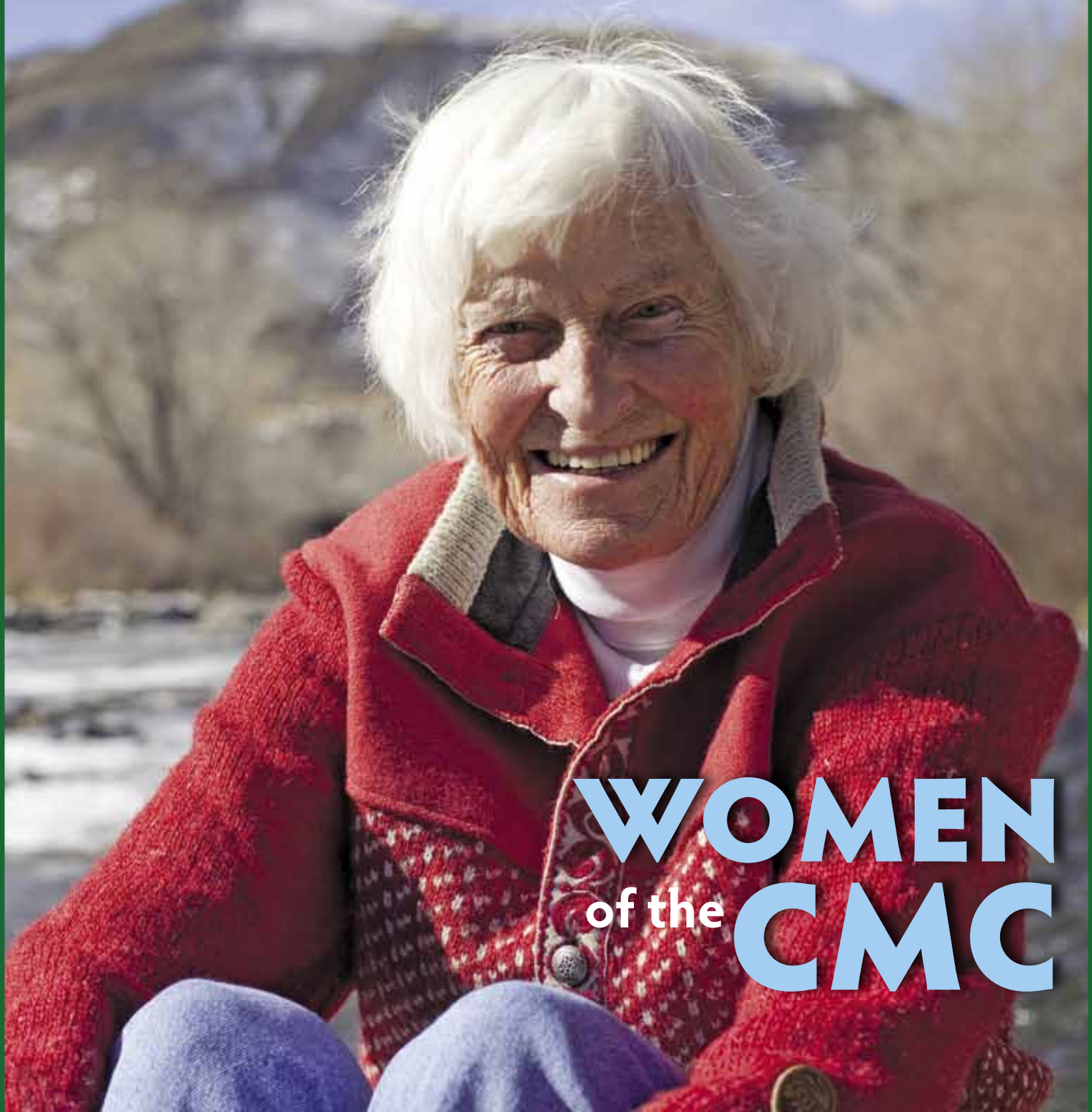


GIRLS GONE WILD 14 • FOOTSTEPS TO FOLLOW 18 • WEDNESDAY LADIES 22 • FIND YOUR BIRD 32

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LETTER FROM THE CEO

WOMEN OF THE CMC



When we decided upon “women of the CMC” as the theme for our autumn issue, I was especially thrilled. As a woman juggling a more-than-full-time job, a professional running career, a life as a good wife, loving daughter and sister (my family lives in Denver), and extra-curricular activities as an adjunct instructor for business classes and member of various nonprofit boards, I was partial to the topic. My story is not uncommon to many other women in the world—largely this is thanks to the women jugglers of our past.

I have tremendous respect and admiration for the women who have come before me and broken down many professional and athletic barriers so that I can have my fulfilling (or is it chaotic?!) life and not be seen as the woman who is out of line or breaking rules.

Especially admirable of these pioneering women is the fact that they broke the barriers for what a woman was “supposed to do” and ventured into uncharted territory—frightening enough as it is—while bearing the insults, isolation, and, sometimes, even physical abuse from those who would not have them assert themselves. One of my favorite stories is about Kathrine Switzer, the first woman to officially enter and run the Boston Marathon. Kathrine actually had race organizers, and even some runners, try to physically push her off the course and stop her from running (incidentally, she also had a number of men protect her during the race).

A focus in *Trail & Timberline* on the historical aspects of the club is especially important now as we rapidly approach our 100th anniversary celebration in 2012; the entire year will focus on celebrating our centennial. We will be releasing our centennial book, *100 Years Up High*, in the fall; our Centennial Celebration is set for July 21, 2012, in Buena Vista (mark your calendars); and our Centennial Peak Climbs are taking place throughout the year! The significance

of our 100th birthday cannot be described in this short paragraph. There are very few organizations who have achieved such a unique and rich history as the CMC. For most nonprofits, 100 years is unheard of. Please stay tuned for more information on our celebrations.

Now, back to the topic of women. I want to tell you about an important milestone in my own life: In May, I won the Eugene Marathon, setting a new course record and qualifying for my third Olympic Trials.



My sponsor, the shoe manufacturer Saucony, had convinced me to try to qualify for the trials which take place in 2012. So, after having taken two years off from competitive running—and, instead, focusing on the CMC—I started training with my coach and training partners. My mornings would start at 5:30 a.m. for a morning workout. I would eat breakfast as I drove to work and would often shower at work or the gym. While the other professional women I compete with would go to lift weights, stretch, get a mas-

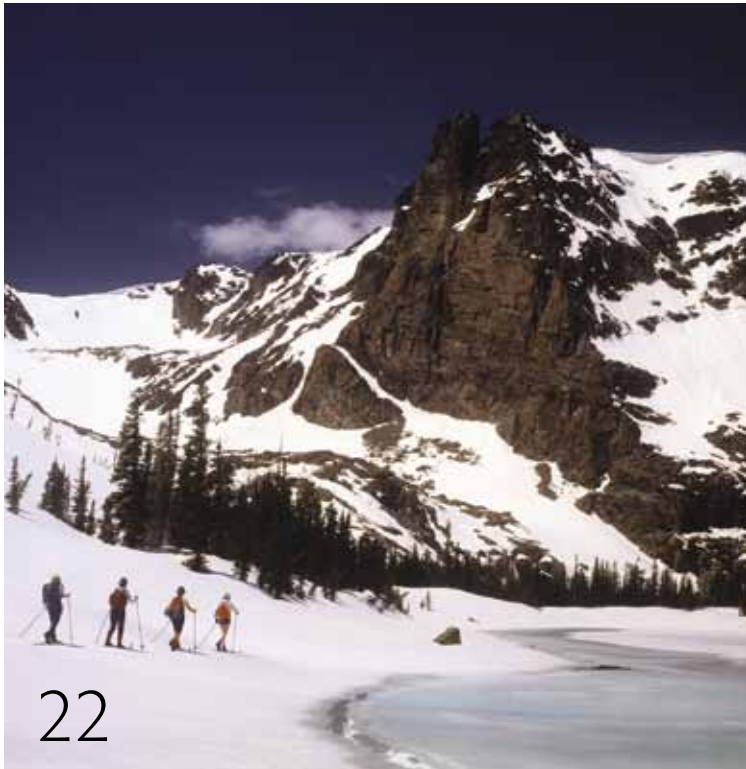
sage, or head to their part-time jobs, I’d start charging at a million miles per hour at work dealing with a variety of duties.

As I stood on the start line, I said to myself, “Experience will have to get me through this because I’m not as fit as I used to be.” A funny thing happens as you age and don’t have the legs or the lungs of a twenty-something: You compete with your brain, and race more intelligently! I paced myself conservatively and took in every calorie I could at every point in the race. Nutrition during a race use to be my downfall because I was running so fast I didn’t think about it. Now, I knew it was going to be a necessity.

As I approached the finish in famed Hayward Field (made legendary by the exploits of world-class runner Steve Prefontaine), I was in first place by over two minutes. As the crowd cheered I ran over to slap hands and cheer loudly with them. It was probably my most cherished marathon win in my 12-year career of professional running. Only my immediate family and I knew how tough it was for me to train hard enough to win the marathon, get my 2012 Olympic Trials time, and, to cap it off, set the course record, all while juggling my many responsibilities. From the outside, I hope I made it look easy; I hope no one noticed the crazy juggling act.

And making it look easy is perhaps the most admirable quality of the early women of the CMC. They conquered challenging mountains, rules, and bureaucracies with grace and a smile on their faces—and made it look easy!

Katie Blackett
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



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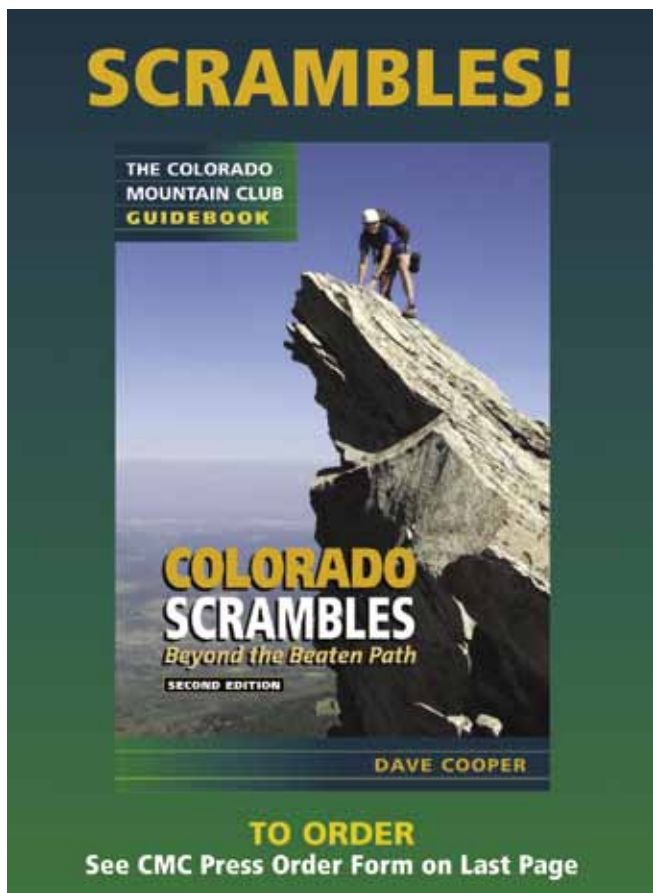
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The Colorado Mountain Club is organized to

- ▶ unite the energy, interest, and knowledge of the students, explorers, and lovers of the mountains of Colorado;
- ▶ collect and disseminate information regarding the Rocky Mountains on behalf of science, literature, art, and recreation;
- ▶ stimulate public interest in our mountain areas;
- ▶ encourage the preservation of forests, flowers, fauna, and natural scenery; and
- ▶ render readily accessible the alpine attractions of this region.

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By donating \$1,000 or more to the Annual Campaign, you'll enjoy the exclusive benefits of the Summit Society, including hikes to places that the CMC's conservation department is working to protect, an annual appreciation event, and a complimentary copy of a new CMC Press book.

If you have any questions about donations, please contact Sarah Gorecki, Development Director, at 303.996.2752 or sarahgorecki@cmc.org.

VOLUNTEER EFFORTS

If you want to share your time and expertise, give back to the club by volunteering on a variety of projects, from trail restoration to stuffing envelopes. Visit www.cmc.org/volunteer for a complete listing.

CONTACT US

Our Membership Services team can answer general questions every weekday at 303.279.3080, or by email at cmcoffice@cmc.org.



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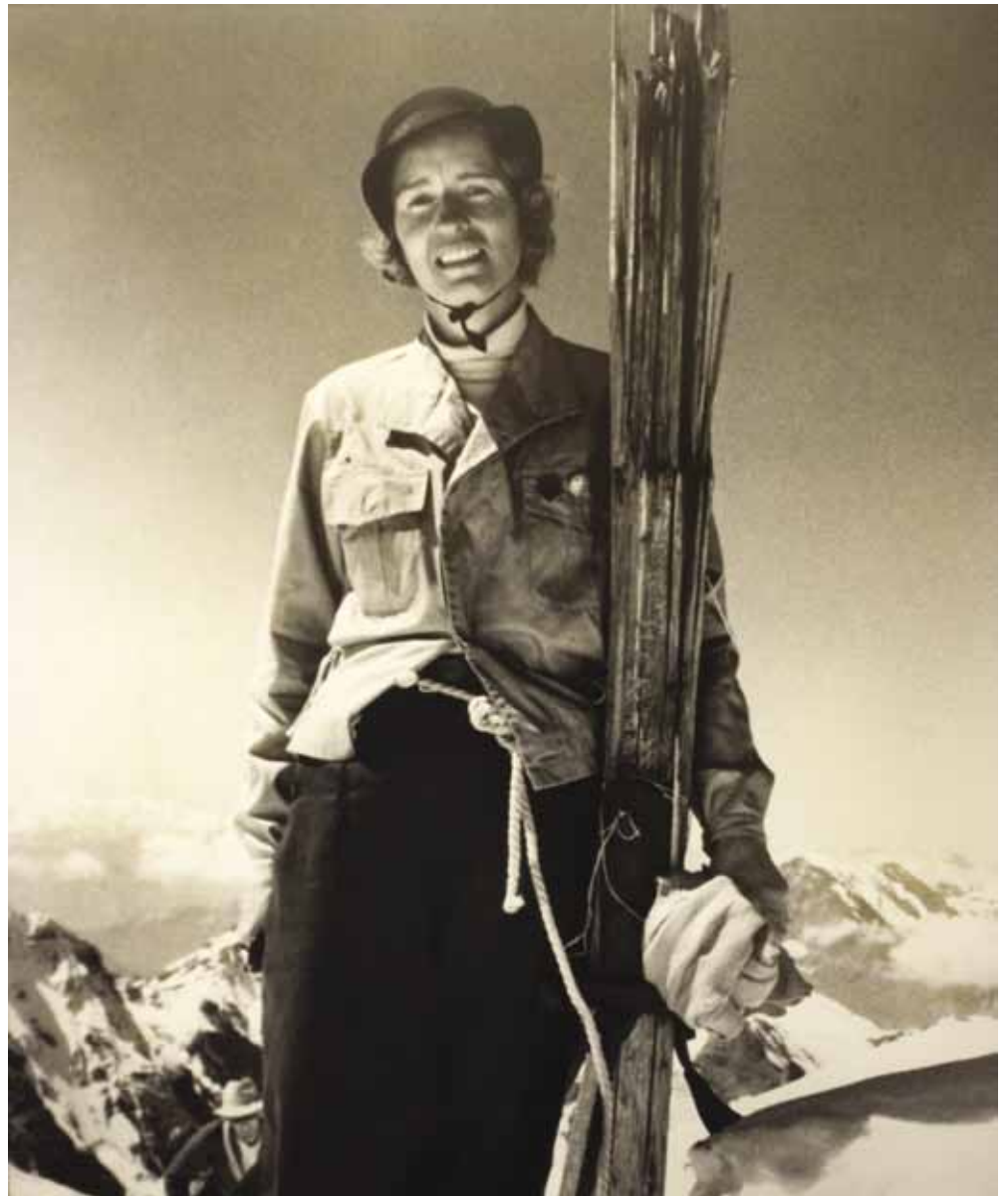
▲ THESE EARLY WOMEN SKIERS HIGHLIGHT THE CHANGING OF TECHNOLOGY, FROM THE OLDER BALANCE POLE TO SKI POLES. CLOTHING CHANGES WOULD COME A BIT LATER. PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY OF DENVER PUBLIC LIBRARY.



◀ ESTELLA LEOPOLD (LEFT), BEATRICE WILLARD, AND VIM WRIGHT HELPED PROTECT THE EXQUISITE PALEONTOLOGICAL SITES OF THE FLORISSANT FOSSIL BEDS NATIONAL MONUMENT. PHOTOGRAPH BY DOROTHY H. BRADLEY, COURTESY OF THE FLORISSANT FOSSIL BEDS NATIONAL MONUMENT.



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▲ BETSY COWLES (AND LATER BETSY COWLES PARTRIDGE) CLIMBED THROUGHOUT THE WEST AND THROUGHOUT THE WORLD IN A LONG CAREER. PHOTOGRAPH COURTESY OF UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING.



ON THE OUTSIDE

A CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

INTRODUCING *100 YEARS UP HIGH: COLORADO MOUNTAINS & MOUNTAINEERS*

By ALAN STARK, CMC PRESS

100 YEARS UP HIGH celebrates the twentieth century in the Colorado mountains—and the 100th anniversary of the Colorado Mountain Club—by focusing on the significant people, events, and developments that made climbing, hiking, and skiing the high country a great outdoor adventure for hundreds of thousands of enthusiasts drawn from Colorado and beyond.

The authors—Jan Robertson, Jay Fell, Walt Borneman, and Chris Case, all stalwart members of the club—help you explore the many outdoor experiences that shaped our state. Just as importantly, you'll learn how Coloradans worked to protect their beloved mountains.

Colorado mountaineering saw dramatic changes in the twentieth century. Building on earlier developments, hiking and climbing began as a homemade sport. Heading for the summit, climbers traveled on trains or horses. Men wore coats and ties and women full skirts. Later in the century, as mountaineering expanded, entrepreneurs created special equipment, clothing, and food for the outdoors, and the car became the key form of transport to the trailhead.



Endorsement by the Colorado Mountain Club. In 1914, the Colorado Mountain Club was in the midst of a campaign to establish a new national park in the Rocky Mountains. This note card eloquently endorses the club's position on establishing such a "national playground."



For the Birds. The Colorado Mountain Club hosted innumerable lectures and presentations by some of the most renowned naturalists, artists, and mountain advocates of the time.

Between these two monumental achievements, numerous feats of conservation have sprung from the club. Perhaps these other successes aren't so easily remembered, but they are part of a significant catalog of triumphs that collectively and continuously fulfilled the club's call to preservation, protection, and access.

In 1915, after theft and vandalism plagued paleontologist Earl Douglass's efforts to excavate a quarry in northwestern Colorado, Douglass petitioned for the lands to be protected as a national

monument. He was successful. President Woodrow Wilson proclaimed the 80-acre site on October 4, 1915, as Dinosaur National Monument.

In the 1930s, the club set out to learn more about this remote canyon country. First aroused in 1933 by CMC President Garret B. Van Wagenen, interest steadily grew in exploring the area. Subsequently, efforts increased to protect an area greatly expanded beyond those original 80 acres. More than a half dozen articles about the great canyons of the Green and Yampa rivers appeared in the pages of *Trail & Timberline* between 1934 and 1937, reflecting the numerous trips that were taken to the canyons. In 1934, members Van Wagenen, Edmund B. Rogers, and Robert Niedrach enjoyed a flight over the landscape, with Niedrach making "a number of still and moving pictures." In a few moments of flight, Rogers was able to observe the general topography and scope of a landscape that, a few months before, he had tirelessly studied in detail during a two-week pack trip on behalf of the National Park Service.

"There is something artificial, something almost unnatural about the entrance to Lodore," wrote Rogers, referring to the plunging gateway of Lodore Canyon, a crumbling, upturned canyon cut by the Green River. "Within sight of it, it fascinates and holds one's attention. [John Wesley] Powell records the depressing effect it had on his party. There is something almost sinister about it."

In 1936, under the leadership of Richard Morris, the CMC set out to explore what it was calling "the last frontier of Colorado"—to bring back tangible evidence of the existence of archaeological remains, confirm the romantic stories of the area's early history, and capture a photographic impression of the beauty of the region. A survey of the frontier—named The Canyon of Lodore–Yampa River Reconnaissance of 1936—was born, and revealed the club's enthusiasm for pioneering



Lodore. The 1930s saw more than a dozen articles, trip reports, and endorsements for the expansion of Dinosaur National Monument. The famed explorer John Wesley Powell explored the Gates of Lodore, which rise from the banks of the Green River, on his exploration of the West, including the Grand Canyon, in 1869. "There is something almost sinister about it," wrote Edmund Rogers about the Gates of Lodore, located in Colorado's Dinosaur National Monument, which he explored in the 1930s.

Coloradans not only hiked and climbed but also pushed to create national parks and protected areas—a movement highlighted by the creation of Rocky Mountain National Park in 1915. Throughout the century, Coloradans continued to press for the creation of national monuments and wilderness areas to preserve and protect the magnificent landscapes for generations to come.

Celebrate the CMC with this wonderful title.

- ▶ The book will go on sale in the first week of October for \$24.95. Call membership services to reserve your copy now.
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- ▶ Jan Robertson is the author of *The Magnificent Mountain Women*, Jay Fell is the author of *Ores to Metals*, and Walt Borneman is the author of *Rival Rails, Polk, The French and Indian War, and 1812*.

FOR SHE'S A JOLLY GOOD FELLOW

THE CMC FOUNDATION AWARDS ITS ACADEMIC GRANTS FOR 2011

By TOM COPE, COLORADO MOUNTAIN CLUB FOUNDATION

SINCE 1982, the Colorado Mountain Club Foundation has awarded academic fellowships to support scholarly research consistent with the CMC's mission statement of 1912.

This year, the Neal B. Kindig Fellowship was awarded to Jennifer Wilkening, a Ph.D. student in the Department of Ecology and Evolutionary Biology at the University of Colorado at Boulder. Her research involves the physiological and behavioral responses of American pikas to climate change.

The Kurt Gerstle Fellowship was awarded to Sarah J. Hart, a Ph.D. student in the Department of Geography of the University of Colorado at Boulder. She will study the susceptibility of subalpine forests to spruce beetle disturbance.

The Al Ossinger Fellowship was awarded to Monica Rother, also a Ph.D. student in the Department of Geography of the University of Colorado at Boulder. She will study reduced post-fire tree regeneration in ponder-



▲ FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: JENNIFER WILKENING, SARAH HART, AND MONICA ROTHER.

osa pine forests in the Rocky Mountains and the implications of a warmer, drier climate.

Other fellowship recipients are Natalie Beckman, a Ph.D. student in the Department of Geosciences of Colorado State University, for research on logjam frequency in Rocky Mountain headwater streams; Marc J. Rubin, a Ph.D. candidate in the Department of Mathematical and Computer Sciences of the Colorado School of Mines, who is developing a wireless infrasonic sensor for avalanche forecasting research; and Kimberly Schott, an M.S. student in the Biology Department of Colorado State University – Pueblo, for research in connection with acid mine drainage in Kerber Creek, Saguache County, Colorado.

This year's review committee consisted of Al Ossinger, Jim Gehres, and Tom Cope. ▲

FOR HE'S A JOLLY GOOD FELLOW

THE CMC HIRES ITS FIRST CONSERVATION FELLOW

By JAY HEETER, CAMPAIGNS COORDINATOR

IN THE SUMMER OF 2011, the Colorado Mountain Club added a new position to the conservation department. Jay Heeter, the CMC's campaigns coordinator, and Bryan Martin, the former conservation director, conceived of this position after receiving a generous donation from Bill Piety, a longtime CMC member and philanthropist.

Bill Piety established a permanent conservation endowment in 2010 with two generous gifts totaling \$250,000. The endowment provides a permanent source of funding for the CMC's conservation work. The conservation fellowship position puts Bill's wishes into immediate action for protecting Colorado's wild landscapes.

In May 2011, Heeter and Martin hired John Cropper as the first conservation fel-

low. John, a Denver native and graduate of Colorado College and the University of Chicago, has worked in Colorado politics for the past two years and brings extensive experience in field organizing and political outreach. His primary responsibility is to assist in campaign organizing, field and business outreach, and to assist in stewardship projects with Land Partnerships Manager, Lisa Cashel.

Currently, John is working on outreach for the Hidden Gems Wilderness Campaign by building a diverse coalition of small and local businesses that support the Hidden Gems Proposal. John also assists with stewardship projects and volunteer recruitment. After his four-month fellowship, John will return to the University of Chicago to pursue a Ph.D. in postcolonial African studies. ▲



The Piety Conservation Fellowship funds one college student per summer to work on land protection projects with the CMC. CMC members can contribute to the Piety Conservation Endowment with a gift of any size. Contact Sarah Gorecki, Development Director, for more information.

WOMEN'S STEWARDSHIP PROJECT

WOMEN'S TRAIL STEWARDSHIP PROJECT ON MOUNT YALE

By LISA CASHEL, LAND PARTNERSHIPS MANAGER

FACT: In 2011, 60 percent of participants in the CMC state stewardship program were women.

This season, the Colorado Mountain Club offered a women's only trail project on Mount Yale (14,196 feet), a well traveled peak in the Collegiate Peaks Wilderness. Although not the first recreation-based organization to offer a women's specific project in Colorado, this was a new addition to the CMC state stewardship program.

The Mount Yale project was hosted by the Colorado Fourteeners Initiative (CFI) and contributed to the completion of a multi-year effort to create a more sustainable trail system on one of the state's highly visited fourteeners. CFI's project leader was a female, creating a timely opportunity for the CMC to co-host a women's specific volunteer trip that involved backpacking and trail work. Project



tasks included plugging, seeding, and placing aspen wattles to help reduce soil scouring and erosion.

Our project was preceded by a free women's backpacking clinic, held at Neptune Mountaineering in Boulder and co-hosted by the Women's Wilderness Institute and the CMC. Attendees ranged from the seasoned backpacker to the new hiker and they were treated to a seminar on women's backpacking equipment, and gear as well as tips and tricks for traveling and taking care of oneself in the backcountry. Our successful women's trip provided an introduction to trail work, a place to test new women's outdoor gear, and broadened the community of female volunteers and backpackers. With continued interest from members and nonmembers alike, we hope to provide women's trail projects in the future and encourage women to attend our crew leader trainings. Δ



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OUR NEW PRESIDENT

INTRODUCING ALICE WHITE

BY ALICE WHITE

I GREW UP IN NEW JERSEY, first near Atlantic City, and then in the Princeton/Trenton area. I attended Rutgers University, where I majored in Third World Studies. Subsequently, I moved to Vermont, and then to Washington, D.C. where I obtained my law degree from George Washington University. After law school and a wonderful eight months traveling around Europe, I moved to Denver in the summer of 1984 and started practicing law. I heard about the CMC in 1986 from a co-worker; I promptly joined and began going on hikes, taking classes, and attending other activities.

I've practiced law since I've lived in Colorado, although there was a time in the early

1990s when I was an executive director of a social services nonprofit. I've done a variety of legal work, including general corporate, business, and commercial bankruptcy and insolvency. I currently have my own practice.

I've always loved the outdoors and all kinds of sports activities. At various times in my life, I've been a competitive swimmer, a lifeguard, and swimming instructor; I've been a distance runner, and ran two half-marathons in the late 1990s in addition to various shorter races. Of course I've always loved to camp, hike, and climb! I also enjoy white water rafting and kayaking.

Before becoming president of the club, I served as a board member, board vice



president, executive committee member, development committee chair, and received the President's Award in 2003 and 2008. I have also been a board member of the CMC Foundation. Δ

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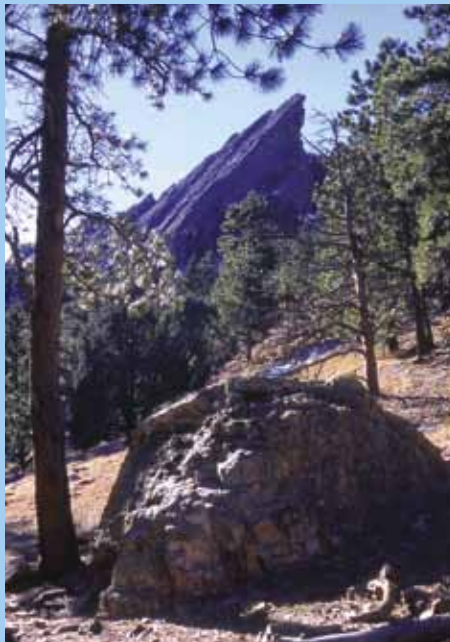
AROUND COLORADO

OUR GROUPS ACROSS THE STATE

BOULDER

This is a great time of year to get to know the CMC Boulder group, which has a number of fun and interesting events scheduled in the next few weeks: **Sept. 21:** Open house for prospective and current members, 7 p.m., at the club room; **Nov. 5:** Boulder Group Annual Dinner, 5 p.m., Avalon Ballroom, Boulder. This year's speakers are Janet and David Robertson, long-time Boulder group members, who will share stories of their 110-mile ski tour from Skagway to Juneau over the glaciers of the Boundary Peaks between Alaska and Canada in 1968; **Nov. 16:** Open house for prospective and current members, 7 p.m., at the club room.

The Boulder group came into existence in 1920, eight years after the Colorado Mountain Club was founded, when a predecessor hiking club in Boulder, called the Front Rangers, affiliated with the CMC. Today, the group's 1,100-plus members enjoy a variety of climbing, hiking, backpacking, and skiing activities. Boulder group outings range from casual after-work hikes and leisurely flower photography walks to high mountain summit climbs. With our proximity to the Flatirons and Eldorado Canyon, it's no surprise that rock climbing is a favorite activity. The



Boulder group outings range from after-work hikes and leisurely flower photography walks to high mountain summit climbs. We help our

members enjoy the outdoors safely with highly regarded trainings such as Basic Rock School, for beginning climbers; Hiking and Survival Essentials, with foundational skills for Colorado mountains; Boulder Mountaineering School, a series of courses ranging from trip planning, survival, and navigation, to rock and snow climbing skills; and also courses in cross-country, telemark, and alpine touring/backcountry skiing.

Want to get away? The Boulder group owns two cabins, located on Arapaho/Roosevelt National Forest land. The Brainard Cabin, built in 1928, is located at 10,405 feet in the Brainard Lake area, providing easy access to the eastern part of Indian Peaks Wilderness area. It sleeps up to 12 people. The smaller Arestua Hut is located at 11,000 feet on Guinn Mountain, and accessed from the Jenny Creek Trail near Eldora Mountain Resort.

Learn More

Visit the Boulder Clubroom, staffed from 5-7 p.m., Tuesday through Thursday, or call us at 303-554-7688. Visit the Boulder group online at cmcboulder.org and check out our schedule of upcoming trips, schools, and activities, or visit www.cmc.org/groups/groups_boulder.aspx.

PIKES PEAK

The Pikes Peak group of the Colorado Mountain Club is based out of Colorado Springs. We are a diverse group of some 600 members offering a variety of activities and challenge levels including hiking, backpacking, rock climbing, biking, ice climbing, skiing, and snowshoeing.



We offer many courses, including basic mountaineering, which entails wilderness fundamentals, land navigation, rock climbing, alpine snow mountaineering, ice climbing, and backpacking. Our high altitude mountaineering course includes glacier travel. Other courses include backcountry skiing, anchor building, lead climbing, avalanche awareness, snowshoeing, mountain-oriented first aid, beacon search practice, and winter wilderness survival.

Get Involved

The Pikes Peak group is actively recruiting instructors for our 2012 basic mountaineering school series. Please contact Collin Powers, powerscollin@yahoo.com, if you are interested in giving back.

Interested in leading trips? Our next "Safety in Leadership" training will be held in the fall. If you are interested in becoming a trip leader for the Pikes Peak group, please contact Bill Houghton at bill@anapraaxis.com.

Learn More

Attend the Pikes Peak group monthly meeting the third Tuesday of each month (except in May, November, and December) at 7:30 p.m. at the All Souls Unitarian Church. Or, connect with members of the group by joining us on one of our many trips or classes.

ASPEN

Founded by Jack dePagter in 1952, the Aspen group's gavel was turned over to Carol Kurt in 1998. The Aspen group, with 200 members, continues to grow in the Roaring Fork Valley. We are proud that the new CMC logo shows Aspen's Maroon Bells. We have a winter schedule with hut trips, moonlight Nordic pot-lucks, and slide shows of member's adventure travels, as well as an annual banquet. Summer

events include schools in snow, technical climbing, and basic mountaineering; leadership and mountain-oriented first-aid; trips to the Utah desert, backpacking trips, day hikes, fourteener and thirteener climbs, and a summer picnic. For more information contact Carol Kurt at kurtskarma@aol.com and view our Facebook page, "The Official Aspen Chapter of the Colorado Mountain Club."



◀ ASPEN
CHAIRPERSON
CAROL KURT
ENJOYS AMERICAN
LAKE WITH WILLOW.

DENVER

The Denver group has over 3,700 outdoor-loving, fun-seeking members living in the metro Denver area. Our diverse membership ranges from young adults (18+), to the Trailblazers (21 to 40), to our very active Over the Hill Gang (50+).

Want to learn a new skill? During the fall of 2011, we will be offering the following courses: **Sept. 13:** Wilderness Trekking School; **October:** High Altitude Mountaineering Seminars will begin; **Oct. 3:** Wilderness First Aid; **November:** our popular knot tying seminar.

Already have the skills and now you want to play? Check out the online activity schedule and sign up for trips. We have something going on just about every day of the week, from leisure wildflower hikes to technical climbs over 14,000 feet, fly fishing adventures, rock climbing in Eldorado Canyon, plus so much more. Check out the official Denver group website for more information and updates at www.hikingdenver.net. Also, sign up for our monthly electronic newsletter, *Mile High*



Mountaineer, which includes all of our fun "Out and About Town" activities including group dinners, movies, happy hours, and more.

Get Involved

The Denver group also has many fantastic volunteer opportunities open to our members. Currently, we are looking for excited members to join the Denver Council and help us elevate the Denver group to rockstar status! This is a member-elected position that requires some time commitment and dedication but is a very rewarding opportunity to give back to the club you love. The election is in October. For more information, contact council member Jeff Flax at jeff@jflax.com.

We are always looking for new trip leaders to lead A, B, C, and D level hikes throughout the year; we offer trip leader training to help you get started. Our next trip leader course is September 13. Already a trip leader? Join us for the Denver Group Leader Appreciation Day on September 22.

Do you have publishing/editing experience? Our fabulous and dedicated editors of *Mile High Mountaineer* have decided it's time to share the trail and are looking for a few experienced members to take over the publication beginning in January 2012. If this might interest you, please contact Dana at cmcmhm@comcast.net.

Are you a Level 1, Level 2, or Instructor for the American Institute for Avalanche Research and Education? If so, we would really like to chat with you! Please contact Safety and Leadership at DenverSafetyandLeadership@hikingdenver.net.

Learn More

Keep an eye on www.hikingdenver.net and inside *Mile High Mountaineer* for upcoming special events and monthly new-member hikes and orientations. We are adding new events all the time. Have a question today? Contact Denver group council member Sharon Kratze at skratze@gmail.com. We invite you to join the Denver group and look forward to playing with you this year!

FORT COLLINS

The Fort Collins group is the fourth largest group in the CMC with members from the north Front Range area. We offer year-round activities from monthly programs, to hiking, climbing, snowshoeing, cross-country skiing, various schools, and more. Our activity leaders are trained and lead trips at all levels of difficulty and interests. Our Young Adventurers section focuses on trips for those from 18 to 45 years old, but isn't exclusive. See our local webpage at fortcmc.org to learn more about the Fort Collins Group: leadership, history, and activities.

Get Involved

The Fort Collins group annual meeting will be held in November, at which time elections for group officers will be held. If you are interested in helping to manage the Fort Collins group, contact York, current group chairperson, at redyork@gmail.com. We are looking to fill the positions of Group Chair, Leadership and Safety Chair, Trails Chair, and leaders for the Mountain Hiking Course and others. Volunteer and help keep the Fort Collins group great.

WESTERN SLOPE

The Western Slope group is 100 members strong, from all professions and walks of life, each with a keen interest in hiking, backpacking, cross-country skiing, cycling, geology, wildflowers, stewardship, and conservation. The group has adopted Flume Canyon in the McGinnis Wilderness Study Area for trail monitoring and restoration. Our members contribute stories and photos to our monthly newsletter, *Canyon Call*. The chapter is currently compiling a Western Slope hiking pack guide to be published by CMC Press.

Learn More

If you are interested in joining our Grand Junction meetings, they are held on the first Wednesday of every month at the American Bank Building at Sixth and Rood in downtown Grand Junction. For more information, contact membership chairperson Lon Carpenter at (970) 250-1601 or lcarpenter@anbbank.com.



GIRLS GONE WILD

HOW TO BE A MOUNTAIN WOMAN

BY SHARI LEACH



In the front country, there can be so many conflicting voices telling us women what we should be, do, and want. First, we should have a successful career, while still mothering 2.5 children. If we haven't painted our picket fence white just yet, we've probably wrecked those children for life! The media and cultural voices that consistently tell us (as women) that we aren't as attractive, thin, fit, or stacked enough, thankfully fade as we travel deeper into the wilderness.

In the backcountry, the only voice we hear is our own, and that of nature. No wonder women love the outdoors. So get outdoors and go wild with a few tips to make backcountry travels smoother and easier:



WHY IS IT SO HARD FOR me to figure out this blasted topographic map?! If topo maps are a struggle for you, that doesn't mean there's something wrong with you.

Some studies have indicated that it is trickier for the female brain to translate two-dimensional images (such as topographic maps) into three-dimensions—what you're seeing in front of you on the trail. Rotating images around—say, when you're looking at a map upside down—and trying to compare that to the right-side-up landscape in front of you may make it worse.

Lin Edwards notes that research on the way men and women navigate has indicated “men tend to create mental maps and then mentally superimpose their position on the maps, while women tend to remember landmarks and memorize the route.”

What this means for you, as a woman navigating in the wilderness, is that:

1. It's worth your time to orient the map to the landscape, then stand so you can orient the map to where you will be hiking easily. This should help you get (and keep) your bearings;
2. Rather than constantly referring to the map, or keeping a picture of the map in your head, look for landmarks that can help you stay on track (sometimes these are referred to as “handrails”). For example, you might notice that you need to go generally west until you've crossed two small streams, and then the trail should turn towards a big mountain on your right/north. And, that if you get to a big stream with an actual bridge, it might mean you've gone too far before making the turn. Each of these topographical features is one of your handrails, and that should help keep you on track!
3. If you want to get better with a topo map, practice somewhere with big features you can't miss. For example, take a map to where you can see a big mountain with steep cliffs on one side and then just hang out for a while. Look back and forth between the map and the mountain so your body and brain begin to connect the images. At first you may be memorizing how topo lines on a map correspond to actual terrain, but over time the maps will start to “pop” as it becomes easier to see the three-dimensional pictures in your mind's eye. And give yourself some credit—it just takes a while to get the hang of it!



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IT'S ACTUALLY REALLY FUN TO GO camping without any guys around! In the wilderness, we learn both that we're not perfect, and at the same time that we're perfect enough as is. So the soup you made for dinner last night wasn't your best—it was hot, and it tasted good to your hungry tongue. So the tent sagged in a corner; maybe your sleeping bag even got wet. Oh well, things dry out in the morning, and you survived the night because your best was good enough, even if it wasn't perfect. Or maybe this time your tent is perfect because no one rushed you, or yelled at you, or insisted on doing it "their" way, instead of the way that you suggested.



FAIR AND EQUAL AREN'T ALWAYS the same. Imagine if you took your 10-year-old niece or nephew out camping, and expected them to carry exactly half of everything you brought. Ugh...the whining alone. But it wouldn't be fair because that kid is presumably smaller than you physically. If you weigh 150 pounds, and your camping partner weighs 200 lbs, it doesn't make sense for you to carry equal weight in your packs. A backpack really shouldn't exceed more than 40% of your body weight if possible, or you're asking for an injury. So if you're a light lady, let those hulking brutes lighten your loads—you can still be carrying your fair share of the weight without it being equal to someone else's.

“Well-behaved women rarely make history.” - Laurel Thatcher Ulrich



TRAVELING ALONE OR IN THE COMPANY of other women, you're more likely to find that there's time to learn little skills that foster independence and self-confidence simply because there's time to do so. Without pressure from others, the wilderness is where I learned to light a lighter without burning my thumb (and therefore both stoves and campfires.) Let yourself practice tying knots when you have the time to relax. Women tend to learn better without external competition or pressure. And the wilderness has infinite patience—she'll let you try to tie that knot as many times as you need, and she'll never pull the cord out of your hands to “show you how it's done.”



Men, whereas the previous tips can just as easily benefit you as much as a woman, the following tip probably won't, since you have a built-in device.

WHEN YOU GOTTA GO, YOU GOTTA GO! Admittedly, peeing is different for women. So here are a few tricks for the trail:

1. Just like it matters which way you orient the map, it matters which way you wipe. Always front to back! In case mom wasn't so outdoorsy, and didn't share this tip with you, it's true for front and backcountry alike. There's lots of gunk hanging out at the back door, and you don't want to get it up to the front door. And since urine is basically sterile because of its acidity, it's safer to wipe with whatever you are using to go from front to back.
2. Many women like to use a "pee bandana" or pee rag. This is a soft cotton square of fabric (usually around 18-inches square) which can easily be tied to the outside of your pack. When you take a pee break, take your bandana with you and disappear a little ways off trail. After you've finished peeing, use your bandana in lieu of toilet paper, to avoid those annoying little drips that can otherwise run down your legs. When you return to your pack, tie the bandana to the outside (so nothing inside the pack gets wet) and it should dry in a matter of minutes—at least in Colorado in the summertime. Again, because urine is basically sterile, it shouldn't make you, or anyone else who accidentally touches it, sick. It's relatively discreet, and dry bandanas don't generally keep an odor. But be sure to remember which is your nose blowing bandana, and which one isn't!

Shari Leach is the executive director of the Women's Wilderness Institute, a non-profit organization that offers women's only wilderness programs, as well as wilderness summer camps for girls. Scholarships are available for girls summer courses. Come join us for a fun, supportive experience in the wild!

Put One in Your Pack and Go for a Hike

TO ORDER PACK GUIDES
See CMC Press Order Form on Last Page

FOLLOWING IN THEIR FOOTSTEPS

CLIMBING WITH COLORADO'S MOUNTAIN WOMEN

BY BRENDAN LEONARD



COLORADO MOUNTAIN CLUB COLLECTION

IT WAS A WOMAN, Katharine Lee Bates, who made Colorado's "purple mountain majesties" famous in the lyrics of *America the Beautiful*, written following her 1893 summit of Pikes Peak. But the history of women in Colorado's mountains began long before Bates. Bates wasn't even the first woman to climb Pikes Peak—Julia Archibald Holmes was, 35 years earlier, in 1858—and several women had climbed Longs Peak and other Colorado fourteeners by 1893. Over the past 150 years, other women, whether members of parties with men, or on their own, explored some of Colorado's wildest and highest places, some long before guidebooks existed.

These Colorado hikes and climbs celebrate the history of women's adventures in the mountains, and allow you to retrace the steps of these pioneers—and stand upon the same summits they did so many years ago.

1906 VICTORIA BROUGHM NOTCHES FIRST SOLO ASCENT OF A FOURTEENER BY A WOMAN

HISTORY In 1906, Victoria Broughm was on vacation from Michigan and stayed as a guest at the Longs Peak Inn, the hotel at the base of Longs Peak. She was determined to become the first female to summit the peak on a solo climb—against the warnings of the owner of the inn, Enos Mills, who insisted she take his dog, Scotch, to keep her on the trail should she lose the route.

Broughm rode on horseback to the Boulderfield, tied the horse up, and climbed to the summit with Scotch via the Keyhole Route as a storm covered the peak. As she descended through the clouds, she lost the route down the Trough and continued all the way down the gully into Glacier Gorge.

When Broughm didn't return to the inn that night, Enos Mills sent his brother, Joe, along with William S. Cooper and Carl Plitz to find her. They set out at midnight, reaching the Keyhole after 3 a.m., and had to wait out high winds before they could push through those roaring through the Keyhole. Joe Mills descended into Glacier Gorge to search for Broughm and saw Scotch standing on top of a boulder. Beneath the boulder was Broughm, cold and weary, but alive. Joe Mills wrote in a 1927 article in *Boys' Life*, "She was cold, her lips blue and cracked, but she had not given up hope or lost her courage. With her hair blowing like the frayed remnants of a flag, she stood beside the boulder and smiled a brave if twisted smile."

FOLLOW IN HER FOOTSTEPS Access Longs Peak's Keyhole Route via the Longs Peak trailhead, approximately



CHRIS CASE

10 miles south of Estes Park off of Colorado Highway 7. The hike is 7.5 miles to the summit and gains just under a mile of elevation. To fully retrace Broughm's footsteps, arrange for a ride or leave a shuttle car at the Glacier Gorge trailhead and descend the Trough into Glacier Gorge—but only in the spring, when the Trough is still full of snow.

WHEN TO GO The Keyhole Route is usually snow-free by August and stays free of snow until early September. Get an early start to be off the summit by noon, when afternoon weather and thunderstorms roll in.

MORE INFO *Colorado's Fourteeners: From Hikes to Climbs* by Gerry Roach; www.14ers.com

1925 ELEANOR DAVIS COMPLETES THE FIRST ASCENT OF CRESTONE NEEDLE'S ELLINGWOOD ARETE WITH ALBERT ELLINGWOOD

HISTORY Eleanor Davis was one of Colorado's most accomplished early climbers, notching the first female ascent of Grand Teton in 1923, and the first ascent of Crestone Needle with Albert Ellingwood, one of the last fourteeners to be climbed in Colorado.

Davis was a member of the CMC, and a teacher at Colorado College from 1914 to 1930. In 1916, she accompanied Ellingwood on a trip to climb the remaining unclimbed fourteeners, in the Crestone Group of the Sangre de Cristo Mountains. It was on

► FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: ALBERT ELLINGWOOD, BARTON HOAG, AND ELEANOR DAVIS ENJOY ANOTHER SUMMIT IN COLORADO'S HIGH COUNTRY.



COLORADO MOUNTAIN CLUB COLLECTION

this trip that Ellingwood spied the aesthetic line he would return to climb with Davis in 1925—"the Eastern Arête of the Crestone Needle," as he called it in the November 1925 *Trail & Timberline*. Robert Ormes later named it Ellingwood Ledges, and the name evolved into Ellingwood Arête. The route, 2,000 feet of technical rock climbing up to 5.7, was a bold line in Colorado in 1924, and remains one of the state's classic alpine climbs.

FOLLOW IN HER FOOTSTEPS Plan on one day for the hike to South Colony Lakes and one day to climb the route and descend. The Lower South Colony Lakes Trailhead is 7.1 miles off Colorado Highway 69, approxi-

mately 50 miles south of Salida. Hike to South Colony Lakes, gaining almost 3,000 feet over 6.1 miles on the South Colony Trail, and camp at least 300 feet from the lakes. The climb begins above the southwest side of the higher of the two South Colony Lakes and climbs the blunt arête between Crestone Needle's north and east faces, with the more difficult pitches saved for last, near the summit.

WHEN TO GO Late summer and early fall. Get an early start to avoid afternoon storms.

MORE INFO *Colorado's Fourteeners: From Hikes to Climbs* by Gerry Roach; www.mountainproject.com



1934 ELIZABETH WOOLSEY AND WILLIAM P. HOUSE MAKE THE SECOND ASCENT OF JAGGED MOUNTAIN IN THE SAN JUAN MOUNTAINS VIA A NEW ROUTE

HISTORY In a 1936 article in *LIFE Magazine*, Elizabeth Woolsey was called "the best woman skier in North America"—and the story was about the first ascent of British Columbia's Mount Waddington, so daunting to mountain climbers that it was called Mount Mystery. Two members of the four-person party, all men except for Woolsey, summited. Woolsey followed her bliss, opening the Trail Creek Ranch near Wilson, Wyoming, in the 1940s and guiding skiers down runs off Teton Pass, and living there until her death in 1997.

Woolsey's climbing explorations in the mountains put her on first ascent parties on routes on the Grand Teton, and peaks in Colorado's San Juan Mountains. On a trip to climb Jagged Mountain, one of the most difficult peaks in the Needle Mountains, Woolsey and William P. House sought the second ascent by a new route. They succeeded in summiting, and on their descent, downclimbed a route that was easier than the route they had climbed up (or the first ascent route). Their descent route, the North Face route, is now the standard route to Jagged Mountain's summit.

FOLLOW IN HER FOOTSTEPS The Needle-ton Trailhead, the closest trailhead to reach Jagged Mountain, is only reachable by the



COURTESY OF MOUNTAIN PROJECT, PHIL LAUFEN

Durango and Silverton Narrow Gauge Railroad. From the trailhead, hike north along the Animas River and head east along Noname Creek to Jagged Pass, 9.5 miles and 5,200 feet of elevation gain from the trailhead—look for campsites at about 6.5 miles. From Jagged Pass, the route wanders up Jagged's north face to the right of a deep couloir, and is no harder than 5.2. Take gear

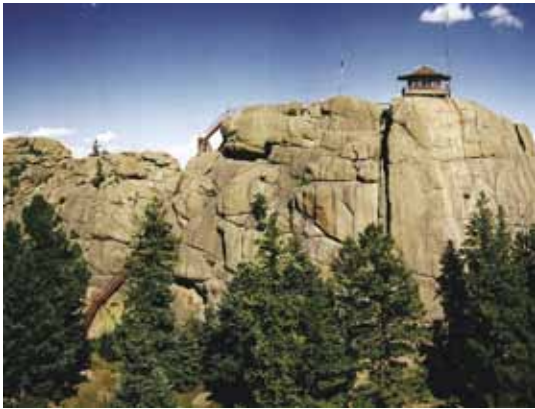
for rappels off the summit.

WHEN TO GO Late summer and early fall; an early start is imperative to avoid afternoon storms on the exposed peak.

MORE INFO *Colorado's Thirteeners: From Hikes to Climbs* by Gerry and Jennifer Roach; www.summitpost.org

1919 HELEN DOWE BECOMES THE FIRST FEMALE FIRE LOOKOUT IN THE HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES, STATIONED AT DEVIL'S HEAD

HISTORY From 1919 to 1921, Helen Dowe was stationed on 9,748-foot Devil's Head, the highest point in the Rampart Range southwest of Denver. From June until October each year, Dowe watched



U.S. FOREST SERVICE PHOTO COURTESY OF THE FOREST HISTORY SOCIETY, DURHAM, N.C. (2)

over a 7,000-square-mile area of the Pike National Forest, chopping her own firewood.

A December 1920 story in the *Routt County Sentinel* noted: “Following two successful seasons, during which pretty Miss Helen Dowe of this city (Denver), in her capacity of forest fire lookout, has discovered more than a score of incipient blazes, officials of the National Forest Service are convinced that women are equally qualified as men in the art of chasing down the tiny wisps of smoke that sometimes lead to serious conflagrations in the thickly wooded districts of the Rocky Mountains.”

The Devil's Head lookout is the last full-time U.S. Forest Service fire lookout in Colorado.

FOLLOW IN HER FOOTSTEPS The 1.4-mile trail to the lookout gains 948 feet of elevation on its way to the summit along the Devil's Head National Recreation Trail, the last few feet up 143 steel steps to the lookout.

WHEN TO GO Spring, summer, and fall. The lookout closes during thunderstorms, so mornings are best.

MORE INFO *Walking Into Colorado's Past* by Ben Fogelberg and Steve Grinstead; fs.usda.gov

1923 FIRST WINTER ASCENT OF JAMES PEAK, AGNES VAILLE

HISTORY Agnes Vaille's name may be most familiar to those who have hiked up to or through the Keyhole on Longs Peak—a shelter was built there in her memory after she died near the Boulderfield after summiting with Walter Kiener in January 1925. In her obituary in the February 1925 *Trail & Timberline*, W.F. Ervin wrote, “She loved to come to grips with the elements, and she had always won—before.”

Vaille was a bold Colorado adventurer in her era and was Outing Chairman of the CMC. She made her own sleeping bag for winter outings (“lightweight” in those days at only seven pounds), and used it on the first winter ascent of James Peak—by anyone—in the Indian Peaks south of Rocky Mountain National Park in 1923.



CHRIS CASE

Continued on page 44 ►►



▲ THE LADIES SKI ACROSS THE UPPER FOREST LAKE, 1985.

The Woods, The Pig Flag, and Mount Alice

A SHORT HISTORY OF THE “WEDNESDAY LADIES”

BY BETSY CAPLAN

IT'S A SUNNY DAY IN BOULDER. The “Wednesday Ladies” gather to plan their weekly hike, all talking at once, with maps, water bottles, and lunch stuffed in their daypacks. This routine began 39 years ago when, strong as colts and confident with our CMC experience, we would set off with no GPS, no cell phones, no roll call—just by handing a dollar to the driver for gas (this was the 1970s). Many of us drove Volkswagen Rabbits and—crammed five ladies to a car—we’d leave Boulder in the morning and head to the Indian Peaks or Rocky Mountain National Park. Most of us were in our forties, the kids were in school, and dinner was in the fridge.



▲ AFTER A CELEBRATION—WITH WINE—OF JEAN KINDIG'S BIRTHDAY, BETWEEN JAMES PEAK AND HAYSTACK MOUNTAIN, MAY 1980.

With quirky independence, we decided early on that no men were allowed, so two husbands, Pete Birkeland and Dave Robertson, designed and sewed an appropriate flag for us—a pink pig rampant on a field of blue satin. We were, they joked, female chauvinist pigs.

Ten to 15 strong, we'd stay out all day, coming home around 5 p.m., sometimes later. In winter, we'd take sunny, sometimes stormy, cross-county ski trips to Blue Lake, Black Lake, or as far as Thunder Lake. Summers found us often on Mount Audubon or

rising 11,724 feet out of the forest. The north ridge of Mount Orton rose like a ramp towards Chiefs Head. We started up.

The weather was stable, so high on the ramp we stopped for a birthday party. Cake, cookies, and raspberries and cream came out of our daypacks. Who would guess they were part of the ten essentials? We passed around the usual birthday cards with pig motifs and laid about—it was a perfect day—then continued the long grind toward the summit.

Back then there were few trails on the high thirteeners, but the ramp led arrow-

we headed back down to Mount Orton and reached Sandbeach Lake by 4 p.m. Two hours later we were in our cars, weary, but happy.

On a September trip to climb Mount Alice in the 1980s, the weather wasn't as perfect. We started up the Wild Basin trail before dawn, the stars hidden by a patchy fog. As we trooped through the forest, the light grew stronger, the trail less indistinct. At the last Lion Lake, we spotted the northeast ridge of Mount Alice. The weather had become less cloudy, so we decided to attempt



DAVID ROBERTSON

▲ CHAMPAGNE ON TOP OF MOUNT AUDUBON FOR JANET ROBERTSON'S BIRTHDAY, APRIL 1975. NOTE THE PIG FLAG DESIGNED BY PETE BIRKELAND.

South Arapaho Peak.

Birthdays were always special and brought out our best snacks—tortilla rolls, fresh cherries, brownies, chocolate cake, all displayed on a tablecloth laid out on the tundra. Too much good food at eleven thousand feet? A nap followed.

One of our best trips was in June of 1989 when we climbed Chiefs Head, a prominent peak west of Mount Meeker and Longs Peak. Leaving Boulder at 6 a.m., we drove to Wild Basin and, hiking fast, reached Sandbeach Lake three hours later. After a quick snack at the lake, we tramped through the woods to Mount Orton, a humped peak

straight to the summit. As we climbed, Mount Alice to the southwest diminished in size, Mount Meeker's pyramid shape separated from Longs Peak, and Pagoda Mountain stood out prominently, circled with colorful cliffs.

Around 1:30 p.m., we reached the summit at 13,579 feet and looked over the sheer cliffs and ledges on the north side to Stoneman Pass, and below to the icy circle of Frozen Lake. The weather was calm with only a few clouds floating in from Lake Powell and the North Inlet on the west side, so we rested on top munching the remains of birthday cake and taking photographs. Soon though,

the climb. When we reached 12,000 feet on the mountain, clouds began to pile up. We started to build stone cairns to find our way back down in case the weather turned. High on the peak we found a narrow catwalk that led inside the cave-like notch on the mountain, and we rested there to drink water and eat a snack, protected inside the rock enclosure from the increasingly cold gusts of wind. Wisps of fog were drifting overhead.

At noon we were on top of the 13,310 foot peak and thick fog was rolling in from the west. A brief view opened up of Stoneman Pass and McHenry's Peak—walls, cliffs, steep drops, stone monuments—all eerie

"THESE ARE THE TRIPS THAT SOLIDIFIED OUR TIGHT FRIENDSHIPS, OUR SENSE OF HAPPINESS OF BEING TOGETHER DURING BOTH COMFORT AND DURESS, OUR SHARED SENSE OF WONDER FOR THE HIGH PEAKS, AND OUR SELF RELIANCE WHEN THINGS TURNED BAD."

turned bad.

We are a diverse group of ladies hailing from several countries—the United States, Canada, England, France, The Netherlands, and Norway—who have become a united group of sisters. We feel we are “Aunties” to each other’s children. We listen to each other’s problems and joys.

We have enjoyed mountaineering trips in locales outside the Indian Peaks and the Park. One of us has summited Mount McKinley, others have climbed Mount Rainier and Gannett Peak in Wyoming, and



WEEZIE BRADLEY

▲ THE LADIES RESTING AT LAKE DOROTHY, 2010.

and fantastical in the growing mist. We started down almost immediately, following (and then dismantling) the stone cairns in the thickening fog. Past Lion Lakes, the weather turned stormy and soon we were marching through freezing rain, wearing every item of clothing in our packs: rain pants, rain jackets, wool mittens, mitten covers, warmer

socks. The bubbling conversation the ladies usually create up and down the trail had died. We slogged to the cars at 6 p.m.

These are the trips that solidified our tight friendships, our sense of happiness of being together during both comfort and duress, our shared sense of wonder for the high peaks, and our self reliance when things

several have completed all the fourteeners.

Along with our passion for the mountains, the ladies have concentrated on interesting careers. The group includes a lawyer, an architect, a physical anthropologist, nurses, teachers, writers, artists, weavers, musicians, a triathlete, and a marathoner.

Still, with lots of laughter, sweat, and



▲ THE LADIES SKI PAST LAKE HELENE, JUNE 1983.

sunshine, we climb our mountains, but now our goals take a little longer. We hike to Blue Lake and Upper Blue, climb the Fourth of July Valley to Lake Dorothy, and reach the summits of Meadow Mountain and Mount Audubon. Titanium knees and hips have replaced many of our joints. But the ladies hold Wednesdays sacrosanct and drop everything else to head for the mountains. We still love to ramble.

So get your kids into the woods and bring the old ladies, too. ▲

TITANIUM KNEES AND HIPS HAVE REPLACED MANY OF OUR JOINTS. BUT THE LADIES HOLD WEDNESDAYS SACROSANCT AND DROP EVERYTHING ELSE TO HEAD FOR THE MOUNTAINS. WE STILL LOVE TO RAMBLE.



Sunrise Aspen, Rocky Mountain National Park, Colorado

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Gudy Gaskill, Mother of the Colorado Trail

WHILE GROWING UP IN ILLINOIS, my father had a summertime job in Rocky Mountain National Park, entitling us to spend our summers in Colorado. Each day we went hiking in the park. My dad would drop us off at the trailhead, loan us his pocket watch and would pick us up sometime after 4 p.m. Hiking was a way of life. My mother, who could not keep up with the three lively chil-

dren, would call us back to examine a wildflower, or pick berries or look at an animal track. It was her way of catching her breath and our way of learning to love the mountains and all of the environments surrounding our hike.

For me, the Colorado Mountain Club was a natural choice. My husband, Dave, and I joined the CMC in the early 1950s

after being guests on a number of day hikes. There were so many others with like interests, and a natural inquisitiveness of their surroundings. I've always felt accepted as one of the group and had no trouble in keeping up with fellow hikers.

The next 40 years were packed with adventure, travel, outings, classes, committees, board of director's meetings, and, lastly,



Mother, Kid, and the Cookie Lady

A Few Women of the Colorado Mountain Club



serving as president. Sponsoring the Denver Juniors for almost 20 years was a real treat. I am forever grateful to them for allowing me to be a chaperone on many of their weekend “climb a fourteenner” outings. During that time, I climbed all of the 52 high peaks many, many times over. The CMC provided all the necessary tools to lasting friendships, new ventures, great travels, and a develop-

ment of independence.

I led In-State Outings, domestic outings, and many foreign trips, and found many strong women, who through heavy rains, great discomforts (such as leeches and intense heat, mosquito swarms and the like), joked about the conditions and went on. As for me, an adventure was an adventure, come rain or shine.

The CMC enriched my life with opportunities as well as camaraderie among outdoor-oriented friends. Lest it be forgotten, the Colorado Trail (CT) couldn't have been built without the help of volunteers from the CMC. The first 10 years of volunteers came from the club's membership. The CMC even contributed monetarily (through the outings committee) when the CT financing became desperate. In 1986, when the trail was dedicated in Durango, the CMC gave me the money to fly from Durango to Denver to attend the dedication on both trailheads.

Setting the record straight, the CT was not my idea, but the idea of Bill Lucas and

Merle Hastings. But the CMC made it possible for me to pick up the pieces of the proposed trail and bring it to fruition. How? At the time I was the president of the CMC (and the first woman to be) and I attended the first exploratory meeting of a possible long distance trail through the state. I was also chair of the new Trail and Huts Committee. This allowed me to be on the board of directors of the Colorado Mountain Trails Foundation, and when the CMTF disbanded I took over the fantastic idea and recruited volunteers through the CMC. In 1986, the San Juan National Forest erected a sign during the dedication ceremony linking the CMC and the Colorado Trail Foundation as partners in building *the trail*.

Sometimes I chuckle at how the CMC has changed over the years. But one thing that hasn't changed is the zeal and the zest for life of the great outdoors, the appreciation for our great state and all that it has to offer... the mountains, wildflowers, the incredible variety of scenery, outdoor activities, adventure experiences, *and* friendships. ☘

Emily Krebs, Kid Climber

I'M A PRETTY TYPICAL 17 YEAR OLD: I do all the cliché high school sports and extracurriculars, keep up my grade point average, and hang out with friends in the little time I have left. I'm also obsessed with preparing for college, so while most seniors coast through the minimum required courses and pepper their schedules with off hours, mine is jammed with advanced placement classes. I don't even have time off for lunch. The closest thing I have to a break is time spent helping to teach my school's rock climbing class. I rack in gym credits, climb for free, and spend 55 minutes of my day doing what I love. That's what sets me apart from the hundreds of other teens tromping through the halls of my high school: they spend their free time on the couch; I spend mine on rock faces. Whatever does it for you, right?

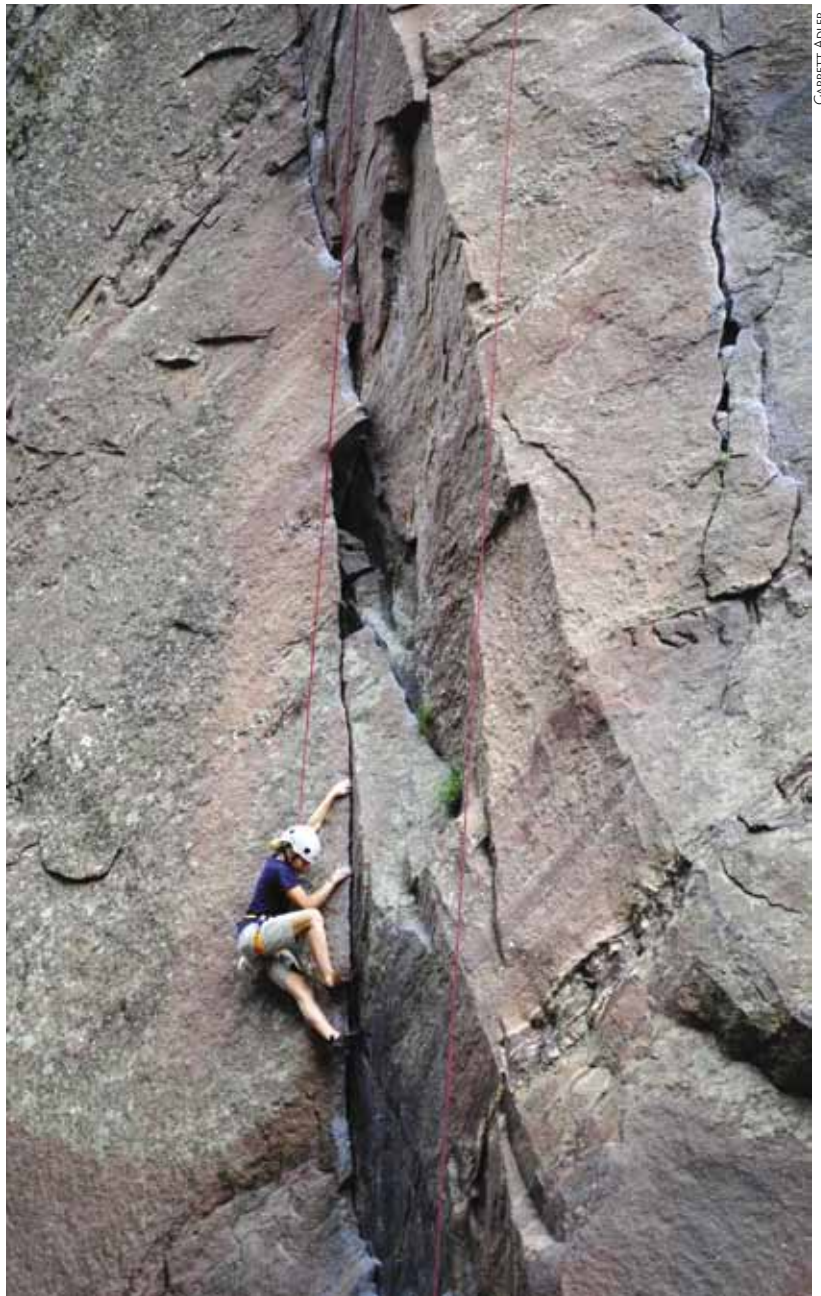
When I was 11, I signed up for CMC's introductory rock climbing course. I showed up on the first day as an awkward, brace-faced kid with glasses, and left looking much the same, but with a farmer's tan and a newfound obsession with climbing. Six summers and seven YEP camps later, I have hundreds of climbing photos. The nervous faces and white knuckles of our first multi-pitches are now laughable, but I've made irreplaceable memories and friends (not least of which was smothering a tent in toilet paper at midnight in Eleven Mile Canyon). I've also been prepared for an exciting life of climbing on my own.

While mountain sports are always fun, they're also workouts. Most people would be thrilled with a toned physique, but I find it a little awkward when my 80-year-old doctor exclaims, "You've got abs to kill!" during physicals and asks if I "hit the gym a lot." Although these comments are intended to be complimentary, they lead to the issue: strength just isn't acceptable for females. It's frowned upon.

Girls are taught the keys to femininity as toddlers: weakness and fragility. Sure, no one sits down and spells it out for them, but how many Barbies are boxed with business suits or exercise equipment? I've gotten by as a tomboy my whole life, but as a 17-year-old girl, being "one of the guys" is hardly what I'm going for. Since you apparently have to be simple-headed and delicate in order to like boys, I've been pressured for years to ease up. Unfortunately for them, it's not in my life plan to play small so men can stay ahead. That's one more thing I love about climbing: women can whip up on men without having their sexuality come into question.

I'm very proud to be a rock climber. I've climbed 5.12d routes (this is at the high end of climbing difficulty), and worked on (read: fallen all over the place on) a sketchy 5.13. I won the CMC MountainFest women's climbing competition this year, too. It's cool to be able to say that stuff, or show pictures of myself 700 feet up on a rock face.

But that's still not why I do it. The confidence I've gained from rock climbing is the ultimate prize. 🌲



CARRETT ADLER



DAVE KREBS

Sarah Thompson, The Cookie Lady

WHEN I WAS ASKED TO WRITE ABOUT WHAT it meant to be a woman in the CMC, I had to respond, “Me? Are you sure you have the right Sarah Thompson? I just bake cookies...” It was an exaggeration, of course, but I do have a reputation.

I started my CMC education in Wilderness Survival School (WSS) with a friend who often spoke of her great CMC experiences. I had recently moved back to Colorado at the age of 35 and really needed some affirmation that I could be self-sufficient. The past three years had been full of room service, administrative staff, and contract work, and I just had to do a few things for myself. WSS seemed like a good place to start. The self-confidence I gained was so fantastic, I decided to try winter camping, and by spring, I was ready for Wilderness Trekking School (WTS). I went back for more survival school, had enough experience to assist with other students, and found myself hooked on instruction—making other novice hikers’ experiences easier.

I went through the usual trials of being female in the backcountry—hygiene issues, dealing with gear designed for skinny people

with no curves, having the guys doubt you could start a fire without a blowtorch, that kind of thing. But, with some excellent instruction and exposure to different methods of accomplishing the same task, I learned so much, and it made so many things much simpler, safer, and much less daunting for someone who hadn’t spent much time away from creature comforts.

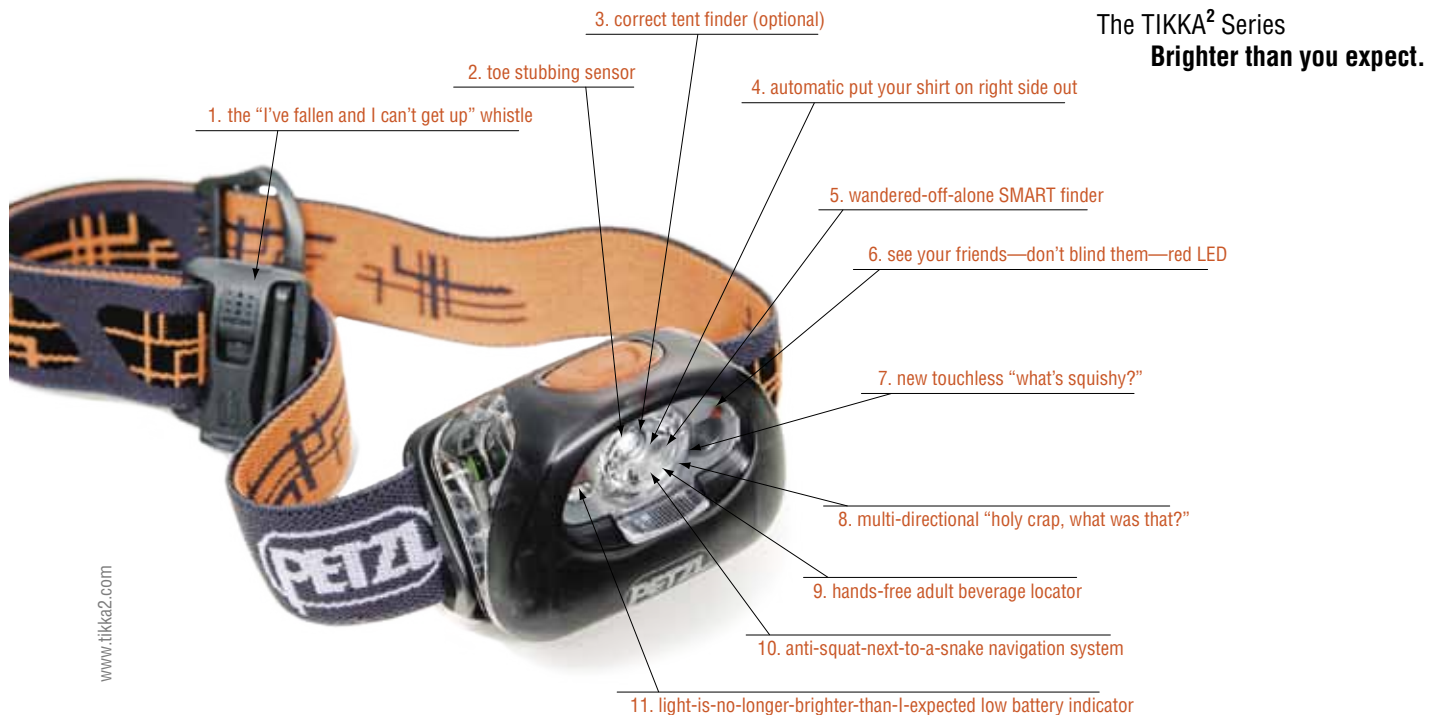
My CMC education has taught me volumes about the importance of carrying your own safety gear. I’ve led hikes and taught classes with couples, and it never fails: a woman will say she doesn’t have to carry safety gear because her significant other will carry it for both of them. This I call “damsel in distress syndrome.” It is the mythical belief that someone will come along and rescue you if you get into trouble. While we do have some safety mechanisms that are often reliable—things like teamwork and cell phones—nothing can possibly replace knowledge (which adds nothing to your pack weight) and your ability to deal with trouble when it arises. Don’t be that damsel in distress. After all, if you get separated from the person carrying the extra food and rain

jackets, how are you going to prevent yourself from getting soggy and hypothermic?

The necessity of self-reliance in the mountains can’t be overstated, and that’s what motivates me to teach novice hikers in particular. But overconfidence is an offense committed by self-described experienced hikers as well. And so it is equally rewarding when those “experienced” hikers who had never prepared for an unplanned bivy come back to you later and tell you how grateful they are for being taught how to survive that unexpected night in the woods.

Some would consider it overkill, but the folks who were ready when they needed to be have never regretted having that extra gear in their packs. I don’t fault people for being inexperienced, especially since it wasn’t that long ago that I was in their shoes. And I have so much more to learn myself.

I just try to make sure that any student who leaves my class, regardless of gender, knows how important it is to have the right gear and knows how to use it when necessary. Mother Nature doesn’t care what your gender is, she won’t bring you cookies, but she’ll let you know if you’re not ready for her! 🍪



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Looking for a Man?



CHRIS CASE

Think Like a Bird

By Shari Leach

Lessons on Dating from Birdwatching

This series of short bits was inspired by two things: that terrible book “How to Meet and Marry Mr. Right” by some absolutely awful women from New York. Don’t read it—it takes years to recover from. And, it was also inspired by a friend who was trying to figure out the mysteries of dating and birding at the same time!

HABITAT IS EVERYTHING: YOU DON’T GO TO CHURCH IF YOU’RE LOOKING FOR A TITMOUSE...

Different people, like different species of bird, like to hang out in different places for different reasons. Some people like the night clubs because people don’t wear a lot of clothes there, you can easily find yourself a lot of alcohol, and you never have to worry about making conversation because no one is going to hear you over that *thump-thump-thump*.

Think about who you’d expect to meet at a church picnic. Are they dressed the same? What beverage is in that plastic cup of theirs anyways? Likewise, you shouldn’t go to a disco to meet a nice church girl. Of course, this doesn’t mean there aren’t any nice church girls at the disco. It’s just a lot harder to rec-

ognize them as such, unless they're still wearing that pink, button-down sweater and Mary-Janes (which occasionally, but rarely, occurs).

In the birding world we call this a “rare bird sighting” and you can contact NARBA—the North American Rare Bird Alert—to report such a fabulous sighting. Or, just Twitter with your friends if Miss Mary-Janes simply must be seen to be believed.

What is true for dating is true for birding. A smarter birder doesn't go to the Sahara desert to look for ducks. Hummingbirds are few and far between in the Arctic.

Habitat is everything when it comes to dating and birding.



▲ THE VENERABLE TITMOUSE.

KNOW YOUR LOCAL WATERING HOLES

Where do the single people and birds hang out? You've got to figure out what your type of bird might consider its favorite “hot spot” if you really want to find them. Obviously, watering holes are popular with all animals. For bird watchers, local ponds, streams, rivers, and other waterways are great places to look for birds. After all, everyone needs a drink now and then. Similarly, single people often tend to congregate at coffee shops in the morning, happy hour locations in the late afternoon, and their own “watering holes” at night and on the weekends.

In terms of dating and bird watching, both place and time are important. A tree

full of birds at 7 a.m. is rarely so well occupied by the time the midday sun glares down. You can catch the morning jog/walk/bike crowd of singles in the park and see quite a lot of birds who woke up hungry, just like you. Then everyone disappears during the heat of the day (except for homeless people and pigeons, neither of which are terribly desirable to find most of the time). But, by 4 p.m., it's time to resume pursuit again.

If you've been out of the single scene for a while, allow me to suggest a few habitats you might want to check out:

► *Grocery stores* are best after 7 p.m. on Friday and Saturday nights as people with

partners are out on dates and married couples with kids are at home watching TV or passed out on the couch. Single people have nothing better to do—might as well shop when it's not crowded. Seriously. And you will notice a lot more people checking you out in the checkout line at 8 p.m. on a Friday night than you do at 10 a.m. on Sunday morning when grumpy parents are busy pulling candy out of children's hands instead of admiring your fabulous legs or those biceps you've been working so hard on at the gym. During the lunch hour, dining tables outside of the grocery store are great places to look for both single people and Eurasian House Sparrows!

► *Coffee shops and cafes* — It is socially acceptable to ask someone if you can share their table if the café is 70% full or more. Ideally, don't pick a table with a person whose nose is deeply buried in a book (though, this is a great way to avoid talking to others, in case anyone icky should choose your table).

Look for a person who appears to be sane, bored, and attractive. If there are many empty tables, pick the best one and wait for the place to fill up. Maybe someone will come looking to share your table!

► *Wedding receptions* — There is nothing like a wedding to make single people feel desperate and get them thinking about how long it might be until they have sex again. Besides, didn't you see “Wedding Crashers”? The bird-watching equivalent to this is to check out a friend's backyard feeder. Birds frequent feeders and will hold still long enough for you to get a good look at them.



▲ THE AMERICAN AVOCET.

HAVING A PAIR OF BINOCULARS DOESN'T MAKE YOU A GOOD KISSER

Remember (hopefully) the first time you thought you might have a shot of kissing another person? Likely, you were nervous. After all, just having a pair of lips doesn't automatically make you a good kisser! Most of us with normal-sized egos worried about whether or not we'd be good kissers beforehand. Some folks try practicing their technique on a pillow, or even relative (more acceptable in the South where there are more cousins and fewer questions asked), before a date with the kingfisher of their dreams.

The same thing that's true for dating, is true for birding...so, having a pair of binoculars doesn't make you a good kisser. You aren't supposed to be good at dating just because you are human. And just because you bought a pair of binoculars at REI last month doesn't mean you instinctively know how to use them. It actually takes practice.

For birding, practice with your binoculars *before* you run into the Bo Derek of birds. Look for big things (like houses) rather than birds when you are first learning how to kiss, I mean bird. (Don't go kissing houses—many have lead-based paints on them and this will make you nuttier than me.)

New birders often don't realize that you can't always find the bird easily with a pair of binoculars, and they get frustrated. Don't look for the bird—look for the rock it's perched on instead, and then follow the edge of the rock until you run into the bird with your binoculars. Notice that the bird is just above a big tree branch and look for the branch to find the bird. Finally, stare at the bird and bring the binoculars up to your eyes. That way you will know you are already looking in the right place.

As I mentioned earlier, don't expect yourself to be instinctively good at dating just because you are human. Most people suck at dating, which is why marriage is such an attractive option. Marriage means no more dating (which is why married people always want to hear about your dates—all the vicarious fun with none of the embarrassing moments).

Dating takes practice. Sign up for something like eHarmony (or Match.com if you prefer the mullet look) and commit to responding to the first ten people who send you a note. You don't have to want to marry any of them—you are just practicing conversation. You are looking for houses, rather than birds, with your dating binoculars. Go out on three blind dates just to practice your small-talk skills. Get comfortable asking someone if you can see them again, as well as saying you'd rather not give them your number.



CHRIS CASE

▲ A DISTANT WHIMBREL.

DON'T LET A JERK SPOIL YOUR BIRD

There comes a time when you either spy a bird, or go on a date, and it's magic. Your feet don't touch the ground. You can't go to sleep that night. Even the dumpster outside your apartment building is somehow more beautiful... And then some jerk comes along and wrecks it.

I don't know why, but birders and daters can both be *very* competitive groups. Sometimes they try to up their own image or ego by squashing yours. I strongly suggest you refuse to take part in this sort of nonsense.

"Oh, yes," he might say "I've seen tons of Bullock's Orioles around here. Really, you're lucky none have pooped on your head yet." It took you two hours, a birding guide, and a website to identify that oriole, and you were feeling awfully good about it until Mr. Jerko showed up and started squawking his big mouth.

Or, she might casually mention that the guy you are really into is nothing special. She might have even dated him a few times herself, when she was single. And by the way, isn't he a little young for you? Well, it never would have lasted anyways...

Take these losers with a grain of salt. Don't let them turn a great kiss into a slut with an STD. Birders and daters just get competitive at times. And some people express this by raining on other people's parades. Even though putting you, or your new bird, down really does nothing for *their* own bird count, it must make them feel better in a teenager sort of way.

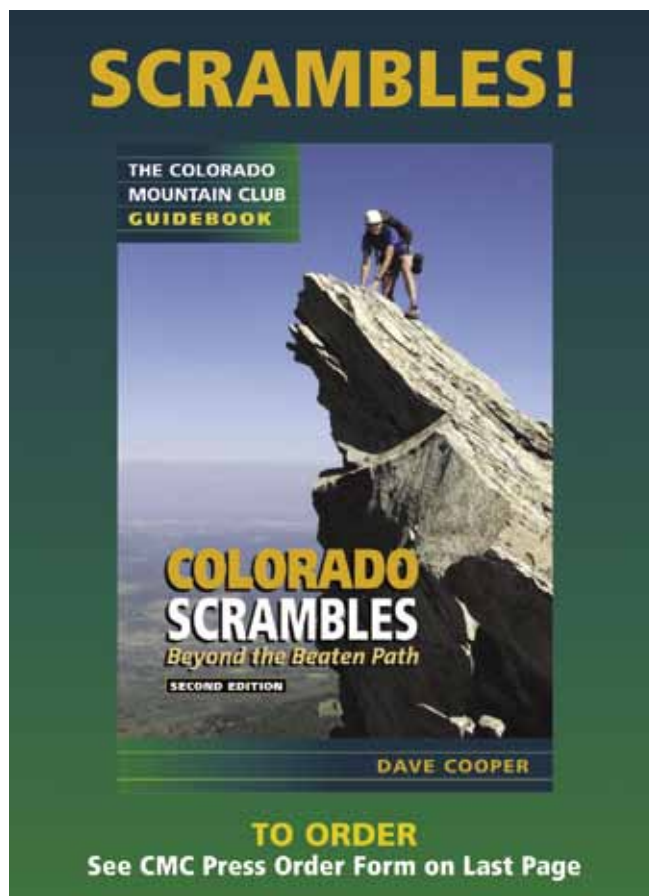
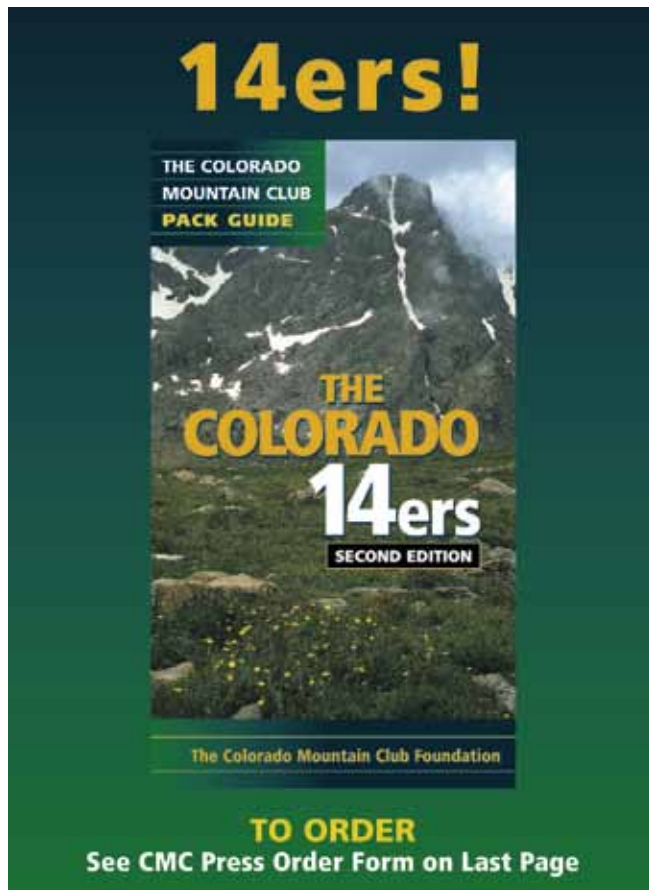
Yes, so the Bullock's Oriole isn't exactly a rare visitor to the "New World." And maybe your latest smooch has smooched a few people before. So what? You probably aren't a rare visitor or a first-time smoocher yourself. Focus on what you want, finding it, and be proud as well as grateful when you get it. Forget trying to find Mr. or Mrs. Perfect. There will always be a bigger, better someone out there—how long do you want to spend looking for them? Find someone that you like, and who likes you back.

And if it's *your* first oriole, then enjoy. They are such bright and beautiful birds, they can make even the most ordinary dumpster seem new and exciting. Δ



COURTESY OF KEVIN COLE

▲ A FLAMBOYANT BULLOCK'S ORIOLE.





A Heck of A Secretary *By Woody Smith*



◀ A YOUNG GRACE HARVEY SITS IN THE FRONT ROW, THIRD FROM THE RIGHT, ON THE 1932 ICE LAKE BASIN SUMMER OUTING.

WHEN THE COLORADO MOUNTAIN CLUB WAS FOUNDED 100 years ago, women had few outlets for business or pleasure. Fortunately the club, cofounded by school teacher Mary Sabin, valued women and their potential contributions. In 1912, Sabin—along with Lucretia Vaile—served on the first Board of Directors. Sabin also served as the club's first executive secretary. In 1913, she was elected vice-president (and despite this good start, the CMC didn't elect its first female president for 65 years—Gudy Gaskill in 1977).

Twenty-five years after the CMC's founding, the *Denver Post* noted, "With

women in the majority at the first meeting, it is only natural that they have continued to be prime leaders in the group."*

However, in most organizations—no matter how democratic—few positions are as important, yet undervalued, as that of secretary.

The *Denver Post* agreed. The same article trumpeted, "Secretary Credited With Pushing Club: Miss Grace Harvey, the secretary of the (CMC) is probably one of the most important members. In her official position she handles her work with such precision that the success of most of the excursions and mountain climbs is credited to her."

Grace M. Harvey was born in Denver on March 23, 1890, to Mr. and Mrs. George Harvey. Her brother, George Jr., was born in 1876. Like George, Grace probably attended North High School located near Speer and Federal Boulevards.

Between 1906 and 1913, Grace seems to have studied music formally and probably worked at the family business, the Harvey Glove Co., which was founded in 1904 by George and George Jr. Based at 3120 West 23rd Avenue, in Denver's Highlands neighborhood, the Harveys were "manufacturers and jobbers of gloves, mittens and pocketbooks."

A close family, father, son, and wives were also neighbors. Grace lived with her parents at 2245 Grove Street, at the corner of West 23rd Avenue. George Jr. and his wife, Elvia, lived one door south at 2237 Grove Street. The family workshop was one door west at 3120 West 23rd Ave. By 1927, Grace had moved "out" of her parent's house and into the apartment upstairs. Accessed by an outside rear staircase, Grace's address would remain 3110 West 23rd Ave. for the next 35 years. George Harvey retired in 1941 and passed away on June 10, 1960 (The Harvey Glove "factory" has since been converted to apartments).

On May 30, 1912, George Jr. became one of the first members of the newly formed Colorado Mountain Club, which was then about six weeks old. Grace and George's wife Elvia were accepted as members at the next meeting, held on July 16, 1912. Also accepted that day were Carl Blaurock and Mr. and Mrs. John Evans, grandson and wife of Colorado's second territorial governor.

In 1913, George Jr. began serving as CMC secretary. He held the post until 1919. From 1921 to 1923 George served as CMC president. He was also editor of *Trail & Timberline* (1920-22). His witty, self-deprecating style set the magazine's tone for years to come.

*The reference is actually to the second meeting of the CMC.

Grace was also involved with the CMC, though at first not to the extent of her brother. Nonetheless, she had been a guest on the club's first hike to South Boulder Peak on May 30, 1912. In August, she attended the CMC's first annual summer outing where she climbed Mount Evans, her first 14,000-foot peak (see *Trail & Timberline*, Spring 2009, "In-State, Outside," for her account of the CMC's First Summer Outing).

Ten years later, in April 1922, it was revealed that Grace was the only person who had attended all ten annual summer outings. Owing to her unique accomplishment—and her brother's editorship—Grace

wrote an account of each of the first ten outings, which appeared in the club's 10th anniversary edition of *Trail & Timberline*. Grace's streak finally ended after the 1936 Grand Teton Outing—24 consecutive summer outings (the 1924 outing to the San Juans and Mesa Verde was cancelled due to low registration).

Most years Grace managed to write a short account of her outing experiences for *Trail & Timberline*. These little time capsules still make for fun reading. In 1927, Grace's topic was a climb of Mount Eolus: "Thirty-three strolled lazily out of camp very early in the morn of Saturday, August 13. Warm

sleeping bags and steaming breakfast were things of the past; our faces were set up the valley and one and all we had the exalted and determined attitude of those who plan to see and do great things. It was the first of the three big climbs of the Outing..."

Meanwhile, from 1914 through 1925, Grace taught music, particularly piano. However, according to William Myatt, a nearly 60-year member, in January 1926 Grace "took over the office of secretary of the CMC, and carried on through to 1937 in this important arduous function. She gave up teaching music in order to devote her energies to the job." This is not entirely

COLORADO MOUNTAIN CLUB COLLECTION



accurate, since *Trail & Timberline* still carried Grace's ad for in-your-home piano lessons for the "wee folk."

Grace's CMC duties were not just administrative—they were diplomatic. She was the public face of the club, a repository for the members' hope and goodwill. Conversely, for the dissatisfied or disagreeable, she absorbed or passed on their complaints.

The variety is demonstrated by the correspondence of the period. Wrote member Robert C. Black:

*From Broadmoor,
Colorado Springs
Aug. 23 (1933)*

Dear Miss Harvey:

Would you send me a copy of the Aug. 'Trail & Timberline?' There seems to be some slip up as I know you have my correct address. My younger brother informs me that on a recent ascent of Uncompahgre Peak he found the summit register to be practically filled. I thought you might know someone bound that way who might take up a fresh book.

On an ascent of Elbert last Sunday we found the register there to be in awful condi-

tion—all torn up. If it isn't replaced soon it will probably fall apart. Was through the San Miguels two weeks ago. Got to the top of Wilson Pk. after one unsuccessful try. I wish '14,000 Feet' was more explicit as to the relative offerings of 'either the left or right hand ridges.' (We took the right hand one first try.)

We were also the first party up Vermillion Pk. this year. Swell mountain!

Respectively

Another member wrote the club on stationary from the East Tennessee Light & Power Company, Bristol, Tenn.-Va.:

Aug 30, 1931

Dear Grace,

The last edition of 'Trail & Timberline' gave my dog, 'Sportie' honorable mention.

Possibly you would like to have this snap taken on the summit of Antero for your collection of pictures. This is not as gallant a picture of 'Sportie' as he sometimes takes. However he was all in but his toenails, and it was all he could do to muster up ambition enough to rise for this photograph.

Sincerely,

Clyde Farnsworth

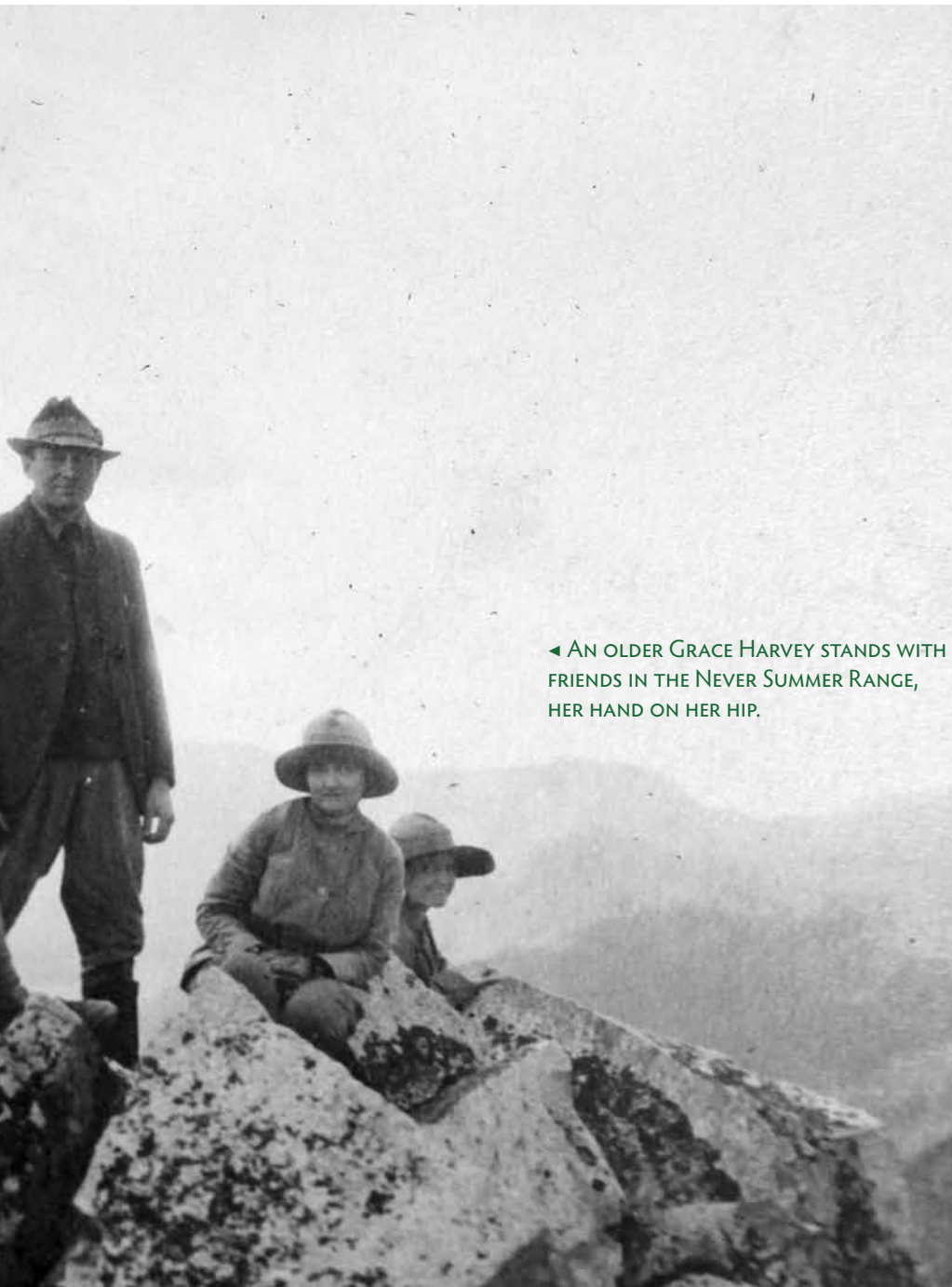
Grace's resignation in December 1937 was greeted with sadness. Wrote *Trail & Timberline* editor Kenneth Segerstrom: "That (Grace) will be difficult to replace is obvious to those who know her efficiency in handling Club business and her industry and initiative in working long hours overtime that we might have a better club. ...It is the editor's foreboding that her loss will be felt more keenly in the months to come."

Wrote Denver Group president Elwyn Arps: "After twelve years of loyal faithful service to the Colorado Mountain Club, Grace, as she is affectionately known by her many friends, has resigned. Throughout this long service her absolute loyalty and industry has been ever present.

"Throughout her secretaryship she has been an active climber, having 35 of the 14,000-foot peaks to her credit.

"We are going to miss seeing Grace as often as we have in the past. ...Though resigning from active duty, she can always be relied upon to help the Colorado Mountain Club in its progress to new heights."

Grace passed away on March 10, 1962, one month shy of the CMC's 50th anniversary. Δ



◀ AN OLDER GRACE HARVEY STANDS WITH FRIENDS IN THE NEVER SUMMER RANGE, HER HAND ON HER HIP.

A TRIBUTE TO BARB EVERT

BY KAREN HICKEY

THE CMC LOST ONE of its most committed and active long-time members with the tragic death of Barb Evert on April 28. She died in a fall while descending Tabernacle Butte, on a rafting and hiking trip in the Grand Canyon.

Barb was part of the heart and soul of the CMC. Over the years she led countless hikes, ski trips, and backpacking trips; she connected with and encouraged hundreds of people. Barb joined the CMC in 1966 and soon completed Basic Mountaineering School (BMS). After that she took intermediate mountaineering, served as a BMS instructor, and then as director of BMS.

She taught in the cross-country ski school for many years, served on the CMC State Board, sat on the safety and leadership committee, and volunteered at the club. She worked on the Colorado Trail, organized trips to Tenth Mountain Division huts, and did summer work projects at various huts.

In 2006, she was recognized as a 40-year member of the club. Three times she received the prestigious CMC Service Award. She was a member of the 21st Century Circle as someone who had named the CMC in her will.

Barb was a legend! She was totally committed to mountain sports, and spent almost all of her free time in the outdoors. Bicycling was her strongest passion. It was nothing for her to "get a little exercise" by going on a 50-mile ride. She did the Ride the Rockies twenty times, as recently as 2009 as a 75-year old; the Elephant Rock Ride; several Rails to Trails trips in the Midwest, and long bike trips in California and Colorado.

Many club members have fond memories of extended hiking, biking, and skiing excursions with Barb: in the Tetons, in Europe, Iceland, Peru, Ecuador, Nepal, Patagonia, Tanzania, and New Zealand. Others remember sailing with her in the Gulf of Mexico, canoeing in the Boundary Waters of Minnesota, climbing the Flatirons out of Boulder, backpacking in the Grand Canyon, and climbing all of the fourteeners. She hiked with a Peak of the Week group of friends for over 20 years.

Barb was dedicated to helping and en-

couraging others: She taught mountain activities to many an individual. She often provided them with equipment and many times ended up giving them the things they needed. She worked on a Habitat for Humanity house in Alamosa and helped build a school in Guatemala. She volunteered in the office of her church. Every week she worked on the Capitol Hill United Ministries' coupons project at King Soopers to support community services for people in need.

Not only a teacher of outdoor activities, she was also a math teacher at Englewood High School for 27 years. In tribute to Barb's teaching ability, a number of her

Barb's longtime buddy and adventuring companion, Ardis Rohwer, says she feels lost without her best friend. Ardis adds she was continually impressed with Barb's love and care for the environment, as well as her commitment to mountain activities and the CMC.

Two CMC members from the Grand Canyon trip wrote about Barb's final departure.

From B.J. Meadows:

"On the evening of Barb's death, we watched the helicopter take her from the canyon as she literally flew off into a brilliant



former high school students have said they pursued careers in math "due to Miss Evert's influence."

Barb had no children of her own, but her six nieces and nephews and their 12 children were her solid family. She hosted many of them for vacations in Colorado and taught them to enjoy outdoor sports. With pictures and descriptions of her travel adventures she brought the world to her tiny hometown of Hyannis, Nebraska, where many of her relatives still live. "Aunt Barb" was always there for weddings, graduations, birthdays, and other family events.

red and gold Grand Canyon sunset. Her spirit and love of the outdoors remained with us as we continued heading down the Colorado River. We celebrated the fact that she died doing what she loved. Her passing leaves a big hole in our lives; at the same time her sense of adventure and love of the outdoors will always be with us."

And from Blake Clark:

"My wife Rosemary Burbank and I have known Barb for more than 20 years. In that time as she was traveling the globe, we joined her on numerous hiking, biking, ca-

noeing, and backpacking trips. Several of those backpacks were in the Grand Canyon, so the terrain was not unfamiliar to her. Her last climb, up Tabernacle Butte, was in a way a classic Barb hike. She liked ridge hikes and peak summits because they offered spectacular views.

The Tabernacle ridge had exposure on both sides but the path was not difficult nor was it very narrow. On our return from the peak, I remember walking past her on the ridge while chatting with one of the boatsmen just prior to her fall. So it is hard to accept that a simple stumble, a trip on a rock, or something similar would end her life.

About six hours after her fall, the helicopter transporting her body left our river camp. As the craft ascended, we could see the Grand Canyon walls ahead were totally bathed in the early evening sunlight. Barb was heading up over cliffs that were lit with bright hues of yellows, golds, ambers, and reds. The chopper's size gradually diminished as it slowly climbed. In the distance I saw that Barb was headed for Coronado Butte. It has a distinguished, rough pinnaled top. She had backpacked trails on both sides of this butte and now she was traveling over it. Ever so slowly, much like a silent visual version of "Taps" being played, the helicopter became a speck as it continued until it was too small to be distinguished in the canyon's shadows. In my mind, Barb is still traveling. Nature provided a most fitting tribute to our dear friend."

The author was Barb's BMS instructor in 1969, climbing partner, and friend for 42 years.

NADIA BRELJE

NADIA NADINE BRELJE PASSED away on July 5, 2011. She was 64 years of age. Nadia was an avid photographer and world traveler, and an especially strong hiker and climber. She climbed all 54 of Colorado's 14,000 foot peaks, and 31 of them twice. She wrote three editions of the *Southern Colorado Front Range Trail Guide*, the quintessential trail guide for an area of the state that truly needed such a resource. She was a long-time member of the El Pueblo Group of the Colorado Mountain Club, and taught countless CMC members to cross-country ski. Her positive attitude was an inspiration to all who met her. She was always willing to share the knowledge she had gained from all of the time she spent in the great outdoors, and she will be sorely missed.

EDWARD LEDERMAN ► 1949-2011

BY ROCKY SMITH

ED LEDERMAN WAS BORN IN SAN FRANCISCO and grew up in Marin County just to the north. While growing up, he came to love the outdoors, enjoying hiking, camping, skiing, and just exploring. After earning a law degree, his practice included, at various times, divorce, criminal, and property law.

He moved to Colorado in 1980 and quickly fell in love with Colorado's mountains. He, his wife, son, and daughter frequently camped, backpacked, hiked, and downhill and backcountry skied in various parts of Colorado. His son fondly remembers these trips.

Ed joined the CMC sometime after his move to Colorado. He enjoyed meeting people and exploring the mountains with them. He had a jest for adventure, and his enthusiasm was infectious. I was fortunate to know him for the last five-plus years of his life. We had a great time exploring the mountains together.

Unfortunately, his last few years were not always happy. Struggling with alcoholism and about to lose his home to foreclosure, he committed suicide in early June, 2011. He is gone, but not forgotten. Rest in peace, Ed. Thank you for being with us for as long as you were.

AN ARTIST AND A FRIEND IS GONE

BY BETSY WEITKAMP

SEVERAL YEARS AGO, JERRY ALBRIGHT had a major heart attack. But that did not stop him. He recovered and kept going just as he had before. His recent death was sudden and happened while on a trip to southern Colorado. He would not have liked being sick or handicapped and as he would have wanted, he never had to. He lived a very full life. He was able to hike and do his art until the day his life ended.

Jerry grew up in Pennsylvania but moved to Denver soon after serving in the army. He opened his own shop in Denver as a sought-after commercial artist. He also taught stu-



PHOTO PROVIDED

dents his trade and many of them became his friends for his lifetime. What he enjoyed most was going out in the mountains to draw and paint. He used his artistic skill to help the club in many ways. For years, he drew sketches to include in the Denver newsletter and he volunteered for whatever was needed. One of the last things he did for the club was to make a display board for the Adventure Travel Committee to encourage people to go on trips or to lead them; the board is still being used.

Gardening was another of his interests. With flowering plants and trees he planted along with his own sculptures, it was a private and pleasant place to be. Whenever he did anything, he produced something that was professional and beautiful, even when he made signs for a garage sale that his daughters were having. His daughters were his pride and joy and he instilled in them his love of the out of doors. Although Jerry was extremely talented he did not talk about his accomplishments; but his many friends knew exactly how talented he was. Jerry was my good friend and a friend to the many people he met over the years. He is very missed by all of us.



For your benefit and enjoyment, the following trips have been reviewed and approved by the Adventure Travel Committee and are officially sanctioned by the Colorado Mountain Club.

VISIT WWW.CMC.ORG/AT FOR MORE DETAILED ITINERARIES AND REGISTRATION FORMS.



YELLOWSTONE IN WINTER

Feb. 1 – 6, 2012
\$1,075 – \$1,200

Steaming geysers, bison, elk, and other wildlife are all part of the experience of Yellowstone National Park in winter. Skiers, snowshoers, and photographers will enjoy the convenient trails leading directly from the lodge to geysers and waterfalls. The trip includes round-trip bus and snow coach transportation between Denver and Yellowstone, a one-night stay in Jackson, three full days and four nights at Old Faithful, snow coach drop-off fees, happy hours, and several meals (four breakfasts, one lunch, and three buffet dinners), and all entrance fees and gratuities. We depart Denver by bus on Wednesday morning, February 1, stay overnight in a motel in Jackson, arriving in Yellowstone on Thursday afternoon. We leave Yellowstone and return to Denver late on Monday, February 6, 2012. Prices are per person, based on double occupancy. Most rooms have two double beds (we have five king sized beds) and private bath. The trip cost for the newer Snow Lodge hotel rooms is \$1220, the "Western" cabin is \$1195, and the rustic "Frontier" cabin is \$1075. Trip cost does not include remaining meals (one breakfast, five lunches, and two dinners), optional sight-seeing excursions within the park, equipment rental, or trip insurance. There is a 3% guest fee for non-CMC members. Register with the leader, Rick and Deana Pratt, by calling 303-887-3717 or e-mailing rpratt905@gmail.com.



ECUADOR CLIMBING (ILINIZA SUR & ANTISANA)

December 26, 2011 - January 7, 2012
Cost: \$955 plus air fare

Join the CMC for a New Year's climbing adventure in Ecuador. Experience two challenging, technical glacier climbs on Iliniza Sur (17,218 feet) and Antisana (18,700 feet)—two of the less visited peaks in Ecuador—along with the specta-

cle that is New Year's Eve in Quito. This is a great trip for recent HAMS graduates who want to try out their glacier skills. Graduation from HAMS or equivalent experience is required. Maximum team size is seven, plus the leader. For more information, contact the leader, Greg Long, at 719-659-0345 or AT_90@yahoo.com.



CULTURE AND CYCLING IN VIETNAM

Option A: Feb. 6 – 21, 2012
\$3,295 – \$3,755

Option B: Feb. 6 – 17, 2012
\$2,409 – \$2,875

Experience the culture of Vietnam while bicycling through some of the most beautiful scenery to be found, often on quiet country roads. We'll often be sharing those roads with scooters, school children on bikes, bullocks, chickens, and other traffic. When not biking, we'll stay at mostly three- and four-star French colonial hotels and beach-front resorts. We'll visit a number of cultural sights and enjoy a number of activities such as kayaking, swimming, and short hikes. Our tour starts in Hanoi, where we will be met by our tour guide and visit a water puppet show. We'll travel to Halong Bay World Heritage Site where we will stay on a Chinese-style junk. From there we fly to the imperial city of Hue where our biking adventure begins. We'll bike in segments with a two-day stay at historic Hoi An, another World Heritage Site, before biking on to Nha Trang. From there we'll fly to Ho Chi Minh City, where Option B participants will depart for home. Option A participants continue on to the second phase of the trip—four days of biking in the beautiful Mekong Delta. Trip costs include airport pickup/drop-off, accommodations, most meals, snacks and water, maps, guides with good English, transport in air-conditioned minibuses, water puppet show, two internal flights, Halong Bay cruise, island cruise, cycling jersey or T-shirt, taxes, and tips. Not included are airfare from the U.S. to Vietnam, entry visa, alcoholic beverages, laundry, a few meals, bike rental, or single supplement. For more information, contact Kris Ashton at (720) 733-6750 or kris@aimhigh.net.



DEATH VALLEY HIKING

March 11 to March 16, 2012
\$1262 (Single \$1830)

Castles, abandoned mines, unique wildlife, sand dunes, snow-capped mountains, canyons, layers of multi-colored rocks, and the world's lowest golf course! Don't miss this exciting opportunity to experience the legendary Death Valley, home of the Timbisha Shoshone tribe. Temperatures will be a moderate 65 to 75 degrees. Spring time is Death Valley's most colorful time of the year. Here you will experience a wide variety of wildlife, one that is unique to this desert land. Not only will you hike the one-of-a-kind terrain that only Death Valley can offer, but you will also visit Scotty's famous castle and explore the remains of abandoned mines. Massage therapy, horseback riding, tennis, golf, and horse-drawn carriage rides are only a few of the many enjoyable options that can be enjoyed during your spare time. During the week we will visit the park visitor center and museum, conduct several A or moderate B hikes as well as visit Scotty's Castle. Price includes transportation to and from the Las Vegas airport to the park, hike transportation, lodging, meals, and entrance to Scotty's Castle. An optional last night gourmet dinner can be scheduled for those interested to celebrate the end to our vacation! Lodging will be at the renovated Furnace Creek Ranch which offers a complete resort complex in the heart of Death Valley National Park. Your air-conditioned room is complemented by several restaurants, a saloon, general store, museum, and spring-fed swimming pool, in addition to other resort amenities. Not included in the trip is airfare, single supplement of \$568, alcoholic beverages, dinner on the last night, and any outside activities. A nonrefundable deposit of \$100 is due by December 31, 2011, with the balance due by January 15, 2012. Cancellation: Before January 31, 2012, amount paid is refundable less \$100 non-refundable deposit. No refunds will be given after January 30, 2012, unless a qualified replacement can be found. Contact Terry Hardie at tnjhardie@msn.com or Sharon Silva at ssilva@q.com for more information.



SEMANA SANTA IN THE SIERRA MADRES, MEXICO

April 2 – 12, 2012
\$2,700

On this 11-day, burro-assisted day hiking adventure we will explore the canyons of the Sierra Madre Mountains and the Copper Canyon area. We'll start in Los Mochis, Mexico, and be transported to the historical town of El Fuerte, founded in 1564. Then we'll board the Chihuahua al Pacifico train for an excursion through the mountains and canyons of the Sierra Madre, arriving at the rim of the Copper Canyon. We'll load the burros and head west towards Otero Canyon, one of the main river canyons in the Sierra Madre. We'll hike past Tarahumara ranchos to a small village surrounded by thousand-foot-tall cliffs and corn fields, with the little church on the promontory. Here we'll be greeted by the locals and be treated to the local Semana Santa (Easter week) festivities. Leaving the village we will hike by cliff dwelling ruins and pictographs. Then it's on to Basaseach Falls, the third highest waterfall in Mexico, where we will hike to view the falls and then stay at beautiful solar-powered cabanas. We'll be transported to Creel, the lumber and tourist town at the gate of the Copper Canyon area and ride the train back to El Fuerte. The last day we will explore El Fuerte, then continue on to the airport at Los Mochis. Cost includes land transportation from Los Mochis, lodging (camping four nights, hotels six nights), meals (except one breakfast, two lunches). Not included in costs are airfare to Los Mochis (approx \$750 round-trip), three meals, tips, travel insurance, and personal spending money. Cost may decrease depending on number of participants. Contact Janet Farrar wildjc@juno.com or 303-933-3066.



BEST OF THE GRAND CANYON: COLORADO RIVER RAFT & HIKE

April 28 – May 10, 2012
\$4,165 (Limit 18)

Truly a once-in-a-lifetime experience, this unique trip to the Grand Canyon offers participants the opportunity to experience this World Heritage Site on a motorized raft for 188 miles through the best of the canyon, departing from the historic Lee's Ferry and ending with a helicopter ride from Whitmore Wash and a plane flight back to the start. It is especially ideal for those who would like to hike in areas which can be reached only from the river, and those who have always wanted to experience the canyon but who do not wish to make the 7 mile, 4,500' backpack in and out. Our outfitter, Hatch River Expeditions, has been guiding river trips through the canyon for over 70 years. We will have four guides and 20 participants on two 35-foot S-rig boats running fuel-efficient and quiet 4-stroke outboard engines. Hatch offers us daily guided hikes at different hiking levels, or one may choose to rest in camp. There are several opportunities for point-to-point hikes where we may hike from one drainage to the next and the raft will pick us up later in the day. Register with leaders Blake Clark or Rosemary Burbank at (303) 871-0379 or blakerosemary@cs.com.



HIKING THE ALPS OF BAVARIA AND AUSTRIA

August 27-September 7, 2012
\$2,700-3,300

The German and Austrian Alps are a scenic region of pristine lakes and creeks, high mountains, green pastures, and thundering river gorges. The hilly countryside that's dotted by quaint villages is home to some of the most famous castles in Bavaria where we will start our trip. On the Austro-Bavarian border we will visit Germany's highest peak, Zugspitze. In Austria, we will

start by exploring the glacier-carved valley of Stubaital, close to Innsbruck. From there we will continue to learn more about the Tyrolean country, while hiking and climbing in the Zillertal area. Finally, we will walk on paths of a thousand-year-old history in Salzkammergut. This area, with spectacular lakes close to the town of Salzburg, had in the past famous mines of "white gold." The historical salt trail started from here. The town of Hallstatt is a World Heritage destination. During the trip, we will stay in comfortable, often family-owned hotels and explore some of the more breathtaking parts of the world. Cost includes lodging in hotels and pensions, transportation during the trip, breakfast and most of the dinners, and leader's expenses. The price does not include airfare or travel insurance. The final cost may vary depending on currency exchange. Hikes up to B and C level. Maximum number of participants is 14. For more information contact the leader, Renata Collard, at (303) 617-4773 or Renata.Collard@ucdenver.edu



SIKKIM HIMALAYAN TREK

October 15 – November 5, 2012
\$3,220

Gyeljen Sherpa invites you to join him on a trek through ancient exotic Sikkim. Once its own Kingdom, tiny Sikkim is now a state of India. Sikkim is home to the third highest mountain in the world, Kanchenjunga (8586m / 28,169ft), one of the largest mountains in sheer size in the Himalaya. From Delhi we will take a domestic flight to Bagdogra, and then on to the legendary city of Darjeeling, home of His Holiness the Dalai Lama, and the Tibetan government in exile. One day by jeep will bring us to the beginning of our two-week trek. We will travel through the Kanchenjunga Biosphere Reserve; walk in rhododendron forests, camp in small villages, visit Buddhist monasteries and shrines, traverse high alpine passes, and experience breathtaking Himalayan vistas. We will camp beside the sacred lake of Lam Pokhari and cross the high pass of Goecha La, 16,207 feet, the highest point on our route. For more information please contact Gyeljen Sherpa at alpineadventurel@gmail.com or call 720-273-7158.

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FOLLOW IN HER FOOTSTEPS Snowshoe or ski to the summit of James Peak from the St. Mary's Glacier Trailhead, on Fall River Road about 9 miles north of I-70 Exit 238. The hike up the Southeast Slopes is 3.5 miles and gains 2,900 feet of elevation along the way. Avalanche danger is generally mitigated by the mellow angle of the terrain.

WHEN TO GO After January, the route has the most snow cover. Get an early start on a clear and calm winter day to ensure you make it down before afternoon winds begin to howl.

MORE INFO *Colorado's Indian Peaks: Classic Hikes and Climbs* by Gerry Roach; www.summitpost.org

1993 JEAN ASCHENBRENNER BECOMES FIRST WOMAN TO CLIMB ALL OF COLORADO'S THIRTEENERS ON PAIUTE PEAK

HISTORY Jean Aschenbrenner has been involved with the CMC as a member and instructor since 1979. Aschenbrenner has climbed mountains all over the world—Africa, South America, Mexico, and the Soviet Pamirs—but has had an almost lifelong love for Colorado's peaks. She began hiking and climbing Colorado's 100 highest summits in the late 1970s, completing them in 1983 with a climb of Little Bear Peak. Then she started on the highest 200, and the highest 300. In 1993, she finished her last of Colorado's 636 "thirteeners" with a summit of Paiute Peak.

In an interview with fourteenerworld.com she said, "I saved it for last because it is nearby and because it is a reasonable climb. About a dozen friends went to the top with me and they helped me celebrate with champagne, a regal crown, and a special sash. Ken Nolan dubbed me 'Queen of the Thirteeners.'"

FOLLOW IN HER FOOTSTEPS The Southeast Slopes route to the 13,088-foot summit of Paiute Peak is a 7-mile, 2,600-foot elevation gain hike, starting at the Mitchell Lake Trailhead, 6 miles west of Ward, Colo., on Brainard Lake Road.

WHEN TO GO Summer and early fall are best to ensure snow-free trails. As always at high altitude, an early morning start is best to avoid afternoon storms.

MORE INFO *Colorado's Indian Peaks: Classic Hikes and Climbs* by Gerry Roach, summitpost.org

Many of the women's stories touched upon in this article (and many more) are covered in depth in Janet Robertson's comprehensive book about women's historical exploits in Colorado's mountains, *The Magnificent Mountain Women: Adventures in the Colorado Rockies* (\$16.95, University of Nebraska Press, nebraskapress.unl.edu).





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