



The Newsletter of the CMC's Pikes Peak Group

February, 2021 | No. 275

The Pikes Peak Group in Photos

Wilderness Fundamentals

Members of the last 2020 Wilderness Fundamentals class enjoyed a chilly and windy hike in the Spruce Mountain Open Space to review class concepts of the ten essentials, trip planning, wilderness travel, Leave No Trace, and "what to do when things go wrong" while sharing outdoor experiences. 2021 classes will be in March, June, and September.



Wild Fun Trekkers on the Spruce Mountain Loop (L to R): Keisha R., Javanni R., Devon K., Michelle G., Betty K., Steve G., and Tracey A. Not Pictured: Teresa F., Sarah H., Ron S., Dakota P., Billy H., Sarah H. (Leader), and Glenn B. (Leader).

St Mary's Falls Hike



Ore Bucket Loop Trip



(Photo by Andy Lyon)

Your PPG Council

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

Welcome New Members!

Dave Artusi	Abby Ladau
Sandra Beers	Casey Luddy
Jackson Bianco	Cori Medler
Tim Bontempi	Joseph Oropeza
Jack Carpenter	Ryan Raper
Mark Chase	Shawn Snowden
Sandy D'Angelo	Tyler Stallings
Elycia Hage-Ali	Bridger Stapleton
Shelby Harvey	Jerry Stassinopoulos
Kenneth Hood	Lauren Stephenson
Jade Kramer	Karen Sullivan
Lauren Kunze	Domenica Walker



Member Discounts

Adventure Medical Kits	Mountain Chalet
Ajax Bike and Sport	Mountain Equipment Recyclers
American Mountaineering Museum	Mountainsmith
Atrevida Beer Co (was Great Storm)	ProMotive.com
Bentgate	R&W Rope
Breckenridge Nordic Center	ROCK'n & JAM'n
City Rock	Rocky Bob's Fly Fishing Rods
Friction Labs	Summit Terragraphics
Frisco Nordic Center	The Custom Foot
Gearonimo	The Mountaineers Books
Gold Camp Brewing	The Trailhead
Golden Bike Shop	TrailRunner Magazine
Ken's Anglers	Vagabond Ranch Huts
Lumiere Telluride	Wilderness Exchange Unlimited
Moosejaw	



Practice Leave No Trace (LNT) Principles this Winter



Plan Ahead and Prepare

- Know the area and what to expect; ALWAYS check avalanche and weather reports prior to departure. Consult maps and local authorities about high danger areas, safety information, and regulations for the area you plan to visit.
- Prepare for extreme weather, hazards and emergencies.
- Monitor snow conditions frequently. Carry and use an avalanche beacon, probe and shovel.
- Educate yourself by taking a winter backcountry travel course. Visit the backcountry in small groups, but never alone. Leave your itinerary with family or friends.

Travel and Camp on Durable Surfaces

- Stay on deep snow cover whenever possible; in muddy spring conditions, stay on snow or walk in the

middle of the trail to avoid creating new trails and damaging trailside plants.

- Travel and camp away from avalanche paths, cornices, steep slopes and unstable snow.

Dispose of Waste Properly

- Pack It In, Pack It Out. Pack out everything you bring with you. Burying trash and litter in the snow or ground is unacceptable.
- Pick up all food scraps, wax shavings and pieces of litter. Pack out all trash: yours and others.
- Pack out solid human waste. In lieu of packing it out, cover and disguise human waste deep in snow away from travel routes and at least 200 feet (70 adult steps) from water sources.
- Use toilet paper or wipes sparingly. Pack them out.
- Dismantle all snow shelters, igloos or wind breaks. Naturalize the area before you leave.

Leave What You Find

- Leave all plants, rocks, animals and historical or cultural artifacts as you find them.
- Let nature's sounds prevail. Keep loud voices and noises to a minimum.

Minimize Campfire Impacts

- Campfires cause lasting impacts in the backcountry. Always carry a lightweight camp stove for cooking.
- Use dead downed wood if you can find it. Put out all fires completely. Widely scatter cool ashes.
- Do not cut or break limbs off live, dead or downed trees.

Respect Wildlife

- Winter is an especially vulnerable time for animals. Observe wildlife from a distance. Do not follow or approach them.
- Never feed wildlife or leave food behind to be eaten.
- Protect wildlife and your food by storing rations and trash securely.

Be Considerate of Other Visitors

- Be respectful of other users. Share the trail and be courteous.
- Yield to downhill and faster traffic. Prepare for blind corners.
- When stopped, move off the trail.
- Separate ski and snowshoe tracks where possible. Avoid hiking on ski or snowshoe tracks.
- Learn and follow local regulations regarding pets. Control dogs. Pack out or bury all dog feces.

A Word from the Chair

Hello Pikes Peak Group, I'm David Kuenzli and your new PPG council chairperson. First, I'd like to thank outgoing chair, Kristen Buckland, for all her hard work. Kristen has devoted a tremendous amount of skill, time and energy to our club. As council chair, she initiated one of my favorite events: Our PPG Anniversary Celebration in May. Additionally, she's a phenomenal instructor, sharing her knowledge and experiences in ice climbing, backcountry skiing, and avalanche training. If you see her, please tell her "thank you" for all she's done for PPG. I'm excited to continue to serve our club as your council's chair. My priorities are 1) Continue to offer the highest-quality outdoor recreation classes and trips, 2) Recognize and develop our volunteers, and 3) Partner with outdoor recreation industry experts within our southern Colorado community. Next, I'd like to welcome several volunteers to our council. Audrey Burkhart is the new Outings Chair. Joe Kalis is the new Programs Chair and he has coordinated our return to a guest speaker program on January 19th! See the calendar in this newsletter for details. Alan Bridges is the new Public Relations Chair. Jason Kosola is the new co-director of Basic Mountaineering School. And while not new to the council, Mike Cromwell is taking over the Safety and Leadership Chair. Thanks to all of them for stepping up and making our club better. Lastly, I know 2020 was a tough year but I want to challenge each of us to make 2021 better. There's no better way than staying involved in our club. Maybe you take a class to improve your knowledge and skills. Maybe you become a Trip Leader and help others enjoy our beautiful state. Maybe 2021 will be the year to finish the Colorado 14ers with CMC friends. Thank you all for your valued membership in CMC!

Upcoming PPG Classes

PPG - Technical/Lead 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 to 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 ice and advanced technical 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. Cost: \$185.

PPG BMS - Wilderness Fundamentals

Starts March 1

The "Wild Fun" 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. 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! Cost: \$35 for PPG emembers; \$45 for others.

PPG ARCPro Trad Gear and Anchors Class

Starts March 20

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. Students will learn about the various types of rock protection and how to place and incorporate pieces of protection into anchors. Cost: \$95; \$65 for Leaders.

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.

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.