



Carolina Mountain Club

Since 1923

eNews | Hike . Save Trails . Make Friends

January 2018

In This Issue

[Dave Wetmore and the Pisgah 400 Challenge](#)

[CMC Receives BRP Enduring Service Award](#)

[CMC Challenges in 2017](#)

[Technology - CMC WEB UPDATE](#)

[Cemeteries of the Smokies](#)

Dave Wetmore and the Pisgah 400 Challenge

by Danny Bernstein

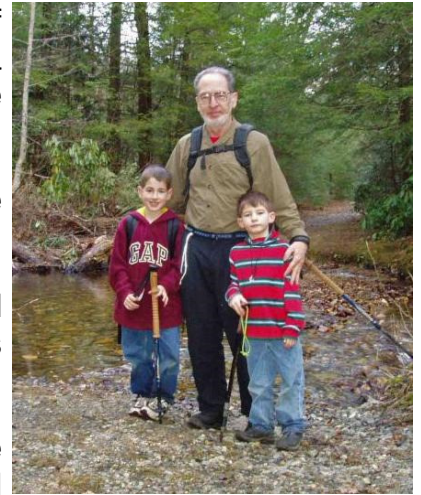
The CMC Challenge Committee is changing leadership roles.

The committee says thank you and goodbye to Dave Wetmore, one of its most cherished members. Dave has been in CMC since 1990, as a hike leader, CMC council member and Chair of the Challenge Committee.

Dave also created the Pisgah 400 (P400) challenge - to hike all the trails in the Pisgah Ranger District of Pisgah National Forest.

"When I chaired the CMC Challenge committee, the South Beyond 6000 (SB6K) was the only hiking challenge that our club had," recalls Dave in a 2011 interview.

According to Chris Koebelin, the new chair of the Challenge committee, the P400 is a worthy challenge with good viewpoints and waterfalls.



"The P400 challenge is a wonderful way to see Pisgah Forest, including areas not frequently travelled. Thank you to Dave for introducing and administering this challenge since its inception," Chris says.

Twenty-three hikers finished the P400, according to the names on the website.

Stuart English, a fellow Brevard resident, says:

"Dave Wetmore has been my favorite hike leader since I joined the club in 2005. His extensive knowledge of the Pisgah Ranger District made him the ideal person to develop the Pisgah 400 challenge as well as leading trips and assisting others in completing the challenge.

But what I have always respected the most about Dave is that he is a consummate leader. He realizes the hike is not about him but the people on it. In addition, he would make the hikes interesting by discussing the history and local lore along the trip."

On a personal note, Dave helped me on my Smokies 900 challenge. He also walked many miles when I was writing my hiking guides. He is a great conversationalist as well as a great hiker.

CMC Receives BRP Enduring Service Award for 2017

At the recent Blue Ridge Parkway Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon, the CMC was awarded the Enduring Service Award for 2017 by J D Lee, the Acting Superintendent. Many of the 150 club members who have volunteered to build and maintain the trails on Parkway land were present to witness the presentation.

Ron Navik
CMC Councilor for Trail Maintenance

[Letter from National Park Service](#)



United States Department of the Interior

NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Blue Ridge Parkway
199 Hemphill Knob Road
Asheville, North Carolina 28803



IN REPLY REFER

Memorandum

To: Carolina Mountain Club

From: Acting Superintendent, Blue Ridge Parkway

Subject: Blue Ridge Parkway Enduring Service Award

I would like to congratulate you on winning the Blue Ridge Parkway Enduring Service Award.

The Blue Ridge Parkway is fortunate to work in partnership with organizations like Carolina Mountain Club, which connects skilled and passionate individuals with the National Park Service, and helps to maintain a vast network of trails for the public. The Carolina Mountain Club has done extraordinary work this past year and over the 90+ years of the club's existence.

This year your over 150 volunteers completed outstanding work along your dedicated 146 mile of Mountains to Sea Trail maintaining trail surface, clearing water bars, clearing trees and building bridges. The work you do creates an unparalleled visitor experience and for that we thank you.

This year, it is worth noting, that your club went above and beyond in responding to damage from Hurricane Irma along the Parkway. Within 2 weeks after the storm, your teams had cleared over 500 trees from 82 miles of trail, all while portions of Parkway were inaccessible to vehicles making your days that much longer. The dedication of your crew is the reason why visitors are able to hike on Parkway trails today.

Congratulations again and thank you for your service to the Blue Ridge Parkway and the National Park Service.

Congratulations to the people completing CMC Challenges in 2017! 26 people have completed CMC sponsored challenges in 2017

For the complete list of these Challenge-takers,
Congratulations to the persons completing CMC Challenges in 2017!
26 people have completed CMC sponsored challenges in 2017

YOUTH PARTNER CHALLENGE

Bev MacDowell (Adult partner)

Ash Johnson

Eleni Farago

AT-MST CHALLENGE

Kate Fisher

Jan Onan

Linda Smith

Ginny Waggener

Vance Waggener

Brenda Worley

WATERFALL CHALLENGE

Wally Story

Dan Weemhoff

SB6K CHALLENGE

Robert Conner

Jamie Ervin

Dave Green

Chris Koebelin

Sarah Parker

Austin Parker

Nicole Ray

Zane Ray

Ted Ruff

Jacob Shaw

Ryan Tharp

LOOKOUT TOWER CHALLENGE

Justine Homiak

PISGAH 400 CHALLENGE

Rich Bowerman

Chris Koebelin

Jonathan Perry

Technology - CMC WEB UPDATE

Nice to Know! The club sends out email notifications which can include membership renewal notices, Club eNews, or supplemental notifications if you're a Hike Leader or are involved in Trail Maintenance. Occasionally email servers (AOL, Gmail, etc.) block certain incoming emails they interpret as spam.

If you want to verify receipt of your email, just go to the **member portal** and click on **email notification on the top line**. This allows you to visually verify that your email is routing to your inbox. If you do not see a confirming email in your inbox, check your member profile to verify the club has your correct email listed. If the email is correct, check you spam folder and if still not found, contact your email provider.

Tim Carrigan, CMC's web application developer, has been hard at work this Fall fixing problems and adding features to improve your web experience within the member portal.

First, when should you **renew your membership**? You can expect to receive an email within 30 days of your membership renewal date. Simply follow the instructions to renew.

Second, are you signed up to lead a hike? If yes, an email notification will be sent out to you within 7 days of your hike containing **hike details and the sign-up sheet** for your hike. There is also an icon on the hiking page for extra blank sign-up sheets just in case you need an emergency supply.

Third, member and non-member **CMC donations** can now be processed from the CMC home page. Just click the link and enter your email.

Last but not least, a **Simplified Hike Leader scheduling** capability is coming your way for the second quarter. Just go to member portal, click on the hiking icon. You can then search an area for a hike you would like to lead based on parameters you enter. Once you have narrowed down the hike by distance, elevation, half day, full day, and date. Simply click the icon on the bottom of the page to enter your personal hike selection. Your request will be sent to your hike scheduler who will finalize your request. **You can expect to get additional details on this feature in early February, 2018.**

Of course, there are those who are new to leading a hike and would rather rely on the Hike Scheduler to pick and select the hike based on their insight and experience, that option is also available once the initial on-line hike scheduling registration period is underway.

Next Month: Logging your Hikes and maintaining your Hike History within the member portal.

***Cemeteries of the Smokies* by Gail Palmer**

Re*Cemeteries of the Smokies* by Gail Palmer

Reviewed by Danny Bernstein

Ever since I got really involved in hiking and supporting Great Smoky Mountains National Park and its park partners, I've heard of "the cemetery book." When I joined the board of the [Great Smoky Mountains Association](#) (GSMA)

(www.smokiesinformation.org), Steve Kemp, editor and publisher for GSMA, now retired, said that the book was "coming along." Now *Cemeteries of the Smokies* is here! Flipping through its 704 pages – yes, 704 pages – I can understand why it took Dr. Gail Palmer two decades to finish it.

As CMC hikers, we've all encountered cemeteries in the Smokies – the Woody cemetery in Deep Creek, the cemetery outside the Little Cataloochee Baptist church, the ones on the Cades Cove drive. But Palmer found 152 cemeteries. For each site, she provides in-depth histories alongside a complete listing of burials and dates, kinship links and epitaphs. No other known resource so thoroughly collects this depth of information in one place, displayed with color photographs, detailed lists, charts and an index of local family names.

Dr. Gail Palmer has a doctorate in cultural studies from the University of Tennessee. She's written novels set in the Smokies and understands mountain life. Members of her mother's family has lived and died in areas that are now in the national park.

"While finishing my doctoral degree in cultural studies at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville, I decided I wanted to write a book about the Smokies," Palmer said. "I knew many of the cemeteries were hidden away from view in beautiful locations, sometimes only a few steps from a roadway or well-traveled trail." She received help from many people and spent hours searching archival material and locating cemeteries.

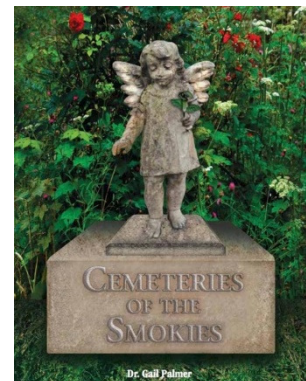
As a hiker, I want to know that the trail directions are clear and correct. I tested them on the Hoyle cemetery, a four-grave cemetery that I found only with the help of my companions at a Decoration Day. The directions in the book were spot on.

I see the possibility of a new CMC challenge – find all the cemeteries in the Smokies, as described by this book. Buy this book from the Great Smoky Mountains Association, a park partner that donates money to the park. See:

<https://www.smokiesinformation.org/shop/cemeteries-of-the-smokies-by-dr-gail-palmer-3446>

The Details

Cemeteries of the Smokies by Dr. Gail Palmer, published by the Great Smoky Mountains Association, 2017. ISBN 978-0-937207-92-5 Price \$29.95



The eNews is published on the first Friday of each month. Articles are due on the last Friday of the previous month. Send your news to eNews@carolinamountainclub.org. Please limit articles to no more than 1,000 words. You may send up to two photos as jpg attachments.

To join Carolina Mountain Club go to: www.carolinamountainclub.org. Click on "Join CMC" on the right side. Follow the instructions. Send all address and email changes to Dennis Bass at dbass3607@gmail.com. Do not resubscribe yourself to the eNews. That will be done automatically.

Carolina Mountain Club | P.O. Box 68
Asheville, NC 28802



[CMC Calendar](#)

[Hike Reports](#)

[Future Hikes](#)

Carolina Mountain Club, P.O. Box 68, Asheville, NC 28802