



Canyon to Crest Call

Western Slope Group

January 2023

Happy New Year!

CMC hike to Coke Ovens/Monument Canyon at Colorado National Monument. Photo by Anne.

See below on how to submit your favorite photo for the newsletter!



WSG Slide Show: Lake Tso Morari Trek in India

Join us at the Montrose Library meeting room on **Friday, January 13, 5-6:30pm**, for a presentation by Babs Schmerler.

We'll start at 5pm with a 30-minute social time with munchies followed by Babs' presentation at 5:30pm. Please bring a snack to share and a non-

alcoholic drink. Those interested could have dinner at a local restaurant afterwards. Please RSVP [here](#).

Lake Tso Morari is a remote lake in the Ladakh District in Northern India. The trek to climb a then-unnamed peak started in Ladakh during the annual cultural festival. After a few days visiting surrounding monasteries, Babs' group began the trek over several 16 and 17,000 ft. passes. At that time, there were no other trekking groups. Unprecedented snowfall that year thwarted their climb, but the scenery was truly breathtaking. The lake and surrounding area is a magical place that can only be described through pictures, which do not do it justice.

Do You Have Photos & Stories to Share?

The WSG is looking to sponsor a series of slide shows in 2023 featuring our members. We have many members who like to travel and have been to interesting countries and adventurous places in the US and beyond. We also have some members who have a special expertise and knowledge due to their work/volunteer experience. If you're interested in sharing with others, we'd love to hear from you. Please contact us at WSGofCMC@gmail.com and we'll get a presentation set up for you!



Attention Durango, Pagosa Springs & SW Colorado Members!

We would like to hear how the CMC WSG can best serve you. We have a Zoom gathering scheduled for Monday, January 16, at 7pm to meet the other members & leaders in your area! Register [here](#).

Updated Avalanche Warning Website

The Colorado Avalanche Information Center (CAIC) has updated their website. It's recommended that you check the CAIC website before venturing into the backcountry to play in the snow. It's also recommended to check it before traveling certain roads in the winter such as highway 550 over Red Mountain Pass. Check out these specific areas in the Western Slope: [Grand Mesa](#), [San Juan Mountains](#).

Any Interest in Family Trips?

Do you have kids in your family who enjoy the outdoors? We have a family new to Montrose who has 2 young kids who like to hike, ski and snowshoe. They are looking to do these activities with other families. If there's interest, we could organize a WSG family outing. For more info, please contact us at WSGofCMC@gmail.com.



Trip Report: Bench Trail, Colorado National Monument

Victor Ketellapper led a CMC trip in early December on the Bench Trail in the Colorado National Monument. This was a moderate 8-mile hike with a 1,670' elevation gain. They saw bighorn sheep, petroglyphs, an arch and amazing canyon views. Photos by Victor.



Save the Date: July 29, 2023 Wilderness First Aid on the Western Slope

The CMC will hold a WFA class for us next year in the Western Slope! WFA is a 16-hour course that covers environmental, medical, and traumatic injuries with a focus on inclusive care and rescue, patient and bystander mental health. This will be a hybrid class with 8 hours of online work and an 8-hour field day (Saturday, July 29) The location will be announced later. Trip leaders are required to renew WFA every 2 years and scholarships are available. A minimum of 10 students is required to run the course. Email us at WSGofCMC@gmail.com if you are interested or have questions. Stay tuned for more info!



WSG Facebook Group

We have a private Facebook group called "CMC Western Slope Group". This group is available to post photos, announce last minute trips, trip reminders or activities. If you're interested, send a request in Facebook to join the group.

ALL CMC OUTINGS : [The CMC Trips List & Map](#)

Guests must now create an account and sign a waiver before signing up for trips and may attend up to 2 trips. If a trip is full, please sign up on the waitlist as there are participants that may cancel.

TRIPS: NEW WEBSITE! Now all of our activities are in one place at [Western Slope Group Calendar](#)

Wednesday - Friday 1/4-6. [Nordic Skiing - Grand Mesa](#). Gore Range Group

Sunday 1/15. [Electric Hills, Montrose](#). Easy. Anne Keil

Friday 1/20. [XC Ski and Snowshoe Priest Lake](#). Easy. Brenda Leach & Anne Keil

[5/19-30, Croatia](#). Adventure travel, fee.

[In-State-Outing \(ISO\) Week 1, Vallecito Lake](#). Aug 13-18, 2023. State CMC.

[ISO Week 2, Vallecito Lake](#). Aug 20-26, 2023. State CMC with WSG leaders.

9/5-10 2023. [Mountaineering - Weminuche Wilderness](#). Pikes Peak Group.

9/18-22. [Backpacking - Virgin Springs from Fuller Bottom, UT](#). Gore Range Group.

**All members and guests must sign a new liability waiver with the new website

[COVID policy for trips: updated Feb 23, 2022](#)

PRESENTATIONS

Friday 1/13/22. [Slideshow: Lake Tso Morari Trek by Babs Schmerler](#). Montrose Library, 5-6:30pm. See above.

Monday 1/16 7-8pm. [Zoom Gathering for Durango-Pagosa Area Members!](#) See above.

[CMC Schools & Classes Webpage](#): **For some classes and schools that are on the full CMC calendar (typically on the front range or via ZOOM), we can arrange field days on this side of the state but need a minimum number of participants between the various CMC groups. Please let us know if something interests you.

[ATA-Avalanche Terrain Avoidance](#), a 2-day course required for trip leaders and open to all members will be scheduled this winter, local dates TBA. Will be required for CMC Leader trips on snow.

[AIARE \(Avalanche research and education\)](#) 2023 sessions are offered through the Denver Group, registration is open to any member statewide. If non-members are interested in enrollment the individual must first join CMC. Required for backcountry snow Trip Leaders.

[Trip Leader Training](#): **We are seeking new trip leaders!** The free training consists of self paced online modules and one training hike plus Wilderness First Aid. This is also available to current leaders as a refresher. If you are interested, please contact WSGofCMC@gmail.com or check the new website.

Seeking Monthly Newsletter Content

We'd like your help! If you have requests for newsletter content or would like to contribute, let us know! The deadline to submit information, articles or photos is the **25th of each month** for the following month's newsletter. Email the WSG newsletter editor, Brenda Leach, at WSGNewsEditor@gmail.com. Here are our [past newsletters](#).

Western Slope Group Council

[Chair & Outings Chair](#): Anne Keil (Montrose)

[Vice Chair & Newsletter Editor](#): Brenda Leach (Ridgway)

[Treasurer](#): John Broadbooks (Montrose)

[Secretary](#): Jill Mattoon (Ouray)

[Conservation Chair](#): Open. See the [Conservation Chair volunteer description](#) for more info. If you're interested, please contact us at WSGofCMC@gmail.com.

We're on the CMC website at [Western Slope Group, CMC Groups - Colorado Mountain Club](#). The 2023 WSG Council meetings will be held on 1/12, 3/20, 5/8, 7/10, 9/11 and 11/13 from 3-4:30pm. Zoom availability and location will be determined closer to the meeting dates. WSG members are welcome to attend.

CMC connects Coloradans with more than 3,000 trips, hikes and activities annually. Members also receive huge deals on outdoor gear, lodging, events and more.

[JOIN](#)

Share this email:



[Manage](#) your preferences | [Opt out](#) using TrueRemove™
Got this as a forward? [Sign up](#) to receive our future emails.
View this email [online](#).

710 10th St
Golden, CO | 80401 US

This email was sent to
To continue receiving our emails, add us to your address book.

[Subscribe](#) to our email list.