



The Newsletter of the CMC's Pikes Peak Group

June, 2022 | No. 290

The Pikes Peak Group in Photos

Cheyenne Mountain Club Cabin Site



L-R: Deanna Baysinger, Missy Starks, John McClain, Barb Gutow, Bill Oliver; Back Row: Sarah Gordon, Terre Topp, and Jim Thieme. Dean Waits, leader and photographer.

PPG 103rd Anniversary Hike - Aiken Canyon Loop



L-R: Anna R., Sean W., Joanne L., Eric H., and Suzanne M.

Backpack and Camp in the Great Sand Dunes Natl Park



L-R: Merrilee Millar, Steve Fleet, Julie Haverluk, Kristen Paris (Leader in Training) and Dania Spohn. Dean Waits, leader and photographer.

PPG 103rd Anniversary Celebration



Your PPG Council

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

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

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

BMS Co-Directors – Joe Preiss
719-337-9331, zmjwp@gmail.com,
Jason Kosola
307-277-9445, jasonkosola@gmail.com

Conservation – Tom Mowle
719-216-3932, tommowle@yahoo.com

Education & Training – Eric Hunter
719-266-9647, EHunterCMC@gmail.com

Equipment Manager – Derek Sardinta
719-761-7051, DASardinta@gmail.com

Membership – Dean Waits
281-352-2236, dwaits24@gmail.com

Newsletter – Dave Anderson
719-484-9069, danderso@uccs.edu

Outings – Audrey Burkart
719-510-0481, arburkart10@ole.augie.edu

Programs – Anna Revolinsky
530-957-2960, arevolinsky1@gmail.com

Public Relations – Alan Bridges
850-687-3041, mtnklmbr@prodigy.net

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
719-243-1821, christie80905@gmail.com

At Large:

Bill Allen
719-660-1339, aspenperio@aol.com

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

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!

Tara Alexander Rudi DiAmco
Schon Beechler Justin McBryde
Ashley Berton Kathrin Treichel
Arjun Boddu Steven Zarembo



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	



Protection

Recreation

Stewardship

Access



Horsethief Park Volunteer Trail Project

June 18th & 19th
8am - 4pm

Help the CMC Pikes Peak Group and Friends of the Peak to reroute the trail to Horsethief Park and Pancake Rocks to avoid private property!

Projects include basic tread construction and rock work.

We provide all tools and training!

Registration is required:
cmc.org/stewardship
or scan the QR code



June 18



June 19



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Upcoming Pikes Peak Group Classes

PPG Basic Mountaineering School – Basic rock Climbing

Starts May 16

The BMS Basic Rock Climbing consists of one class lecture, an active skills practice session, and two field days. Our discussions include climbing gear, rating a climb, different types of rock climbing, climbing knots, rope management including coiling, care and inspection, anchors, communications, climbing techniques, belaying, rappelling, and building an auto-block. Prerequisite: Wilderness Fundamentals. Cost: \$65 for PPG members, \$75 for all others.

PPG ARCPro Traditional Lead Climbing Class

Starts May 21

The Traditional Lead Climbing Class is part of the PPG Advanced Rock Climbing Program. In this class, students will be introduced to the principles and techniques of placing gear on a “traditional” rock climb. This class builds upon many of the concepts and skills taught in the PPG ARCPro Trad Gear and Anchors Class. By the end of the final field session, students will perform “mock” trad leads- backed up by a top-rope belay. Students will be evaluated for their gear placements and their understanding of key principles of how to ensure safety while leading a traditional climb. Prerequisites: Successful completion of BMS Rock Climbing, the Sport Leading Class, and the PPG ARCPro Trad Gear and Anchors class, or equivalent skills and approval from course leader. Cost: \$65 for Leaders, \$95 for all others.

PPG Basic Mountaineering School - Wilderness Fundamentals

Starts June 6

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. 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: \$35 for PPG members and \$45 for all others.

PPG ARCPro Basic Climbing Anchors

Starts June 18

This class is for those who have taken an introductory rock climbing class and want to learn how to set up their own top-rope and sport anchors. We will teach climbing anchor fundamentals that can also be applied to traditional rock, snow and ice anchors. Prerequisite: Registrants should have already taken BMS Rock Climbing, or have the equivalent basic rock climbing skills. Leading skills are not necessary. Cost: \$30 for Leaders and \$45 for all others.

PPG Basic Mountaineering School - Intro to Backpacking

Starts July 6

Backpacking is another way to experience the outdoors—whether as a means to get to a distant location from the trailhead to enjoy an activity (summit attempt, alpine lake fishing, etc.) or as the main goal itself (hiking a long trail like the Colorado Trail). Carrying all the gear you need to travel, eat, sleep, stay dry, treat injuries, stay found, cook food, treat water, and enjoy yourself may be intimidating—but taken one step at a time—is very manageable. This class focuses on the basics in a lecture/discussion format and concludes with an overnight backpacking trip to put our new knowledge into action. Safety and fun are key elements of this class. Prerequisites: PPG CMC Wilderness Fundamentals and Land Navigation Course completion. Cost: \$25 for PPG members and Leaders, \$35 for all others.

PPG ARCPro Multipitch Concepts Class

Starts July 30

Students will learn techniques applicable to climbing multipitch routes, including: preparation, anchors, belaying, cleaning gear, belay transitions, descending, and climbing with a 3-person team. Prerequisites: Students should have basic rock climbing skills, such as taught in our BMS Rock Climbing or the equivalent, to include belaying, rappelling, and climbing communication. Leading skills are not absolutely necessary, but it is recommended that participants in this class take the ARCPro Trad Gear and Anchors Class and Traditional Lead Climbing Class prior to this class, as students may practice placing trad gear and building trad anchors in this class. However, this class will be beneficial to anyone looking to climb multipitch routes—to include leaders and followers. Exact class content and student practice sessions will be tailored to the individual student's skill level and goals. Cost: \$65 for Leaders and \$95 for all others.

PPG BMS - Intro to Backpacking

Starts August 8

Backpacking is another way to experience the outdoors—whether as a means to get to a distant location from the trailhead to enjoy an activity (summit attempt, alpine lake fishing, etc.) or as the main goal itself (hiking a long trail like the Colorado Trail). Carrying all the gear you need to travel, eat, sleep, stay dry, treat injuries, stay found, cook food, treat water, and enjoy yourself may be intimidating—but taken one step at a time—is very manageable. This class focuses on the basics in a lecture/discussion format and concludes with an overnight backpacking trip to put our new knowledge into

action. Safety and fun are key elements of this class. Prerequisites: PPG CMC Wilderness Fundamentals and Land Navigation. Cost: \$25 for PPG members and \$35 for all others.

June Pikes Peak Group Trips

PPG Palmer Trail Section 16

Wednesday, 6/1/2022

Moderate A

Leader: Anna Revolinsky, 530-957-2960, arevolinsky1@gmail.com

Trail Mileage 5.7, Elevation Gain 1300. Location: Section 16 Trailhead, Gold Camp Rd, Manitou Springs, CO 80829. If the main lot is full, continue down Gold Camp Rd a few hundred yards for overflow parking. Details: Let's enjoy these longer evenings with a good thigh burner weekday hike! Join us at Section 16 to socialize and get in some training prior to the summer hiking season. Pace will be casual (especially on the uphill), with breaks as needed. I expect it to take us 2.5 hours to complete, so bring along adequate snacks/dinner to tide you over during the hike. Meet at the main trailhead prior to 5:30 so we can begin hiking at 5:30. Note: this is a Trailblazers hike, but all are welcome!

Dog Friendly -- Limber Pine to Elder Fehn Loop Catamount Ranch Open Space

Saturday, 6/4/2022

Hike

Leader: Sean Williams, 864-324-3461, seanwilliams8892@gmail.com

Trail Mileage 7, Elevation Gain 1003, Driving Distance 65 (from Old Colorado City). Location: Limber Pine to Elder Fehn Loop, Catamount Open Space, Woodland Park. Join this trip which meanders through Pike National Forest with great views of the north side of Pikes Peak. The trail is mostly shaded and connects multiple trails:

- Begin on the Elder Fehn then veer east onto Limber Pine
- Follow Limber Pine to the Ring the Peak Trail (road)
- Turn back into the forest on the Vayhinger Trail
- Join back to Elder Fehn to complete the top loop
- Return via the Elder Fehn trail to the parking lot.

Details: This is a lovely hike, mostly through covered forest, with great views of Pikes Peak. The trail is not terribly difficult, except that the entire trip is above 9500 feet. Elevation gain is moderate with just a 1000 feet spread over multiple short ascents and descents. I expect we'll see wildflowers in the more sunny areas of the trail. Total Time: 3 hours on the trail (depending upon the group's pace). Gear: 10 Essentials.

PPG - Shelf Road Climbing

Saturday, 6/4/2022

Top rope

Leader: Jason Kosola, 307-277-9445, jasonkosola@gmail.com

Trail Mileage 2, Elevation Gain 200. Location: This trip is intended for students who recently participated in a BMS Rock class and other climbers interested in practicing BMS Rock skills. Shelf Road - The Bank. Details: Bring your 10 essentials, snacks, lunch, and water. Be prepared to spend the day outside.

PPG - Shelf Road Climbing

Sunday, 6/5/2022

Top rope

Leader: Jason Kosola, 307-277-9445, jasonkosola@gmail.com

Trail Mileage 2, Elevation Gain 200. Location: This trip is intended only for students who recently participated in a Pikes Peak Group BMS Rock class and other climbers who want to practice BMS Rock skills. Shelf Road - The Bank. Details: Bring your 10 essentials, snacks, lunch, and water. Be prepared to spend the day outside.

Trail 756 - Upper Limbaugh Canyon

Wednesday, 6/8/2022

Hike

Leader: Thomas Mowle, 719-216-3932, tommowle@yahoo.com

Trail Mileage 5.75, Elevation Gain 900, Driving Distance 10. Location: Trail 756 in the Rampart Range. We will rendezvous at 0830 at the "windsock" parking lot on Red Rocks Road, just north of Mt Herman Road. From the west side of Monument, take Mitchell Avenue south to Mt Herman Road. Turn right, then in about 2.5 miles turn right on Red Rocks Road (this is just before the rarely used closure gate). Parking lot is around the curve on the right. Details: National Forest Trail 756 had become overgrown and nearly impossible to find. Over the past several months, its route has been rediscovered, and the obstructing vegetation and deadfall cleared. Be among the first to revisit this beautiful canyon! This is a one-way hike with a car shuttle. Despite the relatively short distance, plan on a full day. The car shuttle adds some logistical time; more importantly, much of the tread is in very bad condition (we hope to get USFS approval to start repairing/rehabilitating it) so hiking speed will also be a bit slower than you might expect. We may also pause from time to time to discuss how this

new route fits into other trails in the area. Also: it's a beautiful and photogenic canyon, so lots of picture time! Notes: Plan on a full day, given the condition of the trail and the car shuttle! Register with leader.

Mountain Bike -- Red Rocks Canyon Open Space

Saturday, 6/11/2022

Moderate III

Leader: Sean Williams, 864-324-3461, seanwilliams8892@gmail.com

Trail Mileage 13, Elevation Gain 1800. Location: Red Rocks Canyon Open Space - Colorado Springs. We'll meet at the parking lot on 31st Street at 7:45 a.m. Our ride will start at the parking lot on 31st street, then ascend into the open space. We'll ride multiple trails through Red Rocks, creating what I call the "Red Rocks Roller Coaster" because we'll be going up and down and all around. The ride is mostly blue with some black peppered in a few spots and mostly on single track. Riders must be in good biking shape because this 13 miles has several short, steep climbs that are pretty challenging. Riders must also be comfortable on single track, both for climbing and descending. Details: Red Rocks Roller Coaster Mountain Bike Ride. This ride begins with a reasonable climb on a road to warm up then we'll go fast downhill on a purpose-built bike track that winds around. We'll climb back up on the Roundup Trail then take another fast, flowy downhill before taking a long slug up the West Sand Canyon trail, then back down on the East Sand Canyon Trail. We'll loop back up on a different part of Roundup, head toward the Section 16 Connector trail, and then cruise around to the Ridgeline trail before our final descent back toward the parking lot on the Lower Codell Trail. Total Time: About 2.5 hours (depends on the group's fitness). Gear: Mountain Bike with suspension (at least front). *No gravel bikes*. Bring enough snacks and water for the whole ride. No water is available on the trail. I usually carry a liter. Notes: For a look at this ride, click [this link](#) to see the route and the elevation profile.

Lost Creek Wilderness Overnight Backpacking Trip

Saturday, 6/11/2022

Moderate B

Leader: Sarah Hettenbach, 785-226-3176, hettenbach.s@gmail.com

Trail Mileage 6, Elevation Gain 1489, Driving Distance 67. Location: Brookside-McCurdy Trail (starting from the south): The Brookside-McCurdy Trail is the major north-south artery through the middle portion of the Lost Creek Wilderness. Its northern terminus is the Payne Creek/Brookside Trailhead near Bailey and its southern terminus is the Twin Eagles Trailhead, southeast of the Tarryall Reservoir. About midway between these two trailheads the Brookside-McCurdy Trail passes through the Lost Park Trailhead. Along the way it connects with nine other trails, providing numerous opportunities to create loop trips of various lengths. Throughout its length, this trail presents the hiker with a wide variety of the different landscapes found in the Lost Creek Wilderness, including different forest types, wide-open parks, wild formations of red Pikes Peak granite, and the tremendous views found along the ridge between Bison Peak and McCurdy Park. Deer, elk, and bighorn sheep are some of the wildlife that can be seen along the trail. Lizard Rock Trail: Near the top, this trail approaches a rock formation that resembles a lizard, thus the name "Lizard Rock Trail". Several loops, some large, can be made from the end of the Lizard Rock Trail. Some of the loops might include the Lake Park, Brookside/McCurdy, Hankins Pass, Goose Creek, McCurdy Park, and Ute Creek trails. The Lost Creek Wilderness boundary is located at the end of the Lizard Rock trail. Ensure that you are familiar with Wilderness regulations if you continue into the Wilderness. Details: Time to dust off your backpacking gear and start training for this summer's epic adventures. This will be a 6.1-mile casually-paced hike. We will travel and take breaks as a group. The plan is to hike in and set up camp. Then, participants can decide to explore further along the Brookside McCurdy Trail or rest in camp. The hike out in the morning will be along the Lizard Rock Trail with opportunities for photos among the distinctive rock formations. Meet time: 1:00pm. Meet location: Wal-Mart in Woodland Park to carpool or caravan to trailhead.



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



Conservation & Stewardship

Horsethief Park Reroute Primary Workday Saturday, 6/18/2022 Moderate
Leader: Thomas Mowle, 719-216-3932, tommowle@yahoo.com

Trail Mileage 1, Elevation Gain 300. Location: Horsethief Park Trail. Details: Horsethief Park reroute Day 1, 18 June 2022. Trail work / day hike. Ages 16+; under 18 requires parent/guardian to accompany. Bring your lunch. This project will reroute a part of the trail into Horsethief Park, where an encroachment onto private property has recently been discovered. This project is in partnership with Friends of the Peak. We are going to try to do the work in one day but are putting it on the calendar for both Saturday and Sunday if needed. This project is a high priority for preventing the closure of access to this area and avoiding the creation of unsustainable work-around routes. The project area is about a half mile up the trail. Volunteers must bring work clothes & gloves, water, snacks, lunch, sunscreen, and hat. This project is open to the public. If you are a CMC member, it is recommended that you log on to register; non-CMC members will have to sign the [liability waiver](#). Please email me a copy of the waiver receipt. Once the project is full, we will not be able to accommodate any additional volunteers. This is for safety's sake—to retain a safe crew leader to volunteer ratio—and due to the number of tools available. Please cancel if needed to make room for others, and join the wait list if the trip is full. Notes: Please also sign up for the [Sunday workday](#)—which we hope will not be needed! We are not providing any meals or camping arrangements, but there are many beautiful pack sites less than a half mile further up the trail in Horsethief Park, as well as car camping at the Crags Campground or in Mueller State Park.

Horsethief Park Reroute Completion Workday Sunday, 6/19/2022 Moderate
Leader: Thomas Mowle, 719-216-3932, tommowle@yahoo.com

Trail Mileage 1, Elevation Gain 300. Location: Horsethief Park Trail. Details: Horsethief Park reroute Day 1, 18 June 2022. Trail work / day hike. Ages 16+; under 18 requires parent/guardian to accompany. Bring your lunch. This project will reroute a part of the trail into Horsethief Park, where an encroachment onto private property has recently been discovered. This project is in partnership with Friends of the Peak. We are going to try to do the work in one day but are putting it on the calendar for both Saturday and Sunday if needed. This project is a high priority for preventing the closure of access to this area and avoiding the creation of unsustainable work-around routes. The project area is about a half mile up the trail. Volunteers must bring work clothes & gloves, water, snacks, lunch, sunscreen, and hat. This project is open to the public. If you are a CMC member, it is recommended that you log on to register; non-CMC members will have to sign the [liability waiver](#). Please email me a copy of the waiver receipt. Once the project is full, we will not be able to accommodate any additional volunteers. This is for safety's sake—to retain a safe crew leader to volunteer ratio—and due to the number of tools available. Please cancel if needed to make room for others, and join the wait list if the trip is full. Notes: Please also sign up for the [Saturday workday](#)—we hope the Sunday work will not be needed! We are not providing any meals or camping arrangements, but there are many beautiful pack sites less than a half mile further up the trail in Horsethief Park, as well as car camping at the Crags Campground or in Mueller State Park.

Pikes Pique

June, 2022 | No. 290

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
[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.