



April 2016 | No. 222

Pikes Pique

The Newsletter of the CMC Pikes Peak Group

Pikes Peak Group Monthly Program – April 19th

Mike Endres Presents: *Skiing Colorado's Backcountry*

Have you always wanted to extend your ski season beyond early spring when most of the lift areas have closed?



Descending the NW couloir on Torrey's Peak

Well, there's a way to do that and it doesn't take much extra work or new gear. In most snow years it's not unusual to be skiing well into July with a little creative thinking and effort. Join Mike Endres of Little Wing Photo as he presents an

overview of some of the best skiing Colorado has to offer, from right here in our backyard on Pikes Peak to high summits deep within the Rocky Mountains. There's something for every skier out there so get ready to expand your horizons this spring!



Entrance to Railroad couloir on Pike's Peak

Join Mike at the next PPG monthly program at 6:30 on April 19th at the Mountain Chalet, 226 N. Tejon St.

Your PPG Council

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Interested in serving on the Pikes Peak Group Council? Please contact the Chair.

Welcome New PPG Members!

Kelly Allen
Cindy Carlson
Carmen Carollo
Amy Cox
Jennifer Cox
Daniel Gaskill
Carol Gaskill
Tim Ionno
Thad Johnson
Susan Keil
Sangwon Lee
Lorisha McElhinny

Stef Metcalf
Amer Mneimneh
Lisa O'Boyle
Abigail Philbrick
Brian Pilger
Katherine Robertson
David Russell
Derek Sardinta
Michael Stansberry
Jennifer Swartz
Grayson Thomas
Jen Van Egmond



Leaderfest – Spring 2016

BY CHRIS MATTINGLY

Hey Leaders and Instructors! Guess what time it is? It's time for Leaderfest! This get-together will be held at Rudy's (by popular demand) on April 27th starting at 6:30 p.m. Dinner is provided by the PPG, of course. Our guest speaker will be John Noll from the El Paso County Search and Rescue Team. He will be talking about how they do their jobs and prepare for an actual rescue, maybe discuss some interesting cases and also include a pitch for the COSAR card. We will also be going over our trip accomplishments, safety and leadership matters, and discussing our mountaineering plans for the upcoming warm weather season. It is also a time to share experiences with each other so that all may benefit and either provide info on what efforts are successful or ones to learn from and not repeat.

You must be a trip leader, leader in training (LIT) or instructor to attend. Please [sign up on the web site](#) so we know how much food to buy. Thanks for all your hard work since the last Leaderfest meeting in October 2015.

Earth Corps 2016



Introducing Earth Corps 2016! Earth Corps is a field studies program run by the Rocky Mountain Field Institute (RMFI) in partnership with the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs to provide motivated, environmentally conscious students the opportunity to live and learn in the incredible natural classroom of the Colorado wilderness.

Earth Corps students will spend a month living, working, and learning in Willow Lake Basin, located at the base of Challenger Point and Kit Carson Peak in the Sangre de Cristo Mountains from July 11 to August 9. Students will gain field experience in restoration ecology through the completion of a highly technical trail reconstruction project. Upon successful completion of the program, each student will receive **4 credit hours** from the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs. For more information and to apply, visit www.rmfi.org/programs/earth-corps.

Upcoming PPG Classes

Pikes Peak Trip Leader Training

Starts March 24

This course provides the necessary training and satisfies part of the requirement of becoming a CMC trip leader for the Pikes Peak Group. (Completion of a Wilderness First Aid course and CPR course are the other requirements for becoming a trip leader.) The classroom sessions are on 24 and 31 Mar from 6:30p to 9:00p. The field session on the morning of 3 Apr will be scheduled as a CMC trip. **Prerequisite:** Must have taken Wilderness Fundamentals and Land Navigation or their equivalents and attended at least four CMC activities (two of which were trips) plus have a PPG trip leader's recommendation. The cost for this class is \$25. For more details, please contact [Paul Schoell](#).

Basic Mountaineering School (BMS) – Wilderness Land Navigation

Starts March 30

There are two class lectures. Our discussions include maps, compass, orienteering, estimating distance, interpreting map symbols, properly reading topo contour lines, learning about declination, sighting, taking a bearing, and technologies such as GPS. You'll also participate in class exercises using a map and compass. Classroom dates are 30 Mar and 06 Apr. There is a CMC Rating Trip on 09 Apr which is designed to reinforce principals and techniques discussed in class. You'll be given a map with markers. Your team's job will be to find them. There will be an optional CMC Wilderness Trip to hone your orienteering skills. The cost for this class is \$38. For more details, please contact [Tony Eichstadt](#).

Pikes Peak Wilderness First Aid (WFA)

Starts April 7

This sixteen-hour ECSI accredited course consists of instruction devoted to medical evaluation and treatment in the wilderness setting where definitive medical care is not readily available. Two evening presentations on the variety of situations you might encounter in the backcountry and wilderness areas followed by a full day of practical, hands-on training in the field make up this course. This course satisfies a requirement for trip leaders. The classroom sessions are on 7 and 14 Apr from 6:30p to 9:30p. The field session is on 16 Apr from 8:00a to 3:00p. A comprehensive textbook is included and you will receive your WFA card. Note: This course does not teach CPR, which is taught in a separate two-hour class (with separate sign up required) right after the WFA field session. The cost for this class is \$50. For more details, please contact [Paul Schoell](#).

WFA & CPR

Did you know that the number four cause of death in the backcountry is heart attack? Do you know your CPR? Sign up for this month's class.

Pikes Peak CPR Training

April 16

Knowing CPR can be live saving! If you've never had CPR training or it's been a while, then this two-hour American Heart Association accredited training is for you. It includes the latest classroom instruction and hands-on training in CPR/AED for the Adult/Child/Infant (choking conscious and unconscious). This class taught at 3:00 pm on 16 Apr satisfies a requirement for trip leaders. A CPR card good for two years will be issued upon completion. The cost for this class is \$25. For more details, please contact [Paul Schoell](#).

Basic Mountaineering School (BMS) – Alpine Snow Mountaineering

Starts April 26

There are two class lectures. Our discussions include evaluating weather and snow conditions, terrain and avalanche risk assessment, gear, trip planning, using crampons and proper climbing techniques, snow travel including proper use of ice axe, self-arrest, glissading, determining slope angles, and route finding. We will demonstrate and practice snow anchors and rope techniques if time allows. Classroom dates are 26 and 28 Apr. There are CMC Rating Trips on 30 Apr and 01 May which we typically do at Pikes Peak Glen Cove which is designed to reinforce principals and techniques discussed in class. You will attend both days. There will be an optional CMC Wilderness Trip to hone your snow travel skills. The cost for this class is \$58. For more details, please contact [Mike Erickson](#).

Basic Mountaineering School (BMS) – Rock Climbing

Starts May 19

There is one class lecture and one indoor climbing session. Our discussions include climbing gear, rating a climb, the different types of rock climbing, reviewing climbing knots, rope management including coiling, care and inspection, anchors, communications, climbing techniques, belaying, rappelling, and building an auto-block. The classroom date is 19 May and the indoor climbing session is 25 May. There are two CMC Rating Trips on 28 and 29 May which we typically do at Red Rock Canyon Open Space and Castlewood Canyon. There will be optional CMC Wilderness Trips to hone your rock climbing skills. The cost for this class is \$58. For more details, please contact [Mike Erickson](#).



To register for classes or trips,
go to www.cmc.org



Upcoming PPG Classes (continued)

Basic Mountaineering School (BMS) – Wilderness Backpacking

Starts June 8

Pre-Requisites: PPG BMS Colorado Wilderness Fundamentals & Colorado Wilderness Land Navigation. There are two class lectures. Our discussions include finding the right backpack, systems review including sleeping systems, cooking systems, clothing systems, ultra-light techniques, tents, trip planning, team composition, group dynamics, and site selection. We will do a gear check prior to the overnight to make sure you are properly equipped. Classroom dates are 08 and 15 Jun. There is a CMC Rating Trip (overnight) on 18 and 19 Jun that is designed to reinforce principals and techniques discussed in class. The cost for this class is \$38. For more details, please contact [Tony Eichstadt](#).

April PPG Trips

First Friday Art Walk

Friday, 4/1/2016

Easy A

Leader: Christie Lee, 719-243-1821, Christie80905@gmail.com

Trail Mileage 3.5. Details: Meet at Croquette's for soup at 4 p.m. and leave at 5 for walking and end at FAC for nightcap coffee. Contact leader at least two days prior to the trip.

Pancake Rocks

Saturday, 4/2/2016

Moderate B

Leader: Christie Lee, 719-243-1821, Christie80905@gmail.com

Trail Mileage 6. Details: Be prepared for snow (yak trax or microspikes). Contact leader at least two days prior to the trip.

BC Ski Mayflower Gulch

Saturday, 4/2/2016

Moderate II

Leader: Eric Hunter, 719-273-1018, ehunter67@yahoo.com

Trail Mileage 7, Elevation Gain 1500, Driving Distance 320. Location: Mayflower Gulch, TH, near Leadville, CO. Details: This is a moderate out and back ski into Mayflower Gulch north of Fremont Pass. We will stay to the main road up to the historic cabins, have lunch, play on the slopes around the cabins, and return. We may explore some of the side roads along the way. NNN-BC cross-country gear will be fine, but cable binding backcountry gear will be better. Avalanche gear and training is required.

PPG New Member Orientation Hike at RRCOS

Saturday, 4/2/2016

Easy A

Leader: Dean Waits, 719-445-0263, dwaits24@gmail.com

Trail Mileage 3, Elevation Gain 500. Details: We will go for a short hike in the Red Rock Canyon Open Space and then meet at the Gazebo to review the PPG New Member Orientation materials and answer questions. Guests are welcome, so bring a friend. We will be complete by noon.

Columbine Trail

Friday, 4/8/2016

Moderate B

Leader: Nancy Altmansberger, 719-471-9549

Trail Mileage 8, Elevation Gain 1800. Details: We will hike the Columbine Trail from the bottom of Cheyenne Canyon to where the trail meets the Canyon road. We will stop for a view of Mt. Cutler, Mt. Muscoco, Silver Cascade Falls, Mt. Rosa, and Almagre. We will hike down to Helen Hunt Falls for a snack or lunch and return the way we came. This is a fun, pretty hike .CMC members only. A limited number of well behaved, friendly dogs are welcome. Please contact leader by phone.

Castlewood Canyon State Park Loop

Saturday, 4/9/2016

Moderate C

Leader: Eric Hunter, 719-273-1018, ehunter67@yahoo.com

Trail Mileage 15, Elevation Gain 1000, Driving Distance 100. Location: Castlewood Canyon State Park. Details: This is a moderate loop hike through much of Castlewood Canyon State Park starting and ending at the SE visitor center. Park entry fee required. We will start with the east canyon trails and continue on the inner canyon trails to the east rim trail, then back through the creek bottom trails. We will visit historic homesteads, failed dams, climbing areas, and many great views along the way.

The Incline Summit via Barr Trail

Saturday, 4/9/2016

Moderate B

Leader: Y Mason, youdew@aol.com

Trail Mileage 8.5, Elevation Gain 2500. Details: Specific details regarding meetup time and place will be emailed to registered hikers several days prior to the hike. Notes: No rabbits (fast-paced hikers) please.



To register for classes or trips,
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April PPG Trips (continued)

Green Mountain Falls Trails

Saturday, 4/16/2016

Moderate B

Leader: Christie Lee, 719-243-1821, Christie80905@gmail.com

Trail Mileage 7. Details: Explore and bushwhack new trail hook-ups in Green mountain Falls. Part of trail definitely needs yak trax or micro spikes. 7 miles not too steep. Contact leader at least two days prior to the trip.

Homestead Ranch & Paint Mines

Saturday, 4/16/2016

Moderate B

Leader: Eric Hunter, 719-273-1018, ehunter67@yahoo.com

Trail Mileage 10, Elevation Gain 1000, Driving Distance 70. Location: Homestead Ranch & Paint Mines El Paso County Parks. Details: This is a day of two moderate loop hikes through two Eastern El Paso County Regional Parks. The first is Homestead Ranch near Peyton. The second is Paint Mines Interpretive Park near Calhan. The first hike takes us up from the park entrance to the ridge above with beautiful forest views back to Pikes Peak then loops through plains grasslands back to the ridge and down. The second hike takes us through many incredible geologic formations situated in more plains grasslands. We will take time to investigate and photograph the many sites along the way.

Gill Trail

Friday, 4/22/2016

Moderate B

Leader: Nancy Altmansberger, 719-471-9549

Trail Mileage 8, Elevation Gain 1200, Driving Distance 88. Details: We will hike a trail that winds up and down on the side of the canyon along the Platte River in Cheeseman Canyon near Deckers. We will hike to the gaging station, eat at the picnic table, and go back the way we came. This is a gorgeous hike. There may be a bit of scrambling. We will only hike as far as the trail is snow packed by the fishermen. We will not continue through the unpacked powder because it is too hard to stay on trail. CMC members only. A limited number of well behaved, friendly dogs are welcome. Please contact leader by phone.

Rampart Reservoir Loop

Saturday, 4/23/2016

Moderate C

Leader: Eric Hunter, 719-273-1018, ehunter67@yahoo.com

Trail Mileage 15, Elevation Gain 800, Driving Distance 40. Location: Rampart Reservoir, near Woodland Park, CO. Details: This is a moderate loop hike around Rampart Reservoir near Woodland Park. We will start from the inlet trail following Rainbow Gulch and hike counter clockwise around the lake to get through the burn scar and across the dam early in the day, then back out the inlet trail. There are many incredible views to Pikes Peak and town along the way.

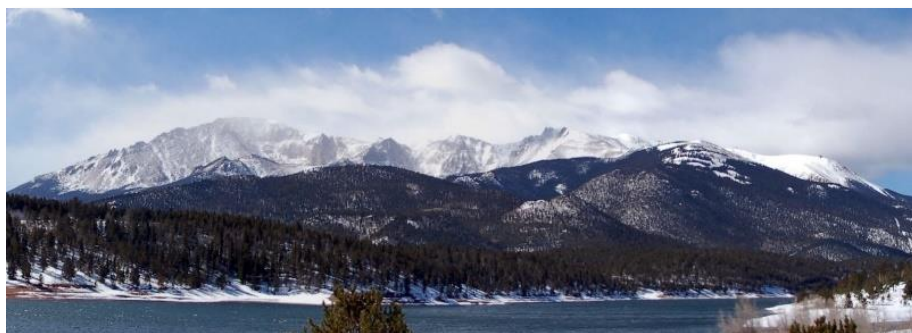
Crystal Park

Saturday, 4/30/2016

Moderate B

Leader: Christie Lee, 719-243-1821, Christie80905@gmail.com

Trail Mileage 4.5. Details: Crystal Park Trail to Crystal Park Reservoir. Very, very steep, but only 4.5 miles. Contact leader at least two days prior to the trip.



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Pikes Pique is the monthly newsletter of the Pikes Peak Group of the Colorado Mountain Club. It is a forum for enhancing skills for backcountry travel in the Colorado mountains and communicating information, news, and upcoming events to members and interested parties.

The purpose of the CMC is to unite the energy, interest, and knowledge of the students and lovers of the mountains of Colorado; to collect and disseminate information regarding the Rocky Mountains on behalf of science, literature, art, recreation; to stimulate public interest in our mountain areas; to encourage the preservation of flora, fauna, and natural scenery; and to render readily accessible the alpine attractions of this region.

PIKES PEAK GROUP CONTACT INFORMATION:

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cmc.org/About/CMCGroups

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

Members:

- Text: \$2 per line, \$10 minimum
- Ads: ¼-page - \$25, ½-page - \$50

Non-members:

- Text: \$3 per line, \$15 minimum
- Ads: ¼-page - \$30, ½-page - \$60

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Have a fun story or trip you want to share? Please submit your articles, along with pictures, to be considered for publication in the next *Pikes Pique* newsletter.

Please send to:

David Anderson, editor
danderso@uccs.edu

The deadline for submissions is the 14th of each month.

Use the above contact information for corrections and comments as well.