HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

Kick off the New Year with a RMOTHG Happy Hour!

MEET AT THE SIMMS STEAKHOUSE ON JANUARY 19th, THURSDAY AT 4 PM

11911 W 6th Ave, Golden, CO
on the Northwest frontage road of 6th Ave. 303-237-0465

There’s happy hour prices on drinks and appetizers from 4-7 PM. Look for familiar RMOTHG faces, and whoever gets there first can save some tables. It’s the same place we met at this past July, only indoors. It’s pay for your own but please sign up on the CMC website so I know how many are coming. Questions? Feel free to email Diana at dbliss5030@gmail.com or call 303-424-7841. Hope to see you there!

Poem shared to honor the mutual birthday of poet Emily Dickinson and one of our RMOTHG hike/showshoe leaders. When you read the first word, 'They,' think of RMOTHG members who are following a leader.

"They might not need me: but they might.
I'll let my head be just in sight:
A smile as small as mine might be
Precisely their necessity."

Still looking for a volunteer or two to be on the Social Committee

Contact Ida Sansoucy iderann@q.com or call her at 303 888 4485.
HAPPY NEW YEAR!

I hope you all have many wonderful times in the coming year with RMOTHG activities.

The holiday party on Dec. 11th was a great success - thanks to Ida Sansoucy and the social committee who planned and arranged the event - there were 109 attendees! Thanks to all who helped with set up and clean up, too.

Thanks to Sandy Curran and Gurney Bartlett for transporting the donated toys to the Action Center. Sandy reports: It took Gurney and I several trips to load and we had many large bags full. They filled my SUV up to the front seat!! The folks at the Action Center satellite location were VERY appreciative. They had just started their “shopping” for their patrons. Barbara took me around to see how they worked it. They are VERY organized. Sections for very young children up through teenagers. Each shopper had someone with them to help with the process and keep it organized. She told me that they had folks lined up at 3:30 AM that morning to come in, and there was a large room (former movie house) filled with chairs filled with those waiting their turn, while others were arriving as I did. Clearly we had been quite generous with our offerings.

In addition to the donated toys, our merry bartenders, Pete Spandau and Curt Edlund, donated their bartending “tips” of $47 to the Action Center. Again, thanks to all who donated to those less fortunate.

Congratulations to Barbara Fahey for obtaining hike leader certification. Barbara plans to lead hikes next summer. Thank you, Barbara, for your time and efforts to become certified and help make hikes available for our members.

Next RMOTHG board meeting is January 9th at the Golden Public Library, 1019 10th Street in Golden from 2:00 - 4:00. Any RMOTHG member may attend.

Elaine

CPR/AED Class
Offered by Denver Group’s Wilderness First Aid School
Wednesday, March 29

The CMC Denver Group’s Wilderness First Aid School (WFA) is offering a three-hour American Heart Association Heartsaver CPR and AED (automated external defibrillator) evening class at the AMC/CMC on Wednesday, March 29, 2017. The class also covers how to relieve choking victims. The class tuition is $20. (Denver Group leaders can apply for SALT scholarships, which covers the cost of the class - see https://goo.gl/XuhvKm ). For more information contact Jeff Flax, Denver Group WFA School Director, at Jeff.Flax@gmail.com.

Registration sign-up is now available on the CMC calendar at http://www.cmc.org/Calendar/Classes.aspx.
January 2017 and we’re snowshoeing, winter hiking and starting our year healthy! Here’s to camaraderie, braving cold, and seeing Colorado in its wintry best! If you haven’t snowshoed before, we welcome newbies as well as experienced shoers, and do our best to help each other have fun in the snow. We hike or snowshoe a casual pace for approximately two hours, eat lunch, head back refreshed, exercised, and glad we were out! If you’re not yet on the email list to receive Friday evening emails describing the following Wed winter hikes or snowshoes, tell Jeff: Jeff.Flax@gmail.com. Jeff sends emails with links to sign up Friday evenings, 5 – 6 p.m. When you register, we also ask you to check Tuesday night emails in case we need to change plans/times due to weather and conditions.

We have fun, but we’re not stupid. We prepare for cold and possible weather changes as we shoe. Make sure you have plenty of warm gear, **extra** sox/gloves/mittens & hats, plenty of water for altitude and winter, and/or hot beverage, extra snacks and lunch. We’re careful about sweating from the inside so we wear layers we can peel off since hiking/shoeing warms us lots. We carry spikes to handle any conditions even when we shoe. ‘Come join us, be energized, see nature’s winter spectacle, and **have fun**!
We begin our RMOTHG cross-country (XC) season with two scheduled trips in January. Please note these trips are tentative and subject to change, particularly due to weather, and road and snow conditions. Additional trips will lead by RMOTHG XC skiers will be offered, but the dates and locations have not been finalized.

The trips scheduled for January 2017 are:

- **Tuesday, January 10th** — North Rock Creek (Easy III)  
  led by Jim Stelzig

- **Tuesday, January 31st** — Mayflower Gulch (Easy III)  
  led by Jim Stelzig

RMOTHG XC trips are rated as Easy II and Easy III using the CMC’s trip classification system. These are 4-8 miles with an elevation gain of 500-1,200 feet. Members will need to have XC skills to be able to ski up and down selected trails. Members interested in being notified of RMOTHG XC trips should e-mail Jeff.Flax@gmail.com. E-mails will be sent through the RMOTHG XC activity list as trips are scheduled. Please also let Jeff know if you have any questions about RMOTHG XC skiing.

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**Introduction to Hiking Safety Seminar**

Learning how to be safe in the backcountry is a major reason many members join the CMC and the RMOTHG. So we’ve developed a one-evening seminar especially for members who want to learn the basics of hiking safety.

The Introduction to Hiking Safety seminar will teach you:

- the many aspects of safety you need to be aware of, including subjects such as lightning, avalanche, animal encounters, getting lost (or staying found) and being stranded over night,

- how to avoid, prepare for, and how to respond to safety challenges,

- an introduction to the extensive program of in-depth, hands-on safety training offered in the CMC Denver Group’s adult education curriculum.

**THE NEXT SESSION WILL BE HELD AT THE CMC IN GOLDEN ON TUESDAY, MARCH 28 AT 6:30.**

The price is just $5.00 for members and $10.00 for non-members.

To learn more or to register for the seminar, go to [http://www.hikingdenver.net/schools/introduction-to-hiking-safety](http://www.hikingdenver.net/schools/introduction-to-hiking-safety)
FUN PHOTOS

PLEASE Email YOUR photos to Maryann - tophillnews@gmail.com

ROXBOROUGH - 1st SNOW!

MOUNTAIN LION TRACKS!
ROCKY MOUNTAIN OVER THE HILL GANG
A Section of the Colorado Mountain Club Denver Group

RMOTHG SECTION BOARD

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DOWNLOAD NEWSLETTER
http://hikingdenver.net
www.rmothg.org/UploadedUserFiles/nlarchive.aspx
http://www.cmc.org/RMOTHG

DOWNLOAD BOARD MINUTES
http://www.rmothg.org/BoardMinutes.aspx

In case of a serious illness or death, please contact Jane VanderKolk to send out a note to our members from RMOTHG. Her email is jane.vanderkolk@comcast.net