

ROCKHOUND RAMBLINGS
October, November, December 2007



Editor: MaryKay Brady

Anything is Possible

In late October someone visited the park and left with something besides good memories of Rockhound State Park—they left with the Autumn Sage, *Salvia greggii*—pot and all from the courtyard of the visitor center! Hope they take good care of it as the hummingbirds will miss it.

1st Friday, November 2, 2007

Friends hosted the Chamber of Commerce monthly mixer. Art and Brenda Vasquez volunteered to pay for and create the entire food menu. Brenda felt that she was not doing all she could to support Friends. They made seafood chowder, Italian meatballs in marinara sauce on wheat rolls, ham rolls, tortilla wraps, and a relish tray along with nacho cheese supreme. Each dish was well prepared and very tasty.

We also had soft drinks, diet and regular, and Coors light.

With a red, white and blue theme, guests received necklaces upon arrival. Dessert was lemon cake topped with strawberries and blueberries with a dollop of whipped cream.

The support of the Friends was phenomenal once again—we outnumbered the Chamber members!

Guitar Greg entertained and helped with the drawing for 6 door prizes: a Rockhound T shirt, Rockhound cap, 2 Rockhound thermal mugs, and 2 polished stones donated by the Brady's then mounted on mesquite wood provided by Jim Hazelton.

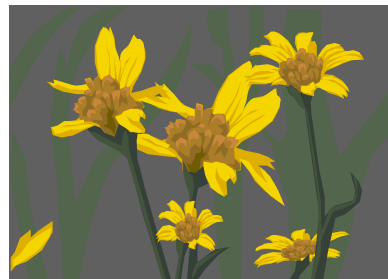
We presented Art & Brenda with a box of hummingbird note cards with envelopes as a small token of our appreciation for them and their most generous donation.

Gene & Betty Jercinovic

At our regular meeting October 31st, Gene, in Halloween tall hat, provided a very informative and fun discussion of native plants found in our area. They had prepared a wonderful handout of 24 colored pictures with both Latin and common name (thank you, Gene). We adjourned to the Native Garden for more education and picture taking.

We thank you so much and hope you will make this a regular stop when you are in Deming!

Friends presented them with Rockhound T shirts. Gene sent an e mail indicating they were the correct size and they will wear them with pride, commenting further that we are a remarkable group of people!



Health Benefits of Volunteering

Research completed recently by the National Service of the government has concluded that volunteers have greater longevity, higher functional ability, lower rates of depression and less incidence of heart disease. Volunteering makes the heart grow stronger, said David Eisner, CEO of the Corporation. Volunteering leads to improved physical and mental health due to the personal sense of accomplishment an individual gains from volunteer activities. Two studies found that the volunteering threshold is about 100 hours per year, or about two hours a week. Find more details at www.nationalservice.gov.

It's no secret:

Our goals are to preserve, protect and promote the park. Our efforts to increase tourists to visit the parks are another way to encourage conservation.

One of the secrets to our success in retaining dedicated volunteers is that people take care of the things they feel belongs to them. They take care of what they love.

El Rey Meat Market

Mary Bass was the winner of our recent raffle for the \$25 gift certificate donated by El Rey Meat Market. She said she used it the very same day-she shops there regularly and finds the meat quality very good. She recommended we all purchase meat there for our families.

AAADD Age Activated Attention Deficit Disorder

This is how it manifests:
I decide to water my garden. As I turn on the hose in the driveway, I look over at my car and decide it needs washing. As I start toward the garage, I notice mail on the porch table that I brought up from the mailbox earlier. I decide to go through the mail before I wash the car. I lay my car keys on the table, put the junk mail in the garbage can under the table, and notice that the can is full. So, I decide to put the bills back on the table and take out the garbage first. But then I think, since I'm going to be near the mailbox when I take the garbage out anyway, I may as well pay the bills first! I take my checkbook off the table and see that there is only one check left. My extra checks are in my desk in the study, so I go inside the house to my desk where I find the can of Coke I'd been drinking. I'm going to look for my checks, but first I need to put the Coke aside so I don't accidentally knock it over. The Coke is getting warm, and I decide to put it in the refrigerator to keep it cold. As I head toward the kitchen with the Coke, a vase of flowers on the counter catches my eye—they need water. I put the Coke on the counter and discover my reading glasses that I've been searching for all morning. I decide I better put them back on my desk, but first I'm going to water the flowers. I set the glasses back down on the counter, fill a container with water and suddenly spot the TV remote. Someone left it on the kitchen table. I realize that tonight when we go to watch TV, I'll be looking for the remote, but I won't remember that it's on the kitchen table, so I decide to put in back in the den where it

belongs, but first I'll water the flowers. I pour some water in the flowers, but quite a bit of it spills on the floor. So, I set the remote back on the table, get some towels and wipe up the spill. Then, I head down the hall trying to remember what I was planning to do. At the end of the day: the car isn't washed, the bills aren't paid, there is a warm can of Coke sitting on the counter, the flowers don't have enough water, there is still only 1 check in my checkbook. I can't find the remote, I can't find my glasses, and I don't remember what I did with the car keys. Then, when I try to figure out why nothing got done today, I'm really baffled because I know I was busy all darn day, and I'm really tired. I realize this is a serious problem, and I'll try to get some help for it, but first I'll check by e mail. -----Don't laugh---if this isn't you yet, your day is coming!

Member Glenn Pelton provided this for the newsletter—Happy 2008!

POSITION FILLED

Sandy is our greeter! She volunteered to help meet and greet both Friends and visitors. She will be the bright smiling face that you see reminding you to sign in and get your nametag. Thank you, Sandy, for taking this most important role.

1,152 LUMINARIAS

We broke the record again—just one hour for 20 Friends to fold the bags, fill with sand, and add a candle. We had a few mix-ups (2 candles to a bag or no candles to a bag). Park staff says we need to make a bit deeper fold to help them stand up in the wind—wind in December?—they told us it is only

windy in March. We will try harder in 2008, Jesus. ☺

HILLRISE ELEMETARY SCHOOL

95 5th graders from Las Cruces joined us for a fun and hurried visit. An accident on I 10 delayed their arrival, so our 5 learning stations:

- Creating a space shuttle
- Animal tracks
- NM state symbols
- James Bear with his snakes
- Dissecting owl pellets

had about 20 minutes per group. The students and teachers were all very excited about the teaching moments we had ready for them. Once again, we had a great group of Friends to help out. Thank you to them all!!

HOLIDAY LIGHTS

4 H youngsters, Friends, and guests set the pace for another great year. In spite of threats of rain and earlier rain showers, the night was clear with a bit of a nip to the air. Once again, hot cocoa was the beverage of choice. We had plenty of the special biscochito's as well as many yummy homemade cookies. It is such a special night made even better with the addition of the new nativity scene inspired by Nancy G and created by Art and Chris.



RENEWAL TIME

Enclosed with this newsletter is a renewal application. Reminder: active members receive free entry to the Parks. To be considered an active member you must do one of the following:

1. serve as a Board member
2. serve as an officer
3. help at one special event**

**SPECIAL EVENTS

Easter Egg hunt

Desert Alive! /Spring Plant Sale

Bluegrass Festival

Music in the Park

Fall Plant Sale

Holiday Lights

Educational/School programs

JANUARY 30, 2008 Wednesday

10:00 a m

Plan to be at the Park on Wednesday, January 30th for our first meeting of the New Year.

Let's take an opportunity to meet as a round table. Bring your questions, comments or concerns and a guest.

One of our Friends had created a special gift as a donation. Come see it—

EVENTS FOR 2008

Coming Attractions

2/27 Annual meeting

3/22 Easter Egg Hunt

3/26 Dave DeWitt

Author "Avenging Victorio"



PEPPERS SUPERMARKET

Shop Pepper's and when you do remember to say thank you for their support of Friends. This year they discounted our candle purchase by 50% as well as providing the bags! Thank you, Mark, Paul and your great team!

FIRST NEW MEXICO BANK

Thank you—for the chairs, financial support and advertising our events on your time/temperature sign.

Board of Directors

Jim Brady	President
Art Vasquez	Vice President
MaryKay Brady	Secretary/Treasurer
Sally Allen	Publicity
Nancy Grinnell	Native Plant Sale
Jim Hazelton	PR/Fundraising

Committee Chairs

Art Vasquez, Fundraising, membership
Greg Scarpella, Music in the Park

2007 Members

Allen, Bill & Sally
Bass, Les & Mary
Brady, Derek & Katha
Brady, Jim & MaryKay
Butz, Phillip & Jenny
Clausen, Rich & Lucy
Cook, Robert & Dianne
Damron, Lovie
Dunn, Diana & Sarah
Ehlers, Maria
Elmore, David & Kathleen
Foster, Larry & Joan
Good, Marion
Grinnell, Nancy & Greg
 Art Padilla
Hanson, Bob & Barb
Harrison, Ray & Pat Jones
Hassman, Everett & Veronica
Hays, Jess & Debbie
Hazelton, Jim & Sandy
LeMaster, Dale & Charlene
Loudon, Gary & June
Miller, Donald & Stephanie
Moore, Diane J
Orban, Armand, Julie, Skruffy
Owens, Jerry
Pelton, Ellen
Pelton, Glenn
Perkins, Shelley
Peterson, Gene & Joyce
Purinton, Alan & Carole
Scarpella, Greg & Sandy
Schwarzer, Keith
Seale, Ed & Joyce
Sherman, Skip & Pat
Smith, Keith & Ruth
Soulsby, Dr Kenneth & Cindy
Story, Ted & Melinda
Sundin, Norm & Mitzi

Teague, Susan
Thomas, Jimm & Barbara O'Leary
Thompson, Delbert & Princess
Utterback, Floyd & Jan
Vasquez, Art & Brenda
Walsh, Mike & Barbara
Williams, Diane A
Wolfe, Ron & Sue
Woodcox, Mary & Jerry
Zahn, Armand & Janet

Good Friend (\$50)

Jean Nelson

Best Friend (\$100)

Special Friends-over \$100

Daniel & Moira Moga
Jerry Owens
Howard & Patty Roth

Honorary Members

Barnes, Veronika & Charles
Green, Chris & Beverly
All the Park Volunteers

Sponsors:

Be sure to say thank you when you visit these locations:

Broken Arrow Realty
 Jim & Barbara Reedy
Tinley Tee Tire
 G G Gore
Baca's Funeral Home
 Sam Baca
Luna Rossa Winery
 Sylvia D'Andrea
El Rey Meat Market
 Ramon & Marta Sanchez

Please return with your dues in the envelope provided:

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

E Mail _____

Telephone _____

Cell phone _____

*ACTIVE MEMBER: (Voting)
_____ \$15 Individual
_____ \$20 Family
_____ \$10 Senior (single or couple)
_____ \$500 Lifetime

SPONSOR: (Non voting)
_____ \$25 Friend
_____ \$50 Good Friend
_____ \$75 Very Good Friend
_____ \$100 Best Friend
_____ Over \$100 Special Friend

In addition to my dues, I enclose \$ _____, as a donation.

Active Members receive free day admittance to Rockhound & Spring Canyon

Active dues paying members are those individuals who are entitled to vote at annual meetings and MUST participate in at least one of the following:

Serve on one committee:

Newsletter

Membership

Garden care

Fundraising

Events: Easter Egg Hunt

Desert Alive!/Spring Plant Sale

Bluegrass Festival

Music in the Park

Fall Plant Sale

Holiday Lights

Educational/School programs

Please circle or underline your choices.

**Tell us something about yourself: Work or retired from? Hobbies?
Why we are "Friends"**
