



November 2016 | No. 229

Pikes Pique

The Newsletter of the CMC Pikes Peak Group

Pikes Peak Group Annual Dinner – November 19

Steph Davis – An Iconic Name in Climbing



Steph's resume of climbing achievements spans 25 years. She was the first woman to free climb the Salathe Wall on El Capitan, and the second woman to free climb El Cap in under 24 hours. She has established first ascents of difficult rock climbs and high altitude mountains around the world from Yosemite to the Karakorum.

Few climbers practice the high risk style of free solo climbing, using no ropes or protective gear. Steph is the most accomplished female free soloist in the world and is also one of world's top

wingsuit base jumpers. She is one of just a few people in the world, and the only woman, combining free solo climbing with base jumping.

From an unusual start as a classically trained pianist with a Master's degree in literature, Steph chose to leave law school in order to pursue climbing full time. She has become one of the most successful professional climbers in the world.



Steph has written two memoirs, *High Infatuation* and *Learning to Fly*, and curates a blog at stephdavis.co with a focus on community, health and wellness, simple living, and travel. She owns and operates Climb2Fly Productions in Moab, Utah, a climbing and base jumping stunt company.

The Pikes Peak Group's annual dinner will be held on November 19th at 6:00 p.m. at The Warehouse restaurant, 25 West Cimarron St. The cost is \$35.

Seating is limited and we expect a large turnout.

Register online at www.cmc.org by November 12.

If you are unable to register online, please register with **Jackie Crouch**, (719) 231-3513, by November 12th.

Your PPG Council

Chair – Collin Powers
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Greg Long
719-659-0345, at_90@yahoo.com

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

Welcome New PPG Members!

Tammy Lombardo
Dawn Moskowitz
Shaye Moskowitz
Jenielle Stout

Tim Thompson
Erin Telepak
Joe Vuchetich



New Member Orientation, 10/15/16. L-R: Kim Inge, Jennifer Schmidt, Jennie Bowie (guest), Brad Sherman, Jeanne Gau, Tim Thompson, Gretchen Foster (leader), Cindy Cromwell, Mike Cromwell, Hannah Cromwell, Ryan Halabi, Sabine Durand. Front: Jacob and Ethan Bowie (guests), Dean Waits (leader).

Your PPG Council Needs You!

We sincerely appreciate all of our Pikes Peak Group members who selflessly volunteer their time and effort leading trips, instructing classes, promoting the Club, and serving on the Council. Have you been a member for a while? Have you benefited from our classes? Have you had fun on trips? Why not consider giving a little back? We currently have (or will have shortly) a few vacant positions on the Council (see sidebar at left) that need to be filled. Come join us for a meeting and see what the Council is about. Sign on as an At Large member and participate in decision making and voting. Think about filling one of those vacant positions. We would love your help! Feel free to contact the Chair, or really, anyone on the Council.

the PPG
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Upcoming PPG Classes

Pikes Peak WFA (Wilderness First Aid)

Starts October 22

This two-day, 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. Day one consists of classroom presentations and practicals on the variety of situations you might encounter in the backcountry and wilderness areas. Day two continues with a short classroom presentation followed by almost a full day of practical, hands-on training in the field. This course satisfies a requirement for trip leaders. The sessions are on Saturday 22 Oct and Sunday 23 Oct from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm. A comprehensive textbook and a field guide are 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) at the same location right after the completion of the WFA course. The cost for this course is \$70.

Pikes Peak CPR Training

October 23

Knowing CPR can be life-saving! Did you know the number four cause of death in the backcountry is heart attack? If you never had CPR training or it's been a while, 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 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.

PPG ARCPRO Self Rescue Class

Starts October 29

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.

Pikes Peak Hut to Hut Clinic

December 7

So you learned to backcountry ski or snowshoe, and now you want to know where to go. Maybe you are big on backpacking in the summer, but are not prepared for the bitter cold winter nights. You should do a hut trip! Colorado has many huts which offer warm, cozy environments. Knowing how to reserve a hut space and how to get there are key to a successful hut trip. In one evening session, which is free and open to everyone, you will learn about the principles, processes, planning, and particulars of participating in a hut trip adventure.

Pikes Peak Snowshoe Basics Class

Starts January 3

Learn the gear, maintenance, safety and entry level techniques for this entry into the winter wonderland for many people and a common activity in the winter schedule. This is also a wonderful way of beating the ever rising resort lift ticket fees and crowds. There will be two classroom sessions in Colorado Springs on 03 and 04 Jan from 6:00p to 9:30p and one field session on 07 Jan all day. The course cost is \$20. There are also rental costs if you don't own the gear. A general fitness level to go on a full day snowshoe trip is required for the field session. The first classroom is the same as the BC Ski class. The target audience is someone new to snowshoeing.

Pikes Peak Intro to Backcountry Skiing

Starts January 3

Learn the gear, maintenance, safety and entry level techniques for backcountry skiing. BC skiing is a great way to enjoy the wilderness with a little more skill and finesse, yet it is still a wonderful way of beating the ever rising resort lift ticket fees and crowds. There will be two classroom and three field sessions for the BC Ski class. The cost is \$60 for the classroom sessions and handouts. There are also rental costs if you don't own the gear and a trail pass for one day at a Nordic Center. BC Ski classroom dates are 03 and 05 Jan from 6:00p to 9:30p in Colorado Springs, and the field dates are 08, 15, and 22 Jan all day. A general fitness level to go on a full day ski trip with a lot of practice time is required for the field sessions. The first classroom is the same as the snowshoe class. The focus of this course is on learning efficient balance and weight transfer to manage an efficient kick and glide, so the target audience is beginner backcountry skiers.

Upcoming PPG Classes (continued)

Pikes Peak Avalanche Level I

Starts January 24

This is the Decision Making in Avalanche Terrain course required for both HAMS and BMS students, and is highly recommended for anyone going into the winter wilderness. The classroom sessions will be held in Colorado Springs, and will teach how to develop a plan for travel on avalanche terrain, how to identify terrain that is avalanche safe, how to make safe terrain choices before and during a trip, and how to make an efficient companion rescue through hands on experience. This is the course to make all the other winter activities safer. Classroom dates are scheduled for 24 and 26 Jan from 6:00p to 9:30p. The field session is scheduled for both 28 and 29 Jan all day. All field sessions are scheduled separately as CMC trips. Attendance at both classroom sessions and both field sessions is required to successfully complete the course. The cost for this class is \$150. A general fitness level is required to spend the day snowshoeing around and digging in the snow. This course will be on snowshoes only. The target audience is anyone new to avalanche skills and anyone wanting to refresh their expired skills. Each student will be required to bring their own 10 Essentials, appropriate clothing for winter travel, and snowshoes. The course will provide beacons, probes, and shovels for use in the field sessions; however, please bring your own to learn from if you have them.

Pikes Peak BMS – Colorado Ice Climbing

Starts January 30

This is the final module in the 2015 BMS series. Completion of this course allows certification in the BMS Alpine Mountaineering track. Congratulations! This course has a prerequisite of the BMS Rock Climbing module or similar proven skills. Classroom dates are 30 Jan and 2 Feb. The field session is 5 Feb. There will be an optional trip to Ouray on 11-13 Feb. All field sessions are scheduled as CMC trips. The cost for this class is \$70. The optional overnight trip will include additional hotel and travel expenses. Regarding gear: Aside from the normal climbing gear (helmet, harness, belay device, biners, slings, and rigid-soled boots), you do not need additional equipment for this class. Crampons are available for checkout, and ice tools are available for your use. You're of course welcome to purchase these items before the class, but they can be quite expensive (especially the ice tools). It is recommended that you try the tools that the club and instructors bring to the field sessions to see what works best for you before making that kind of investment.

PPG Technical Ice Climbing School

Starts February 15

Have you mastered the art of climbing rock, and now that the weather is turning you don't know what you will do with your time? Consider advancing all those skills you learned in BMS rock and ice by taking TICS. The goal of the class will depend on the groups aspirations and existing skill level but will be to teach basic leading on class 3 ice and advanced skills needed for climbing class 4 and 5 ice. If time permits there will also be the opportunity to add some basic mixed climbing instruction as well. The class will be in two parts with one evening classroom instruction and two consecutive days out on the ice in Ouray, CO. Requirements: Completion of BMS Rock and Ice and a lead climbing class preferred. Exceptions can be made for individuals who can show the ability to lead 5.8 or harder safely, and who have ice experience. Individuals should have the following gear list as well: Ice tools, crampons, mountaineering boots, 4 ice screws, 4 runners, and all other basic climbing gear needed for a normal day out on the ice. A complete list will be furnished as part of the class and a few items will be shared by the team. Location: The evening class will be in Colorado Springs on Feb 15th, while the remainder of the class will be a weekend in Ouray, CO. We will be carpooling down on Friday, Feb 17th, climbing all day Saturday and Sunday. Cost: The cost for the class will be \$175. You will be responsible for securing your hotel and meals while on the trip; however, a discounted rate at a local hotel will be secured by the school. Hotel rate should be around \$75–90 each total for the weekend (2 climbers per room).

Pikes Peak Winter Wilderness Survival Skills

Starts February 22

So now you have learned from the other classes how to get out and play in the winter wilderness, but what do you do if you get stuck out there for an unplanned night while on a day trip? This classroom session will be held in Colorado Springs and will discuss the gear requirements and concepts of survival in the winter wilderness of Colorado. We will then spend a night in the wilderness to put those concepts to practice. We will build several types of winter shelters and you will have the chance to spend the night in them using just what you carry on a winter day trip, or a bit more if you are concerned. The classroom session is on 22 Feb from 6:00p to 9:30p. The overnight is 25-26 Feb all day both days. All field sessions are scheduled as CMC trips. The cost for this class is \$40. A general fitness level to travel on snowshoes, to be out overnight, and to dig snow shelters for long periods is required. The target audience is anyone who goes on day trips in the winter in any snow environment.



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



Adventure Travel Trip

European Haute Route Ski Tour

April 1-9, 2017

Come join this first CMC Ski Tour offered in many years. The European Haute Route Ski Tour 2017, organized by Gary Hellenga, this is perhaps the world's most famous ski trip. Starting in Chamonix, France from the shadow of Mont Blanc, to the picturesque village of Zermatt, Switzerland, beneath the imposing Matterhorn, this trip offers everything for the adventurous skier. Priced from \$3,199.



More info at [CMC Adventure Travel Trips](#).

Hawaii Kayaking Trip – Early Deadline

Kayaking the Na Pali Coast, Kauai, HI



This is a kayaking/hiking trip set to sail June 24th-30th, 2017 in the rough seas of the Na Pali Coast, Kauai, HI. This trip is not for the faint of heart or those susceptible to sea-sickness as there is no refund from the outfitter for bailing out during the trip due to barfing or sheer exhaustion from paddling. Daily tablets “just in case” is a good idea. Kayaking experience is recommended, but not necessary. We will practice kayaking skills in Frisco in June prior to the trip. Upper body strength is required. The trip will be capped at eight participants.

This is a partially guided trip due to rough seas and difficult landings along the water's edge. We will be tent camping along the coast. Participants will supply their own meals and camping equipment. Upon arrival in Kauai, we will be transported to Ha'ena County Beach Park and camp one night near the launch area. After

launching, three nights on Kalalau Beach (accessible only by boat or hiking) and one night on Mololi'i, one of the most remote, longest white sand beaches in Hawaii that can only be reached by sea. We will launch from Mololi'i unguided and paddle the last five miles to Polihale where the outfitter will pick us up and transfer us to the airport or to a hotel.

If you are interested, a nonrefundable deposit of \$83.00 per person is required by November 1st to acquire camping permits. Two-thirds of all permits are issued one year in advance, so time is already running out to apply for the required permits. This is an *urgent* request. To confirm your spot, I ask that you pay the outfitter \$593.13 as shown in itinerary (which will be emailed to you after you have expressed interest) by November 15th. This does not include gratuity or luggage storage in case you decide to extend your stay after kayaking. I will also need a copy of your photo ID and the size of your tent as required by the Department of Parks and Recreation to reserve campsites.

In January, we will purchase airline tickets to assure we all arrive around the same time for shuttle pick up. Today, flights are running around \$1100 from Denver and \$1200 from Colorado Springs. Total cost of the kayaking portion including the camp fee deposit and guide gratuity, is \$760.13. This does not include airfare or last night hotel stay prior to returning to Colorado. Please email [Donna Gail Schneider](#) if you are interested in this trip.

November PPG Trips

Stanley Canyon

Friday, 11/4/2016

Moderate B

Leader: Nancy Altmansberger, 719-471-9549

Trail Mileage 6, Elevation Gain 1500. Details: From the Air Force Academy, we will hike into Pike National Forest, up rugged Stanley Canyon, through the meadows, and on to the reservoir. This is a fun and pretty 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.

Section XVI Loop Snackluck

Sunday, 11/6/2016

Moderate B

Leader: Y Mason, you dew@aol.com

Trail Mileage 6, Elevation Gain 1200. Location: Palmer Trail - Section XVI Loop is located just 1¼ miles west of the intersection of Gold Camp Road and 26th Street in Colorado Springs, CO. Details: Registered hikers are highly encouraged to bring enough of their favorite snack food (fresh veggies and dip, cheese and crackers, jerky, popcorn etc.) to share with ten other hikers. Leader will provide small plates and plasticware for each hiker to sample each snack. Meetup specifics will be emailed to each registered hiker a few days prior to the hike. *No rabbits please.*

Cheyenne Mountain State Park

Sunday, 11/6/2016

Moderate B

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

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

Sesame Canyon, Tenney Crag (10,093), Bear Creek Loop

Saturday, 11/12/2016

Moderate C

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

Trail Mileage 13, Elevation Gain 3700. Location: Bear Creek, Colorado Springs, CO. Details: This is a great local trip merging several major and secondary trails, culminating in a great overlook seldom seen. We will hike from the Caretaker Shack up Bear Creek to Sesame Canyon past a frozen falls and on to Cap'n Jacks. From there we will take a secondary trail to the Buckskin Cutoff and continue on Cap'n Jacks to Bear Creek. We will continue up Bear Creek to another secondary trail up the drainage to Tenney Crag. We will return by coming down Bear Creek. *NOTE: The details of this trip may be modified if the local access issues are still not resolved by this time.*

Palmer Red Rock Trail Hike

Friday, 11/18/2016

Moderate B

Leader: Nancy Altmansberger, 719-471-9549

Trail Mileage 6, Elevation Gain 1400. Details: We will hike this beautiful trail that is just north of Cheyenne Canyon. It has been adopted and maintained by the Pikes Peak Group of the Colorado Mountain Club for many years. CMC members only. A limited number of well behaved, friendly dogs are welcome. Please register with leader by phone.

Cheyenne Mountain State Park

Sunday, 11/20/2016

Moderate B

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

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

Pancake Rocks

Saturday, 11/26/2016

Moderate B

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

Details: Medium pace (not too slow, not too fast). Contact leader at least two days prior to the trip.

Save the Date

Mt Princeton 2017

Please mark the the weekend of March 3-5, 2017 for this annual ski, snowshoe, swim, and party event at Mt Princeton Hot Springs Resort in Nathrop, CO. The resort was booked up already last February for the usual weekend after Presidents Day. I am still negotiating the 2017 prices with the lodge. For more information or a reservation, please call or email Getty Nuhn (719) 473-8868 (Hinu hn@Comcast.net) or Becky Zenthoefer (719) 633-1367 (Becky zee@Comcast.net). We hope to see many of you there again.



Royal Gorge Climbing Event

The CMC-PPG was invited to give rock climbing demonstrations at the Royal Gorge for their AdventureFEST event in September. This event was a week-long celebration of the outdoors, including slacklines, rock climbing, lumberjack competition, Native American cultural demonstrations, and even a beard competition.



Since the area is private property, no persons have had legal climbing in the Royal Gorge since the legendary days of Layton Kor in the 1960's. Truly an honor and privilege for our club members! We found areas on opposite ends of the gorge to setup anchors and lower climbers into the void. The questionable nature of the rock prevented us from leading any routes; we doubted the strength of gear placements. The main goal of this project was not to have fun climbing, but to show our sport to visitors. Thus we chose high profile climbing lines visible from the pedestrian bridge.



We climbed for two full days during the festival and enjoyed every aspect of event. Being lowered down into a 900' high gorge where no one can hear

you was quite an intimidating experience. Naturally the rock was of suspect quality, so the climbs had a very scrappy, adventurous feel to them.



Hopefully, visitors to the Royal Gorge enjoyed our climbing demonstrations and were introduced to our great sport. We thank the Royal Gorge for the opportunity and hope for a long partnership into the future.



Member Contribution



Crystal Reservoir hike. L-R Mark Conti (Denver), Nancy Altmansberger, Jim Thieme.

Warren Miller – Colorado Springs



November 18, 19

Pikes Peak Center

190 South Cascade Ave

It's been 67 years since ski-film pioneer Warren Miller picked up a camera to capture the wonder, the adventure, the humor, and the beauty that is skiing. This year, the exploration continues with Warren Miller's *Here, There & Everywhere*. Find more at warrenmiller.com. Visit our CMC booth before the show for free swag.

Pikes Pique

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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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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.