

# RPG Outings

Events are in or from Colorado Springs. A donation of \$1 per member per outing is requested to help our Sierra Club chapter defray costs. Added charge where noted.

## Beginner Cross-Country Ski Clinic

**Tuesday, Jan. 11 (indoors) 6-8:30 pm**

**Saturday, Jan. 15 (outdoors) all day**

Join the Pikes Peak Sierra Club Group's annual cross-country ski clinic to learn the basics of cross-country skiing equipment and techniques.

The indoor session on Tuesday, January 11 will be held at Beidleman Environmental Center, 740 W. Caramillo in the evening from 6:00 to 8:30 p.m. Steve Balsiger from the staff of Mountain Chalet will talk about equipment and clothing, including latest innovations in the sport. We will also discuss where to rent or buy equipment, where to go, and how to ski safely.

The outdoor session on Saturday, January 15 is an all-day learning and practice session, taught by Pikes Peak Sierra Club Group members. It will cover basic skiing techniques. It will be held locally, with the exact location depending on where the best snow can be found.

The total cost for both sessions is \$20 (\$10 for each additional family member). Participants who don't have equipment will also have to arrange rentals. You don't have to be a Sierra Club member to join in the fun. For reservations and further details, call Jim Lockhart at 385-0045 or Sophie Kogut at 598-8285.

**Sunday, Jan. 16 9 am-1pm**

## Stratton Open Space Hike

This easy-to-moderate 4 mile hike in Colorado Springs is in a diverse region of five ecosystems; elevation gain 700 ft. Come and learn something about this beautiful community open space!! Bring: winter gloves & boots, extra socks, a good coat,

warm pants, multiple layers of clothing protection for the central body area, snacks and water. Singles are also invited to attend! For details, call Spencer Johnston at 649-3837.

**Sunday, January 23, 2005**

## McIntyre Hills Proposed Wilderness

### Full Day Hike

Five Points Gulch offers scenic four-season hiking with the creek bottom as our canyon trail. This moderate seven-mile trip, with an elevation gain of 1,000 feet, is co-sponsored by the Central Colorado Wilderness Coalition and Pikes Peak Group. Participants will learn about the wilderness potential of McIntyre Hills and other Wild Ten areas and the BLM's current Arkansas River Travel Management process. For more information and to register, contact John Stansfield, 303-660-5849 or e-mail jorcstan@bwellnet.com by 3pm Jan. 22.

**Saturday, Feb. 12 9 am-2 pm**

## Red Rock Canyon Open Space Hike

This easy-to-moderate 4 mile hike is in Colorado Springs; elevation gain 350 ft. Come and learn about our town's newest open space and something about its history!! Bring: winter gloves & boots, extra socks, a good coat, warm pants, multiple layers of clothing protection for the central body area, snacks and water. Singles are also invited to attend! For details, call Spencer Johnston at 649-3837.

## Annual "Inning"

**Saturday, January 22, 6 p.m.**

**At Katherine Brandt Williams' house**

41 Polo Drive, Colorado Springs (Take Seventh Street north from Lake Avenue to Polo, or Alsace south from Cheyenne Road to Polo; turn west; about 3/4 mile, on south side.)

The "Inning" (the opposite of an "outing") is our annual post-Holidays party. This is a perfect opportunity to meet Pikes Peak Group members and to share your outdoor experiences. It is a "snacks and drinks" potluck, so bring your favorite items to share. We're planning a slide show, so bring your latest slides and pictures of your trips and outdoor activities in 2004! For further directions, call Katie at 632-7044.

## SIERRA SINGLES GROUP SPONSORED HAPPENINGS

ALL Pikes Peak Group members, regardless of marital status, are welcome at the following events. Events are in, or leave from, Colorado Springs and area codes are 719 unless otherwise noted.

A donation of \$1 per member per outing is requested to help our Sierra Club chapter defray costs of offering you these activities.

**This month and next, all OUTDOOR outings will require that you bring the following BRING LIST: winter gloves & boots, extra socks, a good coat, warm pants, multiple layers of clothing protection for the central body area, snacks and water.**

**Friday, Jan. 7 5:30-7:30 pm**

## Happy Hour at the Sunbird

Meet the week's survivors in the Sunbird, 230 Point of Pines Dr. Reduced price drinks, free snack food, live entertainment, and great views of the city. Come and learn about some of our area's conservation issues! No RSVP req'd. Dave Harmer, 597-3996.

**Saturday, Jan. 8 7:00 am - 4:00 pm**

## Pikes Peak/Barr Camp Hike

This strenuous 13-mile R/T Manitou Springs area hike starts at the Barr Trailhead at 6,700 feet, elevation gain 3,500 feet. For those interested, we will eat at a restaurant in Old Colorado City afterwards and talk about area trails and related conservation issues. Bring: the "Bring" list, plus food and water for 2 meals, a blanket and waterproof tarp, matches, flashlight and a backpack. Call Spencer Johnston for details at 649-3837.

**Sunday, Jan. 9 9:00 am -1:30 pm**

## Hike The Crag!

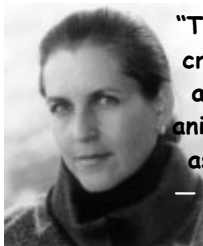
Hike along Fourmile creek to some beautiful rock formations that provide some nice rock climbing in summertime. The trail is simple to follow, and the hike is rated "easy" - RT is 5 mi. As the trail nears the Crag you will see a lot of large rock formations. The last part of this trail gains a few hundred feet of elevation, but it's worth it since the views from the top are really beautiful. The hike ends up on the Crag formation, overlooking the whole Ute Pass area where we can review our local geology and related environmental issues. Total elevation gain 700 ft. Bring: the "Bring" list, and no blue jeans or cotton pants. Limited to 12 participants. Contact Jinny Lucas at 687-8954 / 237-9675 or at jinny@gbronline.com.

**Sunday, Jan. 16 9:30 am -1:00 pm**

## Hike the Palmer Park Trail

This is a moderate hike with some great views overlooking Colorado Springs. We will hike the upper trail around the park for a distance of

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**"The open space of democracy provides justice for all living things — plants, animals, rocks, and rivers, as well as human beings."**

— Terry Tempest Williams  
from her new book

*"The Open Space of Democracy"*

See <http://www.oriononline.org> for book excerpts and Terry's stimulating weblog commentary.