



Denver Leader News

The newsletter for Denver Leaders of the Colorado Mountain Club

www.hikingdenver.net

www.cmc.org

November 2011

Know Your DS&L Committee

John Walters has been a member of CMC since 2008 and has completed 11 Denver schools. He has served as an instructor for WTS and TLS, as a mentor for new trip leaders and leaders-in-training and as a volunteer for the Denver Avalanche Task Force, the CMC Accident Review Committee, the State Council Budget Subcommittee and the Denver Safety and Leadership Committee, for which he currently serves as chair. John created and led the popular Bootstrap and the Jeffco hike series and initiated the Leaders Only Scouting Trips (LOST) series. John led 44 A, B and C hikes in FY2011. Having received training and career-long experience as a safety professional, one of John's special interests is wilderness safety and accident prevention.



Denver Group "Leaders Club" on Facebook

The second Denver Leaders Club social will gather at Old Chicago in Lakewood at Union and 2nd (145 Union Blvd.) on Thursday, November 17th from 5:30 to 8:30. This Facebook group is for CMC Denver Group trip leaders and senior instructors interested in joining together in a Happy Hour social gathering on a monthly basis to develop stronger friendships and bonds, share stories and knowledge and generally promote the trip leader and instructor volunteer roles we all graciously give back to CMC.

To sign up on Facebook, you must first have a Facebook account, then request to join at:

<http://www.facebook.com/aBuckeyeINCo#!/groups/230561363663504/>.

This is a closed group, so the group admin must accept you as a member before you can sign up or post.

How Do ATA and AIARE Relate to the Trip Schedule?

A new leader may qualify to lead winter trips by taking either the Avalanche Terrain Avoidance (ATA) class or AIARE Level 1 course. ATA is for travel in non-backcountry terrain (i.e., terrain not prone to avalanche). Winter leaders (trained at either level) may determine, on their own, whether a given terrain is or isn't "avalanche prone." AIARE training helps backcountry leaders travel with less risk through avalanche prone terrain. ATA training doesn't. ATA just helps us understand why we should avoid avalanche prone terrain. All winter leaders need to be able to recognize avalanche prone terrain; thus the requirement for avalanche training for all winter leaders.

Administrator Needed

The Denver Safety and Leadership Committee seeks a volunteer administrator to record, monitor and expedite committee plans, projects and action items; administer email distribution; update portions of the Denver Group website; and publish monthly newsletters. Should be familiar with MS Office. Trip leader qualification is desirable but not required. One current member says, "be sure to add what a wonderful work environment we provide and how much fun we have!" For more info, please contact John Walters at J.Walt@comcast.net.

Denver Group Dinner John Fielder, Speaker

Be sure to tell your hiking/climbing/skiing participants about the Annual Denver Group Dinner on November 13th, Green Center, School of Mines, 5:30-9:00 p.m. Hassan Elghandor, Dave Pellegrini, Deb Robak, David Longenecker, Debbie Malone, Frank Moore, Bill Haneghan and Chris Endres will be recognized for their outstanding service to Denver Group Members in trip leader, school instructor or school director capacities. Speaker is John Fielder, renowned Colorado nature photographer. Register online at CMC.org, Programs, Social Activities. Fee \$30 members; Non-Members \$35.

Hunting Season

Rifle season began October 1st and continues through January in some areas. Date ranges vary by areas. For specific information go to: <http://wildlife.state.co.us/Hunting/SeasonDatesAndFees/Pages/SeasonDatesandFees.aspx>

Before hitting the trail, take time to protect yourself and your hiking partners by suiting up with brightly colored protective outerwear. Please be sure to wear safety clothing such as an orange vest and/or orange ball cap as well as tie an orange kerchief on the back of your pack. When leading a group in areas where hunting is allowed, it is a good idea to have both the front and rear leader wearing orange or having orange on a day pack or backpack and to keep the group together.



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.

Centennial Climb Guests

CMC CEO Katie Blackett met last spring with the Executive Directors from the other major mountain clubs, where she asked them to advertise CMC's Centennial Climbs to their members. Please be aware that CMC Centennial Climb leaders may receive requests from guests who are members from other, invited, mountain clubs.

Boulder Open Space and Mountain Park Info

Trailhead parking fees, dog info and more: http://www.bouldercolorado.gov/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=3058&Itemid=1040
Seasonal closures: http://www.bouldercolorado.gov/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=1158&Itemid=413

Trip Permits IPW, Golden Gate SP, Roxborough SP

If leading trips in IPW, be sure to identify IPW in the title so DG Schedulers will apply for a permit for you and send it to you thru the USPS.

If leading trips in GGSP (303-582-3707) or Roxborough SP (303-973-3959), please notify the Ranger Station in advance of the trip, with date & approximate number of participants. State Parks now have limited staffing who must often serve large events or other activities that require special handling. Prior notice of use by groups helps rangers manage their parks more effectively, including notifying group leaders of trail or facility closures or limited parking.

Leader Profiles on CMC.org

Members want to see a leader profile and photo linked to the CMC.org "trip details" page so they can have a sense of who their trip leader is. Here is your chance to brag a little – because you were asked to – about all your training and experience and the schools for which you instruct.

Testimonial for LOST Hikes by Andy Dolan

"There are reports that LOST hikes have been a hard sell with leaders. That is a shame. I went on one and found it to be a very pleasant surprise with some great benefits. First, you get a large dossier about the trail, alternate meeting places, potty stops and places to eat after the hike. Second, the opportunity to hike only with other trip leaders was a treat. We spent most of the time reviewing some of the problems we all face and having a candid discussion of the pro's and con's of various strategies to cope were covered in good natured and considerable detail. Third, new hike leaders going on a LOST hike get a chance to meet other leaders of a wide range of experience and listen to their discussions as well as jumping in themselves and getting some reality testing of their ideas. There is no quicker way to pick up experience that would otherwise take leading dozens of hikes. Regardless of your level of experience, next time you see one offered, give it a try. I did and am glad of it." (ed., edited slightly for length.)

New Volunteer Denver Trip Leaders



Congratulations and a big thanks to recently certified Denver trip leaders: David Hutchison, Colleen Landy, Ingrid Basler, Michael Tamney, Mark Thompson, Robert Collins and Deana Pratt.