

Pikes Peak Group Program – March 20

Mike Endres Presents: Ski Mountaineering

Please join us at 6:30 p.m. on March 20th for our monthly program at the Mountain Chalet, 226 N Tejon St as Mike Endres shares with us his ski mountaineering adventures.



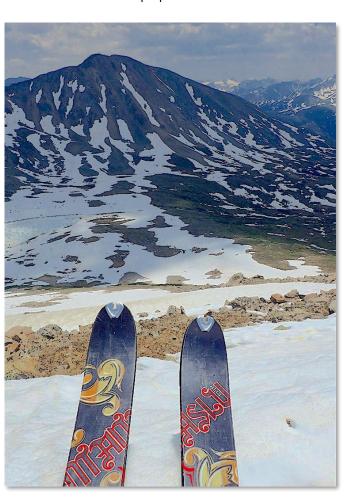
Mike has been skiing "somewhat successfully" for several decades. Self-taught back in the day of wooden waxed skies, he has somehow managed to improve on those fundamental skills over the years.

While every outing is an enjoyable adventure, his most notable accomplishment was a ski descent of Mt Logan, 19,600', in the Yukon Territory. Similar in size and effort to Denali, it is considerably less traveled and much more remote.

His favorite place to ski in the spring however, is right here up on Pike's Peak.

He'll talk about that and more as he covers a number of ski descents of 13ers and 14ers here in Colorado as well as annual summer descents in the Snowy Range of southern Wyoming.

"There is no adventure in perpetual success..."





Your PPG Council

Chair – Kristen Buckland 419-260-7807, buckie06@hotmail.com

Past Chair – Collin Powers 719-963-0653, powerscollin@yahoo.com

ARCPro Co-Directors – Collin Powers 719-685-2470, powerscollin@yahoo.com; Scott Kime, 719-235-0939, scott.kime@live.com

BMS Co-Directors – Tom Mulcahy 719-482-8821, thomleonmul@hotmail.com, Matt Foster, 719-352-8164, matthewmfoster@gmail.com

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

Education & Training – Eric Hunter 719-266-9647, EHunterCMC@gmail.com

Equipment Manager – Darren Funk-Neubauer 719-597-2397,

darren.funkneubauer@csupueblo.edu

Membership – Dean Waits 281-352-2236, dwaits24@gmail.com

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

Outings – Britt Jones

719-661-4777, britt@globalreality.biz

Programs – Bill Allen

719-660-1339, aspenperio@aol.com

Public Relations – Mike Cromwell 858-395-5986, cromwellc@comcast.net

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:

Greg Long 719-659-0345, at_90@yahoo.com

Malcom Quentin 719-237-4256, mcquentin@gmail.com

Derek Sardinta 719-761-7051, DASardinta@gmail.com

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

Welcome New Members!

Danika Chambers Scott Kraeger
Priscilla Clayton Patsy Larson
Todd Clayton Emily Mooney
Chris Deptula Trey Navalta
Ellen Karasevich Valarie Tomme
Lawrence Karasevich Holly Vergunst
Elisa Klitzke



Member Contributions

BARR CAMP & PIKES PEAK



L-R front, Brett Book, Audrey Burkart, Maggie Riedel, Chris Mattingly (leader), Barbara Newsome; back, Andy Lyon, Dean Waits (leader), Kara McGraw, Bill Elliott, Robin Mino and not pictured Karl Ford.

SENTINEL POINT



Descending from Sentinel Point toward Horsethief Falls; Andy Lyon, leader

Mount Elbert MLK Weekend Overnight

BY HOOT GIBSON



Photo courtesy Britt Jones

This January 13-14 the CMC's Pikes Peak and Denver Groups teamed up for what has become an annual tradition, climbing to the top of Colorado in January. Bill Blazek of Denver started climbing Mount Elbert in January 1988, making it a CMC trip in 1995 and leading the trip for most of the next 15 years. In 2006 Hoot Gibson and others from the Pikes Peak Group began climbing Elbert each year in mid-January and noticed the Denver Group's tent city just below tree line. For most years since 2012, climbers from the Pikes Peak Group led by Hoot and the Denver Group led by Sharon Dawson have teamed up for this challenging annual tradition.



Photo courtesy Britt Jones

This year's climb started at noon Saturday at the South Mount Elbert trailhead with 11 PPG climbers and 9 Denver climbers.

After two miles of hiking along a 4WD road, the group briefly headed north on the Colorado Trail and then hauled heavy packs 1,200 feet up Elbert's East Ridge route to camp just below tree line at 11,700 feet. This year snowshoes were required in the trees and we stomped down a nice big snowshoe trench for future hikers. A rerouting of the trail in 2017 added half a mile to the 4-mile hike to camp. Once at camp, we had a just couple of hours of sunlight to stomp out tent pads, erect tents, melt snow for water, cook dinner, and enjoy some hot Glühwein. With temperatures dropping to 7 degrees overnight, skills learned in the CMC's High Altitude Mountaineering Seminar (HAMS) were essential to keeping warm. This is a good training climb for Denali—in fact, three members from last year's trip successfully summited Denali last June.



Photo courtesy Hoot Gibson

Most campers were up before 6 am Sunday morning for a 7 am departure from camp. We wore snowshoes for the first quarter mile before caching them at the last of the trees. About that time we were treated to a gorgeous sunrise over Twin Lakes to the east. While it's just two miles up the avalanche-safe class 1 ridge from camp to the summit, those two miles are very tough in winter. This year strong and steady winds made the climb above tree line particularly challenging. Nevertheless the 13 campers who eventually made it to the top of Colorado got an unexpected treat. The summit, under beautiful blue skies, was nearly windless. After hiking back down to camp, once again in strong winds, breaking camp, and hiking down to the trailhead, most from Colorado Springs and Denver enjoyed a dinner and drinks at the Eddyline Brewery in Buena Vista.

Potpourri

TRIP LEADER TRAINING

If you're not a trip leader but have been a member of the Pikes Peak Group for at least one year and know your outdoor skills, then consider signing up for the Trip Leader Training class starting on March 15th. Trip leaders are important to the success of our Group and leading trips is a rewarding experience for you.

Hikers and climbers who wanted to share with others their love of the Colorado Mountains founded the Colorado Mountain Club. That purpose remains today as the core of the Club's success and longevity.

Leading trips can be a CMC member's most important and rewarding activity: important because it's the heart and soul of the Club, rewarding because no CMC activity serves better purposes. Nothing is more important than bringing a group home from a hiking or climbing trip without accident or incident. It's not that the risks in the mountains are so high, but that the consequences are too severe to risk trips led by untrained, unprepared, or unknown trip leaders.

We know the knowledge and skills of our trip leaders because we train them ourselves. The Pikes Peak Group offers more than 25 schools and clinics, from Wilderness Fundamentals to highly technical rock climbing and mountaineering schools, taught by some of the most experienced and capable instructors in Colorado.

The rewards of leading trips are huge. Trip leaders not only get to share with others the knowledge and skills they've learned, they get to hike or climb when and where they want, and set their own pace.

Trained and experienced trip leaders are the most vital resource and valuable asset the Club has to offer. What motivates us to lead in the first place is that we get so much in return.

STATE OF THE OUTDOORS

The PPG invites you to participate in the Second Annual State of the Outdoors on Thursday, March 15, 2018, 3:30–6:30 p.m. with the Pikes Peak Outdoor Recreation Alliance (PPORA) and the Colorado Springs Chamber & EDC. The event will be held at the Colorado Springs City Auditorium. The PPG are PPORA members and will have a booth there. Come out to listen to the candidates and visit the many booths.

The first hour will highlight the Pikes Peak Region's amazing outdoor businesses, nonprofits, and land management entities with an Outdoor Community Expo. This is followed by a Colorado Governor Candidates Forum, moderated by the Colorado Springs Business Journal's Editor, Bryan Grossman.

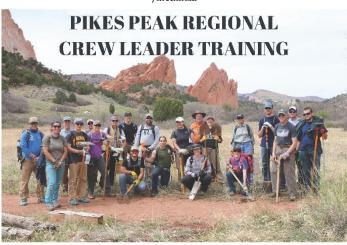
Community leaders will ask candidates questions focused on the outdoors as a key economic driver and significant factor in our community's health and well-being.

The PPORA works to make the incredible natural and recreation assets of the Pikes Peak Region an even greater economic driver for our community. Health and quality of life are key determining factors in where people and businesses choose to locate. Our outdoor recreation opportunities compete with any other in the state and are attracting participants from all 50 states and other countries.

But too often, outdoor recreation is thought of as something locals do on the weekend and tourists do on vacation. Our vision is to establish the Pikes Peak Region as one of the premier destinations to pursue outdoor recreation, while helping to attract and recruit appropriate businesses and establish policies and best practices for our industry. For more information about PPORA and to purchase tickets please visit our web site.

CREW LEADER TRAINING

7th Annual



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Trails and Open Space Coalition





Upcoming PPG Classes

Pikes Peak Winter Wilderness Survival Skills

Starts February 21

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 21 Feb from 6:00p to 9:30p. The overnight is 24-25 Feb all day both days. All field sessions are scheduled as CMC trips. Cost: \$50 for PPG members, \$65 for others. 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.

PPG Basic Mountaineering School - Colorado Alpine Snow Mountaineering

Starts March 13

This course consists of class lectures and practice days. Class dates are 13 and 15 Mar from 6:30-9:00 pm. 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 discuss and mock demonstrate snow anchors and rope techniques if time allows. There will be optional follow-up CMC trips. Cost: \$65. Skills learned in this class, as well as Avalanche Level I, are typically requisite for participation.

Pikes Peak Group Trip Leader Training

Starts March 15

This course provides the necessary training and satisfies part of the requirement of becoming a CMC trip leader for the Pikes Peak Group. (Currency in Wilderness First Aid and CPR, plus practice trip leading are the other requirements for becoming a trip leader.) The classroom sessions are on 15 and 22 March from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm. The field session on the morning of 24 March will be scheduled as a CMC trip. Cost: \$25. Prerequisite: Must have taken BMS Wilderness Fundamentals and BMS Land Navigation or possess equivalent demonstrable knowledge/experience and be a PPG member for at least one year.

PPG ARCPro Gear and Anchors Class

Starts March 22

The Pikes Peak Group Gear and Anchors Class is part of the PPG Advanced Rock Climbing Program and is a prerequisite to the Trad Leading class. In Gear and Anchors, students will learn about the various types of rock protection, including: natural protection, passive protection (nuts, hexes) and active protection (cams); and how to place and incorporate pieces of protection into anchors. We will discuss climbing anchors, to include top-rope, belay, and rappel anchors. The student will learn the concepts of building a safe climbing anchor to include placement and evaluation of protection, fall forces, direction of pull, rigging methods, and knots for anchoring. By the end of the final field session, participating students will be expected to be able to build trad anchors that meet an instructor-team evaluation for gear placements and anchor safety. They will rappel off of anchors they have built and rigged. Cost: \$95.

PPG Basic Mountaineering School – Colorado Wilderness Land Navigation

Starts April 4

There are two class lectures and a field session. 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. The CMC trip 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. Dates: 4 and 11 Apr, 6:30pm-9:30pm, 14 Apr, 7:30am-4:00pm. Cost: \$50. Prerequisite: BMS Wilderness Fundamentals.

PPG ARCPro Intermediate Self-Rescue Class

Starts April

This is our next-level Self-Rescue class for those who have completed the Introduction to Self-Rescue class. We will review the basic skills from the Intro class, then move into more advanced self-rescue skills, including skills applicable to multipitch climbing, such as lowering from a top belay, hauling methods, and multipitch tandem rappels. Cost: \$95. Prerequisites: Students should have already taken BMS Rock Climbing and Introduction to Self-Rescue, or have equivalent skills.

PPG WFA (Wilderness First Aid)

Starts April 21

This two-day, sixteen-hour ECSI accredited course presents dynamic instruction devoted to teaching how to respond to medical emergencies in remote settings where definitive medical care is not readily available. Day one consists of classroom presentations and hands-on training in a variety of medical situations that may be encountered in the backcountry and wilderness areas. Day two continues with less classroom presentation followed by realistic scenarios in the field that simulate the type of medical situations people face in wilderness settings when calling 911 is not an option. This course satisfies a requirement for trip leaders. The sessions are on 21 and 22 April from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm. A comprehensive textbook and field guide are included, plus you will receive your WFA certification. Cost: \$70. **Note:** This course does not teach CPR, which is taught in a separate two-hour class (with separate sign up required) conveniently at the same location after the completion of the WFA course.

Upcoming PPG Classes (continued)

Pikes Peak Group CPR Training

April 22

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 Safety & Health Institute 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 is taught at 3:30 pm on April 22nd and satisfies a requirement for trip leaders. Cost: \$25. You will receive your CPR certification.

PPG ARCPro Crack Climbing Class

Starts May 5

This class will focus on crack-climbing techniques for climbing finger to fist-sized cracks, along with touching on chimney and off-width techniques. 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. Cost: \$80. 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.

PPG Basic Mountaineering School - Colorado Rock Climbing

Starts May 9

There is one class lecture and active skills practice 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 11 Mile Canyon and Castlewood Canyon. Dates: 9 and 10 May, 6:30pm-9:00pm, 19 and 20 May, 7:30am-3:30pm. Cost: \$62. Prerequisite: BMS Wilderness Fundamentals.

PPG Basic Mountaineering School - Wilderness Fundamentals

Starts May 21

The Wilderness Fundamentals class is an introduction to important skills and back country knowledge to enable participants to independently plan and safely implement a day's outing in the great outdoors—away from civilization and all it provides. Class lecture covers the fundamentals of choosing back country gear (the Ten Essentials), trip planning, nutrition, conditioning, Leave No Trace (LNT) conservation practices, mountain weather, safety, emergency planning protocol (what to do when things go wrong), and a case study of a recent Colorado wilderness accident. Classroom session is on 21 May from 5:45-8:45pm and optional field session on 26 May. Cost: \$45 for PPG members, \$55 for others. This class is a prerequisite for many of our other PPG courses and will provide participants with a copy of *Mountaineering: Freedom of the Hills* that will be referenced in other courses! Make sure you have this one under your belt.

March PPG Trips

Mt. Princeton Resort Weekend 2018

Friday, 3/2/2018

Outings

Leader: Gertrud Nuhn, 719-473-8868, Hinuhn@comcast.net

Location: Mt Princeton Hot Springs Resort in Nathrop, CO near the ghost own of St. Elmo. Details: The Mt. Princeton Resort party weekend for 2018 will take place from March 2 to March 4. This annual weekend of ski, snowshoe, swim, soak, and dining adventure includes two nights lodging at the resort (Friday and Saturday), dinner on Friday and Saturday, breakfast on Saturday and Sunday, two complimentary drinks on Friday night (wine, beer, or soft drink), all the swimming and soaking you can get in on three days, as well as an informal get together on Saturday after dinner. On Saturday and Sunday after breakfast, local trips will be sponsored for all levels and abilities. The cost is only \$290 for double occupancy and \$400 for single occupancy (please add \$10 for non-CMC members). This is a fun event, attended by members from several CMC groups The registration deadline is February 4 and payment by check will be due by February 10. Guests are welcome.

Cross-country Ski Boreas Pass Road

Saturday, 3/3/2018

Moderate II

Leader: Eric Hunter, 719-266-9647, EHunterCMC@gmail.com

Trail Mileage 6, Elevation Gain 500, Driving Distance 260. Location: Boreas Pass Rd, Breckenridge TH. Details: For those who recently completed the Pikes Peak Group Intro to Backcountry Ski Course, this is a great progression to continue to build your skills. This is a moderate out and back ski into the Boreas Pass Road area from Breckenridge side TH. We will stay to the main road following the old railroad bed as far as Bakers Tank and play on the side slopes before returning via the same route. NNN-BC cross-country gear will be fine, but cable binding backcountry gear will be acceptable. We will avoid avalanche terrain. Nat Geo Map 109. 240mi. 6/500'. Register with leader.





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



March PPG Trips (continued)

Barr Camp via Barr Trail

Saturday, 3/3/2018

Moderate C

Leader: Andy Lyon, 719-630-1523, andyslyon@msn.com

Trail Mileage 12.5, Elevation Gain 3700, Driving Distance 7. Location: Barr Trail. Details: Barr Camp. Maybe you've heard about it but never been. Here's a chance to check it out. It's an historic log cabin in the woods with a wood-burning stove and friendly caretakers. There's coffee, hot chocolate, snacks, and Barr Camp merchandise for sale. This could be a strenuous spring walk through the forest or possibly a snowshoe. (Either way you can usher March in with a Lyon, if not like a lion.) Note the elevation gain of 3700 feet—it gets the blood pumping, especially the first three miles. The trail is often snow packed and icy in its shaded spots so bring spikes/tracks and poles. We'll break for lunch at Barr Camp and then return the way we came, being careful to mind the ice in the shady spots and to dodge the runners coming off the incline. Depending on pace (moderate) and shuttle timing, we should be back at the cars around 4:30 p.m. We'll meet at the free shuttle stop in Manitou at 10 Old Man Trail, no later than 7:50am so we can catch the 8:00 bus and hit the trail by 8:30. Old Man Trail is a right hand turn just past the Chase Bank on the right. Do not park in spots reserved for the Spa. Additional info in the days leading up to the hike.

BC Ski Fooses Creek Saturday, 3/10/2018 Moderate III

Leader: Eric Hunter, 719-266-9647, EHunterCMC@gmail.com

Trail Mileage 10, Elevation Gain 2000, Driving Distance 240. Location: Monarch Pass, CO. Details: For those who recently completed the Pikes Peak Group Intro to Backcountry Ski Course, this is a great progression to continue to build your skills. 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 explore some of the side roads along the way and find a play hill near our end point. NNN-BC cross-country gear will be fine, but cable binding backcountry gear will be better. Avalanche gear and training are required. Nat Geo Map 130. 240mi. 10/2,000'. Register with leader.

Pancake Rocks Saturday, 3/10/2018 Moderate A

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

Trail Mileage 6.2, Elevation Gain 800, Driving Distance 125. Details: Contact leader at least two days prior to the trip.

Avalanche Beacon Practice Sunday, 3/11/2018 Easy AI

Leader: Kristen Buckland, 419-260-7807, buckie06@hotmail.com

Trail Mileage 2, Elevation Gain 500. Location: Location will depend on snow conditions, most likely on Hoosier Pass near Alma, CO or Monarch Pass. Details: This will be a fun day to practice your avalanche rescue skills. We've all taken Avy courses, but have you practiced a rescue since then? To keep your skills fresh you should practice every season. We will find a safe slope near the trailhead to bury beacons and practice different scenarios, including multiple burials. Gear: all participants must have their own beacon, probe, and shovel. Bring typical winter clothing and gear, including snowshoes. Prereq: You must have taken an Avalanche Awareness, Alare Level 1, or equivalent avalanche course. Note: This is not an official class or instruction. Trip leader is not an Avy Instructor. This is not a substitute for a certified avalanche course. Go to aai.org for course info.

Cross Country Ski Leadville Mineral Belt Trail

Saturday, 3/17/2018

Moderate III

Leader: Eric Hunter, 719-266-9647, EHunterCMC@gmail.com

Trail Mileage 8, Elevation Gain 500, Driving Distance 250. Location: Leadville, CO. Details: For those who recently completed the Pikes Peak Group Intro to Backcountry Ski Course, this is a great progression to continue to build your skills. Cross-country, classic, backcountry, or skate this wonderful tour around the Historic Leadville Mining District. We will follow the groomed trail on a one-way car shuttle from the Evans Gulch TH to the Colorado Mountain College TH. The one way distance is about 8 miles, but we will likely add some side trails and back and forth for the faster (skate) skiers. Many historic sites are noted along the route. We will avoid avalanche terrain. mineralbelttrail.com. Nat Geo Map 109. 250mi. 8/500'. Register with leader.

BC Ski South Fork Lake Creek Road

Saturday, 3/24/2018

Moderate III

Leader: Eric Hunter, 719-266-9647, EHunterCMC@gmail.com

Trail Mileage 10, Elevation Gain 1600, Driving Distance 260. Location: South Fork Lake Creek Road TH, near Buena Vista, CO. Details: For those who recently completed the Pikes Peak Group Intro to Backcountry Ski Course, this is a great progression to continue to build your skills. 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 may explore some of the side roads along the way and find a play hill near our end point. NNN-BC cross-country gear will be fine, but cable binding backcountry gear will be better. Avalanche gear and training are required. Nat Geo Map 127. 260mi. 10/1,600. Register with leader.

March Trips (continued)

Nordic Ski Gold Run Nordic

Saturday, 3/31/2018

Moderate II

Leader: Eric Hunter, 719-266-9647, EHunterCMC@gmail.com

Trail Mileage 10, Elevation Gain 1000, Driving Distance 240. Location: Gold Run Nordic Center, Breckenridge, CO. Details: For those who recently completed the Pikes Peak Group Intro to Backcountry Ski Course, this is a great progression to continue to build your skills. Come spend the day honing your skate or classic track skiing skills on the groomed trails of this fantastic Nordic Center. Full rentals available at the center. All skill levels welcome. We will avoid avalanche terrain. Nordic Center map. 280mi. Register with leader.

Conservation Corner

NORTH CHEYENNE CANYON PLAN / CREW LEADER TRAINING

The City of Colorado Springs is deep into its planning process for North Cheyenne Canon and Stratton Open Space, and they have a lot of ideas for reworking the park. The Pikes Peak Group is not going to take an official position on any of this, but we encourage you do attend the next meeting on March 6 or review materials online.

You can find a lot of information at NCCMasterPlan, and particularly at Feb 1 workshop, but attending the meeting on March 6, Cheyenne Mountain High School, 1200 Cresta Road, at 6pm is your best way to engage with the city (check the time before you go—the city keeps changing the details).

Thank you Dan Anderson for attending the previous trails meeting and providing such a great summary of the proposals!

Every summer, we engage in stewardship projects with local land managers, especially the National Forest. If you have experience on trail building and repair projects, and would like to get training to be a crew leader, please contact Tom Mowle. RMFI's annual training will be weekend of May 4-6. (See flyer on page 4.)

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

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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

March 2018 | No. 243

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 cmcppgrp@gmail.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.