

PPG 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.

Sun, Oct 7 Browns Canyon Proposed Wilderness Hike

Interested in hikes to proposed wilderness areas run by other groups? The Central Colorado Wilderness Coalition is conducting a hike to Browns Canyon on October 7, co-sponsored by the Quiet Use Coalition and Friends of Browns Canyon Wilderness. For more information visit the CCWC website at www.ccwcwilderness.org or contact Tom Sobal, Quiet Use Coalition, 719-207-4130, tsobal@hotmail.com. Sierrans welcome!

Fri afternoon to Sunday evening Oct 19 - 21 Picketwire Canyon Car-camping/Hiking Weekend

Join the Pikes Peak and Sangre de Cristo Sierra Club Groups for a weekend car-camping/hiking trip to Picketwire Canyon, the heart of the proposed expansion area for the Army's Piñon Canyon Maneuver Site to explore the area and discover the irreplaceable archaeological and paleontological treasures that could be affected by the expansion, including the longest set of dinosaur tracks in North America.

Participants will leave Colorado Springs Friday late afternoon; drive to Withers Canyon trailhead (3-4 hours), set up camp (in the dark: bring lights). Saturday, we will cook breakfast at the campsite; start the hike to the Dinosaur Tracks midmorning. Distance is 10.6 miles round trip over a mostly easy trail, about 500 feet elevation loss/gain. Bring lunch to eat on hike. Bring wading shoes

call for info (best tracks are on far side of river). Return mid-afternoon, cook supper; if time permits, explore pictographs in vicinity of trailhead.

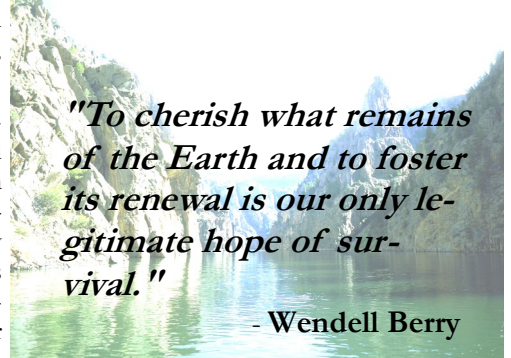
Sunday, we will visit other portions of proposed expansion area; meet with interested landowners to learn about how the Piñon Canyon Maneuver Site expansion could impact them. We will drive home late Sunday afternoon; arrive back in Colorado Springs Sunday evening. People who want to participate in part of the weekend can make their own travel arrangements. For further details or to sign up, contact Jim Lockhart by phone 719-385-0045 or e-mail jlock@datawest.net.

Sat., Nov 3 Annual Beaver Creek Proposed Wilderness Hike

On its way downward from the summit of Pikes Peak to the Arkansas River, Beaver Creek snakes through spectacular granite-walled canyons. Come explore this wildland gem on a moderately strenuous seven mile hike with elevation gain of 1,000 feet. We will experience solitude only a few miles from the urban roar and learn about the wilderness future of this and other nearby natural areas. For more information and to register, contact John Stansfield, 303-660-5849 or e-mail jorcstan@juno.com by 4 PM November 2.

Sat, Nov 10, 2007 Williams-Waldo Canyon Loop

Williams Canyon and Waldo Canyon are adjacent to each other and are two separate trails. This hike will start up the trail follow-



"To cherish what remains of the Earth and to foster its renewal is our only legitimate hope of survival."

- Wendell Berry

ing the stream through the steep cliffs of Williams Canyon, take a side trail up and over a ridge to connect with the loop section through the forests of Waldo Canyon, and then return by Williams Canyon. Enjoy the beauty of these canyons and discuss conservation in the Pikes Peak Region. This is an intermediate hike of about 5 miles and with a total elevation gain of about 1000 feet. Bring hiking shoes, water, rain gear, a hat, and a trail lunch. Limited to 15. Contact John Palan, 719-559-2335 or at platojp@msn.com for more information.

For further information and/or later additions to the Pikes Peak Group outings schedule, check out our up-to-the-minute website at www.rmc.sierraclub.org/ppg/calendar.html#outings

No Sierra Singles Outings were received by press time. Please check our group's website at www.rmc.sierraclub.org/ppg for outings as the actual outing date (month) of interest to you approaches.

Chair's Corner

by Jane Ard-Smith, PPG Chair

This issue, we say goodbye to our newsletter editor, Heather Preston – she and her family are moving to Seattle. While I envy Heather's new adventure (it's much easier to be "green" in the Pacific Northwest), I also envy the Pacific Northwest. They have gained a top notch editor and activist.

For the past three years, Heather has gently prodded us to submit items for the newsletter – waiting patiently while we pulled together the calendar of events at the last minute. On more than one occasion, she completed the final version of the newsletter while her family was on vacation – using her laptop in a hotel room. Thank you for your perseverance, Heather.

With a young son at home, Heather didn't really have time to attend a lot of meetings. At first, I was apprehensive about having a newsletter editor who could not regularly attend our Executive Committee meeting. But with the proficient use of e-mail, Heather demonstrated that you don't have to attend a meeting to make a contribution. We can all learn from Heather's example – find a way to lend your skills. We wish you the best in your new endeavors, Heather.

I'd also like to welcome our two new editors: Sheri Bauers and Allison Plute. Allison and Sheri signed up as volunteers at our September wine and cheese event. I look forward to working with you over the coming months – thanks for taking on this new challenge.