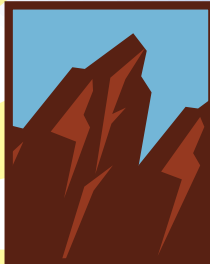


the **RED ROCK RAG**



FRIENDS OF
RED ROCK CANYON

Friends of Red Rock Canyon has a New President: Dave Dombach

I have been on the Board of directors since Fall of 2010. During that time I have been overseeing the trail working between Red Rock Canyon Open Space and Parks & Rec. I am honored the BOD has elected me as president.

My first goal for my term is to have on-going fundraising to insure we protect RRCOS & educate the public. My second goal is to begin fund raising to restore the pavilion in the White acres area and to build the picnic pavilions on the west side, Sand Canyon area, that was in the original Master Plan in 2003. I have been in Colo Spgs since 1977. I am originally from



Lititz, PA (Lancaster County). I have my own business designing & building trails, I also do flood & fire mitigation. When I have time I enjoy hiking and photography. Most of the time I am on the trail I am doing trail work. I also head up the CATS Team.

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Summer, 2014

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<https://www.facebook.com/redrock.canyon.54>



<https://twitter.com/redrock-canyonCO>

Red Rock Canyon Day, September 6th

Once a year we have a day to honor all our volunteers and supporting organizations/businesses. This is an opportunity to come out and talk with the FoRRC Board of Directors and other users of our Open Space. At the picnic area we have a number of information tables/tents for you to ask questions or give feedback

to groups who have activities in RRC.

From 11:00 to 2:00 PM we will give out lemonade and visit with the public: giving and receiving information and suggestions. So come on down and visit as you hike, bike, run, rock climb, walk your dog or wander in nature on a beautiful summer day!

Date: September 7, 2014
Time: 11:00 am - 3:00 pm

Venue: RRC Picnic Area
3550 W High St.
Colorado Springs, 80904

Trail Building Projects for the Coming Season

The City of Colorado Springs is in the process of contracting to have new trails in Red Rock Canyon Open Space. Some of the contract will also be used for repairing some of the already existing trails and to close of some of the most problematic social/renege trails in the park. The Work will be done starting in late fall and going into the winter and early spring of 2015.

Trail machines (mini bulldozer/excavator) will be making improvements on the main Mesa Trail/road from the parking lot all the way up. Water control features will be installed, like on the Red Rock Canyon Trail/Road. The Greenlee Trail at the south end of the Mesa Trail up to the Round Up trail will also have major improvements. Repairs and improvements are planned for the Sand Canyon Trail on the west and the Foothills trail on the east. The Section 16 Trail will connect the eastern Foothills Trail to the Intemann Trail on the south.

Next spring the City and Friends of Red Rock Canyon volunteers will be building a new trail loop in the south western part of the Open Space, which will tie back into the other park trails, rather than going over to Bevers Lane in Manitou Springs.

In the north eastern part of our Open Space, the City will be creating a new trail loop going near the rim, looking over Highway 24. Other trail connections will be improved in the quarry area nearby.

Soon there will be a map showing all the improvements to trails and habitat that are planned. All in all, it is exciting to know the will be more hiking opportunities next year. The work done this fall/ winter/spring will make Red Rock Canyon less susceptible to flood damage and protect more of the natural environment. There will be some good opportunities for citizen volunteers to contribute to this effort to improve the park.

We will keep you informed. We will need your help.

Shanti Toll

Iron Mountain Trail Completed!

Wow! It is done.

You can walk or bike the missing link of the Intemann Trail from Red Rock Canyon Open Space to Manitou Springs and the Barr Trail. You can now hike to the top of Iron Mountain from the library of Manitou in less than 3 miles round trip. You can travel on the Ring the Peak Trail from Ute Pass to Cheyenne Canyon through the mountains instead of dropping on to city streets. You now have one of the best views of our region's beauty and all its natural attractions.



(continued on following page)

(Iron Mountain - continued from previous page)

The Iron Mountain Trail starts at the south end of Pawnee Avenue in Manitou Springs and journeys about one mile to the top of Iron Mountain. [There is no parking available and no place to turn around beyond the trail head.] It is a multi-use trail for runners, bikers, hikers and nature lovers. The trail has an average grade of about 8%, so it is enjoyable for most people. On top is where the old McGee house used to look over the town of Manitou. The trail has three parts: one built long ago as a dirt road by Mr. McGee, one part built by a trail excavating machine, and the third part by volunteer trail builders.

Manitou Springs Trail Cats has been the volunteer trail building collaborative that coordinated the work it took to complete the project. Working with the City of Manitou Springs and regional trail building organizations, Manitou Cats created seven big workdays and many smaller workdays to plan and build the trail. The response of the community has been outstanding. Over four hundred volunteer days have been donated to make it happen. After each workday, volunteers would gather for a party of camaraderie and accomplishment. Manitou taverns generously supported the festivities with a free beverage for all the thirsty hard working people. It was a lot of fun.

The City of Manitou Springs really stepped forward to make the Iron Mountain Trail a reality. The Open Space Advisory Committee (OSAC), the Planning Department, the Public Works Department and the City Council all contributed time, energy and money to support the mechanical trail building that was necessary to finish the project. It was a tough project with many complications along the way, but they stuck with it.

One of the big successes of the Iron Mountain Trail project was the collaboration of regional trail building groups. They help promote the workdays and recruit volunteers and crew leaders. Their members turned out in force to help. Medicine Wheel (local mountain bike trail advocates) donated \$3000, provided tools for the workdays and lead one of the workdays. Friends Of The Peak (FOTP) donated \$1000 and lead one of the workdays. Rocky Mountain Field Institute (RMFI) lead one of the workdays also. Friends of Red Rock Canyon helped out on every single workday with tools and management support (thank you Dave). Trail and Open Space Coalition (TOSC) was central in communicating with the media and encouraging volunteers. Finally the Park and Recreation Department of Colorado Springs was extremely helpful in providing trained crew leaders to keep all the volunteers safe.

The Iron Mountain Trail finally connects to the Paul Intemann Memorial Nature Trail on both ends. The trail started to be built back in the 1980s. For outdoor enthusiasts and nature lovers the Intemann Trail has been the desired mountain connector of Manitou Springs [and points west] and Colorado Springs [and points east]. The trail now goes through Red Rock Canyon all the way to Ruxton Avenue. Earlier this year the Intemann Trail Committee built the other missing link of the trail connecting east and west. For over 27 years the Jordan Family and the Intemann Trail Committee have lovingly developed and maintained this spine trail for our region.

All of the people who have helped make Iron Mountain and Intemann trails a reality should feel very proud. We thank them for their effort and commitment. We are glad it is



Education Programs in Red Rock Canyon

The educational series of Talk and Walks continued again this summer in Red Rock Canyon. The informative sessions were and are being offered on weekday evenings, usually starting around 5:30 and ending before dark. Presentations are done by volunteers with expertise in their subject area. The presentations are basically informal, letting presenters give information about their subject first, the “Talk”, then all go out on a hike led by the presenter, the “Walk.”

Talk and Walks have been given this summer in History, Rock Weathering, Geology, Invasive Weeds and Plants. Each Talk and Walk is generally announced for sign-ups through our Friends of Red Rock Canyon email list and website, though sometimes the word of these events has made it into local newspapers. It is proving to be popular with many, with one Geology Talk and Walk becoming full within hours! If you would like to receive the announcements for our Talk and Walks

it is best to be on our email list. If you need to sign up on our email list, simply go to our website: www.redrockcanyonopenspace.org . At the bottom of the home page is a link to put your name on our email list.

We would like to thank the volunteer presenters which have helped to educate us about all in Red Rock Canyon. They are: Don Ellis (co-author of Geologic folio of Red Rock Canyon) History, Brandon Vogt (Professor of Geography UCCS) Rock Weathering, Tina Travis (El Paso County Forestry) Invasive Weeds, Sharon Milito (co-author of Geologic folio of Red Rock Canyon) Geology, Mark Izold (Professor of Geology PPCC) Geology and Amber Shanklin (Program Director of Rocky Mountain Field Institute) Invasive and non-invasive plants of Red Rock Canyon. We appreciate all of their support.

(continued on page 6)

Meet Red Rock Canyon's New Park Ranger

Originally from Thousand Oaks, CA., John Stark went to the University of Denver where he earned a Masters in Natural Resources Law and Policy. He previously worked for the City of Colorado Springs at Pikes Peak as a Ranger. He has also worked for the National Park Service as an Interpretive Park Ranger at seven different park units, most recently Denali National Park & Preserve. He previously worked as a NEPA Planner for an environmental consulting firm in southern California.

John enjoys spending time outdoors hiking, backpacking, and fishing.



“I’ve got a love for our wild places and feel a responsibility in preserving and protecting them. Please say hello let me know what you are seeing out in the park and together let’s keep making RRC a great place to spend your time outdoors!”

Enjoy a Phantom Canyon Continuum White Ale to Support Friends of Red Rock Canyon!

On **Sunday, August 31st, from noon to 2pm**, Phantom Canyon is having a party for FoRRC and the Rocky Mountain Wildlife Foundation (who is probably bringing a wolf!) Our great friends at Phantom Canyon are serving up a summer brew, **CONTINUUM**, which is a Belgian-Style White Ale. Twenty five percent of the sales from Memorial Day to Labor Day will be split between the Friends of Red Rock Canyon and Rocky Mountain Wildlife Foundation.

Stop by and enjoy this beer before the summer is gone! Please let them know we appreciate their support of the Friends of Red Rock Canyon. Enjoy!

2 E Pikes Peak Ave,
Colorado Springs, CO 80903



Donate to Red Rock Canyon Foundation on amazonsmile!

When you shop at smile.amazon.com, Amazon will donate 0.5% of your purchase price to any non-profit of your choice. PLEASE choose

RED ROCK CANYON FOUNDATION,

not Friends of Red Rock Canyon in Nevada.

Red Rock Foundation is the official organizational name of Friends of Red Rock Canyon in Colorado Springs.

For more information, see:

http://smile.amazon.com/gp/charity/about.html/ref=smi_se_uds_learn_saas



(Education Programs - continued from page 4)

Red Rock Canyon Educators



Mark Izold a Geology Professor at Pikes Peak Community College, took the approach to explain the Geology in Red Rock Canyon as small part of the geologic history involving the movement of the continents and plate tectonics.



Don Ellis kicks off our Educational Series of Talk and Walks in May, explaining the people and history that help to shape what Red Rock Canyon is today.



Sharon Milito, who has co-authored a book on Geology in Red Rock Canyon, discusses how fossils can be used to help to define the time period rocks were formed.



Brandon Vogt, a geographer instructor at UCCS, presents on the effects of rock weathering. Rock weathering takes a different look on how the rocks came to be the way they are.



Tina Travis with El Paso County Forestry and Noxious Weeds, demonstrates several of the Invasive Weeds that are found in Red Rock Canyon as well as locally.

*Amber Shanklin who works with Rocky Mountain Field Institute, focused her presentation on plants (invasive and non-invasive) by identifying the plants and discussing their effect on the environment.
(No picture available)*

Membership Form for Friends of Red Rock Canyon

Are you interested in preserving our Open Space? Are you a biker, hiker, climber, interested in plants, flowers or animals, or a person that enjoys the beauty of the outdoors? Join Friends of Red Rock Canyon and help us keep our Open Space beautiful.

Don't forget to check your renewal date on the back page of the newsletter.

Name: _____ Home Phone: _____

Address: _____ Work Phone: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Email Address: _____

Newsletter Delivery Preference: Via email (full-color, recommended) Via postal mail

Yes, I want to join Friends of Red Rock Canyon for the coming year

Individual/Family membership (\$15) Organization / Business membership (\$30)

I would like to help even more with a contribution of \$ _____.

I would like to be involved in volunteer efforts Please describe your interest:

Please mail this membership for
with your check to:

Friends of Red Rock Canyon

PO Box 6754

Note: Should you want to pay by credit card, go to
our website:

www.RedRockCanyonOpenSpace.org

(Friends of Red Rock Canyon is a 501(c)(3) non-
profit organization. Contributions are tax deductible.)

FoRRC Welcomes a New Board Member: Anthony "TJ" Maltese

Anthony is a geologist/paleontologist and curator at the Rocky Mountain Dinosaur Resource Center in Woodland Park. A former resident of Detroit and Kansas City, he settled in Colorado 10 years ago and made Red Rock Canyon his home park as soon as it opened (if not slightly before). Anthony is an active volunteer with TOSC, CUSP, RMFI, CATS and other local groups, and hopes to be leading geology walks in the open space soon.



The Red Rock Rag

Friends of Red Rock Canyon

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**MEMBERSHIP
RENEWAL DATE**



Red Rock Canyon Day!
Saturday, September 7
11:00 am - 2:00 pm
RRC Picnic Area



We're on the Web

www.RedRockCanyonOpenSpace.org



friends@RedRockCanyonOpenSpace.org



www.facebook.com/redrock.canyon.54



<https://twitter.com/redrockcanyonCO>