



The Newsletter of the CMC's Pikes Peak Group

February, 2022 | No. 286

A Message from your Chair

Happy New Year Pikes Peak Group! I hope you spent a safe holiday with your friends and family. Our group enjoyed a wonderful evening in our annual social. About 50 of us gathered at the Trails End Taproom and enjoyed a variety of craft beers and a fine meal from The Hot Box food truck. Also, I delivered our annual report to the attendees. You can find it [here](#). I want to thank everyone who helped organize and attended this great event!

Also, Pikes Peak Group is still looking for a volunteer to lead our efforts developing our new CMC.org website homepage. Our current CMC web presence is really overshadowed by Denver Group and the new CMC.org gives us an opportunity to fix that. If you'd like to help, send me an email at navsareneverlost@gmail.com. Finally, please stay safe as our country struggles with the Omicron variant. Getting outdoors during the winter is a great way to stay healthy!

See you in the mountains, David Kuenzli.



The Pikes Peak Group in Photos

Trip to Barr Camp



L-R: Elizabeth Mayo, Jim Meyerson, Jose Pacheco, Zephyr Smith, and Andy Lyon, leader. Photo by Dean Waits.

Aiken Canyon Preserve



L-R: Dean Waits, Barbara Gutow, John McClain, Mike Shettleroe, and Missy Starks. Photographer and leader Andy Lyon.

Your PPG Council

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

Welcome New Members!

Ben Adams
Arianne Alfonso
Dawn Boden
Denny Breneman
Russ Brinton
Barbara Collins
Stacey Ebel
Bob Falcone
Kenji Farinelli
Douglas Garza
Chase Giltner
Curt Hall
Scott Hendrickson
Estefania Hernandez
Donna Jones
Megan Kliesner
Ryan Kliesner
Margaret Kline
John Kuenzli
Lisa La Rue

Samantha Lombardi
Shannon Lombardi
Hayley McGuire
Duane Michael
Kim Nielsen
John O'Brien
Mary Piazza
Janice Piccioli-Farinelli
Carrie Renaud
Cliff Ryan
Andrea Rynne
James Snyder
Nathan Struck
Yarko Thomas
Andrew Timm
Margaret Vivian
William Vivian
John Watkins Jr
Cyd Wilson



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



Upcoming Pikes Peak Group Classes

PPG Basic Mountaineering School - Ice Climbing

Starts January 20

Time to swing some ice! This is the final module in the 2021-2022 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 a week of the class; it is your responsibility to reach out to the instructor and schedule it. Classroom date is 20 January. The field session is 23 January. To receive permission and the passcode to register, please email the leader. Cost: \$95 for PPG members and leaders, \$115 for all others.

Pikes Peak Avalanche Level 1

Starts January 25

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 25 and 27 Jan from 6:00p to 9:30p. The field session is scheduled for both 29 and 30 Jan 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. The cost for this class is \$175 for the PPG members and leaders and \$200 for all others. For class details, please contact the leader. 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.

PPG Basic Mountaineering School - Wilderness Fundamentals

Starts February 7

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. For CMC members only. Prerequisites: None. Cost: \$35 for PPG members, \$45 for others.

PPG - Technical/Lead Ice Climbing School

Starts February 17

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. The class will be in two parts with one evening classroom/remote 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 safely, and who have ice experience. Cost: \$210.

Pikes Peak Winter Wilderness Survival Skills

Starts March 9

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 be held in Colorado Springs and 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. We will backpack in a short distance with full gear, but the intent is to spend the night in the snow shelters using just what you carry on a winter day trip, or a bit more if you are concerned. We will have our extra gear as a backup. Cost: \$50 for PPG members and Leaders, \$65 for all others.

PPG Trip Leader School

Starts March 14

Planning and leading an outdoor trip with a group of people is a super way to strengthen friendships and create new ones while helping folks enjoy the adventure in a fun and safe way. The CMC depends on volunteer trip leaders to support its

mission and vision. The PPG Trip Leader School provides a self-paced online curriculum, a 3-hour online meeting, and a 5-hour Leader-In-Training field trip to review important trip leader topics such as trip planning, group dynamics, situational awareness, communication skills, leadership, CMC policies, and leader liability considerations. All training is based on the current CMC Trip Leader Manual and Policies. The TLS is the first step to certification as a CMC Trip Leader. Cost: \$25.

PPG Basic Mountaineering School - Colorado Alpine Snow Mountaineering

Starts March 22

The Colorado Alpine Snow Mountaineering course consists of two class lectures; one field day of practical application and a graduation couloir climb. 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 the skills practice trips we put on for all members early in the spring season and complete a couloir climb. Prerequisite: Wilderness Fundamentals. Recommended: Avalanche Level 1. Cost: \$65.

PPG ARCPro Trad Gear and Anchors Class

Starts March 26

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 to include belaying, climber safety checks, and rappelling. Please contact the leader for any questions as to your suitability for this class and the ARC Program in general. Cost: \$65 for Leaders, \$95 for all others.

PPG Basic Mountaineering School - Land Navigation

Starts April 6

Prerequisite: 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 route finding using all of these concepts. 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: \$35.

PPG Wilderness First Aid (WFA) with CPR/AED

Starts April 21

This eighteen-hour ECSI accredited course presents dynamic instruction devoted to teaching you how to respond to medical emergencies in remote settings where definitive medical care is not readily available and to think creatively in order to make the right decisions. Two evening classroom presentations are followed by an outside field day consisting of hands-on training and realistic scenarios on a variety of medical situations that may be encountered in the wilderness setting (including CPR) where calling 911 is not an option. This course satisfies a requirement for trip leaders. You will receive your WFA with adult CPR/AED certification card emailed to you upon satisfactory course completion. Satisfactory course completion encompasses the attendance policy, online requirement, a score of at least 75% on the multiple choice test, and demonstrating practical knowledge. Cost: \$100 for Leaders, \$120 for PPG members, and \$130 for all others.

PPG ARCPro Intermediate Self-Rescue Class

Starts April 23

This is our next-level Self-Rescue class for those who have completed the Introduction to Self-Rescue class. We will review the basic skills from the Intro class, then move into more advanced self-rescue skills- including skills applicable to multipitch climbing, such as lowering from a top belay, hauling methods, and multipitch tandem rappels. Prerequisites: Students should have already taken BMS Rock climbing and Introduction to Self-Rescue, or have equivalent skills—contact the leader if you have any questions about your suitability for this class. Cost: \$65 for Leaders and \$95 for all others.



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



February Pikes Peak Group Trips

Ghost of Leroy Smith/Walk Through Time

Sunday, 2/13/2022

Difficult A

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

Trail Mileage 7.2, Elevation Gain 1150, Driving Distance 15. Location: Who was Leroy Smith? We'll speculate about that as we do a seven-mile amble through the lovely upper canyons of Red Rock Canyon Open Space. Toward the end of the hike we'll see that name, carved in big letters and out of solid rock, near the very top of the old quarry. To start the journey we'll walk a ridge top where prehistoric fossils are visible. In between the fossils and the quarry we will wind our way up to briefly hit the Section 16 trail and then come down the Intemman-Red Rock Link back into Red Rocks. If you've only hiked the lower portions of the park, join us and discover that there are some really pretty, and generally less traveled, sections higher up. Trip may be postponed if the trails are too muddy or there are other unsafe conditions. Much of this route is over rocky and uneven ground. Trail may be snow packed/icy, and traction devices and hiking poles are recommended. Per most recent CMC COVID rules, proof of vaccination will be required. Meet the leader at the [trailhead](#) off 31st Street, south of US Hwy 24. This is not the main parking area but there is ample space, especially early in the day. Additional information will be emailed in the week prior to the hike.

Lovell Gulch - dog friendly

Saturday, 2/19/2022

Easy A

Leader: Audrey Burkart, 719-510-0481, arburkart10@ole.augie.edu

Trail Mileage 5.4, Elevation Gain 931. Location: 2320 Rampart Range Rd, Woodland Park, CO 80863. Notify leader if you would like to join carpool to Woodland Park. Details: Join us on an easy, pleasant loop through Woodland Park. This trail has some ups and downs. Many parts are shaded, so please bring traction control in case. It is a well traveled trail, so be sure to come on time so we can beat some of the traffic. Please contact me if you feel comfortable doing a carpool to Woodland Park and would like to save a trip. This is a dog-friendly hike for dogs who are dog and people friendly and can stay on leash the whole time.

Snowshoe from Mt. Princeton Lodge

Friday, 2/25/2022

Easy B

Leader: Christie Lee, 719-243-1821, Christie80905@gmail.com

Trail Mileage 3, Elevation Gain 300, Driving Distance 112. Location: Meet at Mt. Princeton Lodge and car pool for 10 minutes to TH then soak in pools. Happy Hour at 5. Free drink ticket for first three to register for snowshoe trip.

XC Ski & Snowshoe St. Elmo

Saturday, 2/26/2022

Moderate I

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

Trail Mileage 6, Elevation Gain 800, Driving Distance 112. Location: We will meet in the town of Saint Elmo at 10 am. Drive all the way through the town until the road ends. I will be driving a silver Subaru Forester and will see you there. Hopefully, my cell phone will work if you need to contact me. Details: This is a moderate ski / snowshoe on a closed road. We will divide the group into a ski and snowshoe group. We will go 3 miles, have lunch and return. Skis are not required, if you have waxless skis. If you bring a people-friendly dog, please bring food and water for your furry friend. Bring a chair and a beverage of your choice as we may socialize after the ski.

Conservation and Stewardship

Horsethief Park Trail Reroute: June 18 & 19

Please sign up for trail stewardship on Trail 704, the one that leads from Hwy 67 to Horsethief Park and beyond to Sentinel Point, Pancake Rocks, and the Ring the Peak Trail! It was recently discovered that a short section of trail crossed private property, so it needs to be rerouted before the owner blocks access. For the most part, this will be straightforward work, so it would be an excellent time to get back into trail work after COVID disruptions or to try it for the first time!

We are hoping to do all the work on [Saturday June 18](#), with [Sunday June 19](#) scheduled to finish up as needed. Please sign up for both, but especially for Saturday!

Other Stewardship Work

We will be working to get Forest Service approval to do additional work on nearby system trails. High on the list for this are Trail 756, in upper Limbaugh Canyon. This trail had become very overgrown and eroded, but several of your group members helped rediscover it this fall. Parts of the route need restoration so this beautiful canyon will again be accessible!

We also hope to similar work for Trail 713, which extends up West Monument Creek from the Air Force Academy. While it is more visible than 756, parts of it are also becoming overgrown. An additional challenge there is providing a clear route where it intersects with utilities roads.

Finally, we continue to hope to be able to partner with the Forest Service to block routes that are receiving illegal motorized use. Some of these are full-size "roads" that extend into and across sensitive areas, while others are non-system trails that have been created or adopted by dirt bikers.

See you on the trail!

Tom Mowle, PPG Conservation

We Want You!

Come help us use Social Media and improved Public Relations to recruit new members, trip leaders, and instructors for our classes.

- If you know what the Twitterverse is, and how it's different from the Metaverse, join our team.
- If you know your Instagram handle, and how to belay someone or hike safely, join our team. (We have a local Insta account, but the owner is inactive—join us and start posting under yours!)
- If you still have your Facebook (I guess it's "Meta" now) account open, join our team. (Like our Facebook page [here](#).)
- If you like to meet people and #OptOutside, join us and help to recruit more members via our Pikes Peak Group [Meetup site](#).

We are open to new ideas—we want to grow and provide great classes and outings for our members while staying safe in the #outdoors (What's a Hashtag? I thought that # meant "pounds" or the number sign on a telephone!).

We're still learning the best way to invite guests on some of our easier events. We need to get the CMC Guest Liability Waiver signed as guests sign up on CMC.org. (Talk about a challenge! We want a real name and contact info, and we get "Ray O' Daylight" signing up for a hike with their *cool* avatar.)

Many hands make light work. If you like social media/public relations, contact me at 850-687-3041 or via mtknlmb@prodigy.net and let's talk.

Alan Bridges, PPG Public Relations



WE WANT YOU!

Pikes Pique

February, 2022 | No. 286

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
cmcppgrp@gmail.com
[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.