



CHICAGO MOUNTAINEERING CLUB

The next CMC General Meeting will be Monday, February 9th, at 8:00 PM at SkrineChops, 7230 W. Madison St., Forest Park, IL (708) 771-7230.

General Meetings are open to the public and held on the second Monday of each month, September through May. Everyone is welcome. The CMC Board meets before the General Meeting from 6:30 to 7:45pm.

CMC Board Meeting Minutes are available to members on the club website. Everyone is encouraged to stay informed and get involved.

General Meeting Schedule

This month's meeting is Monday, February 9th.

The next meeting will be Monday, March 9th.

If you would like to give a presentation this winter or have ideas for a program, please contact the Programs Chair Keith Bielat at cmcprograms@cmcwebsite.org.

REI Club of the Month

The CMC is REI Oakbrook Terrace's Local Club of the Month. Please join us for the Thursday night Clinics/Events where Keith Bielat will be presenting various climbs CMC members have done over the last few years. Following the CMC presentation there will be an opportunity to learn about the Non-Profit of the Month, Big City Mountaineers and opportunities to Summit for Someone.

Date/Time: **Thursday, February 12th at 7pm**
 Location: REI Oakbrook Terrace
 17W160 22nd Street
 Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181

CMC and AAC Annual Dinner

The date has been set! Here are the details for this year's Annual Dinner.

Date: Saturday, March 14th

Location: DoubleTree Hotel Chicago-Oak Brook
 1909 Spring Rd, Oak Brook, IL 60523

Speaker: Skip Yowell, co-founder of JanSport and author of "The Hippie Guide to Climbing the Corporate Ladder & Other Mountains"

Event Schedule:

6:00pm Appetizers/Cocktails/Silent

Auction Bidding

7:00pm Dinner

8:00pm Presentation by Skip Yowell

9:30pm Silent Auction Winners/Raffle

Drawing

The invitations are included in the newsletter. For those who receive the newsletter electronically, the invitations will be mailed to your home address.

RSVP is required for the dinner. Please return the completed form along with payment to Keith Bielat by February 27th.

Mail To: 410 Schiller Apt 210, Itasca, IL 60143

Keith is working on securing contributions for the Silent Auction and Raffle. If you have something you want to donate or any suggestions, please contact Keith at cmcprograms@cmcwebsite.org.

New Member

Welcome to our newest member, Jeff Cortez!

Jeff has been climbing for the last few years both indoors and out and has gained experience with traditional and sport climbing. His climbing has led him to Devil's Lake, Red River Gorge, the Gunks, Southern IL, Tetons, Eldorado Canyon, Grays & Torry, Mt. Evans, and Mt. Lincoln.

Join me in welcoming him to the club and wishing him many years of climbing.

February Follies

As tradition, February Follies ice climbing trip will be held over President's Day Weekend running from Friday, February 13th to Monday, February 16th.

A group of climbers will be heading up to Ontario, Canada after the REI presentation Thursday, February 12th for three days of ice climbing in the Montreal River Harbor/Batchawana Bay area. Well resting up in between climbing days the group will be staying warm at the Batchawana Bay Resort.



John Kenealy climbing at Hilltop during Feb. Follies 2008. Photo courtesy of Dave Kenealy

Ice Festivals

As winter starts winding down there are still some options to get out and enjoy what remains of the season. Don't miss your chance to experience excellent ice, try out new gear, and hang out with cool climbers.

February 5-8th: Mount Washington Valley Ice Climbing Festival, North Conway, NH

http://www.ime-usa.com/ice_festival/

February 13-15th: 9th Annual Batchawana Ice Festival, Ontario, Canada

<http://www.northofsuperiorclimbing.com/>

February 13-16th: 11th Annual Water Fall Ice Festival, Cody, WY <http://www.southforkice.com/>

March 13-16th: 10th Annual Agawa Canyon Ice Fest in Ontario, Canada.

<http://www.northofsuperiorclimbing.com/>

Wilderness First Aid Training

The American Red Cross offers a Wilderness First Aid Training. A training class has been scheduled for CMC members to receive/renew their first aid certification. This is a 16hr training that will be split over two Saturdays. The actual cost is \$125 but the CMC is covering \$75 of the cost for members.

Date: Saturday, February 21st and Saturday, February 28th

Time: 8am-5pm

Location: Downers Grove, IL

Cost: \$50 for CMC member

There is a maximum class size of 20 but there are still a few spots available. If you are interested in taking the training please contact Jamie Norris at cmvicepres@cmcwebsite.org.

Western Outing

Mark your calendars for the first week of August!

The objective of the 2009 expedition will be to climb Granite Peak, the highest mountain in Montana. Granite Peak (12,799ft) is located in the Beartooth Range of the Rocky Mountains. The peak is situated 12 miles from the nearest trailhead so this entails a 2 day hike in and out. The team will likely take the standard route to the summit, which is very exposed and rated as a 5.4 rock climb.

Members and non-members are welcome to attend the Western Outing. If you are interested in participating in the outing, or if you would like additional information, please contact George Naxera or Matt Haraburda, the CMC Expedition Co-Chairmen at cmcexpedition@cmcwebsite.org.

George and Matt will also be available during the monthly CMC meeting on February 9th to discuss and answer questions about the expedition.

Indoor Climbing Events

If you're looking for some motivation to get into a climbing gym here's something to aim towards.

Vertical Endeavors

No Holds Barred 8th Annual Climbing Competition
Saturday, March 7th from 8:00am-2:00pm
VE will not be open for climbing until 2pm.

Climbers can compete in the categories of Men's Novice, Women's Novice, Men's Intermediate, Women's Intermediate, Women's Advanced, Men's Advanced, Men's Open, Women's Open, Masters (Men 35yrs+) or Divas (Women 35yrs+), or Youth (12 and under).

Early bird registration (until Feb. 6th) is \$25
Pre-registration (until Feb. 20th) is \$30
Registration (until March 7th) is \$35

For more information check out their website at <http://www.verticalendeavors.com/vewarrenville/competitions.html>

Newsletters and Club Mailings

If you would like to help in the effort save trees and cut back on paper waste, you can help by how you receive club communications and mailings. Members can opt to receive the newsletters, CMC yearbook, or the Mountaineer electronically instead of by mail. To take advantage of this option all you have to do is go to your membership profile and select the corresponding option at the bottom of the page.

If you have any questions or need further assistance please contact the Secretary Karen Gisburne at cmcsecretary@cmcwebsite.org.

Member Contact Information

To make sure you stay up-to-date with what is going on in the club, please make sure that your contact information is current. Contact info can be up-dated on the website under My Membership after login. You can also update how you receive communications (i.e. the newsletter) from the club.

If you do not remember your password please contact the Technology Chair, Matt Mead at cmctechnology@cmcwebsite.org. If you're a new

member and don't have a user name or password please contact the Vice President, Jamie Norris at cmcvicepres@cmcwebsite.org.

Membership Renewal Forms

A quick reminder if you have not sent in your membership renewal form yet and still want to, it is not too late. If you did not receive a renewal form or need a new one please contact Jamie Norris, the Vice President, at cmcvicepres@cmcwebsite.org.

The climbing waiver is on the back of the renewal form so if you are planning on climbing with the group this year, please fill out the waiver. If you missed filling it out the Outings Chair can have you sign one at your first outing. If your contact information has changed please update it on the form or you can update it on the website as well.

Once the renewal forms are complete they can be returned to:
Jamie Norris
75259 Midfield Drive
Aurora, IL 60506

Please complete and return your renewal to Jamie as earlier as possible. The faster we get them back the faster membership cards and yearbooks can be available.

If you have any other questions about your membership please contact Jamie at cmcvicepres@cmcwebsite.org.

Winter Indoor Climbing

At this time there are no official indoor outings set for the winter however members are encouraged to get together to climb during the winter months to hone climbing skills and catch up with each other. Members can still meet up at Vertical Endeavors on Sunday mornings for climbing.

Other plans are in the works so stay tuned for further updates on the outing schedule.

If you have any questions on these gatherings or on the indoor outings schedule, please contact the Outings Chair, Mike Burian at cmcoutings@cmcwebsite.org.

From:**Chicago Mountaineering Club**

c/o Karen Gisburne
887 S. Hillside Ave
Elmhurst, IL 60126

TO:

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED

FIRST CLASS MAIL

NEWSLETTER: Please submit your comments, announcements, outings or personal climbing reports, items of interest, ephemera, or questions to the Editor: Karen Gisburne. e-mail: cmcsecretary@cmcwebsite.org. Also, please contact me if your newsletter was damaged in the mail and you would like a fresh copy sent.

Starved Rock Ice Climbing

During the month of January the frigid and snowy weather finally paid off. Mid-January word came that there is finally climbable ice at Starved Rock. Over the last few weeks groups of members have ventured through snow and cold to experience what the ice has to offer. Climbers headed to French, Wildcat, Tonty, and LaSalle Canyons, where the park permits ice climbing. In the beginning, most climbers flocked to Wildcat Canyon, but reports of wet ice soon filtered up the trail. Though the lower area provided good climbing, the top portion offered very wet, cold climbing. Instead of hanging around for the wet ice, a few ventured a mile down the trail to Tonty Canyon. The sound of flowing water filled the air but the ice was beautifully dry when visible. There was one spot of moisture on the ice but it was in an avoidable section. A recent thaw and refreeze left the ice pillar in a twisted ramp shape. A short walk to LaSalle Canyon revealed the short falls were also wet. Climbers found French Canyon to be smaller yet notably drier compared to Wildcat. For a few short weeks, ice climbers have enjoyed climbing at Starved Rock but as 40s loom for the weekend ahead, it appears the ice climbing will end just as it started.

2009 CMC Board of Directors

Directors: Matt Mead, Bill Dietrich, Mike Burian
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