

Canyon to Crest Call Western Slope Group

November 2020

See below on how to submit your favorite photo for the newsletter!

Grand Mesa. Photo by Karen Mann.

Join CMC life member and 2013 Albert R. Ellingwood Award recipient; the man, the myth, the

(Webinar Dec 1)

legend that has climbed all over the world...Charlie Winger of Montrose on his adventures in the Grand Canyon. He walks on water (when frozen), leaks water from eyes when scared, says "trust me" when lying to climbing partners, and asks climbing partners if he can have their shoes if they die while they are in the middle of the crux moves. He has been a senior instructor in a multitude of CMC schools and has co-authored CMC Press books with his wife Diane. Register here.





2021 WSG Conservation Chair We're pleased to announce that the WSG Council has voted in Ross Mittelman as the WSG Conservation Chair for next year. Contact Ross with your conservation questions and issues. Here is Ross' bio:

Introducing Ross Mittelman,

'I am originally from Massachusetts but have lived out West for the last 20 years. I spent time in Montana (attending the University of Montana), California (Tahoe and San Francisco), and South America before landing in Palisade, CO where I have

lived for the last nine years. My first Colorado summer was spent working for the 14ers Initiative building and maintaining trail throughout the state. I currently work as the Trails Coordinator for Mesa County and enjoy getting

outside in any capacity, preferably with my wife and 4 year old daughter." Outings Chair: OPEN

We are looking for an Outings Chair for 2021. The current Outings Chair, Anne Keil, will be your mentor. Some of the tasks of the Outings Chair include contacting trip leaders to post trips, adding trips to the WSG monthly newsletter, encouraging new trips leaders and attending WSG Council meetings every odd-numbered month.

OUTINGS

Saturday 11/7, Little Dominguez Canyon. Mod A. Brenda Leach.

NOVEMBER TRIPS** (click on titles for more info and to sign up):

Sunday 11/15, Cool Rock Cyn Gunnison Gorge. Difficult A. Anne Keil

Sunday 11/1. Flume Canyon. Mod A. Mary Pltz.

Contact Anne at WSGofCMC@gmail.com if you're interested.

Sunday 11/22, Pollock Bench Flume Canyon. Mod B. John Broadbooks

Starting July 1 revised COVID policy: - Expanded activities to include overnights, backpacking trips, climbing, & scrambles.

**All members and guests must sign a new liability waiver (effective March 2020):

 At least 6 feet social distancing required (otherwise use a mask or mouth/nose covering) at the trailhead pre-trip, when passing other recreators, and at the trailhead post-trip.

GMUG District Wildlife Biologist. Webinar.

- Group size max of 10 (including trip leader).

- **PRESENTATIONS** Monday 11/16, 7-8pm. Nat Geo-Trails Illustrated Map Navigation. State CMC. Webinar.

Wednesday 11/18 6-7pm. Intro to Backcountry Ski/Splitboard: Info Session and Gear Talk. Maddie Miller. Webinar. Tuesday 12/1 6-7pm. Grand Adventures with Charlie Winger. See description above. Zoom webinar.

Tuesday 11/17, 6-7pm. Sage Grouse Wet Meadow Restoration Project in the Gunnison Basin. With Matt Vasquez,

CLASSES

Wilderness First Aid is now a hybrid 16 hour online/in-person class. This serves as both an initial certification and

recertification. \$200 members, \$245 nonmembers, and 5 spots each class are free for leaders with online application and 6 trip commitment in 2 years. Western Slope field day location and date is TBD, pending COVID restrictions. Here are the dates scheduled for the online portion: November 7. More info here and dates added

regularly.

Trip leader training: We are seeking trip leaders! Zoom online class portion of trip leader training will be scheduled later this year. An online, self-paced course is also available. There is also a leader in training hike requirement. This is also available to leaders as a refresher. Email WSGofCMC@gmail.com for more information.

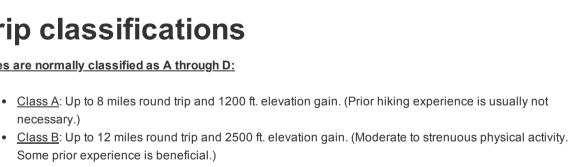
Trip Report: Horseshoe Canyon and the San Rafael Swell

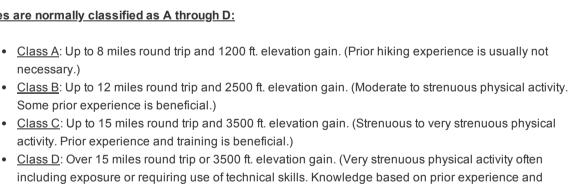


Broadbooks and Babs Schmerler.



A group of CMCers traveled to Utah for a long weekend to camp and hike in the desert. A highlight was the hike in Horseshoe Canyon to view the pictographs and petroglyphs of The Great Gallery. The San Rafael Swell offered hikes through slot canyons. Participants included 5 members of the Western Slope Group and 1 member of the Denver Group. Anne Keil was the trip leader. Photos by John





training is highly beneficial.) If you also see the letter "E" after the classification (such as C-E or D-E), the trip involves exposure (i.e., risk of falling) and may require advanced climbing skills.

Within each of the above letter classifications, hikes are also described subjectively as Easy, Moderate, and

maintain balance. No special hiking or climbing skills are required. Exposure is usually minimal or nonexistent. Scrambling: The trip involves Class 3 climbing: i.e., climbing that is relatively easy with plentiful handholds. Although a rope is rarely required, Class 3 climbing may be intimidating for less experienced mountaineers.

Off Trail: Below timberline (about 11,600 feet in Colorado), the trip may involve bushwhacking or travel through forested terrain. Above timberline, the trip may cross open tundra or involve Class 2 hiking under the Yosemite Decimal System: i.e., moving on or around small boulders where the use of hands may be used, but only to

Seeking Monthly Newsletter Volunteers We'd like your help! If you have requests for newsletter content or would like to contribute, let us know! Deadline to submit information, articles or photos is the 25th of each month for the following month's newsletter. Email us at WSGofCMC@gmail.com.

Here are past issues of our monthly Canyon to Crest Call newsletter: 2020 PDFs: July, August, September, October.

Western Slope Group Council -- 2020 & 2021

Vice Chair & Outings Chair (2020 & 2021): Anne Keil (Montrose) Treasurer (2020 & 2021): John Broadbooks (Montrose)

Chair (2020 & 2021): Brenda Leach (Ridgway)

that facilitate creating our monthly newsletter.

Secretary (2021): Karen Mann (Montrose) Conservation Chair (2020): Bill Hamann (Grand Junction) Thank you Bill!

is November 10. The location will be determined closer to the meeting date. It could be via Zoom while we're dealing with COVID-19. WSG members are welcome to attend. Contact us at WSGofCMC@gmail.com if you

CMC connects Coloradans with more than 3,000 trips, hikes and activities annually. Members also receive huge deals on outdoor gear, lodging, events and more.

JOIN



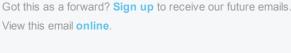
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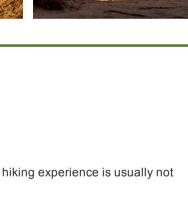
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Trip classifications Hikes are normally classified as A through D: • Class A: Up to 8 miles round trip and 1200 ft. elevation gain. (Prior hiking experience is usually not



Difficult in comparison to other trips of the same classification. Thus, a Difficult B hike is harder than an Easy B On Trail: The trip is mainly on improved trail in reasonable condition. Any portion of the trip not on trail is easy

"like trail" conditions.

activity. Prior experience and training is beneficial.)

Always consider bringing and wearing a helmet.

We are also looking for a volunteer to be the Newsletter Editor. We use myEmma, a tool which has many features

Thank you to all who participated in our October online election! The transition from the 2020 Council to the

2021 Council occurs at the November 10 WSG Council meeting.

Secretary (2020): Ward Luthi (Grand Junction) Thank you Ward!

Conservation Chair (2021): Ross Mittelman (Palisade) We've set our Council meetings for the 2nd Tuesday of odd-numbered months, 5:30 - 7pm. The next meeting

have any questions.