



The Newsletter of the CMC's Pikes Peak Group

April, 2025 | No. 323

## The Pikes Peak Group in Photos

### Crags to Devils Playground



L-R: Akil, Kim, and Christie (leader).

### Monarch Pass

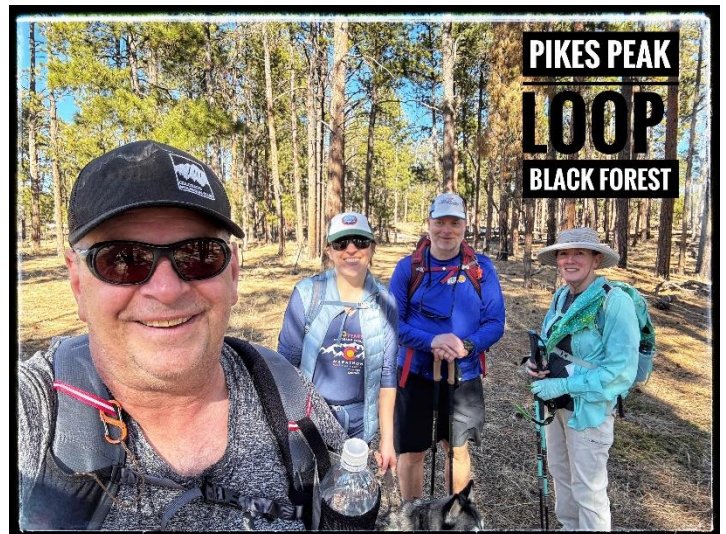


Christie (leader), Debbie (photographer), Sean (co-leader), Carl, and Helen.

### Barr Camp



L-R front: Andy Lyon (leader), Cheryl Harmel, Jan Brady, Dean Waits, (assistant leader); middle: Rachel Dobrotin, Kelly Fyffe, Sue Sikora; back: Theo Lubke and Vinh Mai. Photographer Jared (Barr Camp caretaker).



Another photo on page 3.





## Your PPG Council

**Chair** – Joe Preiss

719-337-9331, [zmqjwp@gmail.com](mailto:zmqjwp@gmail.com)

**Past Chair** – Glenn Barr

719-244-3502, [gjb2000@gmail.com](mailto:gjb2000@gmail.com)

**ARCPro Director** – Scott Kime

719-235-0939, [scott.kime@live.com](mailto:scott.kime@live.com)

**Conservation** – Jim Koeppen

575-636-5668, [jrkoeppen@gmail.com](mailto:jrkoeppen@gmail.com)

**Education & Training** – Joe Preiss

719-337-9331, [zmqjwp@gmail.com](mailto:zmqjwp@gmail.com)

**Equipment Manager** – Kristen Buckland

419-260-7807, [buckie06@hotmail.com](mailto:buckie06@hotmail.com)

**HAMS/Adventure Travel** – Greg Long

719-659-0345, [at\\_90@yahoo.com](mailto:at_90@yahoo.com)

**Membership** – Dean Waits

719-445-0263, [dwaits24@gmail.com](mailto:dwaits24@gmail.com)

**Newsletter** – Dave Anderson

719-484-9069, [danderso@uccs.edu](mailto:danderso@uccs.edu)

**Outings** – Dania Spohn

571-991-2519, [danica.c.ruiz@gmail.com](mailto:danica.c.ruiz@gmail.com)

**Programs** – Vacant

**Public Relations** – Emma Moore

310-913-8931, [emma@pvt.group](mailto:emma@pvt.group)

**Safety & Leadership** – Mike Cromwell

858-395-5986, [cromwellc@comcast.net](mailto:cromwellc@comcast.net)

**Secretary** – Sarah Hettenbach

785-226-3176, [hettenbach.s@gmail.com](mailto:hettenbach.s@gmail.com)

**Social Events** – Vacant

**State Council Rep** – Julie Jacobsen

719-351-1323, [jewelsjoy3@msn.com](mailto:jewelsjoy3@msn.com)

**Treasurer** – Julie Jacobsen

719-351-1323, [jewelsjoy3@msn.com](mailto:jewelsjoy3@msn.com)

**55 Plus Group** – Christie Lee

719-243-1821, [christie80905@gmail.com](mailto:christie80905@gmail.com)

**At Large:**

Ed Anderson

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

Britt Jones

719-661-4777, [britt@globalreality.biz](mailto:britt@globalreality.biz)

Rick Keetch

719-634-1165, [rakeetch@msn.com](mailto:rakeetch@msn.com)

Sean Starkey

[sean@seanstarkey.com](mailto:sean@seanstarkey.com)

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

## Welcome New Members!

Lance Cannon

Cheyenne Krynauw

Juan Sun

Emil Wisekal



## 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 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

## New Member Orientation



L–R: Joe Preiss (assistant leader), Emil Wisekal, Katherine Toczyski, Lance Cannon, David Chelgren, John Menassa, Jason and Heather Harvey, and Dean Waits (leader and photographer).



# Potpourri

## PPG Trip Leader School Director Needed



The PPG seeks a motivated and engaging Trip Leader to help mentor aspiring volunteer CMC trip leaders and guide them through the certification process to become a CMC Trip Leader. This position is for "general" trip leader training and not for technical trip leader certification, which includes most rock climbing activities per the CMC Leader Manual. The TLS leader helps future trip leaders prioritize the physical and emotional safety of their group, fostering a culture of belonging, and planning all logistical aspects of the trip.

- **Duties** include promoting awareness of the TL certification program and the steps involved, tracking prospective TL progress, hosting quarterly scenario field days, ensuring the PPG TL program follows the CMC guidance (trip leader manual), and championing the efforts of prospective trip leaders to complete their certification and serve as an active CMC Trip Leader.
- **Required skills** include trip leading experience, current CMC Trip Leader badge, current CMC Wilderness First Aid Badge, and a willingness to engage and share trip leading skills, requirements, responsibilities, and the fulfillment one feels in giving back when leading trips.

If you are excited to learn more about what it means to be the PPG TLS Director, please contact [Glenn Barr](#).

---

## Mt Lindsey Reopening

Colorado Fourteeners Initiative (CFI) announced recently that Mount Lindsey is reopening to individuals through an online waiver. See the [Colorado Springs Gazette article](#).

## CMC Virtual Fireside Chat: Trip Leader School Updates



CMC is hosting a discussion about Trip Leader School updates and the associated responsibilities for Group Leadership and Office Staff.

Thursday, April 10, 2025, 6:00–8:00pm. [Register here](#).

---

## Pikes Peak Prepares for the 2025 Season

[Pikes Peak–America's Mountain](#) is gearing up for another exciting season, with shuttle tickets and timed entry permits going on sale April 1. This year, expanded shuttle stops will provide easier access to popular spots like Crystal Creek Reservoir, Glen Cove, and Devils Playground. The shuttle will run daily from May 23 to August 10, while timed entry permits will be required for those driving up the highway from May 23 to September 30. Admission prices have increased slightly to support maintenance and visitor services, with general admission now \$18 for adults and \$8 for children. The North Slope Recreation Area, including Crystal Creek Reservoir, will open May 1, though North and South Catamount reservoirs will remain closed for repairs. Visitors are encouraged to plan ahead, check conditions, and book reservations. If you are hiking up the peak and get into an emergency situation, read about the "Hiker Safe Room" on that page.

---

## Florissant Fossil Beds



Sean, Jan, Robbie, Juan, Lori, Branson, Don, Amy, Emma, and Christie (leader).



# Upcoming PPG Classes

## **ARC Pro Traditional Gear & Anchors**

Sat, Mar 22, 2025 - Sun, Mar 23, 2025

Students will be introduced to traditional gear placement and will learn how to use natural and traditional protection to build safe climbing anchors. 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. Members: \$95; Guests: \$125.

## **PPG BMS - Advanced Snow Climbing**

Thu, Apr 10, 2025 - Sun, Apr 20, 2025

This course is the fourth course in the Pikes Peak Group's Basic Mountaineering School (BMS) curriculum. 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, and self-arresting and snow climbing practice. The PPG WTS - Wilderness Fundamentals course and either AIARE Level 1 or AIARE Avalanche Rescue course are the prerequisites for this course. Students must have earned the Wilderness Trekking School Student and either AIARE Level 1 or AIARE Avalanche Rescue badges to be able to register for this course. Members: \$90; Guests: \$150.

## **Land Navigation**

Wed, Apr 16, 2025 - Sat, Apr 26, 2025

This is the second course in the Pikes Peak Group's Wilderness Trekking School (WTS) curriculum. 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 then participate in the associated field session to receive credit for completing the overall course. Members: \$35; Guests: \$45.

## **Crack Climbing Clinic – North Table Mountain**

Sat, Apr 19, 2025

We will discuss and demonstrate basic crack-climbing techniques for the various crack sizes and spend the day practicing on top-rope. Participants should already have climbing experience and be proficient with belaying and the basic climbing safety system. Members: \$35; Guests: \$50.

## **Basic Alpine Climbing**

Wed, Apr 30, 2025 - Sat, May 10, 2025

This 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, and 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. Members: \$45; Guests: \$90.

## **ARC Pro Intermediate Self Rescue**

Sat, May 3, 2025 - Sun, May 4, 2025

This class builds upon and expands self-rescue skills taught in the ARC Pro Introduction to Self Rescue class by teaching skills applicable on multipitch terrain. We will review the skills from the ARC Pro Intro Self Rescue class, then move into new skills more applicable in multipitch terrain. Students will learn how to assist a follower using hauling methods, lower a climber from a top belay with a knot pass, and descend multiple pitches with another climber using tandem rappels. Members: \$105; Guests: \$125.

## **Rock Climbing**

Mon, May 5, 2025 - Sat, May 17, 2025

This is the second course in the Pikes Peak Group's Basic Mountaineering School (BMS) curriculum. The PPG WTS - Wilderness Fundamentals Course is the prerequisite for this course. Students must have earned the Wilderness Trekking School Student badge or have been granted a waiver to be able to register for this course. Members: \$75; Guests: \$95.



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



# Conservation Corner

As spring arrives in Colorado, it brings both challenges and opportunities for our outdoor spaces. Many people are concerned about the uncertainty surrounding federal funding for public land agencies and grants that support local trail maintenance efforts. While this is a real concern, we have the opportunity as a community to step up and help make a difference.

One of the easiest ways to help is by volunteering with a local trail maintenance crew. Many organizations are kicking off their 2025 volunteer season, and they'd love an extra set of hands. If you can't donate your time, financial contributions are another powerful way to support public lands. Donations help fund full-time trail crews, maintain equipment, and support future projects. CMC even has its own seasonal work crews—if you'd like to contribute, you can donate [here](#).

Below is a list of local organizations currently accepting volunteers and donations. Every little bit helps!

- [Trails and Open Space Coalition](#)
- [Friends of the Peak](#)
- [Rocky Mountain Field Institute](#)
- [The Colorado Trail Foundation](#)

If you're eager to make a bigger impact, consider joining the Rocky Mountain Field Institute's Crew Leader training. Crew leaders play a vital role in supporting land managers and stewardship organizations by guiding essential trail and restoration projects. This training will equip you with the skills to lead safe, successful volunteer projects while also teaching fundamental trail construction and restoration techniques. It's a great opportunity to gain hands-on experience, develop leadership skills, and give back to the trails we all love!

- Wednesday, April 30 - 5:30-8:00 pm - Presentations and Training
- Saturday, May 3 - 8:00 am-2:00 pm - Technical Training
- Sunday, May 4 - 8:00 am-2:00 pm - Technical Training

For more information and to sign-up see [2025 Pikes Peak Regional Crew Leader Training](#).



## Pikes Pique

April, 2025 | No. 323

*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:

Dave 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.