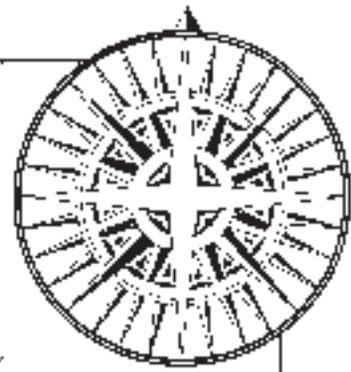




# compass

THE BOULDER GROUP NEWSLETTER



Volume XXVII Number 2

February 2011

### In This Issue

*Pine Creek Adventure* ..... 1  
*Chair's Report* ..... 2  
*Volunteer Opportunities*..... 2  
*February Trips & Activities*..... 3  
*Call for Winter Trips*..... 5  
*New Outings Committee*..... 5  
*Ice Clinic Graduates*..... 6  
*Update Contact Information*..... 6  
*Colombia Trek Presentation* ..... 6  
*Spring/Summer School Signup* .. 7  
*Call for Winter Trips*..... 7  
*Conservation Activities*..... 7  
*Clubroom Relocation Help*..... 7  
*GPS Editor Needed*..... 7  
*Open Space Update* ..... 7  
*Mountaineering School Signup* . 8

### Editor's Note

*While working on this month's issue, I realized how many people I've gotten to know through the CMC. Folks I've met casually on climbing or other outdoor adventures have turned into great friends. That's one of the major benefits of a group like the CMC -- by just getting out and doing the things you love to do, you end up meeting some amazing people. One of the friendships that developed through the CMC was with Bob Lewis, who contributed this month's story about his rescue during a canyoneering adventure. His story is a good reminder that even the safest outdoor adventures can turn risky if the weather changes what was once familiar terrain. If you have a story about a near-epic you would like to share, please contact me at [compass@cmcboulder.org](mailto:compass@cmcboulder.org).*

— Donna Marino  
 Compass Editor

### Pine Creek Adventure

- contributed by Bob Lewis

Every year, several friends and I travel to different locations in and near Colorado to do some technical canyoneering. In September 2006, several of us headed to Zion National Park. One of the canyons we decided to do was Pine Creek. I had done this canyon twice before and it had been a lot of fun. So we decided to do it again. We started out at 9 a.m. on September 29. There were 4 of us -- Jerry Allen, Gary Schmidt, Alan LaGow, and I. In the interest of moving quickly, we split into two teams.

Pine Creek is a very tight, technical "slot" canyon with eight to 10 technical rappels. (A slot canyon starts out as a hairline crack in the rock which expands and gets wider as water flows through it. Some slots are narrow crevices that barely allow for a human body to squeeze through.) The two times Alan and I had previously explored this canyon the water level had been low and the water temperature was cold.

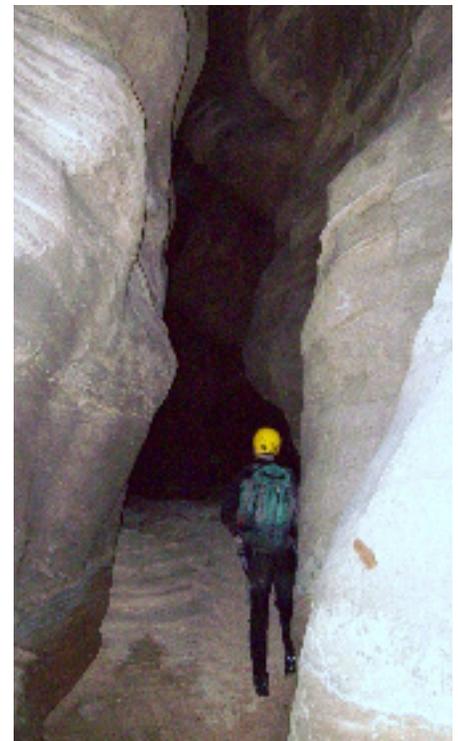
We had gotten a permit the night before from the park rangers, since that was a requirement before doing any exploring in this canyon. We asked the rangers about current weather and flash flood conditions in Pine Creek, but did not specifically ask about water levels or water temperature.

We hiked to the canyon and started to work our way through it. Jerry and I were in one team, and Alan and Gary were in the other team, a few minutes behind us. We could see that a flash flood had probably struck a short time earlier,

since the water level was extremely high. We could also see that dams had been washed away; this meant that instead of a few short swims between stretches of rock, there were several long swims. Additionally, the water in the canyon was so cold it took our breath away.

It took us about an hour to get through some of the more technical parts of the canyon. This involved long, strenuous swims and several rappels. The last dark section of the canyon approached and we were anxious to get through it quickly. We'd gotten very cold from the long swims and were eager to get back out into the sun. This part of the canyon was filled with potholes of varying sizes.

*Continued on page 4*



*Pine Creek Canyon*

## Chair's Report

A delicate juggling act... This is the most accurate description I can conjure up to describe my first month's experience as the Chair of the Boulder Group of CMC. One can't really know until in these shoes just how many issues and how many personalities you have cross your path on a daily basis. It has been a growth experience for me already in this short time. I've also been amazed at the dedication of the wide variety of people who have come to my support, and who volunteer their efforts every day, in many ways, to keep our group one of the strongest chapters in the CMC. There are two primary activities that my energies were devoted to this month. The majority of my time was devoted to overseeing plans for our clubroom move. I also just attended the special meeting of the State Council as a representative of our Boulder Group.

Regarding the clubroom move, most now are aware that we currently have two clubrooms. We will continue use of our old clubroom, at least part-time, until a new tenant is found for the space. Meanwhile renovations are well underway on our new clubroom, located two doors away, in between H&R Block and Neptune's. Our goal is to begin use of the new clubroom for schools and other activities as soon as possible, but of course, it will take time because we all are volunteers. Still, I'm completely impressed by the energy and efforts of those who've helped with the renovations thus far. If I were to name each person and their specific contributions, my Chair's report would be far longer than is reasonable. Suffice it to say that every person who has helped is gratefully appreciated. The cooperative work together on this project has become a true bonding activity, bringing many of us closer, including people ranging everywhere from long-term members to some very new additions to our group who've pitched in as well.

The major accomplishments thus far on the new clubroom include repair of the suspended ceiling and replacement of tiles damaged by a formerly leaky roof. The bathroom has been renovated including new paint, a new floor, a new exhaust fan & light fixture, a repaired

toilet, and a mirror installation. A few more bathroom improvements may still be made. In the main room, all the holes were spackled, texture applied to an area that had been newly drywalled, and the entire room painted by a dedicated team, giving it a bright and warm appearance. An overall design for the clubroom space has been created and currently the final plans for the gear storage and kitchen portions of that design are being finalized. Remaining steps include building a partition and completing the gear storage area, building a small kitchenette area, creating a small seating area near the entry door, and replacing the flooring. All these tasks will take time, but we are moving forward at an encouraging pace.

Taking a break from the clubroom renovations allowed me to attend the recent special meeting of the CMC State Council, along with our Vice-Chair, Roger Drake. The State Council has been a somewhat nebulous entity since it was originally formed years ago, primarily to serve as a vehicle for local groups to have representatives who elect the State Board. Since then, many convoluted discussions have gone on for years about exactly what other roles the State Council should have. This question was the primary focus of the special meeting. The most common theme that came up in the morning's discussions was "COMMUNICATION." The consensus was that the State Board should communicate, well in advance, any proposed actions or changes being contemplated to the State Council. This will enable Council reps to share this information back with their local groups, get input, and channel a summary of the groups' positions back to the state prior to decisions being finalized. This process was deemed to be important both in regard to receiving biographical information about candidates for the State Board, as well as information about any policy or procedural changes being contemplated. In addition, it was agreed that outreach efforts need to be made to facilitate the involvement of smaller and more remote CMC groups in the State Council, who have not been participating up to now. The overarching conclusion was that State Council should become a group that actually has an impact on State CMC decisions, and truly does give local

groups a voice in the direction the CMC travels in pursuit of its mission.

It has been an exciting month and I'm happy to have such a great team of people around me as I proceed in leading our Boulder Group.

Respectfully submitted,

– Janine Fugere, Boulder Chair

## Volunteer Opportunities

**To volunteer call 303-554-7768 or email [clubroom@cmcboulder.org](mailto:clubroom@cmcboulder.org)**

## Clubroom Hosts Needed

Clubroom Hosts are needed Monday through Thursday from 5-7 pm

## 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](mailto:compass@cmcboulder.org).

## compass

**Editor:** Donna Marino

**Email:** [compass@cmcboulder.org](mailto:compass@cmcboulder.org)

**Published:** Monthly by Boulder Group, Colorado Mountain Club, 633 South Broadway, Unit N, Boulder 80305

**Boulder Group Chair:** Janine Fugere

**Email:** [chair@cmcboulder.org](mailto:chair@cmcboulder.org)

**Subscribe to GPS e-newsletter:** [cmcboulder.org](mailto:cmcboulder.org) → Publications → GPS → E-GPS

**Clubroom hours:** Mon. -Thurs., 5 to 7 pm

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

**CMC information:** [bcmc@cmcboulder.org](mailto:bcmc@cmcboulder.org)

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

All Boulder members automatically receive the Compass via email.

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

### DISCLAIMER

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

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

*To view trips online and register:*

- ▶ Browse to [www.cmc.org](http://www.cmc.org)
- ▶ Login with your CMC member number and password. For first time users, the default password is your ZIP code.
- ▶ Click on 'Trip Signup' in left margin
- ▶ Enter trip selection parameters (CMC group, date range, etc) & click Search
- ▶ To register, click Register
- ▶ For Boulder trips, you must contact the leader by phone (preferred) or email; for Denver trips, you may register online.
- ▶ Schools require previous signup. Info at [www.cmcboulder.org](http://www.cmcboulder.org)

## Saturday, February 5

Iceberg Lakes

Adv. II Ski Tour

From East Portal, ski on-trail to Arapaho Creek, continue off-trail to Crater Lakes, then past some small avalanche slopes to Clayton Lake, then continue above tree line to Iceberg Lakes. Snow conditions permitting, return with a 1000 ft. tree and powder run to the S. Boulder Creek trail. Strong telemark/downhill skills, climbing skins and avalanche gear required. Register with leader BY PHONE between 9 AM and 9 PM only.

Leader: Steven Haymes, 303-444-4765

Trail mileage: 8 miles

Elevation gain: 2500 feet

Prerequisite: Avalanche School

Driving distance: 40 miles

## Saturday, February 5

Ice practice for Boulder BMS Ice Students

Ice Climb Pace: Fast

Difficulty: Scrambling Status:

4:30 a.m. meet up at Rite Aid for 4:45 a.m. departure. Practice climb specifically for Boulder BMS ice students. We'll go to Mills Lake, but do some different things.

Leader: Kent M. Crites

[kentcrites@aol.com](mailto:kentcrites@aol.com)

303-284-3059

Trail mileage: 6 miles

Elevation gain: 1000 feet

Prerequisite: BMS-B

## Saturday, February 5

Sourdough Trail

Mod. II Ski Tour

From Redrock Trailhead, Take Sourdough trail South to Wapati and Baptiste trails and return on Sourdough. Register with leader.

Leader: Steve Priem, 303-499-0577

[s.priem@yahoo.com](mailto:s.priem@yahoo.com)

Trail mileage: 7 miles

Elevation gain: 1300 feet

Driving distance: 50 miles

## Saturday, February 12

Peaceful Valley - Beaver Reservoir- /Coney Flats loop

Mod. II Ski Tour

We'll climb swiftly from Peaceful Valley Trailhead up 600 ft to Beaver Reservoir, then ski to Coney Flats on gentle terrain, descend the ski trail into Peaceful Valley and return to the cars. Register with leader.

Leader: Patricia Butler

303-440-0586

[butler@csd.net](mailto:butler@csd.net)

Trail mileage: 13 miles

Elevation gain: 1300 feet

Driving distance: 70 miles

## Saturday, February 26

South Trail

Easy II Ski Tour

Ski in and out on the easy South Trail

Leader: Bob Olson

303-443-3280

[boulderbob@comcast.net](mailto:boulderbob@comcast.net)

Trail mileage: 6 miles

Elevation gain: 400 feet

Driving distance: 50 miles

## Sunday, February 27

Vail Pass to Shrine Mountain to Red Cliff

Adv. I Ski Tour

Moderate Pace

Difficulty: Black Downhill

From Vail Pass ski to the top of Shrine Mountain. The 1900 foot tree and powder run off of Shrine Mountain includes some steep, tight and technical sections of Black Downhill. Continue out to Redcliff for a car shuttle pick-up. Strong telemark/downhill skills, climbing skins and avalanche gear required.

fAfter-ski dinner to avoid the traffic. Limit 7. Register with leader BY PHONE between 9 AM and 9 PM only.

Leader: Steven Haymes

303-444-4765

[srhaymes@yahoo.com](mailto:srhaymes@yahoo.com)

Trail mileage: 10 miles

Elevation gain: 1200 feet

Prerequisite: Avalanche School

Driving distance: 210 miles

## Coming in March

### Wednesday, March 16

Boulder CMC Open House

Boulder Clubroom (around the corner from Neptune's in the Table Mesa Shopping Center)

7-8 pm

Inviting new and prospective CMC members to learn more about the club and its many classes, trips, and activities. Experienced members will be on hand to share their enthusiasm and knowledge about hiking, camping, peak bagging, rock climbing, snow shoeing, cross-country skiing, and more. BRING A FRIEND!



We started to maneuver through the canyon, walking on small strips of terrain surrounded by water. The landscape resembled a piece of Swiss cheese – dry or water-filled potholes, with narrow bridges of rock in-between.

I crossed one section of the canyon that was about 15 feet wide and scattered with potholes. I was moving quickly because the long periods of swimming had made me cold and I couldn't wait to get back into the sun. As I placed my foot on a small strip of rock, I stepped right into a five or six foot pothole. My body went straight down and I landed hard on one foot. I knew immediately that I had injured something because I felt a sharp pain.

Jerry saw me slip into the pothole and tried to pull me out. But because the pothole was so deep and slippery, Jerry was afraid he'd fall in if he got any closer to the edge while trying to rescue me. Rather than risk being injured himself, he tied a knot in his rope and clipped a carabiner through it. He then lowered the rope to me. I clipped the carabiner to my harness and Jerry pulled me up. A couple of minutes after I was pulled out of the pothole, Gary and Alan showed up.

When we explained that I'd broken my foot or ankle, they decided that they should haul me out of the canyon. In the process of getting me on my feet, Alan slipped and fell into the same pothole, landing on his side. The wind was knocked out of him, but other than that, he seemed to be fine.

With the aid of two of my partners, I was hoisted up so that each arm was around their shoulders. In this way, they helped me out of the canyon. At this point, it was critical to get me out into the sun because I was shivering in the shade and hypothermia was a definite risk.

The route out of the canyon was about two miles long and very rocky. Also, we still had two more technical rappels in the canyon. On the last rappel, there was a "window" that leads to the East Tunnel leading into Zion. We could have stopped there, but, given the early time of day and good weather, we all assumed

that it would not be a problem to get me out to safety.

We finished the two other rappels and ended up in a huge maze of boulders. We were going up and over huge truck-sized boulders. Some of the time my partners actually carried me because I could put weight on only one of my feet and could barely hop over these huge rocks. By this time it was about 11 a.m. My shoulders and arms began to ache as I bounced on huge boulders and rocky terrain. My partners were exhausted from carrying me such a long distance in the hot sun, and I was exhausted from being bounced around. After about two hours, we stopped and I said, "This just isn't working. I can't go any farther." They agreed and decided to contact the rangers for help. Jerry stayed with me while Alan and Gary went off to get help. It took a bit over an hour to get back to the car and drive back to the backcountry desk to report the accident.

By this time, Alan realized that he also had been injured when he slipped into the pothole. He could not breathe without pain and could not lift his arm; he realized that he must have cracked a rib or two. After about an hour, Gary and Alan reached the park rangers and gave them the details of the accident. Two rangers came out and brought medication, a sleeping bag, food, tent, and any other provisions for the evening. By this time it was about 4 p.m. Because of my location and the time of day, they decided that we had to spend the night outside and would begin the rescue in the morning. They gave me some painkillers and fed me and we spent the night there. Because they had limited provisions for three people for only one night, Jerry hiked out on his own. By this time, I was in a great deal of pain and spent a long night outside.

In the morning, the rescue team showed up early at our location. There were probably about 10 rescuers. Their plan was to raise me up a 460' cliff, which is the top of the Great Arch. Since I was about 200' from the base of the wall, they had to first get me out and then up (45 degree) angle. Another rescue team of approximately 16 people was at the top of the Great Arch setting up

an anchor. At one point a rescuer threw down two 600-foot static ropes. On these ropes, they lowered a litter that I would lie on. I was put into a climbing harness and strapped into the litter. Cody, one of the rescuers, was clipped into the side of the litter, stabilizing the litter and giving me painkillers. A guide rope was affixed at each end of the litter to stabilize it as the rescuers began to raise me.

The team at the top had set up a pulley system with a mechanical advantage of 9:1. This meant that the force applied to move the weight of me, the litter, the rescuer, and the static rope was roughly 1/9th of the total weight. (Some efficiency is lost to friction in the system.) The downside of this system is that for every one foot the litter is raised, nine feet of rope must be pulled through the system.

The rescuers were also using what they called an "Arizona A-frame" at the top of the Arch. This was a tripod that extended over the lip of the Arch and prevented the rope and the litter from rubbing or bumping against the wall as the litter was raised. When I was about halfway up the Arch, the rescue switched to a 6:1 ratio to speed up the process. About 1 1/2 hours later, I was at the top of the Arch. The amazing part of the hauling process that got me to the top of the Arch was that it was done completely by hand. The A-frame allowed me to smoothly move onto the top of the Arch.

Once I was at the top, eight rescuers carried me out another 1/4 mile on the trail (which had been closed for the rescue). The ambulance was waiting to take me to the hospital in St. George.

*continued on page 5*

Compass Ad Rates	
\$245	full page
\$150	half page
\$90	quarter page
\$55	eighth page
\$45	business card 2x3"
- ads must be prepaid	
- can be black and white or color in PDF or JPG format.	
- contact: compass@cmcboulder.org	

I discovered that I'd fractured my foot. Alan also headed to the hospital where he was treated for broken ribs.

### **Things we could have done differently**

- Although the weather conditions are always available and posted in the park ranger's office, we did not investigate the details. We knew Pine Creek was wet canyon, but we did not specifically ask about the water level.
- We should have been more aware of our surroundings. We were focused on getting through the canyon and making good time, so may have been hiking more quickly than we should have. This made us take less notice of the fact that we had gone from bright sunshine to dark canyon. Because some of us were still wearing sunglasses in the canyon, this dramatically reduced our ability to see clearly where we were walking.

### **Things we did right**

- We were well-equipped and prepared for a wet canyon. All of us wore wet suits with the expectation that we'd encounter water on our trip.
- We were all in good physical shape and most of us had an extensive amount of experience canyoneering.
- We had the good judgment to realize that expert help was needed for the rescue. Had our group relied only on their skills to rescue me, the outcome might have been much worse.

### **Call for Winter Trips**

The Outings Committee is calling on trip leaders who are interested in leading winter trips – snowshoe trips, ski trips, ice climbs, hikes – to submit their trips on-line or to e-mail us at [outings@cmcboulder.org](mailto:outings@cmcboulder.org). If you are a hiking trip leader, you are also automatically approved as a snowshoe trip leader at the same level. Consider making your favorite summer hike into a serene winter snowshoe trip. And members too, if you have ideas for winter trips that you would like to see, please contact us, and we will do our best to make the trip happen.

## **Introducing the Outings Committee Trip Coordinators**

This month we'd like to introduce you to the Boulder Group's Outings Committee Trip Coordinators. The Trip Coordinators plan to focus on promoting more Boulder group trips in their respective trip categories. They will also work to support current and prospective new trip leaders. The new trip coordinators include Chris Marotta as the A/B Hike Coordinator, Rick Casey as the C/D Hike Coordinator, Steve Haymes as the Ski Touring and Ski Mountaineering Coordinators, Kent Crites as the Ice Climb Coordinator, and Eileen Monyok as the Rock Climb Coordinator. We'd like to thank the previous Trip Coordinators, previously called Schedulers, for their past hard work and dedication – Danielle Lewis as A/B Hike Scheduler, Chris Glascock as C/D Hike Scheduler, Pat Butler as Ski Trip Scheduler, and Gary Schmidt as Rock Climb Scheduler.

Chris Marotta became a CMC member in 2008 to learn the skills and safe practices for backcountry skiing and to meet people with similar interests. Chris has taken most of the schools offered by the Boulder Group to acquire a multitude of new mountaineering skills. Chris volunteers as an instructor in the Hiking Schools and he recently became an A/B Hike Trip Leader. Chris is now working toward becoming a Ski Trip Leader in the near future. He enjoys backcountry and resort skiing, as well as hiking, rock climbing, backpacking, and all types of biking. With a background in chemistry and electrical engineering, Chris works as a Senior Scientist at Eltron Research in Gunbarrel. In addition to outdoor activities, Chris enjoys working out, reading, music, and visiting with family and friends.

Rick Casey joined the CMC in 2002 to meet people interested in outdoor trips and to go on the annual HAMS trip on Mt Rainier. Rick has been very active in the CMC as a Boulder group Council Member-at-Large, the Web Team/Council Liaison, a Senior Instructor in the Basic Rock School, and the past Compass editor. He is a C/D Hike and Group 2 Rock Climb Trip Leader. Rick enjoys

rock climbing, scrambling, mountaineering, skiing, and backpacking. Volunteering with the CMC has been a rewarding community activity for Rick personally. He feels that the public at large benefits a great deal from teaching people how to be safe in the outdoors. Rick works as a database programmer at CU-Boulder's Institute for Behavioral Genetics. He also teaches Environmental Economics at Front Range Community College. In his free time Rick enjoys folk guitar music and volunteering for positive political change.



*l-to-r: Steve Haymes, Chris Marotta, Eileen Monyok, Kent Crites, Rick Casey*

Steve Haymes joined the CMC in 1989 to cross country ski. He first became a Denver Group Ski Leader in 1995. In 2003, he transferred his membership to the Boulder Group to help Marilyn Fellows develop the very successful Wednesday After Work Social Hike series. Steve has become the most active trip leader in the Boulder Group, having led 49 hike and ski trips in the past three years. Steve is an A/B Hike, C/D Hike, Ski Touring, and Ski Mountaineering Trip Leader. Steve's outdoor interests include telemark skiing, cross country skiing, ski mountaineering, hiking, and keeping our Open Space open. Steve also enjoys jazz, politics, history, and his cats. He works as a Scientist of Geographic Information Systems (GIS) in wind resource assessment at the National Renewable Energy Laboratory (NREL). Steve is now sharing a little known secret that because of his small feet, he wears women's ski boots, hiking boots, and hiking shoes. He is not yet wearing women's dress shoes.

*Continued on page 6*

Kent Crites has been a CMC member since 2004. Kent joined the CMC to learn about available climbing resources after moving back to Colorado. Kent has always belonged to an alpine club in all the places he has lived. He sees the CMC as a great resource compared to other clubs in Colorado because of the high standards held by the trip leaders and the trip participants. He also values the high quality and reasonably priced schools that the CMC offers. Kent is the director of the Ice Climbing School and has been an Assistant and Senior Instructor in the Basic Rock School. Kent likes to challenge his students to put forth genuine effort. He believes in giving his students positive recognition for making good effort. Kent, however, will also give his students honest feedback when they need to invest more effort. Kent is a Group 1 Rock and an Ice Climb Trip Leader. He is a chemical engineer by training. Kent currently works in sales for an engineering firm and travels a great deal. His favorite hobby is home brewing beer.

Eileen Monyok was first introduced in last month's Compass as the Assistant Chair of the Outings Committee, working with Eric Brehm, the Outings Committee Chair. Eileen's outdoor interests include rock climbing, hiking, backcountry skiing, skate skiing, and backpacking. In her free time, Eileen enjoys reading and listening to the Grateful Dead and Bob Marley. Inspired by Bob Marley, Eileen is pleased to share that, facing stiff competition, she earned third place for her Rastafarian costume at her workplace Halloween contest.

The Trip Coordinators would like to hear your suggestions, comments, or questions about trips. You can also contact the Trip Coordinators if you are interested in becoming a trip leader. Contact information for the Trip Coordinators can be found on the web site at <http://www.cmcboulder.org/ContactUs.html>.

## **Eleven Graduate from 2011 BMS Ice Clinic**

Eleven enthusiastic students turned out for the BMS 2011 Ice Clinic. Six Volunteer instructors spent one evening introducing equipment and ice climbing techniques to the students in the club-room. Two field trips were conducted in RMNP on January 15th and 16th near Mills Lake. A great time was had by all!



*Chris Marotta finding the perfect stick*

Graduating students included: David Ellis, Melanie Walling, Talya Shmuelov, Chris Marotta, Mike McGurkin, Ben Hudson, Mark Lesiw, Monica Dewitt, Marcello Sbrocca, Francesco Sangiorgi, and Miriam Duehnforth. Thanks to all of the volunteer instructors including Ted Handwerk, Irina Overeem, Luther Birdzell, Brian Lavin, Jessica Perkins, and clinic coordinator Kent Crites.

## **Update your contact info on the state CMC website**

All Members, Trip Leaders & Instructors: please log onto the State Website at [www.cmc.org](http://www.cmc.org) to verify that your preferred phone contact and email are correctly listed. If they are not correct, please update your contact information. We need to ensure all contacts are accurate so trip leaders & instructors can reach members and vice-versa. Thanks!

## **Monthly Program: Colombia Treks**

On Wednesday, March 23, Boulder CMC member Jean Aschenbrenner will share photos and stories about her trip to Colombia at the CMC Clubhouse. Jean is spending the month of February in Colombia. Highlights of the trip include a six-day trek among the glacial peaks of El Cocuy Natural National Park (PNN) and a five-day trek to visit Ciudad Perdida (Lost City) on the coast near Santa Marta.

The Sierra Nevada del Cocuy has some of Colombia's most dramatic landscapes, from snowcapped mountains and raging waterfalls to icy glaciers and crystal-clear blue lakes. There are 15 peaks over 5000m and the trek wanders around them. The trek ranges in elevation between 4000 and 5000m, with campsites at about 13,800'.

Ciudad Perdida, a large urban center, was built by the Tayrona people on the northern slopes of the Sierra Nevada del Santa Marta and was destroyed by the Spaniards. The city was buried under lush tropical vegetation until it was discovered in the 1970s. Some stone structures, terraces and stairways remain. But the trek itself is the primary reason for going to Ciudad Perdida. The scenery is astonishing and the natural swimming pools near campsites help mitigate the jungle heat.

After the trek, Jean is spending time on the beaches near Santa Marta and in PNN de Tayrona. Lastly, she is visiting her sister's family in Medellin, where

## Conservation Activities in and Around Boulder

**Tool Specialist:** Center for ReSource Conservation's Tool Library has opened in Boulder. Share your tool knowledge and help the environment. The facility will loan a wide variety of tools to citizens of Boulder County. Ideal for retired general contractor, hardware store employee, facilities manager, or handyman with broad knowledge of basic tools and their use. Contact Adam Jackaway. 303-247-9501 or [adamjackaway@yahoo.com](mailto:adamjackaway@yahoo.com).

**Small Acreage Management Volunteer Program - CSU Extension:** Are you a small acreage landowner or interested in land stewardship? CSU Extension is offering training for Small Acreage Management Volunteers in March 2011. Trainees will learn about and assist landowners with issues such as weed identification and management, pasture establishment and management, and wildfire mitigation. Contact Sharon Bokan. 303-678-6176. [sbokan@bouldercounty.org](mailto:sbokan@bouldercounty.org) or visit the website at: <http://www.extension.colostate.edu/boulder/acreage.shtml>

**Deconstruction Workers:** Help to deconstruct homes and provide recycled products for sale at the Habitat for Humanity ReStore. Be added to the on-call volunteer list; most projects on weekends at St. Vrain Valley locations. Contact Tara Nichols at St. Vrain Habitat for Humanity. 303-776-3334 or [TNichols@stvrainhfh.org](mailto:TNichols@stvrainhfh.org).

## GPS Editor Needed

Do you have just 3 hours or so a week to edit the GPS? We are in need of a new editor. The job is very easy to do using predefined templates. If you are interested, send an email to [chair@cmcboulder.org](mailto:chair@cmcboulder.org).

## Clubroom Move Committee: Volunteers Needed

The Boulder CMC will be moving to a new clubroom, near our current space, in between H& R Block and Neptune Mountaineering. We will also still be maintaining the current clubroom for meetings and business operations until a new tenant is found. We hope to begin using the new clubroom for schools and lectures soon. A *Clubroom Move Committee* has been formed to begin renovations on the new space and plan the move.

Volunteers are needed to help with renovations as well as to sort through all the years worth of "stuff" in the old clubroom. We have an **immediate need for an electrician and plumber**. We are seeking members (or friends of members) who are licensed electricians or licensed plumbers. In the short term, the most immediate need is advice about whether the electrical outlets currently in the room meet code. Before long we will also need to begin electrical and plumbing work to install a kitchenette area in our new space. Please contact Janine Fugere at [chair@cmcboulder.org](mailto:chair@cmcboulder.org) if you or anyone you know can help.

## City of Boulder Open Space and Mountain Parks West Trail Study Area Update

The Open Space Board of Trustees (OSBT) unanimously approved the Recommendations of the Community Collaborative Group (CCG) at the Jan 19 meeting. The City's Open Space staff is drafting the rest of the West TSA Plan. Their recommendations will encompass the things that were not part of the CCG's Recommendations, for example, where mountain bikes will be allowed and the degree to which trails and dogs should go through shrub-nesting bird habitat. The Draft WTSA Plan will be released February 1.

SAVE WED., FEB. 9, 6PM - 9PM if you plan to participate in the Open Space Board of Trustees' next meeting. At that meeting, the Board will listen to public comments. The following night they will meet with the staff to identify the parts of the Plan that they want to retain

and agree to revisions they want staff to make in the draft Plan. Feb 9 will be the last chance to speak to the Board & influence what happens to this "crown jewel" of our open space system. For more information on the West TSA visit The City of Boulder Website [http://www.bouldercolorado.gov/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=9879&Itemid=3763](http://www.bouldercolorado.gov/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=9879&Itemid=3763)

## Instructors Wanted for Spring/Summer BMS Session

The spring/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](http://www.cmcboulder.org/bms/springSchedule.html).

For more information or to volunteer, contact the school directors: Hiking Schools: Ben Mayer, [bhs@cmcboulder.org](mailto:bhs@cmcboulder.org); Basic Rock School: Brenda Leach, [brs@cmcboulder.org](mailto:brs@cmcboulder.org); Snow Schools, Jim Leffingwell, [snow@cmcboulder.org](mailto:snow@cmcboulder.org); Rock Leading School, Clint Locks, [rls@cmcboulder.org](mailto:rls@cmcboulder.org). Instructors, your time and efforts are much appreciated!



## **Spring/Summer Boulder Mountaineering School Sign-up Night**

This year's spring and summer schools will include Hiking and Survival Essentials, Hiking Navigation and Trip Planning, Basic Rock School, Basic Snow Travel, Intermediate Snow School, Backpacking School and Rock Leading School. See [www.cmcboulder.org/bms/springSchedule.html](http://www.cmcboulder.org/bms/springSchedule.html) for the course dates.

The first opportunity to sign up for classes is at the Spring/Summer Schools Sign-Up Night on Monday, February 28 at 7pm, in the Boulder clubroom. Please note that applications will be available online and in the clubroom on February 21, but will not be accepted until the Sign-Up Night. Attending the Sign-Up Night gives you a higher priority of getting into the schools. Applications may still be submitted to the clubroom after the Sign-up Night. Also, you may sign up online at [www.cmc.org](http://www.cmc.org) starting on March 1 at noon. If you are unable to attend the spring schools, check out the fall schedule at [www.cmcboulder.org/bms/fallSchedule.html](http://www.cmcboulder.org/bms/fallSchedule.html). Contact [bms@cmcboulder.org](mailto:bms@cmcboulder.org) if you have questions. Bring your checkbook to the Sign-Up Night!