

Pikes Pique



The Newsletter of the CMC's Pikes Peak Group

September, 2023 | No. 304

The Pikes Peak Group in Photos

Section 16 – Palmer Loop



L-R: Jim Thieme, Anna Gallogly (Leader in Training), Drew Faloon, and Elizabeth Katondo (mentor). Photographer Dean Waits.



Mystery 13er – North Star



L-R front: Christie and Sherri; back: Hailey and Ramon

Elder-Phen



L-R: Missy, Christie (Leader), Tiffany, Annette (photographer)

Your PPG Council

Chair & State Council Representative – Glenn Barr, 719-244-3502, gjb2000@gmail.com

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

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

Wilderness Trekking School and Basic Mountaineering School Director – Joe Preiss
719-337-9331, zmjwp@gmail.com,

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

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

Equipment Manager – Kristen Buckland
419-260-7807, buckie06@hotmail.com

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

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

Outings – Currently vacant

Programs – Currently vacant

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 – Julie Jacobsen
jewelsjoy3@msn.com

50+ – Christie Lee
719-243-1821, christie80905@gmail.com

At Large:

Sarah Gordon
719-749-8444, sara.flashgordon@gmail.com

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

Greg Long (HAMS)
719-659-0345, at_90@yahoo.com

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

Welcome New Members!

Jason Roberts
Bella Grass
Clara Floyd
Roshana Floyd

Timothy Floyd
Wilton Floyd
Joe Laniado



Member Discounts

Adventure Medical Kits

Ajax Bike and Sport

American Mountaineering Museum

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 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



The PPG Council is looking for motivated and engaged volunteers to serve as:

Outings Chair – help to generate more trip opportunities by supporting the Trip Leader community (prefer a Trip Leader for this position)

Programs Chair – coordinate monthly programs with guest speakers and the annual picnic and dinner

At Large – come and join our meetings to see what the Council is up to

Want to learn more? Ready to join in? Contact PPG Council Chair [Glenn Barr](#).

The A-Frame

By Dean Waits

Do you know about the little brown shelter on the east side of Pikes Peak, now known as the A-Frame? It was built by the Forest Service in 1964, first called the Adirondack Shelter in the tradition of shelters built in that area of NY. Materials were flown in by helicopter. In 1984 the Pikes Peak Group did major construction, installing a new foundation and floor, reconstruction of walls and roof and installed a wood burning heater. With the heater, trees were being cut down, ashes dumped nearby, so they removed it in 1991. That same year the club took over its maintenance for the Forest Service.



Records have been sparse about its upkeep, but in 2008 the shingles were replaced and it was also repainted. In its location at 11,900 ft, it tends to take a beating from mother nature. But for climbers looking for a sunrise summit, it is a strategic starting point, 3.4 miles from the summit. For hikers not ready for the different moods of the mountain, it is a storm shelter from July lightning, August hail, and bitter January winds.

In the summer of 2022, the club planned another refurbishment with new shingles, 2x6x14 ft treated front support boards, and repainted it inside and out. Over a period of 7 days and 37 individuals' hard work, it was a very successful project.

On July 29th, 16 volunteers returned to clean up the old shingles left from last years construction. Volunteers were shuttled to the top of Pikes Peak by: Bob Hostetler, Mark Yeardon, Dave Anderson, Bruce Weiner, and Bill Houghton. Folks retrieving the shingles and hiked down to the A-Frame, loaded their packs, hiked down Barr Trail to the Cog's Mountain View siding, unloaded, then hiked to the Barr TH where they were picked up and returned to their cars. Altogether, it was a long, but wonderful 15-mile downhill hike.

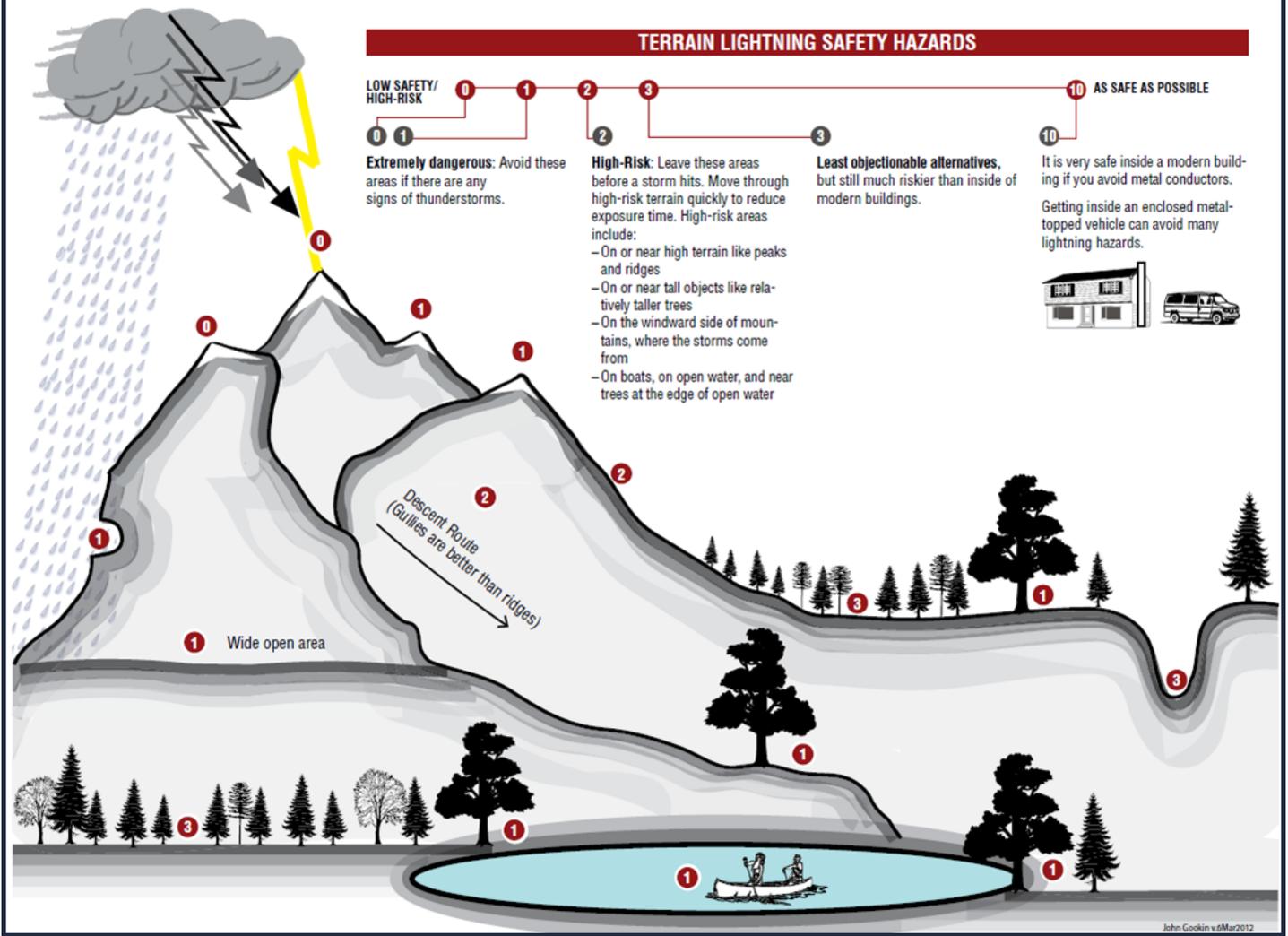
This list of hikers to carry the shingles are in no particular order in relation to the photo: Jorge Acevedo, Glenn Barr, Alan Bridges, Audrey Burkart, Brian Caldwell, Robbie Deka, Noah Dent, Paul Dent, Sara Gordon, Jim Guerra, Joe Herrera, Greg Long, Hunter Marnelos, Joe Preiss, and Mark Silas. Photo taken by Dean Waits. Thanks to all these wonderful volunteers, both shuttle drivers and hikers for all your help.

Throughout the A-Frames 59 years existence, the elements are tough. But it's the people it was built to protect who are its worse abusers. Building fires inside has done lots of damage. You're encouraged to get up there, take a break, eat lunch or spend the night. It's such an awesome place to stay overnight; all the lights from the city below at night then add that to a beautiful sunrise. It's spectacular. We'll continue to take care of it; watch for your opportunity to help.



BACKCOUNTRY LIGHTNING RISK MANAGEMENT

No place outdoors is safe from lightning. Lightning is an objective hazard. Your behavior can reduce the risk of that hazard harming you.



HAMS Starts in November

The Pikes Peak Group High Altitude Mountaineering School will start in November. This is a course designed for those climbers who want to go beyond the 14ers to take on high altitude (15,000' plus) and glaciated mountains. Classroom sessions will take place on Wednesdays 11/8, 11/15, 11/29, 12/6, and 12/13, and include such topics as equipment, medical concerns, nutrition and menu planning, fitness and training, organizing an expedition, and group dynamics. Field sessions are tentatively scheduled for 1/7, 1/21, 2/10-11, and 2/24-25; they will cover such topics as roped travel, crevasse rescue, climbing alpine ice, and winter camping. A graduation climb of Mt. Rainier will take place at the end of the course. Completion of Basic Mountaineering School (all modules) or equivalent, plus experience putting those skills into practice in the field are prerequisites for the course. Cost for the class is \$225. For information and to permission to register, contact Greg Long at (719) 659-0345 or e-mail to at_90@yahoo.com. Register online at cmc.org.



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



Upcoming Pikes Peak Group Classes

PPG WTS - Intro to Backpacking

Mon, Aug 14, 2023 - Mon, Aug 21, 2023

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. Prerequisite: PPG WTS - Wilderness Fundamentals completion or equivalent. Cost: \$25 for PPG members, \$50 for all others.

ARC Pro Sport Lead Climbing

Sat, Aug 26, 2023 - Sun, Aug 27, 2023

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: \$95 for PPG members, \$115 for all others.

ARC Pro Traditional Lead Climbing

Sat, Sep 9, 2023 - Sun, Sep 10, 2023

This class will equip students with the skills and knowledge needed to start leading single-pitch traditional rock routes on their own. Over the course of two full days at an outdoor crag we will review traditional gear and anchors then will focus in detail on the protection system and leading strategies. Students will mock-lead single-pitch trad climbs (on a separate belay) with instructor evaluation of the entire process. We will cover lead belaying and follower belaying skills. Students will do some improvised aid climbing on gear they have placed in order to gain confidence in their own gear placements. Cost: \$95 for PPG members, \$125 for all others.

Intro to Technical Canyoneering

Wed, Sep 13, 2023 - Thu, Oct 5, 2023

Have you completed Intro to Desert Trekking & Canyoneering *and* BMS Rock? Take those skills to the next level. Learn proper gear, safety, and technique for technical canyoneering. The target audience is anyone new to technical slot canyons. Prior climbing and scrambling skills are required. Basic climbing gear is also required. Attendance at the classroom session and both local field sessions will be required to attend the Utah trip. Completion of all sessions is required to earn the badge. Cost: \$250 for PPG members, \$350 for all others.

Intro to Desert Trekking & Canyoneering

Wed, Sep 20, 2023 - Sun, Oct 1, 2023

If you have only been hiking in the high altitude of CO, there is another world out there. When you have climbed enough peaks to wonder what other environments, 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. 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. Attendance at all sessions will be required to earn the badges. Cost: \$150 for PPG members, \$250 for all others.

PPG WTS – Wilderness Fundamentals

Mon, Sep 25, 2023 - Sat, Sep 30, 2023

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 a good foundation of the basics before expanding your outdoor skillset. Cost: \$35 for PPG members, \$45 for all others.

ARC Pro Introduction to Self-Rescue

Sat, Oct 14, 2023 - Sun, Oct 15, 2023

Students will be introduced to basic self-rescue skills applicable to single-pitch technical climbing to include a climber pick-off, escaping a belay, and passing a knot on rappel. Cost: \$95 for PPG members, \$115 for all others.

Conservation Corner



Gray Back Peak Stewardship – August 19

Thank you to all the Pikes Peak Group members and others from the community who did such great work on the Gray Back Peak Trail on June 24 and July 15! Check out our second day progress [here](#). With a strong turnout, we can wrap up this segment of the project on [August 19](#). Please sign up by clicking the date or find the event on the CMC website!

This trail off Old Stage Road is an underrated local gem, with great views (similar perhaps to Rosa but without nearly the effort or gunfire). El Pomar is generously letting us use their parking lot for carpooling. We will knock off work at about 2PM so people can hike out to the summit if they wish (4.2 miles RT from the trailhead, less from the workday).

RMFI Community Partnership Day – September 9

RMFI will be hosting community members to help their trail crews on Gray Back Peak as well. Please [sign up](#) to help on September 9! Please be sure to note that you are a CMC member when you register. RMFI has other volunteer days on [their calendar](#).

Other Volunteer Opportunities

In addition to the CMC's stewardship opportunities, please consider supporting other local groups. Probably the best single resource is [here](#) (the events calendar shows by default, scroll down to open the volunteer calendar). I do want to highlight a couple of these:

Also, Friends of the Peak has a full schedule of trail work for this summer, many of them on Barr Trail and North Cheyenne Canyon. Sign up [here](#).

Pikes Pique

September, 2023 | No. 304

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.