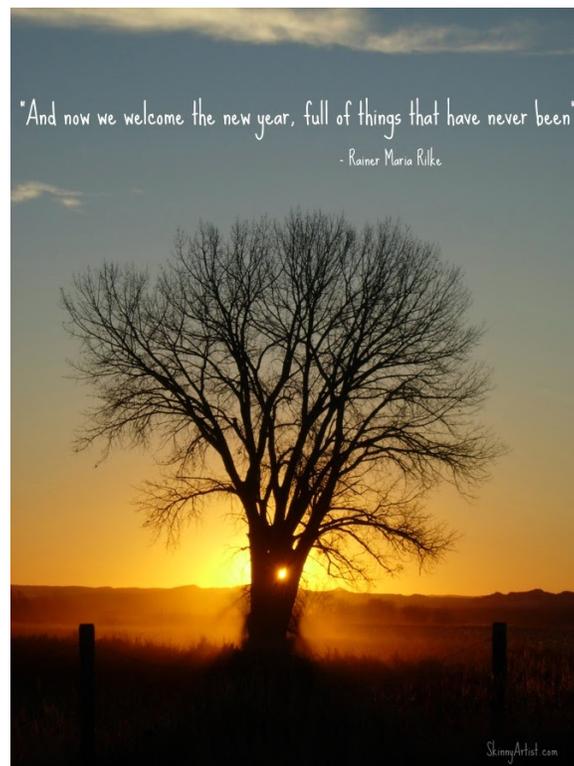




**LOVELAND MOUNTAIN CLUB**  
**PO BOX 983, LOVELAND, CO 80539**  
[www.LovelandMountainClub.org](http://www.LovelandMountainClub.org)  
Vol. 43, #7: January, 2022



## President's Message

Our Holiday Hike/Brunch on December 4 was well attended. Tom Bruch had 24 hikers join him on his Sylvan Dale loop hike and we had 54 attendees at the Brunch. The food was delicious and plentiful, as always. We unfortunately could not get the slide show to work, but Danielle has set up a link where you can view the great pictures. Danielle's instructions are: Once you open the link, it might not be the high-quality resolution we've all

come to expect. If that's the case, click on the settings gear at the lower right corner and select Quality, then change the quality to 1080p HD, and you will see the video without any blur, unless of course, you aren't wearing your glasses 😊.

Here's the link:

<https://youtu.be/IDBKuL2pFIk>

We made a few presentations to thank our members for volunteering and helping our Club to continue. The LMC Recognition Award was given to two people this year – Tom Bruch and Melanie Pennington. Tom has been the perfect example of an LMC member, serving on the Board and Committees as well as leading many hikes for us especially during Covid. Melanie has done an outstanding job as our Newsletter Editor. She has gone above and beyond in supporting me through these past 3 years. Rich Kurz put together a presentation video which we could not get to work. Following are the two poems he wrote for Tom and Melanie.

### **The Story of Tom Bruch (to tune of The Beverly Hillbillies)**

Come and listen to my story, 'bout a man named Tom,  
He leads lotsa hikes, for which we're really fond.  
If ya listen to my story, then you'll know that its true,  
And wonder to yourself, where all the time flew!  
Well, the first thing to know, is Tom's a gentle man,  
But you better stick together, or you'll miss out on a his plan!  
From the time of your departure, till you come back round a-gain –  
You'll find you're doing better, than when you first be-gain.  
Health food that is...  
Nuts an' berries...  
Have a'nuther pine cone.  
He doesn't need a compass, or a guidebook or TV.  
Even on the prairie, he can follow every tree.  
The reptiles and the critters, are his very bestest friends –  
Cuz if someone needs a doctor, well he knows just who to send.  
The good-looking one...  
With the fur coat...

And the toothy grin.

One night is got real late and, all the cars were far away.  
It seemed like in the holler, was where we're gonna stay.  
So he tells us spooky stories, then expects us to retire –  
But no one moves, he's got us glued, stickin' by the fire.

You can go home now...

I was just joshin'...

Ain't that right, Chi-yote?

### **The Ballad of Melanie Pennington (to tune of the TV theme for Robin Hood)**

Mel-an-ie, Pen-ing-ton, writing thru the night.

Mel-an-ie, Pen-ing-ton, makes things black and white.

The hike will be where?

The hike will be when?

Mel-an-ieeee

Pen-ing-tonnn

With her pen!

Her dates are all fan-tas-tic, and her leaders they are hot!

And her sum-m'ries - oh - really make a scene.

Not a character is missing, nor an "i" without a dot.

Our envy like the forest is green.

Moun-tain Club, Moun-tain Club, how then will you know?

Moun-tain Club, Moun-tain Club, what she says is so!

Her pen is always sharp –

Her words are always clear –

Mel-an-ieeee

Pen-ing-tonnn

GIVE A CHEER!

We also presented coffee mugs made by Ruth Hartman to our hike coordinators, Tom Bruch, Penny Kragie, Jane & Dan Maddigan. LMC t-shirts were also given to the 2021 hike leaders, Pat Berman, Tom Bruch, Greg Coonfare, Gail Fraser, Ted Hartman, Dave & Linda Hollingsed, Elizabeth McCoy, Kris Millard, Melanie Pennington, Mark Sickles.

We ended the Brunch with the drawing of 20 door prizes which we all enjoyed. Thank you to all who donated.

**GREAT NEWS!!!** After an exhaustive search for a venue to hold our monthly meetings, Rich Kurz found that his Church, Grace Community, 240 Barberry Place, Loveland could accommodate us. **So our first meeting of 2022 will be Monday, January 3, 7:00 PM.** The Church is located off 14<sup>th</sup> Street SW, east of Taft and west of 287. Turn south onto Valency Drive and take the first right onto Barberry Place. It takes a slight left-hand curve and dead ends into the Church parking lot. The entrance is on the East side next to the main entrance. Masks will be required for the health and safety of everyone.

The Program Committee has arranged for Bruce Davies to speak on the history of the people in what we know as Estes Park from ancient times to the beginning of the lodging industry and some of the first folks to climb Longs Peak including John Wesley Powell, William Byers, Isabella Bird and of course Enos Mills, the father of Rocky Mountain National Park. Bruce was one of the most popular speakers at the historic Baldpate Inn and Stanley Hotel.

We will be discussing the topic of most importance right now – filling the open positions for Officers and Committees. I'm excited to say the positions for President, Secretary, Board Members and Facebook Photo Editor have been filled! **The following openings still need to be filled:**

- Vice President
- Treasurer
- Second person to assist John Pape with our Website
- Second person to assist Donna Pierce as Hospitality Coordinator
- Tuesday Hike Coordinator

**PLEASE**, step up and volunteer. We will give you all the necessary training you'll need. If you are interested or have any questions about the positions, give me a call or send an email. I'd be happy to hear from you.

I am so appreciative of all the support so many of you have provided. It's a testament to the love we all have of the Loveland Mountain Club and exceptional mountains that we all enjoy.

*Betsy Mosehauer, President*

[betsy\\_mosehauer@msn.com](mailto:betsy_mosehauer@msn.com)



### Monthly Meetings

Grace Community Church, 240 Barberry Place, Loveland has agreed to let us meet at their facility! **Our first meeting of 2022 will be Monday, January 3, at 7:00 PM.** The Church is located off 14<sup>th</sup> Street SW, east of Taft and west of 287. Turn south onto Valency Drive and take the first right onto Barberry Place. It takes a slight left-hand curve and dead ends into the Church parking lot. The entrance is on the East side next to the main entrance. Masks will be required for the health and safety of everyone.

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### **Editor's Notes:**

I am STILL chuckling about the songs that Rich Kurz wrote about myself and Tom Bruch! What an honor it is to be among those who have been the subjects of Rich's songs. Many thanks to Rich and to the LMC board for presenting me with this award. Being the newsletter editor is just something I enjoy doing. I get a real sense of purpose from doing something that keeps the people in this club connected and informed. So I will keep on "writing through the night to make things black and white" for you!

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](mailto: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

### **Thanks to our December Hike Leaders:**

Tom Bruch, Ted Hartman, and Gail Frasier volunteered to lead hikes last month. Many thanks to our hike leaders for stepping up to put nice hikes together for us!

### **Hike Coordinators:**

Weekend Hike Coordinator for 2022: Penny Kragie - [pakragie@gmail.com](mailto:pakragie@gmail.com) or 571-643-6803

Tuesday Hike Coordinators: Jane and Dan Maddigan: [maddigan2@gmail.com](mailto:maddigan2@gmail.com) or 412-680-8919

Thursday Hike Coordinators: Tom Bruch: [tombruch1964@gmail.com](mailto:tombruch1964@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](http://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 but may be needed when in a car.
- 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.

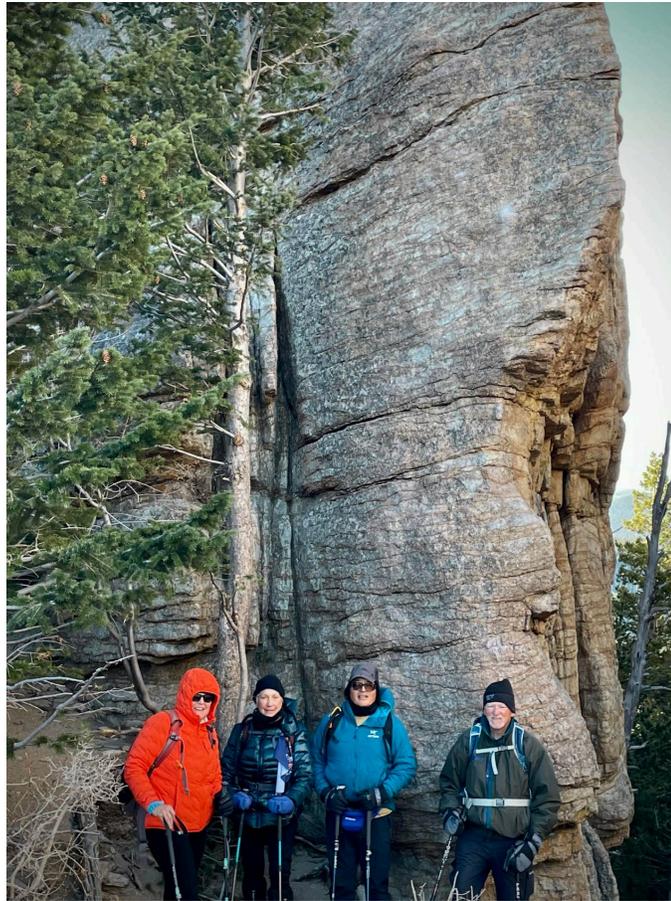
### Classification ratings

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

- 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 2500 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

### **Sunday, January 2: New Year's Resolution Walk at McIntosh Lake**

This will be an EZ Hike, a flat 4 miles, at McIntosh Lake in Longmont. We will share our New Year's resolutions prior to the walk, and then complete the walk to help commit ourselves to keeping our resolutions for the rest of the year! Please bring a hot beverage to enjoy at the beginning of the walk, and yes, there are port-a-potties available along the way. Contact Melanie at [melpenning1010@gmail.com](mailto:melpenning1010@gmail.com) for details and to sign up for the walk. Vaccinated participants only please.

## Sunday, January 16: Almost Full Wolf Moon hike and howl at Coyote Ridge

Join me for an A hike in the late afternoon up the Coyote Ridge Trail to view the Wolf Moon rising and the sun setting. We are going on Sunday, which is a day before the full moon, so folks who work can join us, and so we can make it back before it gets completely dark. This hike will be 4 miles and will have about 600 feet elevation gain. Please bring a headlight or flashlight and extra clothing to don as the temperature drops. Also be prepared to do a wolf howl, a throwback to last year, to support health care workers who are STILL stressed out by the ongoing pandemic. Contact Melanie at [melpenning1010@gmail.com](mailto:melpenning1010@gmail.com) for details and to sign up for the walk. Vaccinated participants only please.

***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](mailto: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 [http://joandfrede.com/wx/Mountain\\_Weather.ppt](http://joandfrede.com/wx/Mountain_Weather.ppt)

**Loveland Mountain Club Waiver of Liability, Assumption of Risk, and Indemnification – 2020**

Signed waivers can be submitted at the next club meeting, to your hike leader, or mailed to the club address: LOVELAND MOUNTAIN CLUB, PO BOX 983, LOVELAND, CO 80539.

**Parties and Definitions.** The individual whose name appears at the bottom of this waiver shall be referred to as "Participant." Loveland Mountain Club, Inc., is a Colorado non-profit corporation duly organized under the laws of the State of Colorado and registered with the Colorado Secretary of State. Loveland Mountain Club, Inc., including its employees, agents, volunteers, instructors, guides, officers, directors, and members shall be referred to as "Released Parties." Loveland Mountain Club and its employees, agents, volunteers, instructors, guides, officers, directors, and members either partially or wholly sponsor, organize, direct, conduct, or pay for various recreational activities, events, and trips that include, but are not limited to: hiking; snowshoeing; mountain biking; skiing and geocaching (collectively referred to as "LMC Activities").

**Specific Activity if Not a Member of LMC:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Waiver:** Participant desires to participate in LMC Activities. In consideration and exchange for allowing Participant to participate in LMC Activities, Participant, for him/herself, heirs, personal representatives and assigns, agrees **not to sue the Released Parties, and to hold harmless and release any Released Parties from any and all liability and/or claims for any injury, death, accident, illness, property damage, or property loss** arising from Participant's engagement in the LMC Activities, including, but not limited to, those claims based on any **Released Party's alleged or actual negligence or breach of any express or implied warranty.**

**Assumption of Risk.** Participation in any recreational activity or LMC Activities carries with it certain inherent risks that cannot be eliminated regardless of the care taken to avoid injuries. The specific risks vary from one activity to another. Some risks include but are not limited to: 1) minor injuries such as scratches, bruises, and sprains. 2) major injuries such as broken bones, eye injury or loss of sight, joint or back injuries, heart attacks, and concussions. 3) catastrophic injuries including paralysis and death. 4) exposure to unstable, steep, slippery terrain, wild or poisonous animals, insects or plants, altitude sickness, lightening, cold weather, avalanches, various other forces of nature, extreme remoteness from medical facilities, and/or equipment malfunctions and/or 5) contraction of or exposure to airborne illness and infectious diseases. I understand and agree that I am solely responsible for my own safety and well being while participating in LMC Activities.

**I have read the previous paragraphs and I know, understand, and appreciate these and other risks that are inherent in participating in LMC Activities. I hereby assert that my participation is voluntary and I knowingly assume all such risks.**

**Indemnification and Hold Harmless.** I also agree to **indemnify and hold** Released Parties **harmless** from any and all claims, actions, suits, procedures, costs, expenses, damages and liabilities including attorneys' fees brought as a result of my involvement in any LMC Activities and to reimburse the Released Parties for any such expenses incurred.

**Severability:** Participant expressly agrees that the foregoing waiver and assumption of risks agreement is intended to be as broad and inclusive as is permitted by the law of the State of Colorado and that if any portion thereof is held invalid, it is agreed that the balance shall, notwithstanding, continue in full legal force and effect.

**Acknowledgement of Understanding:** I have read this waiver of liability, assumption of risk, and indemnity agreement, fully understand its terms, and **understand that I am giving up substantial rights, including my right to sue.** I acknowledge that I am signing the agreement freely and voluntarily, and **intend by my signature to be a complete and unconditional release of all liability** to the greatest extent allowed by law.

**PARTICIPANT**

Print Name \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

If Participant is a minor under the age of 18 please **also** fill out the legal guardian's information below.

**PARTICIPANT'S LEGAL GUARDIAN**

Print Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_