Pikes Peak Group Monthly Program – May 17th

Bob Hostetler and Dean Waits Present: Destination—Grand Canyon

The Destination was the Grand Canyon – Royal Arch Loop (RAL) via Pt Huitzil route for Bob Hostetler, Dean Waits and two friends to be done in October 2015. One challenge was to find or carry enough water each day with the hot temperatures, even in October. The RAL is considered by many to be the most difficult of the established south side hikes. Its remote location, reached by an unimproved road, about 30 miles west of the South Rim Village makes even reaching the trailhead a task, a lot worse in wet weather.



The group did the 49-mile, 4,500 ft elevation gain trip in seven days via the Pt Huitzil entrance, passing pictographs, petroglyphs, and many other signs of early civilizations. Entrance is virtually thru a "rabbit hole" in the top of a rock at the canyon's edge; then shinny down a 15-ft tall vertical log wedged between the rocks. It's commonly referred to as the "Anasazi Log"; the log's worn slick and smooth with evidence of other broken logs there too. Once below the log, follow a cairned route down a series of ledges to the canyon floor. An exciting venture to say the least!

Until reaching the western end of the Tonto Trail there are no trails; just cairned routes that lead one along ledges and across the featureless Tonto level of the canyon. Spending two nights camped on the banks of the Colorado River and making the seven- mile round trip journey along the river's edge to visit the captivating Elves Chasm, a must-see for every hiker and river runner passing by.



Come hear the stories and see their photographic journal as Bob and Dean tell of their adventure at 6:30 p.m. on May 17th at the Mountain Chalet, 226 N. Tejon St.

Presentation at Penrose

On May 13 from 12 to 1 at Penrose Library, PPG's Tony Eichstadt, Co-Director of the Basic Mountaineering School and Kristen Buckland, Public Relations Director, will be discussing proper planning, weather, choosing local hiking trips, and much more on how to enjoy safely our beautiful mountains, and also what the CMC has to offer. Be sure and come by to hear their ideas.

Your PPG Council

Chair – Collin Powers 719-685-2470, powerscollin@yahoo.com

Past Chair – Rick Keetch 719-634-1165, rakeetch@msn.com

BMS Director – Mike Erickson 719-482-5062, Michael.Erickson@yahoo.com Co-Director – Tony Eichstadt 740-601-3611, teichstadt@comcast.net

Conservation – Tom Mowle 719-216-3932, tommowle@yahoo.com

Education & Training – Eric Hunter 719-266-9647, ehunter67@yahoo.com

Equipment Manager – Tom Mulcahy 719-482-8821, thomleonmul@hotmail.com

Membership – Dean Waits 719-445-0263, dwaits24@gmail.com

Newsletter – Dave Anderson 719-484-9069, danderso@uccs.edu

Outings – Chris Mattingly 719-268-6774, jamescmattingly@comcast.net

Programs – Carrie Graff 410-507-9646, graffcd@gmail.com

Public Relations – Kristen Buckland 419-260-7807, buckie06@hotmail.com Assisting – Neil Butterfield 337-258-2365, neil.butterfield@yahoo.com Assisting – Christie Lee 719-635-2336, christie80905@gmail.com

Safety & Leadership – Paul Schoell 719-440-7777, 4paul2@gmail.com

Secretary – Glenn Barr 719-244-3502, gjb2000@gmail.com

SESI – Christie Lee 719-635-2336, christie80905@gmail.com

Treasurer – Jackie Crouch 719-231-3513, jcrouchrn@mac.com

At Large:

Matt Foster 719-352-8164, matthewmfoster@gmail.com Scott Kime

719-235-0939, scott.kime@live.com

719-659-0345, at_90@yahoo.com

Mary Mourar 719-633-2614, marym525@yahoo.com

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

Welcome New PPG Members!

Jeremy Adair
Darin Baker
Jan Beals
Carol Bilbrey
Alexandra Bingham
Michael Flora
Kenton Greenwood
Devon Kelly

Jason Larimore

Dennis Lockett
Ted Obenchain
Elizabeth Obenchain
Daphne Obenchain
Fiona Obenchain
Steve Raney
Ann Sorenson
Jessica Welk





The New Member Orientation held at Red Rock Open Space on April 2 was attended by 15 new PPG members. Standing L-R: Shelly Crook (guest), Devon Kelly, Eric Kuzara, Cindy Carlson, David and Cathy Crist, Jan Beals, Steve Raney, Marianne Mittelstadt, Kelly Kreuzberger (guest), Lisa O'Boyle, Andrea Skoog, Carol and Dan Gaskill, Lorisha McElhinny, Tim Ionno, Front row: Amy Cox, Co-Leaders Matthew Foster and Carrie Graff, Leader – Dean Waits. Mr. Jack the Dog. Photo by Paul Schoell.

Leaderfest – Spring 2016

By Chris Mattingly

Leaders and Instructors are invited to attend the upcoming Leaderfest on April 27^{th} starting at 6:30 p.m. at Rudy's Bar-B-Q, located on the corner of Cimarron and 31^{st} Street.

We will be discussing our trip history since last October, the leaders who led the greatest number of trips, and trip planning for the warm weather months with a focus on mountaineering. We will be honored to have John Noll, a member of the El Paso County Search and Rescue team, give the presentation for the evening. We learn a lot from each other! If you are a leader, instructor, or leader in training (taken the trip leader class, but not yet an official leader) you are very welcome 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.

Potpourri

Conservation Corner



Lovell Gulch Trail Work starts 5/21

This summer the Pikes Peak Group will be continuing to work on the Lovell Gulch Trail near Woodland Park. We will be working on the area north of the main stream crossing, and also a steep section between there and the trailhead. We provide all the tools and training. Please sign up for 5/21, 6/25, 7/23, 8/27, and/or 9/17.

Intro to Mountaineering

Intro to Mountaineering is a class focused on climbing high mountains and will be offered again this climbing season on June 29th, 6:30pm at the Rockrimmon Library. The class is open to all members. Guests are allowed on a case by case basis. We offered many trips for our membership last summer and we plan to do the same this summer. If you have an interest, please sign up and attend. BMS graduates probably don't need to attend, but are welcome. Those who have not graduated from BMS will upgrade their credentials by attending and will provide valuable qualifying information about themselves to Trip Leaders providing these challenging but rewarding mountaineering trips.

Something you'd like to tell us about? Send it to us!



Pikes Peak Group Trip



Columbine Trail, 4/8/16. L-R: Susan Wood, Nancy Frazier, Hobie (a labradoodle), and Agnes Duncan; leader Nancy Altmansberger

21 to 40 Year Olds - Check out the Trailblazers

Trailblazers has become a statewide section; it is no longer a section under the just the Denver Group. This means that anyone between the ages of 21 and 40 and from *any* group can join, free of charge! From after-work hikes in Golden to Saturday 14er climbs to week-long excursions to Moab, this group gets 20- and 30-something adventurers together nearly every week. There are also regular happy hours and social events. For more information, find the CMC Trailblazers group on Facebook, and also check their trips on the CMC web site.

Pikes Peak Group Trip



Quandary Peak L-R: Tom and Robin Mino, Barbara Newsome and Tony Eichstadt; leader Dean Waits.

Upcoming PPG Classes

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.

PPG ARCPro Traditional Lead Climbing Class

Starts June 6

The Traditional Lead Climbing Class is part of the PPG Advanced Rock Climbing Program. In this class, students will be introduced to the principles and techniques of placing gear on a "traditional" rock climb. This class builds upon many of the concepts and skills taught in the PPG ARCPro Gear and Anchors Class. By the end of the final field session, students will perform "mock" trad leads—backed up by a top-rope belay. Students will be evaluated for their gear placements and their understanding of key principles of how to ensure safety while leading a traditional climb. Prerequisites: Successful completion of BMS Rock Climbing, the Sport Leading Class, and the PPG ARCPro Gear and Anchors class, or approval from ARC Program directors. The cost for this class is \$95. For more details, please contact Collin Powers or Scott Kime.

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.

PPG Rock Scrambling Class

Starts July 9

The objectives of the Rock Scrambling class are to: Improve students' ability to move safely and efficiently on Class 3 routes, to provide students the opportunity to gain confidence when climbing with exposure, and to have fun! There will be a half-day instructional session at a local crag on July 9 and a full-day climb along a high ridge on July 10. Prerequisites: Students must have basic mountaineering knowledge, skills and experience, such as that taught in the CMC BMS Wilderness Fundamentals class. Students should have experience hiking Class 2 alpine routes and know how to equip themselves with the essentials for a day in the mountains. Students must be fit enough to climb a Colorado 14er at a moderate pace. The cost for this class is \$45. For more details, please contact Hoot Gibson.

PPG ARCPro Intro to Multipitch Concepts Class

Starts August 9

Students will learn introductory level techniques applicable to climbing multipitch routes, including: preparation, anchors, belaying, cleaning gear, belay transitions, descending, and climbing with a 2-person team. Prerequisites: Students should have basic rock climbing skills, such as taught in our BMS Rock Climbing or the equivalent, to include belaying and climbing communication. Leading skills are not necessary. It is also recommended for participants in this class to take the ARCPro Gear and Anchors Class prior to this class, as we will have you placing trad gear and building trad anchors in this class. This class will be beneficial to anyone looking to climb multipitch routes- to include leaders and followers. The cost for this class is \$75. For more details, please contact Collin Powers or Scott Kime.





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



Upcoming PPG Classes (continued)

Pikes Peak Intro to Mountain Biking Basics

Starts September 7

Learn the gear, maintenance, safety, and entry level techniques for basic mountain biking. Mountain biking is a great way to enjoy the wilderness with a little more skill and finesse, of getting out for a short outing after work, and for building cardio before a big climb. There will be two classroom sessions and three field sessions for the mountain biking class. The cost is \$60. There are also rental costs if you don't own the gear. The mountain biking classroom dates are 07 and 08 Sep, and the field dates are 10, 17, and 24 Sep. A strong fitness level to go on a full day technical bike ride is required for the field sessions as this will not be casual riding. The field sessions will be progressive in nature to build on skills. For more details, please contact Eric Hunter.

PPG ARCPro Sport Lead Climbing Class

Starts September 11

This two-day class will teach participants the skills needed to safely lead sport climbs; to include setting up a top-rope anchor, cleaning the anchor and rapping down, along with some more advanced sport climbing skills. On day 1 we will focus on the safety components and transitions of leading sport climbs and cleaning/rapping sport climbs, then on day 2 students will practice leading, will learn movement techniques, how to fall safely (with some practice taking real falls), and advanced leader belaying. It is designed for the climber who has climbed top-rope style, but who would like to advance into being a fully "independent climber" able to put up ropes at the start of a climb, and safely take down ropes at the end of a climb. Prerequisites: Participants are expected to either be graduates of BMS Rock or have experience with good climbing belay skills, good climbing communications, and a good working knowledge of knots and the climber's safety system. Your experience does not need to be extensive, but this is not an introduction to climbing class. The cost for this class is \$75. For more details, please contact Collin Powers or Scott Kime.

Pikes Peak Intro to Technical Canyoneering

Starts September 14

If you have completed the Intro to Desert Trekking & Canyoneering and Basic Mountaineering School Rock Climbing courses, here is a chance to take those skills to the next level. Come learn the proper gear, safety, and techniques for technical canyoneering. There are many nuances to this environment that should warrant a safe approach such as provided by this class. The course cost is \$130. The classroom session is on 14 Sep. There are two evening field session to cover some basics and evaluate fitness levels scheduled for 15 and 22 Sep. Then we go on a four-day trip to the desert scheduled for 02 Oct through 05 Oct. This year's desert trip is planned for the San Rafael Swell in Utah. A strong fitness level to go on daily full day hikes with scrambling and rappelling on high exposure in hot terrain, squeezing through narrows, and hiking all day in loose sand and deep water is required for the field sessions. The field sessions will be progressive in nature to build on skills. Attendance at the classroom session and local field sessions will be required to attend the Utah trip. Prerequisite: Completion of both BMS Rock Climbing course and Intro to Desert Trekking & Canyoneering course is required! A city parks permit to rock climb is also required and must be obtained prior to the course. For more details, please contact Eric Hunter.

Pikes Peak Intro to Desert Trekking and Canyoneering

Starts September 21

If you have only been hiking in the high altitude for your spring, summer, and fall there is another world out there. When you have climbed enough peaks to wonder what other environments might be out there, the next step for you may be desert terrain. Come learn the proper gear, safety, and entry level techniques for basic desert trekking and basic canyoneering. There are many nuances to this environment that should warrant a safe approach such as provided by this class. The course cost is \$90. The classroom session is on 21 Sep. There is a one day field session in Colorado Springs to cover some basics and evaluate fitness levels scheduled for 25 Sep. Then we go on a five day trip to the desert scheduled for 28 Sep through 02 Oct. This year's desert trip is planned for the San Rafael Swell in Utah. A strong fitness level to go on daily full day hikes with scrambling on moderate exposure in hot terrain, squeezing through narrows, and hiking in loose sand is required for the field sessions. The field sessions will be progressive in nature to build on skills. Attendance at the classroom session and local field session will be required to attend the Utah trip. For more details, please contact Eric Hunter.

Pikes Peak Trip Leader Training

Starts September 22

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 of becoming a trip leader.) The classroom sessions are on 22 September and 29 September. The field session on the morning of 2 October will be scheduled as a CMC trip. The cost for this class is \$25. For more details, please contact Paul Schoell.





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



Upcoming PPG Classes (continued)

PPG ARCPro Crack Climbing Class

Starts October 8

This class will focus on crack-climbing techniques for climbing finger to fist-sized cracks, along with touching on chimney and off-width techniques. The class is led by Jes Meiris, our PPG ARC Program Technical Director, assisted by the program directors. We will not be teaching any gear placement or lead climbing in this class; we will focus on climbing techniques while on a top-rope belay. Prerequisites: Students should have basic rock climbing skills, such as taught in our BMS Rock Climbing or the equivalent, to include belaying and climbing communication. Leading skills are not necessary. The cost for this class is \$75. For more details, please contact Collin Powers or Scott Kime.

PPG ARCPro Self Rescue Class Starts October 18

Ever wondered how you might react if your climbing partner were injured? What about if you were injured? Would you be able to get down safely as a team? In the PPG ARCPro Self-Rescue Class, you will learn tips and techniques to deal with unpleasant situations in the mountains. Whether you are an alpine climber seeking endless ridgelines, looking to break into multipitch ice this year, or a seasoned rock climber with regular days at our local crags, this course is for you! The Self Rescue Class offered by Pikes Peak Group is a key element of our Advanced Rock Climbing Program. Students are given the skills, along with practice, to deal with many of the situations that can occur in a climbing scenario. This class does not deal with any of the medical components and implications of an injury-based rescue; that is far beyond the scope of the program. This class teaches participants the safety components and transitions that can assist a climbing team to extricate themselves from a number of situations. The class is led by ARC Pro Technical Director, Jes Meiris, who climbs, guides and teaches for a living. The cost for this class is \$95. For more details, please contact Collin Powers or Scott Kime.

May PPG Trips

First Friday Art Walk Friday, 5/6/2016 Easy A

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

Trail Mileage 3.5. Details: SESI - Meet at Fine Arts Center. Contact leader at least two days prior to the trip.

Buckskin/Paria Backpack/Canyoneering Trip

Friday, 5/6/2016

Moderate

Leader: Donna Schneider, 719-685-4700, donnagail@mesanetworks.net

Trail Mileage 47, Driving Distance 1148. Location: Red Rocks Safeway. Details: Buckskin Gulch claims to be the longest and deepest slot canyon in the world at 13.5 miles. The swirling, twisting walls of sandstone carved by flash floods rise 400-500 feet with some sections less than 10 feet from side to side, growing narrower as it travels downstream. The canyon is so deep, little light reflects on the sandy canyon floor. Cold, muddy pools gather in spots, resulting in a swim or wading water that can reach chest deep at times. A challenging, long, yet fun hike through mud, cold pools of water, climbing over and under chokestones wedged in the canyon walls, the result of raging water. We will park our vehicles at the exit (Lee's Ferry) and be shuttled by driver to the Wirepass TH and camp. The following day we will travel quickly through Buckskin to the confluence where Buckskin meets the Paria River, another magical area, where we will camp along the banks of the Paria River exploring all the canyon has to offer as we make our way downstream, exiting at Lee's Ferry. Post Buckskin, we will take a couple days to explore other nearby slot canyons, possibly technical canyons requiring technical gear. Experience in canyoneering is required so if you don't already own a harness and helmet, or do not have backpacking experience, you do not qualify. Leader will screen participants' canyoneering experience prior to adding participant to the trip. Weather can play a vital role in whether or not we are able to enter the canyon under safe conditions. If weather is an issue, we may travel north and hopefully away from potential weather hazards. We will check the weather reports prior to leaving Colorado Springs and again before we reach Utah where cell reception is almost nonexistent. If storms end up blanketing all of Utah, we may have to cancel the trip altogether. This is not a CMC adventure trip. Leader along with participants pay their own way. Leader requests a nonrefundable \$70 deposit to reserve your spot, which pays for your permit and shared lodging the first night in Cortez. Nonrefundable only if you cancel and a replacement is not found. If you have experience in canyoneering and are interested, contact leader. Total approximate cost of trip: \$270 if everything goes according to plan. Does not include possible additional expenses, due to weather and changes in itinerary.

Bear Creek and Buckhorn Trails

Friday, 5/6/2016

Moderate B

Leader: Nancy Altmansberger, 719-471-9549

Trail Mileage 10, Elevation Gain 1900. Details: In North Cheyenne Canyon, we will hike up Bear Creek Trail to the highest point on Buckhorn Trail and come back the way we came. We can't do the loop that we used to do because Sesame Canyon Trail is closed. CMC members only. A limited number of friendly, well behaved dogs are welcome. Please register with leader by phone.

May PPG Trips (continued)

Pancake Rocks Saturday, 5/7/2016 Moderate B

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

Details: Continuous moderate pace to destination. Contact leader at least two days prior to the trip.

Florissant Fossil Beds NM Loop

Saturday, 5/14/2016

Moderate C

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

Trail Mileage 15, Elevation Gain 2000, Driving Distance 70. Location: Florissant Fossil Beds National Monument. Details: Come enjoy the extended trails of this local National Monument. We will venture off the tourist paths to the extended trails in this wonderful area. Historic sites, wildlife, and many photo opportunities are common along this trail. Park entry fee required.

Cheyenne Mt State Park Sunday, 5/15/2016 Moderate B

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

Details: Moderate pace. One stop on way up for clothing adjustment only. Contact leader at least two days prior to the trip.

Thomas and Catamount Trails to South Catamount Reservoir

Friday, 5/20/2016

Moderate B

Leader: Nancy Altmansberger, 719-471-9549

Trail Mileage 10, Elevation Gain 1600, Driving Distance 20. Details: From Green Mountain Falls, we will hike Thomas Trail to Catamount Trail. We will hike through the Garden of Eden and on to South Catamount Reservoir for a snack or lunch by the beach. The hike will include a 30' long rock crossing to get across the water at the bottom of Catamount Falls. There is one place with a bit of a scramble on Catamount Trail. This is a fun hike! CMC members only. A limited number of well behaved, friendly dogs may come on a first come, first served basis. Please register with leader by phone.

Mt Rosa Loop 11,499ft Saturday, 5/21/2016 Difficult D

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

Trail Mileage 16, Elevation Gain 4700. Location: Hub parking lot in Cheyenne Canyon, Colorado Springs. Details: This is a strenuous loop hike from the hub parking lot in Cheyenne Canyon. We will hike up Seven Bridges Trail, across the Pipeline Trail to Frosty Park and up the Mt Rosa Trail to the summit at 11,500 ft, then down Buffalo Creek past St Mary's Falls to Gold Camp Road to complete the loop. There are many wonderful views of Cheyenne Canyon, historical sites and The Springs throughout this trip. Class 1, 16/4,700'. Register with leader.

Lovell Gulch Trail Project #4

Saturday, 5/21/2016

Moderate

Leader: Thomas Mowle, 719-216-3932, tommowle@yahoo.com

Trail Mileage 1.5, Elevation Gain 200. Location: North of Woodland Park. Details: Trail work. Open to the public. Ages 16+; under 18 must be accompanied by parent/guardian. Day hike. Bring your lunch. The Pikes Peak Group is continuing to help the National Forest with maintenance on Lovell Gulch Trail #706 near Woodland Park. This year we will be working on the area around the main stream crossing, and some eroding slopes on the "stem" of the trail. At the final workday, we will be doing restoration work. Volunteers will have about a 3/4 mile hike to the work area, carrying tools. Volunteers must bring work clothes and gloves, water, snacks, sunscreen, and hat. If you are a CMC member, please log on to register. Once the project is full, we will not be able to accommodate any additional volunteers unless additional leaders/tools are recruited. This is for safety's sake—to retain a safe crew leader to volunteer ratio—and due to the number of tools available. Please cancel if needed to make room for others, and join the wait list if the trip is full. Notes: Additional workdays on 6/25, 7/23, 8/27, and 9/17.

Cheyenne Mt State Park Sunday, 5/22/2016 Moderate B

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

Details: Moderate pace. Goal is to get to high point in park in one hour or less. Contact leader at least two days prior to the trip.

Cheyenne Mt State Park Sunday, 5/29/2016 Moderate B

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

Details: Moderate pace. Goal is to get to high point in park in one hour or less. Contact leader at least two days prior to the trip.





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



New (well... revived, actually) Class!

CMC PPG 2016 Rock Scrambling Class

Have you hiked a few of the easier 14ers? Do you have goals of climbing all of the 14ers in Colorado? If so, you may ask yourself, "How will I climb the harder peaks with class 3 and 4 terrain and exposure?" You might even have doubts, and you may ask yourself, "Can I do them?" Well, the answers can be found by taking the 9-10 July PPG Rock Scrambling Class!

This class is designed with the 14er hiking novice in mind. For those of you that have already hiked some of the easier 14ers or 13ers, the class will introduce you to the skills needed to safely and efficiently scramble on class 3 and 4 terrain. You will receive hands-on instruction for rock scrambling techniques and learn about risk management decisions used before and during the trip.

See the CMC web page or contact Hoot Gibson for more information and to register for the class.

Mountain Chalet for Meetings

By Bill Houghton

Probably the most frequent comment I hear from those attending meetings at Mountain Chalet is the lack of parking. I share your pain every day I work there. Like most places we drive to, we want to find the closest parking so we don't have to walk very far. There is some irony for those of us who love the outdoors and think nothing of hiking several miles to our favorite spots. However, there is something to be said about avoiding the frustration of driving around blocks without finding an open spot. To that end, I have several parking suggestions: The downtown parking meters stop being tended and ticketed at 6 p.m. That still does not help us find an open spot because of bar and restaurant visitors. Parking spots can usually be found in the block behind the store on Cascade. The block between Bijou and Platte normally has spots on the street open along Cascade. One block north between Platte and Boulder, there are spots on both sides of the street. My favorite is Boulder Crescent, just to the west of that block, where you can normally find a spot. For those who are willing to pay for a little protection, the Parking Garage charges one dollar after 3 p.m. Come for dinner and stay for the meeting.

Another comment we hear is that someone shows up late and the door is locked. Because of the value of products just inside the door, we cannot just leave the door open and unattended. If there is someone who is willing to stay upstairs and let latecomers in, we will accommodate you. But if everyone wants to see the show, the door will normally be locked about 15 minutes after the scheduled start of the meeting.

The lights are a bit of a problem for programs downstairs. We tend to leave the lights on between closing at 6 p.m. and the start of the meeting. We don't mind people walking around the clothing racks to see what is new. But as the meeting starts we turn off the lights around the program and request that you stay in the seating area. For those who need to "take care of business", the shop lights remain on and should provide enough light to find the restrooms on the south wall. If, for some immediate necessity, someone needs to leave during the program, find the person with the keys to let you out.

We enjoy having meetings and supporting the community. We hope that this will help overcome the frustrations of coming downtown.

Pikes Pique

May 2016 | No. 223

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:

CMC Pikes Peak Group P.O. Box 2435 Colorado Springs, CO 80901 cmcppg@yahoo.com 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.