



August 2017 | No. 237

Pikes Pique

The Newsletter of the CMC Pikes Peak Group

Member Contributions

BARR CAMP RENOVATION COMPLETED

By Dean Waits



If you've recently hiked to Barr Camp you would have noticed a lot of new construction activity. A new foundation was installed under the log cabin structure Fred Barr completed in 1924, along with a new composite porch and some new bridges that now allow the caretakers to safely retrieve supplies from the Mountain View storage.

The project has now been completed. Your Pikes Peak Group helped preserve and renovate this historical icon by making a \$1,000 donation. If you haven't made a trip to either spend the night or just for the exercise, it's a wonderful six-mile adventure.



LA PLATA TRIP, JUNE 24

By David Kuenzli



L-R: Dan Hildebrand, Andrea Torske, William Musser, Robin Mino, Brad Sherman, Krista Scott, and Barbara Newsome. Trip leader David Kuenzli behind the camera.

GOOSE CREEK TRAIL – SHAFT HOUSE TRIP, JULY 1

By Carol Schmitz



L-R: Gary Marx, Barb Gutow, Jo Anne Peterson, Erika Lefstad (Denver group), Sherry Scott, Carol Schmitz (leader), Susan Gerdes, Bryan Scott.

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

Welcome New PPG Members!

Jonathan Huang Matthew Triplett
Taylor Lindsey Samuel Woods
Jo Anne Peterson



Summer 2017 Stewardship Schedule

This summer the CMC has four stewardship projects scheduled in coordination with the Pike National Forest. Please sign up using the links below, and watch for more information in the Pikes Pique.

On **August 5**, we will be doing some touch-up work on Lovell Gulch trail in the areas we worked last year. The rangers would like a couple hundred feet of trail to be wider so it will be easier for people to pass without trampling the critical edge and undoing our work. We will also block some braided trails and put up some signs.

On **September 9**, we will remediate some erosion issues on the eastern end of the southern loop on Lovell Gulch.

HQ-CMC in Golden has scheduled a work project on Pikes Peak on August 19-20. I don't know anything about it, but there may be more information in next month's newsletter and soon on the CMC's [stewardship page](#).

Finally, sometime in late summer we hope to help the Pikes Peak Ranger District close some user-created motorized routes around FRs 314 and 315 – across Rampart Range Road from Lovell.

Member Discounts

Adventure Medical Kits
Ajax Bike and Sport
American Mountaineering Museum
Bentgate
Breckenridge Nordic Center
City Rock
Friction Labs
Frisco Nordic Center
Gold Camp Brewing
Golden Bike Shop
Great Storm Brewery
Ken's Anglers
Lumiere Telluride
Moosejaw
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Mountain Equipment Recyclers
Mountainsmith
Neptune Mountaineering
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

the PPG
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Upcoming PPG Classes

PPG ARCPro Multipitch Concepts Class

Starts August 10

Students will learn techniques applicable to climbing multipitch routes, including: preparation, anchors, belaying, cleaning gear, belay transitions, descending, and climbing with a 3-person team. Prerequisites: Students should have basic rock climbing skills, such as taught in our BMS Rock Climbing or the equivalent, to include belaying, rappelling, and climbing communication. Leading skills are not absolutely necessary, but it is recommended that participants in this class take the ARCPro Gear and Anchors Class and Traditional Lead Climbing Class prior to this class, as students may practice placing trad gear and building trad anchors in this class. However, this class will be beneficial to anyone looking to climb multipitch routes, to include leaders and followers. Exact class content and student practice sessions will be tailored to the individual student's skill level and goals. Contact the leaders if you have questions regarding your suitability for this class.

PPG Basic Mountaineering School - Colorado Wilderness Backpacking

Starts August 23

There are two class lectures. Our discussions include finding the right backpack, systems review – including sleeping systems, cooking systems, clothing systems, ultra-light techniques, tents, trip planning, team composition, group dynamics, and site selection. We will do a gear check prior to the overnight to make sure you are properly equipped. There is a CMC Rating Trip (overnight) that is designed to reinforce principals and techniques discussed in class. Prerequisites: Wilderness Fundamentals.

PPG ARCPro Sport Lead Climbing Class

Starts August 26

This two-day class will teach participants the skills needed to safely lead sport climbs; to include setting up a top-rope anchor, cleaning the anchor and rappelling or lowering down, along with some more advanced sport climbing skills. On Day 1, we will focus on the safety components and transitions of leading sport climbs and cleaning/rappelling sport climbs, then on Day 2 students will practice leading, will learn movement techniques, how to fall safely (with some practice taking real falls), and advanced leader belaying. It is designed for the climber who has climbed top-rope style, but who would like to advance into being a fully "independent climber" able to put up ropes at the start of a climb, and safely take down ropes at the end of a climb. Prerequisites: Participants are expected to either be graduates of BMS Rock or have experience with good climbing belay skills, rappelling, good climbing communications, and a good working knowledge of knots and the climber's safety system. Your experience does not need to be extensive, but this is not an introduction to climbing class.

Pikes Peak Intro to Mountain Biking Basics

Starts September 6

Learn the gear, maintenance, safety, and entry level techniques for basic mountain biking. Mountain biking is a great way to enjoy the wilderness with a little more skill and finesse, of getting out for a short outing after work, and for building cardio before a big climb. There will be two classroom sessions in Colorado Springs and three field sessions for the mountain biking class. The cost is \$60. There are also rental costs if you don't own the gear. The mountain biking classroom dates are 06 and 07 Sep from 6:00p to 9:30p, and the field dates are 09, 16, and 23 Sep all day. A strong fitness level to go on a full day technical bike ride is required for the field sessions as this will not be casual riding. The field sessions will be progressive in nature to build on skills.

Pikes Peak Intro to Technical Canyoneering

Starts September 13

If you have completed the Intro to Desert Hiking and Canyoneering *and* Basic Mountaineering School Rock Climbing courses, here is a chance to take those skills to the next level. Come learn the proper gear, safety, and techniques for technical canyoneering. There are many nuances to this environment that warrant a safe approach such as provided by this class. The course cost is \$150. The classroom session will be in Colorado Springs on 13 Sep from 6:00p to 9:30p. There are two evening field session in Colorado Springs to cover some basics and evaluate fitness levels on 14 and 21 Sep. Then we go on a four-day trip to the desert scheduled for 01 Oct through 04 Oct. This year's desert trip is planned for the San Rafael Swell in Utah. A strong fitness level to go on daily full day hikes with scrambling and rappelling on high exposure in hot terrain, squeezing through narrows, and hiking all day in loose sand and deep water is required for the field sessions. The field sessions will be progressive in nature to build on skills. Attendance at the classroom session and local field sessions will be required to attend the Utah trip. Prerequisite: Completion of both BMS Rock Climbing *and* Intro to Desert Hiking & Canyoneering is required! A city parks permit to rock climb is also required and must be obtained prior to the course.



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



Upcoming PPG Classes (continued)

Pikes Peak Intro to Desert Hiking and Canyoneering

Starts September 20

If you have only been hiking in the high altitude for your spring, summer, and fall there is another world out there. When you have climbed enough peaks to wonder what other environments might be out there, the next step for you may be desert terrain. Come learn the proper gear, safety, and entry level techniques for basic desert hiking and basic canyoneering. There are many nuances to this environment that should warrant a safe approach such as provided by this class. The course cost is \$95. The classroom session will be in Colorado Springs and is on 20 Sep from 6:00p to 9:30p. There is a one day field session in Colorado Springs to cover some basics and evaluate fitness levels scheduled for 24 Sep. Then we go on a five day trip to the desert scheduled for 27 Sep through 01 Oct. This year's desert trip is planned for the San Rafael Swell in Utah. A strong fitness level to go on daily full day hikes with scrambling on moderate exposure in hot terrain, squeezing through narrows, and hiking in loose sand is required for the field sessions. The field sessions will be progressive in nature to build on skills. Attendance at the classroom session and local field session will be required to attend the Utah trip.

Pikes Peak Trip Leader Training

Starts October 5

This course provides the necessary training and satisfies part of the requirement of becoming a CMC trip leader for the Pikes Peak Group. (Completion of a Wilderness First Aid course, a CPR course, and practice trip leading are the other requirements for becoming a trip leader.) The classroom sessions are on 5 and 9 October from 6:00 pm to 8:30 pm. The field session on the morning of 14 October will be scheduled as a CMC trip. *Prerequisite:* Must have taken BMS Wilderness Fundamentals and BMS Land Navigation or possess equivalent demonstrable knowledge/experience and be a PPG member for at least one year.

Pikes Peak WFA (Wilderness First Aid)

Starts October 21

This two-day, sixteen-hour ECSI accredited course presents dynamic instruction devoted to teaching the student how to respond to medical emergencies in remote settings where definitive medical care is not readily available. Day one consists of classroom presentations and hands-on training in a variety of medical situations that may be encountered in the backcountry and wilderness areas. Day two continues with a shorter classroom presentation followed by realistic scenarios in the field that simulate the type of medical situations people face in wilderness settings, when calling 911 is not an option. This course satisfies a requirement for trip leaders. The sessions are on 21 and 22 October from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm. A comprehensive textbook and field guide are included and you will receive your WFA certification. *Note:* This course does not teach CPR, which is taught in a separate two-and-a-half-hour class (with separate sign up required) at the same location after the completion of the WFA course.

Pikes Peak CPR Training

October 22

Knowing CPR can be life-saving! Did you know the number four cause of death in the backcountry is heart attack? If you never had CPR training or it's been a while, this two and a half hour American Heart Association accredited training is for you. It includes the latest classroom instruction and hands-on training in CPR/AED for the Adult/Child/Infant (choking, conscious and unconscious). This class is taught at 3:30 pm on October 22 and satisfies a requirement for trip leaders. You will receive a CPR certification good for two years.

August PPG Trips

Lovell Gulch Trail Project #7

Saturday, 8/5/2017

Moderate

Leader: Thomas Mowle, 719-216-3932, tommowle@yahoo.com

Trail Mileage 1.5, Elevation Gain 300. Location: North of Woodland Park. Details: Trail work. Open to the public. Ages 16+; under 18 must be accompanied by parent/guardian. Bring your lunch. The Pikes Peak Group is continuing to help the National Forest with maintenance on Lovell Gulch Trail #706 near Woodland Park. For our first workday this year, the Forest has asked us to widen a section of trail that we built last year. Once the project is full, we will not be able to accommodate any additional volunteers unless additional leaders/tools are recruited. This is for safety's sake—to retain a safe crew leader to volunteer ratio—and due to the number of tools available. Please cancel if needed to make room for others, and join the wait list if the trip is full. Notes: Additional workday is on Sept 9.



To register for classes or trips,
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August PPG Trips (continued)

Mt. Sherman

Saturday, 8/5/2017

Moderate C

Leader: Debbie Sheinman, 719-635-7720, sheindk@yahoo.com

Trail Mileage 8, Elevation Gain 2800, Driving Distance 200. Location: I will camp at Fourmile Creek Campground the night before. I am more than happy to have participants camp with me, but you'll need to be responsible for your camping gear, food, and water. Another option may be to stay at the hotel in Fairplay. We'll start at the gate at Fourmile Creek Trailhead at about 11,240 feet. We'll hike up the old mining road in a northwesterly direction passing by the ruins of several old mines. We'll leave the road behind and then hike up a rocky trail to the saddle between Mt. Sherman and Mt. Sheridan at 13,748 feet. From there, we'll hike towards the northeast up the rocky ridge to the summit. If weather and time allow, we may be able to also hike either Mt. Sheridan or the Gemini Peaks. Please remember to bring your 10 essentials, including 2-3 quarts of water, rain gear (rain jacket and pants), warm layers of clothing including hat and gloves, and food. If you need to cancel your reservation on this hike, please contact me no later than Friday morning, August 4th. I will be out of cell phone range by the afternoon of August 4th. Details: Directions to the trailhead are as follows: (High clearance/four-wheel drive vehicles are suggested.)

- From Colorado Springs take Hwy 24 west to Hartsel. West of Hartsel, turn north on Hwy 9 towards Fairplay.
- From Denver take Hwy 285 south to Fairplay. Continue south past Fairplay to the Junction of Highways 9 and 285.

At the junction of Hwys 9 and 285, continue south going south for 1 mile to Park County Road 18. Turn right or west onto Park County Road 18. After 4 miles you'll pass by Fourmile Creek Campground. After 8 miles you'll pass by the old Leavick townsite and mine. At about 10-11 miles the road will become rougher. At 12.5 miles park near the gate.

North Maroon Peak - 14,014'

Friday, 8/11/2017

Difficult D

Leader: Mark Silas, 719-748-5223, mtnshrink@centurylink.net

Trail Mileage 9.25, Elevation Gain 4500. Location: Meet at Maroon Lake trailhead at 4:00 am. Details: Leader can provide suggestions on where to stay the night before the trip. We will start from the Maroon Lake trailhead at 4:00 am. Bring a good headlamp and a helmet. See route description for Northeast Ridge on 14ers.com. Moderate pace means able to climb at least 1,000 vertical feet per hour, which means the ascent shouldn't take more than about 5 hours. The group needs to stay ahead of the typical afternoon storms. This is one of Colorado's harder 14ers. Should have some prior experience doing 4th class climbing. Notes: Register with leader. (Leader may take a few days to respond to emails.)

Lakes of the Clouds Backpack

Saturday, 8/12/2017

Moderate C

Leader: Eric Hunter, 719-266-9647, EHunterCMC@gmail.com

Trail Mileage 11, Elevation Gain 2500, Driving Distance 180. Location: Sangre de Cristos east side. Details: Come see one of the most spectacular canyons on the east side of the Sangre de Cristos. This hike climbs from Gibson Creek Trailhead to the magnificent views of the lakes nestled in the large canyon surrounded by Spread Eagle Peak, Cloud Peak, and Silver Peak. We will hike in the loop by Short Creek and out the loop by Swift Creek. This is one of the more picturesque places close to home with little population on the trails. Nothing comes this close to simple beauty in the wilderness. We will camp one night near the lakes in the upper basin. Well behaved dogs on leash welcome. Nat Geo Map 138. 180 mi. 11,250'. Register with leader.

Browns Creek Trail and Browns Lake

Saturday, 8/12/2017

Moderate B

Leader: Denise Snow, 719-687-9576, denisedansnow@q.com

Trail Mileage 11, Elevation Gain 2310. Location: We will start at the Browns Creek TH. Details: This trail follows the Browns Creek Drainage approximately 5.5 miles to Browns Lake, where it meets with a four-wheel drive road. Begin your trip at Browns Creek Trailhead on County Road 272. Within 1.5 miles of the trailhead is a junction with the Colorado Trail. Browns Creek Trail continues westward from this junction and the Colorado Trail heads southward. Shortly after the trail junction the path crosses Little Browns Creek. The next creek the trail reaches is Browns Creek. (Both of these streams provide access for trout fishing.) From this point to Forest Road 278, Upper Browns Road, the trail follows the stream closely. It also climbs to a high point of 11,280' at the lake. Be sure to visit the 'falls' about half way up.

Peanut Lake and Cherry Lake

Saturday, 8/19/2017

Moderate B

Leader: Denise Snow, 719-687-9576, denisedansnow@q.com

Trail Mileage 10, Elevation Gain 3300. Location: We will start from the trailhead parking as listed in the directions. I will probably stay in a hotel in Poncha Springs the night before. Details: This is a hike in the Sangre de Cristo Wilderness to the very scenic Peanut and Cherry Lakes. The trailhead follows Wild Cherry Creek to the lakes at the foot of Mount Owens, a 13er.

August PPG Trips (continued)

Elk Park to Barr Camp

Sunday, 8/20/2017

Moderate C

Leader: Paul Kozlowski, 719-684-9408, paul.kozlowski@hotmail.com

Trail Mileage 11, Elevation Gain 1800, Driving Distance 40. Details: Pikes Peak Marathon hike starts at Elk Park Knoll off the Pikes Peak Highway. We'll hike down scenic trail to Barr Camp, take time to watch marathon runners on Barr Trail. Return is up by same route. Lots of photo opps. High-altitude-hiking experience required. Pikes Peak Highway fee is \$12/person. Register with leader.

Laramie Peak, WY Solar Eclipse Camp & Hike

Sunday, 8/20/2017

Easy C

Leader: Glenn Barr, 719-244-3502, gjb2000@gmail.com

Trail Mileage 10.5, Elevation Gain 2,722, Driving Distance 600.

Location: **Laramie Peak** is west of Glendo, WY in the Medicine Bow National Forest ([Google map](#)). Details: *Exploratory—trip leader has not hiked this trail nor visited this area.* What better way to view the August 21st North American Total Solar Eclipse than from the top of a mountain in Wyoming? We will drive to Friend Park Campground (300 miles / 5.5 hrs) located west of Glendo, WY on Sunday, August 20 in hopes of beating some of the crowds and traffic, tent camp that night at the campsite (fee) or dispersed nearby (free), and then hike up the trail (5.2 miles one way / 2,722 ft elev gain) to Laramie Peak on Monday morning to catch the total solar eclipse (starting at 10:23am – totally obscured 11:44-11:46am – and ending 1:11pm), then hike back to camp, and either camp another night or drive back to Colorado Springs, depending on group's desires (planned in advance). Laramie Peak (Elev 10,272 ft, west of Glendo, WY) is the highest Wyoming peak in the Laramie Range, which is located in the northern part of Medicine Bow National Forest. The mountain does not rise above treeline and the switchback trail leading to the top begins around 7,500 feet, making the days elevation gain about 3,000 feet. Easy Class C—based on trail mileage. Trail is multi-use (horse, hikers, ATVs). See trail data websites below for more details. Nominal camping/parking fees (\$5/day trailhead parking and \$10/day camping—If in campground). Notes: [Solar Eclipse Info](#), [Summit Post info/trail data](#), [14ers.com 2008 Trip Report](#), [USFS Trailhead Info](#), [Friend Park Campground Info](#), Douglas Ranger District 1-307-358-4690.

Goodwin Lakes Backpack

Saturday, 8/26/2017

Moderate C

Leader: Eric Hunter, 719-266-9647, EHunterCMC@gmail.com

Trail Mileage 10, Elevation Gain 2500, Driving Distance 180. Location: Sangre de Cristos east side. Details: Come enjoy an overnight to one of the more exceptional canyons in the Eastern Sangre de Cristos. We will hike up the Rainbow Trail from the Comanche/Venable TH up the Goodwin Lake Trail past abandoned and active beaver ponds then up to the first lake. We will find a good spot to camp overnight below Eureka Mountain. Well behaved dogs on leash are welcome. Nat Geo Map 138. 180 mi. 10/2,500'. Register with leader.

Mays Peak

Saturday, 8/26/2017

Moderate B

Leader: Y Mason, youdew@aol.com

Trail Mileage 9.25, Elevation Gain 2200. Location: Located within North Cheyenne Canon. Details: This hike entails climbing up *steep*, uneven, and eroded off-trail terrain. Since the temperature within the canyon could be quite warm, a mandatory minimum of 3 litres of water is required. Also include snacks, sun protection, a first aid kit, a camera (the views from Mays are quite nice), and any other items that will provide you with comfort. No rabbits (fast paced hikers) please. Notes: Specific details will be emailed to registered hikers several days prior to the hike.

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.

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Non-members:

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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:

David 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.