

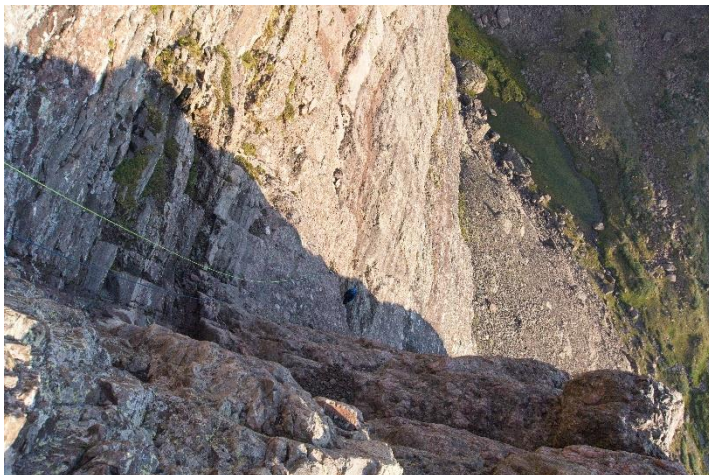


The Newsletter of the CMC's Pikes Peak Group

October, 2020 | No. 272

## The Pikes Peak Group in Pictures

CMC members Joe Leach, Derek Sardinta, and Kristen Buckland successfully climbed the Ellingwood Ledges on Crestone Needle recently. This technically committing alpine route ascends the north arete of the Needle with multiple pitches of rock climbing and class 3-4 scrambling. We backpacked into South Colony Lakes late Friday evening and camped below the lower lake at 11,600'. The next morning we started hiking at 5am and scrambled up to the base of the route by daybreak. We opted for the 5.9 variation for the start and enjoyed three pitches of quality climbing before we unroped for the scramble section. This was about 400-600' of class 3-4 scrambling that leads to the final headwall. Another three pitches of 5.6-5.9 climbing and we topped out on the summit at 14,200'. After enjoying the views of the Sangres, we descended the standard route and down Broken Hand Pass to our campsite. We started hiking back to the car after packing up camp and a snack break. It was a fantastic trip in a beautiful setting, with quality climbing.



Joe, Derek, and Kristen are instructors for the Pikes Peak Group's Advanced Rock Climbing courses. If you're interested in climbing a route like this, look into taking one of their classes.



CMC member Danielle Jacobson recently completed all the 14ers!

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## Your PPG Council

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

**Past Chair** – Vacant

**ARCPro Director** – Scott Kime  
719-235-0939, scott.kime@live.com

**BMS Co-Directors** – Tom Mulcahy  
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**Newsletter** – Dave Anderson  
719-484-9069, danderso@uccs.edu

**Outings** – David Kuenzli  
813-465-4716, navsareneverlost@gmail.com

**Programs** – Bill Allen  
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**Public Relations** – Mike Cromwell  
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**Safety & Leadership** – Paul Schoell  
719-440-7777, 4paul2@gmail.com

**Secretary** – Sarah Hettenbach  
785-226-3176, hettenbach.s@gmail.com

**Treasurer & State Council Representative** –  
Glenn Barr, 719-244-3502,  
gjb2000@gmail.com

**50+** – Christie Lee  
719-635-2336, christie80905@gmail.com

### At Large:

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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.

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## Welcome New Members!

Tricia Allen  
Mary Brennan  
Joel Cox  
Michael England  
Isabel Gonzalez  
Katie Gonzalez  
Lynne Johnson  
Scott Johnson

Dave Krauth  
Eileen Krauth  
Samuel Perlik  
Javanni Resto  
Jazmin Resto  
Kiesha Resto  
William Resto  
Kimberly Wiederspan



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## 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

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## 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](#).

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# Upcoming PPG Classes

## PPG Basic Mountaineering School – Land Navigation

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.

## PPG Basic Mountaineering School – Wilderness Fundamentals

Starts November 16

The Wilderness Fundamentals class is an introduction of 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. 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.

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# October PPG Trips

## Creek Week Cleanup

Saturday, 10/3/2020

Easy A

Leader: Audrey Burkart, 719-510-0481, [arburkart10@ole.augie.edu](mailto:arburkart10@ole.augie.edu)

Trail Mileage 2.6. Location: We are cleaning up along the Cottonwood Creek trail. The "exact" location is Vincent Dr. to 196 Cottonwood Cr. Academy. We will meet at 9 am on the Cottonwood Creek Trail Head At Academy, address is 6650 Vincent Dr, Colorado Springs, CO 80918. Details: Come clean up our waterways for Creek Week! If you are interested about this event as a whole, [here](#) is the website. Basically, the Springs pulls together to tidy up our creekways. The segment we will clean up is near and dear to my heart, as it is along my bicycle route to work! I might be biased, but I also find this segment to be one of the prettiest trail areas in town. Additionally, it's one of our newer segments of trail. What's even better than getting outside, cleaning our community areas, and getting to socialize at safe distances? Free swag! That's right, come get your CMC swag to represent one of the coolest clubs cleaning our trails. Kids are totally welcome!

## MTB Cheyenne Canon Captain Jacks & Chutes

Sunday, 10/11/2020

Moderate

Leader: Charles Cromwell, 858-395-5986, [cromwellic@comcast.net](mailto:cromwellic@comcast.net)

Trail Mileage 15, Elevation Gain 2000-2500, Driving Distance varies. Location: Meet at Stratton Open Space East Trailhead at 7am. 1504 Ridgeway Ave, Colorado Springs, CO 80906. Details: Ride recommended for more experienced MTB riders. You should be comfortable on single track; areas of deep gravel or trail "kitty litter" riding; moderate prolonged elevation gain and intermediate (blue) MTB trails. 15-20 Miles and ride should require no longer than 3 hours with a couple of breaks. Average speed 6-7 mph for total trip is desired. Primary trails for ride include: Chamberlain / Chamberlain Connector / Ladders / Gold Camp / Spring Creek / Columbine / Chutes & Captain Jacks (Specific trails ridden will be adjusted based on experience level of riders.) Reference [mountain bike project](#) for details on specific trails and overview

of riding area. MTB setup recommended: Full Suspension XC or a "lighter" Enduro (there is significant elevation riding); however, if experienced, a front suspension only is very doable if you normally ride with this setup.

### **BMS Land Nav Field Day Lovell Gulch**

Saturday, 10/17/2020

Moderate A

Leader: David Kuenzli, 813-465-4716, [navsareneverlost@gmail.com](mailto:navsareneverlost@gmail.com)

Trail Mileage 6, Elevation Gain 1000, Driving Distance 50. Location: Lovell Gulch Trailhead. Details: Field session for 2020 PPG BMS Land Nav. Students will be split into teams accompanied by instructors. There will be 6 to 7 waypoints to locate. The objective of the day will be to navigate from waypoint to waypoint, using a map and compass. Various techniques for navigating will be used throughout the day. Each student will be given the responsibility of choosing the technique used to reach a waypoint. Students will be expected to be prepared for an all-day hike in non-optimal weather. You will need to have a day-pack, enough food and drink for the day, carry the 10 Essentials and wear appropriate clothing. Students should be prepared for changing and possibly inclement weather conditions. Maps will be provided for use in the field, but you will need to have your own compass. Use of a GPS is not allowed. Your instructor will have one for backup. Notes: Register with leader.

### **Beaver Creek Wilderness Study Area – Dogs are welcome!**

Saturday, 10/17/2020

Moderate BII

Leader: John Gray, 719-369-3163, [johnphoneman@gmail.com](mailto:johnphoneman@gmail.com)

Trail Mileage 7, Elevation Gain 1800, Driving Distance 90. Location: We will meet at the Shell gas station in Penrose at 9am at 916 CO-115, Penrose, CO 81240. Details: We should have fall colors on this low elevation, remote hiking area. Well behaved dogs (dog and people friendly) and people (at least dog friendly 😊) are welcome! Bring lunch and enjoy this fall hike. Parts of the trail will be overgrown and two creek crossings will slow our progress. So.... Don't have afternoon plans and bring lunch as this will take most of the day. Be sure to bring water shoes for the two major creek crossings. Poles would be handy too!



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



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## **New to the PPG or Just Need a Refresher?**

In the absence of New Member Orientation hikes this year, I wanted to point out some things you can take advantage of with your membership. There are ten statewide clubs; you can attend any of their trips or functions. Carefully read the trip description / details and be sure it's within your ability; if so sign up. For everyone's safety, trip leaders want to ensure everyone's comfortable and capable of doing the trip. If the trip is full; get on the waitlist.

Take advantage of all of CMC's and PPG's local discounts. They are shown on-line and in the Pikes Pique. Check out the on-line CMC books, a great resource. Review the On-Line University for skill updates and other interesting topics.

Some groups that may be of interest, which you can check on at [cmc.org](http://cmc.org):

- Trailblazers have trips and events for 21 to 40 year old's
- Youth Education Program – YEP in the Denver area have Adventure Camps, other activities
- Colo Wilderness Families – family events in Denver area
- Backpacking BPX

- Colo High Peaks – Adventurer, beginner, and advanced
  - Mountain Biking
  - Bobcats – challenging trips for mostly age 50+
  - Rocky Mountain Over the Hill Gang (RMOTHG) – less challenging trips for age 50+
  - Fly Fishing
  - Photography
  - Adventure Travel – various type trips around the world.
- Due to COVID these trips are not available at this time

CMC prides itself in conservation, public lands advocacy, both legislation and public land management. You can help build or maintain a trail. Check the Conservation page.

Be sure to check the classes offered by PPG. Improve your outdoor skills. Some are being offered "virtually". Get involved. Meet new folks. Sign up for a trip. Someday become a trip leader.

Questions? Please let me know.

[Dean Waits](#), PPG Membership

# Colorado Fourteeners Initiative

The Colorado Fourteeners Initiative (CFI), as many of you know, performs trail maintenance on our magnificent 14ers. They also monitor hiker days and use. In 2018 their estimate was 353,000 hikers climbed the peaks; 2019 was down to 288,000 due to a lot of snow and avalanches. They're estimating this year's use to be busier than 2018. Here is their estimated use by range and mountain for 2019. [My apologies that this is a little fuzzy. It was the best I could do. -Ed.]

## Estimated Hiking Use on Colorado's 14ers Total Hiker Use Days: 288,000 (2019 Data)

Front Range	Best Est: 98,000
Longs Peak	10,000-15,000^
Pikes Peak	10,000-15,000*
Torrey's Peak	20,000-25,000*
Grays Peak	
Mount Evans	10,000-15,000
Mount Bierstadt	30,000-35,000#

Tenmile Range	Best Est: 35,000
Quandary Peak	35,000-40,000*

Sawatch Range	Best Est: 78,000
Mount Elbert	15,000-20,000*
Mount Massive	5,000-7,000
Mount Harvard	3,000-5,000
La Plata Peak	3,000-5,000*
Mount Antero	1,000-3,000
Mount Shavano	5,000-7,000*
Tabogauche Peak	
Mount Belford	5,000-7,000
Mount Oxford	
Mount Princeton	3,000-5,000
Mount Yale	5,000-7,000
Mount Columbia	1,000-3,000
Missouri Mountain	3,000-5,000
Mt. of the Holy Cross	3,000-5,000
Huron Peak	5,000-7,000*

San Juan Mountains	Best Est: 30,000
Uncompahgre Peak	3,000-5,000
Mount Wilson	1,000-3,000
El Diente Peak	<1,000
Mount Eolus	<1,000
Windom Peak	1,000-3,000
Sunlight Peak	
Handies Peak	3,000-5,000*
Mount Sneffels	5,000-7,000*
Redcloud Peak	3,000-5,000*
Sunshine Peak	
Wilson Peak	1,000-3,000*
Wetterhorn Peak	3,000-5,000
San Luis Peak	3,000-5,000

Mosquito Range	Best Est: 31,500
Mount Lincoln	20,000-25,000*
Mount Bross	
Mount Democrat	
Mount Sherman	7,000-10,000*

Elk Mountains	Best Est: 5,000
Castle Peak	1,000-3,000*
Maroon Peak	<1,000
Capitol Peak	<1,000
Snowmass Mountain	<1,000
Pyramid Peak	<1,000

Sangre de Cristo Range	Best Est: 10,500
Blanca Peak	1,000-3,000*
Ellingwood Point	
Crestone Peak	1,000-3,000
Crestone Needle	1,000-3,000
Kit Carson Peak	1,000-3,000
Challenger Point	
Humboldt Peak	1,000-3,000
Culebra Peak	<1,000
Mount Lindsey	1,000-3,000*
Little Bear Peak	<1,000

### Approximation Notes

\*Indicates data drawn from CFI TRAFx recorders, with data gap and early/late season infills from either previous years or nearby peak data. All other estimates are interpolated from a correlation between TRAFx data and reported 14ers.com peak use statistics.

^Indicates National Park Service trailhead counter data adjusted for summit success rate based on prior studies.

#Indicates US Forest Service counter with data gap and early/late season infills from either prior years or nearby peak data.

Range and overall totals are adjusted to account for the frequent practice of summiting multiple peaks in one day.

## Pikes Pique

October, 2020 | No. 272

*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  
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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](mailto:danderso@uccs.edu)

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

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