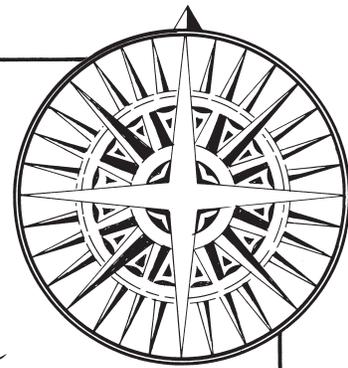




Compass

THE BOULDER GROUP NEWSLETTER



Volume XXIII Number 11

November 2007

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Deadline for Dec issue is: Nov 9

Website: cmcboulder.org
 To see online issues of Compass,
 browse to: cmcboulder.org →
 Compass → Current Issue

Note from the Editor

Of course the big news for this issue is the Annual Dinner, Saturday, November 3rd, which I highly encourage you to attend; see the full announcement (with registration form) at www.cmcboulder.org/gps/AnnualDinnerFlyer2007.pdf. A good time is guaranteed for children of all ages.

Several folks have told me they are still receiving their mailed Compass issue despite having signed up for the e-Compass. My apologies, but I do need to put out this technical advisory: in order for the Club to be able to filter out your address from the Compass mailing list, the email address that you used to register

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Leadership Training & Instructor Development Seminar

This two evening free seminar, which will be held Tuesday and Thursday, November 6th and 8th, is designed to provide information to CMC members interested in becoming trip leaders and/or mountaineering instructors. Agenda items include the following: Leadership Qualifications, Leadership and Instructor Application Processes, Instructor Training, Trip Submittal Process, Boulder Group Trip Rules & Guidelines, Liability, Risk Analysis and Group Dynamics. The seminar will begin 7:00 p.m., in the Clubroom. Please register and email questions to bms@cmcboulder.org. More information on the steps to becoming an instructor are available on the website at <http://cmcboulder.org/bms/bmsInstructor.html>. Please direct questions about becoming a school instructor to bmsinstructor@cmcboulder.org.

Avalanche Beacon Course

Prepare for the snow season by gaining proficiency in using your avalanche beacon. This lecture is open to all CMC members. It will meet 7 to 9:30 pm, Thursday, November 29th at the Clubroom, and will cover the basic to intermediate concepts of beacon searches. Basic skills will be explained and practiced. This class will be followed up by outdoor practices in small, in-town groups, on your choice of evenings of December 4th, 11th, or 18th. This class is NOT a substitute for an avalanche class (also held this same evening; see November Trips this issue); it only covers beacons and assumes you have had an

Continued on page 5, Beacon Refresher

Welcome the new Outings Chair, Gary Schmidt



Gary on summit of Seal Rock, earlier this year

Editor's Note: I would like to introduce the new Outings Chair, Gary Schmidt. The Outings Chair is charged with overseeing the process by which trips are created, conducted and recorded. As such, the position is central to the Club's mission, as many trip leaders go on to become instructors in the BMS schools. This position has been greatly affected by changes occurring in the BCMC the past few years, regarding how the Boulder group interacts with the state organization, where the centralized trips records are stored. Prior to Outings Chair, Gary served as the Safety Chair for about a year.

Compass: Gary, as the new Outings Chair, could you tell our readers about your background, particularly how you came to be interested in the outdoors, and what your experience there has been? How long have you been with the CMC, and how did you initially become interested in joining?

When I moved to Colorado about 10

Continued on page 2, Outings Chair

Outings Chair, from page 1

years ago I met some friends who were in the process of finishing doing all the Fourteeners. They introduced me to the club. A couple of years later I joined and took BMS in the hopes it would help me on perhaps some of the more difficult Fourteeners. However once taking it, I fell in love with rock climbing and that quickly became more of my main focus.

Compass: What, in your words, is the service obligation that the Outings Chair has to club members?

First of all I see it as a pretty major responsibility as I am pretty sure most people join, and remain members, (along with getting training) in order to go on trips. So I guess my main service obligation as the overseeing and administration of fun and safe trips!

Compass: Though I know you're new to the position, is there anything in particular that you would like to accomplish as the Outings Chair?

I would like to see an increase in the number of trips offered, particularly in the hiking area, and perhaps even more so in the easier hikes. It seems we have a deficit there. But would also love to see more trips offered of all kinds and levels. A more particular goal to this end would be to a better job of encouraging our current leaders, an easier and more efficient way of developing new leaders, and helping leaders make the transition of the semi-annual submitting of trips to a more fluid use of the new online trip submission system. I know I also found it somewhat challenging to think of trying to plan and submit trips that might not occur for 6 months!

Compass: I know that you're a climber, and lead rock climbing trips for the Club. What insights have you gained from that experience, and is there any advice you might have for other people who are just beginning to lead trips in general, and rock climbing trips in particular?

I personally find my greatest joy in leading trips in order to give people an experience they probably wouldn't be able to have otherwise. I know it can be hard for newer climbers to initially find partners, and in particular climb-

ers qualified to take the "sharp end" of the rope. In terms of advice, beyond the obvious safety and leadership skills one would acquire in our leadership training, I would say do whatever you can to make it a fun and enjoyable trip for all. Do trips that you think are fun. I have also discovered that the easier trips can sometimes be the most rewarding!

Compass: Finally, what has been your most enjoyable experience with the Club so far -- or are you still searching for one?

By the far the greatest reward for me has been the opportunity to meet and make so many wonderful friends. Together we have had many great experiences, both on and off the rock which I am sure I will long remember with fondness. □



Volunteers Needed

New Council Secretary Needed

Susan Flack, the current Council Secretary, will be leaving her post at her term's end, having served for three years. Volunteers are encouraged to apply. This position is great way for a new member to learn more about how the club works, get to know the council members, and/or who might be considering a council position in the future. Duties include attend monthly Council meetings; record the minutes including attendance, motions, and financial matters; submit typed meeting minutes to Council members for approval within two weeks following the meeting via the group email list; submit final copy of minutes to the club room manager and vice chair for recordkeeping; help monitor the Council mailing list; assist the Council Chair with agenda and minutes.

If you have any questions regarding the position, please feel free to reach Susan

via email at secretary@cmcboulder.org.

Pictures for Annual Dinner Sought

This is your chance to share your photos with the Club in our one truly club-wide annual gathering this Saturday, November 3. Send any digital pictures you would like to contribute to compass@cmcboulder.org. They will be projected during the dinner prior to the Annual Meeting and speaker — so the bigger the better! But please don't procrastinate! The deadline for pictures is Thursday, November 1. □

Lost & Found

FOUND: a man's wristwatch near the Waldrop trail this week. A good watch but not running at the moment. I imagine it was lost while skiing last winter. Contact Dave Robertson (daver@robsoft.com) or 303-442-7793 if it is yours.

Mailing Party: Nov 22

Come to the Clubroom and help mail out the December Compass! This is a relaxed way to meet people and give something back to your favorite club. The next issue will be ready to mail on Thursday, Nov 22, at 5:30pm, so please just drop in. Phone Sheila at 303-554-7688 for more information. □

compass

Editor: Rick Casey

email: compass@cmcboulder.org

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Boulder Group Chair: Tom Wilson

email: chair@cmcboulder.org

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Clubroom hours: Open Monday through Thursday, 5 to 7 pm

Clubroom Telephone: 303-554-7688

email for general CMC information: bcmc@cmcboulder.org

website: cmcboulder.org

e-Compass subscription: cmcboulder.org → Publications → Compass → e-Compass

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

Beacon Refresher, continued from page 1

avalanche awareness or level I class in the past 7 years. Information on upcoming avalanche classes will be available. The lecture is free but donations accepted to offset the costs of the beacons, batteries, and clubroom expenses. Field practices are \$5 and a limited number of beacons can be rented for the field day for \$5. Preference will be given to winter trip leaders and instructors up until November 18th. Walk-ins for the lecture permitted on space available basis. Advanced registration for the field practices required. Also, senior and assistant instructors needed, so if you are qualified to help (you know who you are!) please let us know if you are willing to help out with the indoor and/or outdoor practice session. To register or assist, please email Jill Yarger via bmsinstructor@cmcboulder.org with the subject "CMC beacon refresher." Avalanche beacons are highly recommended in the back country! □

Cross-Country Ski Clinic in December

If you've not tried backcountry ski touring or would like to improve your technique, this is the class for you! It's aimed at beginners (never been on skis), novices (some downhill or cross-country experience) or beginning intermediate (some experience but want to improve your skill level). The seminar covers an overview of the sport, clothing, equipment, and technique. Field trips are held the two Saturdays of December 8 and 15, working on the diagonal stride, uphill and downhill techniques, and turns. Field trip participants must be fit enough to handle a full day of moderate exercise at altitude. We encourage beginners to attend both field trips. Information will be provided at the seminar about where to rent equipment. The class will be held from 7 to 9 pm at Neptune Mountaineering, around the corner from the Clubroom. Call Bob Olson for more details at 303-443-3280. Anyone can attend the classroom seminar but participation in the field trips is limited to members who pay the \$20 class fee and complete the application form, which is available at cmcboulder.org, at the Clubroom, and at the November 5 winter schools orientation program. □

Telemark Ski Movie at the Dark Horse

And now for something completely different (even for Boulder!): Free Heal Ski Movies will present its inaugural production, Thursday, November 8 at the Dark Horse in Boulder, in two showings at 7:00 and 9:30pm. Expect a "Warren Miller" type of film experience, but where purely telemark ski technique is used. Cost for CMC members is \$8 (\$10 for non-members); there will also be a raffle for some great schwag. CMC reps will also be on hand promoting our teleclinics, so stop by our booth to say hi if you come. Sure to be a good time if you enjoy high energy downhill telemarking! □

Editor's Note, continued from page 1

for the e-Compass (at cmcboulder.org) must match the email address that you have on file at the state website (at cmc.org), both of which are under your control. Confusing? You bet! That is why the state office has promised to give you a simpler option. Soon, we are told by the state office, there will be an "e-Newsletter" option available under your Personal Data section, which would allow you to opt out of receiving your group's newsletter for its electronic version. This would be more effective, standardized option across the various Colorado groups. I will certainly announce it in this column when it is ready.

Which brings me to my final comments for this issue. As a member of the Boulder Council, I get to hear about many issues that are largely internal to club management, and normally do not affect our membership at large. However, I feel compelled to speak to the membership directly on an issue that, in my humble opinion, they deserve to know more about because it is affecting the quality of service the club delivers to you.

I speak out reluctantly on this issue, appealing to the democratic spirit of our members. For now, it needs to be said that some members of the Boulder Group, and I would count myself among them, believe that our state office needs to improve how it serves the needs of the various groups. In particular, the Boulder Group requested changes to the

Adventure Travel, continued from page 4

is submitted, please include a deposit check for \$300 made out to CMC and noting "Gran Paradiso Outing" in the remarks line.

For an application packet to either of the above two trips, please contact Steve Bonowski, P.O. Box 280286, Lakewood CO 80228-0286 or via e-mail at nz-trekker@earthlink.net. No phone calls please. The check will be returned if the applicant is not accepted for the trip; otherwise, the deposit is non-refundable subject to the trip cancellation policy contained in the packet. □

Editor's Note, continued from column 2

state website regarding trip management in mid-summer, which the state office agreed to, but which, nearly three months later, have yet to be fully implemented. This has created real problems with how we publish and report our trips. Other problems began when the state office took over the management of the club's overall database needs. The Boulder BMS (Boulder Mountain Schools) section still needs to manage its own database, as the state has never provided this, creating an inefficient split in our information technology support. Other comments have the common thread that the CMC is losing its way, and no longer focuses as much on getting out into the local mountains, fostering local trips, instruction in how to do that safely, and on facilitating communication between members. This was always the CMC's original mission and vision, again in my humble opinion. For evidence of this, I would point to the continued decline in our membership, and the difficulties that the Boulder group is having in finding trip leaders and class instructors. There simply seems to be no focus from the state office on these matters, and the Boulder Group must rely on its own resources to improve upon them, as help from the state office seems problematic.

I encourage you to voice your opinion on these matters, particularly from our newer members, to me at compass@cmcboulder.org. I look forward to hearing from you. While I cannot publish all replies, I promise that I will respond individually, and report on the gist of them in this column. In the meantime, be safe out there but have fun! □

November 2007 Trips

Monday, November 05

BMS Winter Field Trips
Overview and Signups Lecture
Come find out all about the 2007/08 BMS Winter Field trips. Overview of BMS Winter Field trips including Avalanche clinic, Ice Climbing School, 2-Day Teleclinic, Winter Camping/ Snow Structures, and 3-day Tele/AT Backcountry Clinic. Applications and early sign-up for all these clinics will be available. Meet at 7pm at the Boulder Group club room, 633 S. Broadway, Unit N. Bring your checkbook if you plan to sign up at the meeting. Boulder Leader: Cindy Gagnon 303-938-8564 gagnonc2@comcast.net Trip#4341

Tuesday, November 06

Leadership Seminar
Special Lecture #1
This 2-day seminars designed to provide information to CMC members interested in becoming trip leaders. Agenda items include the following: Leadership Qualifications, Leadership Application Process, Trip Submittal Process, Boulder Group Trip Rules & Guidelines, Liability, Risk Analysis and Group Dynamics. Leader: Gary Schmidt 970-481-1048 gsch@frii.net Trip#4346

Thursday, November 08

Leadership Seminar
Special Lecture #2
This 2-day seminar (11/6 & 11/8) is designed to provide information to CMC members interested in becoming trip leaders. Agenda items include the following: Leadership Qualifications, Leadership Application Process, Trip Submittal Process, Boulder Group Trip Rules & Guidelines, Liability, Risk Analysis and Group Dynamics. Boulder Leader: Gary Schmidt 970-481-1048 gsch@frii.net Trip#4347

Friday, November 09

Bastille Crack
II Climb 5.7
This is truly an Eldorado Classic! Climb 5 pitches of cracks ranging from hand jams to finger cracks up the nearly verti-

cal Bastille Wall. Technically 5.7 but somewhat polished and may feel like 5.8 in places. Limit 2. Boulder Leader: Gary Schmidt 970-481-1048 gsch@frii.net Trip#4432

Saturday, November 10

Walker Ranch Loop Easy B
Do a long, slow hike above Boulder in the County Open Space. The whole loop crosses S. Boulder Creek twice. Late start to get the most sun possible. Boulder Trail Mileage: 7 Elevation Gain: 1500 Drive Distance: 12 Topo Maps): Eldorado Springs Leader: Marilyn Fellows 303-499-6099 Marilyn@Gracie-Realty.com Trip#3644

Tuesday, November 13

Basic Snow School Lecture
Lecture for the Basic Snow school covering snow travel techniques, useful for Colorado peaks in late spring / early summer. Learn about safe ascent and descent of moderate snow slopes using an ice axe, self-arrest and self-belay techniques, and other considerations for snow travel. Helmets and ice axes provided. Field trip on 11/17 or 11/18. Contact Dick Munro by phone or snow@cmcboulder.org for registration information. Boulder Leader: Dick Munro 303-499-1489 dickmunro@gmail.com Trip#3323

Saturday, November 17

Basic Snow School Field Trip
I Climb
Basic Snow School field trip. See listing on 11/13 for details. Boulder Leader: Dick Munro 303-499-1489 dickmunro@gmail.com Trip#3324

First Flatiron - Fandango 5.5
Summit the First Flatiron by this fun 6 pitch route. Expect an early start and a long day. One Rappel gets you off. Boulder Leader: Gary Schmidt 970-481-1048 gsch@frii.net Trip#4070

Sunday, November 18

Basic Snow School Field Trip
Basic Snow School field trip. See listing

on 11/13 for details. Boulder Leader: Dick Munro 303-499-1489 dickmunro@gmail.com Trip#3325

Tuesday, November 27

Avalanche Level I Certification Lecture
Level 1 avalanche certification is an introduction to avalanche awareness and safety, including identifying avalanche terrain, making good route-finding decisions, & performing field tests to learn snow stability. Recognizing weather, terrain & snow factors contributing to instability, and learning fast and efficient transceiver rescue. School consists of 2 lectures (11/27 & 11/29), one field trip (12/1). Signup begins at the Nov 5 2007/08 BMS Winter Field Trip Overview and Signup Meeting. \$\$ Register with leader. Boulder Leader: Cindy Gagnon 303-938-8564 gagnonc2@comcast.net Trip#4321

Thursday, November 29

Avalanche Beacon Refresher
Instruction Session
Lecture and Indoor Practice
(See story on page 1.)

Avalanche Level I Certification Lecture
Level 1 avalanche certification is an introduction to avalanche awareness and safety, including identifying avalanche terrain, making good route-finding decisions; performing field tests to learn snow stability. Recognizing weather, terrain & snow factors contributing to instability, and learning fast and efficient transceiver rescue. School consists of 2 lectures (11/27 & 11/29); one field trip (12/1). Signup begins at the Nov 5 BMS Winter Field Trip Overview and Signup Meeting. \$\$ Register with leader. Boulder Leader: Cindy Gagnon 303-938-8564 gagnonc2@comcast.net Trip#4322 □



Adventure Travel Trips 2008

Montenegro with Rada
June 8 – June 22, 2008
\$1,959 + air

Rada Perovic, a resident of Golden, but native of Montenegro, will be your hostess for a two week excursion to this unspoiled Mediterranean and Mountain paradise. Montenegro, with a population of 730,000 and area of 5,300 sq mi, gained independence in May, 2006 and has the distinction of being the world's newest country. We will begin our journey on the coast, where beautiful beaches meet the crystal clear azure water of the Adriatic Sea. From our base in the old Medieval Town of Budva, we will explore the 15th century fortress and other towns and quaint villages along the coast and bask in the warm hospitality of the Montenegrin people. Then we will journey to the mountainous interior where 7,000 foot peaks rocket up from sea level, creating stunning canyons, deep valleys, and dense pine and fir forests surrounding alpine lakes, known locally as "mountain eyes". We will visit three National Parks: Biogradska Gora, Durmitor and Skadar Lake. Besides hiking there will be a rafting trip down the Tara River, referred to as "The Jewel of Europe." When hiking, you will often encounter sheep herder's settlements, where you will experience people who provide the friendliest hospitality on earth. By the end of the trip we will visit a small village near Podgorica where Rada's family will host a celebration at their almost 200 year old stone house. The cost of the trip includes all ground transportation in Montenegro, lodging (twin or double beds), 2 days of river rafting, all breakfasts, guides, most lunches and dinners, parks and museums fees, leader expenses, and CMC outing fee. Final cost may vary slightly depending on currency exchange issues. Hiking at B and C level. Number of participants limited to 10 to 15. For more information contact leader Rada Perovic, 303-985-3263, email: montenegrowithrada@gmail.com

Muztagh Ata 7,546 Meters (24,758')
July 1-24, 2008
\$5,480

We are all are very excited about this expedition to China, the first ever High

Altitude Mountaineering Section trip to that country. Muztagh is located in far northwest China, near the borders with Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan, and despite its gentle slopes, is the 43rd highest mountain in the world. The area is increasingly frequented by climbers from around the world, and the mountain is located near Silk Road ruins and other cultural sites. The standard route on the mountain involves minimal exposure to crevasses and low angle snow climbing in the upper 1,000+ meters of the climb. Summer weather on the mountain is generally benign, although snowfall can occur at any time of the year.

The trip is being led by Steve Bonowski, long time HAMS expeditions leader, and Andy White. Prospective participants should have previous climbing experience above 18,000' and preferably camping experience at 15,000' or higher. Climbers not known to the leaders will be expected to provide a climbing resume and references. Preference will be given to graduates of a CMC High Altitude or Advanced Mountaineering School, or to instructors in those schools. Equivalent experience to the Schools is acceptable, but must be fully described in the climbing resume.

Cost of the trip includes international air fare to Kashgar; hotel in Kashgar; transport to Base Camp and return; airport transfers; all permits and liaison officer fees; full board at Base Camp; guide service on the mountain; Chinese visa; limited leader expenses; and CMC fee. Cost does not include rental or purchase of equipment; food on the mountain above Base Camp; evacuation or other insurance; any use of porters; souvenir purchases; or bar tab. Final cost may vary slightly depending on air fares and currency exchange rates (guide cost is priced in Euros).

Participants will be asked to attend a planning meeting in late January, 2008. The leaders will arrange a series of training and get acquainted climbs beginning in March.

If an application is submitted, please include a deposit check for \$300 made out to CMC and noting "Muztagh/China Outing" in the remarks line. (Application address below.)

Gran Paradiso, Italy: Park & Peak
(13,324')
August 24-September 4, 2008
\$4,280 + \$380 for optional peak climb

Please join the High Altitude Mountaineering Section for a new type of international outing: a hybrid trip. We will trek in very scenic Gran Paradiso National Park located in far northwest Italy, just southeast of the Mont Blanc area. The trek involves hiking from small town to small town, from hut to hut. Hiking is with a day pack, although participants will need to carry a few more things when we are staying in huts without road access for the baggage taxi.

For the final day on trek, the hikers will descend while the climbers utilize an alpine start to do a roped glacial climb on low angle ice and snow of the Peak itself. After a successful visit to the picturesque summit, we will follow the climbers down to our last night on the trek in Pont.

Prospective trek participants should be in good hiking condition, and able to hike at the "C" or easy "D" level for several consecutive days. Those who plan to try the Peak should be recent graduates of a CMC basic mountaineering school, or possess recent equivalent experience or training. Climbers not known to the trip leader should provide a climbing resume.

Cost of the trip includes round trip air fare to Geneva; transport to/ from Geneva and from Chamonix to Le Tri and return from Pont; all lodging with half board; most lunches; guide fees; luggage transfers; leader expenses; and CMC fee. Cost does not include a few meals; souvenir purchases; bar tab; any kind of evacuation or other insurance. Final cost may vary slightly depending on air fares and currency exchange rate (dollar vs. euro).

Participants will be asked to attend a planning meeting around March 1. The leader will arrange a series of training and get acquainted hikes and climbs beginning in early summer. Those who do the technical climb of Gran Paradiso may be asked to attend a short skills refresher session. If an application

continued on page 5, Adventure Travel

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\$245	full page
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\$90	quarter page
\$55	eighth page
\$45	business card 2x3"

- all ads are black and white
- ads must be prepaid and in PDF or JPG format.
- contact: compass@cmcbooulder.org



BCMC Annual Dinner Saturday November 3rd Avalon Ballroom

See announcement and
reservation form to mail in your
registration at
www.cmcbooulder.org

or.....

call the Clubroom
directly if you have to
come at the last minute:
303-554-7688

*You may also pay at the door
but advance registration is
highly recommended!*

April 2008 Nepal Expedition

*Looking for participants to join
a low-cost trip April 3-27, 2008*

Mera Peak

(6476m, 21,250ft)

Located in the Khumbu region, near Mt. Everest
Members must be strong hikers and have glacier
and high altitude experience outside of the U.S.
(lower 48). Possible trip extension for Baruntse
(7,129m) or Chamlang (7,319m).

Bob Reedy (303)216-0928
reedy_bob@hotmail.com

EXPEDITION SEEKING MEMBERS

"Team Colorado- Denali 2008"

Via West Buttress: 2- 30 June 2008

Team Training/ Prep: Dec 07- May 08

Leader/ FFI: Dave Altieri (summit in 2000)

david.altieri@usafa.af.mil