



Newsletter



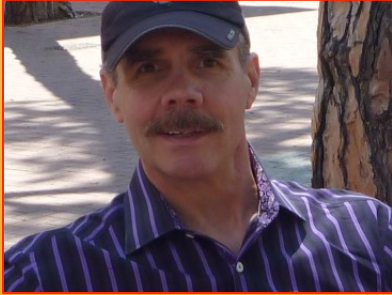
Vol. 2013, No. 1

August, 2013

Table of Contents

❁ From the Editor.....	3
❁ New Members.....	4
❁ Chair's Corner.....	5
❁ Meet your Trip Leaders.....	6
❁ Trip Report: Mt. Alice & Tanim Peak.....	9
❁ Scene around the Trails.....	13
❁ Closing Notes.....	17

From the Editor:



Jim Pisula

While I have written a great deal in my time, this is my first-ever production of a newsletter from start to finish. For those of you who think this just happens like getting water from a tap, allow me to disabuse you of that notion. Special thanks go to Don Carpenter, Tom Chapel, Scott Farquhar, JoAnn Herkenhoff, Bruce Hollenbaugh, Paul Weber, and York, for their invaluable assistance.

The Group has more than 50 new members since the beginning of 2013, some of whom are pictured in this Newsletter and all of whom are listed on the following page. Welcome to all of you; take advantage of the resources the Club and other members have to offer.

This newsletter is about you as members of the CMC Fort Collins Group – all I do is put stuff on pages. If you tell me the kind of information and news you would like, I'll do my level best to see that we produce the content you want to see.

While this document is the result of collaboration among many, the ultimate content responsibility is mine as Editor. Please send comments, suggestions for improvements, feature ideas, complaints, and even the occasional compliment to me at jdpisula@ix.netcom.com or call at (970) 420-1211.

Watch your email inbox for a Fort Collins Group communications survey around the middle of September, and please send in your response as soon as you can.

Welcome New 2013 Members!

Jessica Auman	Allen Hoople	Robert Roze
James, Maureen, & Belinda Best	Barbara Hulse	Gilbert, Jennifer, Angelica, & Melissa Sanchez
Michelle Bowie	Walt Hutton	Edward Schopfer
Sherryl Brandes	Charles Kop	Chris Sobin
Jeffrey Brennan	Mary LaDouceur	Dorothy Stranberg
Francisco Calderon	Joseph Linhoff	Diane Sullivan
Thomas Clark	Maki Livesay	Vardan Ter-Antonyan
Richard & Karen Dauer	Michelle Marison	Laura Tiitinen
Eric Elliott	Daniel Marotti	Pete Tomassi
Martin Forstenzer	Jo Montgomery	Rich Townsend
Nora & Gary Forte	James & Michelle Moore	Matthew Treaster
Lori Girouard	Shane Mueller	William Vazquez
Bill Glover	Mark Newell	Janet Vigil
Gary Goss	Betsy Perna	Regina Wagner
Christopher Haugen	Alicia Rehn	Timothy Warfield
Kevin Hearne	Patricia Roberts	Bradley Warren
John Henry	Secca Roettenbacher	Michael, Sam, Anna, & Susannah Wright
Russell Henry	Matt Rogers	Cody & Tiffany Zampino

Chair's Corner:

Welcome, as we publish our first Newsletter under the direction of Communications Director Jim Pisula.

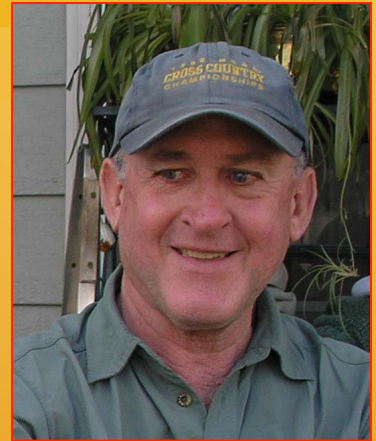
The newly revamped State CMC website has a new and modern look, but please bear with us as we go through revisions to make it more friendly and useful to both members as well as Trip Leaders.

Thanks for a great job go to JoAnne Herkenhoff, our Activities Director, and our volunteer Trip Leaders, to keep our schedule filled with trips and activities. During this Spring and Summer, we also completed our Mountain Hiking School, Skills Building for Leaders, Leadership Seminar, and Wilderness First Aid Course.

We will have an opportunity to visit with attendees of the Sustainable Living Fair about CMC and the advantages to CMC membership. The Fair attracts attendees from across Larimer County and offers a weekend of family-oriented events designed to educate people of all ages and backgrounds about sustainable living practices, green building, organic and local agriculture and more. Visit our booth at the Sustainable Living Fair Sept 14-15 at Legacy Park on North College Ave and enter a raffle for a chance to win a CMC publication. Thanks to Planet Bluegrass for sharing their booth with us. For more details go to:

<http://sustainablelivingassociation.org/sustainable-living-fair/>.

Upcoming events to be aware of: Fort Collins CMC event at Odell's Brewery, watch for the date. Colorado photographer John Fielder will be the featured speaker at our Annual Dinner / Meeting on Saturday, Nov. 9, so get your reservations in early.



Don Carpenter,
Chair

Meet Your Trip Leaders



Ward, in British Columbia, photo courtesy Ward Whicker.

Ward Whicker has been leading trips for the Fort Collins Group for about 5 years. He has over 5 decades of outdoor experience in hiking, climbing non-technical peaks, backcountry skiing, snowshoeing, hunting, and fishing. He has climbed many high peaks in Colorado, including Longs Peak six times. He has climbed Mount Rainier, a technical snow climb in Washington State, and has formal training in basic mountaineering and ski mountaineering. He has skied advanced terrain, including off numerous summits, in Colorado and British Columbia. Ward enjoys leading a wide variety of trips, including B through D hikes, on- and off-trail travel, and anything that qualifies as “adventure”. He leads ski trips, ranging from easy cross-country to hilly telemarking, to alpine touring in more serious terrain. Ward has been involved in helping to teach the basic mountaineering, mountain hiking and ski mountaineering schools for the Fort Collins Group. As a leader, he tends to set a moderate, if not modest pace that allows most people in reasonable shape to be comfortable and have the energy when needed most to complete objectives when conditions allow. He also tends toward conservative and consensus-driven decision-making.

(Guess we know where the RedLion comes from!)
Photo courtesy York.



York has been a CMC member since 1993. He leads a variety of trips ranging from downhill ski excursions to bicycle tours to hikes to snowshoeing to trail work. York has also been a leader with the Boy Scouts for over 30 years, leading many trips there also.

The goal of each trip is to return safely and have fun. Other goals are secondary.

Get out and explore!

Meet Your Trip Leaders



Scott is also contemplative as well as active. Photo courtesy Scott Farquhar.

Originally from the Motor City, **Scott Farquhar** moved to Fort Collins from points east in 2008. Before landing in The Fort he had lived in Michigan, West Virginia, South Carolina, Texas, and Louisiana. In all those locations he enjoyed day hiking, backpacking, mountain biking, canoeing and the occasional trip backpacking out west. He joined CMC in December, 2008, and after gaining experience hiking off trail, decided to become a leader in 2013. Even though he is significantly over 40 years old, he is part of the Young at Heart Group and like to lead C level hikes that go off trail on Class 2 or 3 scrambles up to the 11ers, 12ers and 13ers. He also likes to backpack into a base camp and stay a couple of days in order to do day hikes up surrounding peaks. Finally, if there is enough interest he would be willing to lead mountain bike trips either locally or week end trips in the mountains, Fruita, or Moab areas.

Kevin McCartney (Kev) has a strong passion for outdoor adventure and loves sharing outings with friends. As a co-founder of the Young Adventurers subgroup, Kevin enjoys leading trips that bring people together for a good time in the mountains. He likes to lead C or D hikes, scrambles, backpack trips, snowshoe excursions, and backcountry ski trips. Kevin really enjoys learning new skills for adventure and understands the best way to learn is to teach.



If this image of Kev were to scale, there would be no room for anything else on this page! Photo courtesy Kev

Meet Your Trip Leaders



Bruce on Mount Meeker's east summit with a storm moving in. Longs Peak is the mountain on the right. Photo courtesy Bruce Hollenbaugh.

Bruce Hollenbaugh's love of the outdoors, hiking and backpacking began with the Boy Scouts, where he reached the rank of Eagle and attended Philmont Scout Ranch in New Mexico. While working as a cartographer for the Defense Department, he took up the hobby of state highpointing. Over 10 years he reached the highest point in 49 of the 50 states. He honed his mountaineering and backpacking skills in order to reach the summits of Mt. Rainier, Wash., Mt. Hood, Ore., Gannett Peak, Wyo., Granite Peak, Mont., and others. He has done many raft, canoe, kayak, and bicycle trips. After retiring to Fort Collins he has worked as a volunteer for Rocky Mountain National Park (Horseshoe Park, Hidden Valley, and Wild Basin). As a new trip leader with CMC, Bruce looks forward to scheduling and leading class A and B hikes as well as easy and moderate snowshoe trips. Bruce is grateful for the support and friendship he has received from CMC leaders and members over the past 5 years.

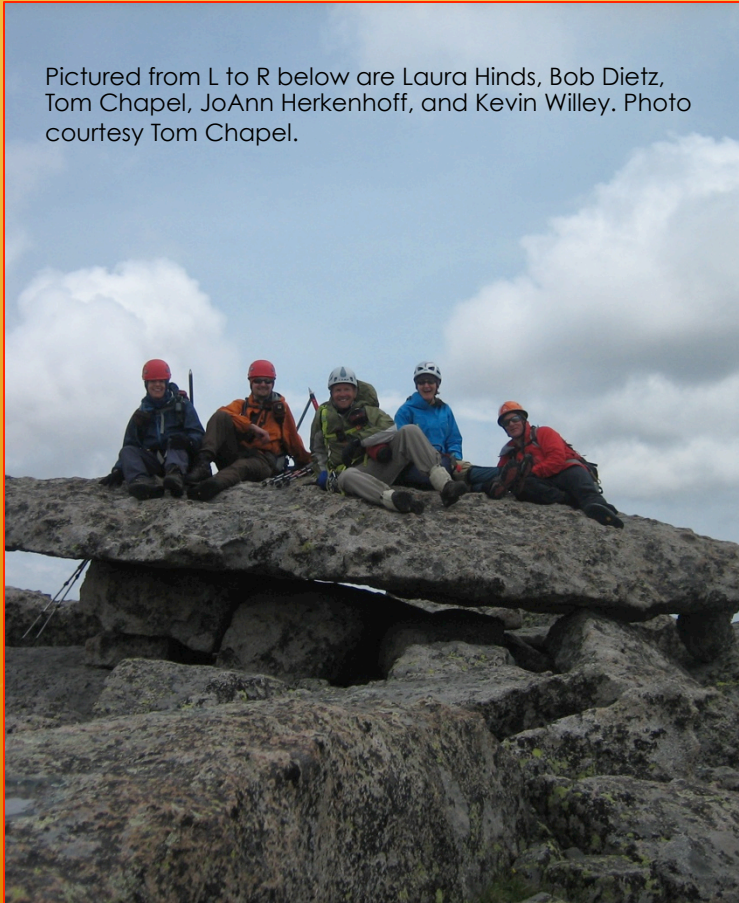
**Mark your calendar now:
the Fort Collins Group
Annual Dinner is
Saturday, Nov. 9!**



Trip Report – Mount Alice and Mount Tanima

by Tom Chapel

Pictured from L to R below are Laura Hinds, Bob Dietz, Tom Chapel, JoAnn Herkenhoff, and Kevin Willey. Photo courtesy Tom Chapel.



As advertised, this July 6 trip was intended first and foremost as an opportunity for Fort Collins Group leaders to get out together on a hike. Five group leaders participated in the trip: Tom Chapel, JoAnn Herkenhoff, and Kevin Willey of Fort Collins, and Laura Hinds and Bob Dietz of Loveland. The Fort Collins contingent left town at 3:00 AM, stopping briefly in Loveland to collect Bob and Laura.

Conversation was muted on the drive to Wild Basin. There was an air of pessimism regarding our plan for the day; it had begun raining just west of Loveland. Rain and wind, strong at times, persisted until we arrived at the Wild Basin area. An occasional flash of lightning did nothing to assuage our concerns. As we were making last minute preparations at the trailhead, I think we had all resigned ourselves to an alternate plan: our trip looked like it may evolve into an early morning, rainy trek to Lion Lakes, possibly as far as Snowbank Lake, and back. But we'd all also had an experience where we salvaged a great adventure from the "jaws of defeat" so we weren't ready to give up quite yet.

Mount Alice and Mount Tanima, cont.

In fact, the rain stopped and someone pointed out one lone star peeking dimly through the overcast near the northwest horizon as we headed out on schedule at 4:30 AM.

By the time we reached Lion Lake No. 1, a bit over 6 miles into the day, our spirits were much improved. Whether it was the pure pleasure of exertion, the beautiful alpine environment through which we traveled, or renewed hope for a summit or two due to the clearing skies, who can say? But the skies had cleared, the clouds had lifted some, and an occasional ray of sunlight warmed our backs as we searched for a crossing of the raging torrent spilling over Trios Falls and barring our way to the upper lakes. Shortly thereafter we encountered our first significant snow of the day, a steep residual drift bridging the cliff band that forms Trios Falls. The snow was in prime July shape: easy for step-kicking and a perfect first chance to try out Kevin's prototype ice axe named in

memory of former CMC members Carolyn and Vince.

After a stop at Snowbank Lake to replenish water supplies and eat a quick snack, we headed into a stiff breeze and up the gentle ridge towards the saddle between Mount Alice and Chiefs Head Peak. At least the wind was comparatively warm! The stunning views of the east face of Alice brought a smile to my face, not necessarily because of the majesty of the mountain, but because the overcast had burned off, the low clouds giving way to wispy cirrus high above. Although the view to the western sky was blocked by the impressive mountain, the weather was looking very, very promising for the next phase: the class 2+ climb of Mount Alice's Hourglass Ridge.

From the saddle, the summit rises more than 800 vertical feet. The grassy ledges of this route are reminiscent of the steep upper slopes of Kiener's Route on Longs Peak.

Mount Alice and Mount Tanima, cont.

As we steadily closed in on the summit, I saw hints of returning low clouds around the northern shoulder of the mountain. Would we make the summit, or would stormy skies chase us back down these slopes, depriving us of the summit and derailing our plans for the remainder of the day? The uncertain conditions fueling these thoughts provided additional motivation to push the pace up the steep, rocky talus near the summit.

We topped out around noon, lamented the missing contents of the summit register, snapped some pictures and "considered our future" as Gerry Roach might say. The clouds were moving in again, but seeing few signs of verticality and perceiving no immediate threat, we decided to continue south along the divide to another of our objectives. However, given the uncertain and rapidly changing conditions, we decided we could not afford the extra 1.5 to 2 hours that might be required for an ascent of Pilot Mountain and a return to the Divide. And we did not want to be stuck on Pilot with wet rock underfoot.



Mount Alice
Photo courtesy Tom Chapel

Mount Alice and Mount Tanima, cont.

In contrast to the steep east side of Mount Alice, the west slopes dip gently to the south and west, a grassy expanse dotted with boulders stretching more than a mile to Boulder-Grand Pass and Mount Tanima. With a constant eye on the sky, we made our way to the saddle, conferring briefly there to be certain everyone was comfortable with a decision to head up the slope to Tanima. For the next hour or so we would be leaving our easy exit route behind. If a storm rolled in, our retreat from the exposed ridge would not be straightforward.

The low clouds seemed to chase us up the peak, threatening but never quite catching us. By the time we topped out on Tanima shortly after 1:00 PM, the ceiling had lifted again and we enjoyed some lunch in pleasant weather on the large, flat boulder that is the summit of Tanima Peak (see picture, page 7.)

But we knew it wouldn't last. As the next wave of now darker and more menacing clouds approached from the west, we scrambled down the boulder-strewn ridge crest, enjoying the views of Alice, Pilot Mountain, Chiefs Head Peak, and of course Longs and Meeker to the north and east. To the south, Frigid Lake and the Moomaw Glacier competed admirably

with the northern peaks for our attention. Thunder Lake glittered brightly, far below.

The ridge portion of the route is rated class 2 and according to Lisa Foster's RMNP guidebook, the slope between Thunder Lake and the ridge crest is class 3. We found a weakness in the rock in a small, snow-filled gully and after a short segment of class 3 scrambling we descended mostly class 2 grassy slopes and talus to the lake below. After a brief, light rain we found ourselves basking in warm, bright sunshine with no wind for the first time in many hours.

After filling our water bottles from the stream that feeds Thunder Lake, we found the trail and headed down the final 6-mile segment of our trip, arriving back at the trailhead around 7:45 PM, just over 15 hours after we started.

This trip was exceptionally satisfying because it felt like a gift after the gloomy start and continual uncertainty added by the weather. And the stunning beauty and solitude of Wild Basin took our breath away nearly as often as the steep slopes of the peaks.

Scene* around the Trails



Lion Lake No. 1, June 29
Photo courtesy Kevin McCartney

Pictured, from L to R, **Bruce Hollenbaugh** (standing), **Jim Pisula**, **Anne Chalmers**, **Mary LaDouceur**, **Bob Link**, **Gary Forte**, **Marsha Lotz**, and **Jan Link**. This was Bruce's Leader-in-Training hike, so now he's ready to lead on his own, which he did, successfully, on August 25! Photo courtesy Bruce Hollenbaugh.



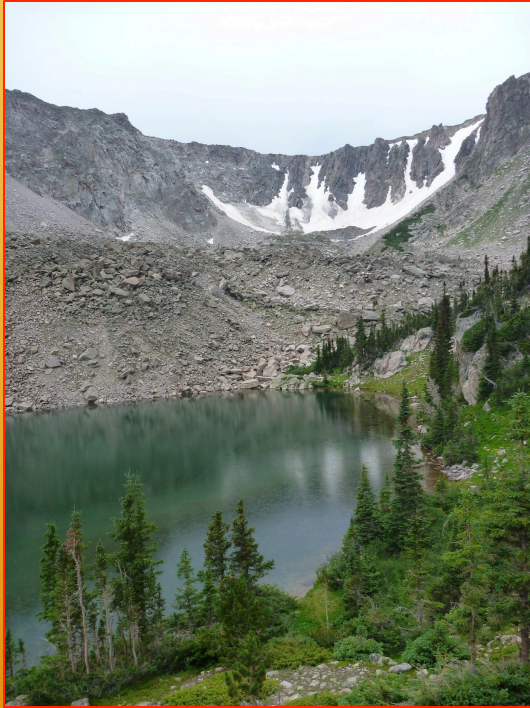
Gem Lake trip, July 13, at the Boot

Pictured, from L to R, **Jim Pisula**, **Giuliana de Toma** (Boulder CMC), **Jessica Auman**, and **Kevin McCartney**. This is among the prettiest locations in RMNP, and if you're not fit, among the most demanding to reach from Wild Basin! Kev, our Trip Leader, chose the best strategy when he asked me (Jim) to lead in the most demanding section of the hike. Although I had tweaked my left ankle two days previously, the beauty of our destination and the good company made the discomfort worthwhile.



Skilled Gem Lake mendicant.
I don't speak Ground Squirrel,
but I think he was saying,
"Give up the goodies, cheapskate!"

Scene around the Trails



Cirque Lake, Comanche Wilderness
July 25



Windy Lake, Rawah Wilderness,
August 10

This is Little Mount Rushmore and if I squint, I see an image of Secretary of State Kerry, as sculpted by Picasso or Braque, above the arrow.

Bruce Hollenbaugh's and my (**Jim Pisula**) destination was Emmeline Lake. We were forced to turn back right after this picture was taken when the thunder, lightning and rain began in earnest. The rain soon gave way to double-ought-buck-sized hail and 40-degree temperatures, so it goes without saying that we beat a fleet retreat down the mountain!

This is Scott's Glacier, north of Windy Lake. **Scott Farquhar** named it after himself in defiance of the naming conventions that say natural features can only be named after dead people, but we won't tell.



Scene around the Trails



Windy Lake, August 10. We spotted this herd of 30 or so elk a couple of miles out from our destination. Although we tried to be quiet, we were too noisy and they left long before we drew close. Elk in Rawah are not the almost-domesticated types you see near and in Estes Park, they stay away from us two-legged beasts. Photo courtesy Scott Farquhar.

Our intrepid Windy Lake group. Pictured from L to R: **Scott Farquhar, Jim Pisula, Walter Hutton, Joan Avens, Dave Grohusky, Patricia Berman, Ward Whicker, Leslie Edmundson, and Francisco Calderon.**
Photo courtesy Scott Farquhar.



Some wags suggest that some of us Windy Lakers must be in Federal Witness Protection!

Scene around the Trails



American Lakes and Thunder Pass, August 25
Pictured from L to R, **Mary LaDouceur, Laurie Folladori, Jim Pisula, Janet Cook, Bruce Hollenbaugh, and Joan Avens.**
Photo courtesy Bruce Hollenbaugh.



Look carefully and in the lower center you see a young moose behind a tree. To the right in the image is Mom. We stayed away for obvious reasons, noting that Mom was panting and appeared stressed. We hope they are OK.



We had mushroom folks along with us, so much time was spent checking out the fungi. This one reminds me of a golf ball – a red, poisonous golf ball.

American Lakes trailhead

Q: how do you know this picture was taken in Colorado?

A: 4 of the 7 cars pictured are Subarus!



Closing Notes

There's a theme in the "Scene around the Trails" section – your humble Editor is in all the segments (and I'm not *that* interesting!) That's what happens when you have a deadline and few submissions to edit. There's a cure...

If you've encountered fun, different, noteworthy things on your trips, email a picture and description to me and it'll be published in the next edition. We all do lots of fun stuff that others would be interested in knowing about!

If you have experience and would like to help the Group with publishing layout (not editing, unless you want to,) we can certainly use the help! Call Jim at (970) 420-1211 or Don at (847) 989-3015.

The next edition of the Newsletter is scheduled for the end of November, 2013, with quarterly production to resume in 2014 on roughly a February – May – August – November schedule. Get your copy ideas in early so we can make them happen.

Ciao,