President's Corner
by Gudy Gaskill

Glimpses of Spring

With summer just a month away, we are gearing up for the summer's activity. For those of us who live in Colorado, spring has barely begun in the mountains. I live at 8,000 feet, and we saw our first pasque-flowers in bloom over the weekend. The spring beauties have been out for about a week, and the lingering snowbanks from our last big storm at the beginning of May have just dissipated into the wet forest. Daffodils and tulips are just budding out. Don't be fooled as there is still a tremendous amount of snow in the Front Range. On the 10th of May a couple of early hikers tried to hike through the Lost

Continued on page 2

Some trees are harder to remove than others.

Appreciation for Adopters

It is springtime in the Rockies and once again time to pay tribute to all of the adopters of The Colorado Trail. The Colorado Trail Foundation's Adopt-A-Trail Program is the structure that provides for the maintenance of the CT on a continuing basis. The AAT Program divides the CT into 53 segments that are then "adopted" by 53 individuals or groups who provide maintenance on "their" section on a continuing basis. Without the continuing efforts of these dedicated individuals, the CT would soon cease to exist. For example, during the winter of 94/95, 154 trees were blown across one 20-mile-long section of the CT in the San Juans. A more common winter will drop about one tree per mile across the CT. That is still a lot of trees to move! A summary of the responsibilities of an adopter are listed on page 4 and the list of adaptors on page 5.

Continued on page 16

Index
Adopters Responsibilities 4
List of Trail Adopters 5
Geology Course 6
Biology Course 7
Watercolor Course 8
Available Crew Positions 9
CT Summer activities 10
Horse Packer Story 12
1996 Thru Hikers 14
CT Web Site Update 15
XC Ski Site Update 18
Inez Wilms 21
Miscellaneous Info 22
CT Store 23
President's Corner Continued from page 1

Creek Wilderness Area and were turned back by deep soft snow. This is only 50 miles from Denver. If the weather turns hot and the sun is accommodating, we should have a snow-free trail by the latter part of June, especially over Georgia Pass and Searle Pass. Last summer we had a small horse group break through the snowbanks on Searle Pass. The horses’ legs were caught and in the attempt to free the horses, one of the riders was injured.

A Word of Caution

Colorado Trail users must be on constant vigil to avoid accidents. Rescue is often many miles away. The trail is constantly being repaired and maintained to make it as safe as possible. But human sense and carelessness cannot be reckoned. That is the responsibility of the trail user.

Feedback Welcome

A number of bike riders are planning through rides on their mountain bikes. A couple of them will be riding the trail in 10 days as that is all the time off that they have. One offered to take pictures along the way. I declined the offer of scenic shots, because their time frame doesn’t allow for any side trips, let alone getting off the bike. However, they will log the trail for wind blows and rough spots. That is always a help to the maintenance crews. A couple of through hikers last summer gave us excellent information as to where signs were needed for east-bound travelers and where snags existed on some of our temporary reroutes. Thanks, "Pink Panthers"!

Remembering Our Passing Friends

Two of our old-time supporters and trail crew members passed away in May. Our hearts are saddened by the death of Inez Wilmes and Patty Berri. Both died in quiet peace.

Hard Work Ahead

Merle McDonald will be leading a crew to the top of the Chalk Cliffs at Mount Princeton (Crew #4). There they will put in an experimental strip of trail to see how the trail will hold up over a winter season. The granitic rock could be unstable. The eventual reroute could eliminate the road walk in the valley. This will be a difficult crew because of the distance to the work site. The crew that will be working on the Gunnison Spur (Crew #6) putting up signs for marking the trail will be split into several groups to allow the crew to be able to place about 65 signs. The signs will be set into the ground with posts. No small job in the good old Rocky Mountains!

Continued on page 3
**Overwhelming Popularity of Treks**

The fully supported trail treks were once again overbooked. For those of you who didn’t make it this year, you’ll be guaranteed a berth next summer. These are so popular, thanks to a great crew of leaders and organizers, that we are almost afraid to tell strangers about them, for fear they will really overcrowd us. The word has traveled near and far. Each time we give a slide show, there are people who come to find out more about the “rumored” treks. The partially supported treks are also full. This was offered to long-time supporters or trail crew veterans on a one-time basis as a thank you for their faith in The Colorado Trail. This too was overbooked, so we extended it into two weeks. Since Glen is donating one week of his hard-earned vacation time and Gudy is donating two weeks of her overbooked time, this will probably be a one-shot, once-in-a-lifetime trip unless we find other members to volunteer their time and expertise. A great group of old-timers responded, so they’re going to be grand trips.

**Equipment Additions**

George Miller has been busy outfitting the new enclosed trailers. One trailer will be used for the treks, and the other enclosed trailer will be pulled into a sample of trail crews and left there for the week. This will discourage the roving bears and fulfill the National Forest Service’s requirements to have bear-proof food containers in camp. It’s amazing how compact George has made the built-ins. As usual, George has come up with some ingenious devices. Irene Cazer donated over $200 to the Foundation for the use of reproducing (cloning) her antique oven. As a result, George found a welder that will make the shell out of sheet metal (to resist rusting), and George will do the bolting and insertions of shelves. As a result, we will have three handsome new ovens for our summer use. I can see the hot biscuits now, dripping with butter and honey! There will be a couple of new tents, new cooking pots, and sundry other goodies to make our gourmet cooking a bit easier to prepare. Constantly upgrading!

**Leaders on Vacation**

We will all miss Bill Cannon, Larry O’Donnell, Bruce Armstrong, and Lynn Mattingly as crew leaders this summer. All are taking deserved vacations. Please remember to come back! Just a reminder that we are always looking for potential new leaders.

**Bridge Update**

Let’s hope for genteel rains in the Front Range this summer as all users will have to wade the South Platte River at the old South Platte townsite. There will not be a new bridge this summer, as we were unable to raise the funding for the bridge. Perhaps next year, and hope that the crossing is just another experience.

**What a Summer Ahead!**

Between the treks, crews, and maintenance crews on the trail this summer, we are guaranteed over 500 users under the direction of the Foundation. The trail is a joy to us all. Enjoy the summer.
The COLORADO TRAIL is a 500-mile-long high mountain educational and recreational hiking trail that meanders through some of the most beautiful terrain in the state. It stretches from Denver to Durango with many intermediate access points.

The COLORADO TRAIL FOUNDATION, a tax deductible, nonprofit corporation, is governed by public agencies and private sector representatives. The Foundation recruits and trains volunteers for trail construction crews, coordinates the Adopt-A-Trail maintenance program, and distributes information on Colorado Trail activities, trail crews, and publications.

The ADOPT-A-TRAIL MAINTENANCE PROGRAM provides for the continuing maintenance of the Colorado Trail by volunteer groups or individuals who adopt a section of the trail. The trail is currently divided into 53 sections for maintenance purposes. (These sections do not correspond to the segments delineated in the Colorado Trail Official Guide Book.) The maintenance sections vary in length from 3 to 20 miles.

An adopter is responsible for the following on the adopted section:

1. Surveying (looking at) the section and removing deadfall and other obstructions at the beginning of the hiking season.
2. Maintaining adequate signage. (signs are furnished by the CTF or USFS)
3. Maintaining erosion structures (waterbars and drains) and correcting minor erosion problems.
4. Controlling vegetation within the 8 foot wide trail corridor.
5. Maintaining the tread (the walking surface) in a usable condition.
6. Providing annual status reports (a one page form) to the Forest Service and the Colorado Trail Foundation on their section of the Trail.
7. Advising the Forest Service and the Colorado Trail Foundation of maintenance requirements beyond the adopter's resources and/or capabilities.

Upon request, the Forest Service will provide technical advice and assistance, tools and materials, subject to budgetary restrictions.

Maintenance sections have been adopted by individuals, family groups, Scout Troops, school science classes, hiking clubs, bicycle clubs, horseback riding groups, Colorado Mountain Club chapters, Army National Guard Units, and groups of friends.

Persons or groups interested in adopting a section of the Colorado Trail or in assisting an adopter with maintenance should contact the maintenance coordinator listed above.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>First Name</th>
<th>Last Name</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>Home Phone</th>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tom</td>
<td>Sanger</td>
<td>Highlands Ranch</td>
<td>(303) 470-5672</td>
<td>01</td>
<td>Strontia Springs to South Platte, 1st half</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Terri</td>
<td>Miller</td>
<td>Buffalo Creek</td>
<td>(303) 838-6768</td>
<td>01.1</td>
<td>Strontia Springs to South Platte, 2nd half</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Don</td>
<td>Johnson</td>
<td>Arvada</td>
<td>(303) 425-4916</td>
<td>02</td>
<td>South Platte to Rd 126</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dave</td>
<td>Nelson</td>
<td>Denver</td>
<td>(303) 333-9771</td>
<td>03</td>
<td>Rd 126 to FS Rd 543</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tom</td>
<td>Butterfield</td>
<td>Foxton</td>
<td>(303) 838-7920</td>
<td>04</td>
<td>FS Rd 543 to Lost Park Campground</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ernie</td>
<td>Werren</td>
<td>Silverthorne</td>
<td>(970) 262-2549</td>
<td>05</td>
<td>Lost Park Campground to FS Rd 817</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harriet</td>
<td>Patton</td>
<td>Denver</td>
<td>(303) 985-3280</td>
<td>06</td>
<td>FS Rd 817 to Ben Tyler Trailhead</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carol/Barb</td>
<td>Drew</td>
<td>Arvada</td>
<td>(303) 422-5977</td>
<td>07</td>
<td>Ben Tyler Trailhead to Kenoshia Pass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Andy/Sue</td>
<td>Raich</td>
<td>Lakewood</td>
<td>(303) 985-5624</td>
<td>08</td>
<td>Kenoshia Pass to Jefferson Creek</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Min</td>
<td>Canavan</td>
<td>Boulder</td>
<td>(303) 449-4449</td>
<td>09</td>
<td>Jefferson Creek to Georgia Pass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jim/Becky</td>
<td>Carpenter</td>
<td>Littleton</td>
<td>(303) 932-0258</td>
<td>09.1</td>
<td>Jefferson Loop</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diane</td>
<td>Parker</td>
<td>Bennett</td>
<td>(970) 644-3421</td>
<td>10.1</td>
<td>Georgia Pass to N. Fork of the Swan River</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laura</td>
<td>Rossetter</td>
<td>Breckersridge</td>
<td>(970) 949-8057</td>
<td>10.2</td>
<td>N. Fork of the Swan River to Horseshoe Gulch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steve &amp; Sue</td>
<td>Enderlin</td>
<td>Frisco</td>
<td>(970) 453-1938</td>
<td>10.3</td>
<td>Horseshoe Gulch to Goldhill Trailhead</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John</td>
<td>Fayhee</td>
<td>Frisco</td>
<td>(970) 668-1425</td>
<td>11.1</td>
<td>Gold Hill Trailhead to Peak 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>William</td>
<td>Brown</td>
<td>Denver</td>
<td>(303) 733-5171</td>
<td>11.2</td>
<td>Peak 6 to Wheeler Junction</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Neal</td>
<td>McKinstry</td>
<td>Fruita</td>
<td>(970) 858-9042</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>Copper Mt. to Kokomo Pass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Julie</td>
<td>Miesdag</td>
<td>Bailey</td>
<td>(303) 816-0133</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>Kokomo Pass to Hwy 24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dawn</td>
<td>Barton</td>
<td>Keating</td>
<td>(970) 927-3692</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>Hwy 24 to Tennessee Pass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dawn</td>
<td>Barton</td>
<td>Keating</td>
<td>(970) 927-3692</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Tennessee Pass to Wurtz Ditch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DAnn/Chuck</td>
<td>Downing</td>
<td>Leadville</td>
<td>(719) 486-2615</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>Wurtz Ditch to Lake Fork</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>John</td>
<td>Wehre</td>
<td>Aurora</td>
<td>(303) 751-5735</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>Lake Fork to Halfmoon Creek</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phil</td>
<td>Smith</td>
<td>Castle Rock</td>
<td>(303) 688-9638</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>Halfmoon Creek to Lakeview</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dominic</td>
<td>Guber</td>
<td>Pueblo</td>
<td>(719) 545-4026</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>Lakeview to Twins Lakes Res.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Craig</td>
<td>Nelson</td>
<td>Dillon</td>
<td>(970) 468-2995</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>Twin Lakes to Clear Creek Rd.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clare</td>
<td>Foote</td>
<td>Ft Collins</td>
<td>(970) 282-1225</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>Clear Creek Rd. to Pine Creek</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Steve</td>
<td>Combs</td>
<td>Englewood</td>
<td>(303) 788-1904</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>Pine Creek to N. Cottonwood Creek</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Merle &amp; Uta</td>
<td>McDonald</td>
<td>Colorado Springs</td>
<td>(719) 599-4258</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>N. Cottonwood Creek to S. Cottonwood Creek</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jon</td>
<td>Greiensen</td>
<td>Franktown</td>
<td>(303) 688-2299</td>
<td>24.1</td>
<td>S. Cottonwood Creek to Mt. Princeton Rd.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rolly</td>
<td>Rogers</td>
<td>Littleton</td>
<td>(303) 904-8302</td>
<td>24.2</td>
<td>Mt. Princeton Rd. to Chalk Creek</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jon/Scheryl</td>
<td>Mestdagh</td>
<td>Englewood</td>
<td>(303) 783-9929</td>
<td>24.3</td>
<td>Chalk Creek to Brooks Creek</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gene</td>
<td>Rush</td>
<td>Salida</td>
<td>(719) 539-7010</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>Browns Creek to Shavano Rd.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rolly</td>
<td>Rogers</td>
<td>Littleton</td>
<td>(303) 904-8302</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>Shavano Rd. to U. S. 50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ann</td>
<td>Stevens</td>
<td>Manitou Springs</td>
<td>(719) 685-9717</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>Fosses Creek to Marshall Pass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beckey</td>
<td>Moore</td>
<td>Fountain</td>
<td>(719) 390-3228</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>Marshall Pass to Sargents Mesa</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lee</td>
<td>Jackson</td>
<td>Littleton</td>
<td>(303) 979-1481</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>Sargents Mesa to Lujan Creek Rd.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cheryl/Bob</td>
<td>Arndt</td>
<td>Lyons</td>
<td>(970) 747-0224</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>Lujan Creek Rd. to Saguaache Park Rd.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stuart</td>
<td>Brown</td>
<td>Nathrop</td>
<td>(970) 539-6744</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>Saguaache Park Rd. to Eddiesville Trailhead</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bill/Cary</td>
<td>Lewis/Jones</td>
<td>Lafayette</td>
<td>(970) 665-7475</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>Eddiesville Trailhead to San Luis Pass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ken</td>
<td>Stagner</td>
<td>Montrose</td>
<td>(970) 240-3679</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>San Luis Pass to Spring Creek Pass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jerry</td>
<td>Gray</td>
<td>Lake City</td>
<td>(303) 904-8302</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>Spring Creek Pass to Big Buck Creek</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jerry</td>
<td>Gray</td>
<td>Lake City</td>
<td>(303) 904-8302</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>Big Buck Creek to Wager Gulch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bill</td>
<td>Weber</td>
<td>Boulder</td>
<td>(303) 499-9717</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>Stony Pass Rd to Continental Divide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tom</td>
<td>Bowser</td>
<td>Abilene</td>
<td>(915) 672-9092</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>Continental Divide to Animas River</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bill</td>
<td>Manning</td>
<td>Durango</td>
<td>(970) 259-4682</td>
<td>38.1</td>
<td>Animas River to Molas Pass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Larry</td>
<td>Burch</td>
<td>Aurora</td>
<td>(303) 337-6420</td>
<td>39</td>
<td>Molas Pass to Rolling Mt. Pass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lynn</td>
<td>Mattingly</td>
<td>Paonia</td>
<td>(970) 527-4414</td>
<td>39.1</td>
<td>Rolling Mt. Pass to Bolam Pass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Malcolm</td>
<td>Wentling</td>
<td>Aurora</td>
<td>(303) 690-3644</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>Bolam Pass to FS Rd. 550</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zena</td>
<td>Beaver</td>
<td>Dolores</td>
<td>(970) 882-7392</td>
<td>41</td>
<td>FS Rd. 550 to Orphan Butte</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawrence</td>
<td>Mack</td>
<td>Colorado Springs</td>
<td>(719) 574-0158</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>Orphan Butte to Cumberland Basin Trailhead</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ted</td>
<td>LaMay</td>
<td>Durango</td>
<td>(970) 259-0195</td>
<td>42.1</td>
<td>Cumberland Basin Trailhead to FS Rd. 543</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kenneth</td>
<td>Marshall</td>
<td>Durango</td>
<td>(970) 247-2716</td>
<td>43</td>
<td>FS Rd. 543 to Gudy's Rest</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Laurie</td>
<td>Grael</td>
<td>Durango</td>
<td>(970) 385-1210</td>
<td>43.3</td>
<td>Gudy's Rest to Junction Creek Trailhead</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Don't miss this opportunity!
A ONE-WEEK FIELD STUDY
of
GEOLOGY OF THE MAGNIFICENT
SAN JUAN MOUNTAINS
The Colorado Trail Foundation
in connection with
Fort Lewis College
and
Adams State College
is offering a one week course
Conducted along the Southern Section of The Colorado Trail
August 3-9, 1997
Enrollment limited to 15
** Spend a glorious week hiking along The Colorado Trail in the vicinity of Molas Pass with Professor of Geology Dr. John (Jack) Campbell.

** Camp under the stars high in the Rockies. Class instruction in the field. Evening campfire discussions. Camp logistical support, including all meals, is provided by The Colorado Trail Foundation.

** Special activities include trips to Mesa Verde National Park or the Ute Tribal Park. College van service is included.

** Optional one hour of GRADUATE LEVEL COLLEGE CREDIT from Adams State College is available to those who desire it at an $85 additional cost.

Total cost is only $290!

For CTF applications and registration information please contact:
John Sowell
Biology Department
Western State College
Gunnison, Colorado 81231
970-943-2146 or jsowell@western.edu

For information of course content and activities please contact:
Dr. J. Campbell
Fort Lewis College
970-247-7475
WILDFLOWERS OF THE SAN JUAN MOUNTAINS

July 20-26 1997

SPONSORS: The Colorado Trail Foundation in cooperation with Western State College of Colorado.

COURSE DESCRIPTION: This is a one week field study of the subalpine and alpine flowers and plants of the San Juan mountains of Colorado. Camp and the hiking course will be in the vicinity of the Colorado Trail Foundations educational facility in Burrow's Park, a valley of spectacular wildflower displays and scenery between Lake City and Silverton. No previous experience in plant identification is presumed.

LOGISTICAL SUPPORT will be provided by the Colorado Trail Foundation. The educational facility has a cabin providing room for cooking, dining and group meetings and other niceties such as an outhouse and shower stall (bring your own shower bag). You must bring your own tent, pad, bag, camp chair, eating utensils (plate, bowl, cup, and silverware), and personal items.

REGISTRATION FEES: The $290 course fee must be paid in full when submitting your application. Please make checks payable to the “Colorado Trail Foundation”. Of the $290 fee, $50 is nonrefundable should you have to cancel.

COLLEGE CREDIT: College credit is available through the continuing education program at Western State College in Gunnison, Colorado. The course is one semester-credit and is graded satisfactory/unsatisfactory.

INSTRUCTOR: Dr. John Sowell, associate Professor of Botany, WSC

For further information or registration materials please contact:

DR. JOHN SOWELL
BIOLOGY DEPARTMENT
WESTERN STATE COLLEGE
GUNNISON, CO. 81231

970-943-2146 or 970-641-4303 (home)
jsowell@western.edu (internet).
Don't miss this opportunity
WATERCOLOR WORKSHOP
In the Magnificent
San Juan Mountains

SPONSORED BY
The Colorado Trail Foundation

Instructed by Margaret Barge, watercolor teacher from Durango with 20 years teaching experience and open to beginning students through advanced.

Location: CTF Educational Facility in Burrow's Park, a valley of spectacular wildflower displays and scenery between Lake City and Silverton. A mountain stream and three 14,000' peaks within walking distance provide a spectacular backdrop.

July 27th - August 2, 1997
Enrollment limited to 15

** Camp under the stars high in the Rockies. Class instruction in the field. Evening campfire discussions. Camp logistical support, including all meals, is provided by The Colorado Trail Foundation.

** The Education Facility has a cabin that is used for preparing meals, dining and optional classroom instruction in case of inclement weather. College van service included.

Total cost is only $290!

For CTF Applications and registration information please contact:
John Sowell
Biology Department
Western State College
Gunnison, Colorado 81231
970-943-2146 or jsowell@western.edu

For information of course content and activities please contact:
Margaret Barge
2028 Crestview Drive
Durango, Co 81301
970-247-3419
Colorado Trail Foundation
SUMMER VOLUNTEER WORK CREW SCHEDULE

Trail crew dates and work locations for crews that still have openings for the summer of 1997 are listed below. Each volunteer is responsible for his or her own transportation to the meeting place noted. The meeting time for week-long crews will be early in the afternoon of the first Saturday. The crews are designated "Drive-in," "Jeep-in," and "Backpack."

The "Drive-in" designation are those crews where a conventional auto can be driven directly to the trail crew camp.

The "Jeep-in" designation means the camp is not normally accessible by conventional vehicles. Volunteers without 4wd vehicles will be provided transportation from the parking area to camp site.

The "Backpack" designation means that your camp has no road access. You will be expected to pack your gear (tent, sleeping bag, etc.) into these camps with your own personal backpack.

You may sign up for as many crews as you wish for the single $35 per person registration fee. Payment of the registration fee must accompany your registration request. Make your check payable to: THE COLORADO TRAIL FOUNDATION, and note in the lower left corner of the check "Registration Fee." We will confirm your reservation by return mail. Crews are filled first come, first served, based on the date the registration fee is received. If you are confirmed for one of your requested crews, the registration fee becomes non-refundable. Jon and Maryln Greenesien Ph 303-688-2299 will be our registrars. The Greenesiens will be glad to advise on the registration status of any crew. If you wish to be on a crew with specific other volunteers, please so state on your registration form.

Crews with openings remaining as of May 15. Contact the Greenesiens (above) for the current status. forms.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Crew # &amp; Date</th>
<th>Remaining Openings as of May 15</th>
<th>Crew Name</th>
<th>Ranger District Leader</th>
<th>Description of Work and Base Camps</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 June 15-21</td>
<td>4 begins on Sunday</td>
<td>Educational Facility Maintenance</td>
<td>Ldr. Merle McDonald 719-599-4258</td>
<td>Drive-in: Will continue the maintenance on the CTF Educational Facility located 21 miles SW of Lake City. Will continue to improve the area around the cabin Site elevation 11,000 ft. Cabin will be used as kitchen only. Volunteers will sleep in their individual tents around the area.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 June 21-28</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Platte River 1 South Platte RD</td>
<td>Ldr. Arthur Rankin 303-393-7554</td>
<td>Drive-in: South Platte River Bridge Replacement Construction. Must be willing and able to wade across the 75-foot-wide South Platte River. (Maximum depth 30 inches) Will construct trail along the west bank of the river and construct bridge pylons on both sides of the river. Site elevation 6,500 ft.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 July 5-12</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>Gunnison Spur Cebolla/Taylor RD</td>
<td>Ldr. Gudy Gaskill 303-526-0809</td>
<td>Drive-in: Mobile Trail Rehab Crew for the Gunnison Spur from Gunnison to Taylor Park. Will touchup and sign the Gunnison Spur from Gunnison to Taylor Park. Will involve both considerable driving and walking each day.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8 July 19-26</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Cochetopa Hills 2 Saguache RD</td>
<td>Ldr. Phil Smith 303-688-9638</td>
<td>Drive-in: Trail rehab along the crest of the Continental Divide in the vicinity of Sargents Mesa. Also part of the Continental Divide National Scenic Trail.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9 July 19-26</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>Cumberland Basin 1 Columbine RD</td>
<td>Ldr. Joe Slack 303-443-1762</td>
<td>Jeep-in: To parking area at the head of La Plata Canyon, then hike ¼ mile to campsite. Will renovate CT on Indian Trail Ridge. Will require lots of walking to and from work site. Campsite 11,400 ft. elevation, Indian Trail Ridge 12,200 ft. Distance to and from work site two to three miles.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13 Aug 9-16</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Coney Peak 2 Rio Grande RD</td>
<td>Ldr. Gene Cash 402-291-3246</td>
<td>Jeep-in: Build new trail from the pass at the top of Wager Gulch to Coney Peak. 4wd vehicles needed. Wager Gulch is a 4 mile long steep, rocky jeep road. Will camp near the old Carson town site at 11,400 ft. elevation. Work area is 1½ miles away at 12,400 to 12,900. Can drive to work site with 4wd.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15 Aug 16-23</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Cascade Creek 2 Columbine RD</td>
<td>Ldr. Harriet Patton 303-985-3280</td>
<td>Backpack: Jeep-in to trailhead then backpack 4½ miles to campsite at unnamed lake. Backpack section descends 600 feet to Cascade Creek and then climbs 600 ft up to campsite. Campsite elevation 11,400 ft. Will continue trail improvement between campsite and Cascade Creek.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
What’s Happening on the CT this Summer
By Merle McDonald

What’s not happening this summer is more to the point. We did not get the grant for the replacement bridge across the South Platte River. As you may recall the Buffalo Creek forest fire last summer caused closure of the CT between the South Platte River and Hwy 126. Only a mile or so of the CT near Top of the World Campground was severely damaged. But the flood that followed the fire wiped out the bridge across the across the South Platte River. The Denver Water Board, the owner of the old bridge had no use for the bridge and didn’t want it replaced.

After extensive searching the CTF located a crossing site on Forest Service property that was satisfactory to all of the interested agencies. The site was surveyed and a preliminary design for the bridge was developed. The bridge needs to be 134 feet long to have adequate clearance for the 100 year flood level. The estimated cost was beginning to reach $70,000 even with a lot of volunteer labor. In late April we received word that our request for the $50,000 grant from GO Colorado was turned down. Now we need to find another source of money for the new bridge.

In the meantime what about the people who want to hike that section of the CT? The burned area that crosses the CT is not closed to hikers, only to vehicular traffic. The CT did not suffer much damage from the fire. But the fire laid bare the land which greatly increased its susceptibility to erosion and the erosion is doing some damage to the CT. A CT crew is scheduled the first week in June to correct this problem. So the CT through the burned area should be in good shape for hikers.

Crossing the South Platte River is another story. There is a reasonably satisfactory ford about 50 feet upstream from the old bridge site. I have forded the river there over 20 times this past year and have never found it over 22 inches deep. The current is fairly strong so I have always used a walking stick when crossing. The access to the river is via the old road on the north side of the old boarded up South Platte Hotel. There is a chained closed red iron gate that is very easy to climb over. (The CT has a right-of-way to walk through this area but NO camping rights) After crossing the river follow the old road for 200 steps to Forest Service property and the CT sign. From here the CT is clear all the way to Hwy 126. Warning! No water source is available on this section after leaving the river. Cross straight across 126 to the CT on the other side, then follow the CT for about 300 yards through the woods to the Trailhead and parking area. From there on one can see a lot of fire damage to the north but it did not affect the CT.

Another somewhat uncertain project is a proposed reroute of the CT in the Mt. Princeton/Chalk Cliffs area. Currently there is a 5.6 mile road walk in this area. Rolly Rogers and Ernie Werren have located a possible reroute, the crux of which is coming down a gully just to the west of the cliffs. After considerable survey we are going to try to put in a short
section in the most difficult area. If we succeed in stabilizing this section we will then apply for the permission to construct the remaining portion of the reroute. This test section will be constructed across a steep loose slope. The work will be a bit difficult.

A much firmer project will be the reroute between Coney Peak and Wager Gulch. Currently the CT follows a jeep road down the fall line with a 35 degree slope. The new trail will have a maximum slope of 14 degrees. The work camp site will be near the old Carson town site near the top of Wager Gulch. Wager Gulch is a good exercise for your 4wd. Come join the fun. These crews will be lead by Jon Greeneisen and Gene Cash.

Phil Smith will again lead three crews in the Saguache Ranger District rehabin the CT on the crest of the Continental Divide in the Cochetopa Hills area. One of his crews will again be students from Daniel C. Oaks High School in Douglas County. I have heard many comments from hikers what great trail Phil and his crews build.

The Gunnison Spur should be completed this summer with two crews. Gudy will lead one crew that will “touch up” and sign the many miles of the spur that has been built over the past several years but not opened because it was incomplete. Ernie Werren will lead the crew that will complete the final two miles of the spur in Taylor Park. The Gunnison Spur will run from Gunnison to join the CT in the Clear Creek drainage at the base of Hope Pass.

The Columbine Ranger District will host four crews again this summer for the heavy duty rehab of the CT on Indian Trail Ridge and in the Cascade Creek area. All of these crews are for people who like to walk a lot in the high mountains since the camps and the work sites are separated by a considerable distance. But it is a beautiful walk!

Early in the season we will again have a crew at the Educational Facility to get it ready for the classes that will be held there. We will continue to level the “patio”, construct tent sites and improve the driveway and parking sites. The BLM does not want any of our parking sites to show from the road below. Two of our educational weeks will be held at the Ed Fac and the third at Molas Pass.

I apologize for two errors in the original schedule, one incompletely staffed and one just missed. The weekend crew had to be moved to the weekend of May 31-June 1 due to the large number of projects planned in the South Platte RD for the National Trails day weekend. They didn’t have enough tools to go around! The other error is that the DC Oaks High School crew is for the week of Aug 9/16 not 2/9.

As I said at the beginning it is going to be a fun filled and exciting summer, come and join us.

PS: The loss of the funding for the replacement South Platte River bridge is having an impact on Arthur Rankins Crew #2. It will probably be moved to either the Dillon or Fairplay Ranger Districts. Coordination is continuing.
Letter to the Editor:

I have noticed in the CT literature reference to the fact that there are those who would ban and/or sharply modify horse access to the CT.

In defense of the horse person, I would like to submit the following thoughts:

At age 60 and being a flatlander, the only way I could physically manage to do the CT would be on horseback. My wife’s and my backpacking days in the Rockies are over.

The horse, an animal indigenous to North America (which became extinct on the continent about 10,000 years ago and was re-introduced by the Spanish 450 years ago) is a vital part of Western historic culture. Horses provide a contact with our past which should not be lost. They help enrich the lives of all who come in contact with them, whether one is a rider or not.

To those who would ask riders to take the horse off the trail to take a dump, and to clean up afterwards, let me offer the following:

1. A rider does not know when a horse will "dump." It just happens.
2. No one has ever, to my knowledge, been injured by or become ill from horse dung on the trail.
3. Bear, elk, mule deer, etc., go on the trail. Should we require the trail crews to clean up after them?
4. By my actual count one day, a horse dumped 16 times in an eight-hour riding day. A horse has a small stomach, and must keep a steady supply of feed going through its intestinal tract to get enough nutrition-hence a constant flow.

So-how is this relevant? This past summer, we were traveling the CT with three riding horses and three pack horses. This means that in an eight-hour traveling period, our horses dumped on the average 6 x 16, or 96 times. How many days would it have taken us to complete the CT on horseback if we got off and cleaned up 96 times a traveling day? That would be 12 times/hour, or once every five minutes.

Nature takes care of these fertilizer deposits by washing off by rain, drying out, and blowing around in the wind. It harms no one, helps the flora as fertilizer, and is a vital part of the recycling process of nature. Of the hundreds of hikers and bikers we met along the trail, there was not one negative comment about the horses-and plenty of positive comments.

Horse-and human-deposits are obviously best kept away from campsites. It is hoped that common courtesy, common sense, and a little education would achieve this.

Sincerely,

Bill Speiden,
Somerset, Virginia

Dear Bill,

There is no thought in the CTF of limiting horse access to the CT or cleaning horse manure off.

Merle McDonald,

Maintenance Coordinator

PS: As an Oklahoma farm boy who has spent a fair amount of time behind a team of horses, I wonder what you were feeding your horses?
packhorses that had an infected foot. We finally conquered 10-Mile Range by going around the north end and taking the Frisco to Copper Mountain bicycle path.

The CT up to Searle Pass posed more snow problems. We ended up with a packhorse mired in a snowbank over a stream, my son Rob with a lengthy cut on his arm, and more help from super people. A passing hiker who stopped to help us dig the horse out had a cellular phone and called 911. In two hours — incredible response time — Mountain Rescue arrived to help Rob down the mountain. He ended up with 60 stitches in his arm. Again, more cooperative people throughout, and help from the Copper Mountain Stable. After eight days rest for the arm, the horses and ourselves (including a not-so-restful ascent of Mt. Elbert), we were on the trail again.

No regrets — all the riding was through inspirational mountains and valleys. What an incredible campsite Kearny Park was! Water, grazing, privacy, mountain views — a truly wonderful place.

Leapfrogging with various sized groups of backpackers, we developed a CT “family.” Sharing occasional campsites and meals, we did not lack for friends, even as our goals of solitude and privacy were also met. One adventuresome young lady joined us for Thanksgiving back in Virginia, on her Thanksgiving college break.

Rob was especially interested in edible plants. A knowledge of edible plants, — e.g. bluebells, red clover heads, thistle heads, sweet cicely, osha — could wipe out any excuse for hunger during summer along the CT. On top of our regular menu, Rob would often come up with the “weed du jour.” Medicinal plants are also abundant. Alum root for mouth cankers, a paste made from osha and bistort would ease itching from rashes. We learned from the adventuresome young lady that the white powder off of aspen tree bark made an effective suntan preventative.

Tracking was another of Rob’s trail passions that he practiced along the way, with both people and animals. Footprints he had memorized would show up weeks later. At one point he decided that either two elk or two llamas were following the entire CT. Their tracks are similar, and we did meet a woman and her son doing the CT with llamas, leading to the conclusion that it was llamas, not elk — chuckle.

Sandra joined us at Hwy. 114 in the Cochetopa Hills and traveled with us to Molas Pass, through the challenging Rocky Point, Coney Peak, Beartown and Elk Creek trails. The vision of driving several hundred head of cattle up Lost Creek trail and down Pole Creek on the La Garita Stock Trail filled our minds with admiration for the cattle and those hardy cowboys who used to make the trek annually.

My favorite campsite had to be the Middle Mineral Creek area. It was a true wilderness site that had it all — views, flowers, bear, elk, mule deer, coyotes, marmots, small rodents, grazing, water, solitude, silence, rain and sky. From Molas Pass to Durango a magnificent trail unrolled in front of us as a never-ending symphony of mountains, streams, forest, flowers, small animals, large animals and sky.

Thank you, CT Foundation, for making this trip possible. We can’t wait to get back, so that we can generate more glorious miseries to tell about back home in Virginia.

Bill Speiden, Somerset, Virginia
Certificates of Completion

The CTF has awarded the following 36 individuals Certificates of Completion for having completed The Colorado Trail in 1996. **Congratulations!**

If you know of someone who has completed the CT but has not received a certificate, send their name, address, phone number, date of completion, and mode of travel (backpack, bike, or horseback) to the CTF address on page 2. Please specify the clearly printed name exactly as it is to appear on the certificate as well as the name for the postal address.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>State</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Black, Lynn</td>
<td>Colo Spgs</td>
<td>CO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dunn, Laurel</td>
<td>Colo Spgs</td>
<td>CO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thomure, Kathee</td>
<td>Winter Park</td>
<td>CO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shrago, Stephanie Lynn</td>
<td>Durango</td>
<td>CO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Davis, Matilda Jane</td>
<td>Durango</td>
<td>CO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Davis, Melinda June</td>
<td>Durango</td>
<td>CO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morrison, Richard F.</td>
<td>Colo Spgs</td>
<td>CO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brown, William R.</td>
<td>Colo Spgs</td>
<td>CO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walton, Martha G.</td>
<td>Mt Crested Butte,</td>
<td>CO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clark, Ann</td>
<td>Mt Crested Butte,</td>
<td>CO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Keefer, Bob</td>
<td>Mesa</td>
<td>AZ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carranza, Gina</td>
<td>Mesa</td>
<td>AZ</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hlavaty, Jim</td>
<td>Colo Spgs</td>
<td>CO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speiden, Bill</td>
<td>Somerset</td>
<td>VA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Speiden, Rob</td>
<td>Somerset</td>
<td>VA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hilson, Joanne</td>
<td>Somerset</td>
<td>VA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Claspell, Emily</td>
<td>Honolulu</td>
<td>HI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belcher, Matt</td>
<td>Honolulu</td>
<td>HI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cobb, Raymond B.</td>
<td>Lakewood</td>
<td>CO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benson, Andrew J.</td>
<td>Colo Spgs</td>
<td>CO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collins, Nathan</td>
<td>Glenview</td>
<td>IL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mayes, Margo</td>
<td>Glenview</td>
<td>IL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vorachek, Brian</td>
<td>Englewood</td>
<td>CO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zeigler, Joshua</td>
<td>Littleton</td>
<td>CO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Zeigler, Shawn</td>
<td>Littleton</td>
<td>CO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beausoieil, Kelly</td>
<td>Littleton</td>
<td>CO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Elliott, Marshall</td>
<td>Littleton</td>
<td>CO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Barvitski, Melanie</td>
<td>Boulder</td>
<td>CO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Banfield, Charles W</td>
<td>Wadsworth</td>
<td>OH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emmart, Connie R.</td>
<td>Ft. Collins</td>
<td>CO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Emery, John</td>
<td>Volcano,</td>
<td>CA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O’Brien, Barbara &amp; Ed</td>
<td>Islamorada</td>
<td>FL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ekstrom, Pat</td>
<td>Durango</td>
<td>CO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Shirk, Ken</td>
<td>Thornton</td>
<td>CO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kruse, Jim</td>
<td>Lakewood</td>
<td>CO</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Trail Maintenance Volunteers Needed Saturday, June 28.** Adoptions [Harriet Patton](#) and [Diane Parker](#) each would like six volunteers to help them on their sections of the CT Saturday June 28th. Harriet’s section is in the wilderness area just south of Kenosha Pass and Diane’s is between Georgia Pass and the North Fork of the Swan River. (Breckenridge)

Call for details; [Harriet 303-985-3280](#), [Diane 303-644-3421](#).
Diane Parker, employed by US West Communications, has once again been chosen by the US West Foundation to receive a cash award for her volunteer efforts with The Colorado Trail. Not only has Diane adopted Maintenance Section 10.1 from the top of Georgia Pass to the North Fork of the Swan River, but she also participates in at least one trail crew every summer. This June 28th she could use some help from six volunteers. It’s a beautiful area in which to work. Her work phone number is (303-896-5600). Her company’s Foundation receives thousands of applications for awards, but Diane’s work is so unique that she has had the honor of winning more cash awards than any other applicant. Over the years, all of the checks have gone to the Colorado Trail Foundation. In other years, the company newspaper ran interviews and articles on the recipients. This year it is our privilege to show Gudy accepting the $600 check from Diane. Thanks, Diane, for making the effort to apply for the cash award and making the CTF its recipient. We love you for all of your energy and enthusiasm and LOVE. You are special.

Imagine a picture of Gudy and Diane receiving a check for $600 from an official of the US West Foundation. Fortunately the check has arrived but the picture is missing somewhere in the US Mail. If the picture does show up I will include it in the next issue of Tread Lines.

Colorado Trail’s Web Site Update (Color Monitor Needed)

The Colorado Trail’s web site (http://www.arrowhead.net/org/coloradotrail/) had a strange malady last month. A query would send a reply that the site pages were empty when in truth they weren’t. The problem was finally resolved and our page is back online. Denise Wright, the Secretary of the CTF Board of Directors will coordinate policy matters for our web site while Richard Nolde is the “webmeister” in charge of day to day operations.

Denise and Richard are working with the arrowhead.net people to get our own domain name which will simplify our address. To do this we need to place a computer with Arrowhead. Richard has located an obsolete computer in Yale University’s scrap bin which he is upgrading to meet the Arrowhead requirement. We still need a VGA color monitor to complete the set. If you have an old operational color monitor you would like to donate we have an immediate use for it.

Since the web site is a new endeavor for the CTF the policy matters are still quite fluid. Various board members have been discussing the possibilities. Some of the possibilities being considered are: Trail Condition Reports, List of Adopters and their sections, The CT Store, Crew schedules and status, A bulletin board for comments from hikers and answers to frequently ask questions (FAQ), Points of contact for additional CT information, Pictures along the CT, etc. etc. If you have ideas for things you would like to see included, please pass them on to Denise.
John Sowell, CTF Botany Instructor

John Sowell will once again be the instructor for the Flora of the San Juan Mountains classroom session conducted near Lake City at the site of the CTF’s Educational Center.

John received his Ph.D. from the University of Idaho and taught six years at the Minnesota State University before joining the teaching staff at Western State College in Gunnison in 1991. John’s field is more into research than classroom instruction. His specialty is the study of timberline trees. He started research in 1979 in the high Sierras in Nevada and California and still devotes many countless hours to research. All of us who have taken the wildflower and fauna of the San Juans class were infected with John’s enthusiasm and in-depth knowledge of our environment. This is the summer to sign up for this extraordinary class and learn while enjoying the beauty and peace of the San Juans. Dr. Sowell will be on sabbatical next year, with no guarantee that he will have time again to be our course instructor. THIS IS THE YEAR TO ENROLL. HE IS THE GREATEST! We are the honored few to have had the privilege of John’s shared knowledge. (see page 7 for further information). John is also on the Board of Directors of the Colorado Trail Foundation.

Adopters continued from page 1

The Colorado Trail’s 53 maintenance sections vary in length from 3 to 20 miles, primarily based on vehicle accessibility. The amount of annual maintenance required is also a consideration. The primary tasks facing most adopters each spring are deadfall removal and control of erosion. Water is the most serious threat to a trail. Since it is obviously impossible to keep water off of a trail, the objective is have any water that gets on a trail to leave as soon as possible by the most direct route practical. Therefore, continuing maintenance of water bars and tread slope is critical. The adopters also provide the Forest Service and the CTF with an annual status report on their section of the CT. I say again, without the volunteer efforts of the very dedicated adopters the CT would soon cease to exist. Thanks Adopters!

Attention CTF Supported Trekkers

Gudy has located a volunteer who has video editing equipment and experience who would like to put together a video on Trekking the Colorado Trail. If you have a video cam and would like to participate in this project take your video cam along on your trek this summer and turn you tapes over to Gudy for possible inclusion in the finished product. Contact Gudy for details. 303-526-2721
Sign Maker
Paul
Newendorp

The Gunnison Spur of The Colorado Trail will be signed this summer with beautiful Forest Service regulation signs. Paul Newendorp has spent a great deal of time this past winter in creating all of the needed signs for the trail. The first to be completed was the trailhead sign to be placed below the water tower on the east side of Western State College. It is a beautiful large sign with a schematic map in painted colors. Next came 60 directional signs with brown background and yellow lettering. There is a smaller trailhead sign to be placed before the Collegiate Wilderness area in the Leadville Ranger District. The boundary sign separating the Cebolla/Taylor District from the Leadville District will be placed on top of Ann’s Pass.

The best came at the last. Paul took a woodcarving class at Red Rocks College and for his final project he created a masterpiece. It is a large carving of White Cross Mountain on bass wood. The top of the curved sign has The Colorado Trail Foundation in carved letters across the top. Below the mountain is a raised shield with “Education Center” raised carved on the shield. A brown stained rim enhances the complete sign. The sign will be placed at the Educational Facility at Lake City. As class at the facility will not be complete without having their picture taken next to the sign. How can anyone thank a person for such dedication to a job well done? Sincerely hope that Paul can feel the gratitude in our hearts for such a wonderful gift. The gift exudes pride and love. A wondrous thanks from all of us!

Burn in Junction Creek

The Forest has planned for a prescribed burn in the Junction Creek (Durango) area this spring that will affect the CT. When and if it happens (they need just the right set of moisture and wind conditions) the CT will be closed in that area for a day or two. If you are planning on being in that area early in the hiking season (June) you might want to check with the Columbine Ranger District (1-970-385-1283) for current status.

Prescribed burns are fires started and controlled by Forest Service personnel to clear out underbrush. The theory is that a small controlled fire reduces the possibility of a much larger uncontrollable fire at a later date. The small fire also promotes new growth in the understory that attracts wildlife.
X-C Ski Week Expands
by Merle McDonald

The Colorado Trail Foundation’s annual February week of hut to hut skiing in the San Juans increased to three groups this year. Ken Marshall, Gudy Gaskill and Merle McDonald were group leaders. Each group went to the same places but on different days. Four nights were spent in Yurts, two in the CT’s Educational Facility and one night in John Wilson’s new house in Lake City.

My group consisted of Martha Walton, Elke Abitol and John Ross. John provided all of the adjacent photo’s.

As usual for Colorado most of the week was spent in beautiful bright sunshine but also two days were spent in a white-out that dropped a foot of new snow. However it was all great fun. On the clear days the views from the crest of the Continental Divide were unbelievably spectacular. The route finding from yurt to yurt in a white-out on a foot of new snow was —— exciting! It
is amazing how different the terrain looks when you can only see for a hundred or so feet.

Those on the trip for the first time were amazed at how cozy the yurts and cabin were even at 14 degrees below zero!

Each person in a group brought food for the group for one day. This made for some very interesting variety and some good ideas for future backpacking trips. One of the more interesting challenges of the week was getting water from the warm spring less than 100 feet from the Jon Wilson Yurt. The route down to the spring was too steep for skies and without skies the snow was waist deep (or deeper). The temperature was cool enough so that the snow would not pack. So getting a bucket of water from the spring up to the yurt was a real feat!

The trails used for this ski week are fairly gentle even though they all are on or near the crest of the Continental Divide. Skins were only needed in a couple of places. Only a moderate degree
of X-C skiing skill is required for this trip. Distances between yurts is about 5 miles. All of the skiing is above 11,000 feet of elevation. The long gentle slope from the Rambouillet yurt back down to the cars was a fun ride. Everyone had a great time.

Matching Gift Program

Many companies will match an employees contribution to a non-profit foundation. This spring the CTF has received two very generous matching gifts. A $500 contribution from BP Exploration & Oil Inc. as a result of Ernie Werren’s generosity and a $600 contribution from the U. S. West Foundation as a result of Diane Parker’s generosity and continuing efforts. The Colorado Trail Foundation would like to express their appreciation to both of them and their employers.

All Friends of The Colorado Trail are encouraged to check with their employer to see if they have a matching grant program. Every little bit helps! (We need big bucks for a replacement bridge across the South Platte River!)

The Colorado Trail Memorial Yurt

Martha at the “kitchen sink” of The Colorado Trail Memorial Yurt
Inez Wilmes
1917-1997
by Laura Farmer

Inez worked her first trail crew in 1987 at Fassbinder Gulch. She was a unique gal. Very few women work their first trail crew at the age of 70. However, she was so vibrant and young at heart that few or none realized how old she was. I thought she was about 55, and I knew her as well as anyone on the crew. It was so much fun that she returned for several summers, working on the Gunnison Loop, at Tiger, and on the Mancos crew in 1990, among others. I was with her on all those crews, having also started at Fassbinder.

The Mancos crew is the most memorable for me, for that was the one on which I broke my leg. Inez’s tent was next to mine, and she was a registered nurse. She knew to elevate my limb and put ice on it. (The crew had to scrimp to make ice cream that night.) When we visited the hospital the next day, she stayed with me for the several hours it took to be treated, even offering to drive me home and take care of me. (Only 300 miles out of her way.)

That was the kind of person she was, caring and generous with her time and talents. She was also a fun-loving, hard-working trail builder, and a good hand in the cook tent.

We lost her to cancer May 4. The good news is that she was not in much pain and died at home in her sleep.

Those of us who knew her have happy memories.

Trail Hosts to be on the CT again.

The Colorado Trail hosts will once again be out on the trail, greeting users, conducting a survey, passing out lemonade and cookies, and just finding out the reaction of the users to The Colorado Trail. Dates have not been set, but if you are interested in spending nine days outside and being a welcome and information host, please call Gudy Gaskill at 303-526-2721 or Charlotte Briber at the CT Foundation number, 303-526-0809. We’d love to have you be a liaison, and the users love to talk about their experience’s. Last year’s trail hosts were Bill and Donna Ripley, Jan and Dan Wolfe, Bob and Marge Goldner, Julie Mesdag and Mike Nelson, and Bill and Pat Balow. These folks were remembered by many trail users. Hopefully, we’ll see all of you back on the trail.

CTF Board of Directors Retreat

Several members of the CTF Board met at Sam Guyton’s cabin the weekend of April 5/6 to review CT plans and policies (and to do a little skiing). Sams cabin is located high in the mountains west of Fairplay in a beautiful setting at the base of Mt. Sherman.

Areas of discussion included our plans for this summers activities, possible changes in the alignment of the CT, approaches to take to achieve a motor vehicle free CT, the need for additional volunteers particularly in the public relations area, web site policies, and many other subjects.

The general conclusions reached were that in spite of the CTF’s many accomplishments there is still a lot to do and we need more administrative volunteers willing to work behind the scenes year around. It was an interesting and thought provoking weekend.
**Camp Jeep 1997**

For those of you who like peace and quiet while on the CT you will probably be happier if you avoid the Camp Hale (Minturn-Tennessee Pass) area Aug 1-3. They are expecting 1500 vehicles and 4000 people to be in the area that weekend for an off road vehicle (ORV) rally. All during the the previous week the Colorado Association of Four-Wheel Drive Clubs will be scouting all of the ORV authorized trails in the area to insure they are “safe to drive”. It sounds to me like a good week to be in the San Juans. On the other hand if you are into 4wheeling it might be a fun weekend.

---

**CTF Mailing Label Codes**

You may have noticed some strange numbers along the top of your mailing label on the back of this issue of Tread Lines.

The group on the left top line is the date of the last time we received a Friend of the CT donation.

The group on the right top line is the date of the last time you were registered for a crew.

These dates are used to determine your continuing interest in the CT. If the date is over a year old you are a candidate for an inquiry, when both dates are blank or over two years old you are automatically dropped from the mailing list. It is assumed by your lack of contact that you have lost interest.

Other criteria for removal from the mailing list is mail returned marked “Undeliverable at this address”

A typical piece of mail cost the CTF about 50 cents cash, not to mention the volunteers time who prepared it for mailing. Watch your mailing label to determined how you are recorded in our database. Please bring any inaccuracies to the attention of our registrars and database maintainers, Jon and Marylin Greeneisen, at 303-688-2299.

---

**Tape and Patch Month**

This is the time to order your Carol Johnson’s “The Colorado Trail Song” tape to enjoy this summer while driving to your crew site or vacation site. The cost is still $5.75 postpaid. We’ve also ordered through leader Arthur Rankin a large supply of EMBROIDERED The Colorado Trail logo patches. This is an upgrade from the printed patches, and the cost will be $3.60 postpaid. Now both the completion patch and the logo patch will be the same quality and price.

---

**Performance of The Colorado Trail Multimedia Program**

Friday, June 21, 8:00 p.m.

by Julie Davis
Acoustic Coffeehouse, Nederland, CO

Julie Davis is a nationally known musician and storyteller, who hiked The Colorado Trail last summer with her dog and two pack goats. The concert presents stories and songs that Katie wrote, interwoven with slides by Connie Emmons. For further information, call (303) 258-3209 or write P.O. Box 1302, Nederland, CO 80466.
The Colorado Trail Store

All proceeds provide important support for The Colorado Trail.

Send Orders to
The Colorado Trail Foundation
P.O. Box 260876
Lakewood, CO 80226-0876

Text by Randy Jacobs, Color Photographs by John Fielder 19.95

Along The Colorado Trail by John Fielder and M. John Fayhee
100 color photographs, 128 pages, 9” x 12” format, Hardcover 33.00
Softcover 22.00

Day Hikes on The Colorado Trail by Jan Robertson
35 color photographs, 48 pages, 4” x 9” format 6.25

Topographic waterproof maps, 11” x 17” format, 1:50,000 scale
Full set: 29 maps, Denver to Durango 20.00
Northeast set: 16 maps, Denver to Marshall Pass 12.00
Southwest set: 13 maps, Marshall Pass to Durango 12.00

CT Note Cards and Envelopes, One dozen in 10 assorted designs by Jerry Albright 4.45

CT Completion Patches (embroidered) ("I Completed The Colorado Trail") 3.60

CT T-Shirts
New Design; CT map on front; Trail segment descriptions, including length and elevation gain, are printed on the back; short-sleeved.
100% Cotton Bourbon L XL
Jade Green L XL
Light Blue L XL 12.00

CT Wall Map (poster) 17 x 24 inches (with trail segments marked) 10.50
CT embroidered Logo patch 3.60

All prices are listed postpaid.
Colorado residents add 4.3% tax

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Telephone</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Street or P.O. Box</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Town or City</td>
<td>State</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Subtotal
Colo. Tax
Total

Tread Lines Spring 1997
So Much to be Done!

We make a living by what we get
We make a life by what we give.
Winston Churchill

Yes! I would like to support the Colorado Trail . . . Please accept my annual contribution to the Colorado Trail Foundation as a "Friend of the Colorado Trail."

|$ 15.00  Senior/Student      | $ 75.00  Contributor
|$ 25.00  Individual          | $100.00  Patron
|$ 50.00  Family              | $500.00  Supporter

Benefits for Friends of the Colorado Trail include:
Quarterly Newsletter  Periodic Discounts
Discounts on CT Publications  CT Trek Invite
Information of CT functions, meetings and crews

___ I would like to work on a trail crew. Please send information.
___ I would like to adopt a section of the trail to maintain.

Name ____________________________________________
Address ____________________________________________
City __________________ State __________ Zip ______

The Colorado Trail Foundation is a Colorado Based 501 (c) (3) non-profit corporation.

The Foundation invites you to join in making The Colorado Trail an educational and recreational reality . . .