BOWLING, BRATS, BEERS ... FRIDAY, APRIL 21, 4 p.m.

BOWLING, BRATS, BEERS...BOWLING AT LUCKY STRIKE (www.luckystrikebelmar.com)

315 S. Teller Street (Belmar), Lakewood, Friday, April 21st, Happy Hour 4-6 p.m. Bowling starts at 4, so be there early to get your shoes at a cost of $2.95. $10 per person is the cost for RMOTHG members for 2 games, payable when you arrive. Of course, the brats and beer, along with other refreshments are available at your cost at Lucky Strike.

To reserve your spot, call or text Ronnie Knueven at 303-588-4526 or email: knuevenru@comcast.net

DEADLINE FOR RESERVATIONS IS APRIL 19.

FLY FISHING SCHOOL STARTS APRIL 5

Still a few seats left. Don’t miss out! Fly Fishing School 2017 to be held on April 5, 12, 19, 2017, 6:30 to 9:30 pm plus two field trips on April 22 and 29. CMC Denver group member fee is $180 and other CMC members pay $200. You will get a great manual, plus lots of supplies that will help you with your fly fishing skills. If interested, go to the CMC Website and pull it up on the calendar or go directly to https://www.cmc.org/Calendar/EventDetails.aspx?ID=34976 for more information and to sign up, or contact Pablo Balan, School Director at pablobalan@comcast.net.
Hello fellow RMOTHG Members!

We thought we would change it up a bit this month and so this message comes from your Vice Chairperson.

As I look around my yard and see crocus, daffodils and a pear tree in full bloom, I have to ask myself the million dollar question, “Is winter really over”? Of course, we Front Rangers know that Mother Nature has a way of playing tricks on us. So until we figure it all out I am sure there are at least few of us who will still head to the mountains for a little downhill skiing, cross-country or maybe even snow shoeing in between our impromptu bicycle rides and hikes. It pays to be adaptable!

Rest assured your RMOTHG Board has been working hard for you and your fellow 870+ members. Along with CMC Denver Group, we are focusing on more ways to welcome our new members and get them involved. If you are a new member or just haven’t had a chance to participate in the past, please watch for “new member” specific RMOTHG activities that will be offered in the next few months and join us. We all enjoy the activities RMOTHG offers, but just as importantly we enjoy the friendships we make participating in them.

We again want to take a moment to thank all of our Activity Coordinators, Trip Leaders and Social Committee folks for their dedication and for all the work going on right now planning this summer’s activities. It takes a lot to prepare for all this fun, but as a Trip Leader myself I can tell you it is rewarding. A few more members have recently stepped forward to become Trip Leaders and Social Committee members, but with over 800 Section members we really need you to get involved. Talk to anyone listed within this Newsletter to see what it takes to become a trip leader here at CMC, and join us in providing even more wonderful outings for us all.

Here’s to our past winter fun and to looking towards a busy summer with all our RMOTHG friends!

Kirsten Tollefsen, Vice-Chairperson

ESTATE PLANNING WORKSHOPS

MAY 10 & MAY 24

On Wednesday May 10 and Wednesday May 24, 2017, the Denver Group will again sponsor estate planning workshops exclusively for Denver Group members and their spouses and significant others. The first workshop on May 10 will focus on IRAs. The second on May 24 will focus on beneficiary designations as substitutes for wills and trusts (and as a strategy to avoid probate). The workshops will be held from 4:00 to 5:30 pm in the Baker Room at the CMC. The workshop speaker is longtime CMC member Robert Collins, now retired from 52 years as an estate planning attorney. Bob will also touch on the post-mortem estate administration and charitable planning techniques, talk about what you might look for in an estate planning attorney if you don’t already have one, and try to answer your questions if you have any. Estate planning is constantly changing as income taxes increase, estate and gift taxes retreat (and may be repealed), and the economy recovers. The purpose of this event is not to generate a gift to the CMC. The purpose is simply to educate. Don’t miss this important free event. Please sign up under Calendar/Classes on the CMC website. First come, first served. Attendance at each workshop will be limited to 20. Hiking attire welcome! Light refreshments will be served. I look forward to visiting with you at one of these workshops.

~Bob
Come and enjoy 3 nights of camping at beautiful Turquoise Lake near Leadville.

Dates: Check in Wednesday, July 26 with check out Saturday, July 29

Cost: $25 per person

Your fee includes: a shared campsite for 3 nights, 1 steak dinner, 1 brat cook out, as well as wine and beer with happy hours and dinners. AND—new this year—our welcome happy hour on Wednesday will be followed a couple of hours later by an ice cream and cookies social, with a make your own sundae bar.

There will also be an organized hike and an organized bike ride offered on 2 different days. Come and enjoy the scenery and the company. There is plenty of time for fishing, kayaking, stargazing of just plain napping. We will have a camp fire every night, weather permitting, so feel free to bring some marshmallows for roasting.

The May newsletter will contain specific sign up instructions—-as soon as you receive the newsletter, you should follow those instructions and mail your check and the required information to the address provided.

Looking forward to another wonderful camping trip! Please call me if you have any questions.

Colleen Landy, 720-842-5051

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PERU CREEK AVALANCHE, JANUARY 2017, DESTROYS HISTORIC 'MAID OF ORLEANS' CABIN

The avalanche site... with the cabin moved downhill, smashed, scattered, and buried...certainly provides strong visual evidence of the power of avalanches and the need for education and caution.
Strong winds, but we’ve had a mostly mild winter and managed to snowshoe or spike hike despite the balmy and need to change plans for winds & other conditions. April arrives and it’s the last of snowshoe season. We could get a big snow, or see icy trails melt into mud and slosh. Leaders still have hikes in store and some even plan for a snowshoe higher up. If you haven’t joined us yet & want to be on the email list letting you know about upcoming Wed hikes or snowshoes, email Jeff. flax@gmail.com. Join us for pleasant company as aspen leaf out in vibrant lime while aspen toes stand deep in remaining snow, and we enjoy Colorado’s spring beauty. April is a crazy season, but we still have fun exercising, and being outside with fellow OTHG members.

Heartfelt thanks to all our supportive, appreciative winter hikers and snowshoers. You’re always grateful for our hikes, flexible about changing as weather or conditions require, and you’re the best bunch to be with appreciating Colorado in Winter. See you for snowshoeing next year, and look forward to joining you on the trail as we start our summer schedule in May!

Did you see the terrific article about Pace in the most recent Mile High Mountaineer? It documents the CMC definition of ranges of miles per hour for Casual, Moderate, and Fast Paces. It is a good refresher for me. Maybe this will help with Club-wide trip consistency. Here is the link: http://hikingdenver.net/wp-content/uploads/2017/03/MHM-April-2017.pdf

A trip leader can also elaborate on planned pace in the text of a trip description.

MOVING AVERAGE SPEEDS
Casual: 0.5 to 1.4 mph
Moderate: 1.5 to 2.4 mph
Fast: 2.5 to 3.0 plus mph

A future article on this theme, part 2, will be found in an upcoming Mile High Mountaineer.

Here’s the link to the Denver Group Website where you can find the MHM and the RMOTHG Newsletters. http://hikingdenver.net/

Caryl Shields
The RMOTHG biking season is about to start, so you may need to dust off your bike and pump up the tires. The cycling season is from the first Friday in May through the last Friday in September. The morning rides are finished with an optional lunch at a nearby restaurant. About 20 to 25 bikers participate weekly, riding on bike paths throughout the Denver, Boulder areas, and sometimes we go west to Summit County. Occasionally, we have spontaneous outings when the weather is favorable.

There will be two styles of riding groups: Hares and Terrapins. Hares ride approximately 20 to 30 miles at a speed of 10 to 12 mph. Terrapins ride approximately 10 to 15 miles at a speed less than 10 mph with more stops. Most of our trips are on paved, level bike paths. Sometimes we encounter some hills and gravel trails.

The essential items for participating are plenty of water, necessary tools to repair a flat tire (replacement tube for your tire size), appropriate clothing for changes in the weather, ID and a medical card. **The wearing of a helmet is mandatory.**

Email notices are sent out several days prior to the excursions to describe the weekly ride. The meeting time is usually 8:30 am with departure at 9:00 am. Guests are allowed with the signing of a waiver form. Guests may participate in two of our activities before joining the RMOTHG section and the Denver group of the CMC.

If you are interested in riding, please contact Pete Spandau by email at bicycling.list@rmothg.org requesting to have your name added to the cycling list. Only RMOTHG members will be added to the list and you’ll receive weekly email reminders to sign up at www.cmc.org.

See you on the trails,

Pete Spandau
Portugal: Sintra Coastal & Heritage Trails

CMC has offered Adventure Travel trips for over 40 years, but NEVER to Portugal. It’s time to visit this land of fabulous cultural and historical sites, wonderful hiking, ocean views, and spend time in Lisbon, one of Europe’s great capital cities largely undiscovered by Americans. Come to the land of expansive views, warm temperatures, friendly people, the unique music of Fado, and a European capital with hills even better than San Francisco, with an uphill tram instead of cable cars. Great dining opportunities for the trail overnights as well as Lisbon. Seafood anyone? Madeira wine anyone (from the Portuguese island of the same name)? Also, Conde Nast Traveler has recognized Cascais as a Top Ten place to retire.

Grand Canyon Raft & Hike 2018

The Grand Canyon, designated a World Heritage Site by the United Nations in 1979, is among the Earth’s greatest ongoing geological spectacles. About 65 million years ago, in Earth’s shifting a huge area of land was lifted a mile and a half above sea level, forming what is now the Colorado Plateau. For the last 6 to 10 million years, the Colorado River has been slowly carving its way down through the center, exposing 2 billion years of geological history. There are also prehistoric traces of human adaptation to a particularly harsh environment.

This unique trip to the Grand Canyon offers participants the opportunity to experience this World Heritage Site on a motorized raft for 188 miles through the best of the canyon, departing from the historic Lee’s Ferry and ending with a helicopter ride from Whitmore Wash and a plane flight back to the start. It is especially ideal for those who would like to hike in areas that can be reached only from the river, and those who have always wanted to experience the canyon but who do not wish to make the 7 mile, 4500’ trek in and out.

CO State Parks Annual Passes

State Parks offers a discount on annual passes if purchased in quantity. We need only purchase 20 or more passes at one time, for each person to obtain an annual pass for $56.00 (20% discount), instead of $70.00 if purchased individually.

Drop-dead date for confirming your interest by email is Mon. April 17. So far I have orders from 32 people, so I will be purchasing quantity passes this year.

Process for purchase and receiving – On Tues April 18, I will email everyone who responded to me asking to purchase a pass. That message will include my mailing address, the amount needed for the check and other pertinent information. Note that the cost may be less than $56.00 if we have 50 or more orders.

Drop dead date for sending me a check for the specified amount is Mon April 24.

Check mailing info. The check needs to be made out to me so that I can deposit the checks and write one check to CO State Parks. You will also need to include a self-addressed stamped envelope (SASE), which I will use to mail you your annual pass.

I realize that some of you may be out of town during the week of April 18-24. If you wish, you can mail me a check earlier, address below.

NOTE: When purchased in quantity, the date for one year’s use will be the date of the quantity purchase, around April 28, 2017.

NOTE 2: Some of you asked me about obtaining a pass for a 2nd vehicle.

Annual Multiple Pass - $35 for each additional vehicle pass

To purchase a Multiple Pass for additional vehicles registered in the same name or registered to an immediate family member (spouse or child) living at the same address, please provide 1) Proof of registration with registration address on all vehicles and 2) Proof of first Annual Pass purchased or receipt of original. Multiple Passes are valid for the same dates as the primary Annual Parks Pass. Multiple passes are not available online, but can be purchased at any State Park or Colorado Parks and Wildlife office.

Contact info for Kathy Kurtz: kmkurtz47@gmail.com 303-512-3006; 809 Union St., Lakewood, CO 80401.

CO Parks and Wildlife website link: http://cpw.state.co.us/buyapply/Pages/ParksPassInfo.aspx
PLEASE Email YOUR photos to Maryann - tophillnews@gmail.com

FUN IN THE SNOW!!!
HUT TRIP 2017!

[Images of snowy landscapes and a cozy cabin interior]
ROCKY MOUNTAIN OVER THE HILL GANG
A Section of the Colorado Mountain Club Denver Group

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