

Flatirons Ski Club



July 2026

An Outdoor Multi Sports and Social
Group

www.FlatironsSkiClub.com

THE NEXT GENERAL MEETING WILL BE

OCTOBER 7TH, 7 PM

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

Message from the President

I hope you are enjoying your summer. Close to 90 members had a great time at the Spring Fling Picnic held in Louisville on Saturday, June 13th. It was a resounding success and we all extended our thanks and appreciation to our hard-working organizers, Tina and Bruce Ramp, and the many volunteers that helped pull it off.

Changes are coming to our Trip Sign-up Form and the Roster. In response to a request by trip leaders and participants, Richard Varey is leading an effort to gather data about our members' preferred activities so trip leaders can better assist members wishing to participate but desire more information before committing.

Also, our General Meeting place may need to change at the start of our next Winter Season and if so, information about it will be posted in our Newsletter.

We have reached 272 members and I hope to eventually meet all of you at our various activities and gatherings.

Remember to check out our continually improving Web page at <https://flatironsskiclub.com> and if desired, our Webmaster would love your feedback.

Thanks, and Happy Summering, **Juan Contreras, President**

Tina and Bruce, the FSC Social Chairs, shout out a big **Thank You** to everyone who came out to the Spring Fling and especially all of those who helped with set up and clean up. It was a beautiful day with lots of good food and time to visit with friends.

Save the date for our next social event. **The Fall Membership Picnic will be held on Sept 12 in Lyons, CO.**

P.S. Tina did lose a pair of black Ray Ban sunglasses at the picnic. If found please contact her.

FSC Publicity Resources

Need to look up current FSC activities or get your friends connected with our club? Our public website, flatironsskiclub.com, has our monthly newsletters, trip and activity calendars, membership forms, and more! Please send photos from recent FSC activities to our Web master, Mark Stangl, to keep the site looking fresh and current.

And you can post photos in our public Flatirons Ski Club group on **Facebook** about FSC events/activities. Want help with Facebook to join or post to the group, or to set up your Facebook account?

Linda LaGanga, Publicity Chair, will be glad to help.

Let's keep our FSC experiences and excitement flowing!

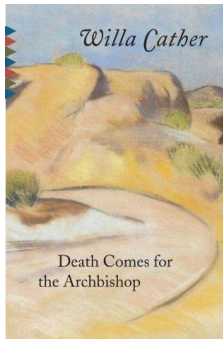
FSC Book Club

If you are interested in joining the FSC Book Club, please contact Amy Varey to be added to our distribution list. Please be sure to RSVP to her meeting reminder email so the host can plan to accommodate attendees.

Date: Monday, July 13th, 2026
Time: 7:00 pm
Discussion Leader & Host: Richard Patnoe
Location: Boulder Rural Fire Rescue
6230 Lookout Road, Gunbarrel

Book: “Death Comes For The Archbishop” by Willa Cather

Description:



Willa Cather's best-known novel is an epic almost mythic story of a single human life lived simply in the silence of the southwestern desert. In 1851 Father Jean Marie Latour comes to serve as the Apostolic Vicar to New Mexico. What he finds is a vast territory of red hills and tortuous arroyos, American by law but Mexican and Indian in custom and belief. In the almost forty years that follow, Latour spreads his faith in the only way he knows - gently, all the while contending with an unforgiving landscape, derelict and sometimes openly rebellious priests, and his own loneliness. Out of these events, Cather gives us an indelible vision of life unfolding in a place where time itself seems suspended.

Amy Lem Varey, Book Club Leader

Thursday Hikes July 2026



If you're 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 will take care of it.

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 June we hiked:

- Hessie Trail to Lost Lake
- Fowler Trail to Rattlesnake Gulch
- Lion Gulch Trail to Homestead Meadow
- Caribou Old Town (Caribou Hill Trail)

We have a list of future hikes that we will match with current weather and trail conditions that include:

- Camp Dick - Middle St Vrain TH/Buchanan Pass Trail
- Sourdough Trail to South St. Vrain Loop
- Hessie Trail to Devil's Thumb Bypass Loop, back on Devil's Thumb Trail
- Rocky Mountain National Park hikes

We hope you'll come out and join us for July hikes to witness the seasonal changes.

2026 July Tuesday Evening Hikes

Tuesday hikes are being planned by Sue Evans. We will hike for an hour or so, followed by a potluck and social time. Please bring a dish to share (enough for 5 or 6 people along with your own plate and silverware.

Following is the schedule for July:

- July 7 Coordinators Marianne Bachmann and Jim Shaw - Viele Lake. Jim and Marianne will take us for a hike in the Viele Lake neighborhood. The potluck will be at a park pavilion.
- July 14 Coordinator Pat Irwin - Bike and Hike. Some members will Bike and some will hike. Potluck will be at Pat's house.
- July 21 Coordinator Herman Sievering - CU Campus. We will meet in front (Southside) of Macky Hall at 6:00 PM. Walk and talk through a variety of trees that date back to the 1800's. Bring happy hour snack to share on campus. Come early to find parking near campus.
- July 28 Coordinator Warren de Haan – Meet at Warren's home (see FSC roster). He will lead us along the Skunk Canyon trail to the Meas Trail. We will walk on the trail and return to Warren's house for a potluck.

SUMMER WILDFLOWERS in CRESTED BUTTE

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

THIS TRIP IS FULL. The waiting list is open (no deposit required).
Contact the trip leaders Linda and Chris Paris to join the waiting list or with questions.

General information trip details were published in the February 2026 newsletter on page 4, in the March 2026 newsletter on page 4-5 and in the April 2026 newsletter on page 5-6 – refer to these descriptions for more information.

Members staying at lodging elsewhere who wish to participate in the trip events and Happy Hours need to sign up with the trip leaders and send \$20 participation fee.

2026 Wildflower Rambles



Rambles activities are deferred until further notice because of conditions and scheduling. The reports about wildflowers so far this season and what we have seen personally have been very disappointing – the advance planning and communication required exceed the quality of the experience for everyone. In addition, ramble leadership is not available to schedule dates until then due to other personal commitments.

The recent rains of the last few days are encouraging that this season's wildflower bloom may improve – we won't go as far as saying "recover". Hopefully, the newly establishing weather pattern will bring more moisture to us and some wildflowers will rebound. We'll reassess and regroup in July.

Meanwhile, if you are interested in participating when we start up, contact Linda Paris by email to join the list. Detailed information about place/time, leaders, meet up for carpooling, directions and trail attributes will be sent out by email to the interest list when dates and localities are set.

Uncle Bud's Hut Trip August 10-12, 2026



Uncle Bud's Hut, owned by 10th Mountain, is similar in aspect and construction to the 10th Mountain Division Hut. Views from the south window-wall include a panorama of 14,421-foot Mount Massive and the bare pate of Bald Eagle Mountain. The hut was built as a memorial to 10th Mountain Division veteran Bud Winter (1925-1945), who was killed in action in Italy during World War II, and was one of 33 soldiers who completed the legendary "trooper traverse"

winter ski crossing from Leadville to Aspen in February of 1944. Funds for the hut were given by Bud's brother, Dr. Fred Winter. His sister Laura contributed the proceeds from her poetry book *Laura's Lines*.

Layout and capacity: Two-level hut with four distinct sleeping areas. Upstairs: 2 private bedrooms, 1 with 6 beds, 1 with 4 beds, and a communal sleeping area with 7 single mattresses. Capacity 16.

Hut Location: Uncle Bud's Hut is located just a few miles east of the Continental Divide at 11,380' in the Rocky Mountains of central Colorado, nearest town is the city of Leadville.

You can access Uncle Bud's during the summer by driving around Turquoise Lake and taking FS Road 107 to the summer closure gate approximately 1/4 mile from the hut.

The [Colorado Trail](#) runs right near Uncle Bud's Hut and provides beautiful hiking in either direction. There is another nearby trailhead that provides a great hike. Galena Mountain also makes a beautiful destination hike. For a longer day of hiking, you can head down the [Colorado Trail](#) southwest to the Timberline Lake trailhead and hike back up to the lake for some excellent fishing.

The Club has reserved 3 nights (Aug. 10-12). Sign up to plan and provide the materials (Club reimburses) for a breakfast or dinner (you need to bring your own lunches). Everyone helps with preparation and clean-up. The Club will provide potable water. Note there are no showers or flush toilets (there is an outhouse). The setting has amazing views of the night sky if the weather cooperates. Cost is \$150 per person. Deadline for payment is July 1.

Louisa Young, Trip Leader

FSC Fall Bicycle Ride

Tuesday September 29 to Thursday October 1, 2026



The routes have been scouted and we will be doing parts or all of the Garden of the Gods, Manitou Springs, the Greenway, areas around the Broadmoor Hotel and Old Colorado City. There are some significant hill climbs in these areas but the cycling is great.

Eight double-queen rooms have been reserved at a 15 percent discount at the Buffalo Lodge, a renovated 1920's lodge that specializes in bicycle tourism. The lodge is clean, funky, and an all-around delight with a continental breakfast.

Please make your own reservations by calling 719-634-2851 and having the hotel remove my name and place yours in my stead. They have rooms with

kitchenettes and other amenities. In addition, send a \$25 NONREFUNDABLE check made out to the Flatirons Ski Club to Richard Patnoe, see FSC roster, by July 15.

This will secure your place on this adventuresome event.

By the way, they have a bluegrass concert weekend beginning on Friday afternoon, October 2, for those who wish to stay over.

Richard Patnoe, Trip Leader

Avalanche Ranch Trip **Sunday October 4 to Wednesday October 7, 2026**



The club has once again reserved three cabins and the Ranch House at Avalanche Ranch for our annual fall getaway.

Sign-ups will begin in August.

We are currently finalizing the cost, which will depend on the number of participants.

The estimated cost is **\$300 per person for three nights**.

To help us determine final pricing, please contact the trip leader by **July 15** to indicate your interest and provide any roommate preferences. We will publish the final cost in the August newsletter.

If you have never experienced Avalanche Ranch, this is a wonderful opportunity to enjoy Colorado's spectacular fall colors while hiking, biking, or simply relaxing.

Guests also have access to the ranch's renowned 24/7 onsite hot spring pools. As always, we'll gather for nightly happy hours and delicious potluck dinners, making this a fun and memorable club event.

We hope you'll join us!

Tom Cannon will once again be organizing this popular trip.

2027 FSC Save-the-Date Ski Calendar

Dates	Destination	Lodging	# of Spaces	Nights	Lift Tix	Trip Leaders
Jan 12-15	Crested Butte	Cristiana Guesthaus	23	3	Epic	Linda & Chris Paris
Jan 18-21	Steamboat	Homewood Suites	40	3	Ikon	Tom Cannon
Jan 26-29	Fraser Winter Park	Fraser House Alpine Center	17	3	Ikon	Louisa Young
Feb 2-4	Snowy Range	Old Corral Hotel	18	2	Misc	Janne Cookman
Feb 9-12	Monarch Mountain	Baymont (Salida)	20	3	Misc	Donna Cooper
Feb 16-19	Vail/Beaver Creek	Comfort Inn Avon	20	3	Epic	Susan McGannon & Sue Bolton
Feb 22-25	Snow Mt Ranch	YMCA of the Rockies	28	3	Ikon	Beth Gaffney
March 1-5	Aspen/Snow mass	Comfort Inn & Suites Carbondale	40	3 or 4	Ikon Full (Base-Snowmass	Richard Varey
March 9-11	Leadville/Ski Cooper	Columbine Inn	40	2	Misc	Ed Gostling
March 22-26	Telluride	Mountainside Inn	15-20	4	Epic Full/day	Joe Golden

**** Note:** The sign-up for Flatirons' scheduled ski trips in 2027 will begin at our October 7, 2026, monthly meeting. We will let you know the particulars following the September board meeting. Deposit amounts and trip costs will be noted in the Ski Calendar in the October newsletter. No sign-ups or deposits will be taken into account by the trip leaders until the October meeting.

HEADSUP

FSC RETURN TO TELLURIDE MARCH 22-26, 2027

Joe Golden is proposing to lead a **POSSIBLE** return trip after 15 years to Telluride. We would stay at the Mountainside Inn, which is a ski-in/ski-out downtown, one block from the lift. Telluride is one of the most spectacular scenic ski resorts in the US - 30 of the 52 Colorado 14ers are in this part of the state. Telluride is on the full EPIC pass, or you can buy an EPIC day pass - 4 days for \$460. Estimated lodging costs are \$120-\$140 pp/night.

PLEASE CONTACT JOE GOLDEN BY JULY 15 IF YOU WOULD BE INTERESTED IN JOINING THIS TRIP. For the trip to happen, we need enough members to show interest early.

In addition, your trip leaders are arranging another 9 trips to the same resorts as past season, with some date changes as you can see in the above 2027 FSC Save-the-Date Ski Calendar. May this help you to plan ahead, although dates are subject to change at this early stage.

Richard Varey, Downhill & Nordic Ski Chair

2026 FSC Summer/Fall Calendar		
Date/s	Description of Activity	Leaders/Organizers
5-3 to 5-8-2026	Annual Moab Trip	Ruth Durst & Janne Cookman
5-12-2026	Denver Art Museum	Tom Canon & Dorothy Cohen
5-27-2026	Rafting on the Poudre River	Dorothy Cohen
6-3-2026	Rocky Mountain Raptor Facility	Dorothy Cohen
6-13-2026	Annual FSC Spring Fling at Louisville Community Park	Tina & Bruce Ramp
7-7 to 7-10-2026	Summer Wildflowers in Crested Butte	Chris & Linda Paris
8-10 to 8-12-2026	Uncle Bud's Hut Trip	Louisa Young
9-12-2026	Annual FSC Membership Picnic at the Lavern M. Johnson Park, Lyons	Tina & Bruce Ramp
9-29 to 10-1-2026	Fall FSC Bicycle Ride	Richard Patnoe
10-4 to 10-7-2026	Annual Avalanche Ranch Trip	Tom Canon
12-12-2026	FSC Holiday Party	Tina & Bruce Ramp

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.

July 2026 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2 Thursday Hike 7:45 AM	3 FAC 4:00 PM	4 Happy Fourth of July
5	6	7 Tuesday Hike 6:00 PM Wildflowers	8 In Crested Butte	9 Thursday Hike 7:45 AM Annual	10 FAC 4:00 PM Trip	11
12	13 Book Club Meeting	14 Tuesday Hike 6:00 PM	15	16 Thursday Hike 7:45 AM	17 FAC 4:00 PM	18
19	20 August Newsletter submittals due	21 Tuesday Hike 6:00 PM	22	23 Thursday Hike 7:45 AM	24 FAC 4:00 PM	25
26	27	28 Tuesday Hike 6:00 PM	29	30 Thursday Hike 7:45 AM	31 FAC 4:00 PM	

FSC Board Members effective May 2026

President	Juan Contreras
V. President	Michael Chapman
Secretary	Beth Gaffney
Treasurer	Martha Parks
Publicity	Linda LaGanga
Newsletter	Marianne Bachmann
Membership	Linda Giandinoto
Social Co-Chairs	Tina & Bruce 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