



LOVELAND MOUNTAIN CLUB
PO BOX 983, LOVELAND, CO 80539
www.LovelandMountainClub.org
Vol. 42, #2: April, 2018

President's Message:

Thank you to Ted Hartman for filling in for me at the March Meeting while we were out of town. Thank you to our web masters Rich Kurz and Dave Hollingsed for keeping the site up to date, and for adding many new EZ, A and B category hikes to the Hike Archive.

Also thanks to Jim Disney for designing the LMC 40th Anniversary Logo which now tops our Facebook Page. The club will be taking orders for T-shirts with the logo this spring. Details will be emailed.

2018 Dues are payable at the April 2nd Meeting, or by mail to LMC, PO Box 983, Loveland 80539. Please pay your dues by April 30th. Dues are \$20 individual and \$30 per couple or family.

The April Meeting will feature two amazing women! Darla Sidles, the new Superintendent of RMNP and Estee Murdock, the new Director of the Rocky Mountain Conservancy. Darla was previously Superintendent of Saguro National Park in Arizona and Estee worked for the NPS in Washington DC. Let's show them a warm welcome at 7:00 on April 2nd.

April will be another beautiful month for hiking in the Front Range. If you are new to hiking or have had to slow down a bit, take a look at the EZ hikes that are high-lighted in yellow. These are hikes of 4 miles or less, and 600' or less of elevation gain. See the descriptions of the A and B category hikes below to see if these more challenging hikes are right for you.

Looking forward to seeing you at the meeting or on the trail.

Steve Bergstrand 970-292-8804 or 916-600-2209 cell/text or stevebergstrand73@gmail.com.

Club Meetings:

Monthly meetings are from 7 – 8:30 PM at Trinity Lutheran Church, 3333 Duffield Avenue, Loveland, 80538, on the first Monday of the month.

Monday, April 2: Darla Sidles, the new Superintendent of Rocky Mountain National Park, and Estee Murdock, the new Director of the Rocky Mountain Conservancy, will give us an update.

Monday, May 7: Jim Disney will offer up his 40th Anniversary commemorative photo show. We will also see member's slide shows of hiking vacations: several short talks, 10 minutes each, with photos of members hiking vacations.

Editors Notes:

Remember to check out the new "Lending Library" available at monthly meetings, located at the back table. You can bring any books you'd like to share and pick up a book you'd like to read.

Jim Disney put together a short video to promote the Loveland Mountain Club. You can find it on YouTube via this link: <https://youtu.be/cOHrBxdn6oc>. Be sure to check it out, and send the link to any family, friends, relatives, or neighbors who might be interested in learning more about the club. Jim also designed a 40th Anniversary logo for the web site, and I have temporarily placed in on our newsletter as well. Thanks Jim, they both look beautiful!

Melanie Pennington, Editor (mlpenning@sbcglobal.net)

There will come a time when you believe everything is finished.

That will be the beginning.

Louis L'Amour

Special Thanks to our February Hike Leaders:

Ruth H., Ted H., Jane M., Glenda S., Josie B., Jane D., Linda Z., Lupi, Doug B., Pete L., Kathy L., Gabi M., Penny K., and Ron T. gave of their time and expertise to lead hikes in March. Thanks to all for your time and effort!

Hike Coordinators:

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

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Tuesday Hike Coordinators – Jane and Dan Maddigan - (412) 680-8919

Thursday Hike Coordinators –Tom Bruch - tabruch@msn.com or 970-405-7794

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.

- Up to 8 miles maximum round trip with elevation gain up to 1200 feet
- 8-12 miles maximum round trip with elevation gain of 1200 to 2500 feet
- 12-15 miles maximum round trip, and/or elevation gain of over 3500 feet. Steep or rough terrain may be encountered
- More than 15 miles round trip, and/or elevation gain over 3500 feet. Trips in this classification may require additional climbing skills
- 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

Tuesday March 27; Devil's Backbone:

This is a 6.2-mile round trip hike with approximately 300 feet of elevation gain. We will hike to the Keyhole and then continue on via the Hunter Loop to the Laughing Horse Loop. If you'd like to join us please call Gabi Miles at 970-227-1497 or Penny Kragie at 970-663-5674.

Thursday March 29; Mahoney Park Loop Hike:

Enjoy the great views on the Ginny Trail leading up to Bobcat Ridge. We will hike along the ridge and then drop into Mahoney Park where we will have lunch. Then we hike down the DR Trail and back on the rolling Valley Trail. This is an 11.2 mile round trip Class B hike, with an elevation gain of about 1500 feet to the top of the Ridge. Check out <https://www.fcgov.com/naturalareas/finder/bobcat> for more information. Casual pace. Contact Ron Tuttle at 970-667-4479 or rktuttle7@gmail.com for meeting time and to sign up for the hike. Eleven people max.

Saturday March 31: No hike on the schedule.

Tuesday April 3; Rabbit Mountain Open Space:

This 4-mile loop hike by Lyons has several hundred feet of elevation gain up the hill with great views of the mountains to the west. Contact Linda at 970-310-8163 or ljmzimm@gmail.com to sign up.

Thursday April 5; Black Lake and Above:

This snowshoe hike is a winter classic - Black Lake (and above) in the Rocky Mountain National Park. Black Lake is set in a deep well of vertical rock surrounded by ice-covered walls. Of special note, our route above Jewel Lake will be through the **Black Lake drainage which can only be done in winter**. From Black Lake, our intent is to continue up (+500') its inflow creek into the Upper Glacier Gorge to a rock outcrop where, weather permitting; we will stop for lunch in an incredibly scenic setting. Longs Peak, Keyboard of the Winds, Pagoda, McHenry's, The Stoneman, the sheer face of Spearhead gleaming in the sun, and even the distant Mummy Range will be our companions. Our pace will be comfortable to all but this is, nevertheless, a difficult class B+ winter outing at about 9 miles roundtrip with 1,950' of gain and the possibility of having to break trail. We will return the way we came utilizing the seat of our pants when possible for some of the steeper descents. Though much of the route will likely be on packed trail, **you must bring snowshoes!** Also recommended are some kind of shoe traction devices like Micro Spikes. I expect this hike to take about 7 hours trailhead to trailhead. **I will meet the group at 8 AM at the Glacier Gorge Trailhead** in Rocky Mountain National Park. If you would like to sign up for this hike or have any questions, contact Pete Langer at 970-227-3614 or langerpete@hotmail.com.

Sunday April 1: No Hike Scheduled. Contact Penny Kragie if you would like to lead a hike on this date (pakragie@gmail.com or (571) 643-6803).

Saturday April 7; Bear Lake TH to Fern Lake TH:

Class B hike, 9 miles point to point with 1,500 feet elevation gain. Awesome snowshoe hike from Bear Lake to Lake Helene, Lake Odessa, Fern Lake and Fern Lake TH. Contact Douglas at 970 672 7629 or douglasbxtr@gmail.com.

Sunday April 8: No Hike Scheduled. Contact Penny Kragie if you would like to lead a hike on this date (pakragie@gmail.com or (571) 643-6803).

Tuesday April 10: No hike on schedule. Contact Jane Maddigan at maddigan2@gmail.com if you would like to lead a hike on this date.

Thursday April 12; Rattlesnake Gulch:

This hike is in Eldorado Canyon State Park, and while it is only about 4 miles in length, it is quite steep. We will climb 800 feet and see the old ruins of the Craggs Hotel, and then continue up another 400 feet to look over the Continental Divide. This hike will be led at a slow pace. Class A hike. Call Jane D. to sign up or for more information: 260-413-2686 or jcdflyfisher@gmail.com.

Saturday April 14; Hall Ranch:

We will do the Nighthawk-Nelson loop. This is a class B hike, 10 miles round trip with 1,300 feet elevation gain. The hills should be greening up by this time. There are great views of Longs Peak and Meeker at the half way point. Be prepared for lots of mountain bikers. Contact Ron T. at 970-667-4479 or mailto:rktuttle7@gmail.com for more details or to sign up for the hike. Eight people max.

Sunday April 15; Peacock Pool:

On this hike you will enjoy seldom seen views of Peacock Pool and Columbine Falls. These features are in the Roaring Fork drainage just east of Longs Peak. They will be reached by doing two moderately difficult scrambles down unstable boulder fields found along Chasm Lake Spur Trail. Only hikers comfortable with this type of scrambling should come on this hike! This will be a class B hike, 7.8 miles round trip with 1900 feet of elevation gain. We will hike at an intermediate pace, and traction devices may be required. Contact Ted Hartman at 970-292-8431 before April 14 for more information or to sign up for the hike. There will be a maximum of 8 hikers.

Tuesday April 17; Red Mountain Open Space:

We will hike the Big Hole Wash and Ruby Wash trail loop and will briefly visit Wyoming!!! The red and tan rock cliffs of this open space are beautiful and are reminiscent of Utah. This is an A level hike of 8 miles and only 761' of gradual climbing. Call Steve at 970-292-8804 or stevebergstrand73@gmail.com.

Thursday April 19; Maxwell Open Space:

Class A hike at the Maxwell Natural Area in Fort Collins. We will hike at a casual pace for approximately 6 miles with around 500' elevation gain. We will enjoy beautiful views of Horsetooth Reservoir, Fort Collins and more. Please call Karen at 970-231-5883 by April 17th to sign up for the hike.

Saturday April 21; Big South Trail:

This is a 'B' hike of about 12 miles round trip with 1128' of elevation gain. The trail follows alongside the Poudre River. The trailhead is in Poudre Canyon on Hwy 14, 49 miles west of Hwy 287. Ride share will be \$8. Call Steve at 970-292-8804 or stevebergstrand73@gmail.com for meeting time and place.

Sunday April 22; Deer Mountain:

Join us for a 6 mile R/T hike in RMNP with only about 1,000 feet elevation gain, topping off at 10,013 ft. It's got a little of everything, so you have to work a bit, but the reward is great, encompassing views at the top. An A hike, at an easy going pace. Call Carol 970-685-4943 or email Ruggmor@aol.com.

Tuesday April 24: No hike on schedule. Contact Jane Maddigan at maddigan2@gmail.com if you would like to lead a hike on this date.

Thursday April 26; Coyote Ridge:

We will have beautiful views of the hogbacks, the Front Range, shrub lands and prairie dogs. We will hike to the ridge at Coyote and to the Rimrock trail. 550 feet elevation and about 4 miles. Depending on weather and terrain bring sunscreen, water and a hat. Call Glenda at 970-669-2347 or seely.ge@comcast.net.

Saturday April 28; The Teahouse:

The Wigwam Tea House was built around 1913 by Ann Wolfram who homesteaded the land on the route to Longs Peak for passing travelers and she sold Indian handicrafts as well as refreshments. From Lili Lake we will use the Storm Pass Trail to Aspen Brook, leading through a dense forest. It descends for 700 ft and then opens out into a meadow where there are ruins of the Jimmy Field cabin. We will reach the tea house after 2+ miles. Roundtrip is about 4 miles. For more information or to sign up for the hike, contact Josie B. at 970-632-3229.

Sunday April 29: No hike scheduled. Contact Penny Kragie if you would like to lead a hike on this date (pakragie@gmail.com or (571) 643-6803).

Tuesday May 1; Hewlett Gulch:

The hike is in the lower part of the Poudre Canyon. It will be an A rated hike of 8 miles round trip and 1100 feet of elevation gain. It involves many stream crossings, but they are easy. Bring trekking poles for balance while doing the water crossings. The high point is 7000 feet. Please contact Ron T. at 970-667-4479 or rktuttle7@gmail.com for details or to sign up for this hike. Nine people maximum.

Thursday May 3; Picture Rock:

Picture Rock will be a class A hike between 5 and 6 miles. The elevation gain is 979'. It will be an easy hike with beautiful views; we may see various types of wild flowers that may be starting to grow. Contact Lupi at 970-667-7913 for the meeting time and place.

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)