



# Rockhound Ramblings

Friends of Rockhound  
State Park, Inc.

October, November,  
December 2008

## GARDEN CARE 10/15 REPORT

You were correct in thinking it was too cold to do much outdoors, but wow the work we got done indoors. We have 2 new double door storage cupboards in the garage. No more hauling the coffee pot and cups back and forth. They now live in the garage/meeting room. All the educational items and program information are stored there as well. The store room now can house our Easter and Christmas storage bins, popcorn machine, sound system and silent auction items. Additionally it will be easier for Sally and Jim H to house the extra items meant to be sold in our gift shop—they can buy in volume and save \$\$\$\$\$. Maybe we can even find what we are looking for!

## REGULAR MEETING 10/29

We congratulated Gabe Medrano on becoming a new dad. (Sorry folks, he has already left us for a new position at City of Rocks—a man with a

## October Events

degree in forestry needs to be with trees) Our very own Art Benevidez AKA Lone Ranger was recognized by Santa Fe and received the Director's Award for his work at Rockhound. Congratulations, Art. We all know you are #1.

The Board presented our new president Art with a new gavel to help grab our attention and call this bunch to order.

Our program was a vignette of programs that our members have put together for school age and adult visitors. Barb Hanson has created a wonderful program on rocks and geology, Charlene LeMaster presented our owl pellet program as well as sipping stations, pollination and Keep New Mexico Beautiful programs. MaryKay showed the many puppets, stuffed animals and insect posters we have gathered for programs. Sally Allen did a mini daytime astronomy program

along with presenting energy beads. We also have a complete program about the NM State Symbols.

Art B set up the display used for the animal tracks program as well as the display board about the Parks in our region.



## November meeting was held December 10th so we could make 1,152 Luminarias

Normally at our November meeting we make the luminarias for the December program. This year it would have been the day before Thanksgiving. Since we all fast on that day prior to the big eating we delayed the construction project to December 10th at 10:00 a.m. 37 people came out to rattle bags, play in the sand

and position candles precisely to create the luminarias.

We also indulged in home baked pies, cakes and cookies to celebrate all the members with December birthdays.

Once again, Peppers provided the bags free of charge and sold the candles to us at half price.

When you shop at Peppers be sure to say Thank You! Mark and his crew really help us with all the things we do.

We double folded the bags so it took a bit longer than usual, but we were done in just over an hour! Thank you to all who came up to lend a hand!

## Inside this issue:

<i>Calling all volunteers</i>	2
<i>Taos school visit</i>	2
<i>Bylaw change</i>	2
<i>Holiday Lights</i>	3
<i>How we make money</i>	3
<i>Friends' web sites</i>	3
<i>Important facts</i>	4-6
<i>Membership</i>	

- Your help is needed for
- Julie Orban's, trained
- Service Dog, Skruffy
- He has cataracts on both eyes that will cost between \$3,000 and \$5,000 to repair. An account has been opened at First New Mexico Bank so you may deposit funds to help Skruffy.
- Julie thanks you for your assistance.

## Calling all Volunteers— We need a Board Member/Secretary



The job would require taking the minutes of the meeting, assisting Art with the next months agenda and a myriad of other small tasks.

Some skill on a PC would be helpful (or very neat hand-writing)

The Board meets at 9:00 am before the regular meeting on the last Wednesday of each month.

There is no salary, but you do get first pick of the goodies!

Share your talents—fundraising, membership, newsletter. We need you! Only active members are eligible. Here's your chance to make a difference. Dust off the old resume and give Art, Sally, Nancy, Jim or MaryKay a call or e mail.

No volunteers—the current Board will start soliciting! Training is offered, rewards are many.

## Taos School visit in January

Robert has been working with Mark Barela of Vista Grande High School in Taos. 10 students and 2 staff members will be visiting Deming from Tuesday, January 13th to Saturday, January 17th.

The group plans to camp at the Park, "weather permitting."

Activities will include Rockhounding at the Park, touring the Deming-Luna Mimbres

Museum, visiting with the Geode Kid and touring Pancho Villa State Park. Sally Allen will provide a Star Party on Thursday, January 15th from 5:30 to 7:00.

We have also suggested that they visit City of Rocks and the Deming Gem and Mineral Society.

If you would like to help out, please contact Robert at 575 546 6182.

Perhaps we could tell

stories around the firepit and roast marshmallows some evening—hope they have time to hike around Spring Canyon as well.

Robert and Art would sure appreciate some of you hiker/rockhounds lending a helping hand. We have agreed to supply picks, hammers, shovels, buckets and such other tools as we can gather for them.

They will be bringing cameras so some tips might be appreciated with that skill also.



Did you see that the rabbits had started munching the new Desert Willow aka Bubba?

W. Lowell White provided a chicken wire fence to keep them out.

Thank you, Lowell!

## Bylaw change to be voted upon

The following amendment will be voted upon at our first scheduled meeting January 28, 2009

Amendment to Article IV-  
Board of Directors

- F. Friends of Rockhound State Park, Inc., shall indemnify its Board members and officers to the fullest extent by current and future New Mexico law.

This needs to be done to assure our ability to maintain and attract quality board members.





## Holiday Lights-December 13th

Oh how the wind did blow. We could not light any of the candles or use the firepit for fear of setting the desert on fire.

It did not dampen the spirits of the hardy volunteers and our many guests who braved the evening to join us.

Hot cocoa, cookies, coffee and good conversation were the drawing card this year.

We welcomed the musical ministry of the First United Methodist Church with their hand bell group and singers. They have already agreed to come back next year.

Did you notice the new banner that we purchased from All Things Created to indicate the sponsorship of Peppers Supermarket? Steve, Sharon and Saul did a super job creating the logo of red and green chiles.

Shelly Batts, the 4 H leader wisely told her charges to stay home, but she and her husband Allen came up to help out if we thought it was safe to light the candles. Now that is dedication. We need more people like that in the world for sure!

So now we are already thinking about next years program. We really need to

purchase some good flashlights for the gentlemen that help with car parking—Perk got hit by a car who didn't see him—in the hat he was wearing and the orange vest??—makes you wonder about the eye test at motor vehicles for sure.

Also we really should buy a few clicker gadgets so we can count people a bit more accurately.

Okay lets all keep that on our to do list for 2009.



## How we make money

We receive a commission from Deming Coca Cola for the machine sales at the Park.

In 2005 it totaled \$188.59

In 2006 it totaled \$148.45

In 2007 it totaled \$193.17

In 2008 it totaled \$248.09

That means were have received \$778.30. 15% was put into Robert's funds or \$116.75.

Over the years we have spent \$683 on the purchase of Estwing rock tools from Red Roof Rock Shop. We have rented them to park guests for a total of \$1,090. Red Roof Rock Shop always gives us a 10% discount on our purchase. It pays to shop Deming first, plus there are no shipping fees or sales tax as we are a tax exempt non profit group. Thank you so much for your help! We provide goggles at no charge when

the tools are rented to teach safe Rockhounding practices.

Recently we have received 2 checks totaling \$43.17 from purchases made at qualifying iGive stores as well as using iSearch. Constance has prepared a very detailed information sheet on how this works. Try it out when you get a chance. A copy is enclosed with this newsletter. This is for internet shopping and searches.

## Web sites of Friends members

Sandy Scarpella is the quilting queen with her custom made quilts. She has added a new branch with custom baby quilts, blankets, crib sheets and sets as well as cribs. Visit her new website [www.babyquilts4us.com](http://www.babyquilts4us.com) as well as [www.RemembranceQuilts.com](http://www.RemembranceQuilts.com).

Her personalized quilts are well made and unique. They would be a welcome gift to any new bride

or mother.



Ruth O'Donnell has recently become a Friend. Visit her web site at [www.thebirdfriendlygardenshop.com](http://www.thebirdfriendlygardenshop.com) for all your feeder needs along with bird guides and wild bird treats. Welcome to Deming and Friends, Ruth.



### El Rey Meat Market Congratulations!

Ramon Sanchez and his family were awarded the 2008 Southwest Small Business of the Year recently. Good job! We are delighted that you were recognized for the good service you provide our community.



**Friends of Rockhound State  
Park, Inc.**

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Deming NM 88030  
Phone: 575 531 2776  
E mail: jmbranch@vtc.net

Our purpose is to preserve, promote and  
protect Rockhound/Spring Canyon State  
Parks

**We are on the web  
at: [www.Friendsof  
Rockhound.org](http://www.Friendsof<br/>Rockhound.org)**

DUES ARE DUE  
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GUESS WHAT? DUES ARE DUE\_\_\_\_\_

Board of Directors and Officers:

Art Vasquez	President
Sally Allen	Vice President
MaryKay Brady	Secretary-Treasurer
Nancy Allen	Director
Jim Hazelton	Director

**JIM BRADY**

When Mountain States Wholesale Nursery donated the Desert Willow tree 'Bubba' several members felt we should have a monument placed next to it. Monies have been donated for that cause and more will be accepted until January 28th, our first meeting in 2009. At that time, an order will be placed with New Mexico Granite and Marble. Please give us your suggestions as what the stone should say. To date the funds held in escrow total \$325.00.

**Welcome  
New Members**

Boardman, Patricia  
Noury, Helen and  
Dan Ryan

O'Donnell, Ruth  
White, W Lowell  
Wion, Peggy

2009 Members

Dues Paid

Brady, Derek & Katha  
Brady, MaryKay  
Jercinovic, Gene and  
Betty Griffin  
Shephard, David &  
Ruth

2009 Sponsor

Dues Paid

Friend (\$25)  
Albrecht, Constance  
Boardman, Patricia  
  
Special Friend  
(over \$100)  
Roth, Howard & Patty

Visit our web site at  
[www.FriendsofRockhound.org](http://www.FriendsofRockhound.org)  
Dennis Kaufmann has provided  
some wonderful ibex pictures.

**MEMBERS FOR 2008: 2009 DUES ARE DUE**

Allen, Bill & Sally  
Barnes, Veronika & Charles  
Bass, Les & Mary  
Beaman, Fred & Susan  
Clark, Betsy & Wayne  
Damron, Lovie  
Dunn, Diana & Sarah  
Edmunds, Polly & Peter  
Elmore, David & Kathleen  
Floyd, Patty  
Foster, Larry & Joan  
Good, Marion  
Grinnell, Nancy & Greg  
    Art Padilla  
Hanson, Bob & Barb  
Harrison, Ray & Pat Jones  
Hassman, Everett  
Hays, Jess & Debbie  
Hazelton, Jim & Sandy  
Howell, Craig & Russ  
LeMaster, Dale & Charlene  
Loudon, Gary & June  
Orban, Armand, Julie, Skruffy  
Owens, Jerry  
Pelton, Ellen  
Pelton, Glenn  
Perkins, Shelley  
Peterson, Gene & Joyce  
Purinton, Alan & Carole  
Salesses, Patty  
Scarpella, Greg & Sandy

Schwarzer, Keith  
Seale, Ed & Joyce  
Seebruch, Carol  
Sherman, Skip & Pat  
Smith, Keith & Ruth  
Story, Ted & Melinda  
Sundin, Norm & Mitzi  
Teague, Susan  
Thomas, Jimm & Barbara  
O'Leary-Thomas  
Tiger, Cynthia  
Vasquez, Art & Brenda  
Walsh, Mike & Barbara  
White, Bradley  
Williams, Diane  
Willis, Will & Marty  
Wolfe, Ron & Sue  
Wootton, Dick & Carol  
Zahn, Armand & Janet

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Typos and errors are the  
property of the finder.

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Membership dues:

DUES ARE DUE 1/1/2009

That is January 1, 2009

Thank you.

Friend (\$25)

Fitzgerald, Nan Molchan  
Soulsby, Dr Kenneth & Connie  
Thompson, Delbert & Princess

Good Friend (\$50)

Luna Rossa Winery

Very Good Friend (\$75)

Best Friend (\$100)

Baca's Funeral Chapels  
Moga, Daniel & Moira  
Tinley Tee Tire  
G G Gore

Special Friend (over \$100)

Owens, Jerry

Honorary Members

Green, Chris & Beverly  
All the Park volunteers

There's a new Ranger in town—

Say Hi to Daniel Jacquez next time you are at  
the park



To our supporters:



All Things Created  
Chamber of Commerce  
Committee to elect Dona Irwin  
Deming Headlight  
El Rey Meat Market  
Lynn Eubank  
**First New Mexico Bank**  
**Teresa Molina, Dona Irwin**  
Don & Janiece Huff  
Jack Key Motors  
Jim Schuyler  
Edward Jones  
Jimmy Enriquez  
KOTS Radio  
Mountain States Wholesale Nursery  
**Pepper's Supermarket**  
Red Roof Rock Shop  
State Farm  
Justin Alonzo

May we all find peace, happiness and good health in 2009!

It is time for our nation and the world to heal and grow strong.