

Flatirons Ski Club



August 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

It has surely been a hot and dry summer, yet our Thursday hikers are finding plenty of beautiful wildflowers in bloom at higher elevations. In case you were not aware, they routinely post photos after their hikes on the Facebook Flatirons Ski Club group page. Fortunately, the weather forecast for the end of July promises a wet monsoon season in Colorado.

The Avalanche Ranch trip details are now posted, and Tom Cannon needs an approximate headcount to finalize arrangements. Find more details below!

As in previous years, the FSC Board will not meet in July and will reconvene in August. Time certainly flies, and we have already successfully completed most of our summer activities. Now, we can start looking forward to the Fall Picnic, the next General Meeting, and the start of the next ski season. Until then, please remember to stay active and well-hydrated.

Thanks, **Juan Contreras, President**

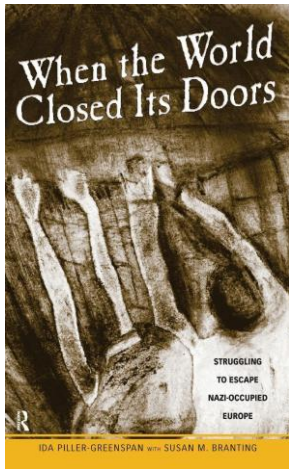
FSC Book Club

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, August 10, 2026
Time: 7:00 pm
Discussion Leader & Host: Richard Varey
Location: Boulder Rural Fire Rescue
6230 Lookout Road, Gunbarrel

Book: "When the World Closed Its Doors" by Ida Piller-Greenspan & Susan M. Branting

Description:



A memoir of one couple's escape from the Nazis. At the beginning of World War II, the US and other countries erected a "paper wall", -- a bureaucratic maze that prevented all but a small number of Jewish refugees from emigrating from Nazi-Occupied Europe.

When the World Closed Its Doors tells the true story of a young couple who, like many European Jews, were caught between the Nazis and the "paper wall." Ida Piller-Greenspan was married in Belgium on May 9, 1940. That night the Nazis invaded Belgium. She and her new husband survived the next four months hitchhiking through occupied territory, hiding in barns and tunnels, dodging bombs near Dunkirk, crossing the Pyrenees on foot, and enduring weeks with little food and no money. Ultimately, they arrived in Portugal, certain they would find sanctuary somewhere in the world beyond Europe's borders. But their trials were not over. It took nine anxious months for them to find a country that would let them in. Months spent watching in horror as most refugees were forced back to uncertain lives in their home countries. Forty years later, Ida, an accomplished artist, created a pictorial diary of their journey. Her prints - lyrical, haunting, and compelling - are accompanied by a page-turning narrative that bears witness to this treacherous and largely forgotten chapter of World War II history.

Amy Lem Varey, Book Club Leader

Thursday Hikes

August 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.

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 JULY we hiked:

- ❖ Caribou Hill
- ❖ Camp Dick – Middle St Vrain/Buchanan Pass Trail
- ❖ South Boulder Creek Trail to Crater Lakes Trail
- ❖ Golden Gate Canyon State Park – Panorama Point via Mule Deer & Raccoon Trails
- ❖ Brainard Lake Gateway Parking – Sourdough/South St Vrain/Waldrop Loop

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

- Hessie Trail to Devil's Thumb Bypass Loop, back on Devil's Thumb Trail
- RMNP hikes -Ouzel Falls/Thunder Lake Loop
- Butler Gulch
- Golden Gate Canyon State Park – several trails to choose from
- Camp Dick to Beaver Reservoir Loop via Buchanan Pass Trail

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

2026 August 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.

Please call the Coordinator if you have any questions. Their phone number is in the club roster.

August 4 Coordinator Louisa Young – We will gather at Louisa Young's house in west Boulder. There is very little parking in the Cul de sac so please park on the street or Settler's Park. The park is a one long block back to the house. This is an urban trail with a little bit of mountain. From Louisa's house we will follow the sidewalk through Ebin Fine park. We will take the

trail that goes to the Viewpoint but will go left when the trail splits. The trail ends close to University and 5th Street. We will follow the sidewalk back to Louisa's house.

- August 11 Coordinator Pat Irwin - Meet at Pat's house. From here some people will go for a bike ride and others will walk nearby trails such as Bobolink or East Boulder Park.
- August 18 Coordinator Herman Severing - CU campus tree walk. Meet at the main entrance to Macky Auditorium to walk and talk about the history of the Campus trees. It's a rich and varied history. Bring a snack and drink. Come early to find a parking place.
- August 25 Coordinator Michael Chapman - A tour of the Community Gardens in north Boulder with a possibility of seeing the Iris gardens and some goats.

Uncle Bud's Hut Trip - Cancellation

The Uncle Bud's Hut trip is cancelled. It is in the mandatory evacuation area for the Willow Fire at this writing. We hope the fire will be out by the time we would have gone (August 10-12), but, even if it is and the hut survives, there will be smoke damage. Imagine if the fire happened while we were up there without cell service or a way to recharge our phones. It is disappointing, but the best course of action is to cancel the trip.

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. **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



Once again, the club has reserved cabins at Avalanche Ranch near Redstone for what we hope will be the peak of Colorado's spectacular fall colors. Whether you enjoy hiking, biking, soaking in the ranch's 24/7 natural hot spring pools, or simply relaxing, this is a wonderful opportunity to experience the beauty of autumn in the mountains.

Avalanche Ranch is also close enough to Aspen for a day trip to visit the free art museum, stroll through the John Denver Peace Park, or explore the town.

The trip begins on Sunday afternoon, October 4, and we will check out by 10:00 a.m. on Wednesday, October 7. **The cost for this three-night getaway is just \$275 per person.**

To reserve your spot, please mail a check payable to FSC to the trip leader, Tom Cannon. His mailing address is listed in the FSC roster. There was an enthusiastic response to the advance notice, so please send your check soon to secure your reservation.

Each evening, we will gather for a happy hour. Everyone is invited to bring a favorite snack and beverage to share. Dinner on the first night will feature both meat and vegetarian chili, and chicken will be served on the second night. Members are also asked to contribute a side dish, salad, or dessert. A sign-up sheet will be available. As always, there's usually plenty of delicious leftovers for a festive feast on the third evening!

If you have any questions, please contact the trip leader.

Tom Cannon, Trip Leader

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.

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:** Sign-ups for Flatirons' scheduled 2027 ski trips will begin at the October 7, 2026, monthly meeting. Details will be shared after the September board meeting. Deposit amounts and trip costs will be listed in the October newsletter's Ski Calendar. Trip leaders will not accept sign-ups or deposits before the October meeting.

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 Cancelled	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.

August 2026 Calendar

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Happy 150th Colorado Day!
2	3	4 Tuesday Hike 6:00 PM	5	6 Thursday Hike 7:45 AM	7 FAC 4:00 PM	8
9	10 Book Club Meeting	11 Tuesday Hike 6:00 PM	12	13 Thursday Hike 7:45 AM	14 FAC 4:00 PM	15
16	17	18 Tuesday Hike 6:00 PM	19 September Newsletter submittals due	20 Thursday Hike 7:45 AM	21 FAC 4:00 PM	22
23	24	25 Tuesday Hike 6:00 PM	26	27 Thursday Hike 7:45 AM	28 FAC 4:00 PM	29
30	31					

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