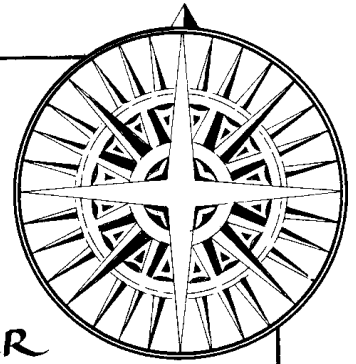




Compass

THE BOULDER GROUP NEWSLETTER



Volume XXI Number 6

June 2005

Monthly Program June 8

Spirit of the Canyon: A Grand Canyon DVD journey through the magic of imagery and sound. Come join us at 7:30PM in the Boulder Clubroom and meet Charly Heavenrich.

Charly has rafted the Grand Canyon over 70 times since 1978 as a commercial and private boater. His mission is to share the Canyon Experience with the world. He does this on the river as a commercial guide, as a speaker sharing stories of ordinary people having extraordinary experiences, as an author *Dancing on the Edge*, and as a photographer (Grand Canyon: A Different View; Spirit of the Canyon: A River Journey Through Time).

Charly's presentation will include showing his newly released DVD slide show, Spirit of the Canyon, stories from his 27 years as a guide, and answering questions on the wide range of topics related to the Grand Canyon, including the new Colorado River Management Plan, Adaptive Management, operations of Glen Canyon dam, commercial and private trips, and more.

The Boulder Clubroom is in the Table Mesa Shopping Center on the upper level, around the west corner from Neptune Mountaineering and straight back. You can also park on the lower level and walk up the stairs in front of the Movie Gallery.

Rock Lead Instructors Needed

The 2005 Rock Lead School is interested in recruiting 2 more senior instructors, 2 assistant instructors, and 3 rovers. The dates are Saturday, June 4, 11, 18. Please contact Clint Locks at clintlocks@hotmail.com if you are interested in participating.

Welcome the New Compass Editor!

Please welcome Rick Casey as the new Compass editor. Since 1985 the Compass has been the chronicle of the Boulder Group of the CMC, keeping members informed and sharing stories for more than twenty years. We congratulate Rick as he takes over beginning with the July issue.

Cathleen, Kent, Steve & Bob still on Everest

Boulder Group CMC members Bob Guthrie, Steve Poulson, Kent & Cathleen Groninger will all have made their bids for reaching the "top of the world" by the time you read this, and a full report will be printed in the July Compass.

The four climbers are members of two separate expeditions. Kent and Cathleen have been traveling with Alpine Ascents (see <http://www.alpineascents.com/everest-team05.asp>) while Bob and Steve are with Ryan Waters and the 2005 Summitclimb Everest Tibet Expedition.

Editor's note: due to the timing of our publication deadline, this Compass issue will be at the printer's shop just about the same time all four climbers are making their summit bid so we will do a follow-up in July's Compass.



Everett Long on Lone Eagle Peak in August, 1931.

—photo by Ev Long

This self portrait of Everett Long is from the Boulder CMC archives. You can see many more wonderful old photos like this any time you like just by stopping by the Boulder Clubroom and browsing there in your little library!



CMC Hikers in the Flatirons, 1912.

—photo by Ed Tangen

Editors note: Hiking in 1912 was every bit as enjoyable as it is today, but the clothing styles were slightly different. Ed Tangen (heard of Tangen Tunnels?) was a Boulder photographer during that era and produced many terrific photographs of CMC trips in the Boulder area.

Compass wants Photos & Stories

Do you have any neat photos you've taken recently (either digital or film)? Or a story of one of your hikes or climbs? The Compass would like to hear from you!

Please email the Compass at rick@rickcasey.net or snailmail: *Compass Newsletter*, c/o Boulder Group, Colorado Mountain Club, 633 South Broadway, Unit N, Boulder 80305

Mailing Party June 23

Come to the Clubroom and help us mail out the July Compass. This is a relaxed way to meet people and give something back to your favorite club.

The July newsletter will be ready to mail on Thursday, June 23, at 5:30pm, so please just drop by and pitch in! Phone Sheila at 303-554-7688 for more information.



Meet Doug Turley

2005 Boulder Group Chair, Doug Turley, was born in Iowa, educated in Florida, and is now delighted to find himself here in Colorado. The 48 year old Turley is a wind surfer and sailor who joined the CMC and learned to climb rock when he went through the Boulder Mountaineering School a few years ago. Doug has served as an assistant in BMS and chaired the mapping committee which recently produced our new Boulder area trail maps. His other current interests include gardening, climbing, road biking, skiing, raquetball, motorcycling and beer making (not necessarily in that order). Doug lives in South Boulder with his lovely wife Laura and two great dogs.

Compass

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Annual CMC membership dues start at \$63. For membership information, call the Clubroom.

*We always welcome announcements, articles, letters, artwork, and photos. Please submit material by the **first** Monday of the month for inclusion in the following month's issue. Contact Compass editor at rick@rickcasey.net*

We Hope You Will Volunteer

The Colorado Mountain Club has been a volunteer-driven organization for more than 90 years. As a CMC member your personal efforts are an important part of the formula for our success. Please step forward and offer a little of yourself to keep this great club going.

Below are two immediate openings that we need to fill. For more information please call Sheila Delamere, Boulder CMC Volunteer Coordinator, at 303-554-7688 during Clubroom office hours, Monday through Thursday, 5pm to 7pm.

• *Safety Committee Member* • *Publicity Committee Member*



June 2005 Boulder Group Activities

Isn't it time you got out and took a Hike!?



Wednesday, June 1

After Work Social Hike Moderate A
Relaxing 1-2 hour hike. Don't call, just show up at 6:00 p.m. at the Club Room (around the left corner from Neptune Mountaineering and above Video Update in the Table Mesa Shopping Center). Boulder/Eldorado Springs. 4/800'. 5 mi. Steven Haymes, (303) 444-4765

Rock Leading School Lecture
For those registered for the 2005 Rock Leading School. Discussion to focus on safety considerations & psychological factors associated with making the transition to the sharp end of the rope. Meet at 6:30pm. Clint Locks, (720) 2015381.

Friday, June 3

Hall Ranch Mountain Bike Tour
Moderate
Meet at 6pm for this Boulder favorite with lots of rocky technical sections! This is a good workout. Loop ride near Lyons. Lyons. 10/1,000'. Birgit Mueller, (303)524-9830.

Saturday, June 4

Coffin Top Mtn 8,050 Moderate B
Off Trail. From Sleeping Lion Trail near Buttonrock Preserve, cross country with some scrambling/bushwhacking to summit. Lyons. 10/1,880'. David Longenecker, (303) 440-7023.

Bear Pk. 8,461' Moderate B
Follow Mesa Trail from the south up Shadow Canyon to So Boulder Peak and then north to Bear Peak. Eldorado Springs. 8/2,700'. 15 mi. Marilyn Fellows, (303)499-6099.

Sawtooth Mtn. 12,304' Moderate C
From Beaver Reservoir across Coney Flats and up Sawtooth's east ridge. Return via Buchanan Pass. 13/3,100'. 80 mi. Ronald M Pasquini, (303)6418514.

Unnamed 12,923' via Class C-E
Upper Diamond Lake Couloir Semi-tech Joint

Boulder/Denver Group Climb. Steep snow/ice/high peak experience required, BMS graduation preferred. Requires hard hat, crampons, seat harness, ice axe + 2nd tool, rope, cold/rainy weather gear. Monarch Lake/East Portal. 8/2,802'. 45 mi. Cleve Armstrong, (303)427-0845. Limit 9.

Dragontail Couloir Difficult C-E
Steep snow/ice climb. Dragontail Couloir, RMNP. Descent by Flatop Mt. Trail, helmet, crampons, ice axe, previous snow experience required. McHenry's Pk. 9/2,800'. Todd Nelson, (303)417-9166.

Rock Leading School Field Trip
Field Trip 1
For Rock 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. Clint A Locks, (720) 201-5381.

East Slab Rock Climb
The Dome 5.5
This 2 pitch is a great test for the new climber. A couple of the moves require really trusting the footwork. A mix of crack and face moves with a mini roof problem at the end. Walk off. Call 720-8873882. Larry A. Pedigo, (720)887-3882.

Sunday, June 5

Bastille Crack II Climb
The Bastille 5.7
This is truly an Eldorado Classic! Climb 5 pitches of cracks ranging from hand jams to finger cracks up the nearly vertical Bastille Wall. Limit 2. Ron Olsen, (303) 449-1935.

Wednesday, June 8

After Work Social Hike Moderate A
Enjoy a relaxing 1-2 hour hike. Don't call, just show up at 6pm at the Club Room (around the left corner from Neptune Mountaineering and above the Movie Gallery in the Table Mesa Shopping Center).

Boulder/Eldorado Springs. 4/800'. 5 mi. Samuel Levis, (303)938-9504.

Flagstaff Mtn Top Roping
Toproping —Special No hands top roping!
Will those rock shoes stick to anything?
Come find out! This is a great opportunity to work on balance and footwork. We'll meet around 3 and run up and own the rock til our feet are worn out. John Keller, (303)530-9291.

Calypso II Climb
Wind Tower 5.6
Dance up a face (or cop out to the chimney), and dihedrals on this sustained Eldorado three-star classic. After work. 0 mi. Jean Aschenbrenner, (303)786-9411.

Saturday, June 11

Mt. Toll 12,979' Moderate C-E
Southeast Face Snow Climb
From the Mitchell Lake Trailhead, we'll hike to Blue Lake. From here, we'll kick steps in moderately steep snow all the way to the summit. BMS, ice axe, helmet, and snowshoes required. Bike from road closure to trailhead. Monarch Lake. 6/2,500'. 44 mi. Seth Allen, (303)554-5546

Rock Leading School Field Trip
Field Trip 2
For Rock Leading School participants. Students will practice placing protection, extending placements with runners, clipping the lead rope and constructing belay anchors on single-pitch climbs. Clint Locks, (720)201-5381.

Fifth Flatiron I Climb
East Face, south side left 5.5 Begin at an alcove below the south side of the east face and climb 550' up excellent rock. Rappel 75' Please contact at 303-564-8173 or garnett@acm.org. BMS required. James Garnett, (303)564-8173.

The Boulderado I Climb
Boulder Canyon 5.4

Climb Ho hum up a slab and then head into a right facing dihedral to its top. Step left and follow a crack to the top & then walk off. Call 303-9353600. Jason Shatek, (303)995-3600.

Sunday, June 12

Chasm Lake 11,760' Difficult B
Hike from the Longs Peak Ranger Station to the lake for spectacular views of the Diamond. Longs Pk. 9/2,360'. Phillip Congdon, (303)926-1408.

The Bomb, Wind Tower
I Climb 5.4
At 20 ft. to the right of a large block, climb up a short right-facing corner into a prominent groove to a big ledge. Move left and climb an interesting chimney to a belay point above a juniper tree and rappel off. Call 303-875-1719. Patrick Coppinger, (303)876-1719.

Gregory Amphitheater I Climb Toprope
Top-roping is the best way to improve technique and push limits safely. Come toprope several moderate routes in Gregory Amphitheater. Chris Glascock, (303) 664-1464.

Wednesday, June 15

After Work Social Hike Moderate A
Enjoy a relaxing 1-2 hour hike on south Boulder Mountain Parks and Open Space. Don't call, just show up at 6pm at the Club Room (around the left corner from Neptune Mountaineering and above the Movie Gallery in the Table Mesa Shopping Center). Boulder/Eldorado Springs. 4/800'. 5 mi. Debbie Tewell, (720)304-9572.

Friday, June 17

Mills Lake Easy A, Glacier Creek On Trail
From Glacier Gorge parking lot hike past Alberta Falls and Glacier Creek to Mills Lake. McHenry's Pk. 5/700'. Ruth Eastman, (303)6523097. Laurette Terrell, (970)669-8828.

Saturday, June 18

Golden Gate Canyon State Park Moderate B
Hike up Horseshoe Trail through Fraser Meadow and up to Panorama Point. Great views of the Continental Divide. Park admission fee will be shared. Black Hawk/Ralston Buttes. 11/1,200'. 50 mi. Natalie Mack, (303)543-8305. (Trip#29756)

Rock Leading School Field Trip
Field Trip 3
For Rock Leading School participants. Will emphasize multi-pitch leading techniques, including route finding and lead rack management. Clint Locks, (720)201-5381.

Love, Like Heaven I Climb
Flatirons 5.5
Ascend an overhang, a dihedral, and an arete on this two-pitch climb that Erickson terms "beautiful, solid." Rappel off. Like Heaven is the spire between Hillbilly and

Satans Slab, above Skunk Canyon, well worth the moderate, one-hour approach. William Clopton, (303)775-9083.

Cussin' Crack II Climb
Boulder Canyon 5.7
Cruise up a chimney, then make a tricky move to a large ledge. Climb up the large smooth V-slot and to the summit. Brenda Leach, (303)525-3660.

Rosy Crucifixion III Climb
Redgarden Wall 5.10
Eldorado Canyon 3 short, excellent pitches comprise this classic climb. If time and weather permits, we can finish this climb via the Italian Arete (5.9) or Alice in Bucketland (5.8+). Call 303-665-6370. Michael Amato, (303)665-6382

Sunday, June 19

Calypso Cascades Easy B
From the Allenspark trailhead in Wild Basin, hike up to the Calypso Cascades. Lots of flowers. Allens Park. 6/1,040'. 70 mi. James Dimmick, (303)2501072.

SE Face of Mt. Toll Moderate C
Starting at Brainard Lake, follow the trail to Blue Lake, then scramble up the south ridge to the summit. Ice axe, crampons required. Monarch Lake. 8/2,900'. 44 mi. Todd Nelson, (303)417-9166.

Sport Park Area Climb
Boulder Canyon 5.7
Lots of short sport routes- overrated to give your ego a boost. 5.7-5.10. Ron Olsen, (303)449-1935.

Seal Rock, East Face I Climb
Flatirons 5.4
One hour approach. We'll climb the East Face and then rappel off the back. BMS grads with instructor's recommendation will be accepted. William Clopton, (303)775-9083. (Trip#29846)

Wednesday, June 22

After Work Social Hike Moderate A Relaxing
1-2 hour hike in Boulder Mountain Parks and Open Space. Don't call, just show up at 6pm. at the Club Room (around the left corner from Neptune Mountaineering and above the Movie Gallery in the Table Mesa Shopping Center). Boulder/Eldorado Springs. 4/800'. 5 mi. Marilyn Fellows, (303)499-6099.

Saturday, June 25

Chaotic Glacier Difficult C-E
From Bear Lake trailhead, bushwack Chaos Canyon to ascend Chaotic Glacier to the Divide. Ice axe, crampons required. McHenry's Pk. 10/3,000'. Todd Nelson, (303)417-9166.

BMS Rock Leading I Field Trip
This is the 1st of 2 field trips designed to give BMS graduates an introduction to rock climbing protection and safe leading techniques. Students will practice placing protection and constructing anchors. Register with leader at least 1 week but no

more than 30 days in advance. Clint A Locks, (720) 2015381.

Over the Hill III Climb
Rincon wall 5.9
We'll climb Over and Out (5.8 dihedral and 5.6 cracks) or Emerald City (5.9). If time and weather permit, we'll climb the 1st pitch dihedral of Over the Hill (5.10b) and may top rope the thin dihedral and finger crack of Aerial Book (5.11a). Call 303-6656370. Michael Amato, (303)665-6382.

Sunday, June 26

Skyscraper Reservoir Moderate B
11,221'
Start at Hessie. Follow Jasper Creek, then branch off on a steeper trail to Woodland Creek. Leave the forest at Woodland Lake, and scramble up to the cirque, which holds Skyscraper Reservoir. Nederland. 9/2,200'. Louis F Genduso, (303)5303795.

St Vrain Mtn 12,162' Difficult C
Ascend St Vrain Mtn Trail to this tundra mountain with panoramic views of the Indian Peaks and RMNP from the summit. Spectacular wildflower display. Allens Park. 8/3,362'. 90 mi. Neal Zaun, (303)449-8547.

N & S Arapaho Pk 13,397-502' Difficult C-E
Ascend prominent peaks in the Indian Peaks. Negotiate airy ridge between the two peaks above Arapaho Glacier. Ice axe and helmet required. Ward/Monarch Lake/East Portal. 8/3,542'. David Longenecker, (303)4407023.

BMS Rock Leading II Field Trip
This is the 2nd of 2 field trips designed to give BMS graduates an introduction to rock climbing protection and safe leading techniques. Students will practice placing and clipping protection on lead. Register with leader at least 1 week but no more than 30 days in advance. Clint Locks, (720)201-5381.

Breezy I Climb
Wind Tower 5.5 Eldorado Canyon
Breeze up mixed, crack, and face pitches on this Eldorado classic, amid climber's-eye views of the Bastille and Redgarden Wall. Call 303-875-1719. Patrick M. Coppinger, (303)876-1719

Wednesday, June 29

After Work Social Hike Moderate A
Enjoy a relaxing 1-2 hour hike in Boulder Mountain Parks and Open Space. Don't call, just show up at 6pm at the Club Room (around the left corner from Neptune Mountaineering and above the Movie Gallery in the Table Mesa Shopping Center). Boulder/Eldorado Springs. 4/800'. 5 mi. Natalie Mack, (303)543-8305.



Sly Fox Foiled by Careful BMS Class



A lovely little red fox sniffs hopefully at students' backpacks near Crown Rock.

—photo by James Garnett, Senior BMS Instructor

The Spring 2005 Prussik and Rappel field trip proved a disappointment for this fox because Garnett's students were prudent enough not to leave food in their backpacks. Nonetheless the BMS students got a good workout that day, practicing their new skills under cold, snowy, and realistic mountaineering conditions.

Seeing All the Options - A Rock Leader's Nightmare

The climb has been hard. The first pitch combined delicate face to devious Lumpy Ridge crack. The second pitch, led by Jenny, wandered all over the place and had some very thin spots. The third pitch started up a thin steep finger crack that used up my small stoppers and cams. It then turned into weird indistinct dihedrals of smooth rolling slopers and pinched off micro-cracks. The last few pieces of gear are only tiny stoppers and RPs, none of which are really rated for leader falls due to their thin wires.

So here I am at the top of the third pitch. I'm a bit freaked out from the last few moves and the sketchy gear. I've got one slopy hand hold, two slopy friction feet; it is not restful. It's going to have to be a half-hanging belay as there is no ledge to stand or sit on. BUT THERE ARE NO GEAR PLACEMENTS!!! I can't build an anchor. #&\$%&#!!!

Ok, there are some small flaring cracks but I used up everything I had in that size. I work for 10 minutes trying to get even one decent piece... nothing. I pull up over the next little slopy roller ledge to see what was up there. The stance is even less secure. All I see is a bit of inch wide, shallow, flaring, horizontal crack. I might be able to get one OK piece in and perhaps two or three really bad looking pieces... maybe. I climb back down to the lower of the two insecure stances to think. My calves are killing me and I'm starting to shake.

What were my choices? How was I to choose? Yes, it would have been better not to get in that situation but since I was there, we'll focus on that.

At the time, I figured I could try and down climb to a point where I could be lowered or I could try to set up an anchor and bring Jenny up. The risks of the first option were apparent. I didn't think I could reverse the last few moves of the pitch to get below the

last pieces and neither of them was worth much. I estimated that the probability of falling and pulling one or both of those pieces was high. It usually seems that the highest risks are to the leader in such situations. But even as I stood there shaking, I realized that the second option was potentially much worse. Jenny was a pitch down on a nice safe anchor. If I build a potentially unsafe anchor for a half hanging belay and bring her up then I've put us both at risk rather than just me. The consequences of a really big leader fall are bad... really bad. The consequences of an anchor failure during a hanging belay three pitches up are catastrophic.

I recently attending a lecture where the speaker described a number of problems with the way probabilistic risk assessment is done. Be it in a research, engineering, financial or medical context one must be able to come up with all the possibilities, determine their likelihood of occurrence and assess their consequences. It is in fact very difficult to see all the options. It's hard enough when in a meeting with colleagues or at the Southern Sun drinking beers. Add the stressors of vertical drop, time, route finding and being alone and the mind just doesn't work very well. I had only just realized the risk I might have put Jenny in and I was in agony trying to decide what to do. Looking back, I had at least one other option that was less risky. I could have built what I could of an anchor and had Jenny lower me carefully. It would have been a static load on perhaps a few bad pieces equalized rather than a leader fall on the one or two really questionable pieces and it didn't introduce any risk to Jenny. But I couldn't see it at the time.

Leading rock, especially on-site, requires almost constant assessments of risk. Although the decisions made while climbing peaks may have less immediacy to them, they still require risk assessment. This ability is one of the more important hallmarks of experienced outdoors-people. How is

— continued on page 6, see **Options**

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—Options continued from page 5

this experienced gained? Well, quite often through having made bad decisions. But there are other ways to improve your odds. Taking classes that talk about risks and options is one way. Reading about accidents is another. Talking through scenarios with others often results in many more options than you can think of alone.

‘Accidents in North American Mountaineering’, a well known annual publication from the American Alpine Club, is an excellent resource. Perhaps we should also be developing lectures for our schools that help teach risk assessment more directly than we currently do. Also, while a big hit to our egos, I think it would be very helpful if there was a way for people to talk through problems they’ve had or bad decisions they’ve made. In any case, I really can’t recommend the side of the cliff as the best time to assess possibilities that hadn’t previously occurred to you.

May the mountains keep you safe!

—article by John Keller

Mountaineering Fashion for the Guys, circa 1930



Carleton Long, Bob Fernie and Bob Clifton at the West Portal (now Winter Park) March, 1930.

—photo by Ev Long