

Jan -Feb 2018

Website - ppothg.com

Board of Directors

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Ric Denton 576-0483

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Patty Martinez 598-4221

Communications Director

Susan Callahan 388-1534

Skiing Director

Rick Olson 216-2138

Coordinators

Hiking

Arthur Foley 535-9085

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.



Presidents Message by Ric Denton

Ski Season has arrived! Snow has been lacking up to date. For example, take Breckenridge. Base depth is 18 inches currently. It is useful to have an historical perspective. The last year we had a base depth of only 18 inches in the first days of December was 2012. In the intervening years we have had a base depth of as high as 31 inches at this time in December. So it is not the end of the world. Runs are being opened, and we can all look forward to a good season. Hopefully! For those of you who are not downhill skiers, there is also snow-shoeing and cross country skiing. Please look at the bus schedule put out by Rick Olson and consider making a few trips this year.

We continue to add membership thanks to the hard work of Janice Harris. We remain healthy as a club with well over 200 members. Please be sure to welcome new members to make them feel part of the various activities in the club.

We continue to look at options for social activities in addition to the monthly dinner meetings. We have come to realize that we need additional help with planning the social activities, like wine tasting, travel night, etc. Ideally if there is someone who would like to take on this coordinator role, that would be great. If there are couple of folks that would like to work together in this role that would also be great. Anyone interested can speak with any of the Board Directors to better understand what the role would entail. We always welcome new ideas for social activities. Please mention them to the Social Director, Patty Martinez. We want to make experiences in the Pikes Peak over the Hill Gang rewarding for all.

Membership by Janice Harris

Another great couple of months for new memberships. As of December, we have **233** paid members of PPOTHG.

Newest members:

Chas DeLaCuadra: Chas learned about the PPOTHG from current club member Jeff Hanson. It looks like skiing and biking will be the main activities for Chas. We look forward to meeting you, Chas, and hope you will make it to one of our upcoming monthly dinner meetings.

Kathleen Eisenbrown: Kathleen learned about PPOTHG in the Peterson AFB weekly paper, so evidently our publicity is working! Kathleen is interested in snowshoeing, hiking and golf. We look forward to meeting you as you participate in any or all of these activities. Welcome Kathleen.

Jeanne Gau: It looks like Jeanne has a calling for the outdoors! She enjoys skiing, snowshoeing, hiking, outdoor trips to National Parks, trains and rafting. Hope to see you at future activities! Welcome.

Barb Meyer: Current member, Mike Witter, introduced Barb to PPOTHG. Barb likes to hike, play golf and bike. She is also interested in quilting and day trips around the great state of Colorado. Welcome Barb, I think you will enjoy our many activities.

Linda Musil: Linda found out about our group via her son who was sitting next to one of our club members on an airplane. He thought his mom would enjoy being a part of PPOTHG. Based on her listed activities she should fit right in. Linda likes to snowshoe, hike, camp and bike. Welcome Linda!

Ann Peacock: A friend told Ann about our group. She likes to hike, camp, bike, snowboard and play pickle ball. Welcome Ann, I'm sure you will have a great time in any one of these activities.

Claudia Quick: Current PPOTHG member Rick Olson introduced Claudia to PPOTHG. What are the chances that Claudia likes to ski since Rick is the head of our ski activity? Yes, Claudia states that she likes to ski, hike and camp as her club activities. Welcome to PPOTHG, Claudia.

Pieterneel Stoop: Pieterneel has just recently moved to Colorado and a friend suggested she link up with our activity groups in PPOTHG. She plans to participate in skiing, snowshoeing and hiking and is also interested in tennis and ping-pong. Welcome to Colorado and to PPOTHG.

Reminder of the PPOTHG Dues Structure

Membership year runs October 1 to September 30 each year.

New Members - October 1 - March 31: \$30/person

April 1 - September 30: \$15/person

Renewing Members: \$30/year

Social Activities by Patty Martinez

POTLUCK MEETING, Fount of Life Lutheran Church –

Wed 10 January 2018 at 5:30 pm

6550 Omaha Blvd, Colorado Springs 80915

Mike and Mary Ann have generously made arrangements for the use of their church for our January dinner meeting. Thank you Mike and Mary Ann!

Please bring a dish to share for eight members. We may also bring wine, or whatever you wish to drink. Per Mike, although there is no policy opposing it, he prefers members refrain from bringing hard liquor. There are power strips on the kitchen counters to accommodate any crock pots or other electrical appliances.

Questions call 719-598-4221 or 719-338-9559 or pamartinez23@msn.com

Happy Holidays and I look forward to seeing you at the potluck in January.

February dinner meeting will be held at Navajo Hogan with details to follow.

Biking by Phil McDonald

Although temperatures have plummeted, interest in cycling has not. Cycling opportunities await those who are hardy and enjoy brisk, but not freezing temps. As long as the roads are clear of ice and snow, the sun makes an appearance, and temperatures exceed 40 degrees, most likely we'll be offering bike rides.

If you are not on my list of 45 PPOTHG Cyclists, please contact me at pharaohphil@comcast.net. I will be happy to include you on our roster.

Hiking by Arthur Foley and Mike Witter

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
4 Jan	Royal Gorge Rim Trail	Map	Art Porter	634-7280	art3porter@hotmail.com
10 Jan	Red Rock Open Space	Map	Linda Langston	579-8135	lindalangston1@aol.com
18 Jan	Ute Indian Trail	Map	Mike Witter	660-5758	ukmaw@yahoo.com
24 Jan	Black Forest Sct. 16	Map	Mike Witter	660-5758	ukmaw@yahoo.com
30 Jan	Cheyenne Mt St Park	Map	Art Porter	634-7280	art3porter@hotmail.com
7 Feb	Monument Rock Loop	Map	Arthur Foley	535-9085	afoley@ret.unca.edu
15 Feb	Bear Creek Open Sp	Map	Linda Langston	579-8135	lindalangston1@aol.com
20 Feb	Mt. Cutler Trail	Map	Mike Witter	660-5758	ukmaw@yahoo.com

STILL LOOKING FOR A LITTLE HELP FROM OUR FRIENDS

Do you have some favorite hikes you would like to share with your friends in PPOTHG? Now is your chance. **Contact one of the hike leaders above** to become a “certified” hike leader.

2018 Ski Season by Rick Olson

Ski Bus 2018 Ski Season

The Ski Bus will start on January 3, with a trip to Monarch that has received a considerable amount of snow so far this season and undoubtedly will be looking better by January. We have increased the number of trips to Copper this season and as requested, all are scheduled on either Tuesday or Wednesday to coincide with the Copper Mountain Over the Hill Gang activities.

There are a number of Nordic centers available for cross country skiing as well as snow shoeing. If you have a preference, let me know, I will try to work it into our schedule. We typically stop at the Frisco Nordic center on the Breck / Copper trips but it is possible to replace that with the Gold Run or the Breck Nordic center.

All of the available Nordic Centers have rentals as well as lessons. So, if you are thinking you would like to “try it” to see if you like it, this is an opportunity. Most locations have senior rates with some super senior rates. Check out the web sites for more info. In case you are wondering what it would be like to go fat tire biking in the snow, that is an option as well.

If you have not gone on the Ski Bus before, the schedule this season has eleven day trips, 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. The early season rate is no longer available but if you would like to add additional trips for \$30 each, please let me know. There is currently space on all of the trips.

If you have questions, please contact Rick Olson, 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 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.

Camping by Nancy Podczervinski

ATTENTION INTERESTED CAMPERS:

If you are interested in camping this coming May and June you will need to reserve your camp site ASAP for May, and December 17 for June:

TRINIDAD LAKE - MAY 14-17

CARPIOS LOOP. THEY ARE FILLING UP FAST. (it doesn't look like the next loop is that far though.)

CRAWFORD STATE PARK

JUNE 17-22 IRON CREEK LOOP

The full camping schedule for the summer will be coming soon.

Communications by Susan Callahan

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.

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