



The Newsletter of the CMC Pikes Peak Group

February, 2020 | No. 264

Pikes Peak Group Program – February 18

Denise Snow presents: *Cross Country Skiing Around The World*



There are many opportunities for cross country ski vacations around the world. Many countries support a stronger cross country culture than what we have in the United States and make it much easier to travel and ski hundreds of kilometers of well prepared tracks. Come and see skiing opportunities from Norway to New Zealand and beyond as well as the advantages that can be found in places where great skiing is not just for the downhill folks.

Come join Denise at the Ivywild School Center, 1604 S Cascade Ave. Happy hour at 6:00, program starts at 6:30 in the Barrel Room. Hope to see you there!

The Pikes Peak Group in Pictures

Aiken Canyon Hike



L–R: Gary Marx, Missy Starks, Randy Bliss, Joanne Larraga, Jim Thieme, and Keely Nolan.
Keely and Randy are members of the Denver group.

New Member Orientation



L–R: Vishal Rana, Adam Keller, Ray Ruiz, Adrienne Ross, Tyler King, Ruben Valdez, Emily Ernst, Audrey Burkart (co-leader), and Kay Cower.

Photo credit: Dean Waits (leader)

More on page 3!

Your PPG Council

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419-260-7807, buckie06@hotmail.com

Past Chair – Vacant

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

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

Welcome New Members!

Katharina Anderson
Tracey Anderson
Margo Bedford
Ramsey Blahnik
Reed Blahnik
Joe Cocklin
Kay Cower
Sheila DeHerrera
Jorge Delgado-Hernandez
Loren Delgado-Rosario
Hector Gonzalez
Steve griffith
Robert Guidry
Sean Heinsman
david jordan
Theresa Kalis
Adam Keller
Carla Kenyon

Tyler King
Benjamin Ladau
Terrence Ladau
Wendy Ladau
Andrew Laub
Vickie Laughlin
James Mutti
Aditya Nanduri
Adrianna Pierce
Brittany Pucci
Joselyn Rosario-Sanchez
Adrienne Ross
David Rubin
Raymundo Ruiz
Liz Simonton
Marc Simonton
Skip Simonton
Mark Yeadon



PPG Council Position Opening

Interested in joining the PPG Council? The Programs position is being vacated and needs a replacement. For more information, please contact [Bill Allen](#) or [Kristen Buckland](#).

Member Discounts

Adventure Medical Kits
Ajax Bike and Sport
American Mountaineering Museum
Atrevida Beer Co (was Great Storm)
Bentgate
Breckenridge Nordic Center
City Rock
Friction Labs
Frisco Nordic Center
Gearonimo
Gold Camp Brewing
Golden Bike Shop
Ken's Anglers
Lumiere Telluride
Moosejaw

Mountain Chalet
Mountain Equipment Recyclers
Mountainsmith
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

the PPG
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The Pikes Peak Group in Pictures

Barr Trail to the Top of the Incline



L-R: Ute, Susan, Jim, Ute, Missy, and Eric (Photo credit Y)

Breakfast on a Mountain



L-R: Missy, Ute, Julie, Stacy, Monica, Angie, and Susan

Trip to Barr Camp, December 1



L-R: Cindy Goodwin, Brett Brooks, Andy Lyon (leader), Brittany Hoover, and Dean Waits

Spruce Mountain, December 26



7 Bridges – Buckhorn Trails Hike



L-R: Andy Lyon (leader), Sue Sikora, and Bryan Scott
(Photo credit Dean Waits)

CMC Climb Nights



Potpourri

MOUNT PRINCETON 2020



The Mt. Princeton Resort party weekend for 2020 will take place March 20–22. 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 \$295 for double occupancy and \$405 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 January 4 and payment by check will be due by January 10. Guests are welcome. Register at cmc.org or call or text Christie Lee, 719-243-1821.

TRIP LEADER TRAIL STATUS

PPG Trip Leaders, thank you for an amazing 2019 leading trips in the great outdoors. You completed 173 trips getting 1184 participants into our beautiful Colorado mountains. That's an 83% increase in PPG trip participation from last year. I'd like to recognize the following trip leaders who attained various award levels in 2019:

Annual Award Winners (25 annual participants)

Eric Hunter, Roger Kilcoyne, Britt Jones, Dean Waits, Y Mason, Denise Snow, Tom Mowle, David Kuenzli, Scott Kime, Kristen Buckland, Audrey Burkart, Mark Silas, Paul Kozlowski and Andy Lyon

Bronze Level Career Winners (50 career participants)

Eric Hunter, Roger Kilcoyne, Britt Jones, Dean Waits, Y Mason, Denise Snow

Silver Level Career Winners (100 career participants)

Eric Hunter, Roger Kilcoyne, Britt Jones

Gold Level Career Winners (250 career participants)

Eric Hunter

Now that the holidays are over, I encourage you to post some trips and get outside. Winter in Colorado is amazing. If you haven't done so already, this is a great time to review the CMC's trip policies. The most recent CMC Trip Leader Manual and CMC Policies Relating to Trips contains updated policies regarding trip leader education requirements. Avalanche Terrain Avoidance is required for leaders who travel in snow-covered areas but do not travel in avalanche prone terrain. Winter backcountry leaders who plan to travel in avalanche prone terrain are required to complete AIARE Level 1 (or equivalent).

Enjoy the snow and I'll see you in the mountains.

David Kuenzli

CONSERVATION

Final Waldo Canyon Planning Meeting Wednesday 1/22

This will be your last chance to weigh in on the new trails and trailheads being proposed for the Waldo Canyon area!

Learn more about the planning [here](#), and attend the next public meeting, **January 22, 2020**, from 6:00–8:30 PM at the Westside Community Center gym, 1628 W Bijou St, CS.

CMC TRIP LEADERS

CMC Trip Leaders need to be current in Wilderness First Aid

Last year the CMC Board of Directors passed a measure to have all trip leaders current in WFA. This new requirement caught many of our trip leaders with out-of-date WFA training. Because of that, four WFA/CPR training classes have been set up this year to get all of our trip leaders current by the end of the year. If you are a trip leader and you did not take a WFA/CPR class in 2019 an email has been sent to you asking you to sign up for one of these classes. If you are a trip leader in this category and did not receive the email, please sign up for one of the classes. Our trip leaders have priority in signing up for these classes but there is some limited space for others. More WFA/CPR training space will be available next year. If you have any questions, please contact [Paul Schoell](#).

EARTH CORPS COLLEGE FIELD STUDIES COURSE 2020

Applications are now being accepted to RMFI's 19th Annual [Earth Corps College Field Studies Course](#) which will take place from **July 27 – August 13, 2020**. Earth Corps is a 18-day backcountry field studies course that provides motivated, environmentally conscious undergraduate students the opportunity to live and learn in the incredible natural classroom of the Colorado wilderness. The program began in 2002, and in 2014, it won the Colorado Alliance for Environmental Education Higher Education Award. A limited number of merit-based scholarships are available for the 2020 course. Please contact [Joe Lavorini](#) for more information.

Upcoming PPG Classes

Pikes Peak Basic Mountaineering School – Wilderness Fundamentals

Starts January 22

The Wilderness Fundamentals class is an introduction of 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 backcountry 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 PPG members, \$55 for all others.

Pikes Peak Avalanche Level 1

Starts January 28

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 through your decision making. Classroom dates are scheduled for 28 and 30 Jan from 6:00p to 9:30p. The field session is scheduled for both 01 and 02 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 it. Cost: \$175 for PPG members and leaders, \$200 for all others.

PPG Basic Mountain School – Ice Climbing

Starts February 3

Time to swing some ice! This is the final module in the 2019-2020 BMS series. Completion of this course allows certification in the BMS Alpine Mountaineering track. Congratulations! We will spend the day learning how to swing ice tools and crampons, with multiple opportunities for you to ice climb. We will also learn about alpine ice travel including travelling on fixed lines on ice. It is required that you've completed our BMS Wilderness Fundamentals class prior to taking this class. BMS Rock Climbing class or equivalent belay, knot tying, and rappel skills are also required. If you have not taken BMS Rock Climbing you must meet with the instructor before class to pass a belay/knot/rappel test, then you can register. The belay test cannot be taken within two weeks of the class; it is your responsibility to reach out to the instructor and schedule it. Classroom session is 3 Feb field session is 9 Feb. Cost: \$70.

PPG - Technical Ice Climbing School

Starts February 13

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 group's aspirations and existing skill level, but will be to teach basic leading on WI3 ice and advanced skills needed for climbing WI4 and WI5 ice. If time permits, there will also be the opportunity to add some basic mixed climbing instruction as well. The evening class will be the week of Feb 10th, with the remainder of the class being held in Ouray, CO on the 13th and 14th. We will be carpooling down on Feb 12th, climbing all day Thursday and Friday. 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. You will be responsible for securing your hotel and meals while on the trip. Hotel rate should be around \$75 - \$90 each total for the weekend (2 climbers per room).

Pikes Peak Basic Mountaineering School – Wilderness Fundamentals

Starts March 2

The Wilderness Fundamentals class is an introduction of 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 backcountry 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 PPG members, \$55 for all others.

PPG ARCPro Trad Gear and Anchors Class

Starts March 21

The Pikes Peak Group Trad Gear and Anchors Class is part of the PPG Advanced Rock Climbing Program and is a prerequisite to the Trad Leading class. In Trad 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. Prerequisites: Registrants should have already taken BMS Rock Climbing, or have the equivalent basic rock climbing skills. Please contact the leader for any questions as to your suitability for this class and the ARC Program in general. Cost: \$95 for PPG members, \$65 for leaders.

Pikes Peak Basic Mountaineering School – Land Navigation

Starts March 25

There are 2 class lectures. Our discussions include maps, compass, orienteering, estimating distance, interpreting map symbols, properly reading topo contour lines, learning about declination, sighting, taking a bearing, and technologies such as GPS. You'll also participate in class exercises using a map and compass. Students must participate in a PPG trip where they are afforded the opportunity to practice and demonstrate their land navigation skills. Prerequisites: Wilderness Fundamentals. Cost: \$25 for PPG members.

Pikes Peak Trip Leader Training

Starts March 30

This class requires two classroom sessions (30 March and 13 April) and one outdoor practice session on 18 April. The classroom sessions require recommended reading for classroom discussion. Topics will include decision making, leadership styles and how to handle emergencies, among other topics. Currency in Wilderness First Aid and CPR/AED and attending the trip leader outdoor practice session on Saturday, 18 April are also requirements towards becoming a CMC Pikes Peak Group Trip Leader. After completion of the classroom session and outdoor trip session, each trip leader candidate should coordinate co-leading two separate Pikes Peak Group trips with two different Pikes Peak Group trip leaders. Prerequisite: completion of the BMS Wilderness Fundamentals and BMS Land Navigation courses, or equivalent demonstrable knowledge/experience and being a CMC Pikes Peak Group member for one year. Cost: \$25 for PPG members, \$35 for all others.



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



February PPG Trips

PPG Avalanche Level 1 Field Practice

Saturday, 2/1/2020

Moderate C

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

Trail Mileage 5, Elevation Gain 400, Driving Distance 200. Location: Pikes Peak Region. Details: This two day field session is for those who have completed the two required classroom sessions with the Pikes Peak Group. This two day trip will focus on avalanche evaluation, safe travel skills, and team rescue skills. We will be returning to town between the two field sessions. Details will be provided in class.

Spruce Mtn Hike or Snowshoe

Saturday, 2/1/2020

Easy A

Leader: Y Mason, youdew@aol.com

Trail Mileage 4, Elevation Gain 600, Driving Distance 50. Location: Spruce Mountain is located north of Palmer Lake.

Details: This hike is a Pikes Peak Group favorite and is a wonderful introductory hike for new club members. The trail offers beautiful scenery and has the perfect amount of mileage and elevation to stretch your legs while enjoying the great outdoors and fresh air. In the event of snow, this hike *will* become a *snowshoe* (digits crossed). Notes: Further details will be emailed to registered participants several days prior to the hike date. Pikes Peak Group Members have priority to register for this hike. All others will be waitlisted.

Barr Camp Overnight & Pikes Peak

Friday, 2/7/2020

Difficult C

Leader: Dean Waits, 281-352-2236, dwaits24@gmail.com

Trail Mileage 26, Elevation Gain 7410, Driving Distance 7. Location: Meet at the Manitou Springs Shuttle Parking lot located along Manitou Ave, turn on Old Man Trail near Memorial Park at 9:00am. We will take the 9:20 shuttle to near the TH. Details: We will hike Barr Trail to Barr Camp on the flanks of Pikes Peak. 3700 feet elevation gain, 6.5 miles on Fri. This is half the way to the summit of Pikes Peak. We will overnight two nights at Barr Camp in a dormitory setting. If conditions permit we will attempt to summit Pikes Peak on Saturday (13 mi r/t), or if not wanting to do the Peak, we will do a hike in the area. We will return Sunday morning to the TH by early afternoon. You will be asked about your winter climbing experience and conditioning if you attempt Pikes Peak. Dinner and breakfast are included in the reservation cost as well as bed. You must carry your sleeping bag, water purification, and other necessities. The cost is approximately \$43/night for inside cabin and meals. Also have lean-to's and tent camping available. Special

dietary needs cannot be accommodated. After you have registered online w/CMC, please open the Reservations Form in [this link](#) and make your Barr Camp reservation directly. You are *not* signed up for this trip until you are signed up on both the CMC web and have a reservation at Barr Camp. This is open reservation and the public is free to reserve our date as well. More details to be sent to participants later.

BC Ski or Snowshoe Hut Trip to Weston Pass Hut

Saturday, 2/8/2020

Difficult II

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

Trail Mileage 14, Elevation Gain 2250, Driving Distance 250. Location: Weston Pass, CO. Details: This is a difficult ski or snowshoe on an un-groomed county road. We will stay in a hut just below the west side of Weston Pass. There is plenty of room to ski and snowshoe around the hut in a bowl and along ridges for our time there. Due to the long kick and glide approach, NNN-BC or 3-pin skis will work best, but cable-binding skis will work as well. There is a \$100 non-refundable fee to reserve your spot. The remainder will be based on final number of participants. Avalanche gear and training will be required if going into avalanche terrain. Group cooking and cleaning will be planned at a required pre trip meeting. This trip is primarily intended for Pikes Peak and Pueblo Group members. All others will be waitlisted. Nat Geo Map 110. Register with leader.

Marion Mine Snowshoe – Dogs are welcome!

Saturday, 2/8/2020

Easy All

Leader: John Gray, 719-369-3163, johnphoneman@gmail.com

Trail Mileage 4, Elevation Gain 900, Driving Distance 170. Location: The hike to the Marion Mine starts by going up the Cisneros Trail. The Cisneros Trail starts at the back end of the St. Charles campground at San Isabel Lake. We will meet at the Carl's Jr in Florence at 9:30am, 502 E Main St, Florence, CO 81226. We will then drive or carpool to the trail. Details: Lets get those snowshoes in gear! An easy snowshoe to an old mine. Notes: Lets have fun!!

Nordic Ski Breckenridge Nordic Center

Saturday, 2/15/2020

Moderate II

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

Trail Mileage 10, Elevation Gain 500, Driving Distance 260. Location: Breckenridge Nordic Center. Details: Did you just complete the Pikes Peak Group Backcountry Ski Class? Are you trying to get back into the winter season and just need some practice before your big hut trip? 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. Register with leader.

Mt Rosa Hike/Snowshoe

Saturday, 2/22/2020

Moderate D

Leader: Andy Lyon, 719-650-3043, andyslyon@msn.com

Trail Mileage 13, Elevation Gain 4000, Driving Distance 10. Location: Mount Rosa, 11,499 feet. Details: Mount Rosa tops out at timberline and, with mileage and elevation gain, is the physical equivalent of many a 14er. We'll hike until we need snowshoes and then snowshoe to the top if time and conditions allow. Primary goal is to have a fun, safe day in the woods. We'll meet at "the Hub" parking area where Gold Camp Road and High Drive intersect, walk up Gold Camp Road, take the St. Mary's Falls trail and connect to the Mt. Rosa trail. Lunch at the top and return. The summit provides a great view of the Pikes Peak area and the Sangres to the southwest. Be prepared for winter conditions with gaiters, traction, and poles, along with the ten essentials, plenty of liquids and snowshoes. This trip is primarily for Pikes Peak and Pueblo group members, others will be placed on the wait list. Register with the leader. Notes: [More on the trail.](#)

Cross-country Ski Boreas Pass Road

Saturday, 2/29/2020

Moderate II

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

Trail Mileage 8, 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 the 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. This trip is primarily intended for Pikes Peak and Pueblo Group members. All others will be waitlisted. We will avoid avalanche terrain. Nat Geo Map 109. Register with leader.



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



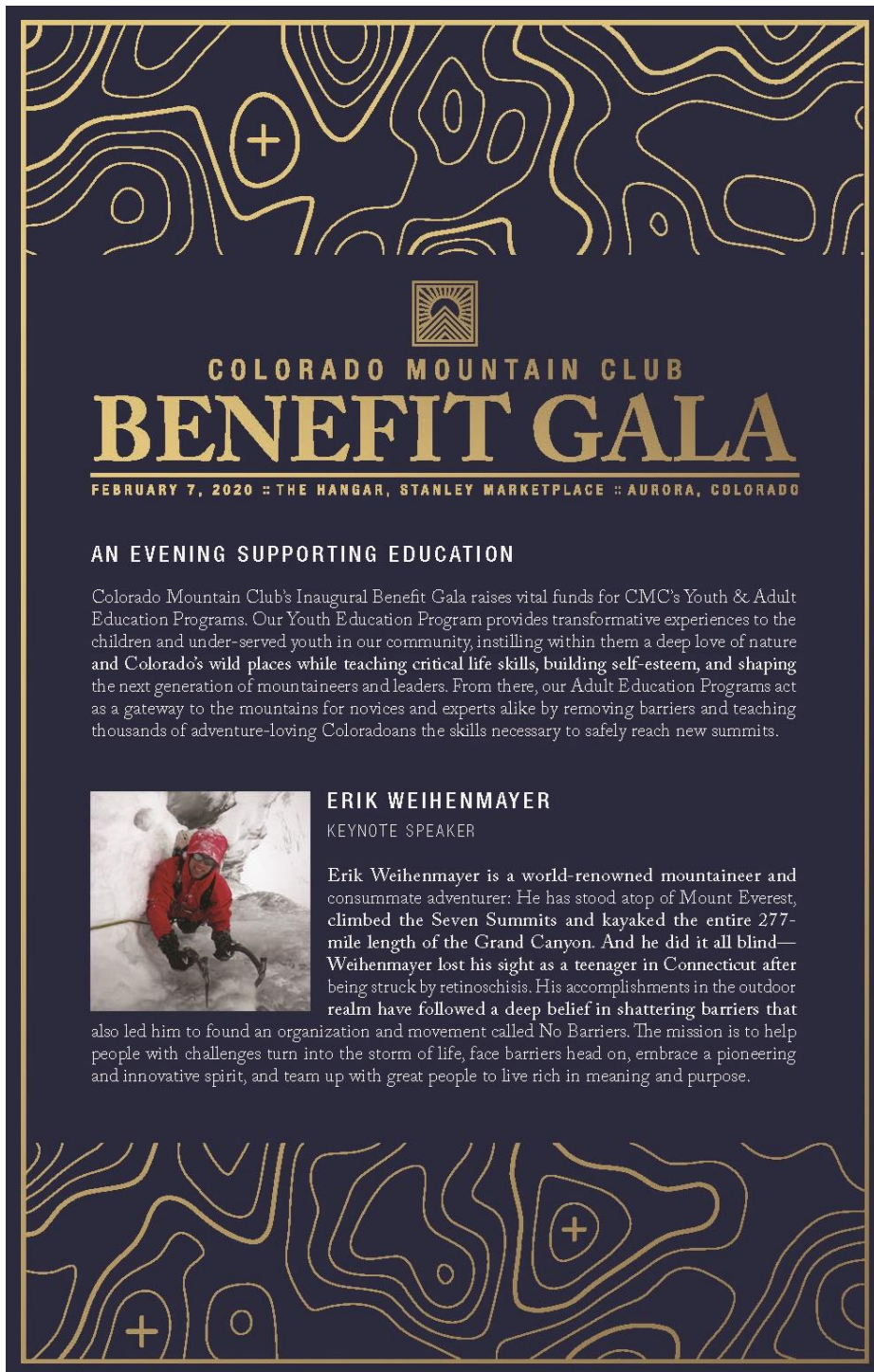
CMC Benefit Gala

You are invited! Join us Friday, February 7, 2020 at [The Hangar at The Stanley Marketplace](#) to raise critical funds for CMC's Youth & Adult Education Programs.

This extraordinary event will feature a keynote address from world-renowned adventurer and Golden local, [Erik Weihenmayer](#), a seated dinner, silent and live auctions, mountaineering awards, and more!

We are excited for you to join us in celebrating our vibrant and generous outdoor community during an entertaining and inspiring inaugural CMC Benefit Gala.


[More info and purchase tickets.](#)



COLORADO MOUNTAIN CLUB
BENEFIT GALA
FEBRUARY 7, 2020 :: THE HANGAR, STANLEY MARKETPLACE :: AURORA, COLORADO

AN EVENING SUPPORTING EDUCATION

Colorado Mountain Club's Inaugural Benefit Gala raises vital funds for CMC's Youth & Adult Education Programs. Our Youth Education Program provides transformative experiences to the children and under-served youth in our community, instilling within them a deep love of nature and Colorado's wild places while teaching critical life skills, building self-esteem, and shaping the next generation of mountaineers and leaders. From there, our Adult Education Programs act as a gateway to the mountains for novices and experts alike by removing barriers and teaching thousands of adventure-loving Coloradoans the skills necessary to safely reach new summits.

 **ERIK WEIHENMAYER**
KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Erik Weihenmayer is a world-renowned mountaineer and consummate adventurer: He has stood atop of Mount Everest, climbed the Seven Summits and kayaked the entire 277-mile length of the Grand Canyon. And he did it all blind—Weihenmayer lost his sight as a teenager in Connecticut after being struck by retinoblastoma. His accomplishments in the outdoor realm have followed a deep belief in shattering barriers that also led him to found an organization and movement called No Barriers. The mission is to help people with challenges turn into the storm of life, face barriers head on, embrace a pioneering and innovative spirit, and team up with great people to live rich in meaning and purpose.

Pikes Pique

February, 2020 | No. 264

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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Colorado Springs, CO 80901
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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.