



LOVELAND MOUNTAIN CLUB
PO BOX 983, LOVELAND, CO 80539

www.LovelandMountainClub.org

Vol. 42, #3: May, 2018

President's Message:

We had a terrific turn out at the April Meeting to hear Darla Sidles and Estee Murdoch talk to us about the challenges of managing and supporting Rocky Mountain National Park. Thanks to Jim Disney and Ron Tuttle for setting up this very informative program!

Warmer weather is here and there are many beautiful hikes on the calendar. If you have enjoyed some hikes with the club but haven't led a hike yet, start with leading an EZ hike of less than 4 miles and not much climbing. Many members want to go on easier hikes but we need hike leaders. There are some open dates on the May and June hike calendar.

The **Hike Archive on the LMC webpage** has been updated to include most of the hikes that the club has offered over the past several years. Over 300 different hikes are listed by general location, trailhead, distance, hike category (EZ, A, B, C), and elevation gain. We have now included the EZ hikes as well so if you are looking for a hike to lead, this is a good place to start.

Save the Date! Highway 34 in Big Thompson Canyon will be opening Memorial Day Weekend. The City of Loveland Parks Department is now managing the Round Mountain Trail and the trail will also open that weekend. On **Saturday, June 2nd** Jane Davis will be leading our Spring Trail Maintenance Day on the trail. This is always a lot of fun because we have many hands to do the work and there is a party in the parking lot when we are finished! There is a job for everyone starting at the bottom of the trail. See Jane Davis or email jcdflyfisher@gmail.com to sign up.

Some of our best meeting presentations are from our own members. On **May 7th at 7:00**, Jim Disney will provide a program of photos from as far back as 1978 when the club was founded. And some members will give short slide shows and talks on their hiking vacations.

Looking forward to seeing you at the meeting or out on a hike this Spring!

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, 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.

When one tugs at a single thing in nature, he finds it attached to the rest of the world. - **John Muir**

Special Thanks to our April Hike Leaders:

Linda Z., Pete L., Doug B., Jane M., Jane D., Ron T., Ted H., Steve B., Karen G., Carol R., Glenda S., and Josie B. 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

Weekend Hike Coordinator for May – Dick Lottes - (970) 229-0045

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 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.

Saturday May 5; Steep Mountain:

Class B Hike - 5 mile hike with 1,400 feet elevation gain. From Hollowell Park bushwhack up steep terrain to South Lateral Moraine and hike along ridge to Steep Mountain and descend to Mill Creek and return to Hollowell Park. Contact Douglas 970 672 7629 or douglasbxtr@gmail.com.

Sunday May 6: Open

Tuesday May 8; Off-trail Navigation Instruction:

This hike will focus primarily on teaching participants the basics of using a compass and GPS. Compass topics could include the taking and following of bearings, declination, and map usage. Some GPS instruction will also be done (finding your location using GPS and a map, waypoint usage). If you have them, please bring your compass and GPS with you as the instructor does not have any spares. **Don't purchase anything just for this hike; we will share the equipment we have.** The hike will be to Rabbit Ears (off the Cow Creek Trail) and will involve about ½ mile of bushwhacking. The point of the hike is more about learning compass and GPS usage, not reaching the destination; although the hike will only be about 3 miles round trip with 500 feet elevation gain. This will be a class A+ hike done at a casual pace. Contact Ted Hartman at 970-292-8431 before May 6 for more information or to sign up for the hike. **There will be a limit of 8 hikers.**

Thursday May 10; Kruger Rock:

This hike will be class A, 4 miles round trip with 935 feet elevation gain (up to 9355 feet). It will be done at a casual pace. There is a 30 foot scramble up a notch to the flat summit. The 360-degree panoramic views of Mount Meeker, Longs Peak, the Continental Divide, the Mummy Range, Lumpy Ridge, and Estes Valley are utterly breathtaking. Without a Larimer County Park Pass there's an entry fee for each car. Contact Ruth Hartman at 970-292-8431 for meeting time and place.

Saturday May 12; Button Rock Preserve:

This hike is west of Lyons, Colorado and includes the reservoir system for the City of Longmont. We will hike a scenic loop including the Sleepy Lion Trail, Button Rock Dam and Ralph Price Reservoir. It covers 5.4 miles RT with elevation gain of 921 feet for a Class A hike rated as moderate. Contact Tom B. at 970-405-7794 or tabruch@msn.com by April 10 for more information or to sign up.

Sunday May 13: Open

Tuesday May 15; Arthur's Rock:

This hike in Lory State Park will be 3.4 miles round-trip with 1100 feet elevation gain. This class B hike will be led at a casual pace. Some rock steps have been added which makes the rock scramble to the top of Arthur's Rock easier. The view from the top is definitely worth the trek up! There will be a daily pass fee of \$7 per vehicle. Contact Karen at 970-231-5883 for more details or to sign up for the hike.

Thursday May 17; Heil Valley Ranch:

This hike, located southwest of Lyons, is just under 8 miles and about 1000 feet of elevation gain. We will ascend the Wapiti Trail and follow the Ponderosa Loop, stopping to enjoy the view of the neighboring valley, before descending back to the trailhead. Call Linda Z. at 970-310-8163 or email LJMZimm@gmail.com.

Saturday May 19; Homestead Meadows:

We will hike to the connector trail in Hermit Park and visit the Irvin (1917), Griffith (1923), and Brown (1918) Homesteads. The hike will be approximately 7-8 miles roundtrip with less than 800 feet of elevation gain. The pace will be casual to moderate. Irvin is the most interesting of the 8 homesteads in the area with at least 7 buildings on the property in various states of disrepair. If you are interested in some of Colorado's early settlers, contact Irene Borchers at 970-222-6972 or iborchers@comcast.net to sign-up for the hike. Please note that in addition to the ride share, we will also have a \$6 fee per car to share.

Sunday May 20: Open

Tuesday May 22: No hike on schedule. Contact Jane Maddigan at maddigan2@gmail.com if you would like to lead a hike on this date.

Thursday May 24; Lily Mountain:

Lily Mountain is an A hike of about 4 miles RT and 1000 feet of elevation gain. The trail head is on Highway 7 below Lily Lake. We are mostly in the forest until a short rock scramble to the top, which provides a nice 180 degree vista of the Estes Park area. Call Carol at 970-685-4943 or email Ruggmor@aol.com.

Sunday May 27; Horsetooth Mountain Open Space:

We will hike up to just below Horsetooth Rock via the Horsetooth Falls and Wathen trails. Then return to the parking area following the Audra Culver and South Ridge trails. On clear days there are magnificent views of Longs Peak and surroundings. The hike is approximately 6.5 to 7 miles with an elevation gain of about 800 feet. If you would like to sign up for the hike please contact Penny Kragie at 571-643-6803 or pakragie@gmail.com.

Tuesday May 29; The Pool to Cub Lake:

An easy paced hike of about 6.4 miles round trip and 630 feet elevation gain. Cub Lake is ringed by a thick pine forest and a marshy shoreline in some places. Looking due west from the lake is 12,922-foot Stones Peak, which provides a nice backdrop to this tranquil scene and a nice lunch spot. Call Gabi Mills at 970-227-1497 for further details or to sign up for the hike.

Thursday May 31; Nymph, Dream, and Emerald Lakes:

This popular Rocky Mountain National Park hike leads past three magnificent lakes: Nymph, Dream, and Emerald. This will be a Class A hike, 3.6 miles round trip, with an elevation gain of 650 feet. The pace will be casual. Contact Ruth Hartman at 970-292-8431 for meeting time and place.

Tuesday June 5; Old Ute Trail:

This is an A hike. The Ute Trail connects the Beaver Mountain Trail with Trail Ridge Road in Rocky Mountain National Park. It leads to summer hunting grounds in the tundra used by prehistoric tribes, Utes, and Arapahos for thousands of years. However, we will only go 2-3 miles up at an easy pace, gradually climbing about 800 feet. There are great views, and hopefully some wild life may appear. Contact Carol at 970-685-4943 or email Ruggmor@aol.com.

Thursday June 7; Buckhorn Creek Orchid hike:

This will be a class EZ, casually paced hike in Buckhorn Canyon to view the Calypso orchids. The hike will be approx. 4 miles round trip with a few hundred feet of elevation gain. Photographers need to bring their cameras. We will start from the Buckhorn Ranger station and take the Donner Pass trail to the south. Contact Ron T. at 970-667-4479 or rktuttle7@gmail.com for more information or to sign up for the hike. Limit 11 people.

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)