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Greater Arkansas River Nature Association



Photo by Colin Treworgy

Happy Holidays from all of us at GARNA!

The GARNA Gab - December 2015

garna.org

Upcoming Programs/Events

Colorado Gives Day!

NOW thru Tuesday, December 8



Support GARNA on Colorado Gives Day! On Tuesday, December 8, Coloradans will come together to raise millions of dollars for nonprofits like ours. Leverage your giving for youth programs, stewardship and environmental education! When you give online any time on or before December 8, 100% of your donation will come to us plus the value of your donation will be increased by the FirstBank Incentive Fund. Donate [ONLINE](#) to "give where you live". Even a little helps a lot. Thank you!

Ski with a Naturalist Tours

Every Friday beginning December 11 * 11:00 am to 12:00 pm *



Don't know what to get for the person who doesn't need anything? A one-year GARNA membership is a thoughtful gift and supports our mission. Plus, members receive discounts on merchandise at GARNA sales outlets, discounted program registration and much more. Simply print out this [membership form](#) and mail or email to GARNA. We will send out a gift card to the recipient right away with your name and a letter to you confirming your donation.

SAVE the DATE!

GARNA's 20th year is 2016 and we are planning a BIG celebration on **Thursday, April 7**. We will not have our usual early February annual meeting and

Monarch Mountain

Free, on-hill tour at our local ski area. Guests of all ages and abilities are welcome. The 45 minute tour will be offered every Friday at 11:00 am through March. Tom McCollum will be our guide this year. Tom is a wildland fire fighter with the US Forest Service and will bring a unique perspective to the tour.

AHRA Holiday Open House

Friday, December 18 * 1:00 to 4:00 pm * AHRA headquarters, 307 W Sackett, Salida

All ages welcome to the Arkansas Headwaters Recreation Area Open House. AHRA Volunteer Bob Hickey will be there with a Geology and Rock "touch table" exhibit. Crafts and other activities for the kids. Holiday refreshments will be served. Find great stocking stuffers at the GARNA outlet and all items will be 10% off (always 20% for members!)

Backcountry Basics

Thursday, January 21 * 6:30 pm * First Presbyterian Church in Salida * \$5 members, \$8 non members

With backcountry enthusiasts on the rise and Chaffee County being home to 14,000-foot peaks, the Arkansas River and countless hiking, biking, four-wheel drive and snowmobile trails, it is not uncommon for our search and rescue volunteers to be called out on more than 60 missions a year. Learn more about tips to keep safe and prepared for the winter months. The workshop will be led by Don Dubin who is a member of Chaffee County Search and Rescue and is certified as both a wilderness first responder and a swiftwater rescue technician. Registration will open soon.

Not a GARNA member?

GARNA is the Arkansas River Valley's only local broadly focused conservation and educational institution with non-profit status. GARNA is supported by membership fees. We have over 300 members and growing... [will you join us?](#) Benefits for GARNA members:

- 20% discount on all items at all times in GARNA book and map outlets
- Advanced notification and invitations to special events and activities
- Reduced registration fees for GARNA programs
- Access to GARNA's special interest clubs

Thank you for supporting GARNA and our mission of fostering stewardship of the resources of the greater Arkansas River region through education, volunteerism and experiences.

Sincerely,

instead we'll mark this important milestone. Please stay tuned for many more details.

Goodbye to Board of Directors Dabby Olson, Janet Blessington and Harper Powell

Dabby has served on the Board since 2010. She was instrumental in developing our youth program, was a minute-taker extraordinaire and helped GARNA the last 5 years in countless ways! We cannot thank her enough!

Janet has served on the Board since the beginning of 2014. Janet was incredibly helpful with fundraising, program planning and overall keeping us on track at meetings! Thank you so much Janet for your dedication.

Harper was our inaugural Student Board member for 1 year. She represented the youth of our community well and always came to meetings with a smile. Thanks Harper for giving back to your community through GARNA.

GARNA Board of Directors

Paul Robertson, Chair
Aaron Derwingson, Vice Chair
JD Longwell, Treasurer
Dibby Olson, Secretary
Deb Bass
Janet Blessington
Jody Bol
Kate Garwood
Emily Katsimpalis
John McCarthy
Logan Myers
Harper Powell



Alan Robinson, Friends of Fourmile
Kate Garwood, Upper Arkansas Wilderness Volunteers
Steve Harris, Chaffee County Heritage Board

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