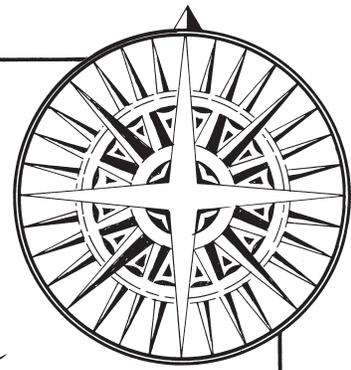




# Compass

THE BOULDER GROUP NEWSLETTER



Volume XXIII Number 12

December 2007

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## Deadline for Jan issue is: Dec 7

Website: [cmcboulder.org](http://cmcboulder.org)

To see online issues of Compass, browse to: [cmcboulder.org](http://cmcboulder.org) → Publications → Compass → Current Issue. (You can also sign up for the e-Compass there to receive this newsletter via email – and save the Club money!)

## Note from the Editor

You will surely notice something different in this issue: it's only four pages! Since the amount of copy I received for the Club's activities this month only filled about four pages, I decided (with Council support) to omit the middle page insert to save money. The Council is considering this a permanent feature by omitting the trips listing, since these are now available from a quarterly newsprint edition, and, of course, the online trip listing at [cmc.org](http://cmc.org). If you have an opinion about this, please email [boulder-cmccouncil@yahoo.com](mailto:boulder-cmccouncil@yahoo.com) or send a letter to the Clubroom (see address on page 2). Another recent interesting development was "the re-establishment

## Boulder Group Christmas Party

Every year the Boulder Group has a Christmas Party open to all members, which follows the December Council meeting. Consider yourself invited! (RSVP not necessary) The traditional Christmas party will be held at the Clubroom Sunday, December 9<sup>th</sup>, at 6 pm. The format will be pot-luck, BYOB and strictly informal. It will be a wonderful opportunity for you to meet your Council and state council liaison members, get familiar with them and ask any questions you might have. □

## BMS Winter Schools

The BCMC Winter Schools are here! Just a reminder that the club offers classes in XC Skiing, Telemark Skiing, Backcountry Skiing, Winter Camping, Avalanche Safety, and Ice climbing. Many of the classes will close out, so make sure you reserve a spot early. (The Cross-Country clinic, also open to the public, has an announcement on page 2.) Full information on the schedule and prices are available on our website at <http://cmcboulder.org/bms/winterSchedule.html> □

of the CMC Expeditions Committee by the CMC State Board at their most recent meeting." (Nov 12 GPS) While expeditions are of interest to only a minority of our members, it is still a novel development that this editor will enjoy reporting to you in future issues. Until then, I encourage all members to come to the Christmas Party on Dec 9<sup>th</sup>. (see above) Hope to see you there!

— the Editor

## Annual Dinner Ushers in New Year for BCMC



*Tom Wilson, past chair, welcomes Brenda Leach as the new Council chair at the annual dinner*

Combine an aperitif of a relaxed atmosphere; a mixed tossing of good food and fun people; followed with a quick, spicy, dash of a necessary business meeting; interject a diversionary taste of raffle; followed by an engaging main course of a talk on the CMC's deep history, topped off with a sweet and light dessert of swing dancing — and you have one heck of a classic BCMC dinner. Such was the evening of Saturday, November 3, at the Avalon Ballroom. The second year of the pot luck format again worked well; it's amazing how the variety of dishes balanced out without planning, and everyone seemed to get plenty to eat — especially desserts! There were even more people than last year, at 168, and the event did make a slim profit. A meaningful business meeting followed which accomplished the approval of the updating of wording in the by-laws that brought them into accordance with modern reality (many thanks to Peter Gowan's work on this; you can see the

*Continued on page 2, Annual Dinner*

*Annual Dinner, continued from page 1*

By-Laws on the website using the Site Map button on the main page.)

Also there was the customary “passing of the branding iron” from the current chairperson to the new chair for the coming year (traditionally the vice-chair). In this case, that was Tom Wilson passing the mantle to Brenda Leach.

There was also a vote for the following changes to Council members:

Chair - Brenda Leach

Vice Chair - Dick Munro

Past Chair - Tom Wilson (replacing Tonya Riggs)

Treasurer - Gail Blandford (replacing Paul Culnan)

Member at large - Chris Klotz (replacing Sandy Hollingsworth)

This was followed by a spirited conducting of the raffle by Otto Verdoner. As the winning tickets were called out, it was clear that those people who bought lots of tickets won more prizes. (A lesson for next year, folks!) There was a great variety of really great prizes; many thanks to those members of the Planning Committee who did the legwork for this.

Next was the highlight of the evening, the talk by Jerry Caplan, a longtime member of the CMC, on the topic of the evolution of the CMC. Jerry’s talk, delivered simply without fanfare or flashy slideshow, held the audience’s attention by the speaker’s commanding delivery and authoritative knowledge of the CMC’s long history. How many of us knew that the Club was instrumental in establishing the Rocky Mountain National Park? Or that it was responsible for the naming of the Indian Peaks by asking two Native American elders to come down from the Wind River Indian Reservation? Or the incredible statistics on peaks scaled by CMC members in more modern times?

Finally the evening was topped off with an enjoyable swing dance performance and instruction from a CU dance troupe. Many thanks to the Dinner Planning Committee that made this possible: Amy Slaymaker (our leader), Brenda Leach, Kirsten Kindt, Otto Verdoner, Nickie Kelly and Rick Casey. □

## Leaders and Instructors Collect Prizes

Our annual prize drawing for leaders and instructors was held at the end of October, right after the Boston Red Sox won the World Series. This year there were 51 prizes including 20 degree sleeping bags, a backpack, a tent and many gift certificates from local merchants and restaurants. We would like to thank all the members who donated their time and knowledge to lead a trip and/or to help with one of our many schools. You are the ones who make the Boulder group of the CMC a success. We would also like to thank everyone who donated to the prize drawing. This would not be possible without your generosity. Below is a list of those who donated to the prize drawing. Neptune Mountaineering, Active Imprints, Avery Brewery, BJ’s Restaurant Brewery, Boulder Army Store, Boulder Book Store, Boulder Mountaineering, Boulder Mountain Repair, Boulder Running Co., Crocs, Dark Horse, Golite, Himilayas Restaurant, Juanita’s, Kelty, La Sportiva, Lazy Dog Sports Bar & Grill, Mont Bell, Old Chicago, Oskar Blues Grill & Brewery, REI, Rio Grande, Russi/Sherpani, Sierra Designs, Southern Sun, Stonewear, The Spot Gym, Trango.

— contributed by Phil Congdon

## Cross-Country Ski Clinic Starts Dec 4

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, technique and rentals in a lecture at Neptune’s on Tuesday, December 4, 7 to 9 pm. 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. 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](http://cmcboulder.org), at the Clubroom, and at Neptune Mountaineering. □

## CMC Mountain Fest Happening Dec 1st

Designed for beginning to expert mountain enthusiasts, the Colorado Mountain Club’s 3rd annual Mountain Fest is a full day of mountain exposure at the American Mountaineering Center. From photos and food, to outdoor skills clinics and gear, there is something for everyone. Family activities will be offered from 10-12. Skills and conservation clinics will begin at 1 p.m., with indoor rock climbing and a silent auction. The evening presentation by Aron Ralston, author of *Between A Rock and a Hard Place*, will begin at 7 p.m. All proceeds from this event will benefit the CMC’s Youth Education Program. Visit [www.cmc.org/mtfest](http://www.cmc.org/mtfest) for more information and tickets. □

## Mailing Party: Dec 20

Come to the Clubroom and help mail out the January 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, Dec 20, at 5:30pm, so please just drop in. Phone Sheila at 303-554-7688 for more information. □

## compass

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**To subscribe to GPS, the weekly**

**e-newsletter:** [gps@cmcboulder.org](mailto:gps@cmcboulder.org)

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**Clubroom Telephone:** 303-554-7688

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**website:** [cmcboulder.org](http://cmcboulder.org)

**e-Compass subscription:** [cmcboulder.org](http://cmcboulder.org) → Publications → Compass → e-Compass

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

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# December 2007 Trips

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## Saturday, December 1

### Avalanche Level I Certification Field Trip

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#4323

## Tuesday, December 4

### Cross-country ski clinic Instruction Session

An evening of instruction on the basics of cross-country ski touring for beginning and intermediate skiers. Lectures include clothing, equipment and technique. This will prepare you for on-snow lessons on one or both of the following 2 Saturdays. Look for details in October and November Compass. Download application form from Boulder Group website or pick it up at the Clubroom or the 11/5 winter schools meeting. \$20 registration fee for field trips. Boulder Leader: Bob Olson 303-443-3280 boulderbob@comcast.net Trip#3919

### Avalanche Beacon Field Practice Instruction Session

Prepare for the snow season by gaining proficiency in using your avalanche beacon. The lecture is open to all CMC members, is from 7 pm to approximately 9:30 at the CMC-Boulder clubroom, and will cover the basic to intermediate concepts so that you can become better at beacon searches. Basic skills will be explained and practiced. This class will be followed up by outdoor practices in small groups, in-town, on the student choice of the evenings of December 4th, 11th, or 18th. This class is NOT a substitute for an avalanche class--it only covers beacons and assumes you have

had an 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. To register please email jill.yarger@prodigy.net with title of &cmc beacon refresher;. Boulder Leader: Jill Yarger 303-541-9481 jill.yarger@prodigy.net Trip#4404

## Saturday, December 8

### Brainard Cabin Mod. Snowshoe

Take a walk in the woods to Brainard Lake and then on to the cozy Boulder Group Cabin. We will travel by SS trail and road depending on snow and wind conditions. \$1 donation at cabin. Boulder Trail Mileage: 6 Elevation Gain: 600 Drive Distance: 100 Topo Map(s): Ward Leader: Marilyn Fellows 303-499-6099 Marilyn@Gracie-Realty.com Trip#3645

### Ski Touring Field Trip Field Trip (Instructors)

Ski tour lessons for beginners & intermediate skiers to follow the 12/4 lecture. Learn new techniques or brush up on old ones. Download application from Boulder Group website or pick it up at the Clubroom or the 11/6 winter schools meeting. Boulder Leader: Bob Olson 303-443-3280 boulderbob@comcast.net Trip#3921

## Friday, December 14 – December 16

### Shrine Mtn Hut Mod. I Ski Tour

Ski from Vail Pass to Shrine Mtn huts and stay at Jay's cabin. \$97 for the cabin spot and Vail area fee. Nice touring and tele skiing around the hut. Boulder Trail Mileage: 6 Elevation Gain: 700 Drive Distance: 200 Topo Map(s): Vail Pass Leader: Bob Lewis 303-232-9587

Trip#3671

## Saturday, December 15

Little Raven Trail Mod. II Ski Tour  
The most exciting route to Brainard Lake. After hot tea at the CMC cabin, zip back down via the Waldrop (North) trail. Boulder Trail Mileage: 9 Elevation Gain: 500 Drive Distance: 50 Topo Map(s): Ward Leader: Steve Priem 303-499-9024 spriem@yahoo.com Trip#3672

### ski touring field trip

### Field Trip (Instructors)

Ski tour lessons for beginners & intermediate skiers to follow the 12/4 lecture. Learn new techniques and/or brush up on old ones. Download application form from Boulder Group website or pick it up from the Clubroom or at the 11/6 winter schools meeting. Boulder Leader: Patricia Butler 303-440-0586 butler@csd.net Trip#3917

## Saturday, December 22

CMC/South Trail Easy II Ski Tour  
We'll ski to Brainard Lake and CMC Cabin in and out the easy South Trail. Boulder Trail Mileage: 6 Elevation Gain: 400 Drive Distance: 50 Topo Map(s): Ward Leader: Bob Olson 303-443-3280 boulderbob@comcast.net Trip#3920

## Friday, December 28

### Brainard Lake Loop Mod. I Ski Tour

Ski north from the road closure looping to the far end of the lake. We will have lunch at the CMC cabin. We will finish the loop by skiing the opposite side of the lake, south, back to the TH. The trip includes easy climbs and exciting downhill stretch Boulder Trail Mileage: 8 Elevation Gain: 900 Drive Distance: 60 Topo Map(s): Ward Leader: Tom Crosman 720-494-1732 tom@crosman.org Trip#3289



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*Cladia Lopez and Amy Slaymaker. Amy was the leader of the Dinner Planning Committee*

## **Boulder CMC Group Annual Dinner 2007**

To see a few more photos of the Annual Dinner, browse to  
<http://picasaweb.google.com/caseyrick/BCMCAnnualDinner2007>

*The dedi-  
cated  
assistants --  
Tonya,  
Haley, Sonja  
and Anika --  
all gradu-  
ates of Basic  
Rock School  
save Tonya  
(so far!)*



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*Gary Schmidt, Outings Chair, provided live music during the social hour*

## **Rent the Clubroom for Your Meeting**

Are you a member of an organization looking for a place to hold your meeting, or know of someone who is? If so, you might consider our Clubroom in the Table Mesa Shopping Center. Our rental policy is on our website at [www.cmcboulder.org/clubroomPolicy.html](http://www.cmcboulder.org/clubroomPolicy.html). Send email to [clubroomreservations@cmcboulder.org](mailto:clubroomreservations@cmcboulder.org) with any questions. □