



Rocky Mountain Over The Hill Gang Hill Topics

January 2025



A message from your section chair:

Happy 2025! I hope you had a wonderful holiday season and are looking forward to what 2025 has in store. Thinking about New Year's resolutions, I hope somewhere in your thoughts is a chance to connect with the RMOTHG community and get outside into the beautiful Colorado Mountains.

In addition to our weekly outdoor activities (thank you trip leaders!), we host a bunch of additional social adventures. We are very pleased to have two wonderful volunteers leading our Happy Hour events, **Lori Main** and **Linda Sexton**! More information will be shared about RMOTHG Happy Hours, as it's a wonderful way to meet new people in a relaxed and inviting atmosphere.

To get the word out about our extraordinary adventures, in addition to our monthly newsletter we are starting a **Facebook** page and an article is included in this newsletter with more details by our communication chair, **Colleen Miller**.

We are continually looking to provide more and more activities for the Gang. Below is a handful of activities already in the planning stages for 2025. Please watch the newsletter and/or Facebook page for more information about these events as they get closer.

Planned activities for 2025: cont. on next page

Cont. from page 1

Open House @ the New CMC Base Camp: We are planning on hosting an Open House for RMOTHG in February or March. More details will hopefully be coming soon, as we learn when the building will be open for events.

Rockies Baseball: RMOTHG will host two game day events, one in June and one in July. Thank you to Wayne Tomasillo for organizing these. More information will be provided closer to the events.

RMOTHG Picnic: Our annual Picnic will be held in July. This is a wonderful time to meet new members and learn more about our section. The date and location of the picnic will be announced in the spring through the newsletter and Facebook page.

Turquoise Lake Camping Trip: This is a 3-day camping trip to Turquoise Lake just outside of Leadville. This year the camping trip will be on August 4-7. More information will be published in the February Newsletter and on Facebook.

Call for new RMOTHG Board Members: Every year three board members retire from service and three new members are added to the RMOTHG board. If you are interested in becoming an RMOTHG board member, please reach out to any current board member and watch for the official announcement in July/August.

In-State Outing September 1-5. This is a statewide event sponsored by the CMC. It's a wonderful way to meet even more people from across the state and this year they are going to Snow Mountain Ranch. Click this link to learn more [CMC In-State Outing](#) and sign up. Only 14 spots still available.

RMOTHG Annual Meeting: Each year we hold our annual meeting in September. It's a wonderful time to see old friends and meet new ones. The location and specific date will be announced later this summer.

If you have an idea of an outing or event that you would like us to investigate, please let us know [here](#).

We hope to see you at an event or on a trip!

Warmly,
Kathy Crawford



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facebook



Rocky Mountain Over the Hill Gang

Private group · 6 members



+ Invite

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Joined



RMOTHG is launching our own private Facebook page “Rocky Mountain Over The Hill Gang.” It is a site open only to RMOTHG members and you must request entrance to be allowed on the page.

Just type in the name of our group as shown above (NO abbreviations) in the search bar in Facebook and it will pull up. Answer a couple of simple questions and you will be granted access within 24 hours.

We hope that this site will be a convenient way to

- share pictures,
- share news about RMOTHG activities, and
- be a private forum for members to engage in dialogue such as recommendations for gear (snowshoes, spikes, bikes, etc), as well as recommendations for hikes, etc.

It will NOT be a forum for politics, sales or other conversations which do not have to do with the business of RMOTHG. The site will be monitored and any abuses remedied by the administrators.

Join today to connect with your fellow RMOTHG friends.

Snowshoe/Winter Travel

HAPPY, HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!

Remember Y2K??? Here we are, a quarter of the way thru the 21st Century already!!! Let's all celebrate with a nice new Bivy, if you don't already have one.

What is a bivy??? It is short for the French word bivouac, which means "temporary shelter". (No, no, no we are not going to use our bivvies to hang off the side of El Capitan or any other such ledges). So, why on earth would you need this item of the Ten Essentials??? We're only out for a short winter hike, after all. (Yeah, well, so was Gilligan) Sometimes life is stranger than fiction and heaven forbid, you were to get injured and needed to call Search and Rescue you might not be rescued for hours. We all need to stay as warm as possible and with multiple layers and being encased in a bivy, you might just make a bad situation not worse :) :) :) Where can you find these bivvies, why REI, probably any outdoor store, there are reviews online. There is a bit of information overload out there. But do get something. SOL makes quite a few. The name of this company is a bit grim, but still they make some good bivvies, just make sure you pay a bit more so that you can get the heat reflection as well as breathability and a hood. Stay away from bivvies that will tear too easily.

I wish you luck in your selection and don't forget the hand and foot warmers too!!!

Also, there are still spots available for Beginner Snowshoe School. To register for the Beginner Snowshoe School, please [click on this link](#).

Keep warm out there, Jeanne Eiss



State Capitol Tour

February 20, 2025, 1:45 – 3:00

Back by popular demand – Ginny Gelbach and Mary Bradley will lead a second tour of the State Capitol in February. The Legislator will be back in session by then. We can observe the legislators working in the chambers as we tour this beautiful building



We will meet at the Visitor Service desk on the first floor at 1:45 and begin the tour at 2:00.

The total time for the tour is one hour. We will tour all three floors and end at the dome for a beautiful view of the mountains and Denver. There is elevator access to all floors except to the dome. You'll have to walk up 97 steps to see the views. It's a Capitol Climb!

Optional Happy Hour after the tour at The Art Hotel which is a short walk from the Capitol.

You can register on the CMC Web page on Jan. 20. The link is not yet up on the website as of the date of this newsletter.

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BEWARD OF EMAIL SCAMS!!

With the new year upon us, it's always good to re-establish online safety practices. This includes being aware of phishing or scam emails. Sometimes an email purportedly may come from RMOTHG president or members of the board asking for money or to purchase gift cards or other requests like this.

*****THESE E-MAILS ARE A SCAM — DO NOT RESPOND TO THE E-MAIL*****

There is no reason to suspect the CMC's systems are involved. It is likely a member's e-mail was used, and the scammer created the e-mail to appear to be from someone it is not. These kinds of emails are NOT from any of our members.

This method of scamming victims by email has been around for many years in one form or another. It is result of a scammer accessing the email address of potential victims and then using those addresses to send the fraudulent email. It is important to look closely at the actual address of suspicious emails.

Please also remember to very careful to click on links in emails that are suspicious, regardless of how authentic they may appear. Most email systems allow users to hover their mouse over the web address to see if the link appears legitimate. There is a very common scam called phishing, which seeks users to disclose personal information. If the sender is a bank, credit card company, post office, or other sources seeking personal information, we strongly suggest contacting the institution directly - and not use phone numbers in the email, which may well be fraudulent as well. Seniors are often the target of these scams.

Similarly, be cautious about phone calls asking for personal information or threats. These include calls purportedly from the IRS, Social Security, Medicare, Sheriff and Police, and from family members in trouble.

For more information on these fraudulent activities, see:

E-Mail scams — https://www.fraud.org/giftcard_scams_alert

Medicare Card Scams — <https://www.aarp.org/money/scams-fraud/info-2019/new-medicare-card.html>

Phishing — <https://www.phishing.org/what-is-phishing>

Phone scams — <https://www.callersmart.com/articles/16/phone-scams-beware-of-these-8-common-telephone-scams>.

It's best to be prepared and aware before falling for one of these scams.

PLACES WE'VE BEEN



White Ranch Amoeba Loop Hike led by Jeanne Eiss, co-led by Ralph Shroba



Frank Burzinski organized a very festive Snowshoe hike to Echo Lake followed by cookies, hot chocolate, and caroling. Photos courtesy of Peggy Schafer.



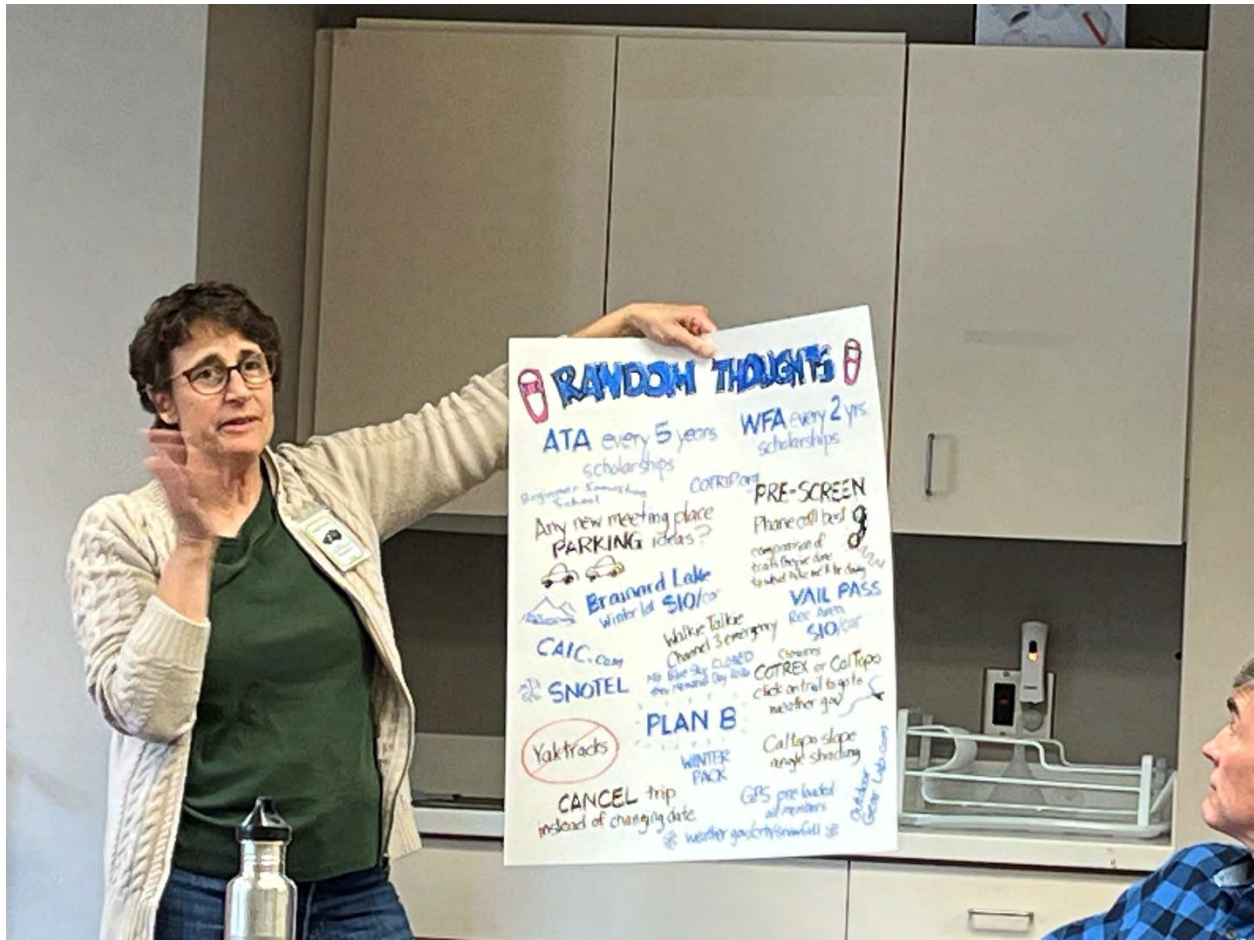
Our leaders from the left: Daniel Schweissing, Kathy Crawford, Frank B., and Suzanne Dysard.



Enjoying Kathy C.'s delicious cookies



Frank B. boiling water with his camp stove for hot chocolate.



Winter Travel Leaders meeting: A lot of thought and preparation goes into planning snowshoe and winter hikes!



Hike to RMNP The Loch Lake Led by Ken Ruiz, co-led by Jim Guerra



1Castlewood Canyon West. Led by Jim Guerra, co-led by Ken Ruiz



An excellent example of hoar frost, submitted by Jim Guerra

Rocky Mountain Over The Hill Gang

A Section of the Colorado Mountain Club Denver Group

RMOTHG SECTION BOARD 2024 - 2025:

Chairperson	Kathy Crawford	kathy@cefpeeps.us
Vice Chairperson	Open position	
Secretary & Emergency Contact	Andrew McGregor	Andrew.d.macgregor@gmail.com
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Members at large	Linda Dermyer	dermyerl@gmail.com
	Ginny Kier	gjkeir@gmail.com
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