



December 2023

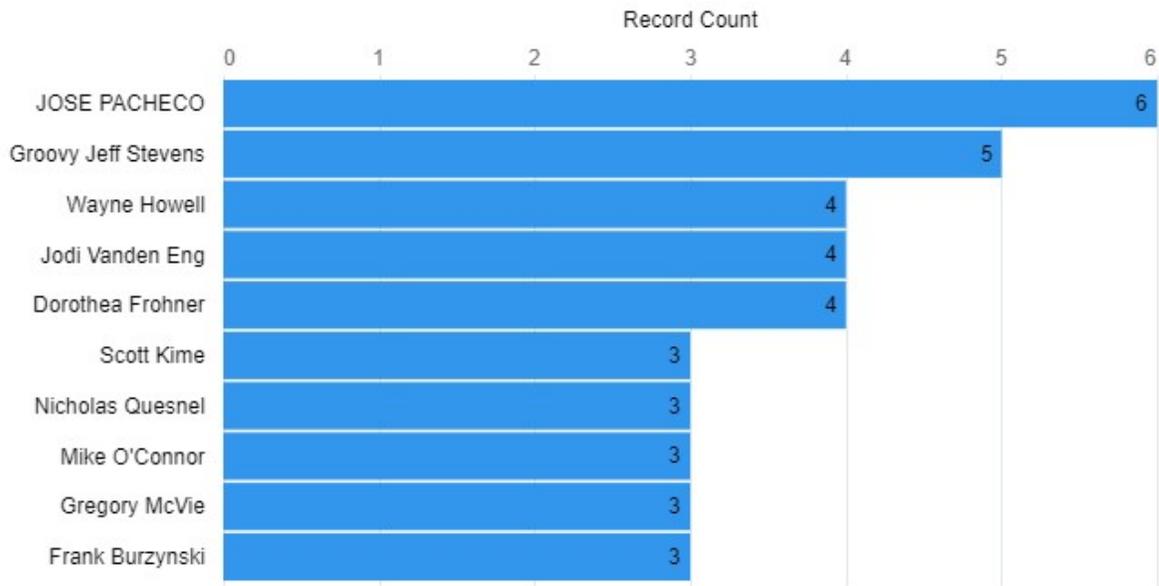


Who's ready for SNOW?!?

Fall is quickly transitioning to winter and CMC members aren't slowing down their eagerness to get outside. This photo includes members of the Northern Colorado Group on their outing to Bierstadt Lake to Cub Lake via Mill Creek including Mill Creek Basin. They reported great weather, great scenery, and great company. Total distance travelled was 8.3 miles.

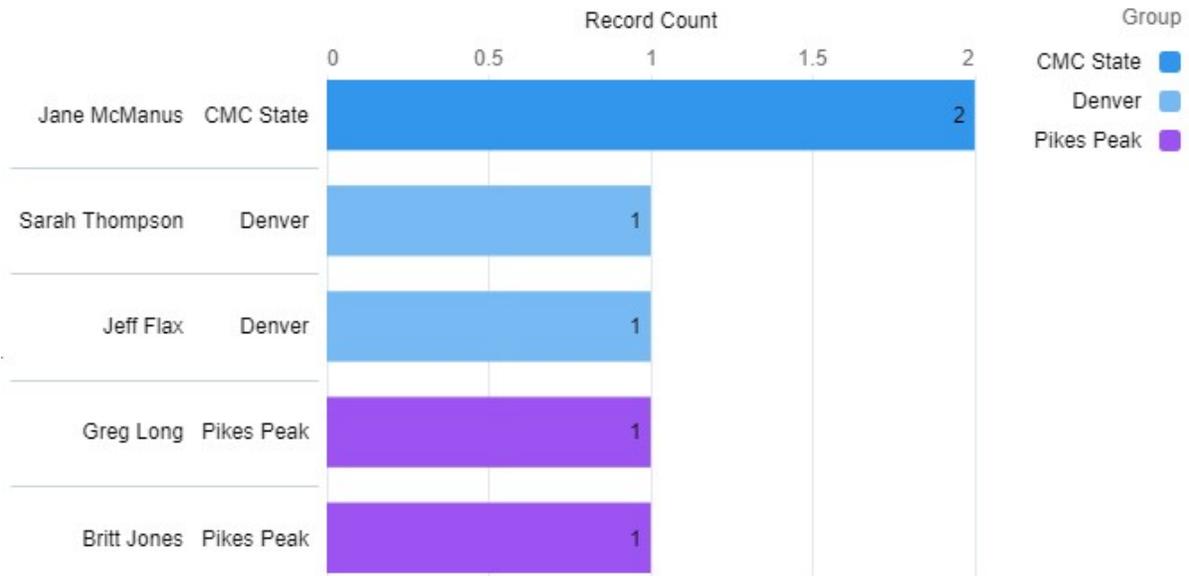
Volunteer Leaderboards from November 2023

Trips



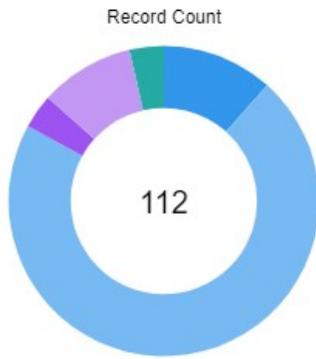
Thank you to everyone that instructed classes or led trips this past month. We are grateful to all of our talented and dedicated volunteers. In particular, **thank you Jose, Jeff, Wayne, Jodi, Dorothea, Scott, Nick, Mike, Greg and Frank!**

Courses

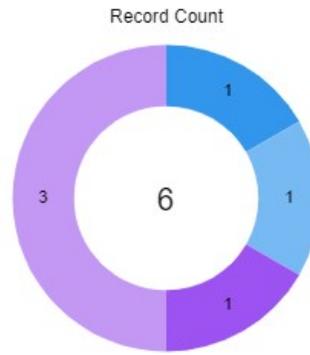


Thanks to everyone that led courses during the month of October! Congratulations to our top performing leaders: **Jane, Sarah, Jeff, Greg & Britt!**

Trip & Course Count: November 2023



Hiking: 80
 Climbing: 13
 Snowshoeing: 11
 Scrambling: 4
 Other: 4



Climbing: 3
 Mountaineering: 1
 Risk Management: 1
 Scrambling: 1





CMC Volunteer of the Month:

JoAnn Herkenhoff

Congratulations to CMC Member, JoAnn Herkenhoff for her nomination as the CMC Volunteer of the Month! Thank you JoAnn, for all you do for CMC and the Northern Colorado Group. We are lucky to have you!

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(From JoAnn) After moving to Fort Collins in 2007, I responded to a CMC New/Prospective Member meeting promotion, posted in the local paper. The friends I met at the meeting filled my time and my heart with many adventurers and we spent lots of time hiking and skiing and climbing peaks and backpacking. It was a great opportunity to hone my skills and enjoy the incredible area that we are privileged to call our backyard.

I acquired a mentor in the club to help me advance those skills and stand alongside me as I grew into roles that would give back to our club. Mentors are critical partners when it comes not only to building skills, but also building confidence in leading. This mentor partnered with me as we co-directed our group's Mountain Hiking School. One of the most rewarding moments as a leader has been witnessing the situation where the student finds their confidence to push their comfort zone.

With this mentor's encouragement, I joined our Group Council and served in multiple roles. One of the things I love about our club is the very personal way in which we function. When the outgoing chair asked me to serve in that capacity, I of course, said yes. I have been very fortunate to serve alongside a very dedicated, very knowledgeable group of leaders to ensure our stewardship of the club. As the chair, I have seen my role primarily to coordinate, communicate and then get out of the way.

There can be challenging moments on the trail or in the outdoor classroom. I believe the best method for addressing challenges is to communicate openly and honestly. Transparency in acknowledging a situation allows you to gain the perspective and buy-in of those involved so that you can collectively move toward to workable solution.

I have experienced many times in the mountains when my own internal barriers could have kept me from achieving my goal or from appreciating the challenge/opportunity ahead of me. As a leader, one of our most impactful gifts is to help people overcome those internal barriers so they are empowered to reach their next high point, literally and figuratively.

Nominate a Deserving CMC Volunteer!

WFA Policy Update for 2024

At this year's Leadership Summit, we announced that a WFA certification will continue to be the minimum requirement to maintain status as a Trip Leader or Instructor with the CMC. All leaders and instructors will have until June 2024 to update their WFA certifications. We came to this decision after a several month-long process of gathering feedback from members including trip leaders and instructors as well as reviewing industry standards relating to risk management and policy implementation. We appreciate everyone's input and participation in the process. We believe this decision supports CMC's hard-earned credibility as an industry leader in outdoor recreation.



[Learn More](#)



[Read More](#)

CMC Roder Leadership Scholarships

The CMC is proud to support its volunteer leaders and instructors through continuing education. To learn more about scholarships and how to apply, check out the recent blog article linked below!

Leader Summit & Roder Dinner Recap

This year, CMC staff and the DEI-B committee co-facilitated the Leadership Summit, which was attended by 40 CMC Leaders. Participants increased their awareness of how to recognize exclusive situations, recognize that inclusivity and belonging are safety issues, and build on their knowledge from previous Summits. CMC staff introduced how there is a new industry standard in how we deal with risk management and the importance of including belonging, equity, and inclusion into risk management practices. This was followed by the DEI-B Committee's presentation on how this topic comes up in the field with real stories from CMC members. The Summit closed with a presentation from the Lockwood Foundation. Participants were encouraged to identify how they could take what they learned and put it into practice on their upcoming trips.



[Summit Slide Deck](#)

The Leadership Summit was followed by the Annual Roder Dinner, which brought 37 attendees together to enjoy a potluck, honor Eckart Roder, and engage in Art Muir's presentation and story about his epic climb up Mt. Everest. The Roder Scholarship supports WFA scholarships for trip leaders. There are currently 5 spots in every WFA course for trip leaders to attend for free. We hope to continue to expand the Leadership Summit and Roder fund and dinner attendance in future years and are open to feedback and volunteer support to make this happen.



Risk Management Corner - December

A CMC Leader, overseeing an Intermediate Alpine Climb at Lincoln Falls, reports a near miss incident that occurred on November 4, 2023. The incident involved a participant and highlighted the potential dangers of climbing ropes running over sharp rock edges. Read on...

[CMC Blog](#)

Signs, Signs, Everywhere Signs

You may notice brand new green **Park Mobile** signs at the AMC. These are to collect payment for parking! They do not apply to CMC members.

This is a passive payment collection system for public events primarily. There is no penalty for not paying so **you don't need anything special in your car just know that you volunteer here and you don't have to pay.**



Colorado Mountain Club