HOLIDAY PARTY
DECEMBER 10
3 pm DRINKS & SNACKS ~ 4 pm POTLUCK DINNER

Tis the season! Come join the fun and meet your fellow members
CMC Building. 710 10th St, Golden

**TUESDAY, DECEMBER 5 DEADLINE**

to sign up on the CMC website

Please **contribute to the potluck** according to the first initial of your last name:

- A-D  Salad
- E-K  Appetizer (can you bring them by 3PM?)
- L-Q  Dessert
- R-Z  Side dish

We provide paper products: napkins, plates, flatware and glasses

Beverages: We will have wine, beer, water, coffee, tea

**After dinner group activity:** Bring a wrapped gift (less than $15) if you want to participate in a gift exchange (NOT A WHITE ELEPHANT GIFT ~ something you would like to receive)

**Optional Toy Donations** to the Action Center’s Santa Shop program: We will collect and deliver to the Action Center. These toys allow parents and guardians to select toys for their children. Gift ideas: remote controlled cars, dolls, action figures, footballs, soccer balls, nail polish kits, arts and craft kits, stuffed animals, infant/toddler toys, bike helmets (No toy guns please) The toys should be UNWRAPPED but you may donate paper to get the gifts wrapped.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:**

- 3 turkeys, 3 hams (table ready)
- Set up at 2pm
- Clean up

Please contact Lou Ann louanndixon@gmail.com or Ida iderann@q.com for volunteering, questions, suggestions
Hello friends,

The great part of this time of year for me is taking a moment to focus on what I am thankful for, and topping that list is always family and friends. So thank you CMC/RMOTHG because through this organization I have made so many interesting, active and loving outdoor friends. I am sure you agree that with the many events, like our traditional Holiday Party, the snowshoe (hikes) and yes even a bike ride in off season, we can be thankful for the Trip Leaders and Social Committee for enthusiastically getting us together to do things with like minded friends...old and new!

Also, in the background you can find your Board working hard for you by keeping this Section viable within CMC, remaining current by establishing prudent and fair guidelines, & most importantly by focusing on our members’ needs.

Did you know that RMOTHG has a couple of members on the CMC Denver Council (Kathy Kurtz and Robbie Monsma,) and an additional member who is a liaison for RMOTHG Board? This liaison attends and shares information at each CMC Denver Council meeting and each RMOTHG Board meeting? Thank you Colleen Landy!

Talking about focusing on members' needs, please take a minute to read the article below about our “New Trip Leader Initiative” with its February Kick-off Meeting. Through this effort we hope to add several more trip leaders to our Section. Aside from more leaders to help with our main activities, we may even find volunteers who would like to offer new activities. By the way, one of the required classes for becoming a Trip Leader, “Wilderness First Aid”, is being offered in December. Classes fill-up fast, so if you want to get a head start on becoming a trip leader...sign...up ...NOW!

Thanks everyone for participating in this Section! Happy Holidays to each of you.

Kirsten Tollefson
SECTION CHAIR

RMOTHG is growing fast and needs additional trip leaders to meet the needs of all its members. Anyone interested in becoming a leader is invited to a meeting Monday, February 5. (time & place TBD) There will be a presentation on the process to become a trip leader. Our activity coordinators will discuss the support we provide to our leaders. There will be testimonials from current leaders and a question and answer period. There will also be plenty of time for just talking informally to our current leaders. Refreshments will be provided. Please give some serious thought to whether this is a way you can give back to RMOTHG.
This museum started over 60 years ago and has over 600 artifacts of historical transportation-buggies, bicycles, aircraft, trains, fire apparatus, vintage apparel — AND MORE!

We will have a morning docent tour at 10:30 and follow with a lunch get together in the RiNo area. More details will be in the January newsletter.

Ginny Keir is the coordinator for this event. (gjkeir@gmail.com) You may sign up now on the CMC website. Registration deadline is Jan 28. Members and their guests are welcome ($11)

Choo Choo..........
Welcome to RMOTHG Snowshoe Season! Whether you are a newbie or experienced, snowshoeing is a wonderful way to enjoy Colorado winter. Fresh air, sparkling snow, invigorating cold and the company of happy others who prefer hiking/shoeing to shopping make us snowshoeing fans! Shoeing is like walking only you sink a little in snow and shoosh along silently among trees, glad for snowy mountain vistas and diamond snow showers ahead as breezes riffle treetops. Between 5-6 p.m. Fridays, Jeff sends emails telling us trips offered the following Wed with links to CMC so you can sign up. If you’re not on the email list, let Jeff know at Jeff.Flax@gmail.com.

Snowshoeing requires basic fitness (If you walk or run regularly, you’ll do fine.) We do not wear jeans or cotton (hypothermia issues if wet!) We carry plenty of water even in cold (needed for altitude, hydration,) extra gear to stay warm (for weather changes or if we have to stop longer,) extra food (we burn calories shoeing or spiking!) Spikes and poles help us handle any conditions. Our pace is casual for about two hours, til we stop in a scenic spot for lunch, then head back. We do offer longer, somewhat faster trips (Check the descriptions!) but if you want even more challenge, check the Bobcat group. When Jeff sends emails, follow the CMC link and read trip descriptions. Feel free to call a leader to see if a trip is right for you. On our way home, optional stops for snacks offer opportunities to get more acquainted. Come join us as we happily experience Colorado in winter!
By a unanimous vote at the September 2017 Board meeting it was decided that all remaining funds in the RMOTHG 2017 fiscal budget would be donated to the CMC Youth Education Program ("YEP"). This donation was presented to the CMC Denver Council, who also unanimously supported this donation from RMOTHG Section.

For those who may not be aware, the CMC Youth Education Program provides education that links Colorado Academic Standards with Colorado’s natural resource, its mountains. Using an experiential approach, YEP’s year round courses are designed to present real-life examples of science, math, geography, history, and art in nature. YEP relies on contributions from donors, grants and corporations “...to connect underserved students to nature and our mountains.”

We have received a lot of positive response on your behalf for this financial assistance, including the following thank you from Holly Barrass, the Education Director of YEP stating, “Thank you so much for this. We received notification about this last week and I want you all to know it made our week. This makes an immense difference to our budget and the programming we are able to deliver...”

We hope you agree that YEP is a program that warrants our support, if for no other reason than it introduces new generations to the mountains we all enjoy year round.

Kirsten Tollefsen, RMOTHG Section Chair
FUN PHOTOS

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

LAIR O' THE BEAR

Exercise is a Celebration of what your body can do!! Not a punishment for what you ate!

NATURE’S LULLABY

Most folks think of the night as a time of peace, but here in the desert the contrary is true. Daytime is pretty quiet and things only really get rolling when the sun goes down. Frogs croak to their mates, coyotes yip and howl, owls hoot a warning, rattlesnakes hiss and slither, scorpions scuttle around, and many other creatures scamper about their daily business. All together, their strangely melodic ensemble fills the air. Like no other music on earth, this desert symphony can soothe the human heart and revitalize mankind’s enduring spirit.
ROCKY MOUNTAIN OVER THE HILL GANG
A Section of the Colorado Mountain Club Denver Group

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DOWNLOAD NEWSLETTER
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www.rmothg.org/UploadedUserFiles/nlarchive.aspx
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SEE BOARD MINUTES
http://www.rmothg.org/BoardMinutes.aspx

READ BYLAWS

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