



## The Pikes Peak Group in Photos

### New Member Orientation

A super day that started cold and foggy but ended up in sunshine at Red Rock Canyon Open Space. The group learned all about CMC membership benefits, trips, classes, mission, vision, and conservation efforts while making new friends and sharing outdoor experiences.



L-R: Yarko T., David R., Liz R., Beth P-W., Sarah H. (Leader), Russ B., Stacey E., and Arianne A. Photo by Glenn B (Leader).

### Wilderness Fundamentals Field Day

14 hearty trekkers took the challenge of hiking on a bluebird Colorado day with trailhead temp upon arrival a chilly 5 degrees. Good note - things warmed up to 30-degrees by the return to our cars. The group broke trail in 4-6 inches of fresh powder, discussed trip planning, safety, the 10-essentials, Leave No Trace, and what to do when things go wrong. Along the way we made new friendships, shared trip ideas and experiences, and discussed why we chose the gear we hike with. Two more PPG Wild Fun class opportunities this year - June 6th and September 12th. Sign up online at [www.cmc.org](http://www.cmc.org).



L-R: (back) Stacey E., Nathan D., Matt R., Joel G., Anna G., Joel B., Scott H., (front ) David K. (leader), Julie J., Joe P. (leader), John K., Pam T., and Donia S.

### Historical and Archaeological hike in RRCOS



L-R: Missy Starks, Sara Gordon, Heather Correla, Andy Lyon (leader), Barbara Gutow, John McClain, and Natha and Ashley Doty. Photo by Dean Waits.

## Your PPG Council

**Chair** – David Kuenzli  
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**Past Chair** – Kristen Buckland  
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Jason Kosola  
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**Education & Training** – Eric Hunter  
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**Equipment Manager** – Derek Sardinta  
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**Membership** – Dean Waits  
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**Outings** – Audrey Burkart  
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**Public Relations** – Alan Bridges  
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**Safety & Leadership** – Mike Cromwell  
858-395-5986, cromwellc@comcast.net

**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  
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### At Large:

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Britt Jones  
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Greg Long (HAMS)  
719-659-0345, at\_90@yahoo.com

Paul Schoell  
719-440-7777, 4paul2@gmail.com

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

## Welcome New Members!

Joel Bassinger  
Jackson Bowdle  
Frank Curtis  
Jean Dupenloup  
Robyn Etzel  
Matthew Gappmayer  
Angus Gaudry  
Andrew Gilbert  
Brennan Johnson  
William Lewis  
Greg Marshall  
Nico Medrano

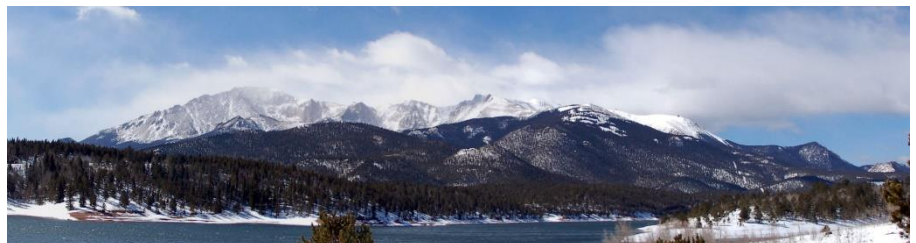
Corwin Paulsen  
Lynne Paulsen  
Patrick Paulsen  
Sean Paulsen  
Hugh Perry  
Jacob Petersen  
Beth Pettit-Willis  
Mattie Rose  
Bill Smith  
Dania Spohn  
Tom Urbanski



## 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

## **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.

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## **March Pikes Peak Group Trips**

### **Cross Country Ski Leadville Mineral Belt Trail**

Saturday, 3/5/2022

Moderate III

Leader: Eric Hunter, 719-266-9647, [EHunterCMC@gmail.com](mailto:EHunterCMC@gmail.com)

Trail Mileage 8, Elevation Gain 500, Driving Distance 250. Location: Leadville, CO. 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. Cross-country, backcountry, or skate this wonderful tour around the Historic Leadville Mining District. We will follow the groomed trail on a one-way car shuttle from the Evans Gulch TH to the Colorado Mountain College TH. The one way distance is about 8 miles, but we will likely add some side trails and back and forth for the faster (skate) skiers. Many historic sites are noted along the route. This trip is primarily intended for Pikes Peak and Pueblo Group members. All others will be waitlisted. We will avoid avalanche terrain. [Map](#). Nat Geo Map 109. Register with leader.

### **Mount Cutler and Muscoco (dog friendly)**

Saturday, 3/5/2022

Hike

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

Trail Mileage 7.5, Elevation Gain 1300. Location: Meet at the Starsmore center at 8:30 am, 2120 S Cheyenne Cañon Rd, Colorado Springs, CO 80906. There are multiple parking lots in the area, so park and meet out front of the center. Details: We are going to park down below at the Starsmore center and then hike up the Lower Columbine trail, part of the Middle Columbine trail, and along the new Creekside trail to get to the traditional Mount Cutler trailhead. Once here, we will hike up the Mount Cutler trail and then branch off to Mount Muscoco. On return if everyone is feeling well we will go ahead and head up to Cutler as well. People and dog friendly dogs are welcome to come but must stay leashed the whole time.

### **Lake City - End of Season Ice Climbing**

Friday, 3/11/2022

Top rope

Leader: Joseph Petsche, 734-678-8468, [joebiker@gmail.com](mailto:joebiker@gmail.com)

Trail Mileage 1. Location: Lake City, CO.

Details: Arrive Friday night, stay in a 4-bed, 4-bath house for the weekend, ice climb Saturday and Sunday all day. Please sign up, or add yourself to the wait list. About a month out I'll choose the team and ask for payment of the house share. Once payment is made, there are no refunds. Payment guarantees a spot on the trip. Approximate cost will be \$100/person for the weekend. Additionally we may do one or two group dinners that folks can bring shared items to contribute. Notes: I'm looking forward to ice climbing with y'all. Let me know if you want to 'send prior to the trip.

### **XC Ski Leadville / Dogs are Welcome!**

Saturday, 3/12/2022

Moderate I

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

Trail Mileage 6, Elevation Gain 1000, Driving Distance 260. Location: We will meet at the Circle K gas station in Leadville at 10am. I will be driving a silver Subaru Forester. Please contact me if you can't make it. My cell phone might work if you need to contact me in Leadville. We will make it a grrrrreat day!!! Details: Moderate 6-mile ski on a closed road just east of Leadville. This has an easy to moderate grade and skins are not required if you have scaled skis. An AWD (all wheel drive) or 4x4 is needed. If you do not have one, please contact me in advance. Bring a chair and a beverage of your choice, as we may socialize after the ski.

### **BC Ski South Fork Lake Creek Road**

Saturday, 3/19/2022

Moderate III

Leader: Eric Hunter, 719-266-9647, [EHunterCMC@gmail.com](mailto:EHunterCMC@gmail.com)

Member Price

Free

Trail Mileage 10, Elevation Gain 1600, Driving Distance 260. Location: South Fork Lake Creek Road TH, near Buena Vista, CO. 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 South Fork Lake Creek Road near La Plata Peak. We will stay to the main road following the creek as far as everyone can go, have lunch, then return by the same route. We may explore some of the side roads along the way and find a play hill near our end point. NNN-BC cross-country gear will be fine, but cable binding backcountry gear will be better. This trip is primarily intended for Pikes Peak and Pueblo Group members. All others will be waitlisted. Avalanche gear and Avalanche Level 1 training are required. Nat Geo Map 127. Register with leader.

#### **Nordic Ski Gold Run Nordic Center**

Saturday, 3/26/2022

Moderate II

Leader: Eric Hunter, 719-266-9647, [EHunterCMC@gmail.com](mailto:EHunterCMC@gmail.com)

Trail Mileage 10, Elevation Gain 1000, Driving Distance 240. Location: Gold Run Nordic Center, Breckenridge, CO. 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. 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. [Nordic Center Map](#). Register with leader.



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



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## 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! This project is in partnership with Friends of the Peak.

Those of you who are not CMC members will also need to complete the [guest waiver](#). After you do, please send me the receipt for my records.

### **Crew Leader Training: April 30-May 1**

Have you done lots of trail work under someone else's direction and now want to become a leader yourself? Tell people want to do? Inspire them to work harder? Spend less time swinging the tools yourself? Be responsible for the quality of the work when the project leader wanders by? Be at the top of Tom's list when he's looking for help on projects? 😊

Here's what you can do: The annual Pikes Peak Regional Crew Leader Training (PPRCLT) is an intensive weekend-long training for stewardship volunteers who are interested in becoming certified and active stewardship crew leaders. During the training, participants learn how to lead safe, successful trail projects and build upon basic trail construction and restoration skills. The training is hosted by TOSC, Rocky Mountain Field Institute and the City of Colorado Springs Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Department. For more information, please visit [their site](#).

After the training, you will need to apprentice for a couple of crews in leadership, and I'd think the Horsethief Park work would qualify for that.

See you on the trail!

Tom Mowle, PPG Conservation

# Message from Your Chair

Hello Pikes Peak Group!

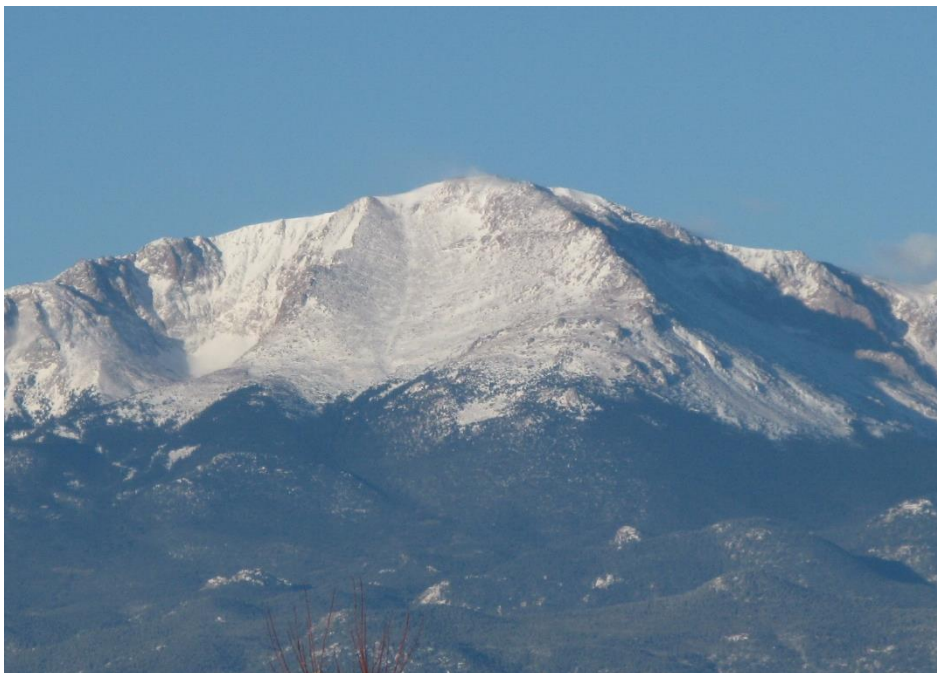
I hope you're enjoying the snow we've been getting both along the Front Range and in the mountains. I just helped Glenn Barr and Joe Preiss with a Wilderness Fundamentals field day on Spruce Mountain. The day started after four inches of snow had fallen overnight and the temperature dipped into the low teens. Now that's what I call winter!

I'd like to announce that our 103rd Anniversary celebration weekend will be April 30-May 1. You can expect two areas to celebrate. First, trip leaders will be planning and publishing several trips that weekend just for Pikes Peak Group members. These trips should scale in difficulty so all members can participate in something. Second, we'll host some kind of social event late Sunday afternoon. This will be a great opportunity to get together and share stories from the weekend's adventures.

Next, I'd like to give you an update on CMC's new website named "Olympus." The development team and State Board IT Advisory Committee have been working with two CMC groups on a method to catalogue CMC trips. The team is modeling a trip template to enter past trips into the new system. This template will provide a tool for trip leaders to load trips sometime in the future. The next step is our group will need to enter past trip information into the import template. PPG will need volunteer help to do this! If you're a PPG trip leader and you don't mind punching data into an information management system, please let me know at [navsareneverlost@gmail.com](mailto:navsareneverlost@gmail.com). Future Olympus testing and training will focus on four main audiences: Group Councils, Instructors, Trip Leaders and Members. I'm excited that we're progressing on this crucial project!

See you in the mountains,

David



## Pikes Pique

March, 2022 | No. 287

*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  
P.O. Box 2435  
Colorado Springs, CO 80901  
[cmcppgrp@gmail.com](mailto: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](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.