

# Rockhound Ramblings

April, May and June 2006  
Editor: MaryKay Brady



## NATIVE GARDEN

Our native garden was created to showcase the relationship between plants and their pollinators. This garden has given us the opportunity for sharing with our members and the general public. Landscaping techniques, wise use of water (drip irrigation) and the beauty of our natives are only a few lessons to be learned by a tour of this garden. Our native plants provide food by bees, butterflies, moths, bats, songbirds, migratory birds, the occasional rabbit and javelina. Research has shown that 80% of our foods require pollination. Please visit the garden to see the changes and growth. The ocotillo bloomed this spring in outstanding fashion. The False Indigo struggles but then burst into its fabulous purple bloom with a gold edge. Our Texas Beargrass continues to fascinate us with the flower stalk filled with hundreds of tiny pin head sized white flowers.

Hats off to the Garden Care team who works the third Wednesday of each month to keep it all together. Thank you also to Jesus and his team who spray to hold back the spread of the dreaded African Rue.

Our next Native Plant Sale will be September 23<sup>rd</sup>! Start working up your wish list-will begin preorders in August.

## DESERT ALIVE! NATIVE PLANT SALE

We are pleased to report that the program and sale were terrific! We had a few plants left that we put into the garden. The public as well as our members have been very supportive. Nancy is busily potting up several types of native cactus for the Fall Sale (September 23<sup>rd</sup>). We had so many requests for cacti which have a limited shipping ability due to their thorns (which are really modified leaves).

## EASTER EGG HUNT

Do you know long it takes to hunt 1,000 eggs? The little ones cleaned up 500 eggs in 8 minutes flat; the older ones about 13 minutes! Next year we will have more eggs; Julie recommends at least 3,000. We have already contacted the sponsor, **First New Mexico Bank**, to request double of everything we did for 2007. More candy, more pinwheels, more baskets. We have a donation of two dozen Easter baskets (EH/VH) and 2 Easter tablecloths (SS/PS) that will resist blowing in the wind (we hope). Jesus is going to make the older children's area a bit bigger also. We need to have more volunteers to help with Easter bunny pictures. Hope was a great bunny—she was out in the field with the children and had a grand time.

## MUSIC IN THE PARK

Veronika Barnes, sponsored by **GG Gore at Tinley Tee Tire**, entertained us with her voice, accordion and good humor on May 13<sup>th</sup>. The evening was a perfect temperature with a light breeze. We had good attendance. Our new old time popcorn machine was put to good use. At 50 cents a bag it is a bargain.

Joe Lara is on stage for June 17<sup>th</sup> with his country and Spanish music. The “hunk” will play July 15<sup>th</sup> (ask Marie for more details), then its Bayou Seco with Cajun sounds August 19<sup>th</sup>. We finish the season with the high school Mariachi’s and Folkloric dancers on September 16<sup>th</sup>.

## DESERT CREATURE DOUBLE FEATURE

The Park will be the focus of a New Mexico Game & Fish program July 28-30. 120 people will have the opportunity to spend \$46 and enjoy a two day festival of night critters of the Florida Mountains along with guided tours of wildlife including birds, reptiles, bats and more. Movies are to be shown in the heat of the day at the Mimbres Valley Learning Center. Warner Glenn, the Jaguar man will be in attendance also.

## HERITAGE PRESERVATION MONTH

Julie presented a program at our regular meeting in May for this special occasion about our New Mexico State Symbols-meanings and selections. An announcement of her presentation was included in the 30 page booklet produced by the New Mexico Historic Preservation Division. Her program was both informative and fun although her Spanish and singing is lacking!

## KEEP NEW MEXICO BEAUTIFUL PART II

We were able to get another grant from this fine group-2 in the same year! We purchased 2 recycling bins with logos and Spanish interpretation for the Park. Jesus and his crew have installed them—so bring your cans and fill the bins! When you come to the Park for weeding (the third Wednesday), the regular meeting (the last Wednesday) or for Music in the Park (the third Saturday) or anytime you visit. We sure could use a volunteer to take up the care and maintenance of this project. It would include gathering the bags, selling the cans and presenting the money at our regular meetings. Come on now---need a volunteer-----

## DUCK RACES

Okay, you voted and we are in-in the Duck Races with a booth to hawk our Energy Beads and teach the world, or at least Luna County, about UV rays. Ask Sally aka Star Lady for details. It should be a bucket of fun for all. Art will be providing a canopy to keep us out of the sun. Volunteers will have a chance to wear some really unique jewelry. (To the Board—no leaks allowed-per President Jim)

## TRAILS

As we continue to work on creating trails at Rockhound and Spring Canyon, we have arranged for a terrific program and speaker to get your juices flowing. Jesus and his crew will be working on a trail at Rockhound. We are working on an ADA (Americans with Disabilities Act) sanctioned trail at Spring Canyon as well as a trail to preserve the flora, fauna and history.

TRAILS continued-

Think Buffalo Soldiers, think Warm Spring Apaches, think about Victorio and the Hembrillo Basin, think about lost gold. It will all come together July 26 when Karl W Laumbach visits our regular meeting at 10:30 a m. Please plan to attend and bring your friends and neighbors. His program is sponsored in part by our membership in the New Mexico Historical Society.

### SUMMER PICNIC

We hope you will all RSVP to Julie at 505 543 5432 that you will attend:

our regular no meeting meeting  
Wednesday, June 28, 2006  
11:30 a m

Hamburgers, hot dogs  
with all the fixings'

It is all about THANKING YOU,  
our members, sponsors, park staff  
and volunteers. State Farm is  
supplying all the paper goods so  
you have no dishes to pack or to  
take home to wash!

### HUMMINGBIRD FESTIVAL

Mark your calendars  
Tell your friends  
August 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>  
Joan Day-Martin  
Banding hummingbirds  
Learn about these flying jewels  
7:00 a m to 10:00 a m both days  
FREE and open to the public  
No long drives  
No risky roads  
No huge gas bills to get there  
No reason not to be there

### Board of Directors & Officers

Jim Brady	President
Julie Orban	Vice President
MaryKay Brady	Secretary/Treasurer
Marie Cardenas	Events/Programs
Art Vasquez	Fundraising
Sally Allen	Publicity

### Members

Brady, Jim & MaryKay  
Irber, Mary Jo  
Gottschalk, Mim & Betty  
Orban, Armand, Julie, Scruffy  
Cardenas, Marie  
Bertrand, Marilyn & Conrad  
Scot, Erik  
Moore, Diane J  
Allen, Bill & Sally  
Owens, Jerry  
Gifford, Fred & Wanda  
Darnell, Wanda aka Easter Bunny  
Utterback, Floyd & Janice  
Vasquez, Art & Brenda  
Loop, Bonnie  
Loudon, Gary & June  
Aka gemstone provider  
Moga, Moira & Daniel  
Pelton, Ellen  
Hassman, Everett & Veronica  
Sherman, Skip & Pat  
Aka popcorn persons  
Bass, Les & Mary

### Welcome new members

Grinnell, Greg & Nancy  
Arthur Padilla  
Walsh, Mike & Barbara  
Fuller, Eleanor  
McClure, John & Jonni  
Scarpella, Greg &  
Sandy Zalecki

**Sponsors:**  
**FRIEND (\$25)**

Nelson, Jean  
Turner, Jack (JT's Auto)

**BEST FRIENDS: (\$100)**

Howard & Patty Roth  
Jerry Owens

**SPECIAL FRIENDS: (over \$100)**

Mountain Equipment  
Larry Ceranski & Nora Devlin  
County Club Estates  
Jim & Barbara Reedy

**HONORARY MEMBERS:**

All the Park volunteers  
The souvenir sales have been  
outstanding-they even sold the  
rattlesnake figurines!  
Thank you, Thank you--  
We could not do it without you!

**CONTRIBUTIONS**

Thank you, Eleanor for more  
items for future Silent Auctions  
Thank you, Gloria and Art for  
the hummingbird feeder stands  
Thank you, Jerry, for your irrigation  
devotion and generous purchases  
from Dripworks for our needs

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

Friends of Rockhound State Park, Inc.  
A public benefit 501 C3 organization  
4335 Salvador Rd SE  
Deming NM 88030  
505 531 2776  
e mail: [jmranch@vtc.net](mailto:jmranch@vtc.net)

**Our mission is to promote, preserve and  
protect the Parks.**

**1<sup>st</sup> FRIDAY  
CHAMBER OF COMMERCE**

We, the Friends, have an  
opportunity to host the 1<sup>st</sup> Friday  
program for the Chamber of Commerce  
on Friday, September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2006 from 5-7  
p m in the Courtyard at the park. What a  
grand location to hold this monthly  
event! All the business community will  
be invited-we have a chance to mix and  
mingle with the same people we request  
sponsorships and donations-talk about  
gaining access to the sometimes  
inaccessible! Please plan to help serve  
this gathering and let's show off the Park  
and all it has to offer.

**ROCKHOUND STATE PARK  
BROCHURE IS COMING SOON—**

REDTT (Rural Economic  
Development thru Tourism) has  
approved our grant request to print  
10,000 copies of the new and much  
improved brochure. We are awaiting  
grant acknowledgment from two other  
sources to make up the matching grant  
requirement. Then it is on its way to  
printing and delivery to Anthony and  
Lordsburg Welcome Center as well as  
the local RV parks, motels and such.  
Deb Franzoy at REDTT has been a real  
asset in this process-we thank her for her  
professional as well as personal  
assistance.

**BLOGSPOT**

Our web area has been  
discontinued.