



Fort Collins Chapter Newsletter

March
2011

Your local resource for outdoor adventure

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Spring skiing near Zimmerman Lake.

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Guest Passes and Centennial Celebration

Howdy,

Winter is rapidly evaporating and along with it the ski, snowshoe, and winter sports season. Hopefully you are getting out and enjoying the white stuff while it is still here.

In order to encourage people to try out the Colorado Mountain Club the state organization will be sending each member two guest passes to hand out to friends or people you meet that may be interested in the club. This does not change our existing guest policy, but is designed to be a method of getting contact information about the CMC to potential members. Guests will still need to contact individual trip leaders to verify there is room on the trip, they are compatible with the goals of the trip, and that their fitness level matches the requirements for safe participation in the trip. Each guest pass recipient will also be asked to contact the State Membership Office to let them know they are going on an outing which will allow the Membership Office to track the success of the program. Look for the passes when you renew your membership and trip leaders will potentially see these passes soon on their trips. Since the passes are going out to every member through-out the state, the passes say they are good

Chair's Corner



York

for "A" & "B" classified trips only. This is to keep guest expectations appropriate as leaders of more difficult trips are less likely to accept guests that they don't know. But again, as long as the leader is comfortable with the abilities of the guest, the leader may allow them on the trip.

As the weather warms up and the snow continues to fall, the avalanche danger will continue to change. Keep your eyes open and if you spot any avalanches you can help keep the Colorado Avalanche Center up to date by reporting what you see via their webpage at URL:

http://avalanche.state.co.us/obs/obs_submit.php?obsfm=avalanche

The CMC will be 100 years old in 2012. As part of the celebration the highest 100 peaks in the state will be summited on club trips over the next two summers. If you've wanted to climb any of the 100 highest peaks in the state, now is the time to figure out which ones you are interested in so you can sign up to be part of the Centennial Celebration. If you are a leader and are interested in leading any of these climbs, please contact David Wasson as he is our representative on the Centennial Celebration Climbs committee.

A big Thank You to those members that provided feedback to Larimer County Open Space Program on their new maps. When these maps are available later this year, they will be a great resource for getting out and exploring these Front Range public areas. And better yet, the maps will be free.

As always, get out and enjoy all that the Colorado outdoors has to offer.

Play and Think Hard!

York, The Red Lion
Chair, Fort Collins Group, CMC

Italian Alps: Mountaineering Trek & Ferrate - Bernina to Dolomites 29 Aug - 12 Sep 2011

Trek Italy's Alps from the beautiful lakes of Como and Garda to the majestic Bernina Range and awesome pillars and spires of the Brenta Dolomites, replete with

itinerant "rifugio" hut-based lodging and "via ferrata" climbs certain to inspire a memorable adventure for 7 energetic and validated C-E > D level hikers.

Ascend thru forests and alpine meadows over passes and across glaciers with breathtaking vistas to summit awe-inspiring peaks, many via the famous

"path of iron" ferrate where multi-colored rock face and ledges are outfitted with anchored cables, ladders and bridges. These climbing networks dating from WWI to facilitate rapid, safe troop ascents to strategic reconnaissance positions in the Alps have been restored and expanded; today they are maintained by CAI (Club Alpino Italiano) as a safer alternative to unprotected climbing and to enhance the alpine experience.

Climbing exposure and trekking will be punctuated by intervals of cultural exposure motoring between trailhead gateways: Bella-

gio (by boat), Merano, wine-tasting at Lake Caldaro, Verona, Bergamo and many quaint medieval towns.

Italy's rifugi at various altitudes provide rustic lodging with basic amenities and warm food, so this trip requires only a light 40-55L backpack with 10 essentials, climate-appropriate clothing, gloves, poles, bag liner, crampons, harness, and a spirited smile of determination and anticipation.

Most everything except airfare is included. Our Italian guide, an experienced mountaineer/trekker,

age 50, fluent in English, created the itinerary with fallback options to cope with Mother Nature and otherwise optimize a successful adventure. Click "More Information" toward the bottom of <http://cmc.org/AdventureTravel/AdventureTravelDetails.aspx?EventID=2405> to review the complete itinerary with illustrative photos, notes and terms.

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Centennial Celebration Climbs in 2011 and 2012

CMC will celebrate its 100-year anniversary in 2012. Many events are being planned to mark this milestone. Among them is the *Centennial Celebration Climbs program, which is planned to result in the on-line scheduling by CMC leaders of multiple climbs of the high 100 ranked peaks in Colorado. Trips may begin now and continue through December 31, 2012, and at any time of year. Trip completion by the end of 2012 will be required.*

Trip leaders of all CMC Groups are therefore now invited to sign-up for any and all high 100 peaks they wish to lead. Interested trip leaders should e-

mail bdwyer192@gmail.com and indicate the trip(s) they wish to lead. Once signed up, leaders will be responsible to schedule the trip(s) in the CMC online schedule within a reasonable period of time, and in accordance with their specific Group leader requirements. Insertion of *Centennial Celebration Climb in line two of the trip title is requested when scheduling. Leaders will be provided instructions, formats and assistance that will hopefully streamline their participation. CMC safety standards are expected to be embraced by all leaders.*

A spreadsheet showing all leader

signups and which serves as a tracking document for the scheduling, completion, trip reporting and photos of the trips is accessible at <http://www.cmc.org/about/centennialclimbs.aspx>. If something is not clear, or any assistance is required in signing up, trip leaders should email bdwyer192@gmail.com.

This program is a great opportunity for both leaders and members to participate in CMC's historic Centennial Celebration, which will not only provide great advertisement of our CMC, but also provide the CMC membership with greater opportunities to climb the sought after "high 100!"

Trail Maintenance Workshops

The trail maintenance season is rapidly approaching. As a member of the Adopt-A-Trail (AAT)

Program through the Forest Service, the Colorado Mountain Club needs members that are trained

in how to build, maintain, and repair trails. The annual Forest Service Trail Maintenance Work-

shop is taking reservations now. The Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado are also taking reservations for their training sessions. Here is the information about the trainings from both organizations:

Forest Service Trail Maintenance 101:

If you work on- or would like to work on- Forest Service trails as a volunteer, this training is for YOU!

Any healthy adult can perform all of the basic tasks needed for trail maintenance. Our goal for this two-part workshop is to give you the confidence and skills you need to properly maintain a US Forest Service trail- to whatever degree you can assist. By the time you complete the training, you'll be able to:

Demonstrate safety procedures for use, carry, and storage of hand tools used in trail maintenance. Demonstrate how to give a trailhead safety session and complete required safety forms. Recognize unsafe tools and know when to stop using them.

Understand how to perform basic tool repair and maintenance. Recognize unsafe trail conditions and trail damage. Apply trail maintenance techniques to actual trail situations. Instruct other volunteers in basic trail maintenance techniques.

The FREE 2011 workshop is in two parts on the following dates: April 27, 6-9 PM classroom session Introduction to trail tools, maintenance techniques, safety, and Forest Service trail standards.

April 30 8-2 PM trailside session The fun part! We'll carpool to a trail in the Poudre Canyon for some hands-on experience to put into practice the techniques you learned in the class. We'll be covering trail corridor maintenance, water drainage structure construction, and hand saw use. Join us afterwards for a free BBQ.

Registration is required. Please RSVP to Kristy Wumkes at kwumkes@fs.fed.us or 970-295-6721 as soon as possible, and no later than April 9, 2011. Please

note if you will be staying for the BBQ and if you have a preference for a veggie burger.

Volunteers for Outdoor Colorado Workshops:

Crew Chef Training-April 9
Golden Crew Leadership for Trails-April 16-17
Grand Junction Crew Leadership for Trails-April 16-17 (tentative)
Colorado Springs Crew Leadership for Trails-April 30-May 1
Working with Youth-May 3
Rock Skills-May 20
Crew Leadership for Historic Preservation-May 19-20
Skills Seminar-June 11-12
Young Adult Crew Leadership for Trails-July

Read full descriptions and register at www.volunteeroutdoors.net

If you sign up for trainings with either organization, please let them know you are a Fort Collins Group CMC Member and let York know as well so we can update your CMC Training record.

**Contribute to Your Fort Collins Chapter Newsletter
Send Articles, Photographs, Announcements and Ideas
to the Editor by April 10th:**

[John Wullschleger](#)

Fort Collins CMC wishes to thank businesses that have previously supported us with paid advertising in our newsletter. However, due to a policy change, we will no longer be including paid commercial advertising.

This newsletter is published by the Fort Collins Group of the Colorado Mountain Club. Please send submissions to jgw311@hotmail.com to be included in the next month's edition. Members send address changes to ***. Also, please notify the state CMC office if your address has changed.

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