



LOVELAND MOUNTAIN CLUB
PO BOX 983, LOVELAND, CO 80539

www.LovelandMountainClub.org

Vol. 41, #11: January, 2018

President's Message

Thanks to Betsy for planning the Holiday Party at Sylvan Dale Ranch, to Jim Disney for the 2017 Slide Show, to our hike and horseback leaders, to those who contributed door prizes, and to all those who were there to make our celebration a success on December 2nd. The brunch and the festive ambience were fantastic as usual! Thanks to all!

Our kickoff to 2018 will start with the 4th Annual Hangover Hike, which will launch at the civilized hour of 10:00 AM on New Years Day. Start out the year with a fun and food hike! Details follow in the newsletter.

EZ Hikes - this is a new project that Ron Tuttle suggested and we will offer these special hikes starting soon. Hikes of less than 4 miles and less than 600' of climbing. Look for the EZ hikes in future newsletters. And we always need members to lead these hikes!

2018 dues are \$20 for individuals and \$30 for couples or families. And are payable anytime between now and April 30th for current members. New members who joined after 7/1/2017 are paid up for 2018 as well. See Gabi at a meeting, or mail your check to the PO Box at the top of the newsletter.

Our January Meeting will be on Monday the 8th, 7:00 PM at Trinity Church, and our speaker David Fanning will tell us about "Hiking the Circuit at Torres del Paine." Also, save the date for our 40th Anniversary Potluck on February 5th! There will be a special slide show and great food!

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!
Steve

Steve Bergstrand (970-292-8804 or stevebergstrand73@gmail.com)

Club Meetings:

Monday, January 8, 2018: 7:00 PM, Trinity Lutheran Church, 3333 Duffield Avenue, Loveland, 80538. This month's speaker will be David Fanning, speaking about "Hiking the Circuit at Torres Del Paine". David states: "The names themselves--Tierra del Fuego, Cape Horn, the Strait of Magellan, Ultima Esperanza--have held a fascination for me since I first encountered them in grade school. The 10-day circuit of Torres del Paine National Park in Patagonia is one of the ultimate South American treks. What makes the Torres Del Paine hike challenging is the extreme terrain and the notorious Patagonia weather.

The wind, in particular, can blow you off the trails and can reach hurricane force on the passes. Every day's weather is an adventure in Patagonia. Please join me as I tell you the story of my solo journey into this wild and exciting landscape".

David Fanning is a writer, photographer, and storyteller based in Northern Colorado. He is the author of the inspirational book, *Voices of The Colorado Trail*, which tells the life transforming stories of hikers David interviewed on the trail. David is a member of the Poudre Wilderness Volunteers and the Nordic Rangers, serving as a backcountry ranger for the Forest Service on backcountry hiking and skiing trails. Patagonia is the one place David has hiked where he thought he might have made a mistake by going solo. You can read about his travels on his RawahRanger web page (rawahranger.com).

Monday, February 5th, 2018, 6:30 PM: 40th Anniversary Celebration! Trinity Lutheran Church, 3333 Duffield Avenue, Loveland, 80538. We will have our annual Pot Luck Supper and a special slide show presentation commemorating the anniversary, designed by Jim Disney, our club founder. Please bring an appetizer, salad, or entrée. If you want to bring a dessert, please sign up for it at the January meeting. Drinks will be provided, but bring your own dinner ware.

Monday, February 12th at 9.30am: Weekend Hike Planning Meeting: We will meet at the home of Penny Kragie, 2020 Sedona Hills Drive, to plan weekend hikes through the end of September. Come and join us for coffee/tea and bagels and a little planning. A soak in the hot tub is optional! Please let Penny know if you will be joining us at pakragie@gmail.com or (571) 643-6803. If you would like to lead a hike but can't make the meeting, just e-mail the details including the date. Hope to see you on the 12th!

Editor's Notes:

As Steve mentioned above, we have added a new category of hikes called EZ hikes to our repertoire. These hikes will be highlighted in yellow in the newsletter: those wanting easy hikes can find them easily, and those wanting harder hikes can skim right over them! Let me know if you find this helpful.

There will be a weekend hike planning meeting on Monday, Feb. 12th. See above or contact Penny at pakragie@gmail.com or (571) 643-6803 for more details.

I am so excited to be back on the trails again following recuperation from an injury. I hope all you injured hikers can do the same soon. Bob and I are looking forward to getting out the snowshoes and spending some time in the snowy mountains getting lost (and found) with other club members!

Wishing all my fellow hikers a Happy New Year!

Melanie Pennington, editor (mlpenning@sbcglobal.net)

Special Thanks to our December Hike Leaders:

Bob C., Steve B., Douglas B., Carol R., Ted H., James D., Linda Z., and Jane D. were our fearless hike leaders in December. Thanks to all for your time and effort!

Hike Coordinators:

Weekend Hike Coordinator for 2018: Penny Kragie pakragie@gmail.com or (571) 643-6803

Weekend Hike Coordinator for January – Ted and Ruth Hartman- 970-292-8431

Tuesday Coordinator - Karen G. - 970-231-5883

Thursday Coordinators – Ted and Ruth Hartman - 970-292-8431

Important Hike Information

Loveland Mountain Club welcomes non-members to join us for any of the hikes we offer. Membership is encouraged after two hikes. Visit www.lovelandmountainclub.org for more information about club activities and membership.

- **Disclaimer: A hiker assumes the risk of any injury to person or property resulting from any of the inherent dangers and risks of hiking, snowshoeing or participating in any of the club's activities, including driving or riding to and from the trailhead, and may not recover from the Loveland Mountain Club for any injury resulting from any of the inherent dangers and risks aforementioned.**
- All participants must contact the hike leader to participate in a hike. Contact the hike leader at least three days prior to the activity
- Hike leader should notify participants in case of change of weather, etc. Participants should inform the hike leader if they are unable to make the trip
- If you want to go on a hike, pay attention to the hike classification (see below) to ensure that you are up to the challenge. Hike leader should discuss individual skills with each participant to ensure they are ready for the hike
- Participants should refer to the suggested hiking equipment list
- When hiking, lead and rear hikers should be readily seen. Person in front should wait for the slower hikers
- The last two cars of each trip should leave together so no one gets stranded
- Hike leader needs to be assertive as necessary; if in doubt, the hike leader is in charge and should not be questioned
- There should be a minimum of four participants. If there are not four, it is no longer a club activity
- Participants should pay gas money to the driver and bring a change of footwear and a bag for dirty boots

Classification ratings

EZ Hikes: Hikes of less than 4 miles and less than 600' of climbing; these hikes will be highlighted in yellow.

- A. Up to 8 miles maximum round trip with elevation gain up to 1200 feet
- B. 8-12 miles maximum round trip with elevation gain of 1200 to 2500 feet
- C. 12-15 miles maximum round trip, and/or elevation gain of over 3500 feet. Steep or rough terrain may be encountered

- D. More than 15 miles round trip, and/or elevation gain over 3500 feet. Trips in this classification may require additional climbing skills
- E. Designates peaks of any classification as dangerous. Basic mountaineering skills and/or the approval of the leader will be required

Some hikes will not exactly fit these ratings and may be designated A/B or B/C, etc. to convey the real nature of the hike. In those instances, pay close attention to the stated distance and/or elevation gain and discuss with the hike leaders when you call them to arrange to join the hike.

Hike Offerings

Thursday December 28: No hike scheduled. Please contact Ted or Ruth Hartman (the Thursday Coordinators) at 970-292-8431 if you would like to lead a hike on this date.

Saturday December 30; Emerald Lake:

This is a 3.6 mile round trip hike, perfect for beginner snowshoes! We will leave from Bear Lake parking lot in Rocky Mountain National Park and go by Nymph and Dream Lakes on our way to Emerald Lake. There is about 650 feet of total elevation gain and the hike will be done at a slow to moderate pace. Call Jane D. at 260-413-2686 or <mailto:jcdflyfisher@gmail.com> for more information or to sign up.

Sunday Dec 31; New Year's Eve ~ No Hike Planned
Happy New Year!

Monday January 1; Hangover Hike:

This annual hike is traditionally at Coyote Ridge. We will meet in the Coyote ridge parking lot at 10:00 AM. We will hike approximately 3.50 miles to the intersection of Blue Sky Trail with an elevation gain of 600'. If the weather dictates, bring micro spikes. Everyone will please bring finger food & drinks to share; plates, napkins, & cups will be provided. We will dine overlooking the Blue Sky Trail in the full sunshine! Please bring anything inspirational that you would like to share with the group. Contact Kathy Langan at 303-960-8168, or <mailto:langandesign@yahoo.com> for details or to sign up for the hike.

Tuesday January 2; No hike planned. Please contact Karen G. at 970-231-5883 if you would like to lead a hike.

Wednesday January 3; Coyote Ridge Sunrise Hike:

Can you think of a better way to start the day than to watch the sunrise from a mountaintop (or in this case a ridge-top)? This is a 4.6 mile round trip Class A hike, with an elevation gain of about 600 feet to the top of Coyote Ridge. Look at <http://www.fcgov.com/naturalareas/finder/coyote> for some more information. Contact Walt Grady at 970-219-2465 for meeting time and place.

Thursday January 4; Gateway Natural Area:

We will start 5.2 miles from Ted's Place up the Poudre River. The water treatment facility built in 1903 is located there, although now abandoned. Depression-era Civilian Conservation Corps built several trails here along with a small park. We will hike across and along the Poudre River, toward the dam leading up to Seaman Reservoir. This is a class A hike totaling 3 miles round trip. Depending on the weather, we might want to include the Black Powder trail, which would add 1.5 miles to the trip, or the Overlook trail, which would add ½ mile. Contact Josie Beck at 970-893-1549 or <mailto:beckjosie1@gmail.com> for more details or to sign up for the hike.

Saturday January 6; Boulder Brook Loop:

Class B hike, 7.3 mile round trip with 1,500 feet elevation gain. From Bierstadt Lake Trailhead, take Boulder Brook trail for 2.3 miles and return via North Longs Peak Trail, Alberta Falls and Prospect Canyon. Snowshoes and Spikes required. Contact Douglas at 970-672-7629 or douglasbxtr@gmail.com for more details or to sign up for the hike.

Sunday January 7: No hike scheduled. Please contact Ted Hartman (the weekend coordinator for January) at 970-292-8431 if you would like to lead a hike on this date.

Tuesday, January 9th; Bobcat Ridge, Eden Valley spur:

The Eden Valley spur is an EZ hike of 3 miles round trip with minimal elevation gain. The trail travels south from the Valley Loop to the border with Eden Valley. Very pleasant with nice views. We will travel at a slow pace. Contact Ron Tuttle at 970-667-4479 or <mailto:rktuttle7@gmail.com> for details and to sign up for the hike.

Thursday January 11; Bear Lake to Hollowell Park:

A class A shuttle hike from the Bear Lake Trailhead to Bierstadt Lake and then downhill to the Hollowell Park Trailhead. A 5-mile hike mostly downhill, about 1300'. We will probably need snowshoes for the upper 1/3 of the hike. We'll leave a car at Hollowell to return drivers to the Bear Lake lot. Call Steve B. at 970-292-8804 or <mailto:stevebergstrand73@gmail.com> for meeting time and place.

Saturday January 13; Lumpy Ridge Climbing Tour:

This will be a hike along the Black Canyon trail of Lumpy Ridge and will highlight some of the best rock climbing areas in Rocky Mountain National Park. We will view the Twin Owls, Batman Rock, and the Book, probably scrambling up the climbing trails to get an up close and personal experience of these cliffs. No technical climbing will be done, but the hike will include some steep scrambling. The hike will be class A+, 5-6 miles round trip, and around 1000 feet of elevation gain (including the climbs for the various approach trails). We will probably need some traction devices. Call Ted Hartman at 970-292-8431 before January 12 for more information or to sign up for the hike.

Sunday, January 14; Hall Ranch:

We will hike the Bitterbrush Trail at Hall Ranch at a casual pace for 3.7 miles with 898' elevation gain. Bring only a snack as we will be going to the Cheese Importers for lunch! Call Karen G at 970-231-5883 for information or to sign up for this hike.

Tuesday January 16; South Valley Trail Loop:

Lory State Park, South Valley Trail Loop, 2.4 miles RT, little to no elevation gain, casual pace. This loop takes you to the south border of the park. Call Ruth H at 970-292-8431 for more information and to sign up for the hike.

Thursday January 18; Balanced Rock:

From Lumpy Ridge Trail Head, this is an 8.4 mile round trip hike. We will go by Paul Bunyan's Boot and Gem Lake on our way to Balanced Rock. This will be a slow to moderately paced hike with about 1300 feet of elevation gain. Call Jane D. for more information and to sign up: 260-413-2686, or <mailto:jcdflyfisher@gmail.com>.

Saturday January 20; Fern Lake:

A class B hike of about 9.5 miles round trip with 1400 feet of climbing. The well-traveled trail will take us past the frozen Fern Falls to great views at Fern Lake of Notchtop Mountain and Little Matterhorn. Snowshoes will likely be needed for the upper part of the trail. The pace will be casual to moderate. Call Steve at 970-292-8804 or <mailto:stevebergstrand73@gmail.com> to sign up and for meeting time and place.

Sunday January 21; Cub Lake:

This is a classic Rocky hike of 4.8 miles round trip with only 570 feet of elevation gain. Whatever the weather conditions, it is always interesting, beautiful and exhilarating. Class A at a relaxed pace; good snowshoe hike if there is snow. Call or email Carol W. at 970-685-4943 or <mailto:Ruggmor@aol.com> for more information or to sign up for the hike.

Tuesday January 23; Lake MacIntosh Lake, Longmont:

This is a leisurely three mile walk around the lake with little elevation gain and great views of the mountains. Call Linda at 970-310-8163 or <mailto:ljmzimm@gmail.com> for more information or to sign up for the hike.

Thursday January 25; South Glacier Knob with Glacier Creek Descent:

This will be a loop hike of approximately 6 miles with a gain of 1,200'. Much of this hike will be off-trail in likely deep, untracked snow. At times during the descent of Glacier Creek we will be, quite literally, on thin ice. Snowshoes are required. From the Glacier Gorge Trailhead, we will reach Mills Lake via the "winter trail". The South Glacier Knob is above the lake and to the left. We should be able to reach the summit without taking the snowshoes off. Our descent route back to Mills Lake will differ slightly. At the lake, we will descend the Glacier Creek drainage passing over Glacier Falls, "Roberta Falls", and Alberta Falls. We will exit the drainage somewhere below Alberta Falls and continue back to the Glacier Gorge trailhead on the standard trail. Please contact trip leader Pete Langer at 970-227-3614 or lang_pete@hotmail.com for more information or to sign up.

Saturday January 27; Bierstadt Lake to Bear Lake to Bierstadt Lake:

We will park at Bierstadt Lake and hike/snowshoe up to Bear Lake and then back down to Bierstadt for a total of about 9 miles with approximately 600' elevation gain/loss. Beautiful views and a nice winter hike using micro spikes or snowshoes, so bring both! Contact: Kathy Langan at langandesign@yahoo.com.

Sunday January 28; Estes Cone:

This 7 mile round trip hike will start at Lily Lake. We will hike to Storm Pass and from there climb the rocky .7 mile to the top. There is likely to be a lot of snow so snowshoes will be in order. With 2000 feet of elevation gain, it will be a class B hike and done at a slow to moderate pace. Call Jane D. for more information or to sign up: 260-413-2686 or <mailto:jcdflyfisher@gmail.com>.

Tuesday January 30; Gem Lake:

This is going to be the early Valentine's Day hike. It's a Class A of 3.4 miles R/T and 968' elevation gain, but it can be very icy, windy and cold. Bring the love of your life or just love your life hiking with us, and visit the Rocky Mtn. Chocolate Factory after. Call or email Carol at 970-685-4943 or Ruggor@aol.com for more information or to sign up.

Thursday Feb 1; The Loch:

This is one of the most impressive snow shoe hikes in Rocky Mountain National Park. From Glacier Gorge Trailhead we will hike past Alberta Falls. The last half mile up to the Loch, we will climb between the steep canyon-like walls of the Loch Vale (valley). Then we will cross the frozen lake for a snack in the woods. 5.4 miles round trip with 940' of elevation gain. A class A snowshoe hike. Call Steve B. to sign up or for meeting time and place at 970-292-8804 or stevebergstrand73@gmail.com.

Saturday February 3; Black Lake:

Class B hike, 9 mile round trip with 1,500 feet elevation gain. From Glacier Gorge Trailhead take the trail to Mills Lake and continue to majestic cirque at Black Lake. Contact Douglas at 970-672-7629 or douglasbxtr@gmail.com for more information or to sign up for the hike.

Sunday February 4; Mystery Hike:

Bobcat Ridge, Moore Park, Pierson Park or meandering from the East Portal trailhead? Hmmmmm - which one will it be? Call or email Carol W. at 970-685-4943 or <mailto:Ruggmor@aol.com>.

Monday, February 12th at 9.30am: Weekend Hike Planning Meeting

We will meet at the home of Penny Kragie, 2020 Sedona Hills Drive, to plan weekend hikes through the end of September. Come and join us for coffee/tea and bagels and a little planning. A soak in the hot tub is optional! Please let Penny know if you will joining us at pakragie@gmail.com or (571) 643-6803. If you would like to lead a hike but can't make the meeting, just e-mail the details including the date. Hope to see you on the 12th!

Hike Leaders: Please call the RMNP Backcountry Office at 970-586-1242 and report any changes in trail conditions after your hike. They have requested our help as they cannot cover the hundreds of miles of trails. Also call this number the day before your hike for the latest road, trail and weather conditions at the Park.

Interested in posting your "Club Hike" pictures to the club Facebook page?

Please forward your pictures to Dick Lottes at longs91peak@yahoo.com or Steve Bergstrand at stevebergstrand73@gmail.com prior to the end of the day following the day of the hike. The number of pictures posted to Facebook is limited to 10 so the possibility exists that all your pictures will not be posted. Request you do not annotate your pictures, please? Visit our Facebook page Loveland-Mountain-Club to see photos from recent hikes.

Check out the Loveland Mountain Club website for more information about the club:

www.lovelandmountainclub.org

Useful Telephone Numbers

Rocky Mountain National Park – Backcountry Office 970-586-1242

Rocky Mountain National Park – Emergencies 970-586-1204

Colorado Road Conditions 303-639-1111

Larimer County Emergency Number (connects to Sheriff) 970-416-1985 (or just dial 911)