



Rocky Mountain Over The Hill Gang Hill Topics

December 2023



A message from your section chair:



We hope you had a wonderful Thanksgiving with family and friends.
What a wonderful time of year to give thanks and spread love and cheer!

With the recent snowfalls, the conditions are great for all our winter activities, snowshoeing, alpine skiing, and cross-country skiing. If you are new to snowshoeing, think about taking advantage of the Beginner Snowshoe course offered by the CMC. There are about 8 opportunities offered between now and the end of January. The best news of all is that if you sign up for one of the Beginner Snowshoe courses, you don't even need your own snowshoes. The CMC has some of the best for you to try! A HUGE thank you goes out to Robbie Monsma, who is leading the endeavor, the course, and the equipment.

In this one-day course you will learn about snowshoe selection and fit, appropriate dress and keeping warm, preparing for a trip, trail techniques, breaking trail, and fall recovery.

This is a wonderful opportunity to try a new activity with the CMC!

In addition to the wonderful offerings from our RMOTHG volunteers, we are still looking for a chair for the social committee. If you are interested in being involved a little or a lot, we need you! To express your interest in volunteering, you can complete the [RMOTHG Engagement Survey](#) or email me at kathy@cefpeeps.us.

One last note about your membership. If you notice that you are no longer receiving the RMOTHG newsletter there may be a reason. Your dues may be outstanding, the email may be going into your junk mailbox or you may need to sign the yearly waiver to stay active. You can check My Profile and My Payments on the CMC website to see if your RMOTHG membership is up to date or check My Waiver to see if your waiver is current. Past newsletters are always posted on the website on the RMOTHG landing page so you don't miss any announcements or upcoming events. If you have any questions about your membership, please feel free to contact me at kathy@cefpeeps.us

We look forward to seeing you at the Holiday Party on December 3rd or on the trail!

Warmly,

Kathy Crawford

It's time to Snowshoe!!

From your snowshoe coordinators.

December marks the real start of snowshoe season with Rocky Mountain Over The Hill Gang. Let's root for December to bring us deep, fluffy snow for the best fun in snowshoeing!

Snowshoeing is great exercise especially when snow is deep, fluffy, and we quietly shoosh through the snow! But if it's hard packed, we use



spikes, still have fun, and get healthy exercise. Spikes or snowshoes, we happily handle all kinds of snow and always say if you can walk, you can snowshoe!

Leaders have already led many snowshoe trips so they've found SNOW! Many of you have signed up for the one-day snowshoe classes CMC offers, but if you're still wanting a class, don't be dismayed if wait lists exist. They're adding more classes and leaders to teach so waitlisted people can still get the class. If you're a beginner, read the trip descriptions carefully to see if a trip fits your skills. Feel free to contact the leader if you need specific information about a trip. Beginners are regularly welcome on most trips and RMOTHG members are patient when you're still learning. We laugh as we scoop each other out of a fall! Deeper snow means harder "work" on snowshoes, but shoeing is just plain fun! We look forward to your joining us in the snow!

Here We Come A-Caroling



Photo from the 2022 carolina snowshoe.

This December 13th Frank Burzinski and Daniel Schweissing will offer a RMOTHG beginning snowshoe at Echo Lake. We hope folks will come join us, and want to participate in some holiday songs at the end of the hike. The trip opens for sign-ups on December 1st. Sign up early, we will travel through a wilderness area, so the group size is limited.

Click [here](#) for more information and to register.

Beginner Snowshoe School

Learn about snowshoe selection and fit, appropriate dress and keeping warm, prepping for a trip, trail techniques, breaking trail, and fall recovery. You'll be able to select a snowshoe trip off the CMC calendar with confidence. Sessions will be held on **Dec. 17, Jan. 6, 7, 12, 13, and 14, Feb. 4, 10, and 24, and Mar. 16.**

[For more information and to register, click here](#)

RMOTHG Dues Collection

With the website transition, some RMOTHG members have not paid their dues for this year. If you suspect that includes you, read on for the solution:

When the new CMC website was installed, the software did not have a way to handle club sections such as RMOTHG. Programmers were hired to add this functionality to the website. In doing that, some of the functions to collect dues did not work. First, if your registration was part of a family, when payments were processed only the primary member paying was charged the dues of \$15. Also, if you wanted to join after registration or renewal was completed, you needed to call the office to make your payment. We now have a short-term fix to handle this payment process. We have created a CMC 'event' called the RMOTHG Dues Drive. You can access this event by either entering the name in the search box at the top of the home page or clicking on this link: [RMOTHG Dues Drive](#) If you are a family member and did not pay or want to renew after you renewed your CMC membership, please use this event to pay your dues. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Scott Kramer at kramer1016@gmail.com or Kathy Crawford at kathy@cefpeeps.us

Social Committee Chairperson Needed!!!

Going forward, Carol Wier is stepping aside in her role of Social Committee Chair providing opportunity for new leadership in 2024.



A chairperson and helpers are needed to plan and lead these annual events in 2024:

- Section parties such as the Summer Picnic, the Annual Meeting and the Holiday Party; and
- Smaller, special interest events, like museum tours, happy hours, dancing etc.

Contact section chair Kathy Crawford , kathy@cefpeeps.us , if you are interested in the Social Committee leadership position.

PLACES WE'VE BEEN

Wings Over The Rockies Social Event



Paint Mines Hike led by Barbara Dey



Mt. Falcon Hike led by Jeanne Eiss



Palmer Lake hike led by Jim Guerra and co-lead by Jan Brady



Stan Moore led this hike to the Crag Hotel site in Eldorado Canyon near Boulder Colorado. He grew up on a 160 acre ranch owned by his great grandfather. The ranch is behind his head in the picture. Now elk are grazing on this land. We hiked up Eldorado Canyon on a railroad bed that was graded but no tracks were ever laid. Stan writes history books about this area and told us that there used to be a high wire across the canyon. We went to the Continental Divide overlook but could not see it as it was starting to snow. The last picture is Stan walking down the canyon. Hike description and photos submitted by Ron . . .

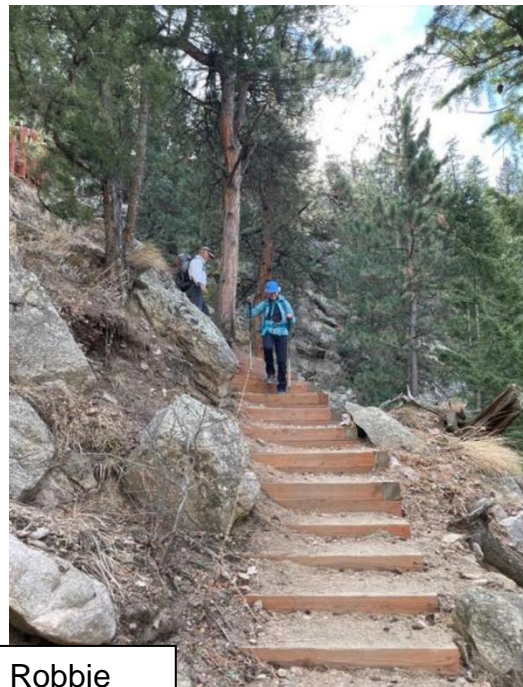




Sandstone Ranch hike led by Barbara Dey



White Ranch Park hike led by Wayne Howell (magically added to the photo!)



Walker Ranch Loop led by Robbie Monsma



Pre-Thanksgiving Day Spruce Mountain Hike led by Jeanne Eiss



Meyer Gulch/Walker Ranch hike led by Elaine Shirley



Chapman Drive & Flagstaff Summit hike led by Jeanne Eiss



RMOTHG SECTION BOARD 2023- 2024:

Chairperson	Kathy Crawford	kathy@cefpeeps.us
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