

THE RED ROCK RAG

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News and Views on Red Rock Canyon

Spring, 2010

Published by FRIENDS OF RED ROCK CANYON

"supporting Red Rock Canyon Open Space through stewardship, education, advocacy, fundraising and volunteer projects"

P.O. Box 6754, Colorado Springs, CO 80904-6754

www.RedRockCanyonOpenSpace.org

2010 Volunteer Projects

Saturday, May 8 8:00 A.M. - 1:30 P.M.

Remove fence separating Red Rock Canyon Open Space from White Acres. — Sign up on the Friends of Red Rock Canyon website. You will need leather gloves and sturdy shoes.

Meet on S. 26th street across from the large brick house above the switchbacks. Please arrive by 7:45.

Saturday and Sunday May 15 & 16

Help with Boy Scout Camporee at Glen Eyrie We need Crew Leaders for trail projects and people to help with an information table. Contact Bob Johnson at 278-4921.

Throughout the season - to be determined

Trail beautification and maintenance, noxious weed removal, minor trail repairs and invasive Chinese elm trimming and removal projects will restore wildlife habitat and trails.

Projects will be announced to our e-mail list and posted on our website. For information contact Shanti Toll at 634-1810.

Sunday, June 20 8:00 A.M. - 1:30 P.M.

Our Annual Summer Solstice Contemplative Trail Maintenance Day - Co-sponsored with the Garden of the Goddesses Club. After the workday ends (early afternoon) there will be a gathering for a Summer Solstice Ceremony with drumming and a pot-luck.

Saturday, September 18

By building the Codell Trail we will complete a major link in the History and Geology interpretive trail loops.

Spring Talks & Walks

All Tuesday evening talks are at
The Old Colorado City History Center
1 South 24th. Street

Tuesday, April 6 7:00 P.M. *Red Rock Memories*

Chelley Gartner-Smith will recount her memories of living in Red Rock Canyon: The late John S. Bock - the man and his wife who wore only white, their bomb shelter, his shot gun, the many no trespassing signs, his long lost son, his parent's woe at the building of Highway 24. Also, the wonderful house she lived in, that was said to have originally been stage coach stop, the well water she drank, and the wildlife she encountered there. There are many photos of the original house which still tell a story.

Tuesday, May 4 7:00 P.M. *William Blackmore*

Brook Cruz first encountered the William Blackmore story when she was doing research on Garden of the Gods history and has since done extensive investigations into the life of Mr. Blackmore. At one time, English investor William Blackmore owned land in Red Rock Canyon including the area where the Kenmuir quarry was later operated by the Greenlees. He had become acquainted with General Palmer when Palmer wanted to run his D&RG railroad through Spanish land grant property in Southern Colorado which Mr. Blackmore owned.

William Blackmore's involvement in the American West is an interesting and far-reaching story.

Tuesday, June 8 7:00 P.M. *Noxious Weeds*

Learn about invasive plants which are foreign to our region and which threaten our native ecosystems and wildlife habitats.

Saturday, June 12 8:00 A.M. *Weed walk*

-- in Red Rock Canyon Open Space
Meet at the Picnic Area Parking lot.

Geologic Folio Red Rock Canyon Open Space Colorado Springs, Colorado

by

Ken Weissenburger, Sharon Milito, and Don Ellis

295 pages ~ Large 8½" x 11" format ~ Profusely illustrated

- ⊕ 250 photographs
- ⊕ 35 maps including maps of the best places in Red Rock Canyon to see geologic features of interest
- ⊕ Over 65 drawings

In depth treatment of:

- ⊕ Geologic mapping of the Pikes Peak Region and the West
- ⊕ Geology of Red Rock Canyon
- ⊕ The fossil record
- ⊕ Red Rock Canyon Quarrying and mining
- ⊕ Red Rock Canyon stone in historic buildings



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 The Old Colorado City Historical Society
 in collaboration with
 Friends of Red Rock Canyon

Friends
 of Red
 Rock Canyon

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Secure your casebound copy for only \$39.95*

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After May 1, the price will be \$54.95

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 or order by phone with your credit card at (719) 636-1225***

Bookstore hours 11:00 A.M. - 4:00 P.M. Tuesday through Saturday

EDITORIAL:

Let's Dump The Dump

Long before Red Rock Canyon served as a dumping ground for the City's trash, it was a pristine area bordered by red sandstone and Dakota hogbacks. The area that we refer to as "the dump" was known as Gypsum Canyon. Now that the community is reclaiming and restoring Red Rock Canyon Open Space to its original glory, I suggest it's time to restore the area's original name - on maps, trail signs and in conversation - to Gypsum Canyon.

Calling the area "the dump" or even "the landfill" portrays an image of a dirty, toxic no-mans-land rather than the beautiful mysterious canyon of rock and meadow that it is quickly becoming. I am not suggesting that we abandon the history of Red Rock Canyon Open Space and hide the fact that it was once used as a landfill, but let's leave that story to the historical markers. Then, the next time we lead a group of newcomers on a full moon hike through Red Rock Canyon Open Space, we can proudly tell them the trail will cross Gypsum Canyon on the way into Red Rock Canyon, instead of describing the trail as going across "the dump".

Glenn Pressman

Our Thanks

Friends of Red Rock Canyon thanks The Old Colorado City Historical Society and Mother's House Publishing for making possible the publication of the "Geologic Folio Red Rock Canyon Open Space Colorado Springs, Colorado"

Meetings

Friends of Red Rock Canyon's Board now meets at 6:30 P.M. the second Monday of the month in the Academy Room at the Colorado Springs City Hall, 107 N. Nevada Avenue.

Upcoming meetings are:

- Monday, April 12
Monday, May 10
Monday, June 14

Everyone is welcome at our Board meetings.

- MEMBERSHIP FORM -

Friends of Red Rock Canyon

Name:
Address:
City / State / Zip Code
Email: Home Phone: Work Phone:

Yes, I want to join Friends of Red Rock Canyon for the coming year
Individual Member (\$10)
Family Membership (\$15) Other Family Members:
Organization / Business Membership (\$30)
I would like to help even more with a contribution of \$

I would like to be involved in volunteer efforts:
Trail and stewardship volunteer Educational Programs Serve on Board of Directors
Advocacy & Community outreach Other (please describe)

Please mail this membership form with your check to:

Friends of Red Rock Canyon
P.O. Box 6754
Colorado Springs, CO 80904 -6754

(Friends of Red Rock Canyon is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. Contributions are tax deductible.)

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*If the MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL DATE in the upper right hand corner shows a date before this month Friends of Red Rock Canyon has not received your current membership; and this could be your last issue of the **RED ROCK RAG**.*

***Renew your Friends of Red Rock Canyon membership now
and be sure to keep getting the RED ROCK RAG***

Opinions expressed in THE RED ROCK RAG are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the Friends of Red Rock Canyon.

WE WANT YOUR INPUT!

Letters, articles, comments may be sent to:

Rag Editor
Friends of Red Rock Canyon
P.O. Box 6754
Colorado Springs, CO 80904-6754

Electronic submissions may be sent to:

friends@redrockcanyonopensespace.org
Please send electronic text in plain text (.txt) format.

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