On October 1, the CMC officially launched its 100th year anniversary. I’m pleased to announce we’ve dramatically expanded our plans to celebrate the club’s milestone. We’re going to hold a series of “big-tent” events to better take advantage of this once-in-a-century opportunity to honor our history, drive fund-raising, increase membership, and celebrate in style. Here’s your chance to be a part of club history.

We’ve got a star-studded lineup to help us celebrate, including a few local celebrities. None of this would be possible without the help of a few committed and hard working volunteers. Our 100th Anniversary Committee is comprised of Linda Lawson, Giles Toll, Steve Bonowski, Al Ossinger, John Devitt, and Bob Reimann. Beth Dwyer has worked tirelessly on the Centennial.

Thank you!

Registration for the first two events is open now at www.cmc.org/centennial. See the entire calendar of events on page 6.

I look forward to seeing you at as many of these events as you can attend. One thing I know for certain: We will end our centennial year knowing we did everything we could to celebrate this once-a-century milestone in style.

Happy 100th, CMC!

Katie Blackett
Chief Executive Officer

Where your dues go

Many of you enjoy the CMC through a variety of our offerings, whether they are trips (local and international), stewardship projects, schools, volunteering with our youth program, reading one of our world class guide books, or meandering through our mountaineering museum. As a responsible nonprofit and charitable organization, we feel it’s imperative to show transparency to our members and supporters and help to educate everyone on “where your membership dues go.” Oftentimes, I hear comments like “Why do you need to fundraise, my dues should cover all the programming?” or “How can I support the programs beyond the adult activities I participate in?”

Well, it’s our hope that the chart explains exactly where your yearly membership dues go and what they cover. As you can see, most of your dues cover direct benefits to you as a member. A couple of our programs areas such as conservation and youth education rely solely on foundation grants and individual donations to survive. The good news is that we have a diverse circle of revenue that helps us get through tough times. Even better news is that many of you are generous with your donations to help our youth, conservation department, and museum grow.

Please don’t hesitate to ask me, your trip leaders, school instructors, membership services, or any other CMC ambassadors if you have questions about the chart.

Katie Blackett
Chief Executive Officer

Colorado’s MOUNTAINS are TIMELESS LIVETESS

By designating the CMC or the CMC Foundation in your will, your investment in them lives on.

Join the 21st Century Circle today. Contact our Development Director at 303-996-2752 to learn more about planned giving.
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John Minden doesn’t think of himself as disabled—or able-bodied. He just climbs.
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The Colorado Mountain Club is organized to
▶ unite the energy, interest, and knowledge of the students, explorers, and lovers of the mountains of Colorado;
▶ collect and disseminate information regarding the Rocky Mountains on behalf of science, literature, art, and recreation;
▶ stimulate public interest in our mountain areas;
▶ encourage the preservation of forests, flowers, fauna, and natural scenery; and
▶ render readily accessible the alpine attractions of this region.

Trail & Timberline
The official publication of the Colorado Mountain Club since 1918.

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For Members

member benefits
▶ join us on over 3,000 annual trips, hikes, and activities in the state’s premiere mountain-adventure organization.
▶ expand your knowledge and learn new skills with our schools, seminars, and events.
▶ support our award-winning Youth Education Program for mountain leadership.
▶ protect Colorado’s wild lands and backcountry recreation experiences.
▶ enjoy exclusive discounts to the American Mountaineering Museum.
▶ travel the world with your friends through CMC Adventure Travel.
▶ receive a 20% discount on all CMC Press purchases and start your next adventure today.
▶ it pays to be a member. Enjoy discounts of up to 30% from retailers and corporate partners. See www.cmc.org/benefits for details.
▶ receive the Shared Member Rates of other regional mountaineering clubs and a host of their perks and benefits, including lodging.

Visit cmc.org/Alpine6 for details.

opportunities to get more involved

Charitable Donations
Join our select donors who give back to the club every month by using electronic funds transfer (EFT). It is easy and convenient, and you can discontinue anytime, and you’ll provide support for critical programs. Sign up at www.cmc.org/support.

By naming the Colorado Mountain Club in your will, you will be able to count yourself among the proud members of the 21st Century Circle. Read more at www.cmc.org/support. Please consult your financial advisor about gift language.

By donating $1,000 or more to the Annual Campaign, you’ll enjoy the exclusive benefits of the Summit Society, including hikes to places that the CMC’s conservation department is working to protect, an annual appreciation event, and a complimentary copy of a new CMC Press book.

If you have any questions about donations, please contact Sarah Gorecki, Development Director, at 303.996.2752 or sarahgorecki@cmc.org.

Volunteer Efforts
If you want to share your time and expertise, give back to the club by volunteering on a variety of projects, from trail restoration to stuffing envelopes. Visit www.cmc.org/volunteer for a complete listing.

Contact Us
Our Membership Services team can answer general questions every weekday at 303.279.3080, or by email at cmcoffice@cmc.org.

Scrambles!

The Colorado Mountain Club is a proud member of Community Shares of Colorado.

www.cmc.org

It PAYS to be a member!
▶ 50% off admission at the American Mountaineering Museum
▶ 25% off titles from The Mountaineers Books
▶ 10% at Neptune Mountaineering, Boulder
▶ 10% at Bent Gate Mountaineering, Golden
▶ 10% at Wilderness Exchange Unlimited, Denver
▶ 10% at Mountain Chalet, Colorado Springs
▶ 10% at The Trailhead, Buena Vista
▶ 10% at Rock’n and Jam’n, Thornton

Not a member?
Visit www.cmc.org/join

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Please recycle this magazine. Printed on 15% post-consumer waste recycled paper.
CENTENNIAL KICK-OFF CELEBRATION
**What** A fun, low key dinner event celebrating people in the club throughout the decades  
**Date** Saturday, Feb. 11, 2012, 4 - 8 pm  
**Where** AMC  
**Invitation** Open to the public  
**Keynote Speaker** Mark Obmascik, author of a hilarious book about his climb in 2004 of all the 14ers, and a book about bird watching (the movie of which stars Steve Martin and will be released next month).  

The agenda will feature presentations for every decade in club history in which someone recalls what they, or their parents/grandparents did in the club and what it meant to them. There will be a table in an exhibition area for every decade in club history, featuring memorabilia (gear, T&Ts, maps, etc) from that decade. And we'll preview the upcoming centennial celebrations and the centennial climbs program being run by Beth Dwyer.

CENTENNIAL MEMBERSHIP GROUP PHOTO
**What** A group photo of every club member who turns out. John Fielder has agreed to take the photo. We will sell these pictures later in the year.  
**Date** April 28, 2012, which is 100 years and two days after the club’s founding on April 26, 1912.  
**Where** YMCA camp outside Rocky Mountain National Park  
**Invitation** CMC members only

CENTENNIAL SUMMER FESTIVAL
**What** A day-long party to relax and play. The day will consist of multiple outdoor events for kids, families, and more advanced recreationalists. The evening will commence with a B-B-Q and band.  
**Date** Saturday, July 21  
**Where** McPhelemy Park, Buena Vista.  
**Invitation** Open to the public

CENTENNIAL FOURTEENER CLIMBS
**What** Climbs of all the fourteeners  
**Date** Saturday, September 8, 2012  
**Invitation** Open to the public on a case by case basis  
On the CMC’s 50th anniversary in 1962, the club led trips up all of the state’s fourteeners. That’s the plan for the 100th anniversary. Teams will be equipped with 100th anniversary flags for unveiling at the summits. Photos will be taken and sent by smart phones to the fourteener climb headquarters which will be at the Genesee Mountain Park, where we’ll have a big tent, screen, and bulletin boards to track the progress of every team as signaled by “spot” phones.  
On Sunday, August 19, we’ll have a party at Genesee Mountain Park to hear first-hand accounts from the teams that summited the fourteeners.

CENTENNIAL VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION DAY
**What** A day-long fest just for trip leaders, course instructors, and other volunteers.  
**Date** Saturday, Oct. 20, 2012  
**Where** TBD  
**Invitation** CMC members only

CENTENNIAL HOLIDAY PARTY
**What** A party highlighted by the official unveiling of a large print of the membership photo taken in April.  
**Date** Sunday Dec. 9, 2012, 3pm to midnight.  
**Where** TBD  
**Invitation** Open to the public
CMC Members Can Join Their Love of Adventure with Immersion in the Local Culture of Ladakh on a Unique 22-Day Volunteer Trip Offered by the Club, in Partnership with the Colorado-Based Charity Global Dental Relief (GDR). For seven days a team of volunteers will work at GDR’s field dental clinic to bring first-time dental care to children. The clinic, set in the village of Leh at 12,000 feet in the shadow of the Himalayas, offers a remote and spectacular project setting. GDR volunteers have worked in Ladakh since 2004, bringing first-time and follow-up dental care to over 5,000 Ladakhi children.

The September 2012 trip is open to six CMC non-dental volunteers who will join six volunteer dentists and hygienists to treat up to 700 children from local schools. Non-dental volunteers play a crucial role in managing the patient lines, handling records, sterilizing instruments, working as chair-side assistants, and teaching critical tooth-brushing and oral health skills. Clinic days are intense and rewarding for everyone involved as kids receive critical care and volunteers are immersed in the local culture.

After the clinic, volunteers join CMC trip leader Chip Drumwright on an eight-day trek through the remote Markha Valley. Trekking in the shadows of the massive Himalayas, the group follows a trail that scales two 17,000 foot passes, crosses numerous rivers, and passes through remote villages with ancient monasteries high on the hillsides. Geographically, Ladakh spans the Himalayas and Karakoram mountain ranges and the upper Indus River Valley. The scenery is spectacular—from the green valley fields to the surrounding barren hills, all under towering, snow-capped Himalayan peaks.

Based in Denver, GDR provides free dental care to children in five countries—India, Nepal, Vietnam, Guatemala, and the United States. Care is provided by volunteer dental professionals and non-dental volunteers who donate their time to work in seven-day clinics. Since 2001, GDR has treated over 54,000 children with first-time and follow-up care.

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Chip Drumwright, CMC trip leader for the Ladakh 2011 Trip, has staffed GDR trips in both India and Nepal, and previously served on the GDR Board. “Providing care for these kids in such remote locations is life changing—the work is meaningful and effective, and makes a substantive difference in the health of children,” Drumwright says. “I have been hooked by GDR’s mission—it truly matters.”

The CMC, engaged in a variety of meetings and planning with its partners: the USFS, San Miguel County government, and the Telluride Mountain Club (TMC). The Trust for Public Land (TPL) intervened and secured purchase of most of the claims in Silver Pick and the neighboring Elk Creek Basin to the west. Tule will eventually be conveyed to the USFS. The property owner retained three claims in Silver Pick Basin, one of which contains his summer cabin. The CMC and TMC raised money to assist the USFS in obtaining a lands survey of the two large claims in the lower basin, which was done by the Bureau of Land Management. Unfortunately, there was no place on the east side of Silver Pick that would support a sustainable trail bypassing the claims, due to unstable rock.

The USFS then turned its attention to the creation of a new trail to the north of the Elk Creek drainage that would utilize old mining roads to enter into Silver Pick on the west side. The landowner agreed to grant an easement across the Bedrock claim (the larger of his retained claims in the lower basin) in order to gain access to USFS and TPL land in the upper basin. The CMC and TMC worked with the agency in the summer of 2010 to build a new trail and place signage, to take the route across the Bedrock claim and also to the Rock of Agoss saddle, thus avoiding the third, and smallest, retained claim.

The USFS completed work for a new camping area and trailhead in early summer of 2011. Major upgrading of an old logging road was needed to access the new trailhead about two miles west of the road into Silver Pick. The landowner generously donated money to assist in this work. At the end of summer 2011, the USFS formally opened the new trailhead and trail route to the Rock of Agoss saddle.
IN AN EFFORT TO RENEW the CMC’s commitment to stewardship, the state office coordintaed 13 projects in 2011. We hosted a number of additional special events, such as a leadership training, Blanca Fest, and the Wild and Scenic Film Festival. On the ground, more than 300 citizen stewards volunteered over 3,100 hours to make our recreation areas safer and more enjoyable. Most importantly, stewardship project participants improved the state of natural resources by mitigating recreation impacts. Volunteers were rewarded with great camaraderie, improved fitness, and spectacular landscapes. Many of the projects were family friendly, offering the opportunity for shared outdoor experiences and service learning. Furthermore, the CMC is now integrating stewardship into its Youth Education Program classes and outings.

The club’s groups around the state were also dedicated to stewardship, maintaining trail systems, monitoring wildlife, restoring habitat, and caring for backcountry cabins. These regional efforts account for thousands of additional hours of service to the Colorado recreation community and our extraordinary mountain landscape. The Colorado Mountain Club is grateful for all of our volunteers, partners, and supporters.

In Celebration of Indonesia’s 70th Anniversary

The name Woody Smith is familiar to readers of Trail & Timberline. Beginning in 2009, he has contributed a steady stream of compelling articles on the history of the CMC. Having climbed all of the fourteeners before joining the club, Woody became interested in the CMC’s colorful early history by reading the book “A Climber’s Climber, on the Trail with Carl Baluek,” and back issues of Trail & Timberline. After joining the club in 2001, he discovered the club archives. Though stored in the most unwelcoming and forgotten basement area of the American Mountaineering Center, for Woody the archives contained nuggets of fascinating—and often amusing—CMC history.

As a result of his interest and his willingness as a volunteer, Woody was appointed CMC Archivist in 2003. His volunteer title changed to the more appropriate title of Club Historian in 2011. In addition to his Trail & Timberline articles, Woody is collecting information on the first 100 club members to have climbed the state’s fourteeners. Many of these early climbers are still alive; others require meticulous research.

Most recently, Woody’s knowledge of club history was helpful in locating images and supporting the gathering of historic information for the new CMC Press title, “100 Years Up High, Colorado Mountains and Mountaineers,” written in celebration of the club’s centennial next year. As 2012 approaches and the CMC’s membership interest builds for its 100th year, Woody Smith’s knowledge of the club—from countless hours spent in the underground archives—will receive renewed notice and appreciation.

A SENSE OF EXCITEMENT filled the air when kid after kid stepped off the public bus in downtown Denver. All 56 of them moved across the file line and walked the rest of the way to the REI Flagship store and the climbing pinnacle. They had traveled from their elementary school in the Park Hill neighborhood, anticipating their first-time rock climbing with the CMC’s Youth Education Program (YEP).

The fourth graders had arrived to spend the day learning “The Science of Rock Climbing.” YEP stands apart from other outdoor education programs because we link outdoor recreation with school academic curricula. So, in addition to climbing, the students also participated in a class about the adaptations that enable animals to climb well. Through hands-on activities, the students learned that mountain goats have large, oval hooves with rubber-like, spongy soles that help them climb steep rock. Spiders are able to climb and travel on vertical surfaces because the dense hair tufts under the claws of their tarsi (feet) and their silk webbing help them stick.

THE IDEA OF YEP programming at the REI store came about during a conversation about the challenges for inner city youth participating in the outdoors, and how the cost of transportation to Golden and open space parks can prove prohibitive. For example, a school bus can cost more than $250 for a field trip to the American Mountaineering Center. At the same time, REI was looking for ways to use their climbing pinnacle more often. What if YEP used REIs facilities during the school day? Then school groups could take public transportation and reduce their costs significantly. The idea of the YEP Satellite Classroom at REI was born.

Everyone agreed that the pilot class last September was a success. “This was an experience my students will never forget and for some this will be the highlight of fourth grade,” said Molly Tobin, one of the teachers. “We could not have had this experience without CMC and REI’s generosity.”

In fact, the programming at the REI Satellite Classroom worked so well, Stedman Elementary has already scheduled another class this fall.

A PINNACLE OF SUCCESS

By Brenda Porter, Director of Operations

YEP is dedicated to working with all students, especially those from low incomes and limited access to outdoor recreation. Partners like REI, and our many financial supporters, help make our goal a reality.

Finding Fascinating Nuggets

Woody Smith Named Club Historian

By David Hite

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AS SNOW FALLS in the higher reaches of our state, the minds of our members begin to turn from hiking, biking, and climbing to mountaintop stewardship, skiing, and snowshoeing. The CMC conservation department’s staff and volunteers work in all seasons to promote good travel management and protection of Colorado’s winter landscapes. We have much to celebrate this year, from improved projects in the Routt National Forest to the release of a travel management plan for the White River National Forest that has been a decade in the works. Though we may not always get everything we ask for when we work with federal land managers and other user groups, the products of these collaborative efforts are always better for quiet recreation and Colorado’s environment than they would be if CMC members were not involved.

Once a travel management plan has been put on paper, the work is far from over. That’s why the CMC is working again this season to help the U.S. Forest Service field a snow ranger to educate, inform, and police the public as we enjoy our shared public lands. Our program at Red Mountain Pass and in surrounding areas—began several years ago by local members including Debbie Wheeler and Roger Schimmel of Ouray—is set for another successful season. Funded by contributions from the Backcountry Film Festival and the CMC’s Backcountry Bash, the track record of the program is promising.

“The conflict and tensions between the self-powered and motorized users on Red Mountain Pass diminished substantially after the initiation of the Forest Service patrol,” says Wheeler, who leads local fundraising for the project in Ouray. “The officer was informative and educational, rarely having to resort to discipline, but set a respectful tone that appears to be impacting the overall relationship of users on Red Mountain Pass. We appreciate the work the Forest Service does on our public lands, and we’re always happy to work with them.”

The professional land managers at the Forest Service will continue to manage the CMC special use permits on public lands, the AMC climbing wall, and will liaise with and support CMC groups.

A bonus to the CMC partnership, the Forest Service has used funds from other sources to put Naher through a snowmobile training. Since the agency has a policy that requires at least two people to go on all backcountry forays, the training allows Naher to join a Forest Law Enforcement Officer as a bonus to the CMC partnership, conservation advocacy work is an ideal fit for his new position. He will supervise CMC’s stewardship program, conservation advocacy, and the Youth Education Program.

Scott Braden joined our staff in late August as the new Director of Conservation and Education. His unique professional experience in outdoor education and conservation advocacy work is an ideal fit for this new position. He will supervise CMC’s stewardship program, conservation advocacy, the Youth Education Program. Braden comes to the CMC from neighboring Utah with over a decade of experience in conservation and lands-based education work. After graduation from the University of Georgia, Braden headed west to work for Colorado State University and Round Hill. In his six years there, he worked in logistics and in the field as an instructor and course director. He led multi-day wilderness trips, leading to a desire to work on conservation issues. During his tenure as staff at the Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance (SUWA), he worked as a field advocate in Moab, legislative advocate in Washington, D.C. and development director in Salt Lake City.

Two other new faces on our CMC staff are in the Youth Education Program. Melanie Joyce, YEP’s Programs Manager, grew up near the Green Mountains of Vermont. She believes that the substantial amount of time she spent playing outside as a kid led her to her chosen career path. After graduating with a degree in Recreation and Parks Management from Penn State University, Joyce spent several years working for residential environmental education centers. During the past six years, she taught in the Denver school system, providing environmental science, field work, and adventure education. She even brought her classes to YEP for field trips. Joyce also guides kayaks, canoe, backpack, and climbing trips for a variety of organizations.

Ryan Johns, YEP Manager and Summer Camp Director, jumped into action last spring and directed the summer camp program, after joining the CMC full time. His background in science education and extensive training in outdoor leadership makes him a wonderful addition to the YEP staff. Johns enjoys working with youth of all ages and backgrounds and has a passion for providing experiences that get youth outside as often as possible. Johns spent his free time hiking and biking as often as possible. He has a B.A. in Human Development and Family Studies and a Certificate in Outdoor Leadership.

\[\text{From top to bottom: Ryan Johns, Scott Braden, and Melanie Joyce.}\]
PIKES PEAK

The Pikes Peak group of the Colorado Mountain Club is based out of Colorado Springs. We are a diverse group of some 600 members offering a variety of activities and challenge levels including hiking, backpacking, rock climbing, ice climbing, and backcountry skiing.

We offer many courses, including basic mountaineering, ice climbing, alpine snow mountaineering, and backcountry skiing. Our high altitude mountaineering course includes glacier travel. Other courses include backcountry skiing, anchor building, lead climbing, avalanche awareness, snowshoeing, mountain-oriented first aid, beacon search practice, and winter wilderness survival.

Get Involved

Drum roll please, we have a very exciting upcoming event which is our clubroom move! During December, the group will be moving into our new clubroom, two doors south of our current space, in between H&R Block and Neptune’s. We’re excited that the renovations on the new clubroom are complete. We will also now have a professionally lit sign over the entry, giving CMC improved visibility and a more professional image. Assistance is needed with the physical move during December. To help, please contact chair@cmcbozeman.org.

Learn More

All new open house will be held January 18, at the CMC clubroom in Boulder at 7 p.m. We post current open houses on http://www.meetup.com/Colorado-Mountain-Club-Boulder-Group. Please check our current listings on meetup.com or cmc.org.

New members are welcome to join at any time; if you have questions, please contact Carie Simon at marketing@cmcboulder.org or click on the link for quick and easy online membership application http://www.cmc.org/join/joinnew.aspx.

BOULDER

The Boulder group came into existence in 1920, eight years after the Colorado Mountain Club was founded. A predecessor hiking club in Boulder, called the Front Ranges, affiliated with the CMC and has been the Boulder Group since that time. Today, the group’s 1,100-plus members enjoy a variety of climbing, hiking, backpacking, and skiing activities. Boulder Group outings range from casual after-work hikes and leisurely flower photography walks to high mountain summit climbs.

With our proximity to the Flatirons and Eldorado Canyon, it’s no surprise that rock climbing is a favorite activity. We help our members enjoy the outdoors safely with highly regarded training such as Rock School for beginners, hiking, and Survival Essentials, with foundational skills for Colorado mountains. Boulder Mountain Institute, as a series of courses ranging from trip planning, survival, and navigation, to rock an snow climbing skills; and also courses in cross-country, telemark and alpine touring/ backcountry skiing.

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WESTERN SLOPE

The Western Slope group is 100 members strong, from all professions and walks of life, each with a keen interest in hiking, backpacking, cross-country skiing, cycling, geology, wildflowers, stewardship, and more! The group has adopted Flame Canyon in the McGregor Wilderness Study Area for trail monitoring and restoration. Our members contribute stories and photos to our monthly newsletter, Canyon Call. The chapter is currently compiling a Western Slope hiking pack guide to be published by CMC Press.

Learn More

If you are interested in joining our Grand Junction meeting, they are held on the first Wednesday of every month at the American Bank Building at Sixth and Rood in downtown Grand Junction. For more information, contact membership chairperson Len Carpenter at (970) 250-1601 or karpenter@anbbank.com.

ASPIN

The Aspen group, with 200 members, continues to grow in the Roaring Fork Valley. In August we hosted a Wilderness Seminar at the 10th Mountain Ski Area’s Margy’s Hut with Paul Andersen as our leader and facilitator. It was a tremendous success with many young adults and veteran members from near and far sharing a dialogue about wilderness values in a beautiful wilderness setting for three days. We are working to be more efficient administratively and have started using Google’s Gmail and calendar applications. You can now email the group at aspencomtclub@gmail.com.

Our winter calendar of events starts off with the group’s annual banquet on December 11th and is followed by a flurry of ski tours, hut trips, and evening travel slideshows. With so much variety there is something that will suit nearly every member. Follow what we’re up to on Facebook (“The Official Aspin Chapter of the Colorado Mountain Club”) or email us at the admin account to find out about what we’re up to.

DENVER

The Denver group has over 3,700 outdoor-loving, fun-seeking members living in Metro Denver. Our diverse membership ranges from young adults (18+) to the Trailblazers (21 to 40) to our very active Over the Hill Gang (50+). Want to learn a new skill? Winter 2012 will be offering the following Backcountry Ski Touring School begins December 6; Telemark Ski School Session A begins January 16 and session B begins February 14; High Altitude Mountaineering School (HAM); Ski Mountaineering School begins March 6; Ice Climbing; Basic Mountaineering School (BMS) orientation meetings on January 10 or January 16 with applications due by February 29; Winter Camping School begins January 11; and NEW IN 2012: The Denver group is thrilled to announce that we are now an official course provider for the American Institute for Avalanche Research and Education (AIARE) and will be offering our 1st ever AIARE Level 1 course beginning January 19, 2012.

Already have the skills so now you want to play? Check out the online activity schedule and sign up. We have something going on just about every day of the week from leisure wildflower hikes to technical climbs over 14,000 feet, fly-fishing adventures, rock-climbing in Eldorado Canyon plus so much more. Check out the official Denver Group website for more information & updates: www.hikingdenver.net. Also signup for our monthly electronic newsletter the Mile High Mountaineer which includes all of our fun “Out and About” activities including group dinner, movies, happy hours and more.

Get Involved

The Denver group also has many fantastic volunteer opportunities open to our members. We are always looking for new trip leaders to lead A.E.C. & D.K hikes throughout the year and we do offer Trip Leader Training to help you get started. Keep an eye on the Mile High Mountaineer for upcoming Trip Leader training. Do you have publishing/editing experience? Our fabulous and dedicated editors of the Mile High Mountaineer have decided it’s time to share the trail and are looking for a few experienced members to take over the MHM beginning winter 2012. If this might interest you, please contact Dana at cmcmhm@comcast.net.

Learn More

Keep an eye on www.hikingdenver.net and the Mile High Mountaineer for upcoming special events and monthly new member hikes and orientations. We are adding new events all the time. Have a question today? Contact Denver Group Council member Sharon Kratz at skratzen@gmail.com. We invite you to join the Denver Group and look forward to playing with you this summer!

EL PUEBLO

The El Pueblo group of the CMC is looking forward to an exciting ski season! We have sponsored a free cross-country ski clinic for many years. The school is appropriate for “never-evers” to seasoned skiers, and is always a lot of fun. This year the school will be held on Saturday, December 10, 2011, weather permitting, on the descent good snow, usually near San Isidro or Harris Park. Watch the schedule for details.
“You’ve got to set your sights on something higher than Everest.”

Those Zen-like words, uttered years ago by the great Willi Unsoeld, haunted me for decades. Willi, with Coloradan Dr. Tom Hornbein, climbed the fabled West Ridge of Mount Everest in 1963, and together they made the first traverse of the mountain. Their ascent went down in the record books as one of the greatest ascents of Everest, ever.

But, Willi wanted to go higher. A physical impossibility, of course. But philosophically? Quite possible indeed. Post-Everest, Willi continued to climb and push the limits of his avocation, but where he truly excelled was in going higher and higher in his life, deriving meaning and purpose from his every endeavor. Willi was Director of Peace Corps-Nepal, a notable instructor at Outward Bound, one of the founding faculty at Evergreen State College, and an avid—almost evangelical—proponent of experiential, outdoor education.

In the end, Willi’s life, philosophy, and personality both influenced and fundamentally changed the lives of many others, taking him far higher than the West Ridge ever allowed.

Like Willi, I’ve long yearned to make my passion for climbing (and my career in climbing) transcend the mere action of ascent. I’ve wanted it to mean more to me, and affect some sort of lasting change in our world. To that end, my wife, Wende Valentine, and I founded Challenge21 (www.challenge21.com), a four-year climbing project to raise funds for and awareness of the global water and sanitation crisis. The goal is a big one, mirroring the scope of the crisis: Over four years, I plan to climb the Triple Seven Summits (the three highest peaks on all seven continents), and leverage the drama and visibility of those climbs to raise at least $2.1 million for our nonprofit partner, Water For People, and engage and impassion at least 2.1 million people in the water and sanitation situation.

Challenge21 is just getting going. In August, my team and I climbed the third highest peak in Africa, Mount Stanley’s Margherita Peak in the Rwenzori Mountains. We have 15 peaks to go, and a lot of money to raise. But, we’re passionate and committed to climbing higher than Everest.

If you’ve ever wanted to take your climbing a step further philosophically, to set a climbing goal to achieve a social end, here are some ideas to help you take the first step.

**FIND YOUR PASSION**

For Willi, passion was the power of nature and the outdoors to help others find the sacred in themselves. For Joe Rogers and Nick Spivey of Climb for Sudan, it was education and schools for South Sudan. For Alan Arnette, it’s Alzheimer’s research. For me, it is water and sanitation—the fundamental building blocks of development. What is your passion? It might be climate change, cancer research, schools, libraries, wildlife preservation, the Colorado Mountain Club, or a myriad of other important topics and issues.

But, one thing remains certain: you must have a passion. To embark on a multyear project like Challenge21, or on a single fund- or awareness-raising climb of Grays Peak, means to be climbing for something larger than yourself. You’ve got to truly believe in the cause or you won’t have the drive to reach the goal.

So, find your passion, embrace it, and focus on enacting it. As Gandhi said “Be the change you wish to see in the world.”

**SET A TANGIBLE, REALISTIC GOAL**

Just saying you’re going to go out and climb for cause X, Y, or Z won’t cut it—for you or anyone else. There needs to be a tangible goal—one that you think you can attain, but that will also be digestible to the outside world.

With Challenge21, I knew I needed to establish a goal that was at once big enough to attract corporate sponsors and give them something substantial to sink their teeth into, challenging enough to mirror the severity and complexity of the water and sanitation crisis, and also be approachable and comprehensible to the world. The answer was the Triple Seven Summits: a goal within my ability, but big, long, and tough.

You’ll need to determine what type of climbing objective fits your philanthropic goal and climbing ability. It might be all the 14ers in winter, the Diamond in a day, or the Kelso Ridge on Torreys. Whatever it is, if it’s a reasonable challenge for you and is coupled with your philanthropic passion, you’re off to a solid start.
GET SOCIAL
Way back when—say, less than a decade ago—it took strong PR connections (or deep pockets) to get a project out into the public sphere.

Today, thanks to social media, it’s a lot easier. With literally a few clicks of a button, you can create projects online and share them quickly and effectively with as many people as you want.

But, it’s a veritable wilderness out there, with options—good, bad, and indifferent—at every turn. Where to start? Here are a few of my favorites for spreading the word:

Facebook It’s not just for kids anymore. With the number of users rapidly approaching the one billion mark, there are a lot of eyes to attract to your project. Once you have a Facebook profile, you can easily start a community page to spread the word, post updates, and solicit donations. You can also set up your own Facebook Cause (www.facebook.com/cause) to reach an even greater audience with your mission, and make it easy for them to give.

Twitter It’s hard to imagine that anything can be accomplished in 140 characters or less. But, Twitter has proven this naysayer wrong. Simply put, it’s one of the most powerful conveyors of information out there today. Each tweet reaches a large amount of people, and becomes a trusted resource to your followers. As you do that, they’ll start reading—and sharing—the information you provide. That, in turn, gives you the power to direct them to your project and make it a success. When you need to spread the word about your project, tweeting is an easy way to get the information out.

There are a plethora of other general social media sites available, each with its advantages and disadvantages. Explore them, and find the best fit. Here are a few to think about: LinkedIn, FourSquare, Flicklr, MySpace, Tumblr, Bebo, and Orkut.

In recent years, social media has embraced cause-based work, and some great sites make the job of sharing your project a lot easier:

Facebook Causes (www.facebook.com/causes) As noted above, this Facebook-powered app allows you to integrate your cause relatively seamlessly with your Facebook profile and activity.

Crowdrise (www.crowdrise.com) Actor and activist Edward Norton started this site in 2010, and with it has helped raise hundreds of millions of dollars through crowdfunding. As Norton put it: “Instead of telling the world what you’re eating for breakfast, you can use social networking to do something that’s meaningful.”

Climb for Change (www.climbforchange.com) Much like Crowdrise—only smaller, but far more focused—Climb for Change is focused on climbing projects with a philanthropic goal.

One Day’s Wages (www.onedayswages.org) Dedicated to eradicating poverty in the developing world, ODW asks people—as the name implies—to give one day’s wages to a cause or project of their choice. Simple, but effective!

As with everything web and social media related, there’s a lot of options out there. Google is your friend, so use it to find the best match for you and your effort!

OLD SCHOOL STILL WORKS
With the flurry of social media and online efforts bombarding us at every turn, it’s easy to forget the old ways of doing things. Print media still craves interesting, authentic stories, so talk to your local reporter and see if they’ll spread the word. You can also share in the less-old school way by using a bit more than 140 characters and starting a blog to share your efforts. Free services like Blogger, Typepad, and Wordpress are great ways to start.

KNOW WHEN TO SAY WHEN
It’s never easy to turn around short of a summit, but we climbers know how quickly things can turn against us in the mountains. Most of us prefer a good decision to an injury. But, when climbing is combined with a project you’re passionate about and there’s the “push” of public interest in your success, good decision making can become tough business.

So, before you start, know that the success of your project doesn’t lie on the summit. It lies in your heart, in your effort, and in your willingness to make a difference.

19 Trail & Timberline
NONE OF US was going to admit that we should have tried the climb a couple weeks earlier, when there was more snow. We slogged up the upper parts of Quandary Peak’s North Couloir, by mid-June just a thin layer of snow barely covering the scree. Not exactly what crampons were designed for, but there was no place to stop and take them off, so we plodded on, delicately crunching through the wet rock and trying not to slip.

As I walked out of the top of the couloir, waiting to take 10 more breaths before I continued walking the last 400 vertical feet to the summit, I put the North Couloir near the top of my mental list of hardest days I’ve had in the mountains.

“This feels sooo good,” Nick said from my right. I looked over to see him collapsed, a few steps after he had topped out of the couloir, cheek directly on the windblown snow, ice axe still in his hand, skis still strapped to his backpack.

Four years earlier, Nick and I had hiked up the fourteener-beginner-friendly East Ridge of Quandary Peak, one of our first fourteeners during our first summer in Colorado. And now, although we maybe weren’t in the best physical condition for it, here we were at the top of one of the mountain’s advanced routes, in crampons, skis, ice axes, and avalanche beacons.

Nick insisted that he was fine lying right there, that he didn’t need to finish the climb, but with a little prodding he got up and continued with the rest of the group to the snow-packed summit, his second time on top, and mine too. I would go back three more times after that to tag the top via different routes.

Quandary Peak may not be as famous or alluring as Longs Peak, or have the knifedge ridge of Capitol Peak, but it’s a great training ground for Colorado mountaineering in its own right. Five routes to its 14,265-foot summit require a progression of skills, route-finding and fitness—hiking, scrambling, snow climbing, technical rock climbing, and backcountry skiing. With Quandary’s close proximity to Front Range cities, each of the routes can be done in a day. Regardless of the route to the top, the view of the surrounding mountains never gets old—in any season.

**East Ridge**
The standard first-time route to the summit, the East Ridge is a Class 1 walk, but a stout hike: 3,400 feet of elevation gain in just under 3.5 miles. A great first fourteener for anyone, the hike is straightforward and follows the obvious ridge once out of the trees.

On a clear winter day, the East Ridge is a great snowshoe hike and the choice for a first winter fourteener—and the East Slopes just to the north of the trail make for a mellow backcountry ski descent with minimal avalanche potential, especially in the spring.

**DO IT:** The East Ridge trail starts at the McCullough Gulch Trailhead. From Breckenridge, drive 9 miles south on Colorado 9, turning right onto Blue Lakes Road, then immediately turn right onto McCullough Gulch Road. The trailhead parking lot is 0.2 miles on the right.
Cristo Couloir

The Cristo Couloir, the mellow snow gully on Quandary's south face, is a perennial spring climb many mountaineers choose to get back in the snow-climbing mindset. The couloir is wide and pitched at a relatively easy grade—never more than 45 degrees, and averaging 35 degrees for all 2,000 feet—making it a perfect entry-level spring snow outing. Competent backcountry skiers can haul skis up the climb and schuss to the bottom in a few minutes; others can plunge-step and glissade back to the car.

DO IT: The Cristo Couloir begins at the Blue Lakes Dam, and the length of your hike depends on how melted out the road is. In a perfect year at the perfect time, you'll park at the dam and begin climbing straight away—but early in the season, you might have to park and walk as much as 2 miles to the dam. From Breckenridge, drive 9 miles south on Colorado 9, turning right onto Blue Lakes Road. Drive west on Blue Lakes Road as far as the snow level allows, and park.

West Ridge

This Class 3 route is considered a classic by many, and is no walk in the park. For those with a bit of Class 3 climbing and route-finding experience, Quandary's West Ridge provides a full-day challenge. Start from the Blue Lakes Dam and hike west around the north end of the uppermost Blue Lake, ascending a valley to the 13,350-foot saddle between Quandary Peak and Fletcher Mountain, where the fun begins. Pick your way up and across the West Ridge, aiming for the line of least resistance around and over the towers on the way to the summit. The descent down the Cristo Couloir is tedious, but the fastest way back to your car.

DO IT: The West Ridge climb begins at the Blue Lakes Dam. From Breckenridge, drive 9 miles south on Colorado 9, turning right onto Blue Lakes Road. Drive west on Blue Lakes Road to the dam.

North Couloir/Quandary Couloir

The North Couloir is slightly shorter and slightly steeper than the popular Cristo Couloir, but sees a fraction of the traffic—it’s rare to see another party on the route, even on weekends. A narrow, steep, 40-foot long section is the crux of the route, and the rest of the couloir is pitched at 35 to 40 degrees. The climb tops out a quarter mile east and 400 vertical feet below the summit. Expert backcountry skiers can ski the couloir if they're comfortable negotiating the steep section, but most will descend the East Ridge route and walk back up McCullough Gulch Road.

DO IT: The North Couloir sits directly above the lake at 11,900 feet on the north side of Quandary Peak, at the end of McCullough Gulch Road. Drive 9 miles south of Breckenridge on Colorado 9, turning right onto Blue Lakes Road, then immediately turn right onto McCullough Gulch Road. Drive 2.1 miles down McCullough Gulch Road, staying left at a fork, and park at a locked gate. Hike approximately one mile on the trail to the lake, and pass the lake on the east side to get to the base of the route.

Inwood Arête

Few Colorado fourteeners near the Front Range have quality rock routes, and the Inwood Arete is probably not a classic route, but nonetheless a fun fifth-class route to the summit, with 2,500 feet of climbing, of which approximately 500 feet is fifth-class terrain. Many variations are possible, but to keep the route at 5.4, stay to the left of the first set of towers, and after the route levels off up high, head right of the last set of towers, and scramble to the top of the ridge and walk the final quarter of a mile west to the summit. Descend the East Ridge route and walk back up McCullough Gulch Road to your car.

DO IT: The route begins on the ridge just south of the lake at 11,900 feet on the north side of Quandary Peak, at the end of McCullough Gulch Road. Drive 9 miles south of Breckenridge on Colorado 9, turning right onto Blue Lakes Road, then immediately turn right onto McCullough Gulch Road. Drive 2.1 miles down McCullough Gulch Road, staying left at a fork, and park at a locked gate. Hike approximately one mile on the trail to the lake, and pass the lake on the east side to get to the base of the route.

IF YOU GO

GUIDEBOOK: "Colorado’s Fourteeners: From Hikes to Climbs" by Gerry Roach (fulcrum-books.com)

"Colorado Snow Climbs: A Guide for All Seasons" by Dave Cooper (cmc.org)

"Front Range Descents: Spring and Summer Skiing and Snowboarding in Colorado’s Front Range" by Ron Haddad and Eileen Faughey (amazon.com)

MAP: USGS Mount Lincoln Quad (store.usgs.gov)
The Four Sacred Mountains of the Diné

By John Lacher

▲ Mount Hesperus (Dibé Nitsaa - Big Mountain Sheep), Sacred Mountain of the North, La Plata Mountains, Colorado

▲ Humphreys Peak in the San Francisco Peaks (Doko’oodjilé - Abalone Shell Mountain), Sacred Mountain of the West, near Flagstaff, Arizona

▲ Mount Blanca (Tsisnaa’jini - Dawn or White Shell Mountain), Sacred Mountain of the East, near Alamosa in the San Luis Valley, Colorado

▲ Humphreys Peak in the San Francisco Peaks (Doko’oodjilé - Abalone Shell Mountain), Sacred Mountain of the West, near Flagstaff, Arizona

▲ Mount Taylor (Tsoodzil - Blue Bead or Turquoise Mountain), Sacred Mountain of the South, north of Laguna, New Mexico
IN MID-JULY, I CLIMBED to the top of Mount Heepers, completing my quest to summit the four sacred mountains of the Navajo, or as they describe the Diné. To the Diné, this is known as Black Mountain, and defines the northern extent of their lands. Tom Cope, another CMC member with a different agenda, and I had managed to work out a route of sorts from the valley of the North Fork of the Westmanacino River to the southwest ridge. The summit ridge of sacred mountains and the theology associated with them. The four peaks he mentions are the four mountains that may be seen from most places in Navajo country. They affirm a sense of place. As the Diné returned from the Bosque Redondo (the 1864 deporta-
tion of the Navajo people by the U.S. gov-
ernment), seeing these mountains reassured them that they were back home. In addition to his discussion of origin, Heilman states that these four mountains are “...the points where the hands and feet of Mother Earth touch those of Father Sky.” I like that.

Diné shamanism goes to each of the moun-
tains to gather soil, minerals, and herbs for their four-mountains prayer bundle. This is a deerskin bundle used in curing ceremo-
nies. They often leave a painted stick with feathers tied to it as an offering.

Two years ago, I met a young Diné at the Ganado Trading Post. He was in train-
ing to become a shaman, and allowed that he had once taken a trip by foot to Mount Heepers to make his collection. I did not question him too severely on whether or not he went to the top. I did get the impression that the mountain itself was more important than the summit.

When I was a medical resident at the University of New Mexico during the 1960s, we occasionally had requests to allow for a curing ceremony on the Diné property. Wherever possible, we arranged a private room and accommodated if the patient was stable enough and it didn’t interfere with the flow of business in a busy medical center. I know the families appreciated it, and as far as we could tell, no harm was done. I would love to be able to say that a patient who we were sure was going to die had a miraculous cure, but that was not the case. That is not to belittle the process; it is just not one that we pulled off too many miracles either.

I FIRST LEARNED OF THE NAVAO sacred mountains reading Herbert Un-
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Make It Spiritual

John Minden doesn’t think of himself as disabled—or able-bodied. He just climbs.

JOHN MINDEN IS MORE determined than most. Or maybe he’s just single-minded and obsessed. Or plain crazy. Or, he could be one of those addicts. Actually, he’s likely all of the above.

“When I don’t climb, stress just keeps building,” Minden says. “And it’s not just going to the mountains, it’s summiting. That’s probably not healthy, but it sure sounds like addiction.”

But would John be the man he is today if he hadn’t suffered an incomplete spinal cord injury when he was 15? The question really isn’t worth asking.

“I’ve gotten to an age where I don’t ask ‘why?’” he says.

John is John, partially paralyzed and only getting weaker on one side, but climbing just like he did when he was three decades younger.

At 51, John takes a bit longer to rise, a bit longer to recover, but the glory of the summit still pulls at him in interminable tugs.
Like most kids, John was an adventurous type. Always looking for outlets for his energy, he was jumping on the trampoline in the backyard when he flew crooked through the air and landed badly. He suffered a spinal injury that resulted in partial paralysis. But the energy wasn’t taken from him, and the outlet he happened upon was mountains. Due to the asymmetrical nature of his injury, the spasticity, and the weakness, it wasn’t speed and agility that clicked. What did was endurance.

“There’s not anyone that’s dumb enough to go with me,” he says, and, so, solo endurance endeavors became his outlet of choice. He always climbs with trekking poles, he’s much slower than the average hiker, and he’s weaker on his left side—and only getting weaker. Still, since he was 30, John has been working with others with spinal cord injuries. In that time, he says he’s only worked with two people who have been luckier, in terms of their injuries and prognosis, than he was. And so he just climbs.

In 1986, John Fell victim to what he calls the “fourteener daze.” By 1993, he had climbed them all, but hadn’t really explored his other options.

“You can’t get quadrangle map blindness like you can get the daze from the fourteener list,” he says. You need to look at those other quads to see how you can access something on the border.”

In 1995, he started climbing the state’s thirteens and twelves, and now has 514 summits under his feet.

“All the mountains I’ve ever climbed have a spirit and if it is gracious enough to allow you to summit you are granted a small piece of that spirit, and the mountain takes a bit of you as well.”

“I don’t belong to the gimp club,” he says. “They don’t want me and they shouldn’t. But I’m not able-bodied either.”

“Mountains are great teachers.”

This is something John states often. He’s spent a lot of time with mountains, in mountains, battling mountains, so he has seen how well mountains can teach. And anyone else who has spent ample time in the mountains has probably drawn similar conclusions. But what has John learned?

“There are days you are not supposed to climb.”

John has had his fair share of incidents in the mountains. He has been fortunate on many occasion, and he has been observant on most. He has learned from his mistakes.

“The mountains have hurt me bad, or better put, I’ve hurt myself good in the mountains.” But he keeps going back. He just climbs by a powerful philosophy.

“Make it spiritual… Every mountain has a spirit and if it is gracious enough to allow you to summit you are granted a small piece of that spirit, and the mountain takes a bit of you as well.”
The Mystery Climb of 1883

Text and Photos by Woody Smith

CRESTONE’S CREST,

Scaled by a Party of Aspiring Pleasure Seekers.

Description of the Grand Scenery On Every Side.

...Announced the headline from the Rocky Mountain News. The story, printed July 29, 1883, laid out the details:

Correspondence of The News
Crestone, July 23 - On the morning of Wednesday, July 18th, your correspondent, in company with four others, left this little burg, nestling in quiet at the base of the Sangre de Cristo range...to ascend Crestone Peak—one of the loftiest and grandest among the many in that range—which rears his hoary crest high among the clouds...

Could this be true? Crestone Peak climbed in 1883!!

Few milestones in Colorado’s mountaineering history are as noted and revered as described, the party left camp at 5 o'clock, jubilant, to finish up the ascent and make the "top of the peak" which was still towering far above us, in plain view, some 3,000 feet. Continuing up Willow Creek about two miles, to where it has its source in a little lake, nearly round and one-fourth of a mile across, we girded our loins, preparatory to the final climb; and such a climb, ye gods, it makes me shudder to think of it now. It seems that in searching for an easy place, we had selected the worst possible one. However, at it we went, 'and at precisely 11 o'clock a.m. were on the top... The 'top' or crest we had reached was about 300 feet in length and from 2 to 10 feet in width, and is separated by deep chasms from its surroundings, but is by several hundred feet the highest 'comb' which crowns the grand old mountain.
...How shall I describe the world which bursts upon your view? ...Seemingly right under us, is situated the Crestone, or Baca Grant No. 4. I might truthfully say that old Crestone peak constitutes its northeastern corner, as the corner is somewhere in that locality, but the exact spot where it is no mortal man has ever seen or is likely to see. (The engineer who surveyed the grant pronounced the place inaccessible.) The grant contains 100,000 acres, being twelve and one-half miles square, and is owned by ex-Governor Gilpin, of Denver. The correspondent concluded:

View Southeast from Unnamed 13,980’ with Crestone Needle and Crestone Peak in the distance.

that overlook La Veta—stand out in bold relief. Northeast, Pike’s peak rears his huge proportions... while in the intervening space can be seen the Greenhorn range, Wet Mountain valley, Rosita, and Silver Cliffs... Further still away, at the head of the South Park, can be seen Mount Lincoln, together with numerous other peaks...Also to the westward can be seen Mount Osoyo, Uncompahgre, and other lofty peaks unknown to the writer. The summit view, hyperbole aside, indicates a successful ascent of the intended “Crestone.” Of note is the reference to the “Greenhorn range,” which was a 19th century name for the mountain centered around La Veta Pass, but also including the Crestones and Wet Mountains (see T&T, Spring 2010, “The Lost Greenhorn Mountains”).

But who was the “correspondent” that wrote the article and presumably made the climb? In 1883 The News had four or five editors, at least one reporter, several printers and typesetters—but only two employees worked for The News in the year 1883, George Whitehead would be one of them. He was a respected member of the community, and active in Denver County politics. In 1881, he was part of the procession during a local memorial for slain president Garfield. Whitehead did travel. Between July and October 1880 he is known to have visited Kansas City, Colorado Springs, and the Weld County Fair near Greeley. In April 1883 he was in Trinidad, Colorado, which was accessed by a train line running just 40 miles east of the northern Sangre de Cristos. He also liked the outdoors. An Au...
Climbing the fourteeners has become a 30-year project for me. When I first started climbing peaks, it was considered rather strange, not admirable as it is today. One rarely saw others and there were no parking lots at trailheads. We wore waffle stompers and wool; much of my technical gear I made on a sewing machine from Holubar kits. Guides were brief and unclear; one had to learn how to read a map and use a compass. Eventually, I started plugging away at the fourteeners and climbing on other peaks around me. My dream of becoming a modern-day Jeremiah Johnson began to grow, and here I am! Now, let's do it again! - David Mattingly

“Run the Colorado 4er Snowboard Project, which is a site that documents the history of snowboard mountaineering on Colorado’s 14ers (www.14ersnowboardproject.homestead.com).” - Zach Taylor

By Linda Kothe Crockett

Every summer, I’ve come to Colorado from east of the Mississippi (Memphis and Atlanta) to climb two to three peaks. I’ve had a great time exploring the state, meeting some great people, and enjoying the Colorado outdoors. - Rob Hutchison
eLine energy by Trango

By Josh Beaudoin of Slackline Visions

FROM THE PRESENTATION on the box, to the storage bag it comes with, to the directions and diagrams on the instructions, the eLine energy slackline is very convenient for any slackliner.

The parts and pieces that come in the eLine energy kit are limited so as not to confuse even the most novice slackliner. The kit includes two non-locking carabiners, an oval ring used as a line locker to keep the line flat, an anchor piece that is 6.5 feet long, and a one-inch tubular line that is roughly 50 feet long. The eLine energy is set up on a two point friction system. From opening the box to complete set up took less than 15 minutes. Ideally this line is best set up at 20 to 25 feet long and at a height a little above the knee, because the line has a lower stretch, only one person is needed to pull the line tight. The eLine energy is woven in such a way that it provides a grippy but smooth feel when walking, which makes it a perfect line to use barefoot. Standing in one spot, taking several steps, or performing yoga tricks are really fun things to do while on the eLine energy. The de-rigging of the eLine energy is quite simple; with two light tugs, the line is down. Trango makes things easy by providing a mesh bag that the eLine energy conveniently fits into. The overall experience that the eLine energy gave was simple, safe, and fun! This line would be suitable for anyone from novice to expert slacker, and would make an excellent holiday gift for the aspiring climbers and slackliners in your family.

△

The author is the founder of SlacklineVisions (slacklinevisions.wordpress.com).
Lenore Greene Ott ▶ 1914-2011
By Ben Rhodes and Susan Brown

Lenore Greene Ott, who died on October 11, 2011, at the age of 97, was a member of the CMC for 63 years. Members of the club remember her as the wife of Allen W. Greene. In 1948, Allen and Lenore encouraged their friends and children to learn the basics of safe mountaineering. Their idea of a family vacation was to plan and enjoy a climb. What a great example they set.

The authors are the children of Lenore Greene.

Lenore Greene Ott was the wife of Allen W. Greene, a medical photographer at the Veterans Affairs Hospital in Denver, he was a part-time camera repairman at the shop until his retirement from the VA. Then, he worked full-time beside me.

During the Great Depression, he did trail work on California’s Mount Shasta with the Civilian Conservation Corps until he joined the military during World War II. After the war, he went to work for the VA. He was a member of the VA when we met. Always quiet and unassuming, he had a way of getting things done. He finally got me to join the CMC after years of looking for good towns alone.

He was a trip leader for the CMC—mainly in the A and B class and of snowshoe trips. He joined a group of desert explorers and was active until age caught up to him. His last trip, on March 26, 1997, took him to Aravapa Canyon in Arizona at the age of 83.

Andy passed away in his sleep on June 21, 2011, four days after his ninety-seventh birthday. It was an honor to have met, worked, and hiked with a great man. Happy Trails, Pardner.

40 Trail & Timberline

Lenore Greene Ott  ▶ 1914-2011
By Ben Rhodes and Susan Brown

LENORE GREENE OTT, who died on October 11, 2011, at the age of 97, was a member of the CMC for 63 years. Members of the club remember her as the wife of Allen W. Greene. In 1948, Lenore joined the club as an enthusiastic mountaineer and skier. She had outstanding balance and strength and excelled at friction climbing.

Her characteristic optimism often came in diminutive stature. She was only five feet tall and weighed only about 100 pounds. Her characteristic optimism often came in handy in the mountains.

Allen and Lenore encouraged their children and grandchildren to learn the basics of safe mountaineering. Their idea of a family vacation was to plan and enjoy a climb. What a great example they set.

The authors are the children of Lenore Greene.

Emma passed away, and Horace the lodger moves in permanent. A spare nine months later on June 8, 1912, Horace and Harriet marry in Boston. At age 69, Bird is now a cemetery superintendent. Harriet, the new reporter for The News on the broad gauge, was on the morning train for Fort Collins.

In the summer of 1883 Bird was still employed by The News but his exact whereabouts and which stories he wrote are unknown. As of July 18, he is the only known correspondent of The News who would have been reasonably available to be in the town of Crestone and ready for a three-day mountain trek. He was 23 and should have been in his physical prime. He had also lived in the mountains, and should have been acquainted with their rigors.

Bird remained with The News for about five years, until sometime in 1886. He then spent a year at rival newspaper The Denver Times. Apparently needing a break from journalism, in 1888 Bird began working at the passenger depot for the Colorado Midland Railway. He also moved northwest of the city to the Highlands, near Rocky Mountain Lake, off Federal Boulevard. Within a year he received a promotion to “chief” clerk. He stayed at this post until sometime in 1890.

Bird then takes the position of secretary and treasurer of the William H. Jackson Photographic and Publishing Company located in Denver; he stays until about 1894.

Bird’s last known job in Denver was in 1895 as a house painter. Bird resurfaces in Boston in the 1910 census. He is again employed as a journalist for a magazine. He is also a “lodger” in the home of Edward and Harriet Cramm. On September 27, 1911, Edward Cramm passed away, and Horace the lodger moves in permanent. A spare nine months later on June 8, 1912, Horace and Harriet marry in Boston. At the time Horace is employed as an “advertising agent.”

The 1920 census reveals that the Birds have moved to Bennington, New Hampshire, where the couple—now in their sixties—have become farmers.

By April 1930 they are in Hanson, Massachusetts, about 25 miles south of Boston. At age 69, Bird is now a cemetery superintendent. Harriet is 75.

The couple lasts 20 more years—with Horace passing away in Hanson on January 8, 1950, age 89. Harriet passed on July 29, 1952, at age 98.

In having found a likely, and colorful, candidate for the climb, a question which should be addressed is whether the story was actually true. Since 19th-century newspapers sometimes fibbed to increase circulation it is a possibility.

However the correspondent provides enough detail that it seems an actual climb to the top of present day Kit Carson Mountain did occur.

Was this a first ascent? Given the straightforward nature of access, the route seems to have been well travelled. Since neither the writer, nor the newspaper ever claimed a first ascent, the answer seems to be no.

Was Kit Carson Mountain climbed on July 24, 1883, by 23-year-old writer Horace A. Bird and a party of three friends, thus claiming a first known ascent? The answer seems to be yes.

Thanks to Bruce Hanson, J. Wendell Cox, Roger Dudley, Jen Callaway, James Rogers, and the world-renowned James Jeffrey of the Denver Public Library’s Western History Department, and to Donald Colon of the Hanson Public Library, Hanson, Mass. Also thanks to David Hite for technical support.

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End of the Trail

Trail & Timberline
**CMC Adventure Travel**

For your enjoyment and benefit, the following trips have been reviewed and approved by the Adventure Travel Committee and are officially sanctioned by the Colorado Mountain Club.

**Visit www.cmc.org/at for more detailed information and registration forms.**

**Yellowstone in Winter**

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<td>Feb 1 – 6, 2012</td>
<td>$1,075 + $200</td>
<td>Steaming gears, Boise, elk, and other wildlife are all part of the experience of Yellowstone National Park in winter. Skiers, snowshoers, and photographers will enjoy the convenient trails leading directly from the lodge to geysers and waterfalls. The trip includes round-trip bus and snow coach transportation between Denver and Yellowstone, a one-night stay in Jackson, three full days and four nights at Old Faithful, snow coach drop-off fees, happy hour, and seminars (four breakfasts, four lunchs, one lunch, and three buffet dinners), and all entrance fees and gratuities. We depart Denver by bus on Wednesday morning. February 1, stay overnight in a motel in Jackson, arriving in Yelllowstone on Thursday afternoon. We leave Yellowstone and return to Denver on Monday, February 6. Prices are per person, based on double occupancy. Most rooms have two double beds (we have five king sized beds) and private bath. The trip cost for the newer Snow Lodge hotel rooms is $1,120, while the rustic “Center” cabin is $1,075. Trip cost does not include remaining meals (one breakfast, five lunches, and two dinners), optional sightseeing excursions within the park, equipment rental, or trip insurance. There is a 3% guest fee for non-CMC members. Register with the leader, Rick and Deana Pratt, by calling 303-887-3717 or <a href="mailto:rpratt905@gmail.com">rpratt905@gmail.com</a>. For more information, contact the leader, Greg Long, at 719-659-0345 or <a href="mailto:AT_90@yahoo.com">AT_90@yahoo.com</a>.</td>
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Hiking the Alps of Bavaria and Austria
July 27 - September 7, 2013
$2,700-3,300
The German and Austrian Alps are a scenic region of pristine lakes and creeks, high mountains, green pastures, and thundering river gorges. The highly countryside that’s dotted by quaint villages is home to some of the most famous castles in Bavaria where we will start our trip. On the Austrian-Bavarian border we will visit Gastein’s highest, Zugspitze. In Austria, we will start by exploring the glacier-carved valley of Stubai, close to Innsbruck. From there we will continue to learn more about the Tyrolian country, while hiking and climbing in the Zillertal area. Finally, we will walk on paths of a thousand-year-old history in Salkammergut. This area, with spectacular lakes close to the town of St. Wolfgang, had in the past a number of mines of “white gold.” The historical salt trail started from here. The town of Hallstatt is a World Heritage destination. During the trip, we will stay in comfortable, often family-owned hotels and explore some of the more breathtaking parts of the world. Cost includes lodging in hotels and pension, transportation during the trip, breakfast and most of the hotel’s lunches, the expenses of the leaders. The final cost may vary depending on currency exchange. Hikes up to B and C level. Maximum number of participants is 14. For more information contact the leader, Renata Collard, at (303) 617-4773 or Renata.Collard@denver.edu

Yampa River Rafting and Hiking
June 3 – 9, 2012
$1,225
The Yampa River is the last undammed tributary of the Colorado River system, and its free-flowing waters surge through cauldrons of big, untamed landscapes: multicolored rocks and gullies with hundreds of steaming hot springs and mud pools (after the first day’s hike, we’ll have an opportunity to soak in a natural hot spring); the black deserts of Mesa Riffelands; a magnificent canyon cut 400 feet deep into the rocks; arctic tundra; forests and colorful flowers, a side trip to the Songhellir cave (“Song cave”), the climb up and through a high pass dividing two glaciers, one of which is Eilikjallajokull that erupted in early 2010. Your last trekking day is spent descending from that pass, enjoying the gorges and 29 waterfalls of the Soggas River and finally spotting the seacliff west of the town of Soggas. You need to be in good physical condition for this trip and at time of registration possess at least a Denver hiking classification B or equivalent. Each day’s hike consists of 2-6 miles, and 1,000-3,000 feet of elevation gain. You’ll need to bring a sleeping bag that will be transported with your baggage (not on your daypack). Cost of trips cover: all land transportations arranged by leader; outfitter 7-day trek services including guide, participant and baggage transportations, lodging in mountain huts, all meals (first day lunch to last day lunch); cookware, 4 nights’ lodging in Yampa river. Not covered: airfare (approx. $1100), lunch/dinners in Yampa river, entrance fee (recommended), guide tips, personal expenses and optional excursions.

Sikkim Himalayan Trek
October 15 – November 5, 2012
$2,225
Gyeljen Sherpa invites you to join him on a trek through ancient esoteric Sikkim. Once its own Kingdom, tiny Sikkim is now a state of India. Sikkim is home to the third highest mountain in the world, Kanchenjunga (8586m/28169ft), one of the largest mountains in sheer size in the Himalayas. From Delhi we take a domestic flight to Bagdogra, and then on to the legendary city of Darjeeling, home of His Holiness the Dal Lama, and the Tibetan government in exile. One day by jeep will bring us to the beginning of our two-week trek. We will travel through the Kanchenjunga Biosphere Reserve; walk in rhododendron forests, camping in small villages, visit Buddhist monasteries and divine, traverse high alpine passes, and more. The Trekking Himalayas vistas. We will camp beside the sacred lake of Lam Pokhari and cross the high pass of Goecha La, 14,207 feet, the highest on our route. For more information please contact Gyeljen Sherpa at alpinesandventure- info@gmail.com.
The Colorado Mountain Club will celebrate its 100th birthday in 2012.

What will you give as a gift? Join the Summit Society or 21st Century Circle today.

The 21st Century Circle honors CMC members who have designated a legacy gift in their will or estate plan to the CMC or the CMC Foundation. The Summit Society is a giving society established for Colorado Mountain Club donors who contribute $1,000 or more to the CMC’s annual campaign.

Help us reach our goal of 100 Summit Society and 21st Century Circle members by the end of 2012.

Join the Summit Society or the 21st Century Circle today and receive a complimentary signed, numbered copy of the CMC’s Centennial book, 100 Years Up High, Colorado Mountains & Mountaineers.

To learn more, contact our Development Director at 303-996-2752.