Happy New Year!!

Mount Evans Super-Moonlight Snowshoe

Monday Night, January 1st ~ info & signup at cmc.org

Have you noticed how fast our trips fill up? Some of our trips are filled within 15 minutes of being announced! RMOTHG is growing fast and we need more trips for all our members. That means we need more trip leaders. Please consider whether this may be a way for you to give back.

Anyone interested in becoming a leader is invited to an informational meeting Monday, February 5 at 4pm at the American Mountaineering Center. 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. All current trip leaders are also invited. The event is free but registration is required – please sign up on CMC.org: https://www.cmc.org/Calendar/EventDetails.aspx?ID=39986. Attendance at the meeting does not obligate you in any way but will help inform you about the process. Please come and find out how to get started and have your questions answered. In the meantime, please feel free to contact any member of the trip leader recruitment committee:

Lue Fratantuono  fratantu@comcast.net
Martha Mustard  mustardo3@comcast.net
Elaine Shirley  elaineshirley@q.com
Kirsten Tollefsen  kmt1950@comcast.net

We want to welcome Janice Johnson into our ranks as our newest trip leader. Congratulations to Janice! Let’s see how many others will join her in our ranks.
NEW DATE
JAN 17 at 7 pm @AMC

This program is for all skill levels. Everyone is invited. Come kick off the new year with a focus on capturing better images during your adventures in 2018. Sign up on the CMC website, cmc.org, Calendar, Jan. 17.

PHOTO by FRANK BURZYNSKI

January Cheers!
Join us for HAPPY HOUR
SUNDAY ~ JANUARY 21st ~ 4pm

Let's meet at Simm's Steakhouse (formerly Simm’s Landing) on a Sunday in January WITHOUT any football on TV. Give yourself and your butt a break and come for refreshments and meet your fellow RMOTHG members.

No need to sign up anywhere. Just come with a smile and a credit card......Sunday January 21st, 4pm.

Simm's Steakhouse
11911 W 6th Ave, Lakewood CO 80401
303 237 0465

Questions? Ida iderann@q.com

MONDAY FEBRUARY 12
4303 BRIGHTON BLVD, DENVER
REGISTRATION DEADLINE - JAN 28

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! What is a Kissel? Come and find out!

We will have a morning docent tour at 10:30 and follow with a lunch get together in the RiNo area. There is major construction in the area. Driving and parking details will be emailed closer to the event date.

Ginny Keir is the coordinator for this event. (gikeir@gmail.com, 303 751 2906) You may sign up now on the CMC website. Members and their guests are welcome ($11).
HAPPIEST NEW YEAR EVER to each of you and your families!

I think we can all agree that 2017 was an interesting year. Happily for we RMOTHG folks, 2017 was filled with our favorite activities, beginning with snowshoeing and then moving into a long spring, summer & fall of hikes and bike rides. This is a great organization!

RMOTHG is great largely because of its volunteers. Thanks to each of you who dedicate time and enthusiasm so that all of us can do what we love in the company of like minded friends.

A special shout-out goes to three of our leaders for their recognized volunteerism by CMC Denver Group at its December Annual Dinner. Congratulations and thank you to our three award recipients:

Roger Wendell, one of our RMOTHG bike leaders, who is also very busy working in the CMC Office and assisting everyone. He won a CMC Denver Group Service Award.

Carol Adler, a very dedicated RMOTHG leader who leads with laughter and smiles our bike rides, snowshoe trips, hut trips and many many hikes. Additionally, she was for several years our Hiking Coordinator. She won a CMC Denver Group Service Award.

Jeff Flax, has and continues to volunteer his time and expertise not only to RMOTHG, but to CMC in many meaningful ways. Jeff coordinates our backcountry skiing, and is involved with our hiking, snowshoeing and the biking group. He is our “system guru” by administrating our RMOTHG.org site, as well as HikingDenver.net. We are proud that Jeff, a RMOTHG member, is also directly involved in several aspects of CMC. He was past Chair of CMC Denver Council and is currently Director of the Wilderness First Aid School. Jeff was rightfully honored with the CMC Denver Group Chairman’s Award and the “Volunteer of the Year” award for his many contributions!

Ok, you now get the theme! We love all our RMOTHG volunteers! The catch is, WE ...NEED ...MORE ...TRIP ...LEADERS! RMOTHG is a big Section and we want to offer more activities for YOU. If you, or someone you know, would be a good trip leader, we encourage you to sign up this month for the February New Trip Leader Kick-off Meeting. See the article on the front page regarding this meeting for more details.

Hang onto your hats and helmets....2018 with RMOTHG is going to be another good one!

Kirsten TollefseN
At last month’s Annual Denver Group Dinner, three of our RMOTHG members were honored. Kudos to Carole Adler and Roger Wendell, who both received well deserved Service Awards!

And Jeff Flax received not just one award but two!! He received the Chairman’s Award and later (a surprise to him though he had been the Chair of the Awards Committee) he was named the Volunteer of the Year. He received a hand carved plaque by Jonathan Walter.

Joe Griffith, the award presenter, had this to say about Jeff: “He has been a strong contender for this award before because he contributes to the club in so many ways. It was an easy decision, except for one complication. Among those contributions, he is the chair of the Awards Committee, so we had to make this choice behind his back .... It is such a joy to work with Jeff and his contributions are so extraordinary that my words are inevitably inadequate.”

CONGRATULATIONS!!!

WAY TO GO!!
Snow finally arrived on the official start of winter, December 21. Maybe we’ll have snow for shoeing in January! Our January schedule looks light but we’ve asked for more trips from leaders so keep checking Friday emails (We also need more leaders so please consider becoming one!)! If there’s not enough snow, we still offer invigorating winter hikes that get us out in Colorado winter (We carry spikes & winter gear all winter to handle any changes in weather and/or trail conditions!)! If you aren’t currently on our snowshoe/winter hike email list, email Jeff.Flax@gmail.com who’ll add you to the list. Jeff sends out emails between 5 and 6 p.m. Friday evenings with links to CMC’s website where you can read trip descriptions and sign up for the next Wednesday snowshoes or hikes.

Usually, we follow a casual pace for two hours to lunch in a pretty spot, but trip descriptions tell you the pace each leader will follow, and distance of the trip to help you decide if a trip is right for you (Some are faster, longer so read to choose what’s best for you.) On our way home, we offer optional snack stops so people can share the day’s experiences and get to know each other better. For newbies to snowshoeing, CMC offers four new-to-snowshoeing trips (See "CMC Program" below.)

Nothing like fresh, fluffy snow to make us glad we snowshoe!

### JANUARY SCHEDULE

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<thead>
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<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>WED, JAN 3</td>
<td>Reynolds Park - Deer Creek Trail (Montezuma Area)</td>
<td>Wed, Jan 3</td>
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<td>WED, JAN 10</td>
<td>Forest Lake - Leader’s Choice</td>
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<td>WED, JAN 17</td>
<td>Gold Hill - Rollinsville --- Heart Lake</td>
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<td>WED, JAN 24</td>
<td>Mud Lake - Butler Gulch</td>
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<tr>
<td>WED, JAN 31</td>
<td>Butler Gulch - Coney Flats</td>
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### CMC PROGRAM ~ "TRY SNOWSHOES FOR ALL MEMBERS"

Never snowshoed? Borrow a pair or rent some at REI or at your local mountain store, add snow baskets (usually the same brand) to fit your hiking poles, be sure your hiking boots are waterproof, add some gaiters, and you will be good to go. We’ll show you a few steps, talk about equipment, and have fun in the snow. Register at [cmc.org](https://cmc.org), Calendar.

Saturday, Feb 17, Kenosha Pass East
Friday, Feb 23, Payne Creek Trail
Saturday, March 3, Kenosha Pass West
Friday, March 23, Burning Bear Trail
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 RMOTHG trips lead by XC certified trip leaders will be offered throughout the season (Think Snow!!!)

**THE TRIPS SCHEDULED FOR JANUARY ARE:**

- **Monday, January 22** - Coney Flats (Easy III)
- **Tuesday, January 30** - Dead Horse Creek (Easy III)

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](mailto:jeff.Flax@gmail.com). Emails 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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**AVALANCHE BEACON PRACTICE - JANUARY 20**

A RMOTHG leader and board member is offering a review and practice of the basics of the various avalanche beacons [if you own something other than the BCA - TRACKER - please bring your instruction manual.] We will review all the basic functions of your avalanche beacon including:

1. how to conduct a beacon check.
2. how to switch from TRANSMIT to SEARCH and return.
3. steps to begin a beacon search.
4. when to go for help.

We will break into teams and practice single and multi-burial searches.

**THIS IS A REVIEW - You should already know how to operate your beacon.**

**FYI - This is not a substitute for a more formal avalanche class.**

**Bring your beacon(s) with fresh batteries, a canvas shopping bag, and a protective container for your beacon…**

AND - In addition to your beacon - when traveling in the Backcountry you should have a shovel and probe.

Sign-up at [https://www.cmc.org/Calendar.aspx](https://www.cmc.org/Calendar.aspx).
**CPR/AED for Outdoor Recreationists**

**Jan 8 & Feb 26**
**Sign Up for One Class Only**

The CMC Denver Group's Wilderness First Aid School (WFA) is offering two separate 2 ½ hour nationally certified CPR and AED (automated external defibrillator) evening classes at the AMC/CMC, one on Mon, Jan 8, and one on Mon, Feb 26 (take one class only). Both classes are from 6:30 to 9:00. 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 available on the CMC calendar at https://www.cmc.org/Calendar.aspx.

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**Fly Fishing School**

**Starts March 26**

The 2018 Fly Fishing School will be held on March 26 and April 2 at the CMC building and includes three field trips scheduled for April 7, 14 and 21.

Our school (or similar experience) is required for ALL Denver Group fly fishing trips. The CMC Denver group member fee is $195 and other CMC members is $205.

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=39409 for more information and to sign up.

If you have any questions please contact Pablo Balan, School Director at pablobalan@comcast.net

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**Event Calendar**

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<td>Full Moon Snowshoe</td>
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<td>Feb 26</td>
<td>CPR/AED</td>
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<td>Mar 26</td>
<td>Fly Fishing School</td>
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PLEASE Email YOUR photos to Maryann - tophillnews@gmail.com

HOT CHOCOLATE & CAROLING ON ECHO LAKE HOLIDAY HIKE!

WHITE RANCH

STAUNTON
ROCKY MOUNTAIN OVER THE HILL GANG
A Section of the Colorado Mountain Club Denver Group

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Newsletter
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ACTIVITY COORDINATORS

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

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

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

READ BYLAWS