Women of the CMC: Julie Luce

March is International Women’s History Month. The CMC is celebrating all month long with women’s specific programs, outings, and events. We’re also highlighting some of the leading women of the Club who help inspire and motivate us all. Learn more at www.cmc.org/Calendar/WomensMonth2019.aspx.

A recent transplant from Washington state, Julie Luce joined the CMC in 2017 and made an immediate impact on the Club and those around her. After a childhood of exploration in the Cascades with her family and Girl Scout troop, Julie uprooted herself from the Pacific Northwest in search of a new adventure and new mountains in Colorado. Upon arriving in the state, her only contacts were her brother and sister-in-law. Knowing she wanted to find a tight-knit group of mountaineers, Julie joined the Club—even planning her move to Colorado to ensure she’d be settled in time to attend the CMC’s Wilderness Trekking School.

Despite her recent move, Julie quickly became involved with the CMC’s educational offerings “I love backpacking, hiking, snowshoeing, and mountaineering, really anything outside. The CMC has given me the chance to do all these with experienced and knowledgeable leaders and instructors. Knowing that almost any day I can go on the CMC calendar and find a trip to join is so nice,” Julie said.

But Julie’s found more than an opportunity to learn new skills, she’s found a strong community of women who encourage and empower her to test her limits. “Because of the CMC, I have met and developed strong relationships with many amazing women. They are my mentors, role models and friends. Every class I take or trip I go on, I can always count on strong and empowering women instructors and classmates to be there. I love that the CMC encourages everyone, women included, to be leaders,” she said.

Julie is proud of that culture of mentorship, and was eager to become a part of it for herself: “My confidence in my outdoors skills has increased since being a part of the CMC, and I am so delighted that the CMC has given me the opportunity to pass that along as an instructor and a trip leader.” So if you’re looking for your next adventure with the CMC, keep your eyes peeled for trips led by Julie!