the Little Raven Trail to Lefthand Res. road Leader: Steve Priem 303-499-0577.

### Tuesday, December 14

Movie Night! Cliffhanger

Come watch possibly the most ridiculous climbing film ever made! Sylvester Stallone himself stars as a daring climber/ranger, with truly dramatic scenery from the Italian Dolomites to the Rockies -- and it even mentions Rocky Mountain Rescue! Rated R, released in 1993, we'll have fun pointing out all the technical errors in the outlandish climbing stunts and sharing trivia; for starters, Dave Breashears himself assisted in filming! No registration necessary; just come to the Clubroom. BYOB. Socializing 6:45-7pm. Movie: 7-9pm Boulder Leader: Rick Casey [caseyrick@gmail.com](mailto:caseyrick@gmail.com) Trip#13714

Avalanche Awareness Seminar

6:30-8:30pm, AMC

You can learn about snow and wind conditions which contribute to avalanche danger, as well as other tips to stay safe in the backcountry at an Avalanche Awareness Seminar presented by Colorado Avalanche Information Center (CAIC) professionals. The seminar will be held at Foss Auditorium, the American Mountaineering Center, 710 Tenth Street, Golden 80401. Free, open to the

public, no registration necessary.

### Thursday, December 16

Backcountry Film Festival, AMC Admission: \$10 online, \$12 at door The CMC's Backcountry Snowsports Initiative will host Winter Wildlands Alliance's 2010 Backcountry Film Festival at the Foss Auditorium in the American Mountaineering Center. Watch the latest films from Teton Gravity Research, Sweetgrass Productions, TreeFight, Snazz Media, Chris Davenport and Granite Films. Proceeds benefit CMC's conservation work. More info at [www.backcountryfilmfestival.org](http://www.backcountryfilmfestival.org)

### BMS Winter Schools Instructors Wanted

*by Cindy Gagnon, Winter BMS Director*

All Boulder Group schools provide great instruction thanks to the number of instructors who continue to volunteer their time and energy to share their knowledge. We are always looking for new instructors to keep these courses going. In addition, we are in dire need of a few people with great organization skills to help organize and lead the direction of some of the schools.

Students always wonder "why" so many CMC members volunteer their time to help teach these courses. Personally, being an instructor, sharing my skills with others, is incredibly rewarding. The excitement when someone reaches the top of the ice climb for the first time, the smiles on the faces after a good day of backcountry powder turns, and the laughter of a group of friends who only a few weeks earlier were strangers meeting at the CMC Clubroom for the first AMS lecture, makes it all worth it.

So if you've ever taken one of the winter schools, and would like to come back and help teach, please don't hesitate to volunteer. Or if you have some background and skills that you know would be of value to our winter program, we'd love to have you join our team. Please contact me at [bms@cmcboulder.org](mailto:bms@cmcboulder.org) to volunteer or for more info.

## Membership Anniversaries

At each Annual Dinner, members who have reached their 60, 50 and 40-year CMC anniversaries are recognized. This year we had one 60-year anniversary -- Julia Johnson. We had two 50-year anniversaries -- Albert Bartlett and Rodman Smythe. And, we had eight 40-year anniversaries -- Harlan N. Barton, Betsy Caplan, Joseph Cummings, Edwin Fenwick, Joseph Fromme, Esther Graw, Jim Long and Roger Rathburn. Congratulations to these long-term members of the CMC!

## Dates Set for BMS 2011 Courses

Although winter's just starting, it's not too early for students and instructors to plan ahead for next year's BMS courses. We have set the schedule for the full year. See the courses offered in the spring/summer at <http://www.cmcbooulder.org/bms/springSchedule.html>. See the courses offered in the fall at <http://www.cmcbooulder.org/bms/fallSchedule.html>. If you have any questions, contact Brenda Leach at [bms@cmcboulder.org](mailto:bms@cmcboulder.org).

## Calling All Backcountry Skiers!

The Boulder Group is offering two courses aimed at improving your skills, attitude and awareness while skiing/boarding in the backcountry. The Backcountry Ski Clinic starts in January and is aimed for those with intermediate area ski skills and minimal backcountry experience. Focus will be on survival skills, survival skiing and winter navigation, while skiing the backcountry areas in the Front Range. The Ski Mountaineering School starts in March and is geared toward the more proficient skier eager to develop more skills needed for ski mountaineering tours, such as descents of Colorado 13er's & 14er's in the spring and ski traverses in Europe and Canada. Both schools have some minimum requirements. More information and the applications can be found at [www.cmcbooulder.org](http://www.cmcbooulder.org) under "Training/Schools and Clinics." Contact Cindy at [bms@cmcboulder.org](mailto:bms@cmcboulder.org) for more information.

## Dale Johnson receives 2010 Ellingwood Award

The Ellingwood Mountaineering Achievement Award is given to those members who best reflect the CMC's climbing ethics, demonstrate and teach strong climbing skills, and who push the boundaries of climbing accomplishments in Colorado and around the world.

Previous recipients of the award are:

- ▶ 2002 Jim Gehres
- ▶ 2003 Terry Root
- ▶ 2004 Glenn Porzak
- ▶ 2005 Gary Neptune
- ▶ 2006 Gerry Roach
- ▶ 2007 Bob Martin
- ▶ 2008 Jack DePaghter
- ▶ 2009 Jean Aschenbrenner

This year's winner is Boulder Group member Dale Johnson.

The 1950's and 1960's were a golden age for rock climbing in Colorado and Dale Johnson pioneered seven first ascents during those decades, among them:

- ▶ The Second Buttress of the North Face of Halletts Peak,
- ▶ The South Face of the Matron
- ▶ The Red Garden Wall in Eldorado Canyon



Dale was the second to climb Shiprock in the Navajo Nation, and narrowly missed the first opportunity to climb the Diamond on Longs Peak when two Cali-

fornia climbers got the first permit from the Park Service.

His climbing bio includes climbs in New Zealand, East Africa, Peru, Canada, Nepal, Japan, Switzerland, and Italy.

Dale joined the CMC while a student at the University of Colorado. There, he may have gained his most enduring fame by being the first to painting the "C" in the "CU" on the Third Flatiron (later painted over in the more environmentally aware 1970's). For fun, he also climbed the Third Flatiron in roller skates.

Dale was an early leader of CMC overseas travel, leading trips to Peru, Kenya, New Zealand, Canada, and the European Alps.

A successful businessman, Dale is the inventor of Frostline Kits. He has been an adventurous pilot and has volunteered to pilot his plane for LightHawk Flights, surveying territory for environmental groups.

Like so many of you, Dale expressed his support of the CMC by being a generous contributor to the American Mountaineering Center Museum.



### *New Editor, from page 2*

I think the best thing is that the group encourages the community to get outdoors and to appreciate the wonderful activities that you can experience outside -- and many of them are right outside your door.

*Now that you're taking over the position of Compass Editor, is there anything in particular you're looking forward to about that?*

I've always really enjoyed reading my monthly Compass. I'm looking forward to helping make the Compass a fun and informative publication that many people can enjoy. I think that Rick and past editors have done a great job of developing the newsletter and seeking out relevant stories about our members and the local area. I'm eager to follow in their footsteps.

## A Close Call

by Rick Casey and Danielle Lewis

It started out a fine summer day, that Sunday on July 20, 2008. Danielle and I were off to climb Manifest Destiny, a recommended 5.7 route on the Left Book up at Lumpy Ridge, outside Estes Park. Danielle had been an assistant instructor in my Basic Rock School class, and had been coming along with her leading “trad climbing” (i.e. placing protection in cracks on lead), and was eager to show her skill on this 5.7. She was confident about it, since she had recently led a similar route in the same area. I was looking forward to a route I’d never done, in one of my favorite climbing areas.

On the hike in, Danielle’s ever-cheerful disposition busily engaged me in helping her memorize physical anatomy parts using flashcards she was using to study for an exam in her nursing school program. We saw few other climbers on the two mile hike in, and there was no one at the base of our route. Danielle led the first pitch in confident style, a steep 5.7 with good protection, to a perfect ledge, about 90 feet. I led the next pitch, which was a little more intricate, but not technically harder, over a small, waist-high overhang, then up to an awkward belay stance atop a small pillar. I got in solid pro for an anchor and belayed her up. As I was belaying though, gathering clouds began thundering, and I could see virga rain curtains approaching south from across the valley. A light sprinkle started by time she reached me, dampening the rock. We both felt pressured, as we had not brought rain jackets on this short route; but it was just one short, easy pitch to the walkoff ledge, so I was not overly concerned. Another climbing party had come up the crack to our right, and we would share the final pitch to the walkoff. Their leader had already set up a belay about 25 feet above us, and was belaying his partner up as Danielle started up. She would have to go straight up on easy (5.5) but steep crack, then make sharp direction to the left, so I warned to delay placing gear until she reached that point to avoid rope drag. She had just moved past the belay point of the other party, and had placed her first piece. When I saw that, I unclipped her rope from the directional biner on the anchor to remove the rope drag....

Danielle continues the story:

*What surprised me was how long I fell. As soon as I slipped and my piece pulled, I was just waiting for the rope to catch me. As I tumbled and scraped my way down the rock, past Rick, my belayer, I didn't even try to grab for the rock as I slid past. After a seeming eternity, I was jerked to a stop. Could what just happened really have happened? I heard someone shouting above me, but all I could think about was the wave of nausea that had just swept over me....*

Just after I unclipped the directional piece on the anchor, Danielle made one move past her piece, slipped on a wet, polished step, and her one piece pulled – I watched in disbelief as she went airborne above me, instantly realizing the seriousness of the event. As she fell the 20 feet towards, then past me, the loose coils of rope piled up in my lap, as I was in a sitting position, with my right leg draped over the edge of a pillar. In a flash, I realized I would not be able to pull the slack through my belay device in time to stop her fall, so I did what I could to scoop up the rope in my arms and secure it as best I could with my bare hands. In mere seconds, her full weight slammed at the end of the rope; the force pinned my right arm against my right leg. I was unable to move, and had no idea as to Danielle’s condition...

Danielle continues:

*“Take your weight off the rope!” After a few repetitions, I was aware enough to make sense of the words being shouted at me. Wondering why in the world someone would shout that, I righted myself. As I put my feet on the rock face and weighted my feet, my left knee felt like it was going to buckle – not to mention I had an overwhelming sense that I was going to vomit at any moment. I slumped back down into my harness but was immediately urged to stand back up again. Refusing to think about the extent of my injuries, I thought about one foot and hand at a time and climbed back to Rick. The details are blurry. I do remember thinking 1) where in the world is my helmet? 2) I am going to throw up at any time, and 3) I can't believe that just happened!*

When Danielle hit the end of the rope, she was about 30 feet below me, about 1/3 the way back down pitch two, just above the small roof. Her full weight was on my right wrist, where the rope had pinned in a tangled, but secure, mess; I immediately yelled down if she was all right and could she please get her weight on her feet. Disoriented, she gradually righted herself, and understood me enough to get her weight on her feet. This allowed me to untangle the rope from my right wrist, arm and leg, and take up the slack through my belay device. I tied her off to assess the situation. Danielle also had to disentangle herself from the rope, which had wrapped around her waist, even clipping through several biners attached to her harness. As she became more coherent, she appeared not to be seriously injured, but obviously quite shaken up and hurting. I considered lowering her to the ground, but quickly decided against it. I then asked if she wanted to prussick up; she nodded no, and said she would climb back up, which was a welcome surprise. I noted with grim surprise that she never screamed or cried during the whole episode. Slowly, but steadily, she repeated the moves up the pitch. As I tied her in, her communication was coherent, but slightly dazed and disoriented; yet, she was willing to belay me. Fortunately, the thunder and light rain had stopped, and skies were clearing -- at least for the time being. I started up the final pitch.

By this time, the other climbing party to our right (Jeremy and Kim) had completed the final pitch, witnessed Danielle’s huge fall, and were offering their assistance. I was glad to see they were competent, experienced climbers. I climbed up to their second climber, Kim, who waited for me at their anchor. I tied into their anchor, untied from my rope, giving it to Kim to trail, and backclip their pro with my rope on the final pitch. They then belayed me up, and I back-clipped the rope for Danielle. Finally, Danielle climbed up, cleaning the pitch.

Kim and Jeremy were a great help to us, relieving much of the stress of relying on our own. We still had to negotiate a steep descent back to the base of the climb, to our packs and first aid. Danielle had multiple abrasions all over, a deep cut  
*continued on page 6, Close Call*

*Close Call, from page 5*

just below her left knee (where she could see “white stuff”), and a big hematoma on her right hip. Once at our packs, we patched her up as best we could, glad her injuries were not more serious. Her pants on her right buttock had been torn, revealing her butt a bit, but which I didn’t mention until half-way down the descent, after her mood had lightened a bit. (Kim later helped tape up her torn pants, repairing her embarrassment at showing her underwear; I was glad for the female-to-female assistance.)

*Danielle:*

*After we had gathered our things and were walking back to the car, Rick finally mentioned that my pink underwear was hanging out of my ripped pants. I was mortified. I just took the biggest fall of my life, but all I could think about was that my ass had been hanging out of my pants for the past couple of hours! Back in Boulder I was remarkably given a clean bill of health from the doctor.*

*So what happened?! After the denial of what happened, I became angry and embarrassed that I had placed something that pulled. As we walked back to the car, I wanted nothing more than to march back to that route and lead it again. However, after my urgent care visit and numerous statements of, “You are SO lucky,” I wasn’t so pissed off anymore — although still a bit embarrassed. The gravity (no pun intended) of what happened had begun to sink in. I took a factor two fall of at least 40 feet. Had so many little factors been slightly altered, the outcome could have been much different. Thinking I needed to get back on the horse, the following weekend my little brother and I climbed Batman and Robin in Lumpy Ridge. Mistake! I was a shaking, crying, hyperventilating mess. I had read stories of some amazing climbers who took some pretty serious falls who just got back out there like nothing had happened, and I wanted to be that kind of person so badly. I had expectations that after maybe a few months of some super easy leading I’d be back out there and wouldn’t let the fall affect me. Well, it’s been two years and four months since the accident, and every time I step out onto a rock I think about that fall. When I started climbing, I thought that after four or five years I’d*

*definitely be leading 5.10 trad. It’s been five years since I started climbing, and I’m leading easy 5.7 trad and top rope 5.10. Embarrassed that someone will think I am using a fall from almost two and half years ago as an excuse for not climbing harder or for having my brief moments of inability to move (due to overwhelming thoughts of falling), I just mumble something about my head messing with me and crack a joke. Over this past year, I’ve learned to accept where my climbing is instead of being embarrassed at where I think it should be. As a friend of mine pointed out, it is what it is. If I climb harder, great; if not, great. As long as I enjoy what I’m doing and do it safely, that’s what matters.*

*What did I learn from all this? 1) Wear your helmet! It certainly saved my noggin – and likely my life. 2) Even if the climbing is easy, place gear when you have it. I easily could have prevented that long fall by placing gear lower on the pitch and avoided rope drag by extending it. 3) Focus on the task at hand. Although it was important that we were aware of the weather, if I wasn’t so preoccupied with the weather and moving fast, I would have placed better gear. 4) Make sure you and your partner know basic self-rescue techniques. It was fortunate there was another party to help us and that I was able to move under my own power, but in the back of my mind it was a relief that both Rick and I had enough knowledge to get ourselves out of the situation. 5) Stay calm. It’s much easier said than done, but if I had panicked, it would have made the situation much more difficult. 6) If your partner’s underwear is hanging out of her pants, tell her sooner rather than later! 7) Remember why you started climbing in the first place. I’ve been so worried about saving face the past couple of years that I’ve just recently remembered that the whole reason I started climbing is because I love the places it takes me to, the people I get to spend time with, and how wonderful it feels to move in that kind of way! 8) In the words of a friend of mine, “Climb on!”*

In closing, I was glad that Danielle had healed enough to write about her close call. I am thankful her injuries were no worse, and that she had made a strong

comeback. The only mistake we made, I believe, was getting too rushed by the weather conditions, and my telling Danielle to avoid rope drag by not placing too much pro — a bad decision in hindsight!

I met Danielle about a week after the accident, and we shared our injury stories. I had a puncture wound on the back of my right knee that had been draped over the pillar, and a mean bruise on my right arm where the rope had pinned it. Danielle easily bested those with much more impressive cuts and bruises, that were all healing; but she was still smiling. I knew she would make it back to climb again someday...



*Danielle on top of Long’s Peak, 2010, still smiling...*

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*Annual Dinner, continued from page 1*  
San Ignacio, near the Baja region of Mexico. Don Walker stepped in to fill Deb’s shoes, hit the ground running, and did a splendid job of coordinating all the final details to make the dinner a great success.

Many others deserve recognition for helping with the success of the dinner, including (but surely not limited to, so apologies to anyone inadvertently omitted): Paul Raab for lining up the guest speaker and helping to market the event; Rick Casey for putting together the annual slideshow and managing all the audio-visual for the event (including arranging the addition of rented spotlights for the speakers this year, which really

*continued on page 7, Annual Dinner*

*Annual Dinner, continued from page 6*

improved the ability to see the speakers in front of the screen); Donna Marino for making and serving the punch; Gary Schmidt, our talented pianist, for providing musical entertainment; Gillian Collins for making the centerpieces; Steve Priem for organizing the recycling and composting; and Jim Groh, Tom Wilson, and Janine Fugere for photographing the event and putting together the CMC Boulder Annual Dinner 2010 online photo album, which can be viewed at this link: [http://bit.ly/cmc\\_ad2010\\_pics](http://bit.ly/cmc_ad2010_pics)

The early portion of the evening included socializing, punch and beverages, followed by the dinner, which again included delicious potluck contributions brought by the attendees. We are grateful for our teenage food servers from Fairview High School who, sadly, will soon graduate. Maybe the girls will still be interested in the job after graduation, but if not, we'll have to find some other members with teenagers we can hire to help with future dinners!

Following the potluck dinner, Council Chair, John Fernandez initiated the Annual Meeting and spoke about significant events in the club's past year and his experiences as Chair. The Ellingwood Award recipient was then announced and Membership Anniversaries were recognized. A very touching portion of the evening was John's recounting of the accomplishments of our beloved Clubroom Manager, Sheila Delamere, honoring her retirement from this position, which is now being handled totally by a team of volunteers. Next came John's announcement of the slate of new Council Officer nominees for 2011: Janine Fugere – Chair, Roger Drake – Vice Chair, Holly Freeman – Treasurer (3rd term), Lorna Greeno – Secretary, and Jill Yarger – Member at Large. Stan Hunting made his traditional motion to accept the slate of nominees and the members on the floor unanimously voted to elect the new Council Officers. Janine then made a brief speech speaking of how honored she is to take on the role of Council Chair and she accepted the ceremonial CMC Branding Iron from John. One of the most surprising highlights of the evening was John's singing a song he'd written to commemorate his year as

Council Chair – who knew how well John could sing?!?! (His song lyrics are published separately). Janine then presented John with his traditional Council Chair pin before we moved on to our keynote speaker for the evening. The speaker was Howard Snyder, who led the 1967 Colorado McKinley Expedition and reached the summit with fellow Coloradans Paul Schlichter and Jerry Lewis. They were forced to combine with a Seattle group for the climb, with fatal consequences. The expedition, one of the most controversial in North American mountaineering history, was chronicled in the 2007 book *Forever on the Mountain*, and in Howard's 1973 book, *The Hall of the Mountain King*. It was very poignant hearing Snyder speak of what Boulder was like in the 1950's and 1960's and crediting CMC with giving him the skills he needed to learn mountaineering and likely to have helped save their lives on that fateful expedition. He went on to chronicle the expedition itself, narrating a slideshow with a commentary on their experiences. Also touching was watching the reactions of, Paul Schlichter, who was present in the audience, while Snyder recounted their expedition. Near the end of the speech, Snyder held up a painting that had been made showing Schlichter setting off a flare on the summit of McKinley. It was an honor to have both men at the dinner, as well as to



*Let's eat! The first people through the food line help themselves at the 2010 Annual Dinner...*

have Snyder recognize the value of CMC for obtaining quality mountaineering training.

Thus the 2010 Annual Dinner came to its conclusion, and countless members helped with cleanup of the Avalon Ballroom at the event's end. As always, the Dinner was a wonderful conclusion to another great year for our CMC Boulder

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## A New CMC Theme Song?

Annual dinner attendees got a special treat at this year's business meeting when the outgoing Chair, John Fernandez, surprised and delighted everyone by concluding his presentation with an original little ditty which he sang in a clear and confident tenor, shown below.

*(sung to the tune of "Edelweiss")*

*Ain't it nice,*

*We've got a vice,*

*Hiking and climbing and skiing.*

*Grab your spouse,*

*Get out of the house,*

*To the mountains we treasure.*

*High above Boulder,*

*We gladly go, gladly go,*

*Forever...*

*Ain't it nice,*

*CMC is our vice,*

*Bless the highlands forever!*

(Do you think it might become the new CMC theme song?)

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*Editor's Note, continued from page 1*

ready to take on the position with full confidence.

Another new position that was filled is Eric Brehm, who is our new Outings Chair, taking over from Gary Schmidt. Gary really extended himself over the last four years in the position, often coming all the way from Loveland for the Council meetings. In a novel arrangement, Eileen Monyok has volunteered to be the assistant Outings Chair. We look forward to their contributions.

The next new face in the Council crowd will be Roger Drake as the Vice Chair. I met Roger as a student in the Ice Climbing class last winter, and am sure he'll step up to the job in fine fashion. Roger has also taken Hiking 1 and 2, Basic Rock, Ice and Snow Schools. Lorna Greeno is also joining the Council as Boulder Group Council Secretary after years as a volunteer instructor in Hiking 1 and 2 schools.

Finally, I took the liberty of writing an extended story of a close call of a climbing accident I shared with Danielle Lewis a couple of years ago. I was hesitant to ask Danielle if she was ready to tell this story, but indeed she was, and we both hope it will help to prevent future

climbing accidents.

I will continue to be active in the Club, leading trips and instructing, but will be glad for the time for other activities. As with any volunteer position, it is advisable to allow new volunteers to take over and provide fresh leadership. I've seen the CMC change a lot over the years since 2003 when I came on board, and am sure it will continue to evolve and survive as the worthy organization it indeed is.

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