



# Lines

Newsletter of the  
Climbing Wall Association

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## Intro

February has been an eventful month here at the CWA. In the past few weeks, we have finalized two new publications (to be released soon) and partnered with Walltopia as the first ever Title Sponsor of the Climbing Wall Summit.

At the CWA, our goal is to provide you with the resources and information to keep our industry moving forward. Need something? [Let us know!](#) We will work with you to find the solution.

Sincerely,

Bill Zimmermann  
*Chief Executive Officer*  
*Climbing Wall Association*

## Walltopia Signs on as First Ever Title Sponsor

Walltopia, an international leader in climbing wall construction, has partnered with the Climbing Wall Association as the first ever Title Sponsor at this year's Climbing Wall Summit. Walltopia has produced some of the finest quality artificial climbing walls around the globe. Originally founded in Bulgaria, Walltopia's innovative structures have made the company a strong presence in the US market. Walltopia has built some of the largest commercial climbing gyms in North America, with facilities reaching 30,000 square feet. [Read the Press Release>](#)

## Industry Insight: Auto Belay Management Part 2

In last month's newsletter, we asked for your input regarding instances of unclipped auto belay climbers. A CWA member who was interested in hearing what solutions are being implemented across the industry requested this topic. We received an overwhelming response from climbing wall managers and auto belay manufacturers. [Read the full article>](#)

## Legal Case Study: Delaware Rock Gym

After learning of possible undesirable workers comp classifications for indoor-climbing facilities from the first Climbing Wall Summit, Matt McCorquodale of Delaware Rock Gym began investigating the classification of his business. Feeling that the classification was inaccurate, Matt appealed DRG's classification and requested reclassification with the help of the CWA. [Read the full Case Study>](#)

## Common Practices: Preventing Un-clipped Auto Belay Climbers

Do you use a checklist to get new climbers oriented to your facility? We are collecting examples of checklists to understand what commercial climbing gyms are doing to on-board novice climbers. If you use a checklist to track the process of getting a novice climber qualified to use an auto-belay, to boulder, to top rope or lead in your facility, please send it to [bill@climbingwallindustry.org](mailto:bill@climbingwallindustry.org) with the subject "checklist." We will review them and produce an exemplar for member use.

## Member Spotlight: UNL

University outdoor programs have taken off in recent years. At the forefront of this movement is the Outdoor Adventure program housed in Campus Recreation at University of Nebraska - Lincoln. Led by Kyle Hansen, the program boasts guided trips, a climbing (wall) area, challenge course, and a multitude of other student-led adventure opportunities. They are currently breaking ground a new Outdoor Adventure Center. [Read the interview>](#)