

Pikes Pique



The Newsletter of the CMC's Pikes Peak Group

March, 2024 | No. 310

The Pikes Peak Group in Photos

Snowshoe – Mueller State Park



Temps were negative in Colorado Springs, and Joe considered canceling the trip to preserve limbs and digits. However, this group of CMC'ers knows how to deal with cold temps! At the park the temps began to rise, and by the afternoon it was 30 degrees! Very pleasant but long snow shoe (~9 miles rt). We were all pretty tired by the end (ok, 2 out of 3 were).

Mt Muscoco



L-R: Ahmad, Christie (Leader), Lucas, Marianne, Heather, and Amanda. Amazing day, perfect trail conditions... snow packed... no ice... no mud!



Your PPG Council

Chair – Glenn Barr

719-244-3502, gjb2000@gmail.com

Past Chair – Vacant

ARCPro Director – Scott Kime

719-235-0939, scott.kime@live.com

Conservation – Vacant

Education & Training – Eric Hunter

719-266-9647, EHunterCMC@gmail.com

Equipment Manager – Kristen Buckland

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HAMS/Adventure Travel – Greg Long

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Membership – Dean Waits

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Newsletter – Dave Anderson

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Outings – Dania Spohn

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Programs – Vacant

Public Relations – Emma Moore

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Safety & Leadership – Mike Cromwell

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Secretary – Sarah Hettenbach

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Social Events – Vacant

State Council Representative – Julie Jacobsen

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Treasurer – Julie Jacobsen

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Wilderness Trekking School & Basic

Mountaineering School Director – Joe Preiss

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55 Plus Group – Christie Lee

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At Large:

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Sara Gordon

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Britt Jones

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Rick Keetch

719-634-1165, rakeetch@msn.com

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

Welcome New Members!

Scott Baugher

Douglas Harris

Chris Johnson

Jody LeSage

David Patalano

Sarah Sampas

Matt Surprenant

Christine Thompson

Joe Turnham

Christina Wilder



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

Trip Leaders



New Outings Chair and Trip Leader Support

Trip Leaders—watch for notes from Dania (Ruiz) Spohn as she works to reinvigorate our Trip Leader Incentive Program. She is catching up from last year and will be getting things in place to more easily track trip statistics.

the PPG
FOLLOW US ON 

Upcoming Pikes Peak Group Classes



1-Day AIARE Companion Rescue March 3rd on Hoosier Pass



Learn the skills to stay safe in avalanche terrain!
Taught by certified AMGA Guides & AIARE Course Leaders
Scholarships available



PPG AIARE Avalanche Rescue Course

New participants will learn the basics of companion rescue, while returning participants will expand their skill set with advanced topics and realistic scenario practice to help improve their skills.

Each participant will have the opportunity to receive professional coaching on their rescue skills, and will receive a rescue card acknowledging the completion date. AIARE Avalanche Rescue is a prerequisite for AIARE 2.

AIARE recommends that all backcountry travelers keep their skills current by taking an Avalanche Rescue course and receiving a rescue card at least every other year.

[Register](#)

PPG - Avalanche Terrain Avoidance

Tue, Feb 20, 2024 - Sat, Feb 24, 2024

The Avalanche Terrain Avoidance course provides information to trip and course leaders to help them distinguish and avoid avalanche-prone terrain. Cost: Free.

Winter Wilderness Survival

Wed, Mar 6, 2024 - Sun, Mar 10, 2024

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 two days and one night in the wilderness to put those concepts to practice. Attendance at all sessions is required to earn the badge. We will build multiple types of winter shelters and review other winter survival tips and tricks. We will backpack in on snowshoes for a short distance with full gear, but the intent is to spend the night in snow shelters using just what you carry on a winter day trip, or a bit more if you are concerned. Cost: \$60 for PPG members, \$160 for all others.

ARC Pro Traditional Gear & Anchors

Sat, Mar 23, 2024 - Sun, Mar 24, 2024 and Sat, Apr 6, 2024 - Sun, Apr 7, 2024

Students will learn about the various types of rock protection to include 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 an anchor according to the EARNEST principles; to include placement and evaluation of protection, fall forces, direction of pull, rigging methods and knots for anchoring. At the completion of the course the student should know how build an anchor using natural or placed protection- adequate for belaying or rappelling- and how to evaluate others' anchors. They will rappel off an anchor that they have built and rigged. Cost: \$95 for PPG members, \$125 for all others.

PPG BMS - Advanced Snow Climbing

Tue, Apr 9, 2024 - Sun, Apr 14, 2024

Learning to climb steep snow will help you reach your winter alpine objectives. Steep alpine snow is frequently encountered in the mountains during winter ascents. Course covers: gear overview, trip planning, ascending/descending with an ice axe and crampons, avalanche risk review, self-arresting and snow climbing practice. Cost: \$80 for PPG members, \$160 for all others.



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



Potpourri



Sun, Mar 17, 2024 4-6pm for Members and Their Guests, \$6 per person. Sign up by March 10th. Pizza buffet & cash bar with Cheese, Cheese & Pepperoni, Supreme, Buffalo Chicken, Veggie pizzas at Trinity Brewery on Forge. Program presentation at 5:30pm about a recent Mexico Mountaineering Adventure trip taken by CMC members.

[Buy Tickets](#)

Wilderness First Aid Course Return to Colorado Springs a Success!

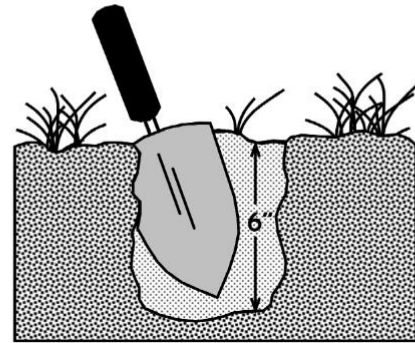


A big "thank you" to our WFA instructors, Julie Kiley and Elizabeth (Betty) Katondo, as well as the 17 students who attended, for making our recent course a great success. It has been a minute since we have hosted a WFA course locally, and Julie and Betty were instrumental in bringing it all together.



Learning More – Bring Your Outdoor Game to the Next Level

Leave No Trace Dig A Cathole



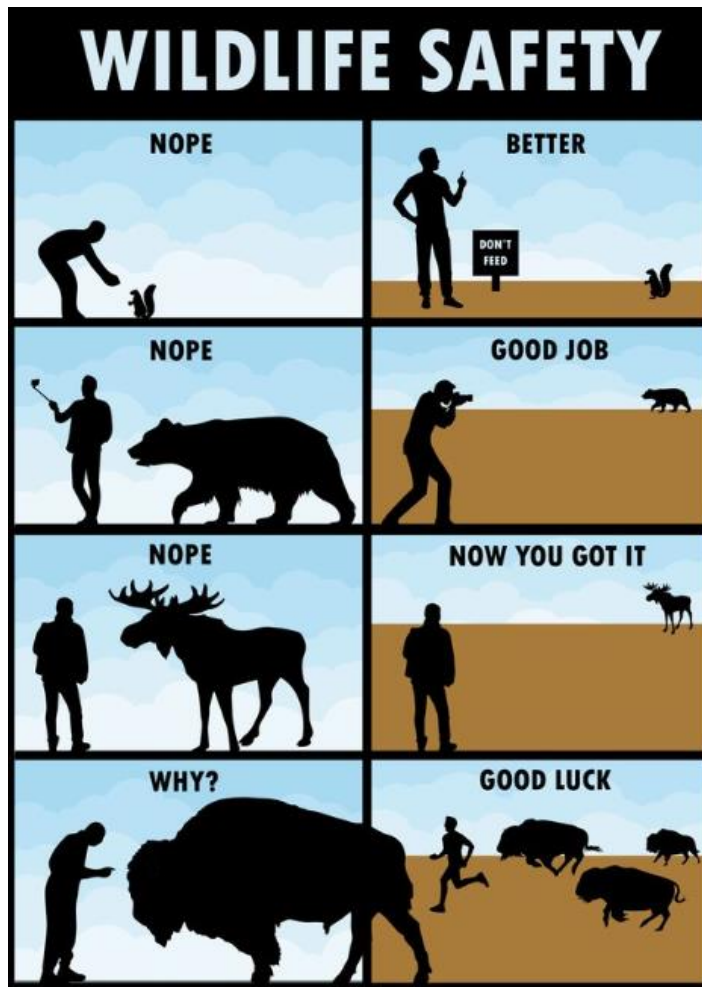
Nature Calls: How To Poop Outside on Your Next Thru-Hike

PPG Mardi Gras "Fat Tuesday" Party



More Potpourri

Colorado Parks and Wildlife Winter Viewing Tips



Colorado is a magical place in winter.

Winter offers wildlife viewing opportunities that are not found at any other time of the year. As the snow deepens in the high country the animals move to wintering grounds in lower elevations and valley bottoms. Animals you can see in winter include moose, deer, and furbearers such as marten, ermine and perhaps a rare glimpse of bobcat or cougar. Birds abound in this icy wonderland—jays, woodpeckers, chickadees, nuthatches, and owls.

Wildlife viewing ethics are particularly important during the winter. Maintain distance and do not cause animals to change their behavior.

In winter, animals are under stress from cold and reduced food supplies; being chased may cause them to lose critical fat—which may threaten their survival. You are using more energy, and so are the animals.

See a [list of helpful wildlife viewing tips](#).

Become a CMC Trip Leader via Trip Leader School



Are you ready to bring your CMC experience to the next level and become a trip leader? It's fun, rewarding, and a great way to meet and make new friends while exploring and adventuring at the destination of your choice! The process involves learning the roles and responsibilities by reading the CMC Leader manual, taking a self-paced online course, earning the Wilderness First Aid (WFA) certificate, joining with other prospective leaders in a scenario day, and then conducting a Leader-In-Training (LIT) hike under the guidance of a current CMC trip leader. Then your application is ready for submission and review. [Learn more](#) about becoming a CMC trip leader. Contact [Glenn Barr](#), PPG Trip Leader School (TLS) Director, with any questions or assistance in getting started. Local scenario days are planned for March 16th and 30th.

2024 Pikes Peak Regional Crew Leader Training

Wednesday, May 1st, Saturday, May 4th, and Sunday, May 5th, 2024. The Pikes Peak Regional Crew Leader Training is an intensive training for experienced volunteers who are interested in becoming certified Volunteer Crew Leaders. The training is hosted in partnership by Rocky Mountain Field Institute, Trails and Open Space Coalition, and the City of Colorado Springs, Parks, Recreation, and Cultural Services Department. [Find out more](#) about trip leader training.

Fox Run Nature Center Plans for Nature Center

[Learn more.](#)

Even More Potpourri!

Blodgett Open Space Master Plan – Comment Deadline Approaching



You still have time to read the latest version of the [Blodgett Open Space Management and Master Plan](#) and share your comments. Deadline to comment is February 18. The plan adds parking and bathrooms to existing trailheads and builds an additional trailhead on the southern end of the open space. It creates a hiking only trail and several miles of biking only trails. TOSC Staff members participated in the public meetings and are pleased to see that the need for wildlife corridors is addressed in the plan along with more miles of trail.

CORSAR Card



Your [CORSAR card](#) helps fund rescue missions across the State of Colorado by contributing to the Search and Rescue Fund.

And One More Photo!



Pancake Rocks

And a side trip to Falls made for a 7 mile plus adventure in the snow.

Great weather!

So blue were the skies!

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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:

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:

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.