



The Newsletter of the CMC's Pikes Peak Group

October, 2025 | No. 329

The Pikes Peak Group in Photos

Sentinel Peak



Michelle, Christie (leader), Desiree, Meagan, and Ron.

Greenwood Village



L-R: Dean Waits, Debbie Klein, and Andy Lyon (leader).

St Mary's Falls



L-R: Richard Trujillo, Erica Levitt, Sean Starkey, and Sara Gordon (leader and photographer).

After Work Climb in Red Rock Canyon Open Space



Dave Molyneaux. (Sara Gordon, photographer.)

Your PPG Council

Chair – Joe Preiss

719-337-9331, zmjwp@gmail.com

Past Chair – Glenn Barr

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ARCPro Director – Scott Kime

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Education & Training – Joe Preiss

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Equipment Manager – Kristen Buckland

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Membership – Dean Waits

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Newsletter – Dave Anderson

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Outings – Vacant

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 Rep – Julie Jacobsen

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Treasurer – Julie Jacobsen

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55 Plus Group – Christie Lee

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Mark Yeadon

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

Welcome New Members!

Hannah Burton

Mikaila Carter

Forrest Dodd

Max McGann

Sophia Swanson

Janice VanAnrooy

Richard Woolshlager



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

Pikes Peak Group Annual Dinner



Get your Party Boots ready! We will be having our Annual Dinner on November 15th at the Public House at the Alexander, 3104 N. Nevada Ave. Same location as last year. Excellent food and drinks of your choice. We will slow down on the fun just a bit to review our year's activities, elect officers, and give awards. Everyone had so much fun grabbing some lightly used equipment at the raffle, we will do it again. So, if

you have some gently used outdoor equipment, packs, boots, books, etc. that you no longer need, bring it on. More info to follow.



Dick Eustice and the Story of Section 16



It's always a great day to get out on Section 16 for an early morning or evening hike along the edge of Gold Camp Road. There are a couple of ways to hike, clockwise from the trailhead up High Drive or the way most folks go—counter clockwise—for a brisker steeper warm-up going up to the saddle at about 8,000 feet, where at this point it moves from Sect 16 to become the Palmer Trail.

It's also a great way to enter Red Rock Canyon Open Space or the Paul Intemann Trail, as there are several ways to veer off into a huge myriad of geology. Upthrust rocks, that once lay under an early sea, geologically rich layer-cake of limestone, shale, gneiss, and billion-year-old granite mixed with much younger 50-million-year-old sandstone. All along the Ute Pass Fault.

The possibility to see different critters always abounds, mule deer, rabbits, black Abert's squirrels, racoons, black bear,

mountain lions and all sorts of birds trying to hide in the Gambel Oak. May even see a para-glider sail overhead.

These must have been some of the things that lured PPG member Mr. Dick Eustice to the trail back in the '90's. Dick was a dedicated member from 1983 - 2015. He would seek other club members to help keep the trail in pristine condition, but even without takers, he was there by himself and his dog, Cheetah. Removing rock from the hillside and digging dirt trenches to guide the water off the steep trail.

Parts of this have been taken from a Gazette article, *The Keeper of Section 16*, Oct 8, 1995, saying the Colorado Mountain Club through the Parks Departments Adopt-a-Park/Trail program was assigned stewardship of 1.65 miles of the trail. This was effective in 1990.

The Parks Dept placed a sign at the trails saddle signifying the CMC's stewardship on the trail. As the city has taken over stewardship of the trail the sign has been removed. On your next hike on the trail, give a thought to the efforts of Mr. Eustice and other club members for their attention to its up keep.

In 2003 the city of Colorado Springs and various entities purchased Sect 16 and additional property saving it from becoming a business park and housing development, thus creating the Red Rock Canyon Open Space.

The name Section 16? It comes from back when Colorado became a state in 1876, land was measured in a grid of townships of 36 square "sections", each section being 640 acres. Each square was numbered, so the 16th square on the grid was known as Section 16. All section 16s and 32s were deeded to the state by the federal government, with all income from that land to go to public schools.

Upcoming Pikes Peak Group Classes

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. 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 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.

High Altitude Mountaineering School Wed, Oct 29, 2025 - Sun, Feb 22, 2026
A course to prepare experienced Colorado climbers to take on high altitude and glaciated peaks. Class will consist of 6 evening lectures between October and December followed by 5 field sessions to practice skills. A graduation climb of Mt. Rainier or other glaciated peak will follow the course. Cost: \$295.

Basic Alpine Climbing Wed, Oct 29, 2025 - Sat, Nov 8, 2025
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. Members: \$45; Guests: \$90.

PPG AIARE 1 Mon, Jan 5, 2026 - Sun, Jan 11, 2026
A 3-day course designed to give you a proven approach in planning, executing and reviewing your backcountry ski, snowshoe, mountaineering, and other snow adventures involving travel in avalanche terrain. Topics include building trip catalogs, tracking the season, observing and understanding the changes in the snowpack, recognizing avalanche terrain and travel options, improving your situational awareness while in the field, and evaluating the day's decisions when finished. Cost: \$445.

PPG - Avalanche Terrain Avoidance Wed, Jan 14, 2026 - Sat, Jan 17, 2026
The Avalanche Terrain Avoidance course provides information to trip and course leaders to help them recognize and avoid avalanche-prone terrain. Members: \$35; Guests: \$45.

Intro to Snowshoeing Wed, Jan 21, 2026 - Sat, Jan 24, 2026
Learn the gear, maintenance, safety and beginner level techniques for this entry into the winter wonderland for many people and a common activity on the winter schedule. This is also a wonderful way of beating the ever rising resort lift ticket fees and crowds. Members: \$45; Guests: \$75.

Basic Ice Climbing Tue, Feb 3, 2026 - Sun, Feb 8, 2026
Are you ready to continue developing your mountaineering skills? This course is the third course in the Pikes Peak Group's Basic Mountaineering School (BMS) curriculum. Students will learn basic ice climbing skills in a top-rope environment. Members: \$125; Guests: \$175.

PPG WTS - Wilderness Fundamentals Mon, Feb 23, 2026 - Sat, Feb 28, 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. Members: \$45; Guests: \$90.



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

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.