



LOVELAND MOUNTAIN CLUB
PO BOX 983, LOVELAND, CO 80539

www.LovelandMountainClub.org

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President's Message

Wow! We sure had a great turnout for the LMC Annual Picnic at Fairgrounds Park on July 12. Fifty people signed up! The food choices were outstanding. It was really hard to keep up with all the conversations going on. We were all so glad to see each other again and just catch up. Thanks to all who came and to MJ Bergstrand, Carol Watt, Cine Webb and Rich Kurz who help with the preparations.

We had an exciting announcement to make at the Picnic – our LMC monthly meetings will start again in September. The Trinity Lutheran Church, 3333 Duffield Avenue, Loveland is opening up their conference rooms again for us to meet. So our first meeting will be held on Monday, September 13 at 7:00 PM. Meetings are usually held the first Monday of the month but due to Labor Day falling on the first Monday, we will hold our meeting on the 13th. We will be sending out a notice later regarding the program. We hope to see many of you at the meeting.

As I said at the Picnic, it takes VOLUNTEERS to keep our Club going. – volunteers to lead hikes, volunteers to serve on the Board, volunteers to serve on our many committees. Out of 143 members, only a certain few have volunteered to help and they are usually the same ones. It seems like I'm always asking for volunteers, but this time – WE NEED HELP!

We are very concerned about the lack of hike leaders for the Club. Many thanks go to those members who have led hikes in the past two months: Tom Bruch, Melanie Pennington, Doug & Linda Hollingshead, Gail Frasier, Suzanne Parent, Pat Berman, Kris Millard, and Greg Coonfare. They have not only led one hike during this time, but sometimes three or four. Before the pandemic, the Club would have scheduled hikes every week. We're not sure why the change. Perhaps it's because we feel freer to travel and are away more this summer. Maybe it's because during COVID we've formed our own small group of hikers. It could also be that members are a little hesitant about leading hikes. If you have any ideas, please let me know. Whatever the reason, WE REALLY NEED HIKE LEADERS. You can always co-lead a hike and decide on how many hikers to take. You are the leader – you make the decisions. We'd love to see some new leaders and also, those great hike

leaders we've had in the past. If you're interested in helping our Club to survive, 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

One more important issue – we are losing the two wizards who took care of posting our hike photos (LMCphotos98@gmail.com) on the Club Facebook page. So, volunteers – step up! Of course, the job comes with training. If you have any questions regarding what the job entails, please contact Steve Bergstrand, stevebergstrand73@gmail.com or Dick Lottes at longs91peak@yahoo.com. We thank both of them for the many years of doing this job. If you would like to be the next two Club Wizards, please let me know (betsy_mosehauer@msn.com)

Please, let's keep our Club going by volunteering! You won't regret it – we do have a lot of fun!!!

Betsy Mosehauer, President
Loveland Mountain Club
betsy_mosehauer@msn.com



Club Meetings:

We are happy to announce that our next monthly meeting has been scheduled for Monday, September 13th!! It will be from 7 to 8:30 PM, at Trinity Lutheran Church, 3333 Duffield Avenue, Loveland, 80538. Program is TBA. The local and state guidelines will be followed regarding Covid restrictions at the time.

If you have any suggestions you would like to submit for programs, or would like to present a program related to hiking, health, nature, weather, etc., please let us know!

Editor's Notes:

It is so great to be back hiking with LMC hikers! Catching up with old friends, making new friends, and returning to the sense of community we all craved during the pandemic just feels so right. I was lucky enough to be able to lead some EZ hikes in June and I got the feeling that the folks on my hikes felt the same way I do: there is nothing like connecting with others to help restore a sense of happiness to our lives. We all have been through a crazy, intense, stressful time dealing with a pandemic. To now be able to safely gather and share a common experience and have something to talk about besides Covid 19 is such a blessing! Many thanks to those who joined me, and I am looking forward to seeing you all again in August!

It might not be too late to sign up for the last two hikes of July, so please join Linda or Greg for a hike! See below for details.

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. 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, Newsletter Editor



Special Thanks to our July Hike Leaders:

Tom Bruch, Melanie Pennington, Kris Millard, Gail Frasier, Greg Coonfare and Linda Hollingshead volunteered to lead hikes last month. Special recognition goes to first time hike leader Kris Mallard! Welcome to Kris as well as to our newest hike leader Elizabeth McCoy, who will lead a nature hike in August.

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

“We all are so deeply interconnected; we have no option but to love all. Be kind and do good for any one and that will be reflected. The ripples of the kind heart are the highest blessings of the Universe.”
— Amit Ray, *Yoga and Vipassana: An Integrated Life Style*

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

- 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

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.

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

Tuesday, July 27; West Creek Falls

This will be an A/B hike of 6 miles and 1600 feet elevation gain. We are heading up to see the beautiful West Creek Falls. Due to the limited parking, we will be leaving from the east side Loveland JAX parking lot at 5:30 am. There is no limit to the number of hikers so please join us for a lovely morning hike! Please contact Linda H. at linda@hollingsed.com to sign up for the hike.

Wednesday July 28; Piper Meadows

This approximately 4-mile, Class A loop hike starts in Glen Haven. The initial climb out from Glen Haven is somewhat steep but elevation gain is less than 1000 ft. After the initial climb much of the hike is flat to rolling along Piper Meadow, named for Henry Piper who operated a dairy farm here from around 1913 to the 1930s. The foundations of some of the buildings can still be seen. Number of hikers limited to six. Contact Greg Coonfare at 720-289-8392 for meeting time and place.

Tuesday, August 10; Curt Gowdy State Park

This scenic Wyoming State Park located 24 miles West of Cheyenne features mostly open terrain, beautiful rock formations, three lakes, and over 38 miles of hiking trails. This loop hike will start from Aspen Grove on the South portion of Stone Temple, then will proceed over Pinball and Crow Creek to Hidden Falls, back on Mo'Rocka, Crow Creek, and Shoreline trails and end with a walk along part of Granite Springs Reservoir to return to Aspen Grove. Trails are generally easy to moderate, elevation change of 450', maximum elevation 7,700' and total distance about 6.5 miles for an A rated hike. Travel time from Loveland is about 1 ¾ hours so figure on a full day. Hike limited to 12. To join, email Tom Bruch tombruch1964@gmail.com or call 970-405-7794.

Sunday August 15th; Round Mountain Nature Trail

EZ 1.9-mile hike with 423-foot elevation gain. Round Mountain Nature Trail is a 1.9 mile heavily trafficked out and back trail located near Loveland, Colorado that features a river and is good for all skill levels. We will meet in the parking lot at the trailhead (carpool from Loveland can be arranged). Hike starts at 7 AM. No limit on number of hikers. Contact Elizabeth McCoy at eamccoy1@comcast.net to sign up for the hike.

Tuesday, August 17; Lake Estes Loop

Join me for a walk around Estes Lake for an EZ hike of about 4 miles and minimal elevation gain on a paved surface. The trail follows the edge of Lake Estes and the Big Thompson River, with splendid views and lots of wildlife. We will find a nice place in Estes for coffee or tea afterwards. Limit of 8 hikers. For more information or to sign up for the hike, please contact Melanie at melpenning1010@gmail.com.

Thursday, August 19; American Lakes

This scenic area west of Cameron Pass provides access to Alpine Tundra, wildflowers, views of the spectacular Nokhu Crags and the Never Summer Mountain Range. The out and back hike begins at the trailhead in State Forest State Park along an old logging road, follows the Michigan River, climbs a series of switchbacks and emerges from the trees. Shortly thereafter we will access two lakes comprising American Lakes, also known as Michigan Lakes. Trails are moderate but rated B due to elevation. Round trip distance is 7.3 miles, elevation gain of 1,453' and maximum elevation of 11,317'. Plan on an early start and a full day because of distance. Limit is 12 hikers. To sign up, contact Tom Bruch: tombruch1964@gmail.com or call 970-405-7794.

Wednesday, August 25; Betasso Preserve Canyon Loop

This will be an EZ hike of 3.5 miles with about 400 feet elevation gain in the foothills above Boulder. Mountain vistas, views of golden plains, scenic trails, diverse habitats, and a rich heritage make Betasso Preserve a favorite destination. This hike will be on Wednesday to take advantage of the bike-free day. Please pack a lunch for a picnic at the trailhead afterwards. Limit of 8 hikers. For more information or to sign up for the hike, contact Melanie Pennington at melpenning1010@gmail.com.

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.

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.