



Denver Leader News

The newsletter for Denver Leaders of the Colorado Mountain Club

www.hikingdenver.net

www.cmc.org

May 2011

Know your S&L Committee. Bill Markley joined CMC in 1974 has led A-B-C-D, Snowshoe and Trail Maintenance trips and several 14'er climbs. He attended BMS, WFA, TLS, Basic Rock, CCSki and HAMS. His adventure travel includes three Winter Yellowstone, three Canyon de Chelly and one New Zealand trip. He instructed WTS, Avalanche and TLS classes, and served on Education, Conservation and S&L committees, plus on Accident Investigations, Denver Council, State Council, and State Board. Bill continues to serve as an invaluable resource to DS&L, Denver Group, trip leaders and members.

CMC Ambassadors. For many hikers, trip leaders ARE the CMC. Hikers tend look up to their leaders as protectors and the primary source of mountain knowledge and skills. New members' early experiences with leaders make or break our Club.



One bad experience and they won't come back, but will tell ten others. Since there is no way to know from the roster whether an A hiker is a new member or a WTS grad, I ask at the trail head if we have any new members. They are eager to learn. Give them a good experience and they will appreciate and respect you even more than your long-time hiking buddies.

Lightning Season is coming.



65 people attended the Lightning seminar at AMC on April 7th. For those who missed the refresher course, articles on lightning can be read at <http://www.hikingdenver.net/groupresources>

Leaders Only Scouting Trips (LOST). A LEADERS-ONLY hike series kicks off on May 28th as a way for Denver leaders to connect with each other on the trail. LOST offers a jump start for new and returning trip leaders into leading their own trips, as experienced leaders model a favorite trail with tips along the way. Experienced leaders are also welcome to sign up but may be bumped if a new leader is wait listed.



Centennial celebration hikes.

CMC will celebrate its 100-year anniversary in 2012. Among the many events being planned is the Centennial Celebration Climbs program. Centennials are the 100 top ranked peaks in Colorado. Trips may begin now and continue through December 31, 2012. You may e-mail bdwyer192@gmail.com and indicate the trip(s) you wish to lead. Once signed up, you will be responsible to schedule the trip(s) in the CMC online schedule within a reasonable period of time and complete the trip by the end of 2012. Leaders will be provided instructions, formats and assistance that will hopefully streamline their participation. A spreadsheet is available from the cmc.org website homepage.



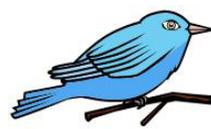
Trail work. Many dedicated CMC'ers believe that every member should try to give at least one day a year to working on a trail crew. Please don't let another summer go by without fulfilling this good need (sic).

Leader Status. Is your leader status in jeopardy? Denver policy requires leaders to lead at least three trips over three years to maintain their leader status. Lead instructors may be waived for the years that school directors provide DS&L a list of instructors who led field trips during the past year.

Weather Forecasts. To see a weather forecast for an exact spot on the map instead of an area forecast, try the National Weather Service's at <http://forecast.weather.gov/MapClick.php?lat=39.77978275602291&lon=-105.2871322631836&site=bou&smap=1&unit=0&lg=en&FcstType=text>. You can move the map and zoom in to click on the exact trailhead or summit and pull up more weather info on this one page than can possibly be used. Dig down into the additional info at the lower right hand corner of the page. Check it out, it's great!



I-70 Road Conditions: Want to know the status of I-70 before you get on the road this summer? Check www.GoI70.com or www.GoI70.com/mobile for current travel speeds by segment of highway, learn where delays might be, have text messages pushed to your phone when conditions change. This is a great site. Check it out!



Nature Tip. Solid blue Mountain Bluebirds are among our most attractive and easily identified wildlife. Bluebirds can tolerate humans and will nest in birdhouses. Mountain and Western Bluebirds nest in cavities (usually made by woodpeckers) or in birdhouses. Baby bluebirds will imprint on their first nest box or cavity then choose a similar nest for the rest of their lives.



Accident Reports. CMC policy asks leaders to report, on hard copy, any injury or accident that requires professional medical care. A report in the online trip report is a dead end and does not alert anyone. Please download a hard copy of the CMC Accident/Incident Report form from CMC.org, fill it out and mail it to Member Services.



Nature Tip. Don't reach down to touch flowers or plants near the ground. Use your trekking pole. A Roxborough State Park Volunteer Naturalist, leading a flower hike, pointed to a flower near the ground and received a rattlesnake strike on her finger. With several people looking right at it, no one saw the baby rattler until it struck.



Self-Approval for A & B Hikes. Did you know that leaders with two years experience and 12 trips can be delegated authority to self-approve their own A & B trips? If you have the experience and want that authority, email Dave Goldwater and ask about it. goldwaterd@aol.com



Wilderness First Aid Corner. There are many reasons to learn more about Wilderness First Aid. Regarding fractures and sprains, for example, the objective is not making a final and correct diagnosis! That may be really hard or impossible. What really matters is a "functional diagnosis:" assess whether it is feasible to continue the activity, to try self-evacuation or if assisted evacuation is necessary. On expedition, we also need to evaluate whether a particular problem can wait for a few hours (or days) before a final decision is made, how to treat it meanwhile or if we need to evacuate the victim more quickly.
