



The Pikes Peak Group in Photos

North Slope Rampart Reservoir to Barren Forest



Christie (leader), Debbie, and Ruthie.

Rainbow Gulch Hike



Jim, Courtney, Sean, Debbie, and Christie (leader).

Mount Muscoco



Don, Jim, Jody, Richard, and Christie (leader and photographer)

Seven Bridges/Loud's Cabin/Captain Jack's Loop



L-R: Mark, Bryan, Julie, Michele, Lori, Deborah, Linda, Jan, Asst. Leader Sean, Lisa, Jody, and Debbie. Photo by leader Andy.

Another photo on page 2.

Your PPG Council

Chair – Joe Preiss

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Equipment Manager – Kristen Buckland

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Membership – Dean Waits

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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

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

Welcome New Members!

Perry Boydston

Catherine Castelli

Ruthann Cranford

Adam English

Elizabeth English

Ella English

Henry English

Natasha Finnegan

Kyle Higgins

Rebecca Holmes

Derek Johnson

Brody May

Alan McConnell

Lezlie McKenna

Alexander McShiras

Michael Orendac

Anji Paumier

Linda Sturtevant

Paul Symes

Natalie Varnado



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

Weekend at Barr Camp



L-R Jody Long, Anna Gallogly, Zan Ray, Debbie Klein, Karl Ford, Andy Lyon (co-lead), Sara Gordon, Joel Gibson, Dean Waits (leader), Rachel Muhonen, Zane Muhonen, Garrett Tanner and Alan McConnell.

the PPG
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Upcoming Pikes Peak Group Classes

Basic Ice Climbing

Tue, Feb 3, 2026 - Sun, Feb 8, 2026

Learning to ice climb will help you reach your winter alpine objectives. Ice is frequently encountered in the mountains during winter ascents. Ice climbing is incredibly dynamic combining technique, precision, determination, and excitement. Ice climbing combines the beautiful with the challenge of climbing inclined ice formations. Each day ice can change, grow and shrink which adds a unique element over other climbing styles like rock climbing. Class covers: gear overview, ice climbing ratings, anatomy of ice tools and crampons, ice climbing movement, proper climbing technique for swinging ice tools and kicking in crampons, and climbing practice. You will also learn about alpine ice travel including traveling on fixed lines on ice. Cost: 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. 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: Members \$45, Guests \$90.

PPG AIARE Avalanche Rescue Course

Sun, Mar 8, 2026

AIARE Avalanche Rescue is a one-day stand-alone course that teaches best practices in avalanche rescue techniques and gear. 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. CMC requires it at least every 5 years to refresh and update skills CMC leaders and instructors use in the field. Cost: Members \$125, Guests \$175.

Winter Wilderness Survival

Mon, Mar 9, 2026 - Sun, Mar 15, 2026

So, now you have learned, from other classes, how to get out and play in the winter backcountry. But what do you do if things don't go as planned? A day trip can turn into an unexpected overnight - or longer. Cost: Members \$75, Guests \$100.

ARC Pro Traditional Gear & Anchors

Sat, Mar 21, 2026 - Sun, Mar 22, 2026

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: Members \$105, Guests \$125.

PPG BMS - Advanced Snow Climbing

Tue, Apr 7, 2026 - Mon, Apr 13, 2026

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: Members \$90, Guests \$110.



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



Advanced Snow Climbing Class



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Course covers: gear overview, trip planning, ascending/descending with an ice axe and crampons, avalanche risk review, and self-arresting and snow climbing practice.

Come climb Pikes Peak couloirs with us in April 2026!

Pikes Pique

February 2026 | No. 333

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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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.