



March 2016 | No. 221

Pikes Pique

The Newsletter of the CMC Pikes Peak Group

Pikes Peak Group Monthly Program – March 15th

Joe Carberry and Britt Jones Present: *Why are the Volcanoes so Tall? Because it's Mexico!*



Come to the next PPG monthly program at 6:30 on March 15th at the Mountain Chalet, 226 N. Tejon St for a presentation of a recent CMC Adventure Travel trip to experience the climbing and culture of Mexico.



In addition, the team toured the historic city of Puebla and visited the pyramids outside of Mexico City.



In late December and early January a team of eleven CMC climbers traveled to Mexico to attempt four volcanoes. The peaks included Nevado de Toluca (15,350 ft), Pico de Orizaba (18,491 ft – the third highest peak in North America), La Malinche (14,636 ft), and Itzaccihuatl (17,160 ft).



This fast-paced trip saw the spectrum from blue bird summit days to Mexican New Years celebrations to a view of a minor eruption of Popocatepetl!

Your PPG Council

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

Welcome New PPG Members!

Mary Anderson
Jonathan Caughran
Matthew Chezem
Stan Crane
Edward Ernest
Cynthia Flanagan
Julie Glenn
Lisette Grunwell
Heath Herber
Cheri Herber
Jason Jacobsen
Noel Johnson
Kraig Kenny
Vadim Kozik

Luellen Leasure-Crane
Molly Mazel
Matthew McLean
Martha McLeod
Elizabeth Parsons
Kyle Peters
Irina Primakova
Zubaida Prymakova
Andrea Skoog
Nona Stuber
Jeff Stuber
Marcus Vlasse
Jonathan Witt



Palmer Lake-Ice Cave Creek – Leader, Dean Waits
L-R: Dorothea, Ann, Jeff, David, Lori, Steve, and Debbi; front Peter

What Super Bowl?



Barr Camp group on Super Bowl Sunday

Avalanche Level I

BY DEAN WAITS

The 2016 PPG Avalanche Level 1 class took place with two classroom sessions and two in the field. It was a full house with 23 students in this year's class. Students were: Joy Cipoletti, Chris Mattingly, Hydi Peterson, Avery Wilson, Dean Waits, Michael Piasecki, Tommy Zmudka, Brandy Lancaster, Adam Beccue, John Giddens, Emily Minton, Shane Kramer, Kristin Giordano, Andy Lyon, Gabriel Wood, Julie Glenn, Joshua Garboczi, TJ Crawford, Molly Mazel, Brian Crolley, Carl Redick, Tony Eichstadt, and Mike Erickson.



Eric Hunter, PPG Education & Training Director, was the instructor, along with his ever so capable assistants: Jackie Crouch, Rick Keetch, Kim Wetzel, and Joe Preiss.

The field sessions were planned for a Saturday journey to Monarch Pass and Sunday to Hoosier Pass. A winter storm warning was forecasted for the weekend with a west wind of 25 to 30 mph and gust of 45 along with snow for Monarch. The sometimes typical Colorado weather occurred as we were blessed with partly cloudy skies, very little wind and a late afternoon snow shower.

Students dug several evaluation pits, also considering slope angles and aspects to arrive at a "Go – No Go" consensus, followed by buried beacon locating drills.



Sunday's exercise was moved to the Crag area, as foul weather persisted at Hoosier. It was another wonderful day to be in the mountains as it started to snow at 11 a.m., just as forecasted. Several more pits were dug and evaluations made, along with the snow temperature at different levels and estimated water content.

All this was followed by the big finale: the provocative Make Believe Avalanche and rescue. Students were divided into three groups, told the situation (wow, these instructors can be very dramatic) and the rescue began. All were multi-burials with the goal to locate and uncover victims within the highest percentage for survival of fifteen minutes. This was a splendid exercise to illustrate how group dynamics works while under a time restraint.

Thanks to Eric and all the assistants for a very thorough and educational class; along with the attentiveness of all the students.

New Member Orientation



PPG New Member Orientation at Red Rock Canyon Open Space – January 23, 2016

Upcoming PPG Classes

Basic Mountaineering School (BMS) – Wilderness Fundamentals

Starts March 9

There are three class lectures covering the topics of gear, trip planning, nutrition, conditioning, conservation practices such as Leave No Trace, the Ten Essentials, weather evaluation, safety, emergency planning protocol, and case studies of wilderness accidents. Class dates are 09, 10, and 16 Mar. There is a CMC Rating Trip on 19 Mar designed to reinforce principals and techniques discussed in class. The cost for this class is \$38. For more details, please contact [Tony Eichstadt](#).

ARCPro Gear and Anchors Class

Starts March 8

For those climbers who have taken BMS Rock and are wanting to expand their rock climbing skills, the PPG Advanced Rock Program is offering its first class of the year in March- our Gear and Anchors Class. This class provides the foundation for most other ARCPro classes, and covers traditional gear placement and anchor building. The class will be beneficial for any climbers interested in traditional climbing and those climbers interested in building and evaluating anchors of all types, such as top-rope, rappel, and multi-pitch belay anchors. The class includes one classroom evening session on March 8th, and two full day field sessions on the weekend of March 12 and 13. See the online CMC calendar for more details and to register, or contact [Scott Kime](#) or [Collin Powers](#) with any questions.

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

When is the last time you took a WFA or CPR class?

You're out on a trip or teaching a class when someone gets sick or hurt. What do you do? Well come to the PPG Wilderness First Aid class and also the PPG CPR class and find out! The PPG realizes that it's essential that our trip leaders and course instructors have this knowledge and therefore will refund the cost of these two PPG classes upon successful completion by any PPG trip leader or PPG instructor. (The WFA class always fills up so don't delay in signing up.)

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](#).



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

Upcoming PPG Classes (continued)

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](#).

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](#).

March PPG Trips

BC Ski North Fooses Creek Rd

Saturday, 3/5/2016

Moderate III

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

Trail Mileage 12, Elevation Gain 2000, Driving Distance 240. Location: Fooses Lake TH, near Salida, CO. Details: This is a moderate out and back ski into the North Fooses Creek Road near Monarch Pass. We will stay to the main road following the power line as far as everyone can go, have lunch, then return by the same route. We may also 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. We will avoid avalanche terrain.

The Incline Summit via Barr Trail

Saturday, 3/5/2016

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 please.

Ski Copper Mountain

Wednesday, 3/9/2016

Ski

Leader: Christie Lee, 719-635-2336, Christie80905@gmail.com

Details: Leave Colorado Springs at 8:15 a.m. Call Christie at 719-243-1821 by Monday, March 7th to confirm plans.

BC Ski South Fork Lake Creek Rd

Saturday, 3/12/2016

Moderate III

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

Trail Mileage 12, Elevation Gain 1500, Driving Distance 260. Location: South Fork Lake Creek Road TH, near Buena Vista, CO. Details: This is a moderate out and back ski into South Fork Lake Creek Road near La Plata Peak. We will stay to the main road following the creek as far as everyone can go, have lunch, then return by the same route. We can also play on some slopes at the lunch area. We may also 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. We will avoid avalanche terrain.

BC Ski Denny Creek to Ptarmigan Creek

Saturday, 3/19/2016

Moderate III

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

Trail Mileage 12, Elevation Gain 1250, Driving Distance 260. Location: Ptarmigan Creek Road TH, near Buena Vista, CO. Details: This is a moderate out and back ski up Cottonwood Pass Rd to Forest Rd 346 and up to Ptarmigan Creek. We will stay to the main roads as far as everyone can go, have lunch, then return by the same route. 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. We will avoid avalanche terrain.

March PPG Trips (continued)

Catamount Trail from Ed Lowe

Friday, 3/25/2016

Moderate B

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

Trail Mileage 6. Details: As always, be prepared for snow (either yak trax or microspikes). Also, gaiters are good. Contact leader at least two days prior to the trip.

Colorado Springs – Broadmoor Land Swap

BY TOM MOWLE

The PPG Council has not come to an opinion about the proposed land swap between the City and the Broadmoor, partly because our last meeting was snowed out. There are significant pros and cons to the deal, and we encourage you to contact City Council with your own individual view, and members of the group council as well. Contacts include AllCouncil@springsgov.com, jsuthers@springsgov.com, and City Parks at cmehew@springsgov.com.

The major disadvantage of the proposal is that it would transfer a large amount of city parkland, the southern part of North Cheyenne Canon Park commonly known as Strawberry Fields, to the Broadmoor for use as an equestrian center for its guests. Concerns have been raised about the future use of this land, the size of the transfer (which includes land unlikely to actually be used for trail rides), and above all the general principal of transferring a city park to private ownership.

In exchange for this, and additional parking near the Cog, the Broadmoor is offering several things of possible interest to CMC members:

1. The entire parcel containing the lower part of the Incline and Barr Trail would go to the City. While pending congressional legislation would grant an easement for Barr to the Forest Service (as part of another swap, in which the Broadmoor gets ownership rather than just use of Emerald Valley and the Forest Service gets the Harvey Carter parcel in Putney Gulch), this transfer would allow the construction of a north return from the Incline, reducing pressure on Barr Trail.
2. An easement would be granted for access from Old Stage Road to the Hully Gully ice climbing area, which would remain under public ownership. It is not clear if this would be a permanent easement, and there is some belief that there may already be an easement for that purpose.
3. A large chunk of land would be added to the southwest end of North Cheyenne Canon Park. This would include the south summit of Mt Muscoco, the trail from Daniels Pass to Gold Camp Road, the only large parcel of privately-held land along the closed Gold Camp Road, and some of the slopes above Greenwood Park. It would not include Greenwood Park, and routes from North Cheyenne Canyon directly to Daniels Pass, and on to the main summit of Mt Muscoco, and then to Mt Cutler, are already in public hands.
4. Easements would be granted for parts of a proposed Chamberlain Trail through the foothills. It is not clear if these easements are permanent, and many gaps would remain in the trail right-of-way.
5. A small parcel of vacant residential land along 21st Street would be added to Bear Creek Park.

There will be a public meeting on Wednesday, Feb 24th, 6 to 8 pm, at Gold Camp Elementary, 1805 Preserve Dr.

More information about this can be found at [TOSC](#), [The City](#), [Opposing Petition](#), [The Independent](#), and [Friends of Cheyenne Canon](#). I cannot find any online statements of support to link to.

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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

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Members:

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

Non-members:

- Text: \$3 per line, \$15 minimum
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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.