

Flatirons Ski Club



March 2026

An Outdoor Multi Sports and Social
Group

www.FlatironsSkiClub.com

**THE NEXT GENERAL MEETING WILL BE
MARCH 4TH, 7 PM**

**AT THE UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF BOULDER
5001 PENNSYLVANIA AVE, BOULDER, CO 80303**

Message from the President

Winter ski trips are coming to a close. Leaders have dealt with last-minute cancellations and the intricacies of carpooling. Payments continue to be an evolving challenge. The Club wants to make it easier for participants and leaders to manage timely payments. We have begun to accept electronic payments, like Venmo and PayPal. I need to report there are kinks. When an electronic payment comes in, the Treasurer is the only one who knows. The trip leader, membership chair, whomever is expected to receive the payment, does not get automatically notified. So please inform the intended recipient directly when you pay electronically. There is a cost to the Club for processing fees. It may not seem significant, and the Club has a cushion so that it can absorb the processing fees for a while, but we may need to pass them on. Sometimes the amounts are more significant. Timing can be a problem, too. When a trip attracts many people who want to go, the leaders set a time when applications will be accepted. The Club cannot decline payments made by electronic means, so if a trip is oversubscribed and paid, it's a problem to refund payments. The objective is to enjoy the trips, including the leaders, so help us out with communications and understanding.

Louisa Young, President

**Heads up: The Annual FSC Spring Fling date is set for
June 13, 2026
Venue is the Louisville Community Park**

March 4, 2026, General Meeting

The featured topic and speakers for our March 4 General Meeting will be:

**“10 Hiking Essentials”- revisited by:
Kelly McDevitt and Dave Hoyt,
Bryan Mt Nordic Ski Patrol**

Joe Golden, Vice President

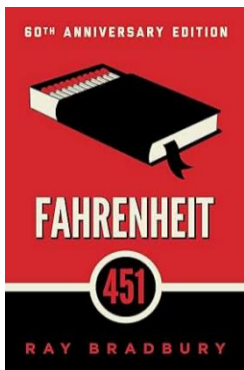
FSC Book Club

Anyone interested in joining the FSC Book Club, to get the reading list, please contact Amy Lem Varey -see FSC roster – and you will be added to our distribution list.

If you would like to attend the monthly meetings, please RSVP to her when she sends the meeting reminder so the host can plan to accommodate attendees!

Date: Monday, March 9th, 2026
Time: 6:00 pm
Discussion Leaders & Hosts: Linda LaGanga & Jim Dimmick
Location: Boulder Rural Fire Rescue
6230 Lookout Road
Gunbarrel
Book: “Fahrenheit 451” by Ray Bradbury

Description:



Guy Montag is a fireman. His job is to destroy the most illegal of commodities, the printed book, along with the houses in which they are hidden. Montag never questions the destruction and the ruin his actions produce, returning each day to his bland life and wife, Mildred, who spends all day with her television “family.” But when he meets an eccentric young neighbor, Clarisse, who introduces him to a past where people didn’t live in fear and to a present where one sees the world through the ideas in books instead of the mindless chatter of television, Montag begins to question everything he has ever known.

Amy Lem Varey, Book Club Leader

Thursday Hikes

March 2026

If you are a new FSC member and would like to join our hikes, please email me, Leonard Gehring (see FSC roster).

Similarly, if you would like me to remove your name from the list, email me, and I'll take care of it.

With the weather right now so unpredictable, we will plan a suitable hike tailored to each week's weather forecast and send out the details in our Sunday Emails. Flexibility is the name of the game!

In February, we hiked:

- South Mesa, Bluestem and Homestead Trails
- Skunk Canyon Loop, starting at Hollyberry Connector
- Betasso Preserve Canyon Loop
- Goshawk Trail

We hope you'll come out and join us for March Hikes and witness the seasonal changes.

2026 Cross-Country and snowshoeing on Tuesdays!

As long as the snow condition is good, we will meet at the Safeway parking lot at Iris and 28th at NW corner at 9:00 am and leave at 9:15 am. If you plan to come, please contact me.

Dorothy Cohen, Coordinator

POTENTIAL FUTURE ACTIVITY

We are considering having a tour of the Rocky Mountain Raptor Program facility in Ft Collins in April. There is a charge of \$20 to \$25 per person.

We just wanted to know how many people would be interested. Please state your interest at the FSC General Meeting, March 4th or contact:

Dorothy Cohen, Activities Co-Chair

Heads Up for First Spring Trip Announcement: The Annual Moab Trip is scheduled for Sunday 3 May to Friday 8 May 2026.

The FSC will once again be heading to Moab for our annual hiking and biking adventures in the beautiful outdoors of Utah, staying at the Lazy Lizard: Watermelon and Grandma's houses. There will be a potluck on Monday evening and happy hour nightly.

The cost this year will be \$157 for 5 nights. Please make full payment checks payable to FSC, mail to Ruth Durst (as listed in the club roster) or bring to the March 4th FSC General Meeting, deadline for payment.

Hope to see many of you there!
Trip Leaders: Ruth Durst and Janne Cookman

SUMMER WILDFLOWERS in CRESTED BUTTE

2026 Crested Butte Wildflower Trip, Tuesday, July 7 – Friday, July 10, 2026



Linda and Chris Paris will lead a midweek Wildflower Rambles trip to Crested Butte next July 7 – 10, 2026 - 3 nights lodging at the Cristiana Guesthaus on Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, checking out Friday morning. **Total trip cost is \$480.00 per person in a double occupancy room or \$620.00 per person in a single occupancy room.** We will be accepting deposits for the trip beginning March 2.

The Cristiana provides breakfast each morning. Provide your own lunch with items brought from home in a small cooler or purchased locally. Dinners will be at local restaurants. The trip cost covers only lodging with breakfast.

The trip leaders will lead a wildflower hike on both Wednesday and Thursday. Participants are welcome to join them or go out on their own. Options for wildflower walks and hikes are numerous, ranging from easy to moderate walks in/near town to strenuous hiking to mountain passes. People going on the trip should be in good physical health and condition. Being vaccinated for COVID, flu and RSV is strongly encouraged.

A non-refundable deposit of \$75.00 per person is required at the time of sign-up – either at a membership meeting or by mail. Sign-up and checks will be accepted at the March 4 FSC Membership Meeting. Deposits paid electronically through the website should not be made until

March 4 and will not be accepted until that date. Members who pay in this way should send an email to the Parises to let us know that you paid online. If you pay online, you must mail us the sign-up form below or include the same information in the email letting us know you paid electronically.

Signing up is for those who are ready to commit to going on the trip. If you have interest in going but are not sure, still thinking about it, or your schedule may change, put your name on the waiting list – no deposit is required to join the waiting list. Before you sign up and pay a deposit, be sure you are ready to come on the trip.

Our reservations accommodate 26 people: 5 couples (king), 10 persons in 5 queen+double rooms (each with own bed) and 6 single persons (queen). Queen+Double rooms are only for double occupancy - 2 persons who are comfortable rooming with each other and mutually agree to do so. Sign up together after you have found your roommate. The trip leaders can suggest persons to contact to arrange a roommate if you don't have someone in mind. Finding a roommate is your own responsibility. Questions? Contact Linda and Chris by e-mail/telephone.

Please contact us by e-mail to let us know you have chosen to sign up by mail. We will watch for your check in the mail and inform you when we receive it. **Make out checks to Flatirons Ski Club and put 2026 Wildflower Crested Butte in the note line.** Deposits and final payments by check should be sent to the Paris' by mail (address available from the membership list). Please don't send checks for this trip to the club post office box address. **Full payment is due by Friday, May 29, 2026.** After that date, unused rooms in our reservation will be cancelled and sign-ups will only be allowed for persons coming off the waiting list.

Here is the sign-up form to fill out and bring to the meeting or send to the trip leaders:

TRIP _____
MEMBER NAME _____
EMAIL _____
PHONE (____) _____
DEPOSIT \$ _____
ROOMMATE PREFERENCE(S) _____

The trip is: **2026 Wildflower Crested Butte**

If you would like to have a single occupancy room, please say that under Roommate Preference(s) on the form. You can also use this form to join the waiting list.

Messages from the FSC Treasurer

1. When payments are made online (Venmo or PayPal), please contact the event leader and let them know the amount you paid and on what date. Also, please make a note on your payment, so I can record the payment to the correct event.

2. I would love for Flatirons Ski Club to have a reputation for generosity and kindness. I would love for restaurant and hotel owners to be excited when we make reservations. We are fortunate to have resources to buy passes, equipment, and gas to get to amazing skiing or hiking adventures, and my guess is that the people who clean our rooms or work at front desks may not be in that same boat. Please tip generously. Tips are NOT figured into trip costs unless your leader specifically states that. An extra \$20 is not a big deal to most of us, but it may mean the world to one of the workers.

Thanks, Martha Parks

FSC Injury Prevention

Hi everyone - Due to several recent events, I have some safety tips to share with you:

- One of our club members broke her arm in a fall this week. I've been told it may have been due to snow on the bottom of her boot, which prevented it from being held securely in the binding. I suggest that instead of trying to scrape the bottom of your boots with your poles, which we often do, scrape them on the bindings instead. That provides a straighter surface for scraping off the snow. Try skiing with a buddy and have them look at the bottom of your boots before you step into your skis.
- I also read this week of a skier who died in the Sierra Nevada mountains in California after falling into a tree well. Tree wells can be deep and very hard to escape. So some more good advice is to ski with a friend or two and keep track of each other. Keep your phones with you and turned on so you can contact others or they can contact you in an emergency.
- Remember to ski with your head on a swivel. Always be looking around and know if somebody is approaching you. Be careful when traversing, which leaves you vulnerable to straight liners.

- With much less snow than normal and constant grooming, the slopes are often icy and hard packed this winter. If you can't edge, turn, and stop quickly, then your skis probably need a tuneup and edge sharpening to be safe and stay in control.
- As warmer weather and spring skiing approach, be aware of rapidly changing conditions. Snow that's in the shade can vary dramatically from snow that's in the sun in terms of gliding or gripping your skis, which can result in serious falls and injuries.
- Also beware of and avoid avalanche zones. If you must cross one, do not stay too close to others. If you are skiing in avalanche areas, carry the necessary equipment, such as beacons, transponder, probes, ropes, etc.
- Make sure to enter the ski areas' Ski Patrol phone number on your phone for every area at which you ski.
- When riding and /or skiing with a group, enter everyone's phone number in your phone. Set a time and place at which you agree to meet.

Be safe, have fun on the slopes, and pray for snow.

Thanks

Arnie Mullen, Safety Chair

FRIDAY AFTERNOON CLUB

FAC has been an FSC tradition for many years. Everyone is welcome. We meet at Rincon Cocina Y Tequila starting at 4:00 p.m. every Friday. The restaurant is on Arapahoe just west of the intersection of Folsom and Arapahoe.

Hope to see you there.

2026 FSC Ski Trip Calendar

IMPORTANT Note that total costs shown below are for double occupancy.

Dates	Destination	Lodging	# of Spaces	Nights	Lift Tix	Total Cost Per Person	Depo sit	Balance Due	Trip Leaders
Jan 13-16	Crested Butte	Cristiana Guesthaus	23	3	Epic	\$376 (\$492 single)	\$50	12/3/25	Linda & Chris Paris
Jan 19-22	Steamboat	Homewood Suites	40	3	Ikon	\$445	\$150	12/13/25	Tom Cannon
Jan 27-30	Fraser/Winter Park	Fraser House Alpine Center	18	3	Ikon	\$120	\$25	1/7/26	Louisa Young
Feb 2-5	Snow Mtn Ranch	YMCA of the Rockies	28	3	Ikon	\$165	\$40	12/3/25	Beth Gaffney
Feb 10-13	Monarch Mountain	Baymont (Salida)	24	3	Misc	\$175 (\$335 single)	\$40	1/7/26	Donna Cooper & Louise Geil
Feb 17-20	Vail/Beaver Creek	Comfort Inn Avon	28	3	Epic	\$395	\$100	12/13/25	Susan McGannon & Sue Bolton
Feb 24-26	Snowy Range, WY	Old Corral Hotel	18	2	Misc	\$150	\$35	12/30/25	Janne Cookman
March 2-6	Aspen/Snowmass	Comfort Inn Carbondale	40	3 or 4	Ikon Full	\$265/\$350	\$100	1/7/26	Richard Varey
March 10-12	Leadville/Ski Cooper	Columbine Inn	40	2	Misc	\$215 (\$350 single)	\$50	1/7/26	Ed Gostling

Overnight trips are mostly full. For availability and waitlisting,

please contact trip leaders directly.

2025/26 FSC MID-WEEK SKI SCHEDULE

Monday: Ed Hanson			Thursday: Linda LaGanga		
C: 303-902-3709			C: 720-352-6805		
Email: ewhfg@cs.com			Email: Linda.Laganga@gmail.com		
MONDAY/TUESDAY (EPIC)			WEDNESDAY/THURSDAY (IKON)		
Date	Area	Carpool Fee	Date	Area	Carpool Fee
1-Dec	Breckenridge	\$10	4-Dec	Copper	\$10
8-Dec	Beaver Creek 7:00am	\$15*	11-Dec	WP/MJ	\$10
15-Dec	Keystone	\$10	18-Dec	A-Basin	\$10
22-Dec	Breckenridge	\$10	26-Dec	TBD	\$10
29-Dec	Keystone	\$10	31-Dec	Eldora 8:15am (Wed)	\$5
5-Jan	Vail 7:00am	\$15*	8-Jan	WP/MJ	\$10
12-Jan	Keystone	\$10	14-Jan	Copper (Wednesday)	\$10
20-Jan	Breckenridge (Tuesday)	\$10	22-Jan	WP/MJ	\$10
26-Jan	Keystone	\$10	29-Jan	Eldora 8:15	\$5
2-Feb	Breckenridge	\$10	5-Feb	WP/MJ	\$10
9-Feb	Keystone	\$10	11-Feb	Copper (Wednesday)	\$10
17-Feb	Beaver Creek 7:00am (Tue)	\$15*	19-Feb	Eldora 8:15am	\$5
23-Feb	Breckenridge	\$10	26-Feb	WP/MJ	\$10
2-Mar	Keystone	\$10	5-Mar	A-Basin	\$10
9-Mar	Vail 7:00am	\$15*	12-Mar	Copper (Wednesday)	\$10
16-Mar	Breckenridge	\$10	19-Mar	WP/MJ	\$10
23-Mar	Keystone	\$10	26-Mar	A-Basin	\$10
30-Mar	Breckenridge	\$10	1-Apr	Copper (Wednesday)	\$10
6-Apr	TBD		9-Apr	WP/MJ	\$10
13-Apr	TBD		16-Apr	TBD	

- An asterisk (*) indicates that there will be a parking fee in addition to the carpool fee.
- If you are not on Ed and/or Linda's list of midweek skiers, please let them know of your interest.
- Unless otherwise noted, carpools depart at 7:30 from the Eldorado Park 'n' Ride on the northeast corner of Hwy 93 and Hwy 170 (sometimes called Marshall Rd). **Please arrive ten minutes early to ensure an on-time departure.** Let Ed or Linda know if you are willing to drive. We can also meet skiers at agreed upon times in the Woolly Mammoth lot in Golden.
- Ski destinations are suggestions only, and may change depending on weather, traffic, ski conditions, or carpool preferences.
- Occasionally, Ed and Linda may need alternate leaders when they are away on ski trips.
- The club's prevailing health guidelines apply to all activities.
- We typically wear green ribbons on our helmets so it's easy to find each other on the mountain. Let Ed or Linda know if you need one.

Suggested Carpool Fees for FSC Overnight Ski Trips 2026

We did not think it appropriate to change the suggested carpool fees for this season's FSC overnight ski trips. These fees were loosely based on gas prices at \$3.50/gallon and a suggested carpool fee of 7 cents/mile, but keep in mind that driving costs continue to go up, and winter driving can stress both car and driver! They are guidelines only, and subject to change.

Destination	Round Trip Mileage (from Central Boulder)	Suggested Carpool Fee (7cts/mile)
Crested Butte (Cristiana)	480	\$35
Steamboat	325	\$25
Monarch (Salida)	310	\$25
Vail/Beaver Creek	235	\$15
Snow Mtn Ranch & Fraser	175	\$15
Snowy Range (Centennial)	320	\$25
Aspen (Carbondale)	355	\$30
Ski Cooper (Leadville)	215	\$20

Notes:

The fees above do not include daily driving to the ski areas or restaurants from the lodging. These need to be figured out separately.

Pricing is ultimately at the discretion of the driver and the type of vehicle in use.

To avoid misunderstandings, discuss carpool fees prior to your trip departure.

Same fees for EVs. Running costs may be lower, but capital costs are higher.

Enjoy the season!

Richard Varey, Downhill & Nordic Ski Chair

SKI ASPEN/SNOWMASS 2026

March 2-5 or 6, 2026

This wonderful trip is back in 2026, offering great skiing at Aspen, Aspen Highlands, Snowmass, and Buttermilk. We will be lodging at the same hotel in Carbondale:

Comfort Inn & Suites

920 Cowen Dr

Carbondale CO 81623

Location: The hotel is in Carbondale approximately 36 minutes (28mi) from Aspen/Snowmass and 3 1/2 hours from Boulder.

Web: <https://www.choicehotels.com/colorado/carbondale/comfort-inn-hotels/co116>

Cost: \$265 per person for 3 nights OR \$350 per person for 4 nights

Payments: **Final payments were due at the general meeting Wed 1/7/26 (or same date by mail).**

Ski lift tickets available online. From this season the full IKON Pass is required to ski all areas for up to 7 days. You must reserve your days in advance with IKON online - it's free. The IKON Base Pass is not valid here, and the Base Plus no longer exists. You must have bought the add-on for the full pass before it went off sale in December.

Includes:

- 3 nights OR 4 nights (please specify) lodging (2 queen beds per room).
- Each room has a microwave and refrigerator
- Breakfast bar each morning
- Use of meeting room for potluck on Monday night and club happy hours
- Drive/carpool to ski areas
- Outdoor fire pit, indoor hot tub; pool
- City Market, shops and restaurants nearby

Richard Varey, Trip Leader, Downhill & Nordic Ski Chair

Leadville Ski Trip

March 10 to 12, 2026

Welcome Downhill and Cross-Country Skiers! Please join us on the year's final "mid-week" ski trip during the snowiest month of the year. This year we will be staying again at the Columbine Inn & Suites located in Leadville. This old town is on Hwy 91, a half hour past the Copper Mountain ski area.

Clean double queen rooms with fridge, private bath. We have access to their breakfast room for our happy hour for both evenings.

Cross-Country Skiers

There are 3 X-Country areas within 20 minutes of our lodge. The farthest of the three is in the parking lot of Ski Cooper and it is a complete resort.

Downhill Ski Cooper is different, in all the right ways! Soft all-natural snow, terrain variety for everyone, laid-back atmosphere, family-friendly vibe, great food & drinks, and reasonable prices. The FSC club uses a few lifts: you can see, be seen or change FSC groups all day. Very social! Powder days happen every year, we do fresh tracks till late afternoon. It is very different from "Mega areas".

Lift Tickets: Cooper is not on EPIC pass nor IKON pass. For age 75+ is free, 69-74 is \$25 (season pass), else window price is \$90. Loveland pass belongs to Powder Alliance which includes 3 free days at Ski Cooper.

Location Connections: some members ski on arrival or departure days at the following areas: Copper, A-Basin, Keystone, Vail or Beaver Creek. Tell me.

Cost: Shared double queen is \$215, single queen is \$350. **Deposit:** \$50 was due November 5th. **Balance:** \$165 or \$300 respectively was due at the February 7, FSC meetings. Please communicate your roommate preference.

Please make checks (preferred by leader to any ePay) payable to *Flatirons Ski Club* and mail them to:

Ed Gostling, Trip Leader

March 2026 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1	2	3	4 FSC General Meeting 7:00 PM Snowmass	5 Thursday Hike 7:45 AM Ski Trip	6 FAC 4:00 PM Comfort Inn Carbondale	7
8 Daylight Saving Time	9 Book Club Meeting	10	11 Leadville	12 Thursday Hike 8:45 AM Ski Trip	13 FAC 4:00 PM Columbine Inn & Suites	14
15	16	17 St. Patrick's Day	18	19 Thursday Hike 8:45 AM	20 FAC 4:00 PM	21 April Newsletter submittals due
22	23	24	25	26 Thursday Hike 8:45 AM	27 FAC 4:00 PM	28
29 Palm Sunday	30	31				

FSC Board Members

President	Louisa Young
V. President	Joe Golden
Secretary	Beth Gaffney
Treasurer	Martha Parks
Publicity	Linda LaGanga
Newsletter	Marianne Bachmann
Membership	Linda Giandinoto
Social Chair	Tina Ramp
Safety Chair	Arnie Mullen
Downhill & Nordic Ski Chair	Richard Varey
Activities Co-Chair	Tom Cannon
Activities Co-Chair	Dorothy Cohen
Member at Large	
Webmaster	Mark Stangl