



The Newsletter of the CMC's Pikes Peak Group

August, 2022 | No. 292

## The Pikes Peak Group in Photos

### Pancake Rocks Trip



L-R: Dean Waits, Deb Sheinman (leader) John McClain, Barb Gutow and Ned Hunter

### Rock Climbing River Wall at Eleven Mile Canyon

We climbed and practiced some of the climbing skills learned in our basic rock climbing class. Here, Sally Edsall is rappelling while Jason Kosola looks on.



Trip leaders: Sara Gordon and Jason Kosola

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## Your PPG Council

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**Past Chair** – Kristen Buckland  
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Interested in serving on the Pikes Peak Group  
Council? Please contact the Chair.

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## Welcome New Members!

Susan Heckel  
N Hunter  
Candus Muir  
Andrea Rynne

Suzanne Smith  
Patrick Thompson  
Scott Van Camp  
Leah Webb



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## 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
Battle Mountain Brewing Company	R&W Rope
Bentgate	ROCK'n & JAM'n
Breckenridge Nordic Center	Rocky Bob's Fly Fishing Rods
City Rock	Summit Terragraphics
Friction Labs	The Custom Foot
Frisco Nordic Center	The Mountaineers Books
Gearonimo	The Trailhead
Golden Bike Shop	TrailRunner Magazine
Ken's Anglers	Vagabond Ranch Huts
Lumiere Telluride	Wilderness Exchange Unlimited
Moosejaw	

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## The BMS Has Changed

The Pikes Peak Group's Basic Mountaineering School has been restructured. It now consists of two series:

- **The PPG Wilderness Trekking School (WTS)** includes: Wilderness Fundamentals, Land Navigation, and Backpacking
- **The PPG Basic Mountaineering School (BMS)** includes: Scrambling, Alpine Snow, Rock Climbing, and Ice Climbing

CMC members are welcome to sign up for each course (as long as they meet the prerequisites) to learn, grow, and challenge themselves while exploring the great outdoors in different and unique ways.

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# GET PAID TO GIVE BACK

## Land Conservation Crew Member Needed



**Put your personal development at the top of your priority list, next to community service and environmental impact. Get paid doing what you love and earn a scholarship at the same time!**

- Ages 18-24
- Earn a total program stipend of \$4800 for a 10 week program, plus a \$1342 AmeriCorps Education Award (upon program completion)
- Other benefits include: Student Loan Forbearance, Health Insurance and Mental Health Counseling
- No experience required. Crew members learn technical skills and gain experience while getting paid!
- Program Date: August 22 - October 28, 2022
- Camping is required for most of the completion of projects. All food and camping gear are provided!

**TO APPLY VISIT**  
[milehighyouthcorps.org](https://milehighyouthcorps.org)



**QUESTIONS?**  
Email [emilyh@mhyc.net](mailto:emilyh@mhyc.net) or  
call 719-630-7421 ext. 403



@milehighyouthcorps



SOUTHERN FRONT RANGE

MHYC is committed to hiring candidates with unique backgrounds and perspectives. If you are interested in this position but are concerned that you do not meet all of the requirements or possess all of the necessary skills, or that prior convictions or your background might disqualify you, we encourage you to submit an application anyway.

# Upcoming Pikes Peak Group Classes

## **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 Wilderness Trekking School - Intro to Backpacking**

Starts August 15

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.

## **Pikes Peak Intro to Mountain Biking Basics**

Starts September 7

Learn the gear, maintenance, safety, and entry level techniques for basic mountain biking. Mountain biking is a great way to enjoy the wilderness with a little more skill and finesse, of getting out for a short outing after work, and for building cardio before a big climb. There will be two classroom sessions in Colorado Springs and three field sessions for the mountain biking class. The mountain biking classroom dates are 07 and 08 Sep from 6:00p to 9:30p, and the field dates are 10, 17, and 24 Sep all day. A strong fitness level to go on a full day technical bike ride is required for the field sessions as this will not be casual riding. The field sessions will be progressive in nature to build on skills. Cost: \$75 for PPG members and leaders, \$100 for all others. There are also rental costs if you don't own the gear.

## **PPG Wilderness Trekking School - Wilderness Fundamentals**

Starts September 12

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 via Zoom 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. Mandatory Field Session (Sep 17th 7:30a.m.-12:00pm) explores the lecture concepts during an actual outing and gives students a chance to further address any questions or concerns while meeting new hiking friends and sharing ideas about gear, snacks, and hiking spots. This class is a prerequisite 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, \$45 for all others.

## **Pikes Peak Intro to Technical Canyoneering**

Starts September 14

Have you completed Intro to Desert Hiking and Canyoneering and BMS Rock? Take those skills to the next level. Learn proper gear, safety, and technique for technical canyoneering. There are many nuances warranting the safe approach provided by this class. The classroom session will be in Colorado Springs on 14 Sep from 6:00p to 9:30p. There are two evening field session in Colorado Springs to cover some basics and evaluate fitness levels on 15 and 22 Sep. Then we go on a five day trip to the desert scheduled for 02-06 Oct. This year's desert trip is planned for San Rafael Reef in Utah. A strong fitness level to go on daily full day hikes with scrambling and rappelling on high exposure in hot terrain, squeezing through narrows, and hiking all day in loose sand and deep water is required for the field sessions. The field sessions will be progressive in nature to build on skills. Attendance at the classroom session and local field sessions will be required to attend the Utah trip. Prerequisite: Completion of both BMS Rock Climbing and Intro to Desert Hiking and Canyoneering is

required! A city parks rock [climbing permit](#) is also required. Cost: \$250 for PPG members and leaders and \$300 for all others.

### **Pikes Peak Intro to Desert Hiking and Canyoneering**

Starts September 21

If you have only been hiking in the high altitude of Colorado, there is another world out there. When you have climbed enough peaks to wonder what other environments there are, the next step for you may be desert terrain. Come learn the proper gear, safety, and entry level techniques for basic desert hiking and basic canyoneering. There are many nuances to this environment that should warrant a safe approach such as provided by this class. The classroom session will be in Colorado Springs on 21 Sep from 6:00p to 9:30p. There is a one day field session in Colorado Springs to cover some basics and evaluate fitness levels scheduled for 25 Sep. Then we go on a five day trip to the desert scheduled for 28 Sep through 02 Oct. This year's desert trip is planned for the San Rafael Reef in Utah. A strong fitness level to go on daily full day hikes with scrambling on moderate exposure in hot terrain, squeezing through narrows, hiking in loose sand, and wading through water is required for the field sessions. The field sessions will be progressive in nature to build on skills. Attendance at the classroom session and local field session will be required to attend the Utah trip. Cost: \$135 for PPG members and Leaders, and \$160 for all others.

### **PPG Wilderness Trekking School – Land Navigation**

Starts October 5

This course is part of the Pikes Peak Group Wilderness Trekking School and may be a pre-requisite for trips or other schools. 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. Prerequisite: Wilderness Fundamentals. The "Wild Fun" class covers concepts that will be expected knowledge for this course and we will reference the text provided from this class. Cost: \$25.

### **PPG ARCPro Introduction to Self-Rescue Class**

Starts October 8

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 where something hasn't gone according to plan. This class 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 single-pitch climbing scenario. This class does not deal with any of the medical components 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. This is the first of two self-rescue classes we teach with the next-level class being our Intermediate Self-Rescue class, which covers additional self-rescue skills applicable to multipitch climbing. Cost: \$50 for Leaders and \$95 for all others.

### **PPG GPS Basics Class**

Starts October 24

Goal: Learn to use your handheld GPS receiver more effectively to increase the safety and enjoyment of your outdoor adventures. GPS Basics offers students who already own handheld GPS receivers the opportunity to learn more about how GPS works, how to plan an adventure online, how to move that information to a GPS receiver, and how to use the GPS to help with route finding, trip progress, reporting locations in an emergency, and capturing key data for a trip report to share with others. Key terms we will explore: Global Positioning System, satellites, waypoints, routes, tracks, importing, exporting, .gpx files, WAAS, Caltopo, BaseCamp, trip computer, GLONASS, Geocaching, coordinates, UTM, position, velocity, circle of error, satellite geometry, and others. This class is intended for those who already have a GPS and want to learn to use it more effectively. Class has one lecture/presentation, homework (field day GPS prep), and one field day in Colorado Springs. Prerequisites: (1) CMC Land Navigation graduate: participants must have completed a CMC Land Navigation class and be comfortable using a compass and topographic map to make route and navigation decisions. (2) Handheld GPS: participants must already have a handheld GPS receiver that allows for datum selection, input of waypoint data, upload/download of .gpx files from a computer, and can hold map data (a visual map display). Cost: Free.



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





# August Pikes Peak Group Trips

## **Mt Wilcox (13,408')**

Tuesday, 8/2/2022

Moderate B

Leader: Denise Snow, 719-687-9576, [denisexcskier@outlook.com](mailto:denisexcskier@outlook.com)

Trail Mileage 7, Elevation Gain 2500. Location: 9.9 miles from the town of Georgetown, CO on Guanella Pass Road. Exit #228 off of I-70 for Georgetown and follow signs to Guanella Pass. Travel 9.9 miles, to Silver Dollar Lake parking area located on the right, and an additional parking area on the left. In the right parking lot, there is a 4WD road that continues .06 miles to the trailhead. We will meet at the Silver Dollar Lake parking area just off of Guanella Pass. If traveling from the south, you would access Guanella Pass Road from Grant off of US 285. Details: We will follow the Silver Dollar Lake trail to Silver Dollar Lake and then beyond to Murray Lake. From here we will go off trail to the northwest and then around 12,750 feet elevation we will access Mt Wilcox's southwest ridge and walk to the summit. The trip leader was caught in an avalanche on the way back from the summit many years ago, but that shouldn't be a concern during this trip. If the weather is spectacular that day, we may consider adding Square Top if there is mutual agreement. This trip requires registration with the leader.

## **Hoosier Ridge, Red Mountain C (13,229') and Unnamed (13,352')**

Sunday, 8/7/2022

Moderate B

Leader: Denise Snow, 719-687-9576, [denisexcskier@outlook.com](mailto:denisexcskier@outlook.com)

Trail Mileage 10, Elevation Gain 2600. Location: We will meet at the top of Hoosier Pass in the parking lot on the west side. Details: Cross CO 9 and find the gated dirt road that marks the beginning of the route. Continue through the trees for approximately 1/2 mile to tree line at 11,800'. From this point the terrain steepens slightly and you will gain elevation consistently for 1000' to the top of the first false summit, PT 1,2814'. Continue for 1/2 mile along the bumpy ridge to PT 12953, another false summit. Continue for another 2/3 mile to PT 13,201' where the ridge will flatten for another mile to the final false summit at 13,300'. From here it is less than a half mile to the summit of Hoosier Ridge and you can see the three 13,000' summits on this route. Descend from the top of Hoosier Ridge to the northwest to the 12,860' saddle between Hoosier Ridge and Red Mountain (C), a ranked 13er. From here you can see the remaining route to the 13,229' summit of Red Mountain (C). From the summit of Red Mountain (C) you will have an excellent view of the Tenmile Range, and a view back to the trailhead. There are nearly 5 miles to go on the return, with several false summits along the way. The good news is that they get progressively lower in elevation as you go, and we will skirt the summit of Hoosier Ridge on the right (west) side! It's been 20 years since the leader has last done this, so expect a little adventure! This trip requires registration with the leader.

## **Pikes Peak/Barr Trail A-Frame Repairs (Carrying Material)**

Saturday, 8/20/2022

Difficult D

Leader: Dean Waits, 281-352-2236, [dwaits24@gmail.com](mailto:dwaits24@gmail.com)

Trail Mileage 6, Elevation Gain 3500. Location: A-Frame next to the Barr Trail on Pikes Peak ([CalTopo Trail Map](#), [A-Frame](#), [Barr Trail](#)). Details: The Pikes Peak Group has been maintaining the A-Frame for the Forest Service since 1999. The A-Frame is located along the Barr Trail near tree line at about 11,500 ft. The overall project: We will be carrying lumber, shingles, and other supplies from the top of Pikes Peak down approximately 3 miles to the A-Frame on Aug 20-21. We will be replacing the roof with new shingles, replacing front supports, and painting the exterior and interior on Aug 27-28. When complete, all old material and trash will be packed back to the top for disposal. Plans are to camp there each weekend. You are signing up to carry materials from the top of Pikes Peak to the A-Frame on Aug 20 and 21. If you cannot work both days, let the leader know. It's a beautiful sight with views of Colorado Springs and as far as one can see to the east. PPG will furnish all materials and tools, and freeze-dried meals for the one night there. There is a spring-fed creek at the worksite, so bring water treatment if you have it, or use ours if you don't. We'll monitor its flow and come up with a back-up plan if the water dries up. This will not be an easy hike carrying material from 14,115 ft to 11,500 and returning. Be sure you are physically fit enough to hike up/down the trail at altitude carrying your gear and supplies as needed. To conserve parking at the top, carpooling will be planned and space coordinated at the A-Frame to fit the group. Coming with a friend? Consider sharing tents, stoves, filters, etc. If the trip is full, please go on Standby as we're uncertain how many people are needed. Questions? Please email the leader.

## Kelso Ridge Scramble

Sunday, 8/21/2022

Scramble

Leader: Ed Anderson, 703-309-9290, [edandersoniv@gmail.com](mailto:edandersoniv@gmail.com)

Trail Mileage 6.75, Elevation Gain 3100, Driving Distance 120. Location: Kelso Ridge, Torreys Peak, CO. Details: Alpine scrambling and 14er experience is required. This will be an Alpine start! We will discuss options to carpool or camp. We will meet at the dirt parking lot at the start of Forest Road 189 (Bakerville exit (#221) off I-70) at 4am. We will consolidate into as few vehicles as possible and drive to Gray's Peak Trailhead (3 mile rough road with high clearance vehicles recommended). Start hiking at 4:45a. We will descend via the standard route. Should be back at the trailhead by 1p. Notes: This is a Class 3 route with high risk for rock fall and exposure. Commitment is considerable (once we start the ridge there are few options to bail out). Required gear: helmet and the Ten Essentials (don't forget a headlamp). We will discuss gear in more detail as a group prior to the trip. [Route details](#).

## Pikes Peak/Barr Trail A-Frame Repairs (Construction)

Saturday, 8/27/2022

Difficult D

Leader: Dean Waits, 281-352-2236, [dwaits24@gmail.com](mailto:dwaits24@gmail.com)

Trail Mileage 6, Elevation Gain 3500. Location: A-Frame next to the Barr Trail on Pikes Peak ([CalTopo Trail Map](#), [A-Frame](#), [Barr Trail](#)). Details: The Pikes Peak Group has been maintaining the A-Frame for the Forest Service since 1999. The A-Frame is located along the Barr Trail near tree line at about 11,500 ft. The overall project: We will be carrying lumber, shingles, and other supplies from the top of Pikes Peak down approximately 3 miles to the A-Frame on Aug 20-21. We will be replacing the roof with new shingles, replacing front supports, and painting the exterior and interior on Aug 27-28. When complete, all old material and trash will be packed back to the top for disposal. Plans are to camp there each weekend. You are signing up to work on the A-Frame on Aug 27 and 28. If you cannot work both days, let the leader know. It's a beautiful sight with views of Colorado Springs and as far as one can see to the east. PPG will furnish all materials and tools, and freeze-dried meals for the one night there. There is a spring-fed creek at the worksite, so bring water treatment if you have it, or use ours if you don't. We'll monitor its flow and come up with a back-up plan if the water dries up. This will not be an easy hike carrying material from 14,115 ft to 11,500 and returning. Be sure you are physically fit enough to hike up/down the trail at altitude carrying your gear and supplies as needed. No previous construction experience is necessary, just a willingness to work and have fun enjoying a wonderful weekend at a beautiful location. To conserve parking at the top, carpooling will be planned and space coordinated at the A-Frame to fit the group. Coming with a friend? Consider sharing tents, stoves, filters, etc. If the trip is full, please go on Standby as we're uncertain how many people are needed. Questions? Please email the leader.

## Horsethief Park Reroute Workday #3

Saturday, 8/27/2022

Moderate

Leader: Thomas Mowle, 719-216-3932, [tommowle@yahoo.com](mailto:tommowle@yahoo.com)

Trail Mileage 1, Elevation Gain 300. Location: Horsethief Park Trail. Details: Trail work / day hike. Ages 16+; under 18 requires parent/guardian to accompany. Bring your lunch. This project will continue to 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 and is a high Forest Service 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 and 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 [September 10 workday](#) even though we hope it will not be needed.



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





# Conservation Corner

## Horsethief Park Trail Project

Great work done; more work on August 27 and September 10



Together with Friends of the Peak, we accomplished our primary goal in June: roughing in a walkable tread for the entire 540' of rerouted trail, including the primary structures where the new route joins the old one.

Thank you to all 53 volunteers over the weekend, and extra thanks to crew leaders Susan Jarvis, Joel Marx, Glenn Barr, Carol Beckman, Dan Downs, and Mike Scott; to Brian VanValkenburg for supplementing our tools with FoTP's; and to Anna Revolinsky and Peter Scanlon for coordinating carpools to reduce the impact on parking at the trailhead.

The main work remaining is to polish the tread into a final sustainable trail: ensure a consistent outslope for drainage, add structural support where needed, and create a backslope so erosion doesn't narrow the trail.

We have scheduled two more workdays to finish this up on August 27 and September 10; whether we need both will depend on the turnout. Please sign up to help!

Sign up for [August 27](#) and/or [September 10](#).

## Pikes Pique

August, 2022 | No. 292

*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.