

# THIN AIR

**Cyclone Mountain Club Newsletter**  
**September 2025 | Volume 1, Issue 1**

## From the President

Welcome to the first edition of the CMC Newsletter! We hope it will create a reliable medium for keeping in touch with you about club activities and events. In this newsletter you'll find announcements about club activities as well as other information we hope you'll find interesting and useful. Our officers have some exciting programs and trips planned for this year. I hope you'll enjoy all of them!

*Chris Jones, President*

## Summer Trip to Mount Washington

Over summer break, several club members drove to the Presidential Range in New Hampshire to climb Mount Washington and surrounding peaks. The conditions were excellent—clear skies, above freezing temperatures, and wind velocities under 50 mph. That was quite a pleasant surprise: Mt. Washington holds the wind velocity record, and snow continues to fly until late spring.



Club members camped in tents in a nearby national forest. They hiked to the summits of Madison, Adams, and Jefferson, following the Appalachian Trail for nearly forty miles. All members of the group spotted moose and bears along the trail. The club will definitely consider the Presidential Range for future trips.

## Trail Volunteers Needed

Volunteers for clearing trails are needed in several state and national forests and parks. This is a great way to learn about a mountain eco-system while preparing the trails for the summer season. Spend your spring break in the Rockies or the Appalachians where the streams run clear, the trees open their canopies, and the rhododendrons bloom. **Housing is provided free, and car pooling is available.** Contact Steve at 515-230-2888 for details.

## Dressing for the Climb

Climbing a "fourteener" in Colorado can be an exhilarating experience— if you're prepared. Most novices, however, make the mistake of underestimating the brute force of nature above the timber line. That can be a big mistake—an even fatal mistake.

At this October's monthly meeting, Fred Carlson will conduct a seminar on dressing for the climb. Fred, who worked for the National Park Service the past three summers, has lots of experience outfitting backpackers and climbers. Join us and let Fred help you plan your next mountain adventure.



## Thanksgiving Trip to the Big Horn Mountains

The Big Horn mountains in northern Wyoming are one of the best kept secrets in the West—uncrowded, challenging, and rugged. That's why we've chosen them as the destination for this year's Thanksgiving trip.

Here's our itinerary:

**November 23:** We'll leave from Ames on Sunday at noon and stay overnight in Sheridan, Wyoming.

**November 24–28:** Wyoming. Monday afternoon we'll be on the trail in the Big Horns, heading southwest. We'll camp five nights.

**November 29:** We'll then return on Saturday from Buffalo.

The approximate cost for members will be \$175.

**Sign up soon so we can line up transportation and supplies.**

## Congratulations to Jerry, Brenda, and Fred

In August Jerry Smith, Brenda Talbot, and Fred Carlson climbed Mount Rainier in Washington State. Although they were caught in a snowstorm on their descent, they made it back safely.



"We had a clear view at the top," said Jerry. "It was worth every step—an incredible experience! I can't wait to go back."

## Welcome New Members and Officers

Last spring we had nearly **20** new members, not only from Iowa but around the country and the globe.

**Welcome!** This year's officers include:

- President, Chris Jones
- Vice-President, Sally Smith
- Secretary, Al Foster
- Treasurer, Karl Neuberger
- Field Trip Coordinator, Brenda Sikes

## ANNUAL FUNDRAISER

We'll be selling mountain T-shirts, mugs, and calendars for our annual fundraiser. These items make great gifts anytime of the year. **We need volunteers for our booth displays! Contact Sue at 515-298-2222.**

## Planning the Summer Break Tour

Our annual summer tour (the week after classes end) is still in the planning stages. Scotland, Norway, Switzerland, Chile, and Hawaii are just a few of the many destinations under consideration.



**Give us your ideas and input!** We need to finalize our plans by the end of December so we can get you the airfare discounts you need. **Call Joe (4-3333) with your ideas and preferences—SOON!**

## Mountain Lectures

**Thursday, September 25:** Jim Spitzer, "Which Mountain Will Be the Next St. Helens?" Find out about the geology of the Cascades and how it's likely to change within the next decade.

**Tuesday, October 14:** Mary Ann Woodling, "High Terrain Mammals." Learn about the amazing adaptive qualities of bears, marmots, and other mountain creatures.

**Wednesday, November 5:** Liu Chang, "The Mountain People of Tibet." Discover this unique culture from an anthropology graduate student who has lived and worked in Tibet.

## Club Meeting Schedule—Fall Semester



The first and third Tuesday of each month.



7:00 PM



Carver Hall



All meetings will also be available live on Zoom.



Join us on Facebook: cyclonemountain

# Design Process

## Logo Versions



# Layout Versions

## Version 1



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# Version 2



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