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Your July Compass is here!

Tough Day on the Arapaho Traverse

"For a classic alpine scramble with a minimal approach, the North-South Arapaho Peak traverse is hard to beat," writes Rick Casey. The 8.3-mile round-trip with 3,600 feet of elevation gain is by no means easy, but is considered one of the most popular scrambles in the Indian Peaks.

On June 18, Rick set out with Jordan Holquist--an up-and-coming leader-in-training in the Boulder Group--Chris Marotta, Neil Purrett and Chris Bamat, all experienced mountaineers.

The five started the day early, setting out on the trail around 7:30 a.m. and hoping to reach North Arapaho Peak by 1 p.m. Due to effects from a cold he was fighting, Rick stayed behind and hiked at his own pace, staying in communication with Jordan and the others via radio.

The group made good progress throughout the afternoon. Then, almost back at the trailhead after turning around near 12,700 feet, Rick got an unexpected call from Jordan around 3 p.m.

"Rick, we've had an accident..."

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The "Chopsticks Fix" at the Ärestua Hut

Steve Preim came up with a series of "fixes" for the hut on Guinn Mountain, removing a pair of chopsticks that had been used as a temporary solution.

From Rick Casey:

"Yet another story in how the Guinn Mountain hut keeps surviving over the years, based on constant care and nurturing from the community of users that keep it going...thanks Steve!"

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