

# THE RED ROCK RAG

Volume 4, Number 2

News and Views on Red Rock Canyon

February, 2003

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P. O. Box 2352, Colorado Springs, CO 80901-2352

[www.saveredrockcanyon.com](http://www.saveredrockcanyon.com)

## City to seek GOCO grant for Red Rock Canyon

The City of Colorado Springs is preparing to submit a grant request to Great Outdoors Colorado (GOCO) for funding to assist with the acquisition of Red Rock Canyon open space. Grant funds will be matched with funds from the TOPS program. (Project costs and the acquisition timeline have not yet been determined.)

GOCO was created by Colorado voters to use state lottery proceeds to protect parks, open space, outdoor recreation, and wildlife habitat. Since its creation, GOCO has helped to protect well over 200,000 acres of Colorado land. In El Paso County, funds from GOCO have been instrumental in preserving the Myron Stratton open space, Red Mountain and the JL Ranch (Cheyenne Mountain State Park). Now, we are hopeful that GOCO will be one of the funding partners for the purchase of Red Rock Canyon.

Colorado Springs' grant application to GOCO will be due in March; and supporting material to be submitted with the application must be received by February 28. An important part of the supporting material will be letters of support from individuals and organizations concerned for the preservation of Red Rock Canyon Open Space.

## Our Thanks

The Red Rock Canyon Committee wishes to express its appreciation to Paul Idleman of White Heath, Illinois for his contribution this past month supporting the Red Rock Rag.

We would also like to express our appreciation to the Village at Skyline for providing our meeting room.

## Letters of support needed

Letters supporting the City of Colorado Springs grant request to GOCO for funding to assist with the acquisition of Red Rock Canyon open space will be an important component of a successful grant application.

If you can, please add your letter of support. The letter should include your name and address (or the name and address of your organization), your interest in Red Rock Canyon and any contributions you or your organization have made to the project or will offer to the project.

Letters should be addressed to:

John Hereford, Executive Director  
Great Outdoors Colorado  
1600 Broadway, Suite 1650  
Denver, CO 80202.

Letters for inclusion in the grant packet should be sent to:

Aimee Cox  
Colorado Springs Parks,  
Recreation & Cultural Services  
1401 Recreation Way  
Colorado Springs, CO 80905

**Please do not send letters directly to GOCO. The deadline is February 28, 2003. If you have any questions, please contact Aimee Cox at 719-385-6532 or [aicox@ci.colorspgs.co.us](mailto:aicox@ci.colorspgs.co.us).**

**CALENDAR:****Meetings of Possible Interest:**

- February 4 Manitou Springs City Council  
7:00 P.M. Manitou Springs City Hall  
606 Manitou Avenue
- February 6 **Red Rock Canyon Committee**  
7:00 P.M. Village at Skyline (off Lower Gold  
Camp Road), Activities Room, Building No. 4  
(The Eastemmost Building - enter from the  
parking lot north of the building)
- February 11 Colorado Springs City Council  
9:00 A.M. City Council Chambers,  
The historic City Hall, Nevada & Kiowa
- February 12 **TOPS Working Committee**  
4:00 P.M. Colorado Springs  
Parks and Recreation Building  
1401 Recreation Way  
(East of I-25, 2 blocks north of Uintah)
- February 18 Manitou Springs City Council  
7:00 P.M. Manitou Springs City Hall  
606 Manitou Avenue
- February 25 Colorado Springs City Council  
9:00 A.M. City Council Chambers,  
The historic City Hall, Nevada & Kiowa
- February 26 **TOPS Working Committee**  
7:30 A.M. Colorado Springs  
Parks and Recreation Building  
1401 Recreation Way  
(East of I-25, 2 blocks north of Uintah)
- February 26 **Manitou Springs Open Space  
Advisory Committee**  
7:00 P.M. Manitou Springs City Hall  
606 Manitou Avenue
- March 3 **TOSC Candidate Forum**  
7:00 P.M. Colorado Springs Senior Center,  
1514 North Hancock
- March 6 **Red Rock Canyon Committee**  
7:00 P.M. Village at Skyline (off Lower Gold  
Camp Road), Activities Room, Building No. 4  
(The Eastemmost Building - enter from the  
parking lot north of the building)

NOTE: Scheduled meetings can be subject to change or cancellation. Check these web pages within a week of scheduled meeting for items of interest:

Colorado Springs City government: [www.springsgov.com](http://www.springsgov.com)

El Paso County government: [www.elpasoco.com](http://www.elpasoco.com)

Also, check the CONO web site: [www.csono.org](http://www.csono.org)

**TOPS Extension Update**

The campaign to extend the Trails, Open Space and Parks program is off to a great start in the New Year. Volunteers from the Red Rock Canyon Foundation and the Red Rock Canyon Committee are making phone calls to their friends, relatives and open space supporters to ask for donations. As a result, the campaign has reached 35% of its goal in just three weeks. Additionally, volunteers have made presentations to the Trails and Open Space Coalition, Cheyenne Commons, Friends of Cheyenne Mountain State Park, The Broadmoor Garden Club, The Green Party, and the Lions Club asking for support, volunteers and donations. Each has been met with great success.

As an additional benefit to the campaign, the Trust for Public Lands, the Trails and Open Space Coalition and a private donor have agreed to match, one-for-one, every contribution over \$100. So, for every \$100 donated, the campaign will receive an additional \$100 from the matching funds.

Although we have done a great job fundraising thus far, we still have a way to go. For us to be effective in this election, we need to get at least five mailings to targeted (likely and supportive) voters. Each mailing will cost approximately \$16,000 to reach 50,000 voters for a total of \$80,000. This does not include any other activities such as printing for neighborhood literature drops, flyers, posters, calls to voters, or other promotional materials.

So please do what you can to help. Red Rock Canyon has much to gain with an extension, but will not have trailheads, restrooms or recreational facilities if the extension doesn't pass on April 1st.

Thank you for your continued support. If you need additional information or would like to volunteer to help, please call Kjersten at 719-641-4674.

Kjersten Forseth

**Candidate Forum**

The Trails and Open Space Coalition (TOSC) will sponsor a candidate forum on Monday evening March 3. The forum will be held at the Colorado Springs Senior Center at 1514 North Hancock (3 blocks north of Uintah) from 7 to 9 P.M.

This will be a chance for you to ask questions of the candidates for Colorado Springs' City Council.

The forum is being coordinated by Lee Milner, Vice President for Advocacy of the Trails & Open Space Coalition

### Red Rock Canyon Foundation President's Report, February 2003

The process of Due Diligence and setting up the conditions favorable for Trust for Public Land (TPL) to follow through and purchase the Red Rock Canyon property is in high gear. Woody Beardsley, the negotiator for TPL is setting up consultants and experts to evaluate the various issues such as the environmental situation at the landfill. Soon TPL will be arranging community input on the Red Rock Canyon purchase, and the Red Rock Canyon Foundation will be advocating the public control of the whole property rather than a quick selling off of the highway 24 frontage area to commercial development. Later the public can determine what open space compatible uses would be most beneficial and cost effective.

**How can you help?**

First, become a member of Red Rock Canyon Foundation by filling out the membership form. Instead of making a donation to the Foundation, we ask you to make a generous contribution to the TOPS Extension Committee (\$50, \$150, \$250). As you probably already know the continuation of the TOPS program can assure enough money to protect Red Rock Canyon and so many other worthy projects through out El Paso County.

Second, host a neighborhood party of friends and family to support Red Rock Canyon. The Foundation will come and offer the Red Rock Canyon slide show and answer questions about Red Rock

Canyon. Now is the time to build enthusiasm and create a TOPS get-out-the-vote movement.

Third, if you have some time to volunteer for Red Rock Canyon preservation, please call 634-1810 to become involved. One hundred years from now Red Rock Canyon preservation may be the most lasting project you ever did.

Shant Toll

#### Want to be involved with the Red Rock Canyon Foundation?

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Commitment:

---- Supporter (occasionally emails or letters)

---- Helper (volunteer 3 to 8 hours a month)

---- Leader (volunteer 2 to 5 hours a week)

Areas of interest for volunteering: \_\_\_\_\_

Send to:

**Red Rock Canyon Foundation**

2207 W. Colorado Ave

Colorado Springs, CO 80904

or

Phone 634-1810

## Support the TOPS Extension Campaign with your contribution

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**City, State** \_\_\_\_\_

**E-mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

\$10    \$20    \$50    \$100\*    \$200    Other \_\_\_\_\_

**\* Individual contributions of \$100 or more will be doubled by matching grants from the Trust for Public Land and the Trails and Open Space Coalition!**

Send your contributions to:

***Tops Extension Committee***

P.O. Box 62937

Colorado Springs, CO 80962

## HELP SUPPORT THE **RED ROCK RAG!**

Enclosed is my contribution. (Check payable to "Red Rock Canyon Committee", not tax deductible.)

\_\_\_ Do \_\_\_ Don't acknowledge my contribution in the **RED ROCK RAG.**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Mail to: **Red Rock Canyon Committee / P. O. Box 2352 / Colorado Springs, CO 80901-2352**

For more information, contact **Linda Hodges** at the **Trails and Open Space Coalition**: 633-6884,  
or e-mail: [help@saveredrockcanyon.com](mailto:help@saveredrockcanyon.com)

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

### **WE WANT YOUR INPUT!**

Letters, articles, comments may be sent to:

Rag Editor  
Red Rock Canyon Committee  
P. O. Box 2352  
Colorado Springs, CO 80901-2352

Electronic submissions may be sent to:

[rag@saveredrockcanyon.com](mailto:rag@saveredrockcanyon.com)

***Please*** send electronic text in plain ASCII (.txt) format

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