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December 2017

Website - [ppothg.com](http://ppothg.com)

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**Golf**

Judith Stassen 599-9316

**Biking**

Phil McDonald 532-0881

**Camping**

Frank & Nancy  
Podczervinski 548-1820

**The Club always welcomes  
guests and former members.**

**Guests (over age 18) may  
participate in up to two club  
activities on a space available  
basis. Membership is open to  
those who are age 50 and  
over.**

**Former members must rejoin  
the club to participate in any  
club activity unless visiting  
from out of town.**

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## Presidents Message by Ric Denton

We are moving into that great time of year: Holidays and the beginning of ski season! Since we started originally as a ski club, I want to encourage all the downhill skiers, Nordic skiers, and those on snow shoes to try out the ski bus, which will take us on day trips during the season. It looks like the schedule is finally in place – lots of thanks go to Rick Olson, Ski Director, for his coordination in making this happen. Please look for the schedule being mailed out, and sign up. Relaxing in a bus sure beats fighting traffic to get to the slopes. We are also working closely with the Blazers Ski Club, which goes on trips mostly on weekends.

Janice Harris reports that we are now well above 200 members in our club. Thanks Janice! Let's also do our part and make all of the new members feel welcome. Many of us have been in the club for years. It is easy to stay within our comfort zone with the friends we have already made. Please reach out to the new members and make new friends as well.

This December newsletter is transitional, in that the *next newsletter* will be for *January & February*.

## Membership by Janice Harris

We continue to draw new members! It must be because we continue to have fun and the word is getting around! As of November, we have **219** official PPOTHG members. Since our last newsletter we have several new members to welcome. WOW, 16 new members!

### **Newest members:**

**Betty Bullard:** Betty's main interest when becoming a part of PPOTHG is to join the great ski program. Current member, Hedy Ducharme, introduced Betty to our PPOTHG group. Be sure to extend a welcome to Betty as the ski season begins!!

**Nadine Carlile:** Nadine learned about PPOTHG and all the activities we offer from a friend who lives in Denver and is a member of the OTHG in that area. In addition to the winter sports of skiing and snowshoeing, Nadine enjoys hiking, biking, plays, concerts, jazz clubs, eating out and fine arts museums. Sounds like she is a busy lady and will enjoy the activities we have to offer. Welcome Nadine.

**Monika Cline:** Monika was introduced to PPOTHG by our own Social Chairperson, Patty Martinez. Monika is interested in reading, gardening, travel, hiking and "maybe" snowshoeing! PPOTHG will provide opportunities for some great times in some of these activities, Monika. Welcome!

**Jay DeMuyneck:** Jay learned of our great ski program through the Blazers ski club. It is great to have networking working for us. Now Jay has the added advantage of enjoying his other interests of snowshoeing, hiking, camping and biking with our group. Welcome Jay.

**Susie Gibson:** I am not sure where Susie learned about our group, but with her list of many activities, I'm sure she will have a great time being a part of PPOTHG. Susie enjoys skiing, snowshoeing, hiking, golf, fly fishing and ice skating. Welcome Susie...we look forward to meeting you at some of these activities.

**Norm & Lynne Hall:** Norm and Lynne found our PPOTHG information by "surfing the net." The activities they hope to participate in are hiking and camping...both very busy groups. Hiking will give you an opportunity to meet many of our club members as that activity is very popular and goes virtually all year long. We look forward to meeting you both. Welcome!

**Larry & Mary Killoran:** Current PPOTHG members, Tom & Janet Riley have introduced Larry and Mary to PPOTHG. Looks like we will have some new members to our new activity...Pickle Ball!! In addition to pickle ball, Larry and Mary enjoy hiking and playing games. Welcome to PPOTHG!

**Bill Martin:** Bill heard about PPOTHG by "word of mouth." I'm not surprised the word is out since we have fun activities and fun times! Some of the activities that you may see Bill participating in are skiing, hiking, golf and biking. Welcome to our group, Bill.

**Judith Nordberg:** A friend of Judith's invited her to join our group. Judith enjoys skiing, hiking, biking and yes, another Pickle Ball participant!! Welcome Judith.

**Bob Poulin:** Bob did not indicate on his application where he heard about PPOTHG, but he will surely enjoy our skiing and biking groups. We look forward to meeting you at one of these activities in the near future, Bob. Welcome.

**Jeffrey Rapp:** Top on Jeffrey's list of interests are skiing, travel and bridge....is it any surprise that Jeffrey was introduced to PPOTHG by current member Susan Callahan? In addition to those interests he shares with Susan, Jeffrey enjoys fine dining and pinochle. Welcome!! We hope to see you at some of our upcoming activities.

**Carol Severson:** New member Lorna Thornton introduced Carol to PPOTHG. Some of us have already met Carol at the September picnic and others will be able to meet her during hiking and biking activities. Welcome Carol!

**Chris Wilson:** Bill Lowe, a current member of PPOTHG introduced Chris to our group and I am sure he will enjoy being active in hiking, camping and biking. Chris also enjoys photography and art. We look forward to meeting you soon, Chris.

**Jack Withrow:** Not sure where Jack learned about PPOTHG, but he will have a great time hiking, camping and biking (?)----his ? not mine :-)! There are lots of biking enthusiasts in the group so I'm sure you can be encouraged to try a ride or two! Welcome and it's great to have you in our group.

**Greg & Nancy Blank:** Welcome to returning members! ....that is a good sign that our group is a lot of fun and has great members, right? You can look forward to meeting or reacquainting yourselves with Greg and Nancy at upcoming ski trips and then golf in the Springs. Welcome back to PPOTHG Greg and Nancy.

**Dave Johnson:** It looks like Dave is ready to be an active member of our PPOTHG group as he has already signed up for some of this season's ski trips. Dave learned about us from a friend. It's great to have you join our club Dave and hope to see you at some of our upcoming activities.

## Biking by Phil McDonald

The PPOTHG Cyclists finished their last ride of the regular season on November 1. This year's cycling list included 44 PPOTHG members and each Tuesday ride attracted 5-20 riders. Ride distances ranged from 12-40 miles on paved trails, secondary roads and crushed rock surfaces. Highlights of the 2016-17 cycling season included multiple visits to Denver and Pueblo as well as road trips to Leadville, Fort Collins, Summit County, and Glenwood Springs-Aspen. Besides cycling, members enjoyed numerous meals and social outings. I believe that most of our riders would agree that it was a monumentally successful season.

Informal rides will continue on Tuesdays during the months of November-April. As long as the weather is cooperative, we'll be riding!

If any members currently on the biking roster would like their names deleted from my email list, please let me know. Also, if you are not on my email list and wish to have your name included, contact me as well at [pharoahphil@comcast.net](mailto:pharoahphil@comcast.net). My sincere thanks to all of you who participated in our rides this year. You made this fantastic year happen!

## Social Activities by Patty Martinez

The holidays are fast approaching so get your check in the mail early for the Annual Christmas Party. Your check is your reservation! Please allow 3 days to ensure your check is delivered by the cutoff date of **1 December 2017**. I have noticed it takes from 1 to 3 days for mail to be delivered in Colorado Springs and 3 days is more the norm for delivery time.

Annual Christmas Party at Patty Jewett Clubhouse, 900 E. Espanola, Colorado Springs, CO 80907

10 December 2017, 11:00 - 3:00 pm

There will be a cash bar; appetizers will be served at 11:30 and buffet lunch served at 12:30. Patty Jewett will be serving the Classic Dinner Buffet consisting of Prime Rib, Chicken Marsala and Salmon with great side dishes and dessert. The cost to our members is \$29.00 per person, cost for guests is \$46.00 per person. We will take guest requests and honor them on a space available basis after all members have been accounted for.

Please remember that former members may not attend any functions as a guest unless they are from out of state.

To reserve a spot, send a check made out to PPOTHG to [Renee Weatherby, 1806 Security Blvd, Colorado Springs, CO 80911](#) **to be received no later than 1 Dec 2017**. We have a cap of 115 members for the party so remember.... reservations are first received - first reserved!

The charity we will be collecting for this year is "Care and Share"

Looking forward to sharing the Holidays with you!

Patty Martinez

[pamartinez23@msn.com](mailto:pamartinez23@msn.com)

719-598-4221

719-338-9559

# Hiking by Arthur Foley

Hike Reminders with any further details are normally sent out two days in advance of each hike. Please pay close attention to them and, if at all possible, let the Hike Leader know if you intend to participate. In the interest of safety and fun, we ask that our hikers read and follow certain guidelines. These can be found in the [Hiker's Guidelines](#), located in the Hiking section of the PPOTHG website. Hiking Names and Maps in [Blue and Underlined](#) are linked to websites. You should be able to simply hold down the Ctrl key & click on them to go directly to websites for more information.

Date	Name	Map	Leader	Phone	Email
7 Dec	<a href="#">Palmer Park Open Space</a>	<a href="#">Map</a>	Mike Witter	660-5758	<a href="mailto:ukmaw@yahoo.com">ukmaw@yahoo.com</a>
12 Dec	<a href="#">Cheyenne Mt State Park</a>	<a href="#">Map</a>	Art Porter	634-7280	<a href="mailto:art3porter@hotmail.com">art3porter@hotmail.com</a>
21 Dec	<a href="#">Blodgett Peak Open Space</a>	<a href="#">Map</a>	Arthur Foley	535-9085	<a href="mailto:afoley@ret.unca.edu">afoley@ret.unca.edu</a>

## LOOKING FOR A LITTLE HELP FROM OUR FRIENDS

Ever wish you could have a direct influence on what hikes get scheduled and what dates they are set for? Now is your chance. Contact Art Foley or Mike Witter to become a “certified” hike leader. Their contact info is above.

# Communications by Susan Callahan

As Ric noted above, this newsletter is for December only. The new every other month newsletter publication will start with the January – February edition.

**Reminder:** When you **unsubscribe** to even **one** email from PPOTHG, you will **not receive** any future emails for any activities.

If you take photos at any of our activities, please forward them to me and I will add them to our website photo gallery. I would like to update the pictures on the main page for the various activities, so looking for some great new fun photos.

# 2018 Ski Season by Rick Olson

## Ski Bus 2018 Ski Season

We have finalized arrangements for the bus trips for the upcoming season and hopefully you have completed your registration. The bus schedule has eleven day trips this year, including Keystone, A Basin, Breckenridge and Copper Mountain, plus an initial trip to Monarch. Each trip will also include a Nordic center for those who prefer cross country skiing.

This is a convenient way to ski the nearby resorts without the hassle of driving. The bus has room for 40 and we averaged about 30 people last season. The group is very diverse, friendly and includes all skiing abilities.

If you have not signed up or would like to add a few more trips to your schedule, you can download the registration form from the web site. If you have questions, please contact Rick Olson, [ROlson888@Comcast.Net](mailto:ROlson888@Comcast.Net).

## Arrowhead - Jan 29 - Feb 2

Plans for our trip to Arrowhead are complete. We will arrive in the afternoon of Monday January 29 and depart on Friday February 2. Monday night we will have a party with food and drink. We are also planning a dinner gathering at the Arrowhead Country Club of the Rockies on Thursday. In early January condo assignments will be sent to everyone that signed up for the trip and also directions to Arrowhead and check in procedures. If you have questions, please contact Rick Couch at [rsmilyc@aol.com](mailto:rsmilyc@aol.com) or (719) 260-5566.

## Snow Mountain Ranch - Feb 20 – 23

The Ranch offers a wide range of winter activities. The initial reservation was for eight rooms and they have been taken. If you are interested please contact Joe Maio. If there is enough interest, he may be able to get a second cabin.

Look at PPOTHG website ***Calendar*** for upcoming events.