Editor's Note

As spring approaches, everyone is eager to get outdoors and have some fun. Check out our great offering of trips for this month (page 3). Thanks to our great volunteer leaders, several trips have been added to accommodate new graduates of CMC’s Basic Rock School. We still need help, though. The Boulder Group has several opening for volunteers, so please help if you can (see page 2).

Also, special thanks to Frank Harris for sharing a great tale of survival and lessons learned in the wilderness. His story is a reminder that even when the weather isn’t frigid, it’s still possible to be at risk for frostbite and other cold weather hazards.

— Donna Marino
Compass Editor

Chilling Experiences
-contributed by Frank Harris

What kind of weather is most likely to make you miserable and cause long lasting disability? Most mountaineers would probably say below zero temperatures and high wind. Those conditions are certainly deadly, but my worst cold experiences have been in early spring and late fall. The weather wasn’t particularly cold, maybe 35 - 40 degrees Fahrenheit, but it sure was wet and that was a killer.

Consider this scenario: Two years ago in November a friend and I snowshoed up to Sky Pond in Rocky Mountain National Park. We took the trail up the cliff next to the waterfall just below the “Lake of Glass.” The rocky ledges were icy, but not impassible. When we arrived at the top of the cliff we were at the end of the Lake of Glass and were somewhat confined by rock outcrops and bunches of willows. The convenient way forward was to walk across the lake

Don’t trust lake ice in the Spring and Fall!

Since it was November, I was nervous that it might not be frozen solid. The ice was blown free of snow and I could see into the clear ice at least 3 or 4 inches. I beat on the ice with my axe and found it rock hard. My ancient Boy Scout handbook claimed that one inch of ice can support one person and four inches can support horse-drawn sleighs. We walked west across the Lake of Glass and snowshoed up to Sky Pond which is at least a hundred feet higher in elevation. 

continued on page 4
Chair’s Report

Transitions seem to be the way of the world in any volunteer organization and our Boulder Group of CMC is no exception. Amidst just running day-to-day business of the club, we’ve come to have several key leadership positions which need to be filled. As Chair of the Club, it is hard not to feel personally responsible to ensure that everything which is supposed to get done indeed gets done, and yet, none of us can do it all, least of all me.

For this reason, I’m putting out calls for help in a number of areas. We need people interested in stepping up to a fill quite a few roles, including: a new Conservation Chair, Cabins Chair, GPS Editor (weekly e-newsletter), Hiking School Director for BMS, and a Marketing Director. I’m probably even forgetting something, because so much is on my mind. I’d like to put out a call to all our membership to seriously consider if they can help in any of these capacities.

As we try to operate even amidst these vacancies, there is such amazing dedication on the part of countless volunteers who help keep our club running strong. I am currently serving as both the group Chair and the Interim Hiking School Director (and truly need to find a new Hiking Director before the Fall Schools). There are a number of other folks who are wearing more than one hat (or more than two hats even) and are serving in roles they’ve stepped up to fill, in order to help tide us over until those positions are taken on by new volunteers.

In the midst of all this transition, both the daily activities of the club go on, as well as the demands of getting our new clubroom ready for our impending move. I send out HUGE thanks to everyone who is volunteering in some capacity or other, on Council, in BMS, as Trip Leaders & Outings Coordinators, as Instructors, and with our Clubroom Move.

I also send out a plea to all members to step up to volunteering for one of the aforementioned vacant positions if there is any way possible, or to recommend someone you think would be good if you are not able to help. We are only as strong as our volunteerism and we are currently in need of help. Please seriously consider if you may be able to give more in some way.

Respectfully submitted,
— Janine Fugere, Boulder Chair

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.

GPS Editor Wanted
If you have about three hours each week, we need help compiling and editing the GPS. As the editor of the GPS you’ll be among the first to know of club happenings and events in the outdoor community in and around Boulder. If interested, email gps@gmail.com

Clubroom Move Volunteers Needed
Have a pickup truck or van? Help is needed to transport lumber for our new clubroom renovations. Please contact Chuck Hardesty at chinboulder@yahoo.com if you have a truck or van and can help. Chuck will also need assistance with building our new gear storage area, so please let him know if you have handyman skills and are willing to help. Volunteers are also still needed to sort out records, archives, and all the other “stuff” in the old clubroom. Please contact Jill Yarger at jill.yarger@prodigy.net to help.

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.

Instructors Wanted for Summer BMS Session

The summer session of the Boulder Mountaineering School (BMS) is looking for instructors to help teach our courses. The school directors will be contacting past instructors, but feel free to contact them first. The course schedule may be found online at www.cmcboulder.org/bms/springSchedule.html. For more information or to volunteer, contact the school directors: Snow Schools, Jim Leffingwell, snow@cmcboulder.org; Rock Leading School, Clint Locks, rls@cmcboulder.org. Instructors, your time and efforts are much appreciated!

Forest Service Raptor Closures

The Forest Service has lifted all Raptor Closures in Boulder Canyon. All climbing areas are open. For more information about additional closures, see http://1.usa.gov/TJcDq
May 2011 Trips & Activities

Editor's note: The following is a list of BCMC trips and events for the month. It is possible that trips may change or be 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

Sunday, May 1

Wednesday, May 4
After Work Social Hike, Moderate 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. Leader: Steven Haymes

Wednesday, May 11
After Work Social Hike, Moderate A See description above for May 4 hike Leader: Marilyn Fellows

Thursday, May 12 - Sunday, May 15
Technical Canyoneering in North Wash, Utah area Prerequisite: BRS-B Day trips from base camp (car camping) into various canyons in the North Wash area. See local practice sessions on the April calendar for more information. Leader: Jill Yarger jill.yarger@prodigy.net

Saturday, May 14
Castle Rock (West Face, Boulder Canyon) Level I Climb, Difficulty: 5.5 A fun 2-pitch climb for newer trad climbers. Requires a variety of techniques. Rappel off. Leader: Gary Schmidt, gsch@frii.com.

Sunday, May 15
Mt. Meeker via Dreamweaver Couloir Difficulty D-E Pace: Fast Difficulty: Semi-technical Dreamweaver in one day! Early start, long tough day. Only for people in good shape. Crampons, ice axe, and one ice tool. Trail mileage: 6 miles Elevation gain: 2000 ft. Prerequisite: BMS-B Driving Distance: 70 miles Leader: Kent M. Crites kentcritics@aol.com 303-284-3059

Sunday, May 15
James Peak (13,294‘) Adv II Ski Tour Difficulty: Ski Mountaineering Prerequisite: Avalanche School A classic Front Range high alpine tour and a relatively safe introduction to ski mountaineering. Strong telemark/downhill skills, climbing skins, and avalanche gear required. Limit 7. Register with leader BY PHONE at 303-444-4765 between 9 AM and 9 PM only. Led by Steven Haymes

Wednesday, May 18
Boulder CMC Open House Boulder Clubroom (around the corner from Neptune’s in Table Mesa Shopping Center), 7-8 pm Want to learn more or share your knowledge about the CMC? New and prospective CMC members, join us at this open house. Experienced CMC members, share your enthusiasm and knowledge about club activities like hiking, camping, peak bagging, rock climbing, snowshoeing, cross-country skiing and more. BRING A FRIEND! Host: Samuel Levis

Friday, May 20
Fandango Variation /First Flatiron Level II Climb, Difficulty: 5.6 This variation to Fandango follows a left-facing dihedral and then rejoins the standard Fandango route. The variation is 5-6 pitches long. Priority given to recent BRS grads. Leader: Brenda Leach brenda_leach@yahoo.com

Wednesday, May 25
After Work Social Hike, Easy A Meet at the Boulder clubroom between 5:45 - 6 pm. We will depart in carpools by 6:15 pm for a social hike along one of the local Boulder trails. Just show up at the Boulder clubroom. This outing is for casual hikers who enjoy each others’ company, talking along the trail, and sharing snacks along the way. Leader: Karen L Baldwin.

Saturday, May 28
The Slab, I Climb The Slab is the huge parallellogram-shaped monolith stretching across the lower east face of Bear Pk. Join us for six pitches of regulation Flatiron slab climbing after a pleasant approach on the Shanahan trail system. Excellent climb for recent Basic Rock School grads to climb and practice rope management. Leader: Eric Brehm eric_brehm@comcast.net

Sunday, May 29
Watermark Toproping, Difficulty: 5.7 After crossing Boulder Creek on a Tyrolean, we’ll play around on a friendly, moderate crag (5.7 - 5.10 routes). Priority given to recent BRS grads. Leader: John Fernandez jfastertix@gmail.com, 303-726-5189

Sunday, May 29
The Hammerhead (East Face & Yodeling Moves I Climb, Difficulty: 5.2 Discover a 50-foot arch on this 400-foot spire accessed from Sentinel Pass on the Royal Arch Trail. The last pitch up the west side of the summit block is steep and spectacular and riddled with ‘yodeling moves’. An excellent climb for recent Basic Rock School grads to practice climbing and rope management skills. Leader: Eric Brehm eric_brehm@comcast.net
I assumed Sky Pond must be equally frozen. My only hint of trouble was that the ice was covered with deep snow. I clomped out onto Sky Pond and abruptly found myself sinking into slush and water. I threw myself forward onto the snow and used the flat of my ice axe handle to help support my weight. I didn’t touch bottom and managed to crawl out and back to shore. I was wet to my belly, but at least I was safe. The wind was bitter and howling but thankfully my pack was still dry. I covered behind a large boulder and replaced my sopping wet ski gloves with dry mittens. It’s amazing how much colder the world feels when you’re soaked.

I concluded that my best chance to avoid frozen feet was to hike out of there ASAP. Rather than risk the trail down the cliff, we went down the talus and steep snow bank on the east side of the cliff. We hiked as fast as possible and sure enough, by the time we got back to the Glacier Gorge trailhead, my clothes had largely dried, or drained, and my feet were almost warm. Whew!

That was a close call. If I’d sunk in all the way and couldn’t climb out of the lake, I would have been beyond saving within minutes. If I had climbed out but had been forced to spend hours up there without the heat of exercise, I’ll bet my hands and feet would have been seriously damaged.

**Wet snow storms**

In November 2010 I had a brush with another spring/fall nemesis - wet snow storms. Two friends and I drove up to Summit Lake on Mt. Evans. We parked there and hiked out to Mt. Rosalie which is on the south side of Mt. Evans at the end of a 4 mile tundra ridge. The ridge includes Mt. Epaulet. From Mt. Epaulet, the ridge turns east to Rosalie. The day was coldish, 35 or 40 degrees, with a stiff, 30-40 mph wind blowing out of the north-west. An unbroken gray ceiling hovered over Mt. Evans. It wasn’t pleasant, but there seemed no reason not to proceed.

We arrived at Rosalie at noon and hunkered down out of the wind behind the big rocks on the summit for a quick lunch. I was munching granola when I noticed that Mt. Evans was disappearing into the clouds. I stood up and whipped out my nifty new electronic combination watch & compass. I quickly took a bearing on Mt. Epaulet. I felt smug about being ready for blind navigation back to Mt. Evans.

**Being lost doesn’t happen like you thought it would**

In case you’ve never been lost in the fog, I should explain that when you’re turned around, you usually won’t believe it. You’ll be hiking through the gloom certain that you’re on course. But after a while, just to be sure, you’ll check your compass. The compass will indicate 180 degrees from what you expected. Since you were confident of your course, you’ll doubt the compass. The first time it happens, it will occur to you that maybe the red end of the needle doesn’t point north. Maybe red means “danger!”

Don’t go there! Funny thing - when you already know which way is north, it never occurs to you to look closely at the color of the needle.

**Magnetic anomalies?**

So, you and your friends all believe that north is the opposite direction. They get out their compasses and, sure enough, all the compasses are 180 degrees wrong. You are all agreed: “It must be a magnetic anomaly!” Yes, magnetic anomalies exist, but I only know of one. It’s a deposit of magnetite near Caribou, Colorado. It will shift your compass 90 degrees to the west. However, if you walk 50 yards in any direction, the needle will return to north. If you insist on believing your anomaly theory, just walk a hundred yards and you’ll almost certainly be past that exceedingly rare phenomenon.

Many years ago the anomaly scenario happened to a team of rescuers up on Mt. Sherman in a snow storm. After they had loaded their plane crash patients onto a helicopter, they began to walk out but the storm resumed with a vengeance. They all agreed that the compasses were wrong and walked north instead of south. Their two hour hike to safety became a day long ordeal. Don’t do that!

We three old guys have been lost in fog numerous times. Consequently we were serenely confident of my compass bearing. The descending clouds swallowed us and the wind pelted us with wet, stinging snow flakes. We put our food away and dressed in our warmest clothes. I put on my puffy down parka, then added an oversized GoreTex® parka over the down. My pants were heavy wool with two layers of polypropylene long Johns. My boots were heavy leather and lined with sheep fleece. I wore big, bulky ski gloves. I have happily hiked and camped in this garb in zero temperatures. Cold wouldn’t get me! Bob and Harvey were equally well dressed and I figured we were more than ready for this dinky snowstorm.

We set out following the compass bearing. We were toasty warm in spite of the incessant blast of snow in our faces and made good progress for about 20 minutes. Then Bob had a call of nature and stopped to do his business. By the time he had cleaned up, his gloves and hands were soaked and his fingers had lost their feeling. We had to help him button his pants. We began hiking again, but now the melting snow was beginning to soak through our clothes. We were cool and damp and not so well dressed after all.

Harvey put on a backpacker’s poncho which worked well for a few minutes. But soon the wind popped the snaps open and the entire poncho was flapping behind him like Superman’s cape. I began to doubt my compass heading when we seemed to be downhill much farther than necessary to reach the saddle between Epaulet and Rosalie.

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**Compass Ad Rates**

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- ads must be prepaid
- can be black and white or color in PDF or JPG format.
- contact: compass@cmeboulder.org
I stared at the electronic compass critically. I slowly rotated the watch 360 degrees. No matter which direction I pointed it, the compass indicated bearings that were approximately south-west. Oops. Dying coin cell battery.

I took off my pack and got out my trusty old-tech compass and hung the lanyard around my neck. Sure enough, we were 45 degrees off course. Fortunately, climbing a mountain is easy to navigate in a blizzard. You just walk uphill until it’s downhill in all directions. By hiking northwest we eventually arrived on top of Epaulet. From Epaulet I had no exact bearing, but I knew that northwest would be close enough to hit the Mt. Evans highway on the south side of that mountain. If we didn’t go downhill steeply to the right or left, we were bound to hit the highway.

We slogged into the stiff wind while the snow plastered our faces and bodies with slush. We could only watch our feet because the snow covered our goggles in seconds whenever we glanced up. Bob and Harvey got out their compasses too, but their numb hands couldn’t grip the compasses firmly. My big ski gloves were cold and sopping wet and weighed an extra pound each. Fortunately they were so thick, the ice-water in the gloves remained warm enough to keep my fingers somewhat functional. And because I had a compass lanyard, I became the sole navigator.

The terrain was rolling tundra studied with snow-covered rocks. As we stumbled along, we were constantly weaving right and left to avoid the rocks. We yelled back and forth to keep our little team together. Every 50 feet or so, I lifted the compass on my fist to take a bearing. Every time I did, I was off course by 90 degrees because of the constant zig-zaging around the boulders. Needless to say, we were continually disoriented. After half an hour we all began to shiver. Another bad sign. After another half hour we were dropping off steeply to the left, presumably toward Abyss lake - not good. We shifted course 45 degrees to the right and pressed on.

After yet another hour of semi-wandering, we couldn’t believe that we hadn’t reached the highway. By now our clothes were soaked through and our feet squished in our soggy boots. We were shivering more violently and began to doubt our plan. We realized that it was only our exercise that was preventing serious hypothermia. Good plan or bad, we had to keep walking. If one of us became incapacitated, caring for that person was going to be nearly impossible.

I took off my pack and dug out my old GPS. One of our several mistakes was not bothering to take a waypoint when we left the highway. It never occurred to us that we would have to find it again by Braille. My fingers were too clumsy to operate the buttons. I tried to use my canine teeth to push the buttons, but that worked poorly. The point of my ice axe was adequate and I soon I had our coordinates. With a howling blizzard, no topo map and no ruler, the precise UTM numbers were useless.

I imagined fumbling with a flapping, slush-spattered map and ruler in that gale - impractical! At least the GPS confirmed that we were walking north. Unfortunately the map display on my GPS was minimal and only told us that we were headed toward “Georgetown” - not very helpful.

After 3.5 hours we arrived at the paved highway. From there, navigating around Mt. Evans to Summit Lake was effortless. And wouldn’t you know it, once we were close to the car, the storm relented and we could see for hundreds of yards. On the drive home Harvey and I thawed out pretty well. However, Bob’s fingers on one hand remained numb for several weeks and they are still ultra-sensitive to cold.

In other words, Bob’s fingers had a case of “trench foot,” just like those wretched soldiers in the WWI muddy trenches. It turns out that 3.5 hours is enough to damage your fingers for months and maybe years. Another friend of mine had a comparable but more severe non-freezing assault on his fingers. It took 40 years for his fingers to recover.

So what did we learn?

1. Sometimes it may be safer to bivouac behind a rock wrapped in a truly waterproof tarp and wait for the storm to pass.

2. GoreTex® that isn’t cleaned properly leaks like a sieve. We might as well have been wearing parkas made from wet cotton bedsheets. You’re supposed to wash your GoreTex® with special detergents, such as Granger’s One Step Wash and Waterproofer.

3. Buy truly waterproof gloves. Duck hunters and scuba divers faced up to this problem long ago and there are plenty of specialty gloves that solve the problem. As soon as we got our new gloves home, we held them under cold water for five minutes to prove that they really are WATERPROOF, and not just “ kinda water resistant.”

4. If you have a GPS, take waypoints when you pass through critical navigational points. You’ll be surprised how often you find them helpful.

5. Always bring a real compass. Never trust a #$%^&* electronic compass in any situation in which navigation is critical. Keep your compass on a lanyard around your neck or strap it to your forearm so you can use it easily with frozen fingers.

6. And finally, trust your compass! Believe that the red end of the compass needle points north. Take bearings on landmarks before the darkness and clouds descend on you.
Rock Leading School 2011

The 2011 Rock Traditional Leading School is coming up! In this school, we will cover the safe and effective use of natural and artificial protection, construction of simple and complex anchors during multi-pitch climbs, and other skills needed of a traditional rock climbing leader. Students will also practice safe and efficient construction of belay anchors and discuss route finding and lead rack management. Prerequisites for this class are CMC Basic Rock School or its equivalence. Sign-up preference is given to BRS assistants and aspiring rock trip leaders.

You must be able to attend all meetings of the school. If you miss, everyone is affected. The dates of the school are:

- Introductory lecture: Wednesday, June 1st at 7:00 PM, CMC Club Room (next to Neptune)
- Field trip #1: Saturday, June 11th, all day, location to be determined by instructor
- Field trip #2: Saturday, June 18th, all day, location to be determined by instructor
- Field trip #3: Saturday, June 25th, all day, location to be determined by instructor

Go to www.cmcboulder.org/bms/rls.html for the RLS letter, application and student waivers.

Field Trip descriptions

Traditional Rock Leading School
Introductory Lecture
Wednesday, June 1st
Boulder Group CMC Clubroom, 7 p.m.
For those registered for the 2011 Rock Traditional Leading School, the course begins today. Discussion will focus on safety considerations and psychological factors associated with making the transition to the sharp end of the rope.

Traditional Rock Leading School
Field Trip 1
Saturday, June 11th
This is the 1st of 3 field trips for the 2011 Rock Traditional Leading School participants. The use of natural and artificial protection, construction of belay anchors, racking of equipment and placement of gear on lead will be introduced. This field trip is only open to students of the CMC Rock Leading School. Contact your pre-determined instructor for meeting time and place.

Traditional Rock Leading School
Field Trip 2
Saturday, June 18th
This is the 2nd of 3 field trips for the 2011 Rock Trad Leading School participants. Students will practice placing protection, extending placements with runners, clipping the lead rope and construction belay anchors on single-pitch climbs. This field trip is only open to students of the CMC Rock Leading School. Contact your pre-determined instructor for meeting time and place.

Traditional Rock Leading School
Field Trip 3
Saturday, June 25th
This is the last of 3 field trips for 2011 Rock Trad Leading School participants. It will emphasize multi-pitch leading techniques, including route finding and lead rack management. This field trip is only open to students of the CMC Rock Leading School. Contact your instructor for meeting time and place.

Monthly Program - May 12

Join Gabi Pfister and Tim McKeon as they share photos and stories of their two-week long trip to the Chilean part of Patagonia past February. Gabi and Tim will talk about trekking “The W” in Torres del Paine, climbing Volcan Osorno in the Lake District and tell you about an overnight beach hike in Parque Nacional Chiloe. They will also highlight places to go if you dream of wandering around thousands of penguins or indulging in delicious “Kuchen”. The presentation is at 7 pm on May 12 in the Clubroom.

Boulder Climbing Community Clean-up Day

Take part in the BCC Castle Rock Clean-up and Celebration on Friday, May 20 at 4 PM. This is the Boulder Canyon Stewardship kick-off event. Help with restoration and clean up, then socialize and, if there’s time, climb! Please RSVP to Tony Bubb (tonybubb@gmail.com). Visit www.boulderclimbingcommunity.net for more info. Contact Tony with any questions.
Display Honors Franz Mohling

- submitted by Richard A. Jones

About a dozen Boulder CMC members accompanied Franz Mohling on the 1981 Iowa Mountaineers expedition to the Cordillera Blanca of Peru. I was one of them. On the final climb of Huascaran, on the summit day, I ended up with Franz and another as a three-man rope team. I saved one wand for the summit and it is in all our photos. As we were leaving the summit I had the thought to pluck it out, put it in my pack and bring it back to Boulder.

I took lots of stunning Kodachrome slides on the trip. It was easy with bright sun and blue skies. But it was always very difficult to produce a good photographic print from such high-contrast slides. Then came the digital revolution and about five years ago I had those slides scanned. That started me thinking about the summit photo of Franz with the wand.

A couple of years ago I met Gary Neptune on the Little Raven trail and mentioned what I was thinking and asked if he would have an interest in hanging it in his mountaineering museum in his Boulder store. He was very positive about the idea.

This summer will be the 30th anniversary of that trip to Peru, and 29 years since Franz was killed on Mt Logan. Franz was an important member of the mountaineering community, both in Seattle and in Boulder. He had first ascents on three continents, was an original contributor to Freedom of the Hills, was the director of the Boulder CMC Mountaineering School and chairman of the Boulder Group. His infectious enthusiasm attracted many to come and love the mountains. He was my friend. I hope this display helps keep his memory alive.

Next time you are in Neptune Mountaineering, check out the wall behind the tents to see the new display memorializing Franz Mohling.

Boulder City Council Votes on West TSA Proposal

At the March 30th meeting, the Boulder City Council did not approve the WTSA Proposal as it was presented. City Council unanimously rejected banning dogs from the Saddlerock/EM Greenman & the Tenderfoot/Chapman trails. City Council did agree, however, with the WTSA Proposal’s refusal to permit a mountain bike trail to be built between the Shanahan Ridge area and the Doudy Draw area. City Council also wanted some additional horse restrictions. Finally, City Council went as far as suggesting that OSMP look at restricting off trail access in Natural Areas (which was not in the WTSA proposal). This restriction, if OSMP decides to approve it, would restrict climbers from accessing the less popular Flatiron climbs, where there are no existing or proposed trails leading to the base of the climbs or leading down as you bushwhack back after the climbs.

Access Fund and Jefferson County Open Space Host Adopt-a-Crag Day

Access Fund is looking for volunteers to build cairns and assist with light trail maintenance in Cathedral Spires Park in Jefferson County on Saturday, May 14. Meet at the large pullout below the Spires along Platte River Road (County Rd. 96) at 8:30 am. Open Space will provide gloves and any necessary tools. This event will coincide with the implementation of a spot closure at Cathedral Spires Park. The spot closure will allow climbers to climb in designated areas, while ensuring the success of the local raptor population. Participants are asked to register in advance by emailing Mike Morin (mmorin@jeffco.us).
Looking for a Hiking School Director

We are in need of a new Hiking School Director for the Boulder Mountaineering Schools. The Hiking School covers Hiking & Survival Essentials, Hiking Navigation, Backpacking School, & GPS Navigation. The Hiking School Director works with the BMS Director to set dates for the schools, coordinates instructors & assistants for the lectures, and coordinates Trip Leaders & assistants for the Field Trips. An extensive support system of regular volunteers for all of these positions is in place.

For the 2011 spring & summer schools, all of the field trips and lectures have been scheduled and all of the instructors and trip leaders have been chosen as well. You will receive guidance and training from past Hiking School Directors and other people who are longstanding volunteers in the schools.

If you, or anyone you know is interested, please contact Janine Fugere at chair@cmcboulder.org or Brenda Leach at bms@cmcboulder.org

Hardware Replacement Days for Overhang Rock

On May 21st and 22nd The Flatirons Climbing Council (FCC) and volunteers will upgrade the aging fixed hardware on the Overhang Rock formation with new bolts and anchors. Overhang Rock is located on the south side of Bear Canyon in the Central Flatirons and hosts classic routes such as Snake Watching, The Big Picture and many others. In total, eight routes and approximately 50 bolts will receive an upgrade with stainless steel, ½” bolts and anchors. The American Safe Climbing Association (ASCA) and the Anchor Replacement Initiative (ARI) have generously donated hardware.

FCC Board Member Ted Lanzano, with the City of Boulder’s Open Space and Mountain Parks’ approval, is coordinating the effort. If you are interested in volunteering or learning the proper bolt-replacement technique please contact Ted at tlanzano@gmail.com.

Clubroom Moving Sale

Surplus items from our current clubroom will be for sale along with the early version of our Mountain Parks and Open Space trail map and the 75 year history of the CMC. The sale will be held on Saturday June 11th and Sunday June 12th at the Boulder CMC Clubroom, 633 S. Broadway Unit N, around the west corner from Neptune Mountaineering Store. The sale will run from 10 AM to 2 PM both days. Two weeks before the event there will be a listing of the specific items for sale in GPS. Currently, we do not have a date for the move to the new clubroom. As it is a smaller space, it cannot house all our possessions. Come and socialize and enjoy refreshments.

Monthly Programs Needed

We’re looking for Boulder group members to present monthly programs of their choosing from May through Oct “which are always the best programs”.

Pick any date that’s open on the clubroom calendar (not just Wednesdays) and submit a request for that date to clubroomscheduler@cmcboulder.org

We welcome suggestions on topics that members would like to learn something about with or without speakers. If you want to nominate someone (anonymously of course) as a potential speaker who may be shy we’ll contact them and try to talk them into it. We’re also willing to research a topic and try to locate a good speaker for it. Send any of your ideas to monthlyprograms@cmcboulder.org.

Calling All Trip Leaders - Hikes and Rock Climbs

Spring has arrived, and it’s time to shake the dust off our outdoor climbing and hiking gear. The Outings Committee is asking trip leaders to submit hiking and rock climb trips. Trips scheduled for the end of May and all of June would be especially helpful for recent graduates of the Hiking and Basic Rock Schools, all of which are completely full.

Hiking School graduates will be eager to apply their newly acquired trekking and navigation skills. Basic Rock School graduates will be especially interested in signing up for easier rock climb trips, where they can further enhance their climbing and rappelling skills. Please submit your trips on-line or e-mail us at outings@cmcboulder.org.

Mongolia Adventure Travel Trip

September 5–22, 2011

Trek with Mongolian Kazak herdsmen and their camels or horses. Hike through one of the most remote parts of the world, through lush green valleys, and over Jolt Pass at 10,300 feet in the Western Altai Mountains. See magnificent views of the snow capped Altai, stay in gers (similar to yurts) and tents, visit with nomads who have trained Golden Eagles to use for hunting.

Spend two days at an Eagle Festival with various competitions involving the eagles, horse racing, and locals in their colorful native dress. There will also be time to visit museums in Hovd and Ulaanbaatar.

These are just some of the experiences we will have on our 17 day trip. At Chigertei Lake, we will stay for 2 nights, hiking in the area and meeting the nomads with their grazing animals. The trek will be 6 days of hiking approximately 7-12 miles a day.

From our arrival in Ulaanbaatar until we fly out of the country there will be an English speaking guide with us. A visa is not required for U.S. citizens. Included in price is 4 nights hotel in Ulaanbaatar, internal flights to Western Mongolia and return, all meals outside of Ulaanbaatar, an English speaking guide, fees for the National Park & Eagle Festival, 4-wheel drive vehicles, nomads with their camels or horses to carry the camp gear, a cook, all camp equipment, a welcome and farewell dinner, and breakfasts in Ulaanbaatar.

For additional information, go to http://bit.ly/mtgW1r or contact the trip leader, Bea Slingsby at 303-422-3728 or beahive@comcast.net.
Proposed Eldora Expansion

The Forest Service has issued a proposal to amend Eldora Mountain Resort’s special use authorization to modify the Corona ski trail to minimize safety concerns. This project would widen an existing segment of the trail to reduce skier congestion. For more information about this proposal, visit http://bit.ly/lUV6Hg

Brainard Cabin Outing

A group of young adults from the Sierra Club Boulder Valley ICO recently spent some time enjoying the Brainard Cabin. The group was led by Chris Zedi of the Pueblo CMC.

Spring BRS Class

Despite some chilly weekend weather, Spring BRS Class proceeded as usual. Thanks to everyone who volunteered to make this class happen.

Fun at Brainard Cabin

Learning to Pass the Knot

Spaghetti Practice

First Climb