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BACKCOUNTRY CACHE

A Newsletter for Members of CMC Backpacking Section

April 2023

CHAIR'S CORNER - Uwe Sartori

The Backpacking Section Committee is super stoked with the BPX member response to our BPX Season 4 Trips. I did a quick tally this morning. Over 70% of the 60+ trips are SOLD OUT, with quite a few having sizable standby lists. We're reaching out to our BPX Trip Leaders to see if they would be able to post additional trips that are in high demand. Stay tuned.

An apology is owed to those who tried to log on April 1 and were unable to do so or found the going incredibly slow. The website was apparently overwhelmed. I hope for those of you who experienced this, you were still able to sign up for your trip. We're working with the CMC to have a solution in place for next season.

A favor, please. Submit your photos to our Facebook group page. Send them to us, we'll post them for you. Inspire your fellow members by sharing your stories! As a community of CMC BPX backpackers, we support each other by sharing our adventures, stories, and memories of the BPX trips built for you. Make this a season to remember!

UPCOMING BPX TRIPS

Trip registration is initially restricted to 3 BPX Backpacking and/or Camping trips, whether you are on 3 separate trip rosters, 3 waitlists, or a combination thereof. However, BPX members can now sign up for any May trips, regardless of how many BPX trips they have already registered for. Remember that you must be a member of the BPX Section to join a BPX Trip. See BPX Renewal info below.

E=Easy M=Moderate D=Difficult

May Trips With Openings*

There are currently no trips in May with openings, but please keep checking the CMC website.

May Trips With 0-1 on Waitlist*

*As Of April 20

You can check your trip status by hovering over you name at the top of the main CMC Home Page and selecting the *My Activities* option from the dropdown. This brings up a page with the activities you have registered for along with your status--Registered (on the trip) or Waitlist and your position on the waitlist. If you are on the waitlist, keep checking since there are often cancellations.

Whether you are on a waitlist or a roster, if you decide to NOT go on a trip, please CANCEL AS SOON AS POSSIBLE. It may not seem necessary if you are on a waitlist, but many trips have a relatively high turnover shortly before the trip, so please cancel from waitlists as well to open up a spot for the next person.

[Mountain Side Gear Rental](#) in Golden rents backpacking gear with a 25% discount for CMC Members.

SCHOOLS/EVENTS

DENVER

[BACKPACKING SCHOOL](#) Starts [Jun 6](#)

[DAY HIKER SCHOOL](#) Virtual Alternative to WTS. More info [here](#)

[TRIP LEADER SCHOOL](#) More info [here](#)

[CPR/AED FOR OUTDOOR ENTHUSIASTS](#) [May 18](#)

[INTRO TO HIKING SAFETY](#) [May 23](#) [Jun 13](#) [Jul 11](#)

[AIARE LEVEL 1](#) [April 28-30](#)

[WILDERNESS SURVIVAL SCHOOL](#) Starts [May 8](#)

[BACKCOUNTRY INCIDENT MANAGEMENT SCHOOL \(BIMS\)](#) [May 20](#) [Jun 17](#) [Aug 19](#) [Sep 23](#)

PIKES PEAK (PPG)

[WILDERNESS FUNDAMENTALS](#) [Classroom Jun 5](#), [Field Jun 10](#) [Classroom Sep 25](#), [Field Sep 30](#)

[INTRO TO BACKPACKING](#) Starts [Jul 10](#) [Aug 14](#)

WESTERN SLOPE

[INTRO TO HIKING SAFETY](#) [May 20](#)

STATE

[WILDERNESS FIRST AID/FIRST RESPONDER](#) Multiple Offerings - Check CMC Website [here](#)

[NAVIGATION Virtual Courses:](#) [Nav1](#) [Nav2](#)

[ANNUAL LEADERSHIP SUMMIT](#) [May 13-14](#)

Continue to check the CMC website for additional courses.

BPX TRIP REPORTS

Winter Camping - Abyss Lake Trail

Trip Leader Daniel Schweissing - Denver Group

Daniel continued his winter BPX adventures leading a backpack in March up the Abyss Lake trail.

Trip Stats: 1 night, 2 days, 3 backpackers, 8.4 miles, 12 degrees nighttime low, 35 degrees daytime high, 1400' elevation gain, 9621' starting elevation, 10231' campsite elevation, 10822' max elevation.



Please share your BPX Adventures, Trip Reports, and Photos with the rest of us, your backpacking community. You can add them directly to FB and Instagram or send them to maggie.burns1@gmail.com, and she will post them for you on FB. Send them to cmcbpxnewsletter@gmail.com to publish in the BPX Newsletter.

YOUTH EDUCATION PROGRAM (YEP) GEAR WISHLIST

If you have any gear hanging around that you no longer use but is still in decent shape and longing to be on an adventure, please consider donating it to YEP. This summer YEP could use your gear for the programs they are leading: 4 day/3 night overnight hut trip in Indian Peaks Wilderness; Two 5 day overnight rock climbing trips; overnight camping; and backpacking 2 segments of the Colorado Trail!

- 5 gallon camping water jugs
- Walkie Talkies (Rockie Talkies preferred)
- Trekking Poles
- Backpacking stoves (Whisperlites preferred)
- Mr. Buddy space heater
- Duct Tape
- Paracord
- Surveyor Tape
- Brand new booster seats (transportation for our smaller kiddos)
- 55-70 Liter backpacking packs
- Wool socks for backpacking
- Sunglasses
- Sun Shirts
- Hiking boots (Sizes 6-13)
- Hiking clothing (pants, shirts)
- Pack covers for backpacks (55-70L)
- Rain pants
- Water bottles (1 Liter)
- Camp bowls/plates

You can drop your gear off in the Colorado Mountain Club Suite in the lower level of the American Mountaineering Center in Golden.

BPX TIP OF THE MONTH

Gear Nerd Review

I confess I spend too much time looking at gear (my husband has threatened to do a gear intervention), but I recently purchased a couple of inexpensive items that are worth sharing.

The first is the **FLEXTAIL Tiny Pump X**. How many times after a long day of backpacking have you found your “huff and puff” all gone but still need to blow up your sleeping pad? I have an older Therm-a-rest NeoAir (yellow, crinkly) pad, and using the Tiny Pump was able to inflate it in less than a minute. The only effort required was turning the pump on and holding its nozzle over the pad’s valve. I inflated my CoCoon pillow in 10 seconds. The Tiny Pump is rechargeable, and the website says it’s good for up to 15 minutes on a full charge. The pump can be used not only to inflate but to deflate as well and to suck the air out of a vacuum bag. But there’s more... It also has a light with 3 brightness settings and a hanging loop. The pump is noisy, but probably not any more annoying than my wheezing and cursing that goes on for much longer than a minute while using my breath to inflate my pad. Plus, this might be good for your pad since our breath is full of moisture that can potentially cause mold to grow in it and maybe even freeze. The Tiny Pump X comes with 5 different nozzles, so odds are good that there will be one that works with your pad. The FLEXTAIL website states that it weighs 2.82 oz. My scale with the pump and nozzle I need came in at 3.2 oz. So for me this is well worth the lung effort saved. I purchased mine on Amazon for \$25.48, but you can also buy it on the FLEXTAIL website [here](#).



My second find is the **FlipFuel**. I have a Snow Peak GigaPower stove since fuel canisters just seem like the simplest to use. But I am always faced with the challenge of does this canister have enough fuel left for my backpack; should I take it and another previously used canister; should I just punt and buy a new one and add this one to my collection of partially used canisters? The FlipFuel tool allows you to easily transfer fuel from one isobutane canister to another, potentially minimizing waste and preventing the need to carry multiple half-full canisters with you into the backcountry. You simply get the receiving canister cold, like putting it in the freezer for a few minutes, and the sending canister warm by putting it in the sun or by a furnace vent. Then you connect the FlipFuel device between the two, open the valve, and voila—fuel is sucked from one canister into the other. I recently tested my FlipFuel on a couple of pretty empty canisters I had. My Send canister started with a weight of 4.0 oz, and my Receive canister 3.95 oz. After the fuel transfer, my Send canister weighed 3.7 oz and my Receive canister 4.25 oz. There was still some fuel left in my Send canister, so I burned it off before puncturing it with my **Jetboil Crunchit Recycling Tool** and throwing it in the trash. The FlipFuel costs \$35 and can be purchased from the FlipFuel Website [here](#).



If you have a backpacking tip you would like to share or a suggestion for something you would like to learn more about, please email cmcbpxnewsletter@gmail.com

BPX MEMBER INFO

BPX FACEBOOK: [BPX FB](#) Send Photos and Trips Reports to post on BPX Facebook Page

to: maggie.burns1@gmail.com

BPX INSTAGRAM: [@co_backpacking_bpx](#)

BPX LINKS: Click [here](#) for BPX web page, [here](#) for BPX Member Benefits, and [here](#) for CMC Member Benefits.

BPX MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL: When renewing your CMC Membership, remember to choose the Backpacking Section on the SELECT YOUR SECTIONS page. Currently this is the only time you can renew your BPX membership online. Otherwise, call the CMC Office at (303) 279-3080 and they will take your \$20 membership payment.

DENVER GROUP MILEAGE REIMBURSEMENT GUIDELINES: [here](#)

FIRE INFO: [National Interagency Fire Center News](#) [Colorado Fire Restrictions](#)

For Foothill outings, remember to check the website for your trip to make sure there are no closures due to mud, hunting, wildlife calving, etc.

LEAD THE PACK

WELCOME NEW BPX TRIP LEADERS

Jillian Ardrey, Gore Range

BPX is always looking for awesome CMC Trip Leaders from ALL CMC groups interested in expanding their trip repertoire by leading backpacking trips. Email your interest and experience to cmcbpx@gmail.com. More info on becoming a Leader can be found [here](#).

BPX COMMITTEE NEEDS YOU!

Please consider joining the BPX Committee. It's a great way to give back for the great adventures and friendships BPX and CMC have provided for you, as well as to support the Backpacking Section in its continued growth and success. We have committee meetings once a month via Zoom, and sometimes in person. Expect 4-8 hours per month of volunteer work; sometimes more. To find out more, email cmcbpx@gmail.com. We'd love to have you!

CMC Backpacking Section Supports Leave No Trace

**CMC connects Coloradans with more than 3,000 trips, hikes and activities annually.
Members also receive huge deals on outdoor gear, lodging, events and more.**

JOIN

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