



CHICAGO MOUNTAINEERING CLUB

The next CMC General Meeting will be Monday, December 14th, 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

Join us for the last meeting of 2009!

This month's presentation is Denali: the Western Rib presented by Jack Gorby.

Next General Meeting will be on January 11th.

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

Annual Dinner

Plans are in the works for the 2010 Annual Dinner. Tentative dates for the dinner are a Saturday in March. In the next few months look for details on date, speaker, location, and activities during the dinner.

Membership Renewals

With the start of the new year just around the corner, so is the time to renew our memberships. Membership renewal forms are mailed out to all members and should be heading to your doorstep in the next month. Please make sure your mailing address is current so you don't miss out on your mailing.

Nominating Meeting

As another year winds down, it is time to start planning for the next year.

Over the last month the Nominating Committee has put together a slate for the 2010 CMC Board. Here is what they propose.

President	Dave Kenealy
Vice President	Jamie Norris
Secretary	Karen Gisburne
Treasure	Steve Broadie
Sergeant at Arms	Devin Strickland
Program Chair	Keith Bielat
Outings Chair	Michael Burian
Publications Chair	George Naxera
Director thru 2012	Pieter Fockens

The Nominating Meeting will take place during the regular general meeting on December 14th. At this meeting any additional nominations may be made from the floor for any office however the nominated club member must be present to accept the nomination.

Please come out to voice your say on the 2010 Board.

Campground

The campground is now closed for the season. Stay posted in the spring to find out when it is ready for members to start camping again.

Climbing Gear

For Sale--New in Box--Camp 12 point adjustable, flexible mountaineering crampons with new Black Diamond neoprene straps. Papers and adjusting tool included. They are ideal for general mountaineering and glacier travel. They will fit small, medium, and large boots. Asking price: \$70.

If interested please call Bob Swartz Ph. 773-330-0860

2010 Wisconsin State Park Admission Stickers

The 2010 Wisconsin State Park Admission Stickers are now available!

Stickers can be purchased for \$25 (Wisconsin residents), \$35 (Non-residents), or \$10 (Wisconsin residents 65yrs+). Stickers for additional household cars can be purchased at half price.

They are available at park and forest offices, DNR service centers, or online thru The Friends of Wisconsin State Parks.

Additional information on WI state park admission stickers can be on the WI DNR website, <http://www.dnr.state.wi.us/>

Hunting Season

As the winter weather finally arrives so does the prospect of winter recreation. Trails are open for hiking and with enough snow cross-country skiers hit the trails. However, hikers and skiers are not alone in the woods this time of year. Hunters are now allowed their time for fun.

At Devil's Lake, deer gun hunting is permitted now thru Dec. 10-13th and archery hunting will be permitted Dec. 14th thru Jan. 3rd. While hunters are not allowed on the east or west bluff, they do have access to Steinke Basin, Sauk Point Trail, Roznos Meadows, and the south bluff.

With ice climbing season approaching, keep in mind Gov. Dodge also hosts hunters this time of year. Archery will run thru Jan. 3rd. The last firearm date is Dec. 10-13th.

Illinois state parks have hunting going on as well. Matthiessen State Park and parts of Starved Rock State Park will be closed during firearm hunting, dates Dec. 3-6, Dec. 11-13, Dec. 31-Jan. 3, and Jan. 15-17. Starved Rock will have all trails east of Wildcat Canyon closed during these dates. The hiking trails from St. Louis Canyon to Wildcat Canyon will be open to park visitors. Archery deer and turkey hunting will be allowed in the parks until Jan. 14th.

Many of the area state parks and forests host hunters over the winter month with the hunting areas not off limits to park users so use care and caution while in these areas. It is highly recommended to wear blaze orange clothing when in hunting areas. Check the state park website or call the park for specific restrictions before visiting this winter.

John C Speck Memorial Library

Looking for a good climbing book to read during the cold winter months? Need a guide book to start planning that big summer trip? Don't forget to check out the resources available to us through the library. If you would like to visit the library and look at available literature please contact Pieter Fockens at 847-205-9916.

Looking to expand your own personal climbing library? The library has many duplicate books that are now for sale. For a list of what books are available please contact Pieter. Likewise if you feel like you're starting to create your own library and are looking for a new home for some of those books, consider donating them to the library. If interested in donating books to the library please contact Pieter.

Winter Indoor and Outdoor Events

Here are some climbing events for the winter months to keep you active till spring. Several ice fests for the cold lovers and a few indoor events for those who are not.

January 7-10th – Ouray Ice Fest, Ouray, CO
<http://ourayicefestival.com/>

January 16-17th – Ice Pit Ice Festival & Demo Weekend, De Pere, WI
<http://www.theicepit.org/default3.asp>

January 16th – Hangdog Jamboree, Upper Limits, Bloomington, IL
<http://www.upperlimits.com/bloomington/index.html>

February 5-7th – Ice Fest 2010, Munising, MI
http://www.downwindsports.com/ice_fest.html

February 5-7th – Mount Washington Valley Ice Festival, North Conway, NH
<http://ime-usa.com/imcs/index.html>

February 12-15th – Batchawana Ice Festival, Batchawana Bay, Ontario, Canada
<http://www.northofsuperiorclimbing.com/>

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

March 6th - No Holds Barred Climbing Competition, Vertical Endeavors, Warrenville, IL
<http://www.verticalendeavors.com/warrenville/index.html>

March 12-15th – Agawa Canyon Ice Festival, Agawa Canyon, Ontario, Canada
<http://www.northofsuperiorclimbing.com/>

Red River Gorge

Participants: Tony Natoli, Wojciech Grabysar, Mike Edens, Ting Sutana, Joe Roque, Colleen Jay, Wayne Martin, Hideo Watanabe, Keith Bielat, Randy Shaw, Chris Gregory, and Jamie Norris.

We all headed down to the beautiful Red River Gorge, for an early Nov. outing. Keith was organizing this outing and suggested that we all stay in a campground he had seen before. We all had the directions but no real knowledge of where we were going.

On Thurs. morning we found this wonderful campsite in the National Forest, just blocks from two climbing areas, Pebble Beach and Pistol Ridge. There was a nice meadow beside a crystal clear stream, with a fire ring and even a flush porta-potty. Randy, Chris, Hideo, Keith and I went to Pebble Beach for a couple of climbs, then Randy, Keith, and Chris went to Pistol Ridge for some more climbing.

Thru the evening and next day the rest of our climbers showed up, Joe and Ting finally made it (via Kalamazoo, MI and Toledo, OH) valuable lesson here, don't trust GPS's exclusively.

On Fri. we all went to Road Side Crag, which was a great, if slightly crowded place. We did both sport and trad leads and top ropes here, and Chris, Tony, Wojciech, and Hideo, went to find a more serious and quite area across the road. We climbed here all day in beautiful weather. In general, the nights and mornings were cold and frosty, but the days got well into the 50s and even 60s. Keith headed back to camp early as he was dying to get in some fly-fishing on our stream, and to make us all a great sloppy joes dinner.



Most of the group at Practice Wall in Muir Valley. Photo courtesy of J. Norris.

On Sat. we all headed to a private climbing area called Muir Valley. This is a beautiful area, but tends to be crowded on weekends. Most of us stayed here and climbed many good routes, but again Tony, Wojciech, and Hideo wanted something tougher, so they headed to a multi-pitch. We returned to camp after dark and thought the animals had trashed our kitchen, but decided it was just the wind as nothing was eaten. Chris made up a large batch of beef stew for everyone, and Ting and Colleen made us a great chocolate/cherry cake in a dutch oven.

On Sunday morning, Chris and I had to head home, but most of our group stayed on to climb at least a partial day. I think everyone really enjoyed this place, I know I plan to go back.

Jamie



Getting ready to climb at Road Side Crag. Photo courtesy of Jamie Norris.

