



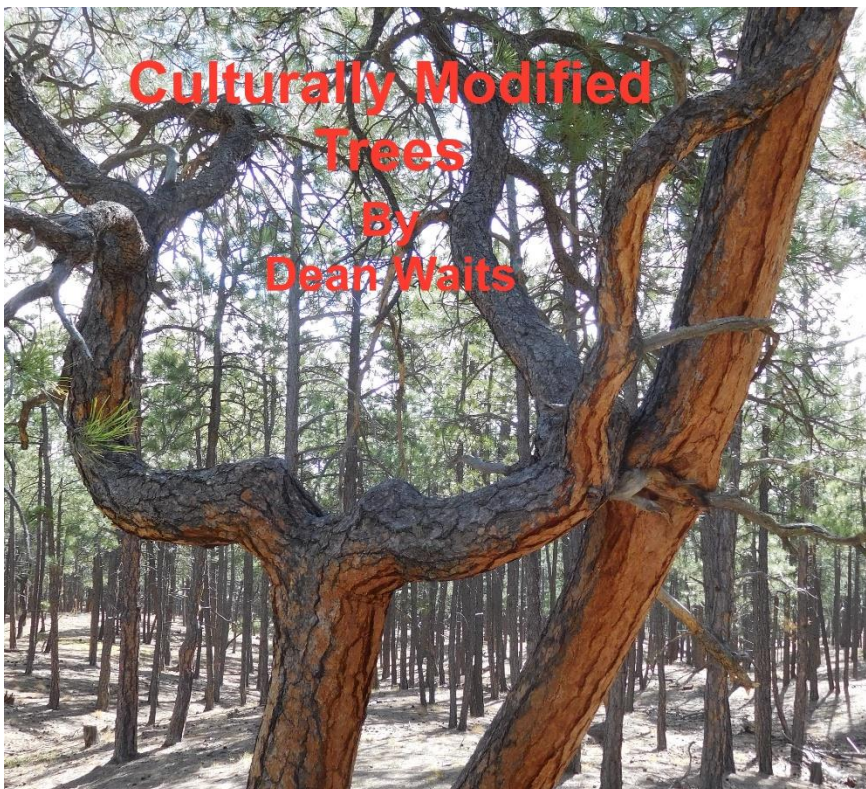
The Newsletter of the CMC Pikes Peak Group

September, 2020 | No. 271

CMC Announces its Newest State Section

Mountain Biking!

Do you love mountain biking? Do you struggle to find a place for it in the CMC? As part of the Strategic Plan's initiative to bring more relevant activities to the membership, CMC state brings to you mountain biking! Whether you're a beginner just learning the ropes as a biker, whether you're an intermediate biker who loves flow trails, or whether you're an expert downhill rider who loves to hit the jumps, we've got something for everyone in this new section. How it works: anyone from any group can join the section, participate in activities, and lead trips. We're looking for Trip Leaders. If you're interested in leading a trip, please reach out to Maddie Miller at maddiemiller@cmc.org. Interested in joining the section? Contact Greg McVie at greg.mcvie@gmail.com. See you on the trails!



Dean Waits Video

Culturally Modified Trees are throughout the state and across the US. Have you been to Fox Run Regional Park and wondered why some trees are bent and shaped so unlike most of the tall straight one's? Here's a one-hour CMC video in which Dean Waits explains how these trees have been modified by Native Americans dating back hundreds of years. Some trees have been aged using dendrochronology (counting tree rings) and actually dissecting a tree to illustrate how the methods used to bend a tree appear internally in the wood. Learn about ancient trees marking trails locally and around the US. Watch the [YouTube video](#).

Your PPG Council

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

Welcome New Member!

Cody Dedow



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

Seeking New Council Members

Your PPG Council needs your help! Would you be interested in serving? We have positions open for:

- Program Director
- Safety & Leadership
- At Large positions

If interested, please contact the Council Chair, [Kristen Buckland](#).

Pikes Peak Apex

The Pikes Peak Apex 4-Day MTB Challenge in Colorado Springs is planned for September 24–27. Rider and volunteer information is available on [this link](#). The Challenge is planning to have timed events and staggered starts. There is a \$50 discount on the entry fee to CMC members.



Upcoming PPG Classes

PPG ARCPro Sport Lead Climbing Class

Starts September 12

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 One, 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. Cost: \$80 for PPG members, \$50 for Leaders.

PPG BMS - Land Navigation B

Starts October 7

Prerequisites: Wilderness Fundamentals. There are two 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. Cost: \$25.

PPG ARCPro Introduction to Self-Rescue Class

Starts October 24

Ever wondered how you might react if your climbing partner were injured? What about if you were injured- would you be able to get down safely as a team? In the PPG ARCPro Intro to Self-Rescue Class, you will learn tips and techniques to deal with unpleasant situations in the mountains. Whether you are an alpine climber seeking endless ridgelines, looking to break into multipitch ice this year, or a seasoned rock climber with regular days at our local crags- this course is for you! The Self-Rescue Class offered by Pikes Peak Group is a key element of our Advanced Rock Climbing Program. Students are given the skills, along with practice, to deal with many of the situations that can occur in a climbing scenario. This class does not deal with any of the medical components and implications of an injury-based rescue; that is far beyond the scope of the program. This class teaches participants the safety components and transitions that can assist a climbing team to extricate themselves from a number of situations. Cost: \$95 for PPG members, \$65 for Leaders.

September PPG Trips

Wilson Traverse El Diente-14,159' Mt. Wilson-14,246'

Friday, September 4

Class IV

Leader: Britt Jones, 719-661-4777, britt@globalreality.biz

Trail mileage 15, Elevation gain 5000, Driving distance 700. Location: We are climbing [Mt. Wilson and El Diente](#) via Kilpacker Creek on the south side of these mountains. We will climb Mt. Wilson first, and then continue over to El Diente via the ridge traverse. Details: We will leave the Front Range Friday morning around 8:00am. We will drive to the Kilpacker TH and hike in about 3 miles to camp. We will make a group decision on where to camp. Saturday, we will do the climb of the Wilson Traverse and return to camp and spend a second night. Sunday is a weather day if needed. If successful, we will pack up and hike out Sunday morning. We will go for lunch in Telluride and then go do the Telluride Via Ferrata! ([Full. Join waitlist.](#))

Kenosha Mountain Loop Backpack

Saturday, September 5

Moderate D

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

Trail mileage 30, Elevation gain 4800, Driving distance 200. Location: Lost Creek Wilderness, CO. Details: This is a moderate loop backpack just east of Kenosha Pass. We will backpack Seg 4 of the Colorado Trail to Brookside McCurdy Trail to Craig Creek Trail to Ben Tyler Trail to Seg 5 of the Colorado Trail back to the TH. We will camp in Craig Park and along the Ben Tyler Trail. Each day is over nine miles for a total just shy of 30 miles. Light and fast techniques are expected for this trip to keep the pace going. The views in this area are of expansive meadows just below Kenosha Peak and "The Alphabetizer." This trip is primarily intended for Pikes Peak and Pueblo Group members. All others will be waitlisted. Nat Geo Map 105. Register with leader. ([Full. Join waitlist.](#))

Leader: Mark Silas, 719-748-5223, mtnsrink@centurylink.net

Trail mileage 9.25, Elevation gain 4500. Location: White River Nat. Forest near Aspen. Details: We will start from the Maroon Lake trailhead at 4:00 am. Bring a good headlamp and a helmet. See route description for Northeast Ridge on 14ers.com. Moderate pace means able to climb at least 1,000 vertical feet per hour, which means the ascent shouldn't take more than about 5 hours. The group needs to stay ahead of the typical afternoon storms. This is one of Colorado's harder 14ers. Should have some prior experience doing 4th class climbing. There is a new [parking permit system](#) in place at the Maroon Lake trailhead. The permits for September will go on sale on Aug. 1. If you are interested in this trip, even if you haven't been added to the roster, it is suggested that you get your parking permit(s) before they sell out. They are refundable. ([Full. Join waitlist.](#))



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



Why I Lead BPX Trips

By John Walters

During 12 fabulous years at CMC, I have enjoyed a thousand wonderful days and many starry nights absorbing Colorado's beautiful mountains, rivers, and lakes. Anyone can enjoy CMC trips without being a trip leader. But let me tell you why becoming a BPX Trip Leader is one of the best things I've ever done.

First, backpacking is the most rewarding of all outdoor activities. Backpacking is exceptionally beneficial to our physical, mental, and spiritual health. Closer friendships are formed way more often through backpacking than day hikes. And backpackers see far more wildlife and experience nature in many more ways than on other mountain activities. But, of course, leading a backpack requires more training and experience than leading day hikes.

The ideal path to BPX Trip Leader is through CMC's excellent Wilderness Trekking and Backpacking Schools (or equivalent experience,) plus Wilderness First Aid and Trip Leader School for leadership training. Most of this path is tuition free for prospective BPX Trip Leaders.

Society teaches us to give back to a community that gives so much. But when we do serve as volunteer Trip Leaders, it's OK to bag a few selfish motives, too.

As a BPX Trip Leader I can schedule trips I want on the days I want, determine the number of trip mates, and even preload my trips with a friend or two. I get to decide when and where we meet, who rides with me, our driving route, and pit stops.

At the trailhead, I give the briefing that establishes our protocols. On the trail, I confer with my teammates, of course, but in the end, I set the pace, call for breaks, and decide where we camp and when we head back.

If we run into an accident on the trail or in camp, I've already named the incident commander. And if I'm the one injured and unconscious, I've already named the teammate I want as my medic.

Then, too, there is the liability insurance for CMC Trip Leaders. Anyone can sue anyone else for anything at any time. But with liability coverage, the lawyer who defends me is paid by CMC's insurance carrier rather than my retirement fund. For this reason, I prefer leading CMC trips to organizing wildcat trips.

One of the biggest benefits for BPX Trip Leaders is the wide variety of pre-planned trips to choose from. Why would I NOT want to lead every trip I take? Once we learn what to do, leading trips becomes easy.

For those who don't want the training or responsibility of a Trip Leader, you shouldn't even think of taking your family or friends into the wilderness. Bad things can happen to those who don't know what they don't know.

With a fast-growing membership, BPX needs more trip leaders. Whether you are a current CMC trip leader with backpacking experience or a new member and novice backpacker, you might consider charting a path to BPX Trip Leader.

If you are curious about what you might need to meet BPX requirements, please send me and our Trip Leader Coordinator, Uwe Sartori, a note and let's talk.

John Walters, BPX Chair

cmcbpx@gmail.com, text 303-995-7638

Uwe Sartori, BPX Trip Leader Coordinator

CMCBPXTLC@gmail.com

Conservation Corner

Access Limitations for State Wildlife Areas and State Trust Lands

The State of Colorado has changed its access rules for State Wildlife Areas (SWAs) and State Trust Lands. Effective July 1, users must have a valid hunting or fishing license in order to access SWAs or State Trust Lands leased by Colorado Parks and Wildlife. The policy is intended to help address some illegal activities while promoting the original intent for these properties to provide wildlife habitat and wildlife-related recreation. In the Pikes Peak Area, the most notable impacts are to Dome Rock SWA, south of Mueller State Park, and to Beaver Creek SWA, near Penrose.

Each person 18 or over accessing these areas must have a license of some type on them or be subject to a \$100 fine plus court costs (warnings are also possible, but less so for repeat offenders or those who know better, like trip leaders).

Licenses can be purchased online at www.cpwshop.com or at a variety of retailers. A one-day hunting or fishing license—valid for a specific day, not any one day—costs \$13.90 for residents. An annual license is valid for the hunting year of 1 April to 31 March. Those under 65 must also buy a \$10.13 habitat stamp with the license. A resident small game hunting license costs \$30.11, so \$40.24 with the stamp—but also requires a 10-12 hour online hunter information course which can cost up to \$15. The course includes a lot of good conservation information along with specific hunter information, for what it's worth. A resident fishing license costs \$35.17, so \$45.30 with the stamp—but no need for the additional course. Residents over 65 can purchase a senior fishing license for \$9.85 with no habitat stamp needed. Nonresident prices are higher. Click [here](#) for more info about the change.

The PPG in Photos



Crestone Needle on August 8. Mark Silas, leader, Patrick Thornley, co-leader.

Pikes Pique

September, 2020 | No. 271

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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[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.