

Hike • Save Trails • Make Friends
Carolina Mountain Club eNews



November 2025

Carolina Mountain Club Annual Meeting Highlights

We had a full house on November 1st as 115 members and guests came together to celebrate an incredible year on the trails. The evening included recognition of Challenge Hike completers, confirmation of new Council leadership for 2026, and awards honoring members who went above and beyond in service to the Club.

2026–2027 Council

Karen Schultz – President

Paul Curtin – Vice President

Les Love – Immediate Past President

Eva Blinder – Secretary

Michel Claes – Treasurer

George Bauernfeind – Vice Treasurer

Marie Chamberlin – Assistant Treasurer

Jed Thorn – Councilor for Conservation

Karen Lachow – Councilor for Hiking

David Huff – Councilor for Marketing & Communications

Alessia Farley – Councilor for Membership

Nicolas Nouvel – Councilor for Preparedness

Glen Hess – Councilor for Trails Maintenance

Adrienne Chang, Jim Ervin, and John Ribes – Councilors at Large

Award Recipients

Appreciation Awards: Karen Schultz and Chris Werbylo

Thank you to everyone who helped make this year's meeting such a success—and to all who share in the spirit of CMC as we continue hiking, saving trails, and making friends.



By Tom Weaver

In July this year, we learned that the Deerfield Charitable Foundation generously gave our club 2 major donations. Michelle Woolley, Executive Director of the Foundation, sent the following:

"I am so pleased to tell you that the board of Deerfield's foundation has voted to approve a gift of \$50,000 to CMC. In addition, they have approved a challenge match - dollar for dollar of new donations raised for your Endowment - up to \$50,000. We will match funds on a semi-annual basis for the next two years.

[Read Full Story](#)

[Deerfield Grant Video](#)

Planning for the Future CMC's Endowment Fund

By George Bauernfeind

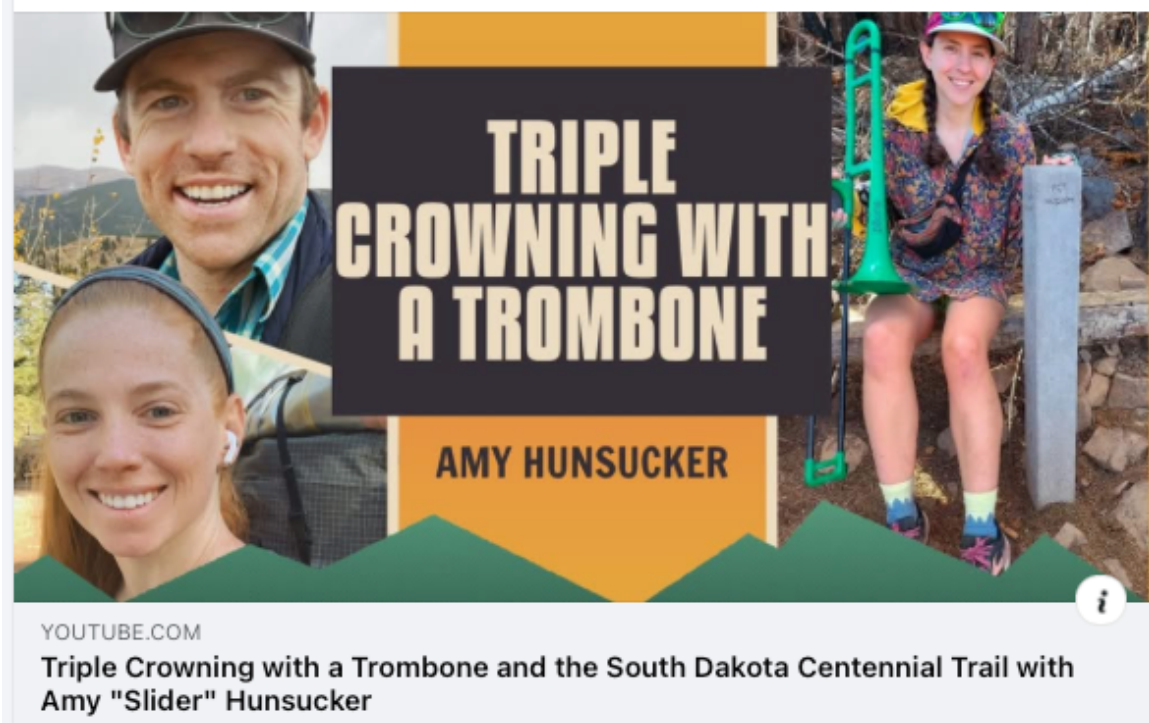
The Carolina Mountain Club established its Endowment Fund in 2022 to ensure long-term financial stability and support for future generations of hikers, volunteers, and conservation efforts. Managed by the Community Foundation of Western North Carolina, the fund continues to grow, **with contributions currently being matched dollar for dollar (up to \$50,000) by the Deerfield Charitable Foundation.** Learn how the fund works and how you can contribute. [Read more >>](#)

CMC's Amy "Slider" Hunsucker Featured on Backpacker Radio

Check it out! CMC member and Triple Crowner Amy "Slider" Hunsucker is featured on Backpacker Radio.

"Slider also gives us the low down on earning her sawyer certification, her trail maintenance work with the Carolina Mountain Club, hiking South Dakota's Centennial Trail, and life as a hiking guide in North Carolina."

Way to go, Amy!



CMC Helps to Build Trail at



By Paul Curtin

CMC's reputation in the community is growing due to our excellence in hike leading and trail maintenance. As a result, we are getting an increasing number of requests to help community groups to improve or build trails, such as the significant effort last year to build a new section of cross-country trail at Rugby Middle School in Hendersonville.

[Read More](#)

CMC Hike Leaders' Appreciation and Education Dinner – Save the Date!

By Karen Lachow

Attention all Hike Leaders!! The annual Hike Leaders' Appreciation and Education Dinner has been confirmed for Friday evening, February 27, 2026 at the Hilton

Asheville Biltmore Park. Always a fun time, this event is for any hike leader who will have led or co-led a hike during 2025 or the first quarter of 2026. CMC Council members are invited as well. Our featured speaker will be CMC's own superstar A.T. Maintenance Supervisor, Paul Curtain, and all trail crew leaders will be invited too! Be sure to mark your calendars and look for your invitation in January.

Remembering Our Members

Honoring members of Carolina Mountain Club who have recently passed away.

Carson Alexander Minshall

November 18, 1971 - October 14, 2025

[Click here for Obituary.](#)

Volunteer Opportunities

The Club is currently seeking both section maintainers and members for our weekly trail crews.

Section Maintainers "adopt" a portion of trail and are responsible for tasks such as quarterly walk-throughs, routine maintenance (including tread work, trimming, and clearing water diversions), and reporting any downed trees or other trail obstructions.

Weekly crew members join scheduled group outings to help with a variety of trail maintenance projects. It's a great way to learn trail skills, meet other volunteers, and make a meaningful impact.

Like to join a weekly crew or become a section maintainer? Like more information? Click the **Volunteer** link below.

[Donate](#)

[Volunteer](#)

[Hike](#)

Carolina Mountain Club is the oldest and largest hiking and trail maintenance organization in the Southeastern United States. As a member-run volunteer organization, we embody the spirit of

community and shared passion for the outdoors, welcoming everyone who wishes to participate in its activities.

Leading over 200 hikes per year, the club maintains more than 440 miles of trails in Western North Carolina, including 94 miles of the Appalachian Trail and 150 miles of the Mountains-to-Sea Trail.

Questions or feedback on the CMC eNewsletter and content can be directed to Alessia Farley at carolinamountainclub2015@gmail.com



www.carolinamountainclub.org

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meetup

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