

# SO! Spring 2015 Outings Schedule

Day, Date, Departure Time & Departure Place	<h2 style="margin: 0;">Outing Description</h2> <h3 style="margin: 0;">Spring 2015</h3>	<a href="#"><u>Difficulty Rating</u></a>
	<p><a href="#"><u>Printer-friendly version</u></a></p> <p><a href="#"><u>Logistics, outing rules, meeting places, and difficulty ratings</u></a></p> <p><b>Schedule changes and trip updates are in red</b></p> <p>If you have received this schedule by mail, please note that additions and changes are continually being made. Ask someone with internet access to inform you when these updates occur or go to a friend's computer or the library to view updates at <a href="http://www.seniorsoutdoors.org"><u>www.seniorsoutdoors.org</u></a>.</p> <p>Participation in SO! activities by non-members is limited to two outings per year. Visitors who wish to actively participate are expected to join SO!</p> <p>Leaders: If you have changes to make to an outing please e-mail the amended outing to <a href="mailto:mail2020@seniorsoutdoors.org"><u>mail2020@seniorsoutdoors.org</u></a> with a copy to <a href="mailto:rbbutler54@gmail.com"><u>rbbutler54@gmail.com</u></a></p> <p>Participants (new &amp; old) as we start the winter season please review the Guidelines for Participants found on the SO! Web Site. It contains important information about our requirements and general alpine safety.</p> <p>Please note that many outings are listed "At a moderate pace". This means the <u>Leader sets a MODERATE pace</u> and all participants should respect that – no one should sprint ahead of the Leader without the Leader's okay.</p> <p><b><u>Avalanche Alpine Safety Reminder:</u> Be aware that Outings in snow conditions in our area could involve avalanche exposure. SO! strongly recommends that participants in winter outings complete an avalanche safety course (Links to a few local ones are: <a href="http://www.avyschool.com/">http://www.avyschool.com/</a> &amp; <a href="http://www.hesperuskipatrol.org/">http://www.hesperuskipatrol.org/</a> and a free one at <a href="http://www.thesanjuans.org/2014/10/avalanche-awareness-class-schedule/">http://www.thesanjuans.org/2014/10/avalanche-awareness-class-schedule/</a>). In addition, on some Outings, Trip Leaders may require you to carry a beacon, shovel and snow probe and know their use. Be informed of backcountry avalanche conditions before an outing (check at <a href="http://avalanche.state.co.us/">http://avalanche.state.co.us/</a>, Colorado Avalanche Information Center).</b></p> <p>Meeting Place Abbreviations: ACP: Animas City Park; TC: Trimble Crossing; Tam: Tamarron; DMR: Durango Mountain Resort; SRP: Santa Rita Park; RC: Rec Center</p>	<p>Rating, Total Length &amp; Elevation Gain</p>
	<p><b>SO! Downhill Ski Group.</b> Meet other SO! skiers and ski with a group at your level on various days throughout the ski season. All abilities welcome. Ski boarders are welcome to join the SO! Downhill ski group. Be sure to check the DMR web site for actual opening date.</p> <p>Contact Bruce Rodman at <a href="mailto:Mtnman16@gmail.com"><u>Mtnman16@gmail.com</u></a> to be placed on the SO! Downhill Ski Group distribution list. Please provide:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Self-description of your skier abilities, e.g. intermediate</li> <li>2) Landline phone number.</li> <li>3) Cell phone number if you carry a cell phone on the mountain.</li> </ol> <p>If you are looking for ski companions of similar abilities, then you may email the distribution list that you are organizing a ski group on days and start times of your choice. Each group will meet at the base of Lift 1 (the Six Pack</p>	<p>Novice, intermediate and expert skiers</p>

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	<p>lift.) Some will coordinate to car pool from Animas City Park. The groups usually meet during the noon hour for lunch on the second floor (bar level) at Dante's when it is open. You could also use the distribution list to arrange trips to other ski areas such as Wolf Creek or Telluride. For more information, contact SO! Downhill Ski Group Coordinator Bruce Rodman at 970-385-7899.</p> <p>On Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, John Montle or Betsy Petersen leads a group of advanced intermediate skiers interested primarily in skiing fairly fast on groomed slopes. They will look for you shortly before 0900 at the base of Lift 1 (the Six Pack lift) or later if arrangements have been made in advance. Communications are generally done via email. These sessions will be held when conditions are judged to be good. Contact John Montle at <a href="mailto:jimontle@frontier.net">jimontle@frontier.net</a> or 970-259-9469, or Betsy Peterson at <a href="mailto:Betsyp@bresnan.net">Betsyp@bresnan.net</a> or 970-259-5417.</p>	
<p>Wed Mar 4 SRP 9:30 am &amp; Wednesdays Thru the winter</p>	<p><b>Wednesday Wanderers Walk the Animas River Trail.</b> Every Wednesday through the winter join Eric to walk the River Trail from Santa Rita to Home Depot and back. May turn back sooner or go on to Escalante subdivision if desired. Enjoy wildlife, river views and companions. No RSVP required. Dogs must be on leash per city ordinance. If there are problems with construction on the trail south from Santa Rita the group may choose instead to hike north to Rec Center or 32<sup>nd</sup> street. <b>For Info, call Eric Pahlke 247-1130</b></p>	<p>Easy Flat 5-7 miles</p>
<p>Thur March 5  5:30 PM Sow's Ear Restaurant</p>	<p><b>Moonlight Snowshoe!</b> Join the group at the Sow's Ear Restaurant at 5:30 for drinks and apps before we head out. If you prefer just to Snowshoe meet us in the Sow's Ear Restaurant parking lot at 7:00 PM (Please park in the lower parking lot). Depending on snow conditions we will either trek up the Naked Lady Trail to DMR, then traverse across the mountain....or we will cross the highway to the meadows and circle the lower cliffs around the Nordic Track.. Car Pool from ACP in Durango is \$4. <b>Leaders Dot Helling and Terri Wells</b> PLEASE RSVP DIRECTLY TO <a href="mailto:terriwells7@hotmail.com">terriwells7@hotmail.com</a> so that we can alert Sow's Ear with the numbers of guests.</p>	<p>Moderate  ~ 4 miles  700'</p>
<p>Sat Mar 7 9:00 am ACP 9:20 am Tam</p>	<p><b>Saturday Snowshoe with John (Martin).</b> Specific details for these Saturday Snowshoe hikes (destination, description, 4WD, etc) will be e-mailed about two days in advance. <b>This year, you must carry an avalanche beacon and shovel and know how to use them on all of these outings.</b> Avalanche probes are optional. Turn backs with a partner may be permitted. Carpool \$4-\$7, depending on destination. Dogs OK <b>RSVP: John Martin 247-2581 or <a href="mailto:jmartin@mydurango.net">jmartin@mydurango.net</a></b></p>	<p>Hard 1000+ ft. 3+ miles</p>
<p>Tue Mar 10 SRP 8:30 am</p>	<p><b>Sand Canyon Hike.</b> We will hike through the Monument on the loop trail checking out the ruins and enjoying an end of winter hike. Dogs OK (must be under control or on a leash), Car Pool \$9. Limit 15. <b>Leader &amp; RSVP: Steve Krest at <a href="mailto:skrest@earthlink.net">skrest@earthlink.net</a> or 970-588-3806.</b></p>	<p>Moderate ~ 8 + miles 900'</p>
<p>Tue Mar 10  Rec Center  New Member Orientation 5:30 pm Social: 6:30 pm Potluck: 7:00 pm</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>SO! General Meeting</b> <b>2015 Spring Potluck</b> <b>New Member Orientation 5:30 pm</b> <b>Social: 6:30 pm</b> <b>Potluck: 7:00 pm</b></p> <p>Bring your own table service and a dish for eight with a serving utensil. A-F Dessert    G-M Main Dish    N-R Salad    S-Z Main Dish In addition to your potluck dish please bring non-perishable food donations for the Manna Food Kitchen.</p>	
<p>Wed Mar 11 SRP 9:30 am</p>	<p><b>WW hike: Animas River Trail</b> See Mar 4. No RSVP required. Dogs must be on leash per city ordinance.</p>	<p>Easy Flat</p>

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	<b>Leader: Eric Pahlke 247-1130</b>	5 -7 miles
<b>New Hike</b> Wed - Sat March 11 - 14  meet Wed 7:00 AM at Hesperus P.O.	<b><i>Slickrock Wanderings: Hike Slickrock Above Various Canyons in Utah.</i></b> Wed: North Wash slots --- Leprechaun (and/or Blarney) - exploratory. May also do the "Subway" section in Leprechaun's slot. Thurs: North Wash slots --- Sandthrax loop Fri: Black Dragon Canyon Sat: Upper Bootlegger Canyon (above Corona Arch) Primarily off-trail, moderate pace. Limit 10. Dogs OK. Motel/camping info, etc. to be provided. <b>RSVP Dan Honig <a href="mailto:dhonig@animas.net">dhonig@animas.net</a></b>	Moderate to Hard - Hikes progressively longer. ~4 - 10 miles ~1,000' - ~2,500'
Sat Mar 14, snow permitting  Twin ButtesTH  10:00 am	<b><i>Snowshoeing 101 for beginners.</i></b> Join Dell & Burt to learn the ins and outs and ups and downs of snowshoeing. Practice will be near Dell's home on nearly flat terrain. Bring lunch or snacks, water, snowshoes, poles, <b>GAITERS</b> and winter snow boots or heavier hiking boots that are appropriate for snowshoeing. If you need snowshoe rentals, call Dell for suggestions. Parking for Twin Buttes Trailhead is just west of the Giant gas station on west US 160. Carpool \$2. Dogs OK. <b>RSVP: Dell Manners 385-0533 or <a href="mailto:dmanners@sisna.com">dmanners@sisna.com</a></b>	Easy Short distances Minimal elevation gain
Wed Mar 18 SRP 9:30 am	<b><i>WW hike: Animas River Trail</i></b> See Mar 4. No RSVP required. Dogs must be on leash per city ordinance. Leader: <b>Eric Pahlke 247-1130</b>	Easy Flat 5-7 miles
Sun Mar 22 ACP 9:00 am	<b><i>Hike Falls Creek Trail.</i></b> We will drive a short distance up the Junction Creek Road, then turn north towards the Falls Creek sub-division and take one of the several trails on the <u>right</u> side of the road going north further on up the road. Hiking will be at a moderate pace and we may return on a ridge trail route. Limit 15. Dogs OK. Carpool \$1.00. <b>RSVP: Nancy Federico at 259-1949 or <a href="mailto:fortfed@gmail.com">fortfed@gmail.com</a>.</b>	Easy to Moderate 6-7 mi Minimal elevation gain
Wed Mar 25 SRP 9:30 am	<b><i>WW hike: Animas River Trail</i></b> See Mar 13. No RSVP required Leader: <b>Eric Pahlke 247-1130</b>	Easy Flat 5-7 miles
Fri Mar 27 SRP 7:30 am	<b><i>Wandering in the De-Na-Zin Wilderness.</i></b> We will spend the day wandering around an area in the De-Na-Zin wilderness at a moderate pace just enjoying the rocks, vistas, hoo doos, small arches and petrified logs. Much of the walking terrain will be pretty flat and sandy, but some scrambling is required. Limit 15, no dogs, carpool \$9. <b>RSVP: Travis Ward <a href="mailto:tlward@frontier.net">tlward@frontier.net</a></b>	Moderate, up to 8 miles, less than 1000'
Wed Apr 1 SRP 9:00 am	<b><i>WW hike: Horse Gulch.</i></b> From the trailhead, the hike begins a gradual and consistent uphill. The hike follows the old road for 2 miles until the group turns around to return on the same route. Dogs on lease only please. RSVP non-members only. <b>Leader: Eric Pahlke 247-1130</b>	Easy 4 mi. RT 400'
<b>Fri April 3- Postponed to Fri Apr 17</b> Breakfast: SRP 7:30 am or Mancos by the ABC 8:45 am	<b><i>Hike Sand Canyon</i></b> with breakfast option at the Absolute Bakery & Café (ABC) in Mancos. Meet at SRP to carpool to breakfast at 7:30 am or meet after breakfast in Mancos by the ABC to drive to Sand Canyon. This lovely canyon area west of Cortez is replete with views, Ancestral Puebloan sites and interesting rock formations. We'll continue north on the well-marked Sand Canyon Trail to the point where the trail crosses the canyon and return the same way. Carpool \$7. Limit 15. Dogs are allowed in Sand Canyon but must be leashed. <b>RSVP to Betsy Petersen 259-5417 or <a href="mailto:betsyp@bresnan.net">betsyp@bresnan.net</a></b> indicating when/where you are meeting (SRP or ABC).	Moderate 6-7 miles ~ 600' Moderate Pace
Depart Apr 6, 7, or 8	Fisher Towers – Mystery Canyons: Three days of tough off-trail hiking and scrambling, including some exposure, through complicated red-rock country north of Moab, UT. Spectacular scenery includes deep canyons and tall towers. Two nights of car-camping.	Hard 5 miles 1,500'

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<p>Rec Center 7:30 am Note: Dates will be set by participants</p>	<p><b>Day 1:</b> Drive to Fisher Towers area in AM and establish camp, have lunch, then do a 2 ½- mile (900' elevation gain) key-exchange introductory hike through the main Fisher Towers, partly on good trail, but mostly rough cross-country hiking and scrambling in a canyon to an arch and viewpoint over the Mystery Canyons.</p> <p><b>Day 2:</b> Mystery Canyons and Mystery Towers 5-mile loop hike. Go up West Mystery Canyon, cross a ridge into Middle Mystery, cross another ridge into East Mystery, then over another ridge and out West Stinking Spring Canyon. 1,500' of gross elevation gain. Rough cross-country hiking and scrambling, including quicksand hazard.</p> <p><b>Day 3:</b> Exploratory hike up East Stinking Spring Canyon and a tributary. About 3 miles and 800' of gross elevation gain. Expect more of the same – deep canyons and rough country. Drive home in the afternoon.</p> <p>Carpool ??, High-clearance required. Limit 8 – 10 (depends upon vehicles available for the key-exchange hike). No Dogs.</p> <p><b>RSVP John Bregar 385-1814 <a href="mailto:johnbregar09@gmail.com">johnbregar09@gmail.com</a></b></p>	
<p>Wed Apr 8 Trailhead Corner of E 10<sup>th</sup> St &amp; E 6<sup>th</sup> Ave 9:30 am</p>	<p><b>WW hike: Fort Lewis Loop Trail.</b> Hike begins at Centennial Nature Trail lower trail head at jct .of E 10th St &amp; E 6th AV and ends at E 12th ST and 12th ST Place (between E 4th AV &amp; E 5th AV, a half block East of the Mason Center and tennis courts on E 3rd AV). Park on street between the start and finish – three blocks apart. The trail switchbacks up to the FLC campus, circumnavigates the college campus in the pinyons-junipers, goes between the campus and the golf course , down to the Lion's Den then goes back down to town on a narrow social trail which passes a five-foot 3-D 'petroglyph' of an Egyptian mummy and ends at the site of our new handicap-accessible home AND our present house next door where everyone is welcome for snacks. Park anywhere between the start and finish point. probably , dogs must be on leash. RSVP non-members only.</p> <p><b>Leader: Jim Shadell 970-769-3772</b></p>	<p>Easy 3 mi. RT 400' 1 ½ – 2 hrs.</p>
<p>Sat Apr 11 SRP 8:00 am</p>	<p><b>Aztec Arches &amp; Canyons:</b> Hike in canyons east of Aztec, New Mexico. We will find arches and other “enchanted” rock formations. There will be significant off-trail scrambling and a loop return to the vehicles. 4WD High Clearance required. Carpool \$5. Limit 12.</p> <p><b>RSVP Bob Thompson 382-9271</b></p>	<p>Hard ~ 5 miles 1,000'</p>
<p>Tue Apr 14 Rec Center Social 6:30 pm Meeting 7:00 pm</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>SO! GENERAL MEETING</b></p> <p><b>KAYAKING THE EXTREMES WITH THE KLEMAS:</b> The Klema brothers, Nate and Matt, are young men into all kinds of outdoor sports that present a challenge. Come and join them as they present one of their kayak adventures in some out of the way part of the world.</p>	
<p>Wed Apr 15 SRP 9:30 am</p>	<p><b>WW hike: Smelter Mountain.</b> We will hike to the towers on Smelter Mtn from the trailhead off CR210 behind the Lake Nighthorse pumping station. There is ample parking at the trailhead. Dogs OK but trail difficult if not impossible for small dogs. Owners use discretion. RSVP non members only.</p> <p><b>Leader: Ray Walker 382-7662</b></p>	<p>Moderate 2 miles RT 1000'</p>
<p><b>NEW TRIP</b> Thurs - Sat April 16 - 18  8:00 am Rec Center</p>	<p><b>Moab Camping Trip:</b> Three moderate days hitting some old favorites around Moab. Possible destinations are Behind The Rocks, Corona Arch, Mary Jane Canyon, Fisher Towers, and Devil's Garden or Delicate Arch in Arches National Park. Only the Behind the Rocks would involve some off-trail scrambling. Limit 12. No dogs. Carpool TBD.</p> <p><b>RSVP: Chris Blackshear <a href="mailto:chris.blackshear@gmail.com">chris.blackshear@gmail.com</a></b></p>	<p>Moderate ~ 5 - 7 miles  per day</p>
<p><b>Fri Apr 17 Rescheduled from Fri April 3</b></p>	<p><b>Hike Sand Canyon</b> with breakfast option at the Absolute Bakery &amp; Café (ABC) in Mancos. Meet at SRP to carpool to breakfast at 7:30 am or meet after breakfast in Mancos by the ABC to drive to Sand Canyon. This lovely</p>	<p>Moderate 6-7 miles ~ 600'</p>

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<p>Breakfast: SRP 7:30 am or Mancos by the ABC 8:45 am</p>	<p>canyon area west of Cortez is replete with views, Ancestral Puebloan sites and interesting rock formations. We'll continue north on the well-marked Sand Canyon Trail to the point where the trail crosses the canyon and return the same way. Carpool \$7. Limit 15. Dogs are allowed in Sand Canyon but must be leashed. <b>RSVP to Betsy Petersen 259-5417 or <a href="mailto:betsyp@bresnan.net">betsyp@bresnan.net</a></b> indicating when/where you are meeting (SRP or ABC).</p>	<p>Moderate Pace</p>
<p><b>Moved to Sat Apr 25 Sat April 18</b> 9:00 am Hermosa Conoco Station</p>	<p><b>SO! Semi-Annual Highway Clean UP Day.</b> Come join other SO members as we clean up our two stretches of Highway 550. Imagine the interesting things you might find – you may be the one to find a \$20 bill this time! Coffee and donuts served in the parking area across from the Hermosa Conoco station. Carpool \$1. No Dogs. <b>RSVP Rich Butler <a href="mailto:rbbutler54@gmail.com">rbbutler54@gmail.com</a> 403-3185</b></p>	<p>Easy ~2 miles 100'</p>
<p>Mon April 20 9:30 am Home Depot Parking Lot (South End near the HD nursery)</p>	<p><b>Monday Bike Ride for Intermediate Road Cyclists:</b> This is a no-drop, social ride of 16 miles (round-trip) from Home Depot to Bread. We'll meet in the south parking lot at Home Depot (adjacent to their nursery), ride the Animas River Trail to E. 32<sup>nd</sup> St., 32<sup>nd</sup> to Bread where we'll stop for coffee and pastries. From Bread, we'll take Florida Rd.-15<sup>th</sup> St. to Rotary Park where we'll get back on the Animas Trail and return to Home Depot. We will leave Home Depot promptly at 9:30 am. Contact me if you have questions and to be added to an email list so you can be notified of cancellations due to weather, etc. <b>Ride leader: Helen Root, <a href="mailto:helen@northandroot.com">helen@northandroot.com</a>, 505-320-3441.</b> <b>Co-leader: Hugh Brown, <a href="mailto:hugh.m.brown2@gmail.com">hugh.m.brown2@gmail.com</a>, 970-403-3089.</b></p>	<p>Moderate 16 miles</p>
<p><b>Moved to Thu May 7</b> Tue Apr 21 ACP 8:30 am TC 8:40 am</p>	<p><b>Stevens Creek Trail.</b> We will hike the upper trail, as described in Pixler and Peel, from the Missionary Ridge connector up to the Missionary Ridge Trail and back. An option is to continue down 2.8 miles and 1200 ft. elevation loss to the trailhead on CR 250 if the groups wishes and shuttles can be worked out. Limit 15 because of parking. Rated hard for distance, but the grade is easy, views are great and the pace is moderate. Carpool \$3. Co-leader: Nancy Mead. <b>RSVP: David Wright 259-5978 or <a href="mailto:djwright001@gmail.com">djwright001@gmail.com</a></b></p>	<p>Hard 11.4 miles 2300' Moderate pace</p>
<p><b>NEW OUTING</b> April 21,22,23,and 24th Meeting time and place TBD. Total expenses will be calculated and split between everyone</p>	<p><b>BackPacking in the Needles District – Canyonlands National Park</b> Canyons to explore, ladders to climb up and down, slick rock to traverse with sometimes steep terrain, a narrow ledge with LOTS of exposure to cross, window arches to crawl through and a joint to straddle and crawl through <b>Tues. April 21,</b> Drive to to Canyonland NP, check in, and spot a shuttle car at the Elephant Canyon TH. Backpack from the Lost Canyon TH 2.5 miles and set camp at LC3. Additional Exploratory Hikes possible <b>Wed. April 22</b> Hike the Peek-a-Boo Trail and additional exploratory paths. Return to camp LC3 for a 2<sup>nd</sup> night <b>Thurs. April 21</b> Pack-up and hike 6.5 miles on the Lost Canyon Trail over to Squaw Canyon and down to the Elephant Canyon 3 campsite. This is a 'pack-it-out' campsite and 'Wag Bags' are required <b>Fri. April 22</b> Hike to either Druid Arch or part of the Joint Trail. Return to camp and pack out on the Elephant Hill Canyon trail to the shuttle car. <b>Permit for 6 people or 4 tents, No Dogs in National Parks</b> <b>RSVP: Penny Jones @ 426-9585 or <a href="mailto:1centpenny@gmail.com">1centpenny@gmail.com</a></b></p>	<p>Hard 2½ days with full packs and 1 ½ days with only a day pack Mileage varies and elevation gain is minimal</p>
<p>Wed April 22 SRP 9:00 a.m.</p>	<p><b>WW hike: Three Springs to Grandview Trail.</b> The hike begins at the electrical generator in back of parking lot in the the area of Spinal Group offices behind the hospital. We will hike to the intersection with Grandview Trail and a little beyond. Dogs on leash only please. RSVP non members only <b>Leader: Tom Hannula 884-9052</b></p>	<p>Easy 3 mi. RT 240"</p>
<p>Wed Apr 22 5:30 pm</p>	<p><b>SO! Quarterly Board Meeting</b></p>	

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<p>Fri April 24 9:00 am Horse Gulch TH east of 8<sup>th</sup> Ave. &amp; 3<sup>rd</sup> St. (Near Sonic)</p>	<p><b>Big Canyon to Horse Gulch.</b> This is a through-hike in the lovely Telegraph Trail system with a stop for lunch at Pautsky Point for a 360° view. We'll descend from Pautsky Point on a semi off-trail route. Early turn back OK if you drive your own car. No carpool charge. NO dogs on this one because it is a through hike requiring vehicle sharing. No limit. We Leave most cars at Horse Gulch and begin with short shuttle to Big Canyon. <b>RSVP: Betsy Petersen 259-5417 <a href="mailto:betsyp@bresnan.net">betsyp@bresnan.net</a></b></p>	<p>Moderate 8 miles 1500' Moderate Pace</p>
<p><b>Sat Apr 25</b> <b>(Moved from</b> <b>Sat April 18)</b> 9:00 am Hermosa Conoco Station</p>	<p><b>SO! Semi-Annual Highway Clean UP Day.</b> Come join other SO members as we clean up our two stretches of Highway 550. Imagine the interesting things you might find – you may be the one to find a \$20 bill this time! Coffee and donuts served in the parking area across from the Hermosa Conoco station. Carpool \$1. No Dogs. <b>RSVP Rich Butler <a href="mailto:rbbutler54@gmail.com">rbbutler54@gmail.com</a> 403-3185</b></p>	<p>Easy ~2 miles 100'</p>
<p>Mon April 27 – Thur April 30 Rec Center Parking Area 8:00 am</p>	<p><b>Camping, Exploring, and Canyons - Grand Staircase, UT:</b> We'll spend 3 nights/4 days in the area north of Rt. 89 between Big Water and Kanab, UT exploring some of the canyons in the Paria River drainage system along with other fun sights in the area. There will be lots of driving; but there also will be lots of fun hikes/climbs/scrambles, interesting geology, and beautiful views. We'll visit the spectacular Wahweap Hoodoos. We'll spend a long day enjoying over a mile of deep, narrow Navajo sandstone in Bull Valley Gorge and then return via Willis Creek. We'll head down the fun Round Valley Draw. And we'll do an exploratory hike probably ascending the Vermilion Cliffs to Starlight Arch. Very weather dependent. The roads are impassable when wet, so if there have been recent rains or rains are forecast we'll have to reschedule. Limit 12. No dogs. 4WD required. Carpool TBD. <b>RSVP: Sue Agranoff <a href="mailto:sagranoff@alum.mit.edu">sagranoff@alum.mit.edu</a></b></p>	<p>Hard (with some Most Challenging) ~ 5 to 8 miles per day 750' per day</p>
<p>Mon April 27</p>	<p><b>Bike Ride to Bread:</b> See April 20<sup>th</sup> write up in the schedule.</p>	<p>Moderate</p>
<p>Wed Apr 29 RC 9:00 am</p>	<p><b>WW hike: Ned Overend Park.</b> The trail ascends and descends two separate ridges in the park on this loop hike: one with an elevation gain of 443 feet, the other slightly less. The trail climbs through ponderosa and juniper offering peek-a-boo views of the city then drops steeply on a mountain bike trail into Slime Gulch. The trail follows along the bottom of the gulch for a brief time, crosses a small bridge and begins a series of switchbacks up another ridge from which there are great views of Perin's Peak and the Hogsback. We then descend and return along a trail that gently rolls up and down back to the parking area. This is a heavy mountain bike use area. Poles are very helpful for the steep descents. SO members only. No Dogs. No RSVP needed. <b>Leader: Barb Hancock 764-4531</b></p>	<p>Moderate 4 miles approx. 800 feet gain</p>
<p>Depart May 4 thru May 8 Note: Departure point, time and actual dates will be set by participants</p>	<p><b>Lake Powell car camping trip</b> – We will camp in a primitive area on the north end of the lake accessed by a 15 mile 4WD road. Activities will include hiking and exploring the area, paddling, fishing. It may also be warm enough for swimming. We usually have fresh fish for dinner. Length of trip : 3 or 4 days 4WD required. Dogs OK. <b>Trip leader : Jim Shadid 884-4612 <a href="mailto:shadid@wildblue.net">shadid@wildblue.net</a></b></p>	<p>Easy</p>
<p>Mon May 4</p>	<p><b>Bike Ride to Bread:</b> See April 20<sup>th</sup> write up in the schedule.</p>	<p>Moderate</p>
<p>Wed May 6 RC 8:30 am</p>	<p><b>WW hike: Animas City Mountain.</b> Located within the city limits on the north end of town, this trail has a consistent uphill from the trailhead along the outside edge of the mountain to the promontory at the top. Trail is rocky. Poles may be helpful. Great views of Durango &amp; the Animas Valley along the way and at the top. The trip will either return on the same trail or by an interior trail with approximately the same return distance. Dogs on leash only please. RSVP non members only. <b>Leader: Dorothy Bregar 385-1814</b></p>	<p>Moderate 5 mi. RT 1,000'</p>

## SO! Spring 2015 Outings Schedule

<p><b>Thu May 7</b> <b>(Moved from Tue Apr 21)</b> ACP 8:30 am TC 8:40 am</p>	<p><b>Stevens Creek Trail.</b> We will hike the upper trail, as described in Pixler and Peel, from the Missionary Ridge connector up to the Missionary Ridge Trail and back. An option is to continue down 2.8 miles and 1200 ft. elevation loss to the trailhead on CR 250 if the groups wishes and shuttles can be worked out. Limit 15 because of parking. Rated hard for distance, but the grade is easy, views are great and the pace is moderate. Carpool \$3. Co-leader: Nancy Mead. <b>RSVP: David Wright 259-5978 or <a href="mailto:djwright001@gmail.com">djwright001@gmail.com</a></b></p>	<p>Hard 11.4 miles 2300' Moderate pace</p>
<p>Fri May 8 SRP 9:00 am</p>	<p><b>Hike Twin Buttes Trail and Climb Left Larger Butte.</b> We will start at the trailhead located at the Animas High School parking lot. The trail takes us to the base of the left larger butte, where you will have the option to climb or wait until we descend the butte. We will continue along the trail that goes around the Twin Buttes and then meet up with the starting trail to return to the trailhead. No carpool fee. Dogs OK. Limit 15. <b>RSVP: Leader Nancy Federico 259-1949 <a href="mailto:fortfed@gmail.com">fortfed@gmail.com</a> or Co-leader Gail Davidson 799-2940 <a href="mailto:gdaivdson@sagehealthinc.com">gdaivdson@sagehealthinc.com</a></b></p>	<p>Moderate 8-9 miles 600' Moderate pace</p>
<p>Mon May 11</p>	<p><b>Bike Ride to Bread:</b> See April 20<sup>th</sup> write up in the schedule.</p>	<p>Moderate</p>
<p>Tue May 12 Rec Center Social 6:30 pm Meeting 7:00 pm</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>SO! GENERAL MEETING</b></p> <p><b>THE ANTARCTIC: EXCURSION TO THE SOUTH POLE.</b> Anne Dal Vera and 3 other women were the first women to ski to the South Pole from the edge of the continent. Head over to the May General Meeting and learn about their adventures on the ice and snow of Antarctica.</p>	
<p>Tue May 12 ACP 8:30 am CR 234/Florida Rd. Fire Station 8:40 am</p>	<p><b>Red Creek--First Fork Loop.</b> We will hike up Red Creek Trail, follow Missionary Ridge Trail west to its intersection with First Fork, which returns to the trailhead. Nice views from Missionary Ridge and a good early-season, low elevation, conditioning hike. Limit 12. No dogs. Carpool \$1. <b>RSVP: Nancy Mead 259-5978 or <a href="mailto:nancy.a.mead@gmail.com">nancy.a.mead@gmail.com</a></b></p>	<p>Hard 10 miles 2000' Moderate pace</p>
<p>Wed May 13 SRP 9:00 am</p>	<p><b>WW hike: Twin Buttes I.</b> On this hike, from the parking lot we will follow the Twin Buttes trail to the upper junction with the BC&amp;F trail. Then down the BC&amp;F trail to it's lower junction with the Twin Buttes Trail and back to the parking lot. Dogs are OK, but must be on leash as this entire area is in the Durango city limits. Early turn backs are not permitted unless you have a map and a working knowledge of the new trail system. RSVP non -members only. <b>Leader: Ray Walker 382-7662</b></p>	<p>Easy 3-3.5 mi. 200' +/-</p>
<p><b>POSTPONED to Wed May 20</b> <b>New Hike</b> <del>Fri May 15</del> SRP 9:00 am</p>	<p><b>Colorado Trail--Gudy's Rest.</b> We will start at the lower Durango Trail head and follow Junction Creek 2.6 miles, ascending gradually before crossing the stream. We will then follow a series of switchbacks another 1.4 miles up a steep canyon to a clearing with a bench (Gudy's Rest). We will return along the same trail. Dogs OK. Carpool \$1. Allow about 5 hours. <b>RSVP Lindy Ivie, 505-690-4903 or <a href="mailto:lviedgo@gmail.com">lviedgo@gmail.com</a>.</b></p>	<p>Moderate 8 miles 1000' Moderate Pace</p>
<p>Mon May 18</p>	<p><b>Bike Ride to Bread:</b> See April 20<sup>th</sup> write up in the schedule.</p>	<p>Moderate</p>
<p><b>POSTPONED</b> <del>Mon May 18</del> ACP 9:00 am TC 9:10 am Purg Flats Park 9:25 am</p>	<p><b>Purgatory Flats to the Animas River.</b> We will hike down from the Purg Flats Trail Head across from DMR to the Animas River Footbridge and have lunch. Carpool \$4. Dogs OK if their humans are under control. Carpool \$4. <b>RSVP: Rich Butler <a href="mailto:rbbutler54@gmail.com">rbbutler54@gmail.com</a> 403-3185</b></p>	<p>Moderate 8 miles 1200'</p>
<p><b>Wed May 20</b> <b>(Moved from May 15)</b> SRP 9:00 am</p>	<p><b>Colorado Trail--Gudy's Rest.</b> We will start at the lower Durango Trail head and follow Junction Creek 2.6 miles, ascending gradually before crossing the stream. We will then follow a series of switchbacks another 1.4 miles up a steep canyon to a clearing with a bench (Gudy's Rest). We will return along the same trail. Dogs OK. Carpool \$1. Allow about 5 hours. <b>RSVP Lindy Ivie, 505-690-4903 or <a href="mailto:lviedgo@gmail.com">lviedgo@gmail.com</a>.</b></p>	<p>Moderate 8 miles 1000' Moderate Pace</p>
<p><b>Wed May 20</b></p>	<p><b>WW hike: Vallecito Creek Trail.</b> We will hike at a casual pace to the first</p>	<p>Moderate</p>

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<p>(Moved from Wed May 27) RC 8:30 am or Trailhead 9:15</p>	<p>bridge at the most. Some may want to stop at a nice creek view about 2/3 of the way to the first bridge (Jim and Rhonda's lunch spot). Early turn backs with partner ok. No dogs. RSVP non members only <b>Leader: Tom and Lydine Hannula 884-9052 cell 426-9684</b></p>	<p>6 mi RT to first bridge. 1200'</p>
<p><b>Canceled</b> <del>Wed May 20</del> RC 8:45 am</p>	<p><del><b>WW Hike: Log Chutes Trail.</b></del> This trail system is in the Junction Creek area. We will follow the shorter of the two loops on an old road. The trail ascends as the start and then generally levels out with some up and down along the way, eventually looping back to the trailhead. No dogs. So members only. No <del>RSVP</del>: <del>Leader: Barb Hancock 764-4531</del> co leader Jeri Sampson</p>	<p>Moderate, 4.6 miles, 880' gain</p>
<p><b>Moved to May 27</b> <del>Wed May 20</del> SRP 8:30 a.m.</p>	<p><b>WW Mancos:Box Canyon/Transfer/Rim Trails Loop Hike.</b> This hike will be an interpretive hike led by MK Thompson of the SJMA into an area of the Mancos River. We estimate about 3 hours of hiking time and 45 min each way drive time so bring lunch or substantial snack. From FR 561, this loop begins with a descent through lush vegetation down the Box Canyon trail. The descent is steep but has nice steps and water bars for assistance. After a bit more than half a mile, we will connect with the Transfer trail. This trail rolls up and down as we head upstream along the West Mancos River. There are many opportunities for stops by the stream as well as evidence of animals including squirrel middens and bear claw marks. About 2 miles in, we will begin our climb back up to the rim. Notice the transition from lush berry bushes, blue spruce, and Douglass fir to sun loving scrub oak, ponderosa pines, and aspens. Once we top out the climb at around mile 2.7, we will join the Rim Trail. This trail rolls gently and mostly downhill. Since we are up on the rim now, keep your eyes peeled for soaring birds such as red tailed hawks. There are also lovely rock formations. No dogs due to steep drop offs. RSVP non members only. Car Pool fee \$7 <b>Leader: Lydine Hannula 884-9052</b></p>	<p>Moderate 4mi Overall 1150' gain Max single ascent 492' Max single descent 436'</p>
<p>Fri May 22 ACP 8:00 am TC 8:10 am</p>	<p><b>Goulding Creek Trail to Jones Creek (a through hike):</b> We'll hike the switchbacks up Goulding Creek (most of the elevation gain), follow the ridge south on the Pinkerton Flagstaff Trail, and descend on the Jones Creek Trail to Hermosa Creek. Carpool \$4. Limit 15 <b>RSVP: Betsy Petersen 259-5417 <a href="mailto:betsyp@bresnan.net">betsyp@bresnan.net</a></b></p>	<p>Hard 10 miles 2,200' Moderate Pace</p>
<p>Sat May 23 SRP 8:30 am 9:30 am at Wines of the San Juan's Parking Lot</p>	<p><b>New Mexico Arch Hunting with Larry Beck.</b> Larry will lead us on a series of hikes to find some of northern New Mexico's many arches. The group will drive on oil &amp; gas roads to several locations and then take short hikes to find arches. 4WD required, Limit 30, Carpool \$4. <b>RSVP: Larry Beck <a href="mailto:larry_d_beck@yahoo.com">larry_d_beck@yahoo.com</a> 505-235-0965</b></p>	<p>Moderate ~5 miles 500'</p>
<p>Mon May 25</p>	<p><b>Bike Ride to Bread:</b> See April 20<sup>th</sup> write up in the schedule.</p>	<p>Moderate</p>
<p><b>Wed May 27</b> (Moved from Wed May 20) SRP 8:30 a.m.</p>	<p><b>WW Mancos:Box Canyon/Transfer/Rim Trails Loop Hike.</b> This hike will be an interpretive hike led by MK Thompson of the SJMA into an area of the Mancos River. We estimate about 3 hours of hiking time and 45 min each way drive time so bring lunch or substantial snack. From FR 561, this loop begins with a descent through lush vegetation down the Box Canyon trail. The descent is steep but has nice steps and water bars for assistance. After a bit more than half a mile, we will connect with the Transfer trail. This trail rolls up and down as we head upstream along the West Mancos River. There are many opportunities for stops by the stream as well as evidence of animals including squirrel middens and bear claw marks. About 2 miles in, we will begin our climb back up to the rim. Notice the transition from lush berry bushes, blue spruce, and Douglass fir to sun loving scrub oak, ponderosa pines, and aspens. Once we top out the climb at around mile 2.7, we will join the Rim Trail. This trail rolls gently and mostly downhill. Since we are up on the rim now, keep your eyes peeled for soaring birds such as red tailed hawks. There are also lovely rock formations. No dogs due to steep drop offs. RSVP non members only. Car Pool fee \$7 <b>Leader: Lydine Hannula 884-9052</b></p>	<p>Moderate 4mi Overall 1150' gain Max single ascent 492' Max single descent 436'</p>

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<p><b>Moved to May 20</b>  <del>Wed May 27</del>  RC 8:30 am  or Trailhead 9:15</p>	<p><b>WW hike: Vallecito Creek Trail.</b> We will hike at a casual pace to the first bridge at the most. Some may want to stop at a nice creek view about 2/3 of the way to the first bridge (Jim and Rhonda's lunch spot). Early turn backs with partner ok. No dogs. RSVP non members only  <b>Leader: Tom and Lydine Hannula 884-9052 cell 426-9684</b></p>	<p>Moderate  6 mi RT to first bridge.  1200'</p>
<p>Wed May 27  5:30 PM</p>	<p><b>Outings Committee Meeting</b></p>	
<p>Thur May 28  5:30 pm  Durango Public Library</p>	<p><b>2015 Leaders Meeting:</b> We will meet at the Durango Library to discuss SO! Outings issues and ideas. Additionally, <b>if you are interested in becoming an SO! Outings Leader we invite you to join us</b>, where you can meet other Leaders and get an idea of what is involved. Home Slice pizza &amp; soda will be served. No dogs, no limits, no car pool \$. But, <b>PLEASE, RSVP Rich Butler 403-3185 <a href="mailto:rbbutler54@gmail.com">rbbutler54@gmail.com</a></b> so we can get the right amount of pizza.</p>	<p>Very Easy  0 Miles</p>
<p>Mon June 1</p>	<p><b>Bike Ride to Bread:</b> See April 20<sup>th</sup> write up in the schedule.</p>	<p>Moderate</p>
<p>Tue June 2  SRP 8:00 am</p>	<p><b>Climb Star and Madden Peaks in the La Platas:</b> The climb will start to the west up a ridge to Star, then south over to Madden and finally drop down east on a separate ridge into La Plata Canyon to our shuttle car. We will be off trail on an exploratory route. This will be weather dependent. Limit 12. Car Pool \$3. <b>RSVP Bob Thompson 382-9271</b></p>	<p>Most Challenging  6 miles  ~ 3,000'+</p>
<p>Wed June 3  SRP 8:30 am</p>	<p><b>WW hike: Carbon Junction Trail.</b> Starting with a series of switchbacks to the top of the mesa for about a half-mile. In another mile the trail reaches a junction with the South Rim trail. At that junction, we will take a right fork heading southeast on South Rim trail for about 2 miles, then right again at the junction with Big Canyon trail for 1.1 miles until it drops out on a frontage road parallel to highway 160 and a 0.5 mile walk back to the trailhead parking area. No Dogs. RSVP non members only  <b>Leader: Dale Suran Co-leader: Dee Rodman 382-9600</b></p>	<p>Moderate  6mi. RT  1,000'</p>
<p><b>CANCELED</b>  <del>Thur June 4</del>  9:00 am SRP</p>	<p><b>Hike Wheeler Peak.</b> Hike the highest peak in New Mexico. We will drive to Taos Ski Valley (4.5 hour drive) and camp at one of the many campgrounds in that area and hike to the top of Wheeler Peak (13,161') via Williams Lake the next morning. Stay a second night or return to Durango after the hike.  <b>RSVP: Olin Kane 375-0060 <a href="mailto:kane@frontier.net">kane@frontier.net</a></b></p>	<p>Hard  8 miles  3000'</p>
<p>Thur June 4  9:00 am ACP  9:10 am TC  9:30 am DMR</p>	<p><b>Hike "Larkspur Lane".</b> An annual favorite named by John Montle in 2001 for the larkspur and other flowers carpeting the meadows. We follow the well established lower Engineer Mtn. Trail part way up and back through woods and meadows with great views. Lunch at a view spot. Early turn-backs OK. Dogs OK. Carpool \$4  <b>RSVP: Clark Lagow 259-9337 <a href="mailto:clagow@rmi.net">clagow@rmi.net</a></b></p>	<p>Moderate (or Easy if turn back early)  7.5 miles  1850'</p>
<p><b>NEW HIKE</b>  Sat-Mon  Jun 6-8  June 4-5 optional  Carpool TBD</p>	<p><b>Backpack Colorado Trail</b> A Colorado Trail Backpack for 3 days on June 6-8 is planned. It will start at Stony Pass and cover 33 miles/5800' over 3 days of hiking. It will use the new Cataract Ridge segment, past Carson Saddle and on to Spring Creek Pass where a shuttle car (or two) will be planned. This normally would be rated hard but not so much for lightweight backpackers. Kate and John Martin and Rick Stockwell are already definitely going. A two day add-on ahead of time from Molas to Stony (20m/5000') will be available starting Thursday June 4<sup>th</sup>. We would meet the rest of the group and also be resupplied on Sat morning. John Martin and Rick Stockwell are already going on this add-on too. We're hoping some non-participating spouses would be willing to drive over to Spring Creek Pass on Monday and pick us up. Logistical limit of 8 participants.  <b>RSVP to John Martin at <a href="mailto:mudpatch22@gmail.com">mudpatch22@gmail.com</a> 970-749-4056</b></p>	<p>Hard  33 miles and 5800' over 3 days</p>
<p>Mon June 8</p>	<p><b>Bike Ride to Bread:</b> See April 20<sup>th</sup> write up in the schedule.</p>	<p>Moderate</p>
<p><b>CANCELED</b></p>	<p><b>Cascade to Coal Bank:</b> Hike to Engineer Plateau via Engineer Mtn. Trail</p>	<p>Hard</p>

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<p>Mon June 8 ACP 8:00 TC 8:10</p>	<p>from FS work center near Cascade and then down to Coal Bank on the Pass Creek Trail. Good views from the plateau. A car shuttle will be arranged. Carpool \$6, Dogs under voice control or on a leash OK, Limit 15 <b>RSVP Sherry Suenram 382-1942 <a href="mailto:mikes@gobrainstorm.net">mikes@gobrainstorm.net</a></b></p>	<p>8 miles 2,700'</p>
<p>Tue Jun 9 5:30 pm Social 6:30 pm Meeting 7:00 pm Dinner Edgemont Ranch Picnic Area (6 miles out Florida Rd from 15<sup>th</sup> and Main, turn right across from the big pine cone</p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b>SO! General Meeting and Picnic</b></p> <p>This will be a combination potluck and BBQ. The club will provide burgers, brats, buns and condiments. If you would like something to drink other than iced tea or lemonade, you may bring it for yourself. Bring your own table service and a dish for eight with a serving utensil.</p> <p><b>Since the club is providing the main course, please RSVP if you plan to attend. Please indicate if you would like a veggie burger. Reply to: Judy Mack by email <a href="mailto:tupelo16@gmail.com">tupelo16@gmail.com</a> or 970-259-9529 .</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>A-F Salad &amp; Side Dishes G-M Appetizers N-R Salads &amp; Side Dishes S-Z Desserts</b></p> <p>In addition to your potluck dish, please bring non-perishable food donations for the Durango Food Bank.</p>	<p>Easy</p>
<p>Wed June 10 <b>RC 8:15 am Firehouse at CR234 &amp; Florida Rd 8:30 am</b></p>	<p><b>WW hike: Missionary Ridge to Radio Towers (Mt Baldy).</b> This is an "in and out" hike that begins in the Durango Hills area, accessed from CR240. Hike is up an old woods road to start but will turn off onto a wooded trail with some early wildflowers (hopefully). We'll hike to the summit of Mt. Baldy (the towers) for some nice views. We will split into two groups for the trip down. Those choosing the longer loop will start down the woods road and hike a section of the Missionary Ridge trail. Then we turn off trail for some easy bushwacking along a ridge and drop down to reconnect with the woods road. This will be about 3.5-3.75 hours with a total gain of 1500'. Those choosing the shorter return will go directly down the woods road to the trail head with a total gain of 1200'. . No dogs please. RSVP non members only. <b>Leader: Cheryl Berglund 247-9747</b></p>	<p>Moderate 5.25mi. RT 1500' gain</p>
<p>Thur June 11 SRP 7:00 am</p>	<p><b>Climb Baldy Peak (10,866')</b>: For people who <i>really</i> want to climb every peak in the La Platas. The only reasonable legal approach is a mix of off-trail, brush thrashing, and abandoned road. The lowest peak in the range, but it is a bit of a sufferfest: 9.5 to 11 hours. Good flowers in Durango's backyard. Limit: 10. No dogs. Car Pool \$4. <b>Leader/RSVP: Debra Van Winegarden 769-7269</b> <a href="mailto:debra@vanwinegarden.com">debra@vanwinegarden.com</a></p>	<p>Most challenging 16.5 miles 5,000'</p>
<p>Wed June 17 RC 8:30 a.m.</p>	<p><b>WW Hike: Dalla Mtn Park.</b> Begin at the trailhead off Birkett Street and ascend a series of reasonable switchbacks for about 0.5 miles through the trees. The trail then splits in several directions and the hike begins to ascend gradually into Dalla Park, eventually crossing the old road and hiking through oak brush and large boulders. The return follows the same route. Dogs ok but have a leash. <b>RSVP non members only</b> <b>Leader: Marianne Pearlman 375-9257</b></p>	<p>Easy 4 mi. RT 400' gain</p>

The Outings Committee members who put together this Outing Schedule are: Rich Butler, Olin Kane, Clark Lagow, Sherry Suenram, KT Howard and Bob Powell. They appreciate your suggestions, ideas, willingness to help with and lead outings, enthusiasm while on outings, and natural leadership skills that show up when needed.