

# Peak Press

Linking people, programs and services

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## VISTA Volunteers Hand Off “Ambassador” Program, Usher in New Volunteer Leaders

After a year of service, Americorps VISTA volunteers John Memmer and Mary Lowery are saying goodbye to the Pikes Peak Chapter.

John, who will be leaving for graduate studies at the Clinton School for Public Service at the end of April, and Mary, who leaves for her new position with the Red Cross of Alaska in May, were tasked with and succeeded in creating and sustaining a community disaster education program for the Pikes Peak Chapter using the *Be Red Cross Ready* initiative.

Together with their team of volunteers, the VISTA's have been the Red Cross presence at 74 different events, reaching 6,542 families in southeast Colorado with the *Be Red Cross Ready* message of disaster preparedness. However, as their time with the Red Cross draws to a close, the VISTA team is still in great need of volunteers to join in carrying on the program, starting with the next big event in July. Service to Armed Forces and Disaster Action Team volunteers will be needed to attend the event, and any volunteers who are available may contact John Memmer ([jmemmer@pparc.org](mailto:jmemmer@pparc.org)) or Mary Lowery ([mlowery@pparc.org](mailto:mlowery@pparc.org)) with questions and availability.

Thank you to John and Mary for making the most out of their year of service with the Red Cross. Congratulations on your upcoming endeavors, and good luck to you both!

## PPARC Summer of Summits 2008 is Quickly Approaching

This summer the American Red Cross and The Colorado Mountain Club are working together for the “**Summer of Summits 08**” This event is a self paced fundraiser drawing on participants from members, family, and friends from both organizations. The event is essentially whatever you want it to be... it could be a walk in the foothills, a hike up Mt. Quandary, or a climb up the Third Flatiron outside Boulder. Each team only needs to spend one day on their event, unless your group decides on a several day peak tour, or even an international trip! What you do is entirely up to you. No check in, no booths or tables, just going outside and spending time with friends and family.

The motivation is that the money raised goes directly to the Pikes Peak chapters of your American Red Cross (ARC), and the Colorado Mountain Club (PPGCMC). Our goal is to raise a minimum of \$75,000.00! This is easily achievable if 150 participants meet their goal of \$500.00

We already have teams forming with members from both organizations as well as teams through local high schools who just want to get involved. Anyone can get in on the action; all you have to do is get started! Email Pete Elliott at [pelliott@pparc.org](mailto:pelliott@pparc.org) or call 719 785 2702 to request your registration packet or get more information.

**Coming early April... [www.summerofsummits.org](http://www.summerofsummits.org) !! Our website will have ideas for fundraising, updates, a progress tracker, and who is doing what.**

## Volunteer Kudos and Accomplishments

Thank you to the Health & Safety team volunteers who helped to train 39 people in Adult CPR at Fort Carson's CPR Saturday:

**Gerry Gozar**  
**Mary Lowery**  
**John Memmer**  
**Patty Metrolis**  
**Paul Pucci**  
**Sara Pucci**  
**Brad Rice**

Materials Support Service lead, **Dennis Burdick**, and his team, **Joe Baker**, **Larry Seals** and **Bud Toebe**, have secured formal agreements with 26 organizations in multiple counties to serve as emergency shelters. Way to go!

**Terry** and **Suzy Peet** have completed 15 signed agreements with local area hotels which will help place families displaced by disasters in temporary lodging. Each agreement was secured for under \$60.00 each night, helping the ARC to reduce costs while providing quality service to the community. Keep up the great work!