

# THE RED ROCK RAG

Volume 6, Number 4

News and Views on Red Rock Canyon

Fall, 2005

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

[www.redrockcanyonopenspace.org](http://www.redrockcanyonopenspace.org)

## Intemann - Red Rock connection to be completed September 24

On September 24, the Friends of Red Rock Canyon, the Intemann Trail Committee, and REI are sponsoring a volunteer work day to work on the trail which will connect Red Rock Canyon Open Space to the Intemann Trail in Section 16.

This trail will be just under a half mile long. It begins where the Mesa and Greenlee Canyon Trails meet near the south edge of Red Rock Canyon Open Space. From there, it follows the west rim of Red Rock Canyon. This southern part of Red Rock Canyon is flanked by massive Fountain sandstone buttresses.

Work on the trail was started on an August 14 work day sponsored by the Intemann Trail Committee and the Colorado Springs Department of Parks Recreation and Cultural Services. The trail is expected to be completed September 24.

To volunteer please register at REI (1376 East Woodman Road). For information, call Bill Slaughter at REI: 260-1455, extension 204.

### Stay Connected

Friends of Red Rock Canyon is developing an e-mail contact list of its members and friends to help communicate timely information.

To be added to this list, just visit the Friends of Red Rock Canyon website at [www.redrockcanyonopenspace.org](http://www.redrockcanyonopenspace.org), click on CONTACT US, and send an e-mail mentioning that you'd like to be added to our contact list.

The e-mail list we are now developing will become the main contact list for Friends of Red Rock Canyon. So, please add your address to the list even if you already get occasional e-mails from the Friends of Red Rock Canyon.

### CALENDAR:

#### Friends of Red Rock Canyon meetings:

Friends of Red Rock Canyon meets at 7:00 PM the first Thursday of the month in the Academy Room on the lower level of the historic Colorado Springs City Hall, 107 N. Nevada Avenue. (Enter at the southeast corner of the building.)

Upcoming meetings will be on:

October 6

November 3

December 1

#### Volunteer workdays:

**September 17** - Intemann Trail work day  
Intemann Trail Committee  
<http://intemann-trail.com> 473-4143

**September 24** - Trail work building the Intemann - Red Rock link  
Sponsored by Friends of Red Rock Canyon, The Intemann Trail Committee, and REI.  
To volunteer please register at REI (1376 East Woodman Road). For information, call Bill Slaughter at REI 260-1455, extension 204.

**October 8** - Intemann Trail work day  
Intemann Trail Committee  
<http://intemann-trail.com> 473-4143

**October 21** - Trail work in unspecified areas led by Pikes Peak United Way. Please contact United Way directly to register.

For more information, see:  
[www.springsgov.com/page.asp?NavID=5552](http://www.springsgov.com/page.asp?NavID=5552)  
or call Kim King at City Parks: 385-5940.

## Climbers and land-managers ... A success story in a new area to climbing

The City of Colorado Springs purchased a 789 acre family-owned site in 2003 for a future park, later named Red Rock Canyon Open Space. The site contained a series of hogbacks of uplifted sandstone that were an extension of the same formations that make up Garden of the Gods, a long-established rock climbing area.

A group of climbers (now known as Colorado Springs Climbers Alliance and an affiliate of The Access Fund) who had been active in working with the Department of Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services ("Parks and Rec") on climbing issues at Garden of the Gods decided to become active in the development of climbing in the new park from the beginning of the Master Plan process for Red Rock Canyon. The climbers first wanted to insure that climbing would be a part of the plan for the new park, and believed that an area that was absolutely new to climbing should have an organized, controlled and managed process that would fit in well with other uses of the area.

From the first public meeting on the master planning process, the group made sure that climbers were well represented. The climbing group eventually presented a specific proposal for an overall climbing plan which identified only certain areas for rock climbing along with a specific set of climbing rules and procedures. The plan was eventually adopted essentially as proposed. Later, it was proposed that Parks and Rec allow a specific list of climbers to coordinate the placement of routes in advance of the opening of the park according to strict standards. The Parks and Rec department gave approval to Ric Gelmann, Stewart Green and Bob Hostetler ... Brian Shelton joined this group later ... to coordinate this effort. The sandstone has virtually no cracks and virtually all routes needed to be bolted. Standards included no dangerous runouts, route termination/rap anchors under the top of the hogbacks (to reduce rockfall risk, discourage "tourist" scrambling on the top of the hogbacks, limit damage to sensitive environments) and camouflaging of bolts.

Over about a two month period, 85 routes from fourth class (top rope) to 5.12 were established.

Within a couple of weeks of route completion, Stewart Green ("Rock Climbing Colorado", et al) had a first edition guide published ...it was ready for the park opening. A mailing list

of almost 100 climbers was established from the first two weekends of sale of the guide ... proceeds helped support some of the costs of putting up the routes. The balance of costs were incurred by the climbers establishing the routes.

Based on an agreement between the climbing group and Parks and Rec, there is a 2005 moratorium on the establishment of new bolted routes. In 2006, new routes will need to go through an approval process.

Bob Hostetler  
bobbostetler@yahoo.com

## Under the Harvest Moon hike

The Catamount Institute will host an "Under the Harvest Moon" hike on Saturday, September 17 from 6:30 PM to 9:00 PM at Red Rock Canyon. Although access to the public is normally restricted at night, the city has granted special permission for this rare opportunity. Educator Kevin Snyder of the Catamount Institute and Friends of Red Rock Canyon board member Don Ellis and will serve as guides during this unique opportunity to learn about night ecology under the extended light of the Harvest Moon.

The Harvest Moon is one of the best known full moons and is celebrated in cultures around the world with gatherings and festivals. Also known as the Wine Moon, the Singing Moon and the Elk Call Moon, it traditionally signifies the beginning of the harvest in the Northern Hemisphere. Traditionally the Harvest Moon is the full moon that occurs closest to the Fall Equinox and provides an extra 30 minutes of light; thus its value to farmers at harvest time.

Cost for the hike is \$3 for the general public (free to Catamount Institute members). Reservations are required and may be made calling 471-0910 extension 105, or by emailing [programs@catamountinstitute.org](mailto:programs@catamountinstitute.org). Space is limited.

The Catamount Institute is a nonprofit organization dedicated to inspiring ecological stewardship. For more information, call 471-0910 or visit

[www.catamountinstitute.org](http://www.catamountinstitute.org)

# Thank you Brad!

The Friends of Red Rock Canyon sincerely thank Brad Bufkin for all the years of dedicated service to our board. He has resigned his position on the board due to a successful and busy work load with a law firm in Pueblo.

Brad served as Vice-president and Secretary on the Friends of Red Rock Canyon Board for over three and a half years taking perfect notes and reporting them back to the board in a timely manner! Whenever neither the president nor vice-president could attend our meetings he was right there presiding over those meetings.

In addition to serving on the board Brad has also been an enormous help guiding us in regard to keeping everything legal in business matters. He made certain every change made in our by-laws over the years was worded properly, assisted with wordings of proposals made during meetings and filed the annual reports with the IRS and the Colorado Secretary of State. He also took the time to file all the changes that occurred during the years he was in office.

Brad brought to the Friends of Red Rock Canyon Board an energy of flexibility, strength and

dependability. Many times his focus kept the board on track! His stewardship to the Land is remarkable and greatly appreciated.

Brad, the board will miss you and your service but we want you to know even though you are no longer on the board you will always be a Friend to us and Red Rock Canyon Open Space! Thank you!

Karlee Thompson  
President FoRRC Board

## Our Thanks

The Friends of Red Rock Canyon wishes to express our appreciation to the Intemann Trail Committee and REI for cosponsoring the coming September 24 volunteer work day.

We would also like to express our appreciation to the City of Colorado Springs for providing our meeting room.

### - 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      \_\_\_\_ Brochure or grant writer

\_\_\_\_ Advocacy & Community outreach      \_\_\_\_ Other (please describe) \_\_\_\_\_

My main interests in Red Rock Canyon Open Space are: \_\_\_\_\_

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.)

# ***CHECK YOUR MAILING LABEL!***

***If the upper right hand corner of the label (MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL DATE) is blank, Friends of Red Rock Canyon has not received your current membership; and this could be your last issue of the RED ROCK RAG.***

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

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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@redrockcanyonopenspace.org  
***Please send electronic text in plain text (.txt) format.***

THE RED ROCK RAG reserves the right to publish or not publish any submission and to edit submissions for style and length.

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For more information, contact **Linda Hodges** at the **Trails and Open Space Coalition**: 633-6884,  
or e-mail: friends@redrockcanyonopenspace.org

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