



December 2018–January 2019 | No. 252

Pikes Pique

The Newsletter of the CMC Pikes Peak Group

Pikes Peak Group Program – January 15

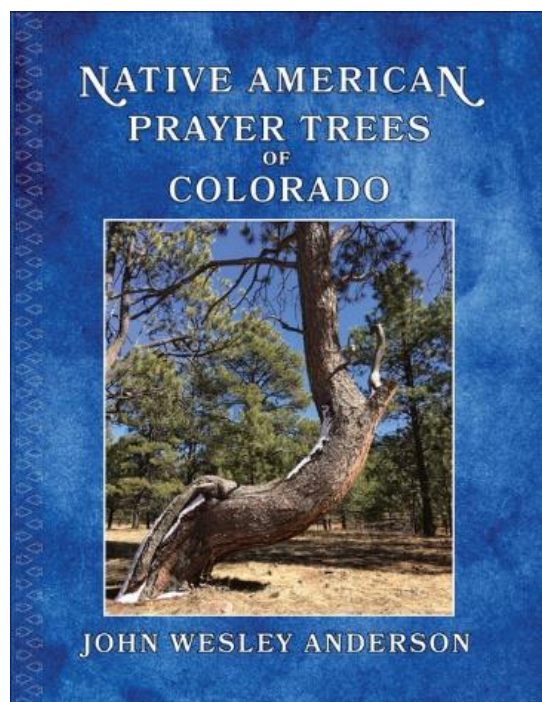
John Anderson Presents: *Native American Prayer Trees of Colorado*



This presentation is based on two books written by John Wesley Anderson and published by the Old Colorado City Historical Society (OCCHS). The *Ute Indian Prayer Trees of the Pikes Peak Region* and *Native American Prayer Trees of Colorado* are not just about Culturally Modified Trees; they are about the advanced culture of the deeply spiritual people behind these trees. The Ute were among the Native American people who modified trees for navigational, spiritual, burial, medicinal, nutritional, and educational purposes. Most Native American people, including the Ute, believe anything created by the hands of Creator has a spirit, including an eagle, bear, person, or a tree, and trees would not be modified unless it was with consent of the Prayer Tree and Creator.

John Anderson is an author, artist and consultant. He retired from Lockheed Martin in 2012 to launch a small consulting business allowing him the freedom to pursue his love of

history, writing, and the arts. Prior to working ten years in the corporate world, John served two-terms as the elected Sheriff for El Paso County, Colorado (term-limited in 2003). He completed an MBA while working as a police officer with the Colorado Springs Police Department and retired at the rank of Sergeant in 1995. Although John has travelled around the world, including several adventures on a catamaran sailing the Caribbean, three corporate security assignments into a combat zone on the Horn of Africa, and landing on an aircraft carrier at sea in the Pacific Ocean, he remains most fascinated with the rich history and art discovered in his own backyard in the American Southwest.



Please note our new venue: the Barrel Room at the Ivywild School Center, 1604 S Cascade. The presentation starts at 6:30. Food and beverages are available, so come early!

Your PPG Council

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

Welcome New Members!

Ed Anderson
Luke Antonia
Logan Hjelmstad
Ganzug Jugder
Peter Koza
Ariel Rivero
Erica Singer

Carly Spilker
Thad Straughn
Katie Teisher
Jessica Walker
Matthew Willburn
Elyce Willburn



Conservation Corner

El Paso County Parks has contracted with Altitude Land Consultants to coordinate the development of a master plan for Jones Park, 1,200 acres in the Bear Creek Watershed. It includes Loud's Cabin and the surrounding land.

A community meeting will be conducted on **Thursday, November 29, 2018 at 6:30 p.m. at the Bear Creek Nature Center, 245 Bear Creek Road**. The meeting will consist of an overview of the master plan process and the opportunity to provide input on proposed Jones Park improvements.

While PPG's official representative to this process is Michael Merrifield, all CMC members are encouraged to attend and collaborate with Michael about the recreational development of this area.

Thanks to the Trails End Taproom



The PPG is grateful to the Trails End Taproom in Colorado Springs for hosting us as the non-profit organization October 23–31 and donating a check for \$497 to our group. This also allowed us to meet and communicate our outdoor activity agenda and conservation ethics to a lively, energetic crowd. Special thanks to Kevin, Shawn, and all the Trails End crew for your warm welcome.

the PPG
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Pikes Peak Group Annual Dinner

Members and guests gathered at the The Warehouse Restaurant for the annual Pikes Peak Group dinner and awards ceremony. Featured speaker Gerry Roach described his early love for climbing rock and mountains as a lad after moving to Boulder in 1954.

Gerry's presentation was about his Alaskan and Canadian expeditions in the early years when mountaineering equipment as we know today had not been invented. Through the years he's written numerous books, of which most people have a dog-eared, rain-soaked, note-filled Colorado Fourteeners as well as the fabled Colorado Thirteeners.

Members also approved the 2019 PPG board, which added two new members: Sarah Hettenbach and Katrina Klang. Outstanding Service Awards were given to Paul Schoell, Derek Sardinta, Christie Lee, David Kuenzli, Andy Lyon, and Thomas Mourar. Dean Waits received the Richard Eustice Conservation Award.

Programs Director Bill Allen also pointed out the Pikes Peak Group will be celebrating its 100th birthday next year and challenged members to come up with ideas to celebrate this wonderful occasion.



Paul Schoell



Andy Lyon



Derek Sardinta



Dean Waits



David Kuenzli



Members and Guests

Upcoming PPG Classes

PPG Basic Mountaineering School – Wilderness Fundamentals

Starts November 26

The Wilderness Fundamentals class is an introduction to important skills and backcountry 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. This class is a pre-requisite 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. Cost: \$45 for Pikes Peak Group members, \$55 for all others.

PPG Basic Mountaineering School - Colorado Alpine Snow Mountaineering

Starts December 11

The Alpine Snow Mountaineering course is two class lectures and a skills practice trip in the spring. 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. To earn the BMS certificate for this class, you will have to attend one of a number of skills practice trips we put on for all members early in the spring season. Prerequisite: BMS - Wilderness Fundamentals. Cost: \$65 for Pikes Peak Group members, \$70 for all others.

Pikes Peak Snowshoe Basics Class

Starts January 8

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 08 and 09 Jan from 6:00p to 9:30p and one field session on 12 Jan all day. 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. Cost: \$25 for PPG members and leaders and \$35 for all others. There are also rental costs from local gear shops if you don't own the gear.

Pikes Peak Intro to Backcountry Skiing Class

Starts January 8

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, and 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. BC Ski classroom dates are 08 and 10 Jan from 6:00p to 9:30p in Colorado Springs, and the field dates are 13, 20, and 27 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. Cost: \$75 for PPG members and leaders and \$90 for all others. There are also rental costs from local gear shops if you don't own the gear and a trail pass for one day at a Nordic Center.

PPG Avalanche Level 1

Starts January 29

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 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 29 and 31 Jan from 6:00p to 9:30p. The field session is scheduled for both 02 and 03 Feb 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. 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. Cost: \$175 for PPG members and leaders and \$200 for all others.

PPG Basic Mountaineering School - Beginner Ice Climbing

Starts February 4

Time to swing some ice! This is the final module in the 2018-2019 BMS series. Completion of this course allows certification in the BMS Alpine Mountaineering track. Congratulations! This course has a prerequisite of BMS - Rock Climbing or similar proven skills. Classroom dates are 4 Feb and 7 Feb. The field session is 10 Feb. There will be an optional overnight trip to Ouray on 15-17 Feb. All field sessions are scheduled as CMC trips. Cost: \$70 for PPG members and leaders and \$80 for all others. The optional overnight trip will include additional hotel and travel expenses.

Upcoming PPG Classes (continued)

PPG - Technical Ice Climbing School

Starts February 14

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. Cost: \$185 for PPG members and leaders and \$200 for all others.

Pikes Peak Winter Wilderness Survival Skills

Starts February 20

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 discuss the gear requirements and concepts of survival in the winter wilderness of Colorado. We will then spend a day in the wilderness to put those concepts to practice. We will build several types of winter shelters and review other winter survival tips and tricks. The course will be over on day one in the field, but you can stay on your own to spend the night in them using just what you carry on a winter day trip, or a bit more if you are concerned. Staying overnight will not be a CMC sanctioned trip; you will be on your own. The classroom session is on 20 Feb from 6:00p to 9:30p. The field session is 23 Feb all day. All field sessions are scheduled as CMC trips. A general fitness level to travel on snowshoes, 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. Cost: \$50 for PPG members and leaders and \$65 for all others.

December–January PPG Trips

Barr Camp via Barr Trail

Saturday, 12/1/2018

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 there. 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 merch for sale. This could be a strenuous fall walk through a calm forest or a bit chillier as a couple short stretches get some wind. Either way, the uphill will keep you warm and the cabin provides an out of the wind spot to warm up and eat. 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 7:45 a.m. We'll 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 will be provided in the days leading up to the hike. The first four spots will be reserved for PPG members; others will be waitlisted. Register with leader.

Beginner Skate Skiing Clinic

Saturday, 12/8/2018

Ski

Leader: Denise Snow, 719-687-9576, denisedansnow@q.com

Location: The Frisco Nordic center in Frisco. Details: Learn the basics of this wonderful Nordic Center sport seen in the Winter Olympics. It is incredibly aerobic and can take years to master. However, one session can show you the basics. It is recommended that you have prior experience roller/ice skating, downhill skiing, or Nordic skiing. You must use specialized skate ski equipment that you can rent at the Nordic Center. Plan to meet in the Nordic Center at 9:00. The instruction will take place in the morning, then you will have the afternoon to practice what you learned.

Intermediate Skate Skiing Clinic

Saturday, 12/8/2018

Ski

Leader: Denise Snow, 719-687-9576, denisedansnow@q.com

Location: The Frisco Nordic center in Frisco. Details: This is an intermediate skate ski class. You must have previous experience skate skiing to take this class and be aware that this is an aerobic sport. Instruction will be in the afternoon and equipment can be rented at the Nordic center. Plan on meeting at the Nordic Center at 1:00. [No tickets left](#). (You may want to get on the waitlist in case participants cancel.)

December–January PPG Trips (continued)

Cross-country Ski Divide

Saturday, 12/22/2018

Easy I

Leader: Robert Mouner, 719-575-0966, rmouner@q.com

Trail Mileage 4, Elevation Gain 100, Driving Distance 80. Details: Lets get out and ski this area of open valleys and old roads with views of Pikes Peak. We will meet at the Safeway in old Colorado City at 9am and arrange carpools.

Snowshoe Practice Field Trip

Saturday, 1/12/2019

Moderate BI

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

Trail Mileage 6. Location: Pikes Peak Region. Details: This snowshoe field session is for those who have completed the two required classroom sessions with the Pikes Peak Group. During this trip you will have the opportunity to practice out in the field, swap snowshoes to figure out differences between models, and ask questions about gear and winter trips.

BC Ski Nordic Center Practice

Sunday, 1/13/2019

Moderate I

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

Trail Mileage 8, Elevation Gain 200, Driving Distance 260. Location: Breckenridge Nordic Center. Details: This field session is for those who have completed the two required classroom sessions with the Pikes Peak Group. The first of three field sessions, this trip will focus on balance and weight transfer with tracked skis at a Nordic Center by demonstrating and practicing drills. If time permits, we will begin progressing to low hills both up and down.

Snowshoe Pancake Rocks via Horsethief Falls

Saturday, 1/19/2019

Difficult BII

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

Trail Mileage 7, Elevation Gain 1300, Driving Distance 60. Location: Pikes Peak Region. Details: This is a moderate loop snowshoe from Waters Tunnel Trailhead to Horsethief Falls and on up to the junction to the Pancake Rocks trail and on to Pancake Rocks. We will then return via the Pancake Rocks trail. We will follow the well-known “Bill Brown” route. This hike is sometimes steep and difficult in snow. We will avoid avalanche terrain. This trip is primarily intended for Pikes Peak and Pueblo Group members. All others will be waitlisted. Nat Geo Map 137. Register with leader.

BC Ski Packed Road Practice

Sunday, 1/20/2019

Moderate II

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

Trail Mileage 6, Elevation Gain 100, Driving Distance 300. Location: Tennessee Pass, CO. Details: This field session is for those who have completed the two required classroom sessions and the Nordic field session with the Pikes Peak Group. The second of three field sessions, this trip will focus on endurance with efficient kick and glide on a packed road. We will also continue to build hill skills both up and down.

Snowshoe Horsethief Park to Putney Falls

Saturday, 1/26/2019

Moderate BII

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

Trail Mileage 7, Elevation Gain 1000, Driving Distance 60. Location: Pikes Peak Region. Details: This is a moderate out and back snowshoe from the Waters Tunnel Trailhead to Putney Gulch and Putney Falls. The trail has great views to Sentinel Peak and passes beaver ponds. The hike can be a slog in deep snow, but we will work as a team to pack out a nice trail. We will add enough side hills and side trails to get that perfect amount of tired. We will avoid avalanche terrain. This trip is primarily for Pikes Peak and Pueblo Group members. All others will be waitlisted. Nat Geo Map 137. Register with leader.

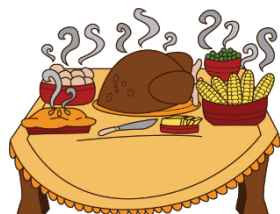
BC Ski Packed Trail Practice

Sunday, 1/27/2019

Moderate II

Leader: Eric Hunter, 19-266-9647, EHunterCMC@gmail.com

Trail Mileage 12, Elevation Gain 1800, Driving Distance 200. Location: Bemrose Creek, CO. Details: This field session is for those who have completed the two required classroom sessions and the two prior field sessions with the Pikes Peak Group. The third of three field sessions, this trip will focus on endurance and technique on a packed trail. We will spend a lot of time building skills for harder hills in tighter turns.



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



Mount Princeton 2019

FEBRUARY 15–17, 2019

This is an annual weekend of ski, snowshoe, hike, swim, party, and dining adventure at the Mt Princeton Hot Springs Resort in Nathrop, CO, near the ghost town of St Elmo. It includes two nights' lodging at the resort, dinner on Friday and Saturday nights and breakfast on Saturday and Sunday, two complimentary drinks (beer, wine, or soft drink) on Friday night, all the swimming you can get in on the three days, as well as an informal get-together Saturday after dinner. Both Saturday and Sunday, after breakfast, CMC leaders will propose trips for all levels of ability. Pricing is still being decided, but it should be close to \$295 each for a two-person room and \$405 for a single room. Non-CMC members pay \$10 more. This is a fun event, attended by members from several CMC groups.

For more information or to sign up, please contact Heidi Paul, (970) 309-9996 or heidi_m_paul@yahoo.com, or Becky Zenthoefer, (719) 633-1367 or Beckyzee@comcast.net.

Colorado Snow and Avalanche

Some of our Avalanche Instructors attended the annual Colorado Snow and Avalanche Workshop in Breckenridge for a full day of continuing education. This workshop provides a venue for avalanche professionals to listen to presentations and discuss new ideas, techniques, and technologies with their colleagues.

A diverse set of speakers covered topics ranging from the effects of climate change on our snowpack to the history of the Colorado Department of Transportation avalanche mitigation program. This year also included a group discussion from four seasoned avalanche professionals on how a specific event shaped their avalanche career.

Continuing education is key to the PPG, ensuring our instructors are up to date on the latest in their field and can provide the best possible learning environment for our members.

Member Discounts

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[Ajax Bike and Sport](#)

[American Mountaineering Museum](#)

[Atrevida Beer Co \(was Great Storm\)](#)

[Bentgate](#)

[Breckenridge Nordic Center](#)

[City Rock](#)

[Friction Labs](#)

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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.

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[CMC PPG web page](#)

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.