



The Newsletter of the CMC's Pikes Peak Group

July, 2026 | No. 338

The Pikes Peak Group in Photos

Quandary Peak



Poplar Gulch Unnamed 13er



Annamari, Richard, Wendy, Jay, Sandee, Joshua, and Christie (leader).

Eleven Mile Dome



L-R: Sara Gordon (leader), Natalie Varnado, Ilona Kazimirka, Nathan Schadle, and Dave Molyneaux; not shown: Marc Wurster and Daedra Pierce.



Got photos from a class or trip? Send them to Dave at danderso@uccs.edu.

Your PPG Council

Chair – Joe Preiss

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Past Chair – Glenn Barr

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Programs – Alejandra Diaz

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Public Relations – Vacant

Safety & Leadership – Mike Cromwell

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

Welcome New Members!

Scott Bullock

Katie Gosney

Cody Kilgore

Oliver Lee-Mock

Russ McGuire

Alaina Ramsey

Dorrie Stewart



Member Discounts

Adventure Medical Kits

Ajax Bike and Sport

Atrevida Beer Co (was Great Storm)

Battle Mountain Brewing Company

Bentgate

Breckenridge Nordic Center

City Rock

Friction Labs

Frisco Nordic Center

Gearonimo

Golden Bike Shop

Ken's Anglers

Lumiere Telluride

Moosejaw

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

Volunteer Opportunity

Volunteers Needed for the Pikes Peak Challenge - September 12th



Do you like to spend time on Pikes Peak *and* support activities that help others? Then being on trail staff for the Pikes Peak Challenge (PPC) may just fit the bill. The Brain Injury Association of Colorado offers a fun-filled, inclusive event to inspire every participant, and challenge every ability while raising money to support those living with an injury to

the brain in Colorado. The PPC relies heavily on community volunteers to help provide a safe and enjoyable event and Barr Trail check points assist hikers on their ascent to the summit. Help is needed at the No Name Creek, A-Frame, 2-mile, and 1-mile stations on September 12th. Interested volunteers need to be comfortable working at altitude for approximately 12 hours during the event. Hiking experience, Wilderness Medical, EMT, Paramedic, First Responder, or First Aid experience a plus. Sound interesting? [Learn more here](#) or contact [Glenn Barr](#).



Pikes Peak Group Conservation News

By Victor Ketellapper

On June 10, the Colorado Mountain Club Pikes Peak Group (PPG) partnered with the Rocky Mountain Field Institute (RMFI) to assist with the annual pack-in of backcountry tools and supplies for the Barr Trail maintenance project.



RMFI Barr Trail Tool Move-In. Front L-R: Deirdre Robinson, Hayley McGuire, Glenn Barr, and Robyn Etzel. Back: Brian Caldwell, Robin Mino, Greg Long, Victor Ketellapper, Dean Waits. Not pictured: Laura and Shane Kramer.

Volunteers rode the Cog Railway to the stop near Barr Camp and then helped transport gear to Barr Camp, as well as tools and equipment to the work site located approximately one mile farther up the trail. The event was both highly successful and enjoyable, with CMC members making up

more than 30% of the volunteer team. A special thank-you goes to everyone who participated, and especially to Dean Waits for coordinating this effort.

Following the pack-in, several CMC members continued up the trail to conduct the annual inspection of the A-Frame emergency shelter. The shelter was found to be clean, well-maintained, and in good condition. Located near treeline on Barr Trail, the A-Frame serves as an important emergency shelter for hikers traveling to and from the summit of Pikes Peak.



Checking on the A-Frame. L-R: Victor Ketellapper, Deirdre Robinson, Glenn Barr, Brett, Brian Caldwell, and Dean Waits (photographer).

Thank you to all who support conservation and trail stewardship in the Pikes Peak region. We hope to see you at a future conservation event!

Upcoming Pikes Peak Group Classes

ARC Pro Multipitch Concepts

Sat, Jun 27, 2026 - Sun, Jun 28, 2026

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. This class will consist of two field days with the first day spent on low angle terrain learning and practicing multipitch belaying, transitions, rappelling and lowering; followed by a day of multipitch practice on an actual multipitch climb. Prerequisites: Intermediate Rock Climbing or the equivalent at a minimum. Leading skills are not necessary, but it is recommended that participants take the ARC Pro Trad Gear and Anchors and Traditional Lead Climbing classes 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. Cost: Members \$105, Guests \$125.



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



ARC Pro Intermediate Self Rescue

Sat, Jul 25, 2026 - Sun, Jul 26, 2026

This class reviews and expands upon self-rescue skills taught in the ARC Pro Basic Self Rescue class by teaching more skills applicable on single pitch climbing terrain, including top-managed sites. Students will learn how to escape a belay, perform a climber pick-off in a top-rope belay situation, assist a climber from above using hauling methods, and lower a climber from a top belay. The class consists of two outdoor field days for learning and practicing skills. Cost: Members \$105, Guests \$125.

Basic Alpine Climbing

Wed, Aug 5, 2026 - Sat, Aug 8, 2026

This course is the first course in the Pikes Peak Group's Basic Mountaineering School (BMS) curriculum. Basic Alpine Climbing consists of a set of skills that fill a gap between on or off-trail hiking and technical climbing. Skills include assessing hazards and decision making, traditional scrambling techniques, assessing and choosing off-trail routes in alpine/scrambling terrain. The PPG WTS - Wilderness Fundamentals Course is the prerequisite for this course. Students must have earned the "Wilderness Fundamentals course" badge or an equivalent CMC Wilderness Trekking School badge to be able to register for this course. Cost: Members \$45, Guests \$90.

PPG WTS - Intro to Backpacking

Wed, Aug 12, 2026 - Wed, Aug 19, 2026

The PPG WTS - Introduction to Backpacking Course is the third and final course in the PPG Wilderness Trekking School curriculum. Learn all about it with two classes and an overnight backpacking trip. Backpacking is another way to experience the outdoors by carrying all the gear you need to travel, eat and sleep in pursuit of your adventure. It can take you to a distant location from the trailhead, help you enjoy an activity (summit attempt, alpine lake fishing, etc.) or serve as the main goal itself, such as 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. Cost: Members \$45, Guests \$90.

ARC Pro Sport Lead Climbing

Sat, Aug 22, 2026 - Sun, Aug 23, 2026

This class will teach participants the skills needed to safely lead sport climbs on their own, including basic leading technique, setting up a top-rope anchor, cleaning the anchor and rappelling or lowering down, advanced lead belaying, bailing off a route, climbing movement, and falling practice. It is taught over 2 full field days at a climbing crag. Cost: Members \$105, Guests \$125.

PPG WTS - Wilderness Fundamentals

Mon, Sep 14, 2026 - Sat, Sep 19, 2026

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. Wilderness Fundamentals is part of the Pikes Peak Group's Wilderness Trekking School (WTS). 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 a good foundation of the basics before expanding your outdoor skillset. Cost: Members \$45, Guests \$90.

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:

Dave 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.