WINTER 2011

Bikepacking (and Hike-A-Biking) the Colorado Trail

By Judd Rohwer

(Rohwer, of Sandia Park, New Mexico, is a member of Back of the Pack Racing, a team of riders that describes itself as “a fundamental movement that supports the theory of ‘me against mainstream.’ Our team attempts to do everything the ‘right way,’ but not your way. We are a group of engineers, pilots, dreamers and UFO chasers. One thing is certain. If the race is long enough, we will catch you – maybe.” What follows is his description of his bikepacking adventures last summer on The Colorado Trail.)

I first heard about the mother of all ultra-endurance mountain bike races, the Colorado Trail Race (CTR), in 2009. My initial impression...

that’s NUTS.

But then the wheels started turning. And I’m not talking about the 29 inches on my Black Sheep single-speed. I started thinking about the adventure, the glory ... and the risks. I started thinking about the mental preparation, the physical training, the gear ... and the danger.

The challenge of The Colorado Trail seemed so massive compared to the usual 24-hour mountain bike races that we train and live for at Back of the Pack Racing. But I wanted to face the challenge head on, so I made a commitment to myself and started planning for a 2011 attempt at the CTR.

Then reality hit: the reality of a 500-mile self-supported race hit me straight in the face. Racing myself to the edge of exhaustion and beyond didn’t sound like much fun. So, I quickly convinced myself that the best way to experience the CT was to approach the adventure as a self-supported tour, not a race.

I wanted to see all the sights in daylight. I wanted to take it “easy” and smell the roses. I wanted to take time to document the CT in the only way I knew how – with a mountain of data and a bit of humor. In other words, I bagged the idea of racing The Colorado Trail.

After a year of preparation and a few short bikepacking trips in New Mexico and Arizona, my brother and I believed we were prepared for the adventures unique to The Colorado Trail. We knew what we were getting into, or so we thought. We grew up in Durango in the ’70s and ’80s. We experienced Colorado jeep roads in the summers and lived at the ski areas in the winters. We were prepared for the high altitude, the weather, the terrain. It’s Colorado, right? Nothing new, just a crazy challenge on a single-speed mountain bike.

Yeah, right. Nothing new.

Well, the initial goal of a two-week end-to-end adventure quickly evolved into a 10-week period (July 1 to Sept. 5) and four adventures on the CT. I logged more than 700 miles: 300 miles with friends and 400 miles solo. I traveled every bike-legal mile on the CT at least once. (For those who don’t know, a bikepacking...
Managing Director’s Update

Wow, 2011 has been a tremendously positive year for The Colorado Trail Foundation. You’ll read a lot about the many aspects of that in this newsletter.

Among the bright spots is the great number of contacts we’ve had this year with CT users who have praised the trail. Some, like thru-hikers James “Muleskinner” and Eva “Woodrose” Johnson of Englewood, Florida, have visited our office in Golden to share their excitement. Later, these two wrote, “Dear CT folks, thanks for offering up such a magnificent trail experience; (it’s) the highest and most handsome trail we have encountered of more than 5,600 miles of backpacking.”

We love to hear this kind of feedback and being able to share it with all of our CTF Friends, you wonderful volunteers and supporters. It’s your involvement that makes The Colorado Trail the gem that it is.

In this 38th year, The Colorado Trail Foundation remains “Volunteer Driven” and “Donor Supported.” Dedicated CT volunteers assist in a myriad of ways. Among them are the members of our board of directors, whose various skills and input are key to the success of this organization.

Our newest board member is Tim Burroughs of Lakewood, CO, who joined the board in February. Tim grew up backpacking as a Boy Scout and YMCA camp counselor, and has continued to hike extensively in the Rocky Mountains. After a career in journalism, including 21 years as an editor at the Rocky Mountain News, he was determined to “give back” to the outdoors he so loves and agreed in 2009 to help produce Tread Lines, and later to serve on the CTF board. Last summer, at age 63, Tim thru-hiked the CT “to get a closer look at the entirety of the trail and form a closer bond with this Colorado treasure – and also to fulfill a dream of mine since moving to Colorado in 1986.”

“Board Chairman Steve Staley of Centennial, CO, told me that thru-hiking the trail would be a ‘life-changing experience,’ ” Tim says, “and he was right about that.” Beyond such fully engaged volunteers, and just as essential, are our CTF donors. These CT Friends are vital to our continuing efforts to preserve the trail. Individuals and businesses who contribute, whether $50 or $500, one-time or annually, sustain the CTF and enable us to continue to provide a great trail experience for thousands of users – hikers, bikers, horse riders – each year.

One such great supporter is Dan Brecék of Boulder, CO, who has been donating annually for several years. Dan is an avid climber who has bagged all of Colorado’s fourteeners and thirteens. A few years ago, after careful consideration, he chose to become a major CTF donor because he values our work and appreciates that the CTF is funded by such a broad and numerous base of supporters. This year, Dan became a CTF trail crew volunteer and even ended up leading the crew when the scheduled leader got sick.

The CTF is lucky to have such dedicated supporters, who despite these challenging economic times, have continued to contribute to the Foundation and our trail maintenance.

The CTF truly appreciates all of our CT Friends. Each year we recognize all those who contribute, either with their time or money or both. Look for that list in a future mailing. And again, a big thanks to all.

What was your favorite segment of the CT?
There was no one favorite over the other. They were all different, and all good. Your crew made it easy to follow and we enjoyed every step! Thanks for a great trail.

Dale Tallmadge
Dillon, Colorado
The Colorado Trail Foundation’s annual Friends Picnic on Sept. 10 at Bear Creek Lake Park in Lakewood was the largest yet, with more than 170 people attending.

The event, organized by Friends Committee Chairwoman Carolyn Burtard and committee members Ernie Norris, Ken Swierenga, and Sue Henley – with assistance from several volunteers and office staff Bill Manning and Aimée O’Malley – featured sandwiches and side dishes from Jason’s Deli.

During breaks in the festivities, Manning recognized board members, trail crew leaders and their crews, adopters, and other volunteers, as well as trail completers, noting that a new completers T-shirt is now available at the CTF’s online store. “The CTF is grateful to have such dedicated Friends and we love getting together,” Bill said. “Picnic attendees really enjoyed the gathering, particularly visiting with other CT Friends who share a passion for the outdoors.”

He also brought Gudy Gaskill, who spearheaded the creation of The Colorado Trail, to the microphone to offer her reflections on the inception and ongoing success of the trail.

Also featured was what has become an annual event: the pocket chainsaw competition. The CTF has long encouraged CT hikers to carry the “pocket” saws to help keep the trail clear of downed timber. They, too, are available at the online store.

Tour of the CT requires five detours around wilderness areas, where bikes aren’t allowed.) I documented each adventure with words, data, pictures and videos. And the more I think about each day of each adventure, the more I want to do it again.

I learned many lessons. Some were learned the easy way, some the hard way. Some lessons were humorous, some serious. It’s the experiences that produce the lessons and the lessons that define the experiences. So it’s all cool.

A small sampling of those lessons learned:

• If you plan to ride The Colorado Trail, be ready for hours and hours of hike-a-bike. Learn to enjoy it because you may end up hiking as many hours as you ride. At least I did.
• Yes, a mountain biker can look cool while wearing hiking boots.
• If you feel fit and strong at 10,000 feet, just wait until you climb up and over 12,000 feet while riding or pushing a bike loaded with gear.
• If you think you can travel a section in X-number of hours, plan for 2 times X-number of hours. The 35 miles of Segments 16 and 17 took me 11-1/2 hours.
• If you think that you can maintain a 3 mph hike-a-bike pace, think again. At times it’s hard to average a 1 mph hike-a-bike pace, such as on the brutal climbs on Segment 23.
• If you are bikepacking, don’t believe everything hikers tell you. For example, if you are hike-a-biking Segments 22 and 23 in early July and a few hikers each say, “Don’t worry, there is no snow on the trail,” don’t get your hopes up. There could be a LOT of snow on the trail.
• If you are craving a Coca-Cola or some ice cream, don’t worry: You’ll get over it, eventually.
• The more food you pack, the less you’ll eat.

Know where the water is. Some sections have water at every turn. Other sections are COMPLETELY dry. And if you find a small stream in July, it will likely be dry in late August or early September.

Don’t be in a rush. Take it all in. And make sure you have a big memory card for your digital camera.

Enjoy the isolation because you will be alone for most of the adventure.

Enjoy the random conversations with others traveling the CT. Everyone has a unique story.

If you see something weird, such as a hiker wearing pink Crocs, take a picture. You’ll be happy you did.

Don’t be surprised if you finish the CT and immediately start planning your return.

I survived the expected. I survived the unexpected. I survived days that included 18-plus miles of hike-a-bike. I survived high-altitude thunderstorms. I survived late night downpours. I survived an encounter with a moose. I survived days with little or no food. I survived the highs. I survived the lows. I just flat out survived.

And it was all with a smile on my face because, in the big picture, a bad day on the CT is still a pretty good day.

What’s next? Well, the obvious: 2012 will include another end-to-end tour of The Colorado Trail.

Why spend another summer on the CT? Why not? There is so much to see. I expect that a second tour will be like the first—at every turn there will be something new and cool to experience.

Check out the following blogs for the stories, the data, the pictures, and the videos of Rohwer’s adventures on the Colorado Trail: http://www.backtothepackracing.com and http://www.singlespeeding-on-thecoloradotrail.com.

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Trail Crews 2011
A Summer of Fun, Fulfillment

Bridges built, culverts installed, trees removed, and thousands of feet of trail improved: just another summer’s work by Colorado Trail crews.

Nine weekend and five weekend crews dug in all along the CT this past season, including assisting the Continental Divide Trail Alliance build new trail outside the ghost town of Winfield at the end of Clear Creek Valley.

And, as always, the volunteer crew members were overwhelmingly happy with the way their weeks or weekends went, and their part in maintaining this Colorado treasure. Their comments say it all:

• “The best part of my week was the people I worked with. Oh yeah, digging in the dirt was okay, too. I was clueless about drips, bars, Pulaskis, pick-mattocks, and so on, but now I am EDUCATED! Thanks, old-timers and Tom Brookshker, crew leader) Advice: Take pictures!” - Tom “Doc” Brucia, Houston, TX, Crew 0111

• “I finished the trail in 2001 and decided that if I use it, I should pay it back. Ten years later I’m still at it. All the years have been good and I’ve had great leaders and fellow workers. Meeting new friends makes it worth the work.” - Dallas Peterson, Boone, IA, Crew 0111

• “This is my third women’s crew now and I look forward to many more. I’m always pleased to see the diversity in these crews, yet we all come together very quickly as a team to accomplish our goals. We arrive as strangers; we leave as family.” - Jean Mortensen, Aurora, CO, Crew 0211

• “This is an awesome vacation! . . . I love being with other like-minded women in the great outdoors doing stuff that matters and feels good. . . . I know I’ll be back for more. I hope all you Colorado natives appreciate the beauty of this great state. It sure ain’t like this in Kansas.” - Renée Babin, Lawrence, KS, Crew 0211

• “I always have mixed feelings on our last morning of camp. During the week, through community work and play, we create our own special bond up here in the mountains. My body is ready to go home and rest, but my heart will miss my CT friends. See you next year!” - Suzanne Reed, Silverthorne, CO, Crew 0311

• “Why do I keep coming back? The people!” - Elayna Lipe, Castle Rock, CO, Crew 311

Here is a brief roundup of the crews and the work accomplished. A more complete report can be found at ColoradoTrail.org.

Crew 0111 (Lost Park, June 25-July 2):
Tom Brookshker, leader; 789 hours worked; 18 crew members; improved 7/8 mile of trail by removing hundreds of small bushes, widening tread, and installing or restoring 18 rolling dips; installed one culvert and restored two others to improve drainage.

Crew 0211 (Goat Wadi, July 8-11):
Cindy Johnson, leader; 386 hours worked; 13 crew members; along 2 miles of trail added water bars, removed roots, de-bermed trail, cut back brush and trees, and built a horse crossing.

Crew 0311 (Molas Pass, July 9-16):
Bill Carpenter, leader; 1,099 hours worked; 24 crew members; 1,455 feet of trail widened, 492 feet of trail rerouted, two culverts installed, turnpike with ditches installed, and 51 water bars and 20 rolling dips installed or reconstructed.

Crew 0411 (Lujan Pass, July 16-23):
Phil Smith, leader; 922.5 hours worked; 18 crew members; 2,300 feet of tread improved and one switchback and one rolling water bar built.

Crew 0511 (Little Browns Creek, July 23-30):
Bill Carpenter and Gavin Bailey, leaders; 822 hours worked; 20 crew members; installed or rebuilt 104 rolling dips; repaired 1,200 feet of tread, one knick, one climbing turn and two switchbacks.

Crew 0611 (Pine Creek, July 23-30):
Paul Smith, leader; 770 hours worked; 12 crew members; existing water bars reinforced, drainage dips cleaned, and corridor widened or narrowed as needed.

Crew 0711 (Winfield, August 6-13):
Cindy Johnson, leader; 1,047 hours worked; 20 crew members; 920 feet of new trail completed and another 400 feet of corridor started on the Continental Divide Trail.

Crew 0811 (Winfield, August 13-20):
Glenn Kepler, leader; 1,047 hours worked; 19 crew members; continued to assist Continental Divide Trail Alliance build new trail.

Crew 0911 (Angel of Shavano, June 18-25):
John W. Lipe, leader; 1,287 hours worked; 27 crew members; completed 28 check steps, 19 check dams, seven rolling dips, four water bars, 40 feet of turnpike, and performed routine maintenance along 3 miles of tread.

Crew 1011 (Lujan Pass, June 18-25):
Phil Smith, leader; 903.5 hours worked; 20 crew members; improved 1,743 feet of tread and installed one rock water bar and one switchback.

Crew 111 (Top of the World, June 3-5):
George Miller, leader; 330 hours worked; 21 crew members; two 8-foot bridges built, 150 feet of eroded trail fixed, and four water bars installed.

Crew 211 (Top of the World, June 10-11):
George Miller, leader; 285 hours worked; 18 crew members; 1 mile of trail enhanced by improving backslope, cutting knicks, and moving tread out of a ravine; vegetation trimmed back along a half-mile of tread.

Crew 311 (South Fooses Creek Bridge, July 7-10):
Steve Stadler and John W. Lipe, leaders; 646 hours worked; 17 crew members; assisted Forest Service in constructing a 30-foot bridge; built a 30-foot equestrian crossing, seven check steps, seven rolling dips, six knicks, and one rock bar; constructed 200 feet of new trail next to tread that was prone to flooding.

Crew 411 (Georgia Pass, July 16-17):
Dan Bereck, impromptu leader, Steve Staley, leader; 253 hours worked; 14 crew members; took out 400 yards of abraded dust-track trail, built 20 water bars, and installed one guidepost.
Come An’ Get It

Are you finished? With your Colorado Trail hike, bike or ride, that is?
Then let others know by wearing the Colorado Trail Foundation’s new completers T-shirt, now available at the CTF store, www.shop.ColoradoTrail.org.

Designed by CTF volunteer **Blake Welch** of **Welch Creative Group**, it boasts on the front that the wearer did 486 miles and 89,354 vertical feet, and on the back reads: “I am a Colorado Trail Completer.”
The gold-colored Sport-Tek Dry Zone T-shirt features 100 percent polyester wicking fabric, double-needle sleeves and hem, and a tagless collar.
That’s not all that’s new at the CTF store. Also available is the latest version of the trail “confidence” markers that CT users come to know and rely on. They feature the official green CT logo “raised” against a white double-peaked triangular background.
Also new is MountainMaps’ map and guide to the Sawatch Range. CT users will find the routes to nearby fourteencers, the Hope Pass alternate route, and the Collegiate Loop, a 185-mile loop combining the Colorado and Continental Divide trails, of particular interest.
Orders are processed by CT Friend **Janet Kiyota**, who “warehouses” the merchandise in a spare bedroom in her Fort Lupton home and works tirelessly to fulfill each order. (The CTF is lucky to have her help because we lack the storage space and setup at the CT office in Golden to accomplish store fulfillment.)

Janet takes great pride in getting each order right and delivering it speedily to each customer.
The CT Store is the one-stop shop for all things CT – guidebooks, maps, T-shirts, hats, and commemoratives. All purchases support the upkeep of The Colorado Trail.

What was your favorite segment of the CT?

Too many to count and a lot of times weather dictated our enjoyment on any given day. Snow Mesa, the Collegiates, Highway 50 to Marshall Pass were all beautiful. It’s like asking a mother to choose her favorite child.

**John Ingham and Beth Blakney Ingham**

**COLORADO SPRINGS, COLORADO**

Treks Attract Hikers from Across US, World

You can assume you’re doing something right when your clients keep coming back. The Colorado Trail’s Trekking program certainly fits that bill: 52 of this year’s 113 trekkers were returnees from previous years.
And they come from all over, too. Trekking Managers **Jeanne and Chris Szczech** of Colorado Mountain Expeditions say the 10 supported hikes this summer drew guests from 22 states, including 54 from Colorado, Washington, D.C., as well as Canada, Ireland, Germany, the Netherlands, and Australia.
The 4-5-day CT hikes are led by guides from Colorado Mountain Expeditions based in Durango. Trekkers carry only their daypacks, while the rest of their gear is transported ahead to the next overnight stop. Campers arrive at camp to appetizers, cold drinks, and hot, wholesome meals.
Here are a few comments by 2011 Trekkers:
• The staff and guides were top-notch again this year. Their focus continues to be making sure the guests are comfortable and happy.
• It’s not easy, but highly rewarding – an unforgettable experience.
• This was the best way to hike the trail.
• I loved absolutely everything about our hike, even my missing toenails.
• From the moment I met the group I felt welcome. Every detail was so organized but so laid-back. Had the time of my life up in the Rockies. I’ll be back for sure.
• Amazing food – great ingredients, well prepared & presented, and plenty of it.
• The meals were great, nutritious and tasty. Wendy really appreciated you addressing her dietary requirements in such an excellent manner.
• I liked the idea of “themes” to the dinner: Asian night, margarita night, etc. The variety was great.
• The 2012 Trekking schedule and registration info will be posted on their website, ColoradoTrailHiking.com, on Dec. 1. Each trek is limited to 12 participants and spots generally fill quickly. The Szczechs report that fees for next summer’s treks are being increased from $925 to $975.
While Colorado Trail crews focus on a few big projects each summer, the CTF’s 63 Adopters are keeping up their great work of maintaining and upgrading all 486 miles of tread.

“The Adopter program continues to amaze us,” says Adopt-a-Trail Coordinator Janet Farrar. “What a wonderful group of dedicated people. The amount of work they get done is staggering and so appreciated.”

That work includes clearing trail, cutting back foliage, removing rockslides, cleaning hundreds of water diversions to prevent erosion, and repairing or replacing scores of signs and confidence markers. Some 305 fallen trees were cleared in 2011 alone.

During the past summer, Adopters and 150 Adopter helpers spent more than 2,400 hours maintaining the trail, Farrar says. The Adopter roster has remained pretty stable this year, she says, with changes mostly due to former helpers taking over the official Adopter positions.

“Bob and Carol Drew are handing over control of AAT Section 5.2 to Chris Thiry, who has helped for years,” Farrar reports. “Suzanne Reed and Cindy Johnson will be taking over for Art Rankin on Section 7.2. Robert Bernhardt took over from Jamie Watts with Cub Scout Pack 72 on Section 12.1. Pam Doverspike, who has worked with Signe Wheeler and the women’s horse group Rancho del Sueno, will be the new contact for AAT 16.1. Jerry Brown is handing over command to his right-hand woman, Connie Wian, on Section 24.2. And Jeremy Bock moved to Section 14.2, with Tony and Angelia Johnson stepping in to care for Section 13.3.”

With Rob Lauchner and family moving to Baltimore, Section 12.2 is currently open for adoption, she says.

Farrar says a special thanks is due to Stan Barnes, who retired after many years as the Adopter of Section 14.2.

A sampling of the work done:

- **Steve Cave**, Section 4.1: “Erected new signs at mile 5.6. Cleared all remaining downfall (21 trees) from entire section. . . Water diversions are all clear with no noticeable erosion from last year.”

- **Suzanne Reed and Cindy Johnson**, Section 7.2: “Cleared drainage, cut one tree, replaced signs at intersection of Wheeler Trail and CT/CDT; surveyed trail at site of late winter avalanche.”

- **Dave Callais**, Section 8.2: “Added CT markers and painted two rocks with CT logo. Cleaned and added water dips; all timber removed.”

- **Eric Mink (via Robbie Miller)**, Section 10.2: “The trail was in really good shape and we could tell that the work we put in last year worked. The water bars were in good shape and the trail had dried out in spots that were holding water last year. We cleaned all the drainage dips and added around 20 more throughout.”

- **John and Betsy Sylvester**, Section 11.1: “Placed three signs; cleared 60 water bars; removed 73 trees.”

- **John Lipe**, Section 14.3: “Built 200 feet of buck-and-rail fence; removed three trees; cleaned 51 water structures; repaired culvert and 160 feet of trail damaged by livestock; moved 28 feet of trail for corridor clearance.”

- **Daryll Southwick**, Section 21.2: “Cleared out 20-25 shallow water bars; replaced two water bars; removed remains of tree cut and removed earlier in the season by another party.”

- **Ernie Norris**, Section 26.1: “Removed eight large and seven medium downed trees that were blocking the trail.”

- **Mary Monroe**, Section 28.2: “Trails 2000 is very proud to be a Colorado Trail adopter here in Durango. We worked our section on four occasions, clearing 62 trees, clearing out more than 40 drainages, and lopping back brush for line of sight. Twenty-two volunteers contributed 263 hours of trail work.”

“As always, we really are grateful for all the work our volunteers do,” Farrar says. “The Trail would not be what it is without all that care.”
How many people thru-hike The Colorado Trail each year? Scores? Certainly. Hundreds? Probably. And that number appears to be growing as word of the trail spreads around the country – and the world.

True figures are virtually impossible to gather because a lot of finishers reach Durango or Denver and never let The Colorado Trail Foundation know of their feat. And while the Foundation does get dozens of requests each year for completer certificates, that includes hikers who complete the trail in stages, many over the course of several seasons.

Bill Appel, better known to thru-hikers and others who encounter him at his “angel camp” at Lujan Pass as simply “Apple,” has as good an idea as anyone.

Appel, who’s from Cincinnati but spends several months each year assisting hikers on the CT and Appalachian Trail, has been greeting hikers at his camp, about 35 miles southeast of Gunnison, for five seasons now, treating them to cookies, chips, crackers, and cold drinks, and a big wall tent with stove that is available for use around the clock.

He asks guests to sign his logbook, which he then annotates as to whether they’re northbound or southbound, on foot, horse, or bike, and other data. Because of the camp’s location on the trail, far from populated areas, the good proportion of those encountering “Apple” are thru-travelers: hikers, bikers or horse riders.

Here’s what he recorded before he packed up camp on Aug. 28 and left for the southern part of the AT, where he continues his “angel” activities during the winter months:

“Between July 2 and August 28, I counted 317 hikers, five of whom were hiking the CDT this year; 61 mountain bikes; four llamas; 17 horses with riders; and 41 dirt bikes. Since I left camp at 5 p.m. each day, and there were users who came through after that who did not sign in, I would conservatively calculate the actual count as being at least 15 percent higher.”

“Hopefully,” Appel says, “I can give an exact number next year since I have a gadget that can keep count 24/7, but I had some issues with it this year.”

Those numbers compare with a total of 308 hikers, bikers (both mountain and dirt), and riders he counted between July 3 and August 18, 2010. “So, traffic is indeed picking up,” he says.

What was your favorite segment of the CT?

Segments 20 and 21 (Eddiesville to Spring Creek Pass). We fished in beaver ponds, spotted moose before sunrise on our way to the top of San Luis Peak, and then started the epic and wonderful journey hopping over passes and peaks above 11,000 feet.

Angela and Mickey Bakas
Evergreen, Colorado

Get It While You Can

Sometimes it takes an “outsider” to remind local Colorado Trail users just how lucky we are to have this treasure in our own backyard.

Roger Dunton of West Union, S.C., wrote the CTF in September:

“I hiked the Appalachian Trail in 1998 at the age of 67. I then worked as a ridgerunner (trail volunteer) for the Appalachian Trail Conservancy for the next ten years. I would hear stories from hikers about how beautiful The Colorado Trail is. A young girl told me: ‘If you never do anything else, you need to hike the CT.’

“I was getting older and knew I should not wait any longer. In 2009, at the age of 78, I did a solo unassisted thru-hike of the CT. The stories I had been told about the CT did not begin to describe how beautiful this trail is or how much wildlife I would see. Also, the wildflowers were prevalent the whole hike. When you were above treeline, it felt as if you were alone in the world.

“I wish I had hiked this trail earlier in my life. If I had, I would have hiked it two or three more times by now. You have a beautiful, very well-maintained trail.”
What was your favorite segment of the CT?
Segment 23 (Carson Saddle to Stony Pass) had the most spectacular scenery. Segments 20-27 were all pretty awesome. Segment 8 (Copper Mountain to Tennessee Pass) was my favorite on the northern half of the CT.

Andrew Berger
Hinsdale, Ill.