



LOVELAND MOUNTAIN CLUB
PO BOX 983, LOVELAND, CO 80539

www.LovelandMountainClub.org

Vol. 43, #1: July, 2021

President's Message

Forty-three years ago, Jim Disney founded the Loveland Mountain Club. When I joined 20 years ago, we only had 75 members. Today, we have 145. We are so excited to have new members joining us, especially since we have been under COVID restrictions for over a year now. We welcome all of you who have joined us during this time and hope you'll enjoy the Club as much as we have.

As many of you know, Jim Disney has been fighting a rare form of cancer for more than 2 years. He not only founded and supported our Club, but is a treasured artist of this community and provided 8 years of service for Larimer County as County Commissioner. His medical bills have been adding up with his chemo, radiation and now immunotherapy treatments. A gofund.me page has been set up to help with these hefty expenses. A substantial donation has been made on behalf of the Loveland Mountain Club. If you wish to send a personal donation, the website is <https://gofund.me/2a6639c6>.

In my 20 years with the Club, I have held Board and Officer positions and led many hikes. I've loved every minute of it and have met and gotten to know many of the Club members. This is the perfect way to meet everyone and really have a more enjoyable time. My hope is that you will consider being a hike leader or co-leader or volunteer for a Board position when the time comes. Right now, we have an urgent need for hike leaders as many of our hikes are filling up very fast with long waiting lists. We've even updated our "Protocols" to change the group size from 8 to whatever the hike leader feels comfortable with. If you're interested in leading or co-leading a hike on Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday or Sunday, please contact the following:

- Weekend Coordinator – Penny Kragie, pakragie@gmail.com
- Tuesday Coordinator – Jane & Dan Maddigan, maddigan2@gmail.com
- Thursday Coordinator – Tom Bruch, tombruch1964@gmail.com

Covid Related Protocols for Loveland Mountain Club Hikes

- Group size will be at the discretion of the hike leader taking into consideration management of the group, parking availability and difficulty of the hike. As always, participation will be on a first come, first serve basis.

- Hikes are open to whoever wants to lead a hike and those hikers who are comfortable in attending.
- Masks are not mandatory while hiking.
- Full disclosure of vaccination status would be desired so that hiking and driving in groups can be done safely. Participants should disclose their vaccination status to the hike leader and other participants. Participants may then choose either to drive their own vehicle to the trailhead or carpool with others. Carpool drivers may request riders to wear face coverings inside their vehicle.
- If you must step off the trail for a moment to social distance, stop rather than continuing to walk alongside the trail thus preventing trail erosion.
- Include with the *essential items* in your backpack a facemask and hand sanitizer.
- Sign the Loveland Mountain Club Waiver of Liability-2020 if you have not already. Hike leaders should carry a small supply of the waivers with them.
- Please cancel from the hike if you are feeling any symptoms associated with COVID-19 or have had contact with anyone known to have symptoms in the last 14 days.
- Hike leaders must honor all local and county closures and have the necessary reservations for the Rocky Mountain trails. Leaders should plan to avoid popular, over-crowded trailheads and have a Plan B ready in case the trailhead/parking area is already crowded.

Reminder:

The Loveland Mountain Club **Annual July Picnic** will be Monday, **July 12**, 5:30-7:30 PM at Fairgrounds Park, Pavilion #1A, 700 S. Railroad Avenue, Loveland. Bring an appetizer, salad, side dish or dessert along with a utensil to serve it with. The Club will be providing both baked and fried chicken as well as beverages. Bring your own cup, plate and utensils. We will be using the honor system for mask wearing and social distancing for those who are unvaccinated. Please **RSVP** to Betsy Mosehauer at betsy_mosehauer@msn.com or 970-310-0200 **before July 7** to sign up (helps with the chicken ordering).

Enos Mills once said "Nature takes mind and body and puts them at their best. Here one comes to know himself and to be the self he would like to be. Nature is the lifesaver of the race; the great out-of-doors is the lifesaving station of the nation." This is why we enjoy hiking so much.

Betsy Mosehauer, President
Loveland Mountain Club

Club Meetings:

Monthly meetings are on hold until further notice due to our meeting place not being available. We apologize for this but we are at the mercy of Covid regulations.



Editor's Notes:

I am so excited to be putting together a newsletter for LMC! It has been 16 months since the last one, and it feels great that things are starting to get back to normal. Please bear with me as I get back into the swing of things. This newsletter is a bit late but I have been out of town for three weeks; in the future I will resume getting the newsletters out around the 20th of the preceding month.

We have 7 hikes scheduled for July! While this is a great accomplishment following a pandemic, we would love to add more hikes for everyone to enjoy. The club likes to offer hikes every Saturday, Sunday, Tuesday, and Thursday. We used to have up to 16 hikes every month! If you are interested in leading a hike, just contact one of the hike coordinators listed below and they will help you set it up. It isn't too late to add hikes for July if you are interested.

If you need to contact me about special announcements or questions regarding the newsletter, please feel free to use my personal email melpenning1010@gmail.com. Please note that this is a new email for me. I am happy to send out group emails to the membership regarding any hike additions or changes, meeting announcements, etc. Hike leaders should also contact the appropriate hike coordinator about any additions or changes.

Melanie Pennington, Editor

Special Thanks to our June Hike Leaders:

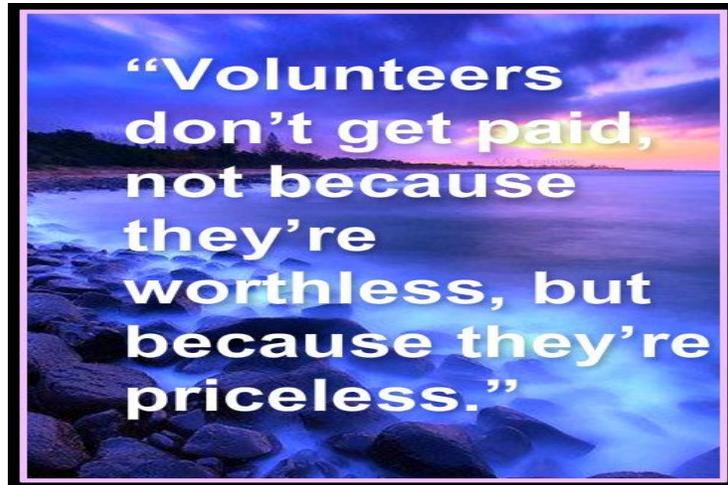
Tom Bruch, Gail Frasier, and Linda Hollingshead lead us into the post-Covid era by volunteering to lead hikes last month. Many thanks to them for the hikes they led last month as well as for leading most of the hikes posted for July!

Hike Coordinators:

Weekend Hike Coordinator for 2019: Penny Kraigie - pakragie@gmail.com or 571-643-6803

Tuesday Hike Coordinators: Jane and Dan Maddigan: maddigan2@gmail.com or 412-680-8919

Thursday Hike Coordinators: Tom Bruch: tombbruch1964@gmail.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.

- Special COVID 19 considerations are explained in Betsy's message above.
- 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 2500 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

Thursday, July 8; Homestead Meadows via Hermit Park

From Hermit Park to Irvin's Homestead, 6.6 miles round trip, with 931 ft elevation gain and rated an A hike with LMC. Might be water crossings. \$9 park fee. Limit is 12 hikers. To reserve a place contact Gail Frasier at billgailfrasier@gmail.com.

Sunday, July 11, 2021; McIntosh Lake

EZ 4-mile hike (no elevation change) around McIntosh Lake in Longmont. Great views of the mountains. We will meet in the parking lot on Northshore Drive (carpool from Loveland can be arranged). Hike starts at 7 AM. No limit on number of hikers. Contact Melanie Pennington at melpenning1010@gmail.com to sign up for the hike. Afterwards anyone interested can join in for tea or coffee at Luna's Cafe in Longmont (800 Coffman St.).

Tuesday, July 13; Coulson Gulch

Great out and back day hike near Lyons. Starts with a steep downhill and continues mostly downward through forest and along a creek bed with occasional meadows. About 1.8 miles into the trail lies an old abandoned cabin. After that is a trail that goes into Button Rock Preserve. We will do a short incursion over the ridge to view the expansive valley in Button Rock. Then back on Coulson Trail with several stream crossings, an eroded section and difficult navigation. At the end is a spectacular cascade of water flowing at the bend in the St. Vrain Creek. The return will be an upward trek all the way back to the Trailhead. Hike is rated A+ with 6.5 miles RT and 1,076 elevation gain. Hikers should be reasonably fit. Max of 10 hikers. Contact Tom Bruch tombbruch1964@gmail.com or 970-405-7794.

Thursday, July 15; North Fork

North Fork Big Thompson River Trail via Dunraven Trailhead 6 miles (RT) to the homestead meadow. Elevation change is 1,007. Features a river and is rated "A". Early start. To sign-up, contact Kris Millard, (970)481-5126 or Millard_BobKris@msn.com.

Sunday, July 18; Eagle Wind Trail

EZ Hike on Eagle Wind Trail at Rabbit Mountain, 3 miles, about 500 feet elevation change, great views. We will meet at the trailhead at 7 am (carpool from Loveland can be arranged). Hike is limited to 8 people due to limited parking. Contact Melanie Pennington at melpenning1010@gmail.com to sign up for the hike.

Thursday, July 22; Homestead Meadows via Lion Gulch

From Lion's Gulch trailhead on HWY 36 to Irvin's Homestead, 9.2 miles round trip, with 1,374 ft elevation gain and rated a B hike. First section of the trail is steep and rocky. Limit is 12 Hikers. To reserve a place contact Gail Frasier at billgailfrasier@gmail.com.

Tuesday, July 27; West Creek Falls

This hike is 4 miles round trip with an elevation gain of 600 ft. Contact linda@hollingsed.com for more details.

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 LMCphotos98@gmail.com with Hike Destination and Hike Leader in the subject line of email, by 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)

Links to useful information can be found at Joeandfrede.com/wx/mountain_weather.ppt.