

*We do not inherit the Wilderness from our ancestors; we borrow it from our children.*



## **Volunteers, Members, and Friends of the Indian Peaks and James Peak Wilderness Areas**

Welcome to our January 2018 newsletter!

We are off to a great start to the year and are excited about all of our upcoming programs and projects for 2018! You will see in this month's newsletter that we are expanding our scope to help inform our volunteers, members, and friends of important wilderness issues taking shape in the Front Range, across the wonderful state of Colorado, and even at a national level in Washington D.C. We have a lot planned for 2018 and want to thank all of you for your wonderful support of our organization.

As always, reach out to us with any questions, comments, or ideas regarding how we can best help achieve our mission of helping to "preserve and protect the Indian Peaks and James Peak Wilderness Areas."

**Keep it wild!**

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### **I. IPWA News**

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#### **IPWA Annual Fund Raising: A record year - THANK YOU!**

**THANK YOU** to all who contributed to our fund raising in 2017. We had a record fund raising season and are extremely well positioned to enhance our wilderness programs in 2018. A huge thank you to Scott Oetting (our Treasurer and Fund Raising Director) and also to Jim Merryman (Board Member and coordinator of our annual Christmas wrapping at Boulder bookstore). *(Photo of Karla Rikansrud and Zdenka Smith wrapping gifts at Boulder Bookstore).*



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#### **IPWA Volunteer Positions Available: Get involved!**

As we plan for our 2018 programs, we have a number of projects where we could use some additional help.

Specifically we are looking for volunteers to help with the following areas listed below. The positions are open to all IPWA volunteers, no experience is required, each position will generally require around 5-6 hours per month, and we promise you don't need to sit through endless meetings!). *(Photo of Mary Durham and Eric Durham help with our accounting and marketing!)*



### **Marketing Communications Coordinator (s)**

This individual would be responsible for publishing our periodic newsletter and helping with our marketing content on our web site.

### **Trail Project and Tree Removal Coordinator(s)**

This individual would be responsible for coordinating our summer trail projects, along with coordinating the removal of downed trees in the IP/JP wilderness (with a particular emphasis on early Spring tree removal and late Fall tree removal).

### **Social Media Coordinator(s)**

We are looking for additional help to keep up with the demands of social media! We would like to have folks who are familiar with Facebook, Instagram, Snapchat, Twitter, etc. help to increase our presence on social media.

### **Summer Patrol Mentoring Coordinator (s)**

This individual would be responsible for managing our 2018 summer patrol mentoring program. The program is directed to new IPWA volunteers to help ensure that they get acclimated to the role of a volunteer!

[Yes, I'm interested in helping more. Please send me details!](#)

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## **II. IPWA Wilderness Program Updates**

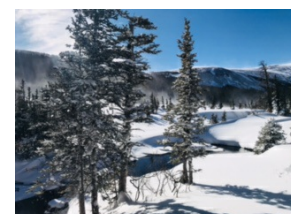
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### **IPWA Winter Patrols: Season going strong!**

While there may not be a great deal of snow in the mountains, we have been out performing a number of winter wilderness patrols!

We have a number of new volunteers for this winter season and we have been busy meeting with visitors on the trails, informing the public of leash laws, and clearing downed trees in both the IP/JP Wilderness Areas. A big thank you to Andy Gup for once again managing this program for the Board!

For those who may not be aware, we also provide a public facing web site with information from our trail reports that describes general trail conditions and snow pack. Check out



the web site below for information on trail conditions prior to your next hike!

*(Photo of IPWA Volunteer and Board Vice Chair Andy Gup and brother at Brainard Lake Recreation Area, and winter conditions at the lake)*

## [What are the current trail conditions in the IP/JP Wilderness Areas?](#)

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### **Wilderness Advocacy: Hessie Cabin project moving forward!**

Your IPWA Board is continuing to move forward in working with the USFS to restore the Hessie Cabin and have it become a Wilderness Interpretive Center. Situated at the junction of Hessie and 4th of July roads, it is an ideal location to greet visitors to our wonderful wilderness areas and help educate the public to the importance of wilderness and public land stewardship. We will be working with the USFS during 2018 on this multi-year project and will provide periodic updates in coming months.



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## **III. USFS News**

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### **Recreation Shooting Update: Decision in Spring/Summer 2018**

As you know, the Board of the IPWA is opposed to three (out of four) options presented by the USFS which designates the IP and JP Wilderness Areas as 'suitable' for recreational shooting. We have held discussions with various Boulder County and other local government officials to stress our concerns over this designation. We will continue to monitor the progress of this issue and provide updates as we have more information.

Click the link below to read a recent letter to the editor of the Daily Camera, republished in the University of Colorado Arts and Sciences magazine, from Jeff Minton - a University of Colorado professor and long time supporter of the IPWA *(photo at right by Jeff of a tree destroyed by recreational shooting)*.



[Recreational Shooting - Incompatible with the concept of wilderness](#)

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## **IV. COLORADO WILDERNESS NEWS**

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## **Continental Divide Recreation, Wilderness and Camp Hale Legacy Act Introduced This Past Week.**



A new wilderness bill has been introduced into the House of Representatives for the State of Colorado!

Specifically, this bill protects new wilderness areas in the Williams Fork Mountains, Ten Mile Range, and Hoosier Ridge, and expands the existing Holy Cross, Eagles Nest, and Ptarmigan Peak Wilderness Areas. The bill also safeguards areas for mountain biking in the Ten-Mile Range near Breckenridge.

[Map for proposed Continental Divide Recreational Wilderness Area](#)

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## **V. NATIONAL WILDERNESS NEWS**

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### **Mountain Bikes in the Wilderness: Just Say NO!**



As you know, your IPWA Board is opposed to the current legislation (HR 1349) in the House of Representatives proposing to open wilderness areas to mechanical transport (e.g. mountain bikes). The article below is a piece written this past December from the International Mountain Bike Association that is opposed to this legislation. We will continue to provide our volunteers, members, and friends updates on this contentious issue during 2018.

[Read how the International Mountain Bike Association is OPPOSED to the current bill in the House of Representatives](#)

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## **VI. IPWA Upcoming Events**

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### **Thursday March 1**

#### **IPWA Wilderness Graduate Research Grant Applications Are Open**

The IPWA will again be funding three Paddon/Gellhorn research grants to graduate students who are pursuing studies related to wilderness and alpine issues. A big thank you to Daryl Ogden who will again be coordinating this program for us. More details to follow.

### **Thursday/Friday March 8th and 9th**

#### **USFS Region 2 Wilderness Workshop**

The USFS will be hosting a meeting with 'Friends' organization in Region 2 (Rocky Mtn. Region). IPWA Board Members will be in attendance and presenting on issues facing the Indian Peaks and James Peak Wilderness Areas.



**Thursday March 15**

**IPWA Wilderness Ranger Internship Applications - Final Due Date**

The IPWA will again be funding two Wilderness Ranger Internship positions for the summer 2018 hiking season. A huge thanks to Jim Merryman who will again be coordinating this program for us. Applications are now open. Please email us at the link below for more information

[Yes, I'm interested in getting more information on your Wilderness Ranger Internship Program](#)

**Sunday April 1**

**2018 Summer Patrol Volunteer Registration/Re-Registration Opens**

Be on the lookout for information regarding volunteering with the IPWA in 2018. This is the date when our volunteer registration and re-registration will open for our 2018 summer patrol season. More details to come.

**Saturday/Sunday May 19th and 20th**

**Advanced First Aid Training**

***Boulder USFS Office (36th/Yarmouth)***

Pencil in this date for a two day advanced First Aid training. This two day course (or other advanced first aid certification) is recommended for volunteers who take part in our sawyer training, and is required for our winter patrol volunteers. More details to come.

**Early June (date TBD)**

**Wilderness Lecture Series with George Wuerthner**

***Location TBD***

We're in the very early stages of planning for a potential wilderness presentation from George Wuerth - a professional photographer, writer and ecologist. A big thank you to David Hatcher who is taking the lead in seeing what we can pull together! More details to come.

**Saturday June 9th**

**IPWA Summer Patrol Volunteer Training Day**

***Boulder USFS Office (36th/Yarmouth)***

Pencil this date in your calendars for our annual training day. 2018 new volunteers are required to attend this event, and prior volunteers are strongly encouraged to stop by. More details to come!

**Saturday/Sunday June 30/July 1**

**USFS Cross Cut Sawyer Certification Class**

***Boulder USFS Office (36th/Yarmouth)***

We will be holding our second annual Sawyer Certification Class for IPWA volunteers. This class is required for those individuals who would like to help our organization clear the IP/JP Wilderness trails of downed trees. A big thanks to the USFS for agreeing to hold this training for the 2nd year in a row!

**Thursday July 26**

**IPWA Mid-Season Potluck**

Pencil in our annual mid-season potluck party of IPWA Volunteers and Members. This is always a fun event!

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## **VII. IPWA Membership Corner: "Why I am a member of the IPWA"**

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In 2016, the IPWA introduced a "Friends" of the Indian Peaks membership

category. For just a \$10 tax deductible donation, individuals (separate from our patrol volunteers) can become a member of our organization and help us achieve our mission! "Friends" receive an IPWA sticker, a copy of our annual report, and most importantly the knowledge that their contributions are helping to promote wilderness preservation!

With each newsletter, we will focus on one individual who decided that they wanted to be a member of the IPWA and why - so that all of our readers can hear of the importance of wilderness preservation and protection.

### **Why I am a member: Meredith D.**

*"I relocated to Colorado to be closer to the mountains and the great outdoors. Thanks to the work of organizations such as the IPWA, I can continue to enjoy all the natural resources this great state has to offer." (Photo of Meredith D. and father at Brainard Lake)*



**[Become a member today for just \\$10.00!](#)**

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## **Thank you!**

As always, reach out to us with any questions, comments, or thoughts on how we can make our organization an even better one! As a 501(c)(3) non-profit volunteer organization (we have NO paid staff positions!), we rely on volunteers, members of the public, local businesses, and grants for 100% of our funding needs. Any financial assistance is greatly appreciated!

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Donate Today via PayPal or with personal credit card

