



## **23<sup>rd</sup> Cancer Climb and Trek for Prostate Awareness San Juan Mountain Range of Southwest Colorado Saturday, Sept. 12 Thru Saturday, Sept. 19, 2026**

You are invited to join us on another great adventure. There have been twenty-two *Cancer Climb and Trek for Prostate Awareness Expeditions*. All have been different and memorable in their own way. This will be the 23<sup>rd</sup>. We would like you to consider participating in this year's fundraising adventure.

The first climb in 2001 to Mt Aconcagua in the Argentine Andes was spear-headed by Terry Weyman in honor of Terry's father Hap Weyman who died of prostate cancer. Since then, the PAF has hiked and climbed all over the world. This year's expedition to the Colorado Rockies of Southwestern Colorado will include adventures for all levels of fitness. The Prostate Awareness Foundation is a not for profit 501(c)(3) organization (TID #31-1633278) which would not exist if were not for the hard work and effort of past climbing teams on these epic fundraising expeditions. This annual event is the PAF's primary fundraising event each year. Thank you for your interest and support.

### **The San Juan Mtns Expedition, Sept. 12-19, 2026:**

**The Team:** Will consist of up to fifteen participants. There is no specific climbing and support team this year. You will be able to choose each day between a challenging hike or climb, an easier day's hike or a sightseeing adventure. We have a big house rented outside of Durango. So, some days you might just want to relax and explore this unique area and it's dazzling surrounding countryside. We will all chip in and split the cost of lodging, food and ground transportation.

**Lodgings:** We have rented the **Red Cliffs Guest House**. 8384 County Road 250, Durango, CO 81301. The house sleeps up to 16 people and is about 15 minutes north of Durango. A choice of rooms will be on a first-come first-served

basis once you pay your **\$600 deposit** to reserve your space on the expedition. More to follow on the house and rooms once you sign up.

**Air Travel & Ground Transportation:** Team members will be arriving from all over the USA. There are several options available. Some of us from the San Francisco Bay area will be taking a non-stop flight to Albuquerque, NM and renting a vehicle to drive to Durango, CO about a 4.5 hour drive thru some amazing mountains. This option means a stay-over in Albuquerque overnight. The closest airport to Durango is in Farmington, NM about 60 miles and only about an hour and fifteen-minute drive to the house; car rentals are available. Other options include flying into Denver and driving from there to Durango, about a 7-hour drive. Amtrak offers service to Grand Junction, CO and driving a rented vehicle from there to Durango. Ralph plans to drive his truck from Austin, TX.

**Equipment:** The altitude in the mountains is between six and thirteen thousand feet. Days can get pretty warm and nights pretty cold in September. For an optimal experience plan on dressing in layers to be prepared for changing conditions.

**Food, Supplies and Transportation:** Everyone will chip in for supplies and transportation while at the house. Meals will include most breakfasts at the house, lunch provisions for the day and number of dinners at the house.

**Itinerary:** There are a multitude of things to do and You-Tube videos you can watch about hiking, climbing, natural hot-springs and other options. Mountain biking is a huge draw to the area and rentals are readily available. The Animas River Trail is great for biking, hiking and river rafting. One popular attraction is the “Million Dollar Highway” loop drive and it is a bucket list type of fun drive through Ouray, Silverton, and Telluride. Below is a tentative itinerary.

**Saturday, Sept, 12<sup>th</sup>:** Arrive at **Red Cliffs Guest House** in Durango by 4pm.

**Sunday, Sept. 13<sup>th</sup>:** A short local hike plus a visit to the historic **and funky town of Durango** will help us acclimatize and bring in supplies for the week

**Monday, Sept. 14<sup>th</sup>:** Visit **Mesa Verde National Park** not far east of Durango.

**Tuesday, Sept. 15<sup>th</sup>:** Hiking options: **Lake Night Horse** or **Animas River hike**.

**Wednesday, Sept 16<sup>th</sup>:** **Narrow Gauge Railroad** Durango to **Cascade Canyon** and back, 5.5 hours round trip. Or all the way to **Silverton** and back with 2 hours in Silverton that pretty much takes all day. There are lots of hiking options for those not wanting to take the railroad.

**Thursday, Sept 17<sup>th</sup>:** **Animas Mountain Trail**, 6 miles and 1,500' elevation gain. Trimble Hot Springs and surroundings.

**Friday, Sept. 18<sup>th</sup>:** **Engineer Peak**, 12,898'. A challenging summit, with easier hiking options for those interested in a memorable hike.

**Saturday, Sept 19<sup>th</sup>:** Check out in the morning and make our way home.

**Mail In Sponsor Form:** can be found at [www.prostateawarenessfoundation.org](http://www.prostateawarenessfoundation.org). Please review and become familiar with what your donors will receive in the way of thanking them for their contribution at the various sponsor levels.

**Insurance:** Please consider getting mountain rescue insurance as a precautionary measure. Many of us use the *Austrian Alpine Club* affiliate in Great Britain. Reasonably priced at around \$60, all inclusive, and good anywhere on the planet. The insurance is part of their annual membership. Click here to check it out on the AAC/Britannia website: <https://www.alpenverein.at/britannia/>

**Team Tee Shirts:** Every team member will receive a team shirt to wear proudly on the expedition and in the future.

**Fundraising:** **This year we will be fundraising with a total team objective of \$20,000.** We will be asking each participant what their personal fundraising objective will be. Remember, the PAF does not take any money from "Big Pharma" or government grants. That way the Foundation can be totally honest and objective about treatment options without any bias. All PAF contributions are from individuals and socially conscious businesses all over the country.

**Corporate Sponsorships & Matching Contributions:** The PAF has a corporate sponsorship program and is looking for support for this year's expedition and long term. Many companies offer a matching gift program, ask them!

**ACCOUNTING:** PAF will keep a full and fair record of all incoming donations and submit regular reports to each participant as to the status of their fundraising efforts. We will also mail thank you/tax acknowledgment letters to all donors. **Please ask your donors to reference your name in the memo line on checks and PayPal donations so we know who to credit.**

**FUND RAISING FLIER:** We will supply you with marketing literature for the climb. This will include a sponsor form that describes the expedition and its goals on one side and a list of incentive gifts at various levels of contribution on the other side.

This flier, along with return envelopes will be available, just ask. You can also find them featured at [www.prostateawarenessfoundation.org](http://www.prostateawarenessfoundation.org) and on the Climber's page: [PAF » cancer-climb-2026-SanJuanMtns](#)

**FUNDRAISING SUPPORT:** We will support you in your fundraising efforts by providing promotional literature, promotional items for contributors and helpful media awareness press releases tailored to your city and location. We will also help you with ideas to efficiently fundraise and ensure your success. We feel there is more than adequate time for us to accomplish our individual goals and team goals. The time to start is now! Ken Malik will call you to discuss your fundraising ideas and offer guidance, suggestions and share with you how other expedition members are reaching their goals. You can always reach Ken at 415-407-3961 or [kamalik@prostateawarenessfoundation.org](mailto:kamalik@prostateawarenessfoundation.org)

**DONOR CONTRIBUTION OPTIONS:** PAF can accept checks, cash and credit card contributions via PayPal. However, we do not have an "in-house" credit card system. You will be able to feature your picture and story on the Climber's page on the PAF website. The PAF will set this up for you once you pay your deposit and supply us with your picture and story.

**OTHER RESPONSIBILITIES: Picture & Story:** We need your photo by email along with a short story (a paragraph or two will do) about why you are participating. Your story and picture will be placed on the website at [www.prostateawarenessfoundation.org](http://www.prostateawarenessfoundation.org) Please pick your picture and write your short paragraph now and send it to Ken.

**PLEASE MAKE YOUR DEPOSIT CHECK OUT TO: PAF**

**AND MAIL TO: PAF, PO BOX 2934, SANTA ROSA, CA 95405**

**Thanks for reading all these important details!**

**Please pass this information on to others who may be interested in joining the expedition.**