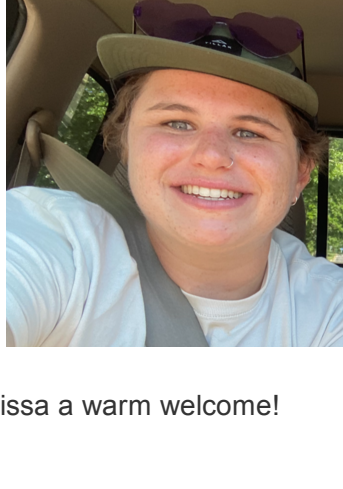




September 2022



CMC Welcomes Alissa Orgel

CMC has a new team member! Alissa is the new Trip Leader Support Coordinator. Alissa comes from the San Francisco Bay Area and is eager for adventure in the Colorado mountains. She has experience in agriculture, outdoor youth education, and outdoor stewardship. Reach out to Alissa for support in creating, organizing, and completing successful trips for the CMC. She will also work with the Adult Education Team to provide ongoing leadership development opportunities. Help us in giving

Alissa a warm welcome!

Leadership Summit / Pancake Breakfast @ Colorado Mountain Fest

Register now for the Education Department's biannual Leadership Summit on September 24, 2022! Join us during the CMC Mountain Fest weekend for an exclusive volunteer experience from 8 - 11am featuring breakfast, team building, a professional Diversity Equity & Inclusion seminar, and Volunteer Appreciation luncheon. This is the first of a three-part DEI series that can earn you a DEI-B Lifelong Learner badge, you won't want to miss it!



Register for Leadership Summit (8:00-10:30)



Register for Mountain Fest (11a - 7p)

Share your thoughts with Keegan!



It took me five attempts to reach the summit of Gray's Peak for the first time. Standing atop Mount Bierstadt for the first time I peered down the Sawtooth Ridge and thought, "Hell no!" On Pumori a few years ago my partner had to give up his summit attempt because I simply could not justify going higher that day. On Denali the same year I went to the summit in absurd conditions and out of water which resulted in frostbite - and a partner that had to help get me down the next few days. Including helping with my zippers... all of them. He summited too, but we've not climbed together since.

Like many climbers, I am fairly adept at the mental gymnastics of justification whilst walking back down to the trailhead. With the precision of a brain surgeon, I turn what was fear or exhaustion into an even more acceptable reason and/or excuse.

Partnership has been on my mind a lot. As have the dynamics of fear, risk aversion, courage, and the mountaineering psyche in general. Much has been written on most of these subjects, but I still can't get it off my mind and especially as it relates to partnership in the mountains.

When is moving forward or turning around unfair to our partner(s)?

When does prudent perseverance become irresponsible summit fever?

When is risk aversion based on real danger and risk versus apocalyptic thinking?

Partnership is a chemistry based on so many things including experience, common interests, attitudes, etc.

As we gain and lose partners, what is good advice for those aspiring disciples of mountain craft when it comes to choosing partners, being a good partner, and nurturing relationships?

What are the red flags to look out for when selecting partners?

I'd love to hear from you. What are your thoughts on these questions or simply your thoughts on fear, courage, responsibility, partnership in wild places?

Email Keegan Your Thoughts



BADGES Learn about our badges... How to earn them, use them, and what outdoor spaces they open for you.

We've been updating badges for your profile. All Wilderness First Aid badges on file through the State run Backcountry Pulse or Pikes Peak Group ECSI have been added to your account with the correct expiration date. You will receive a notification before your badge expires. If you are missing a WFA badge (or any badge) you can fill out this Google form.

Volunteer of the Month: Jacqueline Hooper



Jacqueline joined the CMC 5 years ago after looking online for hike opportunities in Pueblo. She started hiking intermittently with the El Pueblo Group (EPG) and then became hooked in 2020. She recently learned of other hike opportunities with the Pikes Peak Group (PPG) and most recently with the Denver group. Jacqueline now hikes 2-3 times a week with one or more groups. Jacqueline became a trip leader one year ago. She participated in the PPG Trip Leader School and appreciated the sage wisdom and training she received from EPG and PPG leaders. She particularly enjoys leading peak summit hikes, with 13ers being her favorite. Jacqueline is learning to love the new website and enjoys adding new routes and places for hikes in the Wet and Sangre de Cristo mountains. She gets excited when participants from PPG and Denver join hikes with EPG folks because they bring new perspectives and energy to the trips. Jacqueline is the Secretary of the El Pueblo Group and enjoys working with the stellar EPG Chair Terry McCann and staff from CMC State. She helped bring WFA training to Pueblo and arranged for Pueblo leaders to have the opportunity to receive leader updates by participating in PPG Trip Leader School. Jacqueline also spearheaded buying 2-way radios for EPG leaders to use on trips to enhance efficiency and safety.

Thanks for your contributions to the Club, Jacqueline!

We appreciate your leadership and inclusivity.

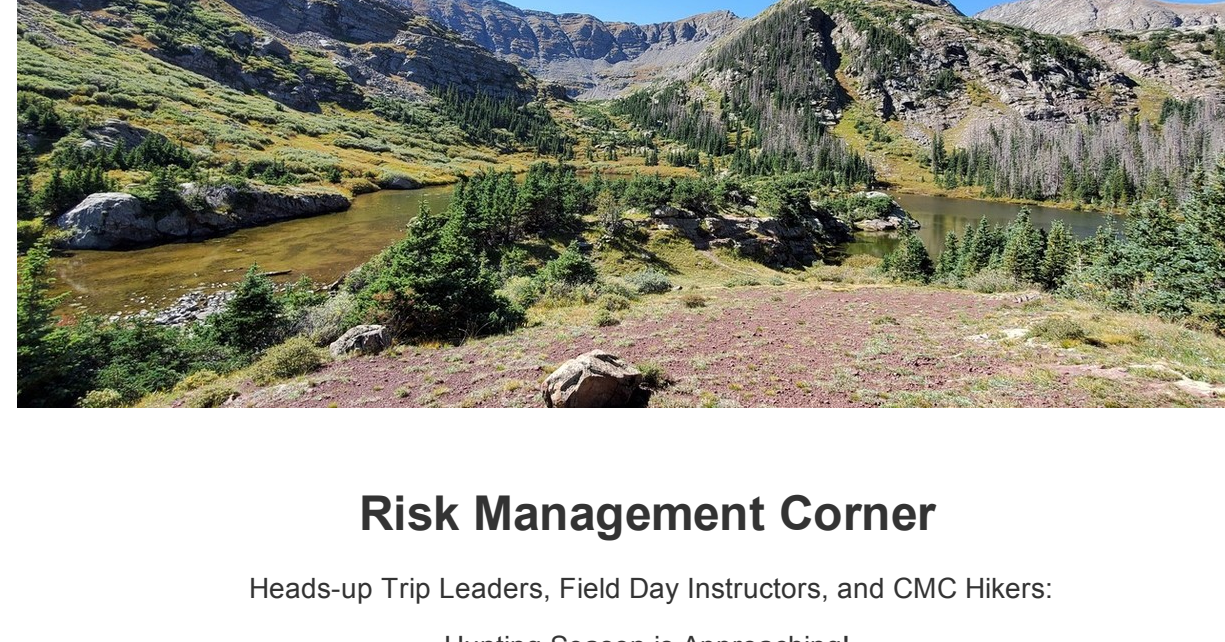
Submit your nomination for next month's issue!

Each month we'll be shining a spotlight on one CMC Trip Leader or Instructor. To submit a nomination, use the button below. Any nominees not selected will be considered in the following month. The selected nominee will receive a prize.

SUBMIT NOMINATION

Permit Deadline October 15

School Directors & Instructors, it is time to submit all non-USFS permit requests for 2023. Our top priority is Ouray Ice Park for the 22/23 winter season. Please use this link to submit all field day requests for 2023 on public lands outside of the Forest Service. This includes places like Jefferson County, State Parks, BLM, City of Colorado Springs, etc. Reach out to Roberta or reference the Guide to Permits under Leader Resources.



Risk Management Corner

Heads-up Trip Leaders, Field Day Instructors, and CMC Hikers: Hunting Season is Approaching!

by Robbie Monsma

Hunting is starting to take place in almost every area CMC recreates throughout the state, so get to know about the planning resources you need to avoid hunters and shooting. A "hunting activity today" notice is rarely posted at trailheads, so add this info to your trip planning checklist. At a minimum, it's essential to wear "hunter orange" or "hunter pink" whenever you enter the backcountry during hunting season. That includes dogs too.

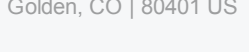
Most Colorado hunting takes place in September and October although some eastern plains hunting is allowed in late August through December. And a few areas are designated open to hunting Memorial Day to Labor Day. All dates are posted at Colorado Parks and Wildlife's Big Game Hunting Planner, updated each year.

However, as a hiker, backpacker, or field instructor, you will want to know about the places where there will be NO hunting while you are there. That will vary each year by where CPW wants hunting to happen or not. It may also vary by proximity to roads and trailheads. For example, local rangers will may assure you that you technically will be in a hunt area, but hunters will be way up the mountain from your intended trail.

For up-to-date information, call the friendly folks at the Hunter Outreach Line: 303-291-7526 or write to them at hunteroutreach@state.co.us. They may steer you away from your intended area and suggest another area nearby where hunting is prohibited. If in doubt, you can also call the specific area ranger.

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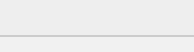
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