
Mar-Apr 2019

Website - ppothg.com

Board of Directors

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Ric Denton 576-0483

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Terry Pessaro 703-801-9820

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Susan Callahan 388-1534

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Rick Olson 216-2138

Coordinators

Hiking

Arthur Foley 535-9085

Golf

Mike Cohen 799-6433

Biking

Phil McDonald 313-8400

Camping

Tom DeGeorge 277-0928

Special Events

Felicia Marino 306-5842

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

We had a great Arrowhead-Beavercreek ski getaway this past week, with approximately 56 participants. I learned that we are likely the largest group staying at Arrowhead during the ski season. Vail Corporation takes very good care of us. Thanks go to Rick Couch and his volunteers who supported this very successful effort.

The weekly ski activity continues to be a success, with the luxury bus that we are using. This has brought in additional participation and new members. We still have space if you are interested in downhill, cross-country, or in snowshoeing. Please email Rick Olson at rolson888@comcast.net if you are interested in participating.

Next, we welcome Mike Cohen on board as the incoming Golf Activity Coordinator.

Finally, I want to note that we are a social club, not a political club. Please refrain from starting political discussions at our events because that is more often than not counter-productive.



Membership by Terry Pessaro

The PPOTHG still has a very active membership of **257**.

Please welcome **Doris Kuzis** to the club. Doris found the club via our website. She skis, hikes, and bikes. Doris welcome to the club. We look forward to spending time with you on the trails!

Ann and Tom Parker heard about the club from Rick Olson. Ann and Tom ski, snowshoe, hike, and bike so many of us will have the opportunity to meet them on the trails or on the links. Ann and Tom welcome to the club.

Dave Luplow heard of the club through ski friends. He is active in skiing, snowshoeing, hiking, golf, and biking. Dave is also interested in swimming. Dave welcome to the club.

John Donlin and Carol Harper heard about the club from Betty Davis. They enjoy hiking, golfing, camping and biking. John and Carol we look forward to meeting you on the trails, on the greens, and around the campfire!

Reminder of the PPOTHG Dues Structure

Membership year runs October 1 to September 30 each year.

NEW MEMBERS Dues: October 1 - March 31: \$30/person
April 1 - September 30: \$15/person

RENEWAL Dues: October 1 - September \$30/person

Note: If a current member does **NOT** renew by October 1st and wishes to rejoin at anytime in the **12 months following the October renewal period**, the standard \$30 membership renewal plus \$10 "Late Fee" will apply.

Dinner Meetings by Patty Martinez

Wednesday, March 13

In celebration of St Patrick's Day, the dinner meeting for 13 March 2019 will be held at Jack Quinn's Irish Pub & Restaurant, 21 South Tejon Street, 80903. The evening will begin with a social hour and cash bar at 5:30 pm.. The meeting will commence at 6:00 pm with dinner to follow.

Dinner choices are:

1. Corned Beef and Cabbage
2. Bangers and Mash
3. Fish and Chips
4. Chicken Pot Pie
5. Sheppard's Pie

Non-alcoholic drinks are included with dinner.

The cost is \$19.00 per person, which includes tax and gratuity. Please make out checks to PPOTHG and mail to:

Patty Martinez
6035 Tuckerman Ln. Colorado Springs, CO 80918

Please **annotate your menu selection** on your check. Your check is your reservation. **Checks must be received no later than 8 March 2019.**

If you will email me when you mail your check I will acknowledge with a return email when I receive it.
pamartinez23@msn.com

Wednesday, April 10

Details to follow at a later date.

Special Events by Felicia Marino

On February 25, PPOTHG members will attend a Mardi Gras Dinner Dance. Watch for pictures in next month's newsletter.

Future events being planned include wine tasting, Whirlyball and a fall trip to Denver to see the Monet exhibit.

Check your e-mail for future announcements!

If you would like to help plan a special event, please contact Felicia Marino, at Felicia.marino@gmail.com or text/call 306-5842.

Hiking by Arthur Foley and Mike Witter

Hike Reminders with further details are sent out two days prior to each hike. Please read them, and if at all possible, contact the Hike Leader if you intend to participate. In the interest of safety and fun, we ask our hikers to 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](#) 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	Leader	Phone	Email
4 Mar	Mesa Valley Trail	Art Porter	719-634-7280	art3porter@hotmail.com
13 Mar	Cottonwood Creek Trail	Art Porter	719-634-7280	art3porter@hotmail.com
21 Mar	Fountain Creek Trail	Linda Langston	719-579-8135	lindalangston1@aol.com
3 Apr	Garden of the Gods	Linda Langston	719-579-8135	lindalangston1@aol.com
11 Apr	Blodgett Peak	Arthur Foley	719-535-9085	afoley@ret.unca.edu
*18 Apr	Eleven Mile State Park	Mike Witter	719-660-5758	ukmaw@yahoo.com
*22 Apr	Staunton State Park	Mike Witter	719-660-5758	ukmaw@yahoo.com
*30 Apr	Mueller State Park	Mike Witter	719-660-5758	ukmaw@yahoo.com

***State Park car entry fees paid for carpooling members:**

As an incentive to join the hiking "Gang" and support our state parks, PPOTHG will pay the entry fees, for those members that carpool with us during the month of April.

WE NEED VOLUNTEER HIKE LEADERS. Don't let this vital activity die out!

Contact one of the hike leaders above to join the staff where you can help set the schedules and become a hike leader.

Skiing by Rick Olson

Snow Report

As you might imagine, snow activities are in full swing. As I write this the annual trip to **Arrowhead** (Beaver Creek) is in full swing with a record number of participants. What a great way to ski Beaver Creek from a luxury condo that is ski in / ski out. The mid-week timing avoids the weekend crowds, there is a great outdoor hot tub and the snow was outstanding. Signup for this trip usually starts in May so watch for the announcement for next year's trip. Thanks to Ann and Rick Couch for organizing this trip again this year.

Snow Mountain Ranch is coming up this month as well, February 19 to 22. Thanks to Joe and Sheila Maio who have organized this annual trip once again this year. It is a fun trip with lots of outdoor activities.

The **Ski Bus** offers a day trip once a week to a number of your favorite ski locations, leaving Old Colorado City at 6:30 AM and returning around 6:30 PM. We have a larger more comfortable bus this year with room for 56 people, overhead storage, a toilet and enclosed ski storage.



If you would like to join us there is still room on all of the remaining trips. The full schedule can be downloaded from the web site. If it is more convenient for you to get on the bus in Woodland Park, we can pick you up there.

We are a diverse and friendly group of skiers. So, if you are looking for someone to ski with, join us, there are seven trips remaining through the end of March. The group usually meets for lunch and some have been known to gather for "happy hour" at the end of the day. The ride back may also include a movie, if you have a favorite, let me know.

If friends are visiting, or you think your neighbor may be interested or you just want to add a few more dates to your current schedule, send me an email.

Rick Olson
Ski Director

ROlson888@Comcast.Net

Arrowhead 2019

It was a great year for the Arrowhead trip. The snow was fantastic and the weather for the most part cooperated. We had over 50 members participate in this 4 day trip. Next year we are planning for a February 3 to February 7 trip and are already in discussions with Vail Associates about a contract for condos. If any of the attendees have suggestions for improvements for this trip, please send them to Rick Couch at rsmileyc@aol.com. (Frank - we are already planning on more IPA next year.)

Click on the link below for a very good short video created by Rick and Ann Couch's son-in-law, Ray.
Note: Abstract graphic you see as the video loads is correct.

https://youtu.be/JE9bB_Z-Gk



Skiers ready to go the first day

Snow Mountain Ranch 2019

Trip in 2019 will be Tuesday – Thursday, February 19-22.

Will look forward to hearing about the fun from the participants. Wonder if the newsletter editor will receive any pictures???

Pickleball by Dan Akerhielm

ATTENTION PICKLEBALLERS! We have regular weekly play organized with about 30 players. Whether you are an experienced 4.0 or just want to give it a try come on out and join the fun. We have extra paddles and can get you started. We specialize in friendly play (mostly) and I guarantee you will get a great workout and still have a smile on your face.

Right now for the winter months we are playing on Mondays, 2 pm to 4 pm, at the Monument Valley courts near the swimming pool. I maintain an email list with weekly reminders and info; let me know if you want to be added to the list. We will adjust the play time as the seasons permit and there is no play in rain or snow.

Dan Akerhielm 599-0338
Carol Arthur 660-1208

This is not an official PPOTHG activity at this time.

Biking by Phil McDonald

I understand that most of you are focusing your energies on skiing and other winter sports. Not so for yours truly! Cycling is always on my radar screen. Given that this is the cycling offseason, there are no regularly scheduled bicycle rides. However, weather permitting, informal local rides will be offered on Tuesdays during the months of February, March, and April. Additionally, several out of state rides are being planned and organized.

First, we are enlisting riders for a cycling adventure in Santa Fe, NM. Three different rides are being offered in the Santa Fe Century that will take place in May. Colleen Niemczyk is organizing this ride.

Last year 8 cyclists ventured to Croatia for a week of challenging cycling. This year Carol Arthur and I are in the process of organizing a ride from Prague, Czech Republic to Dresden, Germany. This exciting adventure will take place in late June,

If you enjoy cycling and are not a member of the PPOTHG Cycling group, you will want to contact me, Phil McDonald at pharoahphil@comcast.net. New participants are always welcome. Happy trails to you!

Golf by Mike Cohen

Weather permitting we will start playing sometime in April. Watch emails for place and time.

We will be playing 9 holes on Monday mornings. We are not a league, just a fun and friendly group of people. We do not track scores, handicaps etc., though some individuals do so on their own. Players at all skill levels are in the group - low handicaps, high handicaps, no handicaps and beginners. Anyone who's interested will fit in fine. Usually we have lunch together after our round.

We play at a variety of local courses. Here are the ones we played last year:

- Antler Creek (Peyton)
- Cherokee Ridge
- Ft Carson Cheyenne Shadows (Fort Carson)
- King's Deer (Monument)
- Patty Jewett
- Peterson Silver Spruce Golf Course
- Pine Creek
- Shining Mountain (Woodland Park)
- Valley Hi

Most of the courses only allow us to schedule tee times 7 days in advance (3 days for some). I'll send a general email each Monday with details for the following week. You must respond to me if you want to play that week. In other words you can't just show up at the course and expect to play.

If there's another course you think the group would like to try, feel free to call or email me with your suggestions. Ditto if you have any other questions or suggestions.

Mike Cohen, 630-248-5703, mc1959@ameritech.net.

Camping by Tom DeGeorge

Our camping schedule has been set for some time and now all dates are available for booking. We have had a very supportive group of campers and are patiently waiting for our first trip in May. Our signups to date are:

May	Lathrop State Park	28
June	Redstone	26
July	Dowdy/ West Lake	12
August	Ridgeway State Park	12
September	Custer, SD.	22

Dowdy/ West Lake campgrounds were surprisingly difficult to get into. As such, few were able to find availability. Consider routinely checking to see if any cancellations occur. Could happen I suppose.

Anyone wishing to attend certainly may. They should book their camping sites using the appropriate web sites for the campground they are interested in staying at. See schedule below for details. Soft campers (those wishing to participate without the hassles of the “rigs”) often stay in nearby accommodations. Those wishing to participate are responsible for managing and making their own reservations.

If you decide to participate please forward your plans to Tom DeGeorge -- specifically, arrival date, departure date and site number, or accommodations if soft camping. Tom will email to all camping participants prior to the trip the details of whom, when and where, plus contact info, so everyone will have details to connect up.

Tom can be reached at tomdegeorge@gmail.com or 719-352-9894 if anyone has any comments, questions or concerns.

PPOTHG 2019 CAMPING SCHEDULE						
MONTH	DATES	CAMPGROUND	Address	SITES	Booking window opens	Other stuff
May	19 th - 24th	Lathrop SP book on reserveamerica.com	70 County Rd 502 Walsenburg, CO (719) 738-2376	Loop B	Open for booking now	Water hydrants, electric , dump
June	16th-21st	Redstone book on. recreation.Gov	Redstone Blvd. Redstone , CO. 1-887-444-6777	1 - 19	Open for booking now	Electric, water at sites 1-19 , shower, flush toilet
July	14th - 19th	Dowdy / West Lake Red Feather Lakes. book on. recreation.Gov	Dowdy Lake Rd, Red Feather Lakes, Bellevue, CO (790) 295-6700	Loop E. 39- 50	Open for booking now	Electric
August	11th - 16th	Ridgeway SP. book on reserveamerica.com	28555 Hwy 550 Ridgeway, CO. (970)626-5822	Loop G 237-278 Pa-Co-Chu-Puk CG	February 11th, 2019	Full Hook Ups, dump
September	8th - 15th	Custer State Park South Dakota. Game Lodge Campground. Backup Grace Coolidge campground. book on campsd.com	For cabins at Game Lodge call 1-888-875-0001	Any	Open for booking now.	Electric, hydrants ,dump, showers, flush toilets and camper cabins at Game Lodge

Communications by Susan Callahan

Did you enjoy the ski movie?

Now that you are reading this from the website, check out the pictures for the various activities.

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

If there is an activity that you are not interested in, just delete the email.

If you take photos at any of our activities, please forward them to me and I will add them to our website photo gallery.

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