



The Newsletter of the CMC's Pikes Peak Group

April, 2026 | No. 335

The Pikes Peak Group in Photos

New Member Orientation in Red Rock Canyon Open Space



L-R: Joe Preiss (co-leader), Alan McConnell, Kathryn Craig, Keith Myrick, Paul Symes, Carl Sundberg, Michael Singleton, Tim Ofallon, Marisa Morrison, Jacey Thorsen, Natasha Finnegan, and Rebecca Holmes. Leader and photographer Dean Waits

Monarch Pass to Monarch Mountain



Annamari, Jeff, Jody, Julie, Alan (co-leader), and Christie (leader).

Dawson Butte Ranch



More photos on page 2.

More Pikes Peak Group in Photos

Aiken Canyon



L-R: Claudine Calouri, Andy Lyon, Dean Waits, Carol Nugent, and Jody Long.

Cheyenne Mountain State Park



55 Plus Activity – Fine Arts Museum

Limber Pine Trail



Alexis, Theresa, Richard, Brian, Tim, and Christie (leader).



Tim, Annette, and Christie (Leader).

*Got photos from a class or trip?
Send them to Dave at danderso@uccs.edu.*

Your PPG Council

Chair – Joe Preiss

719-337-9331, zmqjwp@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

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Education & Training – Joe Preiss

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Equipment Manager – Kristen Buckland

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HAMS/Adventure Travel – Greg Long

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Membership – Dean Waits

719-445-0263, dwaits24@gmail.com

Newsletter – Dave Anderson

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Outings – Sara Gordon

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Programs – Vacant

Public Relations – Emma Moore

310-913-8931, emma@pvt.group

Safety & Leadership – Mike Cromwell

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Secretary – Sarah Hettenbach

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

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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At Large:

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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!

John Mark Leach

Keith Myrick

Rachel Smith-Leach

Christopher Stultz

Deborah Stumpf

Carl Sundberg



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

RMFI Volunteer Opportunities



RMFI is starting their trail working season:

- Garden of the Gods trail work in May
- Devils Playground pack-in in June
- Barr Trail pack-in in June

Hope to see you out there!

[RMFI Calendar](#)



Upcoming Pikes Peak Group Classes

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, 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. Cost: Members \$90, Guests \$110.

Crack Climbing Clinic – North Table Mountain

Sat, Apr 18, 2026

We will discuss and demonstrate basic crack-climbing techniques for the various crack sizes and spend the day practicing on top-rope. Cost: Members \$35, Guests \$50.

Basic Alpine Climbing

Wed, Apr 29, 2026 - Fri, May 1, 2026

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. PPG WTS - Wilderness Fundamentals Course is the prerequisite for this course. Cost: Members \$45, Guests \$90.

ARC Pro Traditional Lead Climbing

Sat, May 2, 2026 - Sun, May 3, 2026

This class will equip students with the skills and knowledge needed to start leading single-pitch traditional rock routes on their own. Over the course of two full days at an outdoor crag we will review traditional gear and anchors then will focus in detail on the protection system and leading strategies. Students will mock-lead single-pitch trad climbs (on a separate belay) with instructor evaluation of the entire process. We will cover lead belaying and follower belaying skills. Students will do some improvised aid climbing on gear they have placed in order to gain confidence in their own gear placements. Cost: Members \$105, Guests \$125.

Rock Climbing

Tue, May 5, 2026 - Sat, May 16, 2026

This course 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. Cost: Members \$75, Guests \$95.

PPG WTS - Wilderness Fundamentals

Mon, May 11, 2026 - Sat, May 16, 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. Cost: Members \$45, Guests \$90.

ARC Pro Basic Anchors

Sat, May 30, 2026

Students will learn climbing anchor fundamentals that can be applied to rock, snow and ice anchors, but focusing on setting up anchors for top rope rock climbing. We will spend a full field day outside reviewing anchor gear, general anchoring principles, and methods of rigging climbing anchors. At the end of the class students should be able to safely rig a top rope climbing anchor using various materials. Prerequisites: Basic and Intermediate Rock or equivalent, to include basic belaying and rappelling skills. Note: This class does not cover trad gear placement, which is covered in our ARC Pro Trad Gear and Anchors class. Cost: Members \$50, Guests \$60.

Land Navigation

Mon, May 11, 2026 - Sat, May 16, 2026

This course is the second course in the Pikes Peak Group's Wilderness Trekking School (WTS) curriculum. The PPG WTS - Wilderness Fundamentals Course is the prerequisite for this course. Cost: Members \$35, Guests \$70.

ARC Pro Basic Self-Rescue

Sat, Jun 13, 2026

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, basic rope ascending methods, passing a knot on rappel, alternate rappel methods, and using a rope coil to carry an injured person. Cost: Members \$35, Guests \$70.

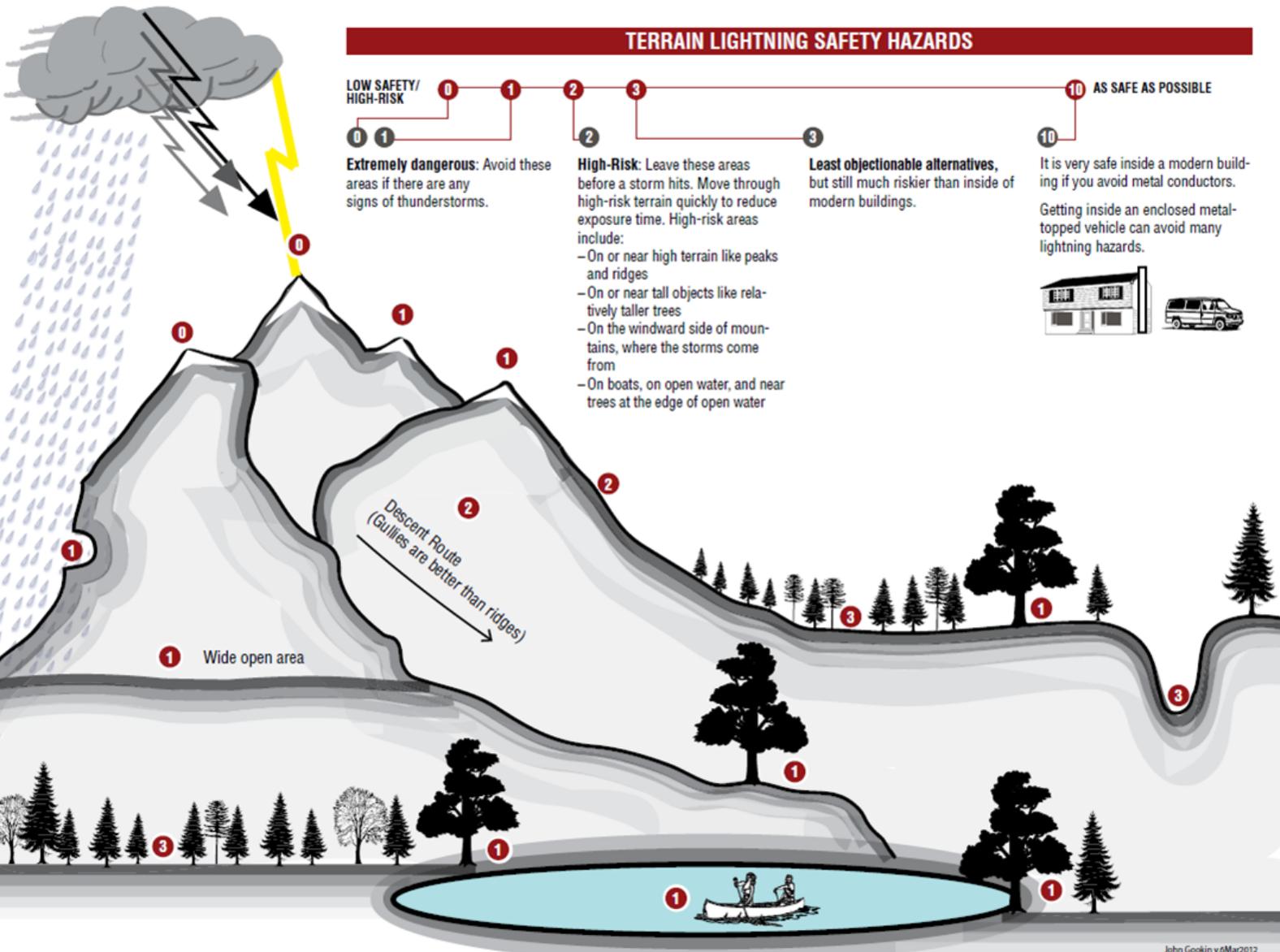


To register for classes or trips,
go to www.cmc.org



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.



Wilderness First Aid Class



Burrito wrap for hypothermia.



Improvising a litter with a climbing rope.

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
[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.