



# Pikes Pique

## The Newsletter of the CMC Pikes Peak Group

### Pikes Peak Group Annual Cookout – June 11

#### Fourth Annual Pikes Peak Group Cookout: June 11<sup>th</sup>, 3:00–7:00 pm

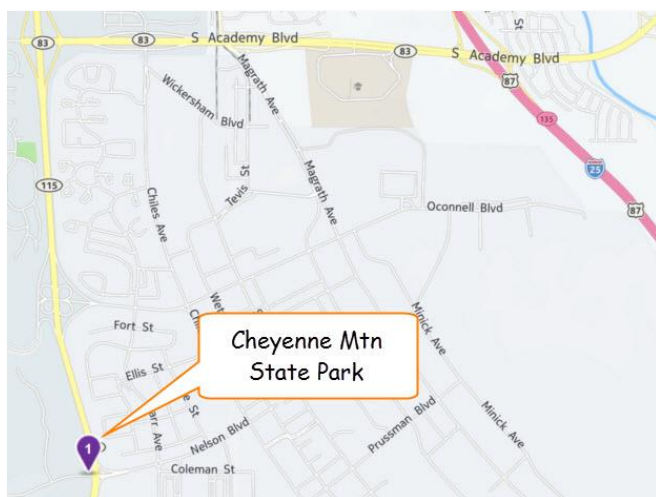
Please join us again this year for a cookout at Cheyenne Mountain State Park in southern Colorado Springs.

There is no cost for the food and beverages. We will be grilling hamburgers, veggie burgers, and hotdogs. We will also have sides and beverages to include sodas, water, and beer. Please do not bring hard liquor (e.g., vodka, tequila, etc.) as this is prohibited by the park. We will have a few games including having horseshoe pits available to us. We encourage you to bring any additional lawn games that might be enjoyed as well!

The entrance to the park is across from the main gate of Fort Carson. From the junction of S Academy Boulevard and Hwy 115, proceed south and take a right on State Park Road. *Note that the park has a \$7 dollar per vehicle admission fee.* We advise carpooling from the Safeway parking lot at S Academy and Hwy 115, or finding a member with a state parks pass.



The pavilion has ample parking. Kids are welcome, and there is a playground next to the pavilion. There are new and clean bathrooms for men, women, and families next to the pavilion.



Once past the ranger station (after paying the fee), stay on the main road and turn right at the well-marked sign for the Prairie Skipper Point group picnic area:



The pavilion has picnic tables with benches. Feel free to bring your own chairs if you want something more comfy.

Please sign up for the cookout at [cmc.org](http://cmc.org) so we may better prepare for the number of members that will be attending. If you are not able to sign up, or procrastinate until the last minute, please come anyway as we will have plenty of food.



## Your PPG Council

**Chair** – Collin Powers  
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Interested in serving on the Pikes Peak Group  
Council? Please contact the Chair.

## Welcome New PPG Members!

Laura Abbott  
Matthew Alexander  
Crystal Carter  
Cynthia Doty  
William Doty  
Nathan Hage  
Jason Kosola

William Linn  
Courtney Linn  
Darby Linn  
Rebecca Linn  
Gloria Mascote  
Reden Remigio  
Matthew Schreffler



## Telluride Via Ferrata



Front to back: Nichole, Matthew, and unidentified climber on the  
Via Ferrata in Telluride, October 25, 2014.





## Member Contributions



May 5, 12,367-foot Almagre Mountain. R-L: Laura Abbott, Nancy Briley, Denise Snow, and Andy Lyon. Laura and Nancy are both new CMC members, Laura having joined only a few days before this, her first hike with the club.



Spruce Mountain Trail, May 13. L-R: Angie, Sonya, Jim, Jennifer, Jo, Mark, Cath, and Josh.



BMS Snow Class.



Loud's Cabin, April 22. L-R: Trevor Howard, (PPG), Brendan Nix, (Den), Kelly Blood, (Den), Angie Case, (PPG), Erin Bernier, (PPG) and Warren Paul, (PPG). Leader Dean Waits.



Carcass Canyon, May 7. Back: Kobie Botha (Denver), Rick Weaver, Jeff Utz (guest), Bob Mouner, and Trini Garza. Front: Dean Waits, Reden Remigio (1st CMC trip ever!), Tom Mowle, and Leslie Wirpsa.





## In Memoriam – Bill Weiser

### The Boy Pilot of Brooklyn

William ("Bill") Weiser, born in 1919, was one of the last living heroes of World War II. He died recently three weeks after his 98th birthday.



Bill took flying lessons at the age of sixteen and quickly attained his pilot's license. Flying became his first love, and Bill became known as "the boy pilot of Brooklyn." In May of 1941 in Halifax, Nova Scotia he enlisted in the Royal Canadian Air Force. During World War II Bill flew with England's Royal Air Force Bomber Command. He flew heavy Lancaster bombers and had a crew of six men. He flew only at night, over targets in Germany, usually with Nazi fighter planes trying to shoot him down. Bill completed two tours of duty and was one of a small group of bomber pilots who finished two tours without losing any crew members.

Following the war, King George VI of England personally bestowed upon Bill a medal called the Distinguished Flying Cross. He received many other medals and awards, most notably the Order of the British Empire, given for acts of courage and heroism.

After the war Bill enlisted in the peacetime Royal Canadian Air Force, and became a naturalized Canadian in 1946. He and his wife Sophie had three daughters: Libby, Susan, and Patricia.

The family lived in many different places in Canada and the U.S. They even spent two-and-a-half years in France on a brand new Canadian air base; Bill was the first commanding officer of that base.

Probably the most interesting and challenging position of Bill's military career was his posting to Colorado Springs back in 1965. He had been promoted again to the rank of brigadier general and was serving as Deputy Director of the North American Air Defense Command, better known as NORAD. Bill worked inside Cheyenne Mountain, where buildings on giant springs stood inside the mountain, built to withstand a nuclear blast. He continued to pilot military airplanes for his entire thirty-year Air Force career.



In retirement Bill and Sophie chose to move permanently to Colorado Springs. Bill became a member of the Colorado Mountain Club, and went on to climb all of the Colorado 14ers. He led many hikes on the 14ers, often helping others to reach the summit. Bill's mountain climbing buddies were Carson Black, Bruce Wright, Jerry Haas, and Dave Bamberger. Bill backpacked a lot with Olga Faller, Dorothy Redding, Kathy Brennan, and Merrill Newton.

Bill enjoyed both cross-country and downhill skiing. He did the cross-country with the mountain club. Bill loved to ski downhill at Mary Jane in Winter Park.

He got into bicycling, both short and very long distances. His goal was to ride over all of the paved mountain passes in Colorado, but ultimately the aging process caused Bill to give up bicycling, as well as the other outdoor activities which he loved.

Bill Weiser was in many ways an amazing man. Despite his many heroic achievements, he remained a humble and quiet man. He loved his wife and family very much. He took great pride in his daughters and grandchildren, and loved spending time with them. Bill will be sorely missed by both family and friends.

## Upcoming PPG Classes

### **PPG Basic Mountaineering School – Colorado Rock Climbing**

Starts May 25

Prerequisite: Wilderness Fundamentals. 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. There are two CMC Rating Trips which we typically do at Red Rock Canyon Open Space and Castlewood Canyon. We may also go to 11-Mile Canyon depending on the weather.

### **PPG ARCPro Traditional Lead Climbing Class**

Starts June 20

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.

### **PPG ARCPro Multipitch Concepts Class**

Starts August 10

Students will learn techniques applicable to climbing multipitch routes, including: preparation, anchors, belaying, cleaning gear, belay transitions, descending, and climbing with a 3-person team. Prerequisites: Students should have basic rock climbing skills, such as taught in our BMS Rock Climbing or the equivalent, to include belaying, rappelling, and climbing communication. Leading skills are not absolutely necessary, but it is recommended that participants in this class take the ARCPro Gear and Anchors Class and Traditional Lead Climbing Class prior to this class, as students may practice placing trad gear and building trad anchors in this class. However, this class will be beneficial to anyone looking to climb multipitch routes, to include leaders and followers. Exact class content and student practice sessions will be tailored to the individual student's skill level and goals. Contact the leaders if you have questions regarding your suitability for this class.

### **PPG Basic Mountaineering School - Colorado Wilderness Backpacking**

Starts August 23

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. There is a CMC Rating Trip (overnight) that is designed to reinforce principals and techniques discussed in class. Prerequisites: Wilderness Fundamentals.

### **PPG ARCPro Sport Lead Climbing Class**

Starts August 26

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 rappelling or lowering 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/rappelling 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, rappelling, 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.

### **Pikes Peak Intro to Mountain Biking Basics**

Starts September 6

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 in Colorado Springs 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 06 and 07 Sep from 6:00p to 9:30p, and the field dates are 09, 16, and 23 Sep all day. 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.



To register for classes or trips,  
go to [www.cmc.org](http://www.cmc.org)



## Upcoming PPG Classes (continued)

### Pikes Peak Intro to Technical Canyoneering

Starts September 13

If you have completed the Intro to Desert Hiking and 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 warrant a safe approach such as provided by this class. The course cost is \$150. The classroom session will be in Colorado Springs on 13 Sep from 6:00p to 9:30p. There are two evening field sessions in Colorado Springs to cover some basics and evaluate fitness levels on 14 and 21 Sep. Then we go on a four-day trip to the desert scheduled for 01 Oct through 04 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 *and* Intro to Desert Hiking & Canyoneering is required! A city parks permit to rock climb is also required and must be obtained prior to the course.

### Pikes Peak Intro to Desert Hiking and Canyoneering

Starts September 20

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 hiking 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 \$95. The classroom session will be in Colorado Springs and is on 20 Sep from 6:00p to 9:30p. There is a one day field session in Colorado Springs to cover some basics and evaluate fitness levels scheduled for 24 Sep. Then we go on a five day trip to the desert scheduled for 27 Sep through 01 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.

## June PPG Trips

### Gold Camp Path Friday Night Dog Walk

Friday, 6/2/2017

Easy A

Leader: Eric Hunter, 719-266-9647, [EHunterCMC@gmail.com](mailto:EHunterCMC@gmail.com)

Trail Mileage 5, Elevation Gain 500. Location: Cheyenne Cañon, Colorado Springs. Details: This is an easy hike for pets and casual hikers. This is also a great way to separate the workweek and the weekend. We will hike from the trailhead at the water tank parking lot in Cheyenne Cañon to where the trail joins Gold Camp Road. Those who come along on this hike will be rewarded with a wonderful view of the city. Well-behaved dogs on leash welcome. We may even do a pub stop after. 5/500'. Register with leader.

### Venable Lakes-Comanche Lakes Loop

Saturday, 6/10/2017

Moderate C

Leader: Eric Hunter, 719-266-9647, [EHunterCMC@gmail.com](mailto:EHunterCMC@gmail.com)

Trail Mileage 14, Elevation Gain 4000, Driving Distance 180. Location: Sangre de Cristo Mountains east side. Details: This is a strenuous loop hike from the Alvarado Campground Trailhead. These popular east slope trails in the Sangre de Cristo's are connected by the natural rock ledge called The Phantom Terrace. Several incredible waterfalls and incredible views to the valley are seen along this trail. Nat Geo Map 138. 180 mi. 14/4,000'.

### Tarryall Peak (11,780 ft)

Saturday, 6/10/2017

Moderate C

Leader: Denise Snow, 719-687-9576, [denisedansnow@q.com](mailto:denisedansnow@q.com)

Trail Mileage 14.5, Elevation Gain 3420. Location: We will start at the Spruce Grove TH. Details: Starting at the Spruce Grove TH in the Lost Creek Wilderness, we will hike to the top of Tarryall Peak. There are great rock formations to see along the way. The last 20 feet is a Class 2+ scramble to the incredible 360 degree view summit.



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## June PPG Trips (continued)

### Summer Solstice Hike: Goose Creek-McCurdy Park-Lake Park-Hankins Pass Loop

Saturday, 6/24/2017      Difficult D

Leader: Eric Hunter, 719-266-9647, [EHunterCMC@gmail.com](mailto:EHunterCMC@gmail.com)

Trail Mileage 24, Elevation Gain 3400, Driving Distance 110. Location: Lost Creek Wilderness. Details: This is an extremely ambitious hike and a very full day. We will hike a loop trail exploring Lost Creek, McCurdy Park, and Lake Park from the Goose Creek Trailhead. Come see where Lost Creek gets its name. Come see historic sites, incredible rock formations and a lot of wildlife in this under utilized area close to home. Nat Geo Map 105. 110 mi. 24/3,400'. Register with leader.

### Garden of the Gods Friday Night Dog Walk

Friday, 6/30/2017

Easy A

Leader: Eric Hunter, 719-266-9647, [EHunterCMC@gmail.com](mailto:EHunterCMC@gmail.com)

Trail Mileage 5, Elevation Gain 500. Location: Garden of the Gods, Colorado Springs. Details: This is an easy hike for pets and casual hikers. This is also a great way to separate the workweek from the weekend. We will hike from the north parking lot in Garden of the Gods to the Rock Ledge Ranch Historic Site, to the Ute Trail, to the Buckskin Trail and back. Come see the farm animals at Rock Ledge Ranch. Well-behaved dogs on leash welcome. We may even do a pub stop after. 5/500'. Register with leader.

## Member Discounts

Adventure Medical Kits

Ajax Bike and Sport

American Mountaineering Museum

Bentgate

Breckenridge Nordic Center

City Rock

Friction Labs

Frisco Nordic Center

Gold Camp Brewing

Golden Bike Shop

Great Storm Brewery

Ken's Anglers

Lumiere Telluride

Moosejaw

Mountain Chalet

Mountain Equipment Recyclers

Mountainsmith

Neptune Mountaineering

ProMotive.com

R&W Rope

ROCK'n & JAM'n

Rocky Bob's Fly Fishing Rods

Summit Terragraphics

The Custom Foot

The Mountaineers Books

The Trailhead

TrailRunner Magazine

Vagabond Ranch Huts

Wilderness Exchange Unlimited

## 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](mailto:danderso@uccs.edu)

The deadline for submissions is the 14<sup>th</sup> of each month.

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

