



Mile High Mountaineer

November 2023



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Denver Group Annual Dinner & Meeting

Thanks to all who joined us at the 2023 Denver Group Annual Dinner and Meeting! After a week of fantastic autumn weather, Mother Nature decided to mix things up with a snowstorm and much lower temps, just in time for our event. We hope that everyone attending made it home safely!

Our speaker entertained us with amazing stories from his career as a professional skier, and related how he changed his relationship with fear in order to set world records and win a gold medal and multiple awards.

Sherpa's Adventure Restaurant in Boulder provided delicious food and hot chai perfect for a snowy night.

Beverages and raffle prizes were provided by:

Great Divide Brewing Company, Kokopelli Brewing, River North Brewery, Carboy Winery, and CMC. Nothing Bundt Cakes made the tasty desserts.

Many thanks to all of our volunteers and CMC staff who helped out!



Annual Dinner Speaker Julian Carr

Photo courtesy of Scott Kramer

2023 Outstanding Service Awards and Volunteer of the Year

The 2023 Denver Group Outstanding Service Award (OSA) recipients are:

Valerie Garrison

Robbie Monsma

Abbie Gentry

Kirsten Tollefsen

Scott Kramer

John Walters (posthumous)

The OSA is intended "to recognize members who perform a vital service to the Denver Group of the CMC on a continuing basis."

The Volunteer of the Year (VOY) is awarded to one Denver Group member each year, who:

1. Helps make the CMC the great organization it is.
2. Is not easily discouraged.
3. Sticks around when the going gets tough.
4. Demonstrates concern and integrity in representing the CMC members.
5. Is a dedicated volunteer who has consistently remained active.
6. Brings fresh or creative ideas to the CMC.
7. Makes the system work by being involved in multiple aspects of CMC.

The 2023 VOY is **Uwe Sartori**.

Volunteers make CMC an outstanding organization and we appreciate every single one of them. They perform in a variety of important capacities: trip leaders, school directors & instructors, section chairs, committee members, council members, and event coordinators. They are the lifeblood of this Club.

Thanks to everyone who nominated their fellow members! And to all award winners!



Photo courtesy of Chip Furlong

Backcountry Nordic Ski School (BNSS)

Registration for the Backcountry Nordic Ski School is now open! [Sign up](#) for the on-line zoom meeting on December 5 and three field trips held during the first three weeks of January on Wednesdays, Saturdays, or Sundays.

Learn the nuances of Nordic skiing in the backcountry. Experience Colorado's finest snow, away from the crowds and lift tickets! Learn to cross-country ski and get prepared for backcountry trails using classic Nordic-style technique. (No AT or Telemark gear is allowed in this school.) We accommodate students from never-evers to those who have skied for years. Classes are often less than ten students with a minimum of two instructors.

Beginner Snowshoe School

One-day sessions now open for [registration!](#)

Learn about snowshoe selection and fit, appropriate dress and keeping warm, prepping for a trip, trail techniques, breaking trail, and fall recovery.

If demand cannot be satisfied with this schedule, we'll add more sessions. We urge you to sign up for the earliest session that works for you so you can enjoy the CMC's regular snowshoe trips for the rest of the 2024 winter season.

COURSE ACTIVITY	DATE	AVAILABILITY	LEADER
Beginner Snowshoe - One Day Session			
Sourdough Trail	Sun, Dec 17, 2023 Registration closed Oct 29 Request Leader's Permission	0 participants	Wayne Howell
Sourdough Trail	Sun, Dec 17, 2023 Registration closes Dec 17	18 participants on waitlist	Robbie Monsma
Sourdough Trail	Sat, Jan 6, 2024 Registration closes Jan 6	9 participants	Robbie Monsma
Sourdough Trail	Sun, Jan 14, 2024 Registration closes Jan 12	10 participants	Wayne Howell
Sourdough Trail	Sun, Feb 4, 2024 Registration closes Feb 2	10 participants	Wayne Howell
Sourdough Trail	Sat, Feb 10, 2024 Registration opens Jan 20	10 participants	Robbie Monsma
Sourdough Trail	Sat, Feb 24, 2024 Registration closes Feb 24	10 participants	Wayne Howell
Sourdough Trail	Sat, Mar 16, 2024 Registration opens Feb 24	10 participants	Linda Lawson

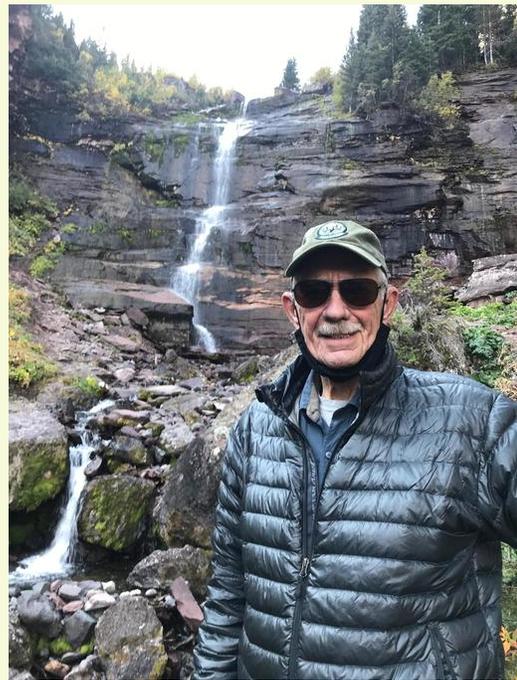
End of the Trail

On October 11th, we said good-bye to our dear friend and outstanding volunteer John Walters.

The Celebration of Life for John will be held Monday, November 20th at the American Mountaineering Center, 710 Tenth Street, Golden, at 12:00 - 2:00 pm; a luncheon will be served. If you plan to attend, please RSVP by November 15th to celebratejohnw@gmail.com.

His obituary can be found [HERE](#).

In lieu of flowers, please consider donating to John's favorite organization, the Colorado Mountain Club. The "Adult Education/Volunteer & Instructor Training" fund provides statewide scholarships for training CMC Leaders and volunteers (<https://www.cmc.org/donate>).



Volunteer with the Bobcats

Volunteers needed:

Newsletter Editor

Trip Leader Manager

The Bobcats section is looking for a creative individual to publish the monthly Bobcats Newsletter. Training will be provided, and the Newsletter Editor will have artistic license with the format and content.

We also need a CMC trip leader to serve as our Trip Leader Manager. Responsibilities include communicating best practices, section policies, and related matters with our section trip leaders.

If interested, contact: cmcbobcats@gmail.com

Activity Difficulty Ratings

Before signing up for a CMC activity, or creating a trip that you want to lead, make sure you understand how the physical difficulty of CMC trips is defined. You can review these ratings [HERE](#). Scroll down to find the activity you're interested in [a couple of the links at the top are currently broken.] Caution: "Easy" can be a misunderstood rating. It doesn't mean that it's easy for everyone. You'll get the most enjoyment out of any trip when you accurately assess your ability and interest level. Contact the trip leader or instructor if you have questions about any trip.

Now get out there and have some fun!



Upcoming Trips, Courses, and Events

Check out the [CMC Calendar](#) to find your next outdoor fun!

[Schools and Course offerings](#)

[New & Prospective Member Night](#)

[Become a Trip Leader!](#)

Stay active, explore more places, and make new friends.

Have a safe and happy Thanksgiving holiday!!

Denver Group Contacts

COUNCIL

Denver Group Council
Meets Monthly, 2nd Tuesday

COMMITTEES

Leadership Committee

Schools Committee

Conservation & Trails Committee

Member Initiatives Committee

SECTIONS

Ascending Hikes

Backpacking

Bobcats

Fly Fishing

Over the Hill Gang (RMOTHG)

Photography

Call for Submissions

Have an item you'd like included in a future Mile High Mountaineer newsletter?

The next deadline is Wednesday, December 6. Guidelines:

- Articles should be 200 words or less, **OR** submitted as a PDF
- MHM editor reserves the right to determine what's included in the newsletter and edit submissions for clarity and length
- Submissions must be relevant to the Denver Group of the CMC and/or its members; paid advertisements are not accepted.

Please send submissions to: cmcdgcc@gmail.com.

Questions, comments, or submissions? E-mail cmcdgcc@gmail.com.

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