



**LOVELAND MOUNTAIN CLUB**  
**PO BOX 983, LOVELAND, CO 80539**

[www.LovelandMountainClub.org](http://www.LovelandMountainClub.org)

Vol. 44, #1: March, 2022

### President's Message

As this will be my last official message to you as president, I want to thank all of you for helping me keep the Loveland Mountain Club active and moving ahead during the pandemic. I wish I could thank each and every one of you personally for the support I have had. I will be turning over the reins of President to a very capable member – Tom Bruch. Tom has led many hikes through these Covid times and I can't thank him enough.

I'm looking forward to the **March 7 LMC meeting** when we can finally hold our annual **Potluck Dinner**. It will start at 6:30 PM and we ask that you bring either a salad or entrée and your own table service. Remember our new location is Grace Community Church, 240 Barberry Place off of 14<sup>th</sup> Street SW (east of Taft Ave. and west of 287). Masks are optional.

This will be an important meeting as we will be electing new officers. We still have been unable to fill the following positions:

- Vice-President (fills in for the President when he/she is absent)
- A second person to help John Pape with our Website

Please if you are interested, contact me. As in any election, we will be accepting nominees from the floor.

I want to thank Linda Hollingsed who has stepped up to fill the Treasurer's position. The slate that we will be voting on is:

- President – Tom Bruch
- Secretary – Cindy Brusko
- Treasurer – Linda Hollingsed
- Board of Directors: Karen Goggin, Gabi Miles, Betsy Mosehauer
- Hospitality Coordinator – Donna Pierce
- Facebook Photo Editor – Donna Pierce
- Facebook Administrator – Pam Nelson
- Tuesday Hike Coordinator: Steve Bergstrand
- Thursday Hike Coordinator: Gail Fraser

**Remember:** Club membership fees are now due and can be paid at the March meeting or by sending your check made out to the Loveland Mountain Club (\$30 per family or \$20 single) and mailed to LMC, PO Box 983, Loveland, CO 80539. You have until March 31 to pay.

Danielle Raker Brown shared an interesting article with me on Estes Park history. Dr. James Pickering, Estes Park's Historian Laureate since 2006, is making his recently completed book, *From the Archives: Essays and Documents of the Early History of Rocky Mountain National Park* available free of charge through the Estes Park Museum. The free PDF or kindle compatible edition can be downloaded from the Estes Park Museum's website, [www.estes.org/museum](http://www.estes.org/museum). There are over 400 pages, but I just looked at the chapters that I was interested in. Great reading!

Spring is going to be here before we know it. Time to make plans to do more hiking and perhaps even lead a hike. As you well know, we are always looking for hike leaders. Why not make it your goal this year to lead at least one hike for the Club. You can choose when, where and the number of hikers. Have fun with it!

As always, wishing you good health and happy trails.

Betsy Mosehauer, President

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

## Monthly Meetings

### **Monday, March 7: Pot Luck Supper**

We will meet at 6:30 PM at Grace Community Church, 240 Barberry Place, Loveland. 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 are optional. Please bring a salad or entrée to share, and your own table service.

### **Monday, April 7: Monthly Meeting**

Speaker is to be determined. We will meet at 7:00 PM at Grace Community Church, 240 Barberry Place, Loveland.



## Editor's Notes:

I would like to personally thank Betsy Mosehauer for her dedicated leadership over the past 2 years. She has handled the tumultuous couple of years with a calm and rational approach and has always given me a sense of hope that things will someday get back to normal again. It has been a rare pleasure to work with someone who can be so cheerful in the midst of a pandemic! Thanks Betsy, with all my heart!

I would like to welcome our incoming president, Tom Bruch, and all the new board members who have volunteered to help this club move out of a pandemic and into a future that might not be the same, but that can still be amazing. I can't wait to see how this club moves into the next version of Jim Disney's vision!

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 February Hike Leaders:

Tom Bruch and Melanie Pennington volunteered to lead hikes last month, however, due to poor weather conditions, they were both postponed into March.

## Hike Coordinators:

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

Tuesday Hike Coordinator: Steve Bergstrand: [stevebergstrand73@gmail.com](mailto:stevebergstrand73@gmail.com)

Thursday Hike Coordinators: Gail Fraser: [billgailfrasier@gmail.com](mailto:billgailfrasier@gmail.com) or

## 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

### **Tuesday, March 3: Michigan Ditch Snowshoe**

This Poudre Canyon trail features a gradual incline on a snow-covered jeep road that is used to maintain the Michigan Ditch, part of the trans-mountain water storage system that funnels water from the western slope to the front range. You get views of the Nokhu Crags, Never Summer Mountains, cabins and trees along a snowy landscape. The trail starts at Cameron Pass and can extend all the way to American Lakes but we will go about 2.5 miles up to the junction with the American Lakes trail and turn around for a 5-mile easy Class A snowshoe hike. Starting elevation is 10,248' with about 350' gain. Hike limit is 8 due to limited parking. Fully vaccinated hikers only please. Due to travel distance, plan on a full day. To sign up, contact Tom Bruch at [tombruch1964@gmail.com](mailto:tombruch1964@gmail.com) or call 970-405-7794.

### **Thursday, March 10: Gould Loop Snowshoe**

This trail is located in State Forest State Park over Cameron Pass just east of Gould, Colorado. This area features eye filling mountain beauty including the Nokhu Crags and the Never Summer Range. The loop trail begins at the Moose Visitor Center and parallels the middle fork of the Michigan River including the Ranger Lakes Campground. A great winter outing, the snowshoe is over mostly level terrain and is rated A+, with 354' elevation gain, 6 miles round trip and maximum elevation of 9,250'. Hikers should plan on being gone all day due to the 2 hour drive up Poudre Canyon. Because it is a snowshoe, you should be reasonably fit. Fully Covid vaccinated hikers please. To join the trek, email Tom Bruch at [tombruch1964@gmail.com](mailto:tombruch1964@gmail.com).



### **Thursday, March 17: Wearing of the Green at Lory State Park**

This will be an A hike of about 3.4 miles and 1,100 feet elevation gain. We will be hiking to Arthur's Rock (not the Blarney Stone, but if you would like to kiss the rock you will be welcome to do so!). The Blarney Stone (Irish: Cloch na Blarnan) is a block of Carboniferous limestone built into the battlements of Blarney Castle, Blarney, about 8 kilometers from Cork, Ireland. According to legend, kissing the stone endows the kisser with the gift of the gab (great eloquence or skill at flattery). The stone was set into a tower of the castle in the year 1446. Aurther's Rock is made of sandstone, not limestone, so this is all just a bunch of blarney!

The hike will start at 9:00 am. Fully vaccinated hikers only please. Depending on the weather, traction devices will be required. For more information, please contact Melanie at [melpenning1010@gmail.com](mailto:melpenning1010@gmail.com).

This was originally the Groundhog Day Hike, which had to be rescheduled due to weather. Since Tom's hike also had to be rescheduled to March 3, this one was re-rescheduled to March 17<sup>th</sup>! One thing Covid has taught us is how to be flexible with scheduling!

## Looking ahead to next summer:

Rocky Mountain National Park will be using a timed-entry permit reservation system. The system will run May 27 to Oct. 10 and be similar to the one used in 2021. There are a few changes in this year's version of the system, so here is what you need to know, as planning will be key to entering the park when you want to.

**When you can start booking:** Reservations will go on sale through [www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov) starting at 10 a.m. MDT May 2 for May 27 through June 30.

The next releases will occur at:

10 a.m. MDT June 1 for July and any remaining days that have not been booked for June

10 a.m. MDT July 1 for August and any remaining days that have not been booked for July

10 a.m. MDT Aug. 1 for September and any remaining days in August that have not been booked

10 a.m. MDT Sept. 1. for October and any remaining days in September.

### 2 types of reservations to be offered

Like last year, one permit will be for the Bear Lake Road Corridor, which includes that area as well as access to the rest of the park. This reservation period will be from 5 a.m. to 6 p.m.

The second permit will be for Rocky Mountain National Park excluding the Bear Lake Road corridor. This reservation period will be from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Permits issued using the reservation system will allow park visitors to enter the park within two-hour windows of availability. The reservation system will apply to all areas of the park.

Once again, reservations are not required if entering the park before 5 a.m. or after 6 p.m. for the Bear Lake Corridor or before 9 a.m. or after 3 p.m. for the rest of the park.

### Day-before reservations still an option

Initially, 30% of the timed-entry permits will be held and made available for purchase at 5 p.m. the day before a visit through [www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov). The day-before permits are expected to sell out fast, so it's better to plan ahead if you can.

### Number of visitors allowed in the park will increase

This year's available reservations will be based on about 90% of total parking capacity in the park, compared with about 75% to 85% last year.

### **Why does the park have such a system in place?**

Park officials say visitor crowding and congestion have led to resource damage to the park.

The park was the country's third-busiest national park in 2019, with more than 4.6 million visitors, a 42% increase in visitation over the prior seven years.

The park says that has led to increased negative impacts to visitor and staff safety, resource protection, visitor experience and operational capacity.

Strategies implemented by the park to manage crowding and congestion in the past six years include using shuttle buses and closing entry to popular areas when parking lots were full.

<https://www.nps.gov/romo/planyourvisit/timed-entry-permit-system.htm>

***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://joeandfrede.com/wx/Mountain\\_Weather.ppt](http://joeandfrede.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 \_\_\_\_\_