



April 2018 | No. 244

Pikes Pique

The Newsletter of the CMC Pikes Peak Group

Pikes Peak Group Program – April 17

Denise Snow Presents: *Slovenia!*



Why Slovenia? What is Slovenia? Where is Slovenia? Many of you may never have heard of it or may have confused it with another European country. My stepfather thought it was the country that had been invaded by Russia. Even those that know the country's location may still not know why they should be interested in going there. But after spending time in this amazing country, it's not a place I'll ever forget.



I led a CMC Adventure Travel trip to Slovenia in August 2017. I have trekked and climbed numerous places around the world

for the last thirty plus years and this was my sixth time leading an AT trip, but this was probably one of the best trips I have taken. I cannot wait to return to Slovenia. Slovenia is a small country with a big heart. My time there was magical and I would encourage those wanting to take a trip to put it on their short list.



Please join us at 6:30 p.m. on April 17th for our monthly program at the Mountain Chalet, 226 N Tejon St as Denise Snow shares with us her Slovenian adventures.

Your PPG Council

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

Welcome New Members!

Trisha Buckett
Philip Barden
Kent Drummond
Jean Fontana
Kevin Gilford
Charles Hill
Daniel Johnson
Bethany Kelsey
Sarah Letendre
Madison McDonald
Dan Miller

Bruce McHugh
Debra McHugh
Tyler Nero
Nate Pittman
Joy Smith
Jerry Smith
Kody Smith
Jessie Sheldon
Donna Sterns
Darrell Sterns
Jeffrey Vandenbussche



New Member Orientation



L-R: Michael Albonetti, Kristy Horton, guest, Tyler Nero, guest, Phil LaSarre, guest, Julianne Barcia, guest, Diane McComie, leader, Jim and Renee Siewertsens, guest.
Photo by Dean Waits, leader.

Conservation Corner

This year's primary Pikes Peak Group stewardship projects will be on the Putney Gulch section of the Ring the Peak Trail. The project will be in collaboration with Friends of the Peak. The work will be similar to last year's work on Lovell Gulch, improving drainage on the trail so there is less erosion. We have two volunteer days scheduled: [Saturday July 14](#) and [Saturday August 4](#). Please sign up online.

If you want to work at higher elevation, the State CMC has also set up a collaboration with RMFI and Friends of the Peak to make improvements on the Devils Playground Trail. We will be working both days on the weekend of [September 15-16](#), with camping overnight. RMFI will provide food. Please sign up directly on the RMFI site.

Potpourri

PPG BMS – WILDERNESS FUNDAMENTALS



Windy Point group picture: Front (L-R) Stephen Rolle, Eric Richardson, Josh Walker; Back (L-R) Diane McOmie, Larry Karasevich, Trisha Buckett, Lynn Walker, and Jennifer Schmidt.
Photo by Glenn Barr, trip leader.

Members and instructors of the recent Wilderness Fundamentals class enjoyed a brisk hike in the Spruce Mountain Open Space to review class lecture concepts of the ten essentials, trip planning, wilderness travel, Leave No Trace, and "what to do when things go wrong" while sharing favorite hiking and equipment tips. Lots of fun and fantastic views from up top on Windy Point.

PANCAKE ROCKS – MARCH 10



L-R: Natalia, Lisa, Christie, Patsy. Photo by John Gray.

HAPPY 50TH ANNIVERSARY TO THE MOUNTAIN CHALET



The Mountain Chalet 50th Anniversary Contest is our way of celebrating our 50th birthday. It's our way to give back to our loyal customer base and draw attention to the amazing outdoor opportunities here in Colorado! There are six separate contests in each of the six sports we spotlight in the shop. The six winners will enjoy a full outdoor kit that includes gear, footwear and apparel! If you'd like to learn more or sign-up for the contest, come on in the shop and we will get you set up!

WE NEED YOUR FEEDBACK!



Are there trips we're not offering that you would like to do?
Are there trips that we're not offering frequently enough?
Please let us know! Email [Britt Jones](#) with your suggestions.

4TH ANNUAL PIKES PEAK BIRDING & NATURE FESTIVAL



Friday, May 11 – Sunday, May 13, 2018.

[Register Now](#)

Upcoming PPG Classes

PPG ARCPro Gear and Anchors Class

Starts March 22

The Pikes Peak Group Gear and Anchors Class is part of the PPG Advanced Rock Climbing Program and is a prerequisite to the Trad Leading class. In Gear and Anchors, students will learn about the various types of rock protection, including: 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 a safe climbing anchor to include placement and evaluation of protection, fall forces, direction of pull, rigging methods, and knots for anchoring. By the end of the final field session, participating students will be expected to be able to build trad anchors that meet an instructor-team evaluation for gear placements and anchor safety. They will rappel off of anchors they have built and rigged. Cost: \$95.

PPG Basic Mountaineering School – Colorado Wilderness Land Navigation

Starts April 4

There are two class lectures and a field session. Our 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. The CMC trip is designed to reinforce principals and techniques discussed in class. You'll be given a map with markers. Your team's job will be to find them. Dates: 4 and 11 Apr, 6:30pm-9:30pm, 14 Apr, 7:30am-4:00pm. Cost: \$50. Prerequisite: BMS Wilderness Fundamentals.

PPG ARCPro Intermediate Self-Rescue Class

Starts April 7

This is our next-level Self-Rescue class for those who have completed the Introduction to Self-Rescue class. We will review the basic skills from the Intro class, then move into more advanced self-rescue skills, including skills applicable to multipitch climbing, such as lowering from a top belay, hauling methods, and multipitch tandem rappels. Cost: \$95. Prerequisites: Students should have already taken BMS Rock Climbing and Introduction to Self-Rescue, or have equivalent skills.

PPG WFA (Wilderness First Aid)

Starts April 21

This two-day, sixteen-hour ECSI accredited course presents dynamic instruction devoted to teaching 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 less 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 April from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm. A comprehensive textbook and field guide are included, plus you will receive your WFA certification. Cost: \$70. **Note:** This course does not teach CPR, which is taught in a separate two-hour class (*with separate sign up required*) conveniently at the same location after the completion of the WFA course.

Pikes Peak Group CPR Training

April 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-hour American Safety & Health Institute 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 April 22nd and satisfies a requirement for trip leaders. Cost: \$25. You will receive your CPR certification.

PPG ARCPro Crack Climbing Class

Starts May 5

This class will focus on crack-climbing techniques for climbing finger to fist-sized cracks, along with touching on chimney and off-width techniques. We will not be teaching any gear placement or lead climbing in this class—we will focus on climbing techniques while on a top-rope belay. Cost: \$80. Prerequisites: Students should have basic rock climbing skills, such as taught in our BMS Rock Climbing or the equivalent, to include belaying and climbing communication. Leading skills are not necessary.

PPG Basic Mountaineering School – Colorado Rock Climbing

Starts May 9

There is one class lecture and active skills practice session. Our discussions include climbing gear, rating a climb, the different types of rock climbing, reviewing climbing knots, rope management, including coiling, care and inspection, anchors, communications, climbing techniques, belaying, rappelling, and building an auto-block. There are two CMC Rating Trips which we typically do at 11 Mile Canyon and Castlewood Canyon. Dates: 9 and 10 May, 6:30pm-9:00pm, 19 and 20 May, 7:30am-3:30pm. Cost: \$62. Prerequisite: BMS Wilderness Fundamentals.



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



Upcoming PPG Classes (continued)

PPG Basic Mountaineering School – Wilderness Fundamentals

Starts May 21

The Wilderness Fundamentals class is an introduction to 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. Class lecture covers the fundamentals of choosing back country gear (the Ten Essentials), trip planning, nutrition, conditioning, Leave No Trace (LNT) conservation practices, mountain weather, safety, emergency planning protocol (what to do when things go wrong), and a case study of a recent Colorado wilderness accident. Classroom session is on 21 May from 5:45-8:45pm and optional field session on 26 May. Cost: \$45 for PPG members, \$55 for others. This class is a prerequisite 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 this one under your belt.

April PPG Trips

Seven Bridges/Buckhorn Loop

Sunday, 4/1/2018

Moderate BI

Leader: Andy Lyon, 719-630-1523, andyslyon@msn.com

Trail Mileage 10.5, Elevation Gain 2000, Driving Distance 16. Location: Meet at "the hub" parking area above Helen Hunt Falls in Cheyenne Canyon at 7:30 for a 7:40 start. This is only 8 miles from downtown CS but the road is winding so it takes about twenty minutes. Details: Let's spot some Pasque flowers in bloom and see what else is to be seen on the first Sunday of April. Meet at 6:45 for a 7:00 a.m. start from "the hub" parking area above Helen Hunt Falls. The early start will give us a better chance to see wildlife and time for any Easter plans later in the day. Hike up Seven Bridges trail to Jones Park and then down Bear Creek trail to the Buckhorn cutoff; back to trailhead. I'd love to get a co-leader on this so we don't have to cancel in case work calls me out of town suddenly.

Nordic Ski Breckenridge Nordic Center

Saturday, 4/7/2018

Moderate II

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

Trail Mileage 10, Elevation Gain 500, Driving Distance 260. Details: For those who recently completed the Pikes Peak Group Intro to Backcountry Ski Course, this is a great progression to continue to build your skills. Come spend the day honing your skate or classic track skiing skills on the groomed trails of this fantastic Nordic Center. Full rentals available at the center. All skill levels welcome. We will avoid avalanche terrain. Nordic Center Map. Register with leader.

HAMS Overnight - Makeup

Saturday, 4/14/2018

Moderate

Leader: Kristen Buckland, 419-260-7807, buckie06@hotmail.com

Trail Mileage 3, Elevation Gain 500. Location: Hoosier Pass. Details: This is a makeup trip for those currently in the PPG HAMS class. We will practice winter camping and crevasse skills.

BC Ski Mayflower Gulch

Saturday, 4/14/2018

Moderate III

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

Trail Mileage 7, Elevation Gain 1500, Driving Distance 320. Location: Mayflower Gulch, TH, near Leadville, CO. Details: For those who recently completed the Pikes Peak Group Intro to Backcountry Ski Course, this is a great progression to continue to build your skills. This is a moderate out and back ski into Mayflower Gulch north of Fremont Pass. We will stay to the main road up to the historic cabins, have lunch, play on the slopes around the cabins, and return. We may explore some of the side roads along the way. NNN-BC cross-country gear will be okay, but cable binding backcountry gear is recommended. Avalanche gear and training is required. Nat Geo Map 109. 320mi. Register with leader.

Boudoir Couloir Snow Climb

Saturday, 4/28/2018

Difficult III

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

Trail Mileage 9, Elevation Gain 2400, Driving Distance 100. Location: Meet in Colorado Springs. Details: This is a Class III couloir climb intended for those who have recently completed the Pikes Peak Group BMS Snow Climb course. All others will be placed on the wait list. Boudoir Couloir is on Horseshoe Mountain just south of Mt Sherman near Fairplay, CO. All 10 Essentials, crampons, alpine axe, helmet, avalanche beacon/probe/shovel are required. Avalanche L1 completion required. Nat Geo Map 110. Register with leader

Pancake Rocks

Saturday, 4/28/2018

Easy BI

Leader: Christie Lee, 719-243-1821, Christie80905@gmail.com

Trail Mileage 6.4, Elevation Gain 800, Driving Distance 125. Details: Contact leader at least two days prior to the trip.

Leaderfest 2018

BY BRITT JONES

I am happy to announce that we have set the date and location for this year's Leaderfest. Your PPG Council is hopeful that all 55 leaders will come and join us!

- Tuesday, April 24, 2018 from 6-8pm.
- Old Chicago at I-25 and Woodmen Rd, 7115 Commerce Center Dr.

We have a spot reserved called "The Cave" which is an area of the upstairs in a corner.

At this Leaderfest, we would like to discuss... what trips in the PPG are lacking and need to be led? What does the membership want and or what trips would they like to see that are not being offered or offered enough? What would you like to lead? Would you all be thinking about this and come prepared to discuss this with us?

And as a friendly reminder, to remain on our trip leader roster you must lead at least one trip in the past two year period. When I was updating my trip leader group in my address book to prepare this email, sadly I noticed that about 10 trip leaders had been dropped from the list. So please help out our local group by putting up a trip on the calendar a trip soon. You wouldn't want to loose those "pro-deals" would you?

And as a personal request, I am asking that every trip leader lead at least one 14er climb per year. That is one of the things most new members want is to have someone lead them up the 14ers.

ANOTHER REQUEST:

The Pikes Peak Group is responsible for upkeep and maintaining the A-Frame. If you hike up Pikes Peak anytime in the next year, would you please stop by the A-Frame and grab some of the shingles that have blown off of the roof and pack them out? There will be some assessment this summer of needed maintenance which will include a new roof. But in the meantime, the old shingles (and any trash) need to come off the mountain. Would you help us?

Thanks so much! I look forward to seeing you April 24th at Old Chicago.

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

Mountain Chalet

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

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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.org/About/CMCGroups

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:

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.