



ROCKY MOUNTAIN OVER THE HILL GANG



Hill Topics

SEPTEMBER 2014

BIG DISCLAIMER!

Dear Gang, I am in Arizona for a family emergency, so this issue of the newsletter will be abbreviated. I'll try to make it as nice as I can on the iPad I have with me, but it won't be the same! Thanks for understanding, *Maryann*



ANNUAL DINNER

Please mark your calendars and plan on attending the Rocky Mountain Over The Hill Gang's annual dinner and meeting, scheduled for September 21st at Mt. Vernon Country Club. Mt. Vernon Country Club is located 17 miles west of Denver and is nestled in the foothills of Golden, CO. The dining room overlooks the city lights of Denver, Clear Creek Canyon and Genesee Mountain.

Happy hour begins at 5:30 with a cash bar and munchies to hold you over until dinner at 7:00. Dinner will include an extensive salad bar, roast beef, chicken with lemon and fresh basil, coconut shrimp, pasta, and a medley of vegetables. Assorted pastries with coffee and tea will also be included.

Prior to dinner, an election of RMOTHG board members will be held. We have a 9 member board. Each year 3 members rotate off the board or agree to run for an additional 3-year term. Biographies of candidates are available in last month's newsletter.

Following dinner we will have a unique opportunity to hear Thomas E Hames who is chairman of the Board of Directors 10th Mountain Division Foundation, Inc. This is the charitable arm of the World War II division that trained at Camp Hale and fought in Italy. His father, Eugene S. Hames, served at Camp Hale and in Italy in K company, 85th Mountain Regiment.

Mr. Hames also serves on the Board of Directors of the 10th Mountain Division Hut Association Endowment Fund, Inc. The Foundation seeks to promote and preserve the legacy of the 10th Mountain division, their service, their love of the mountains and their sacrifice.

RMOTHG members and their guests are invited to attend this event. Please register early as there are a limited number of tickets available. RMOTHG member cost is \$32 and non-member cost is \$45. CMC members who have not joined the RMOTHG section are considered nonmember guests and pay \$45.

Reservations must be made and payment received by Sunday, September 14th.

Members must sign in at CMC.org to register for this event and receive the member's price of \$32. Member couples should register separately. Non-Members must register by going to CMC.org, click on the calendar and choose RMOTHG Annual Dinner on Sept. 21st. If you run into problems registering, please contact the CMC Member Services at CMC.org or call 303-279-3080 ext. 2 for assistance.

Sign up early to be part of this special event. We look forward to seeing you there.



TURQUOISE LAKE CAMPOUT



RMOTHG 2014 Annual Campout a Hit

RMOTHG members camped, hiked, biked, kayaked, and played horseshoes and croquet at the annual Turquoise Lake Campout held August 11-14, 2014. They enjoyed happy hours and grilled brats, hot dogs, and even steaks. Nightly campfires included lots of camaraderie and even "s'mores". Thanks to everyone who pitched in and made it a success. Consider joining in the fun next year.

Sandy McRae



SECTION CHAIR'S MESSAGE

Hello,

Though attending one of the six time-a-year board meetings seems fairly remote from the joys, say, of hiking on Guanella Pass, your board does set section policies and allocate dollars from members' dues.

THINK OF BECOMING A TRIP LEADER

We continue to support bringing on new trip leaders by reimbursing candidates for the cost of the Denver Group courses required to become certified leaders. If you have been frustrated by the shortage of "A" or other hikes this season, consider becoming a leader yourself. We are all volunteers!!

DEPARTING BOARD MEMBERS

September 30th marks the end of the CMC, Denver Group, and RMOTHG fiscal years. This year it also marks the end of three RMOTHG board members' terms---Dave Grimes, Marc Hasfjord, and Jim Stelzig will be leaving, having contributed a great deal:

-Dave created and maintains the database application used by the RMOTHG to organize its member list. It allows members to indicate activity preferences such as hiking, biking, etc., and is the communication core for our growing member base. Dave is also an avid biker.

-Marc, a vocal and involved board member, has been hiking trip coordinator and is a trip leader. Marc has boundless enthusiasm on the trail, identifying mountain peaks, wildlife, reciting area history, etc. His interest and energy are contagious.

-Jim has served as secretary to the board, producing the meeting minutes that allow the BOD to keep a record of what has gone on. Jim is also a very active hiking trip leader.

ANNUAL MEETING AND ELECTION OF NEW BOARD MEMBERS

The RMOTHG will be electing three new board members at the September 21, 2014, annual meeting. Details are elsewhere in this newsletter. Jennifer May, Elaine Shirley and Pete Spandau---biographies are available in last month's newsletter (www.rmothg.org/UploadedUserFiles/nlarchive.aspx)---have agreed to run for the newly vacant terms.

All the best as we head into the fall. Is there anything bluer than a Colorado blue sky?

Cynthia

HIKING



Maybe the hot summer weather has been replaced with the beginnings of fall. The firm hikes on the schedule are still in the high country, but the many "Leader's Choice" mean that we may have more varied alternatives. Here's hoping that you'll find hikes to your liking.

9/3

9/3

Lakes (White River NF Trail #58)

9/3

Roosevelt NE, above Empire)

9/10

9/17

9/17

9/17

9/24

Isabel NF Trail #1776, Colorado Trail)

9/24

Wilderness)

9/24

A Rutherford Trail (Georgetown)

B Spruce Creek Trail to Mohawk

B Butler Gulch (Arapaho &

C Leader's Choice

A Leader's Choice

? Leader's Choice

A Leader's Choice (Aspen Fall color)

A Kenosha Pass-East (Pike & San

B Forest Lake (James Peak

A Leader's Choice (Aspen Fall Color)

CYCLING



Summer is nearly over and the biking season has been wonderful. The month of September ends the regular weekly rides due to the unpredictable fall weather. We'll have "spontaneous rides" on Fridays through the fall season as the weather allows. Most weeks we have had new riders joining us and they have been warmly welcomed. So, come and enjoy this exercise and fellowship.

Our morning rides are usually 20 to 30 miles at a speed of 10 to 12 mph and finish with an optional lunch at a nearby restaurant. Occasionally, we'll have a leader for a slower group of riders. Watch for notification of this slower rider group in the weekly emails. Most of our trips are on paved, level bike paths. Occasionally we encounter some hills and gravel trails.

The essential items for participating are plenty of water, necessary tools to repair a flat tire (replacement tube for your tire size), appropriate clothing for changes in the weather, and carrying

ID and a medical card. The wearing of a helmet is mandatory. Email notices are sent out several days prior to the excursions to describe the weekly ride and the meeting location. Both groups will start at the same time and hopefully finish together. Most meeting times are usually 8:30 AM with departure at 9:00 AM.

Guests are allowed with signing of a waiver form. Guests may participate in two of our activities before joining Rocky Mountain Over The Hill Gang (RMOTHG) section and the Denver Group of CMC.

If you are interested in riding, please contact Pete Spandau by email at bicycling.list@rmothg.org requesting to have your name added to the cycling list. Only RMOTHG members will be added to the list and you'll receive weekly email reminders to sign up at www.cmc.org.

Tentative September Bike Rides

9/5 Platte River North

9/12 Grant Ranch/Chatfield Reservoir Loop

9/19 Cherry Creek South

9/26 Lakewood, Garrison, Sanderson, Platte River. Loop

DENVER GROUP ANNUAL DINNER

SAVE THE DATE!!

The DG Annual Dinner is on NOVEMBER 9th. We have at least two RMOTHG members who will be receiving Denver Group Service Awards - which is a big deal!

CMC HAPPENINGS



MEMBER ORIENTATIONS TO CMC

9/10/2014 6 pm
10/16/2014 6 pm

Learn all about the CMC and how to get involved from the comfort of your own home during this short on-line orientation. register on-line on the CMC trip calendar or email office@cmc.org. Must have computer access to the web.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

You can make a difference at the CMC! Contact Brendaporter@cmc.org or 303-996-2748 if interested.

EVENT OUTREACH: Help staff a CMC/RMOTHG table at Evergreen's Walk for Wilderness September 6.

CMC MAILING PARTIES: Help out at the CMC office for 1-2 hours during the day with a group of volunteers: 9/2, 9/10, 9/16, 10/14, 10/15, 10/25.

ADVENTURE TRAVEL: Help with administrative needs of the Adventure Travel Program. Flexible timing.

FEATURED CMC ADVENTURE TRAVEL TRIP

Tuscany Bike Tour September 12, 2015

This bike tour explores the lesser known, but no less beautiful areas of Tuscany to the west of the renowned Siena region. The tour includes seven days of cycling with the opportunity to cycle three more days. In the seven cycling days we will cycle 254 miles, averaging 36 miles a day with a maximum day of 50 miles. We will have three optional days that can be used for rest, sightseeing, or cycling.

LEADER TRAINING

Trip Leader Web Training 8/27/2014 (webinar)

Review on-line tips and tricks for getting your trips online

SCOTT ROBSON ANNOUNCED AS NEW CMC EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The Colorado Mountain Club has appointed a new Executive Director, concluding a comprehensive three-month search.

Colorado resident Scott Robson will take over leadership of the 102-year-old Club starting September 2. Robson brings two decades of experience to the role, including director of parks and recreation positions with the City of Denver and the City of Louisville. Most recently, he served as the executive director of the Evergreen Park & Recreation District. During his three and a half years at EPRD, Robson was able to expand the District's offerings, implement major facilities improvements and surpass grant funding goals. He was nominated as Leader of the Year by the Chamber of Commerce & Leadership Evergreen in 2013 for his efforts.

"We had a great group of finalists, but Scott stood out because of his leadership experience with outdoors-oriented organizations, dedication to public service, stellar professional track record and passion for the mountains," said CMC Board President Kevin Duncan. "We're excited for the direction he plans to take the Club

FUN PHOTO



Mary Poppins & the Roller Blade King!!