



The Newsletter of the CMC's Pikes Peak Group

August, 2025 | No. 327

## The Pikes Peak Group in Photos

### New Member Orientation



L-R: Joe Preiss (co-lead), Bully the dog, Lynne VanArsdale, Joan Arnold, Barbara Krauser, Elie Charlton, Dylan Teeples, Jodi Teeples, Bill VanArsdale, and Ken Monahan. Dean Waits (leader and photographer).

### Almagre Mountain



Sean, Phil, Stephanie, Mary, Will, Don and Christie (leader).

### Chautauqua-Sundance



L-R: Barry Vlessing, Greg Long, Richard Trillet, Tom Mourer, and Jim Guerra (photographer).

### RMFI Barr Trail Work



L-R: Robyn Etzel, Greg Long, Dean Waits, and Robin Mino.

*More photos on pages 2 and 5.*



## Your PPG Council

**Chair** – Joe Preiss

719-337-9331, zmjwp@gmail.com

**Past Chair** – Glenn Barr

719-244-3502, gjb2000@gmail.com

**ARCPro Director** – Scott Kime

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

**Conservation** – Jim Koeppen

575-636-5668, jrkoeppe@gmail.com

**Education & Training** – Joe Preiss

719-337-9331, zmjwp@gmail.com

**Equipment Manager** – Kristen Buckland

419-260-7807, buckie06@hotmail.com

**HAMS/Adventure Travel** – Greg Long

719-659-0345, at\_90@yahoo.com

**Membership** – Dean Waits

719-445-0263, dwaits24@gmail.com

**Newsletter** – Dave Anderson

719-484-9069, danderso@uccs.edu

**Outings** – Vacant

**Programs** – Vacant

**Public Relations** – Emma Moore

310-913-8931, emma@pvt.group

**Safety & Leadership** – Mike Cromwell

858-395-5986, cromwellc@comcast.net

**Secretary** – Sarah Hettenbach

785-226-3176, hettenbach.s@gmail.com

**Social Events** – Vacant

**State Council Rep** – Julie Jacobsen

719-351-1323, jewelsjoy3@msn.com

**Treasurer** – Julie Jacobsen

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**55 Plus Group** – Christie Lee

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**At Large:**

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Meggan Barcan

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Sean Starkey

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Emil Wisekal

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Mark Yeadon

mountainpapa1@gmail.com

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

## Welcome New Members!

Elie Charlton

Jennifer Charron

Julie Johns-Cole

Chris Monahan

Shannon Norland

Emily Toren



## 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

## Another PPG Photo

### Mount Rainier Summit



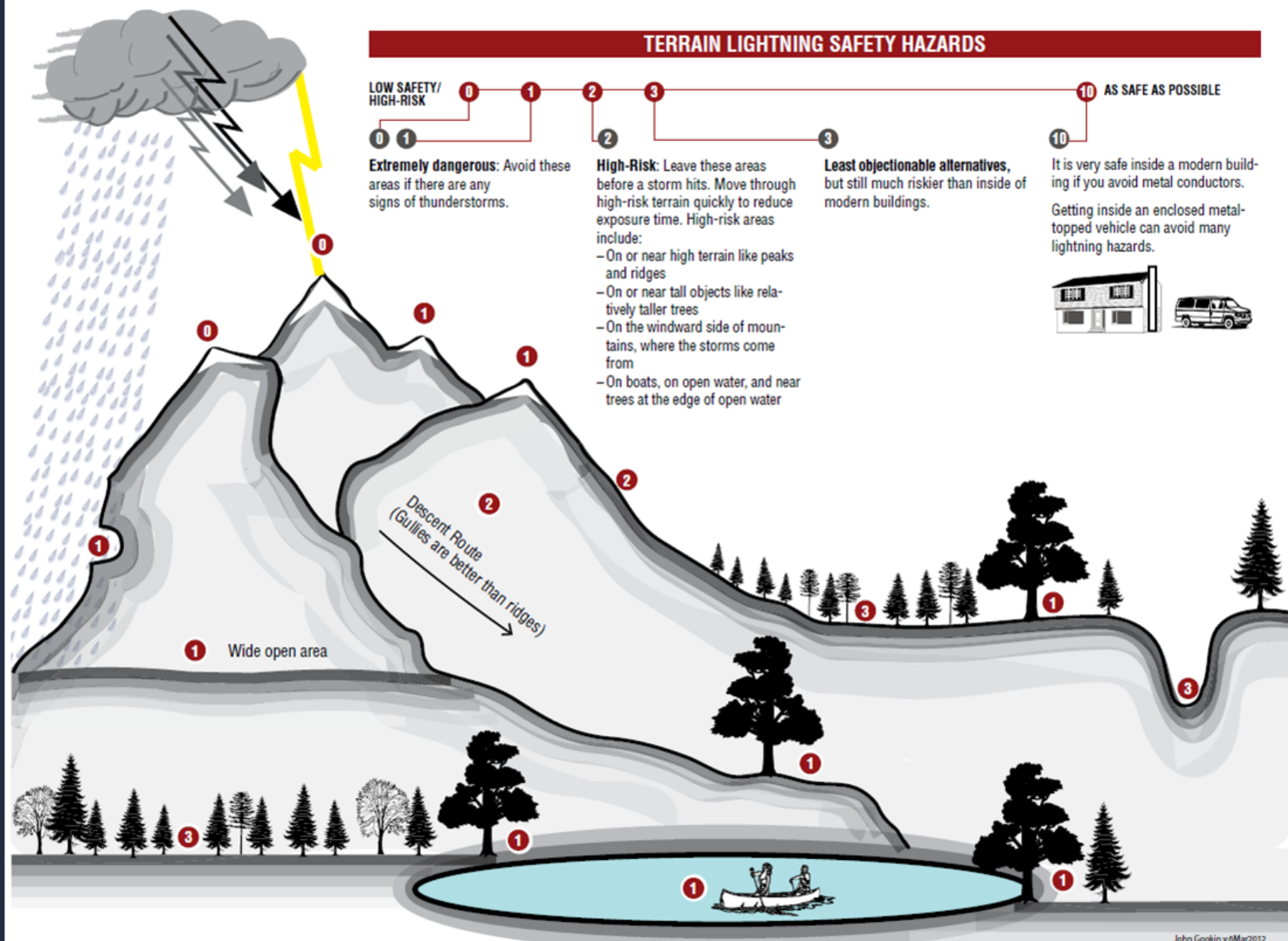
Ryan Quinn, Austin Richards, John Clem, and Chris Kaplan.

the PPG  
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# 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.



The Hiker Safe Room in the Pikes Peak Summit Visitor Center is a warming shelter for hikers that arrive at the summit and the facilities are closed either due to weather or after hours. Hikers seeking emergency shelter should locate the door by walking around the facility to the southern face, locate the marked door, and push to enter. In the event of snow drifting, the hiker may have to dig to find the door knob. [Hiker Safe Room](#)

## Upcoming PPG Classes

### Basic Alpine Climbing

Wed, Jul 30, 2025 - Sat, Aug 9, 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, 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.

### PPG WTS - Intro to Backpacking

Wed, Aug 6, 2025 - Wed, Aug 13, 2025

The PPG WTS - Introduction to Backpacking Course is the third and final course in the PPG Wilderness Trekking School curriculum. 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. Prerequisites: PPG WTS - Wilderness Fundamentals completion or equivalent. The "Wild Fun" class covers concepts that will be expected knowledge for this course and we will reference the text provided from that class (*Mountaineering: The Freedom of the Hills*, 9th ed.). Members: \$45; Guests: \$90.

### ARC Pro Sport Lead Climbing

Sat, Aug 9, 2025 - Sun, Aug 10, 2025

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 rapping or lowering down, advanced lead belaying, bailing off a route, climbing movement, and falling practice. It is taught over two full field days at a climbing crag. Members: \$105; Guests: \$125.

### PPG WTS - Wilderness Fundamentals

Mon, Sep 15, 2025 - Sat, Sep 20, 2025

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. Members: \$45; Guests: \$90.

### PPG WTS - Land Navigation

Mon, Oct 6, 2025 - Sat, Oct 11, 2025

This course is the second course in the Pikes Peak Group's Wilderness Trekking School (WTS) curriculum. This course may also be a prerequisite for trips or other schools. The PPG WTS - Wilderness Fundamentals Course is the prerequisite for this course. Students must have earned the "Wilderness Fundamentals course" badge or a CMC equivalent to be able to register for this course. 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 course field session a PPG trip to receive credit for completing the overall course. Members: \$35; Guests: \$45.

### ARC Pro Basic Self-Rescue

Sat, Oct 18, 2025

This course serves as an introduction to self-rescue skills that can be applied in various climbing situations and built upon with further training. Rescue skills taught include taking over a top-rope belay, rope ascending methods, passing a knot on rappel, alternate rappel methods, and using a rope coil to carry an injured person. This class consists of one full field day at a rock-climbing crag, with outdoor discussion, demonstrations, and practice with instructor feedback/supervision. This class is applicable to climbers of all levels and is the prerequisite for the Intermediate Self-Rescue class, which expands on these basic rescue techniques. Registrants should have basic rock-climbing skills to include climbing knots, safety checks, top rope belaying and rappelling. Members: \$75; Guests: \$95.



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





# More PPG in Photos

## "After Work" Rock Climb in RRCOS



Amanda Lampton climbing (Joel Gibson photographer).

## Eleven Mile Canyon Arch Rock Climb



L-R, back: Dave Molyneaux, Joel Gibson, Sara Gordon, Greg Bergquist; front: Travis Meyer, Greer Rising, Sue Sikora, Joel Bassinger, and Amanda Lampton.

## 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:

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.