

ROCKHOUND RAMBLINGS

April, May, June 2007

Editor: MaryKay Brady

Meeting in April:

Next time you see Les & Mary Bass be sure to say a big thank you. They recommended we have Joe Saenz of Silver City do a program. They paid his stipend (\$85) and all in attendance reaped the benefit. Joe is a member of the Warm Springs Apache tribe aka Red Paint People. We learned about the animal monsters like the eagle and buffalo and Usin, the creator. White Painted Woman had knowledge and would teach conduct; Killer of Enemies was an eagle; and Child of the Water had three arrows. The 3 Sisters were the northern stronghold. The Apaches originated here in the Tucson/El Paso/Albuquerque area. They were divided into 4 main bands led by Geronimo, Cochise, Nedin Ho and Victorio. They were not nomads but managed the land as stewards using only the timber, grass and water they needed then moved on to the next area. They used wood, bone and leather for baskets, not pottery which was heavy to carry. They were known as the Red Paint People for the red clay that contained a radio active mineral. Joe shared stories of Lozen, a woman warrior and sister of Victorio. The Apache is very independent. Warrior training started as children. They could shoot 4 arrows to 1 bullet. The mountain spirits protect the Apache. The Apache perfected guerrilla warfare. Only Native Americans can have eagle feathers. He spoke of the tall moccasins that reached mid thigh. When folded down into sections, they worked as pockets for holding food and other supplies. We will ask Joe to join us again.

Meeting in May:

Diane Williams, naturalist, tour guide and expert birder shared her slides and knowledge of "big hunting birds" aka raptors with an eager audience. We all knew we were in the presence of a person who delighted in sharing her experiences and photos. Diane is delighted with the wide variety of birds available for watching in Deming, including but not limited to scale and Gambel Quail, Roadrunners, and Harris hawks. As a side note, she will be teaching a birding class this fall at the Mimbres Valley Learning Center.

Meeting in June:

MaryKay Brady presented a Power Point presentation about the Invisible Men of Honor: The Buffalo Soldiers-12 men who received the Medal of Honor-during the Indian Wars in the Southwest. It is part of the heritage we hope to preserve and protect in the Florida Mountains of Spring Canyon, part of Rockhound State Park. Despite a computer problem with the DVD, the program left a real impact of information upon the people in attendance.

James Bear aka educator

Ophidiophobia is an acquired fear, learned as we age by ignorance from others. We only fear what we do not understand. Recently I came upon a black shiny King Snake in our backyard. Rather than my former fear and thoughts of death, I enjoyed the sight and went on about my business. It was great to learn new information and accept the snake as an asset in our yard. Thank you, James.

Web Site:

For those of you who surf the Internet, visit our web site at: www.newmexicorparksandcampgrounds.org, click on link partners, and then click on Friends of Rockhound State Park. Lynn Eubank keeps it up to date with our monthly postcards, quarterly newsletters and other information we send to her. She is a first class addition to our Friends support group.

ALUMINUM CANS:

Please bring your cans for our recycle bins that were provided by a grant from Keep New Mexico Beautiful. You are encouraged to bring your cans to Wednesday garden care, Music in the Park Saturday's or Wednesday's meetings. Let's keep Luna County clean and our coffers full of \$\$\$\$\$.

Garden Care

While many of us entertained school children from Anthony in May, Jimm Thomas, Jim Hazelton and Larry Foster slaved in the garden over star thistle and African Rue. Both are invasive plants the state of New Mexico has declared war upon. In June 13 hardy souls descended upon the garden to further the demise of invasive weeds along with the hated packing peanuts. Yea, Barbra, we think they are gone!

SPECIAL NOTE:

Typos and errors are the property of the finder

SUNSET MAGAZINE AD

Our grant for this ad returned us 669 requests for more information. With postage nearing \$250, we called a halt to future mailings. (We have had 225 requests since)

Special Thank you's

To: Marion Good
Roll of \$.39 stamps
To: Jim Hazelton
Rattlesnake earrings
To: Les & Mary Bass
10 gallon water cooler
To: Everett & Veronica Hassman
Easter Baskets
To: Julie Orban
Easter Baskets
To: Phil Hibner
Easter Baskets

POSITIONS OPEN:

(1)Detail person to keep our scrapbook up to date
(2)Happy person to be our greeter at monthly meetings-make members and guests feel welcome-tell them our story See Jim or MaryKay.
(3)Assist Art with fundraising

SPECIAL MENTION:

1st New Mexico Bank
The chairs we sit on-1st New Mexico Bank, the Easter Egg Hunt, 1st New Mexico Bank, the Hummingbird Festival, 1st New Mexico Bank, the Mariachis and Folkloric Dancers in August, 1st New Mexico Bank.
Say "thank you" when you can to 1st New Mexico Bank—they support us Let's support them and say thank you!

FRIENDS MEMBERS

We have a terrific group of members who volunteer for the vast number of projects we get involved with. Give yourself a pat on the back—we could not do it without you. Thank you! You are all appreciated and needed.

ANNUAL PICNIC

Wednesday JULY 25, 2007

11:00 a m

SPRING CANYON

Your board members opportunity to say THANK YOU! They will cook hamburgers, hot dogs and brauts. **Please RSVP by July 21 so they can get ready for July 25th**. Bring nothing but your appetite. Park staff and volunteers will be attending so this is your chance to meet them up close and personal and say thank you for what they do and learn how we can help them be the #1 park we think they are. Santa Fe look out-Rockhound/Spring Canyon may be little, but we are mighty! TEAM! Together Everyone Accomplishes More! That's us-Park staff, Park Volunteers, and the Friends of Rockhound State Park!!!

HUMMINGBIRD FESTIVAL

August 18th and August 19th

Saturday and Sunday

7:00 a m to 10:00 a m

Join Dr George West and his charming wife Ellen as we capture and band these flying jewels. Silent Auction and refreshments will be available. **WE ARE LOOKING FOR A PERSON WHO WOULD LIKE TO BE TRAINED AS A BANDER!**

AUGUST MEETING

What is happening to the pollinators? Where are the bees, butterflies, and hummingbirds? How can you help?

GARDEN CARE

July 18th, August 15th, September 19th

Yep, it's hot but let's get up early and meet at the garden at 8:00 a m for

chores and a visit to learn about what's in our garden.

SEPTEMBER MEETING

Laura Simmons, President of New Mexico Raptors, Inc., will present a 20-30 minute talk followed by a presentation of 1 or more live birds.

LUMINARIAS UPDATE

Our new Nativity Scene is coming right along. Art Vasquez donated his time and talents to cutting the patterns. He is also donating the materials. Chris Green, official face painter, is painting away. Jim H says he is doing a really grand job—much better than the originals Nancy G saw on the Columbus Highway last year.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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A 501 C 3 public benefit NM corporation

ROCKHOUND STAFF AND PARK VOLUNTEERS

We truly are a team as evidenced by the activity in June. Jesus, Gloria, and Art have full time regular duties but are ever gracious and eager to assist with setting up chairs, making the garage, classroom meeting room “dark” and the numerous requests made by us. They have a support team of park volunteers that assist with selling souvenirs and directing traffic. These honorary Friends members deserve a pat on the back and an atta boy!

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
Clausen, Rich & Lucy
Cook, Robert & Dianne
Elmore, David & Kathleen
Good, Marion
Grinnell, Nancy & Greg
 Art Padilla
Hassman, Everett & Veronica
Hazelton, Jim & Sandy
Loudon, Gary & June
Moore, Diane J
Orban, Armand, Julie, Skruffy
Owens, Jerry
Pelton, Ellen
Perkins, Shelley
Scarpella, Greg & Sandy
Seale, Ed & Joyce
Sherman, Skip & Pat
Smith, Keith & Ruth
Utterback, Floyd & Jan
Vasquez, Art & Brenda
Walsh, Mike & Barbara
Williams, Diane A

Good Friend (\$25)

Jean Nelson

Best Friend (\$100)

Special Friends

(Over \$100)

Daniel & Moira Moga
Jerry Owens
Howard & Patty Roth

Honorary Members

Barnes, Veronika & Charles
All the Park Volunteers

New Members

Hanson, Bob & Barb
Butz, Phillip & Jenny
Miller, Donald & Stephanie
Thomas, Jimm & Barbra O'Leary
Ehlers, Maria
Woodcox, Mary & Jerry
Sundin, Norm & Mitzi
Purinton, Alan & Carole
Thompson, Delbert & Princess
Foster, Larry & Joan
Zahn, Armand & Janet
Soulsby, Dr Kenneth & Cindy
LeMaster, Dale & Charlene
Hays, Jess & Debbie
Pelton, Glenn

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

For Your Information

In Outlook Express you can click on Tools, select Options, and select Receipt. Then every time you send an e mail the receiver will be asked if a receipt should be sent. They click yes and it sends a receipt to you. In this way you always know that the person you sent an e mail has received it.

Music in the Park Report

By: Greg Scarpella

This year's Music in the Park started with a well attended Saturday evening with Veronika Barnes' performance on May 19th. More than 60 people turned out to listen to her sing and play the accordion. She brought along some cow bells and volunteers from the audience helped perform a song. The weather cooperated after a week of high winds and the temperature was perfect.

Then on June 16th Music in the Park featured Larry and Gloria Reed, two park rangers, and Dan Mason from Truth or Consequences. The attendance was over 90 and folks were sitting outside the visitor's center patio. Everyone enjoyed classic country and western songs from the past along with excellent guitar playing. Once again the weather put on a show of her own with mild temperatures and a beautiful sunset.

Then on June 22, 23, and 24th Friends of Rockhound State Park hosted the First Annual Bluegrass Festival. This was an unscheduled event that presented an opportunity to promote the use of the park and give the organization another annual event. The organizers of the bluegrass bands approached the Friends group in late April and early May of this year. Friends took on the responsibility and a proposal was made

at the monthly meeting in May. As always, several members stepped forward to assist in the success of the event. The state parks personnel and volunteers also contributed a great deal in making the event, safe, enjoyable and a pleasant experience. T-shirts (a must at any bluegrass fest) were designed and printed. Vendors were secured to provide food and drink as well as souvenirs. Volunteers were organized to collect entrance fees, attend the Friends' booth and pop the popcorn. The bluegrass organizers scheduled four professional bands that came from Texas and New Mexico. Before each day's scheduled band performance was an open stage hour that encouraged local talent to entertain and many from Deming participated.

The event turned out to be such a success that the bluegrass organizers, park personnel and Friends committed to a second annual festival on the Memorial Day weekend in 2008!

Coming up on July 21st is Guitar Greg who will bring a variety of songs and stories. On August 18th John Surra, a local professional guitarist will perform. Finally, on September 15th a mariachi band will conclude the FOR Music in the Park series for 2007.

JULY POSTCARD

Included in this newsletter is a July calendar of events at the park. No postcard will be mailed this month.