



OPEN SPACE newsletter



Mayor Richard J. Berry

A Quarterly Newsletter of the Open Space Division and the Open Space Alliance

Volume 11, Issue 4, October - December 2010

Paseo de la Mesa Multi-Use Trail Now Open

by Jay Lee Evans

The City of Albuquerque's Open Space Division is proud to announce the opening of its newest bike trail!

Take a ride or a stroll on a new addition to the West Mesa trails network. The Paseo de la Mesa Trail runs from 81st Street (near to the Volcano Cliffs water tanks) up and west almost to Paseo de Volcan.

TRAIL HIGHLIGHTS INCLUDE:

- 4.2 miles of paved trail uninterrupted by roadways!
- Enjoy close encounters with varied volcanic and geologic features!
- Great 360 degree view of the Jemez, Santa Fe, Sandia, Manzano, San Mateo, and Magdalena mountain ranges.
- Mount Taylor, the Ladron and Polvadera peaks, and Tomé Hill can all be picked out with the naked eye by knowledgeable trail-users!

Directions: From intersection of MONTAÑO Road and UNSER Blvd., proceed north on Unser up through the escarpment-cut; At top of grade, look to left for big water tanks and prepare to turn; Turn west/left on MOLTEN ROCK a short ways to stop sign; Turn south/left on 81st Street; Proceed south on 81st Street a short ways to trailhead entry and turn right/west into trailhead parking-lot; Follow directional signs from 81st and Molten Rock to lot.

As with all multi-use trails in the Albuquerque area, remember to be courteous at all times. You may encounter many different kinds of users on the trails. Expect to meet other bicyclists, walkers, persons in wheelchairs, in-line skaters, and possibly equestrians. Be aware that maintenance vehicles may be on the trail. Always remember that courtesy and caution are a part of having an enjoyable and safe trail ride. Enjoy the ride!

Please note that the Paseo de la Mesa Trail is recommended for advanced riders and hikers. Use caution, bring plenty of water, and always wear your helmet!



Mayor Berry and other local dignitaries cut the ribbon at the official opening of the Paseo de la Mesa Open Space recreation trail, 12 August, 2010

Dia del Rio 2010



We will be celebrating the **16th Annual Dia del Rio** event on October 16th, 2010. This one-day event attracts up to 100 volunteers who work on outdoor projects located within the Rio Grande Valley State Park. Projects contribute to the conservation of the Albuquerque bosque and the Rio Grande. This year the event will take place from 8:30am until 1:00pm on the west side of the Central Avenue Bridge. Register with REI by calling 247-1191 or online at www.rei.com/albuquerque. Bring work boots, gloves, plenty of water, and a sack lunch. At 1:00pm we'll do a prize drawing with lots of goodies from REI and our other generous sponsors! If you'd like to up to organize your own cleanup in your favorite part of the bosque, please contact Jim Sattler or Kent Swanson at 452-5200, or email kswanson@cabq.gov.

Float the River on Dia del Rio! In addition to the Central Bridge event, Quiet Waters Paddling Adventures is organizing a simultaneous river clean-up in canoes and kayaks (launch and take out sites TBD depending on water levels). They're looking for 24-26 volunteers in all – especially those who are comfortable handling loaded canoes and kayaks on moving water. They'll donate boats and run shuttles for any volunteers that are willing to help. (They won't be able to offer shuttles to people who have their own boats at this time). If you'd like to involve your family and children, the minimum age requirement for this event is six years-old. *RSVP to:* Michael Hayes, Quiet Waters Paddling Adventures, ABQ Metro: 505.771.1234, Toll Free: 877.45-FLOAT. Email: mhayes@quietwaterspaddling.com.

Thank you for your dedication to the Open Space program and all the hard work you've put in during your time as volunteers! *This event is funded in part by the West Central Alliance of Neighbors (WeCAN), the Rotary Club of Albuquerque, Genreal Mills, REI, La Montanita Co-Op, I Scream Ice Cream, the House of Bread, and the Open Space Alliance.*

Sweet Honey

By James Lewis, Associate Planner and Beginning Open Space beekeeper

Everybody loves honey! At least that is what we could tell from the long line of people trying to buy Open Space hive honey at the 2010 Urban Farm and Harvest Festival. The Open Space Division started a beekeeping program three years ago as a test to see if keeping bee hives would be successful. The program started with two hives at Candelaria Farm Preserve and a year later a third bee hive was placed at the Open Space Visitor Center. This program would never have been possible without the dedicated volunteers who provided the bees and all materials including the hives themselves. The bee hive program has already yielded two batches of honey from the Open Space Visitor Center hive alone and generated almost \$500 for the Open Space Alliance. Since the program has been successful with our volunteers' hives, the Open Space Division plans to move forward with the purchase of City owned hives and our very own bees. We give a huge thank you to the following beekeepers for their materials, time, dedication, and mentoring: Chantal Foster, Alex Sielicki, Jerry Anderson, and Rose Kern. Keep tuned in for more Sweet Honey articles next Spring!



THE OPEN SPACE VISITOR CENTER PRESENTS: Opening our Eyes to Wildlife in Open Space: Mandala Paintings of Sacred Wilderness



What: Art Show Featuring Mandala or Icon Paintings of Local Plants, Animals and Land Forms by artist, PAT MALCOM

When: November 6 – December 28, 2010

OPENING RECEPTION: Saturday November 13th 1-4pm

Where: Open Space Visitor Center, 6500 Coors Blvd., NW, (Between Montañó & Paseo del Norte at Bosque Meadows Rd.) 505-897-8831

Free Admission

Contact: Joshua Willis, Parks & Recreation Dept., Open Space Division, 505-897-8856, jrwillis@cabq.gov

Opening our Eyes to Wildlife in Open Space: Mandala Paintings of Sacred Wilderness will feature works about the plants and animals of New Mexico and beyond in three different media: oil paintings, egg tempera and drawings. Malcolm's desire to make the rich, yet dwindling, biodiversity of our planet sacred has led her to create Mandala-like paintings or icons. The forms: plants, animals and land formations are meticulously painted and arranged as if to suggest the spiritual value they each hold. Evolution has shaped these "survivor" species into unique and honed tools. The paintings speak of a true reverence for the natural world. Open Space invites you to enjoy these works and participate in this affection for the species and lands that compose the backdrop to our lives.

Also on display in the reception area: Cynthia Wister Welch will show large works depicting acequias and other magical places, and the VSA will display works inspired by nature.

The 2010 Maize Maze Coyote Magic! Discover the Wonders of High Desert Wildlife.



Through October 31st, 2010. Fridays, 6:00 – 9:00 pm;
Saturdays, 10:00 am –
9:00 pm; Sundays, 11:00 am- 6:00 pm

Explore a 7-acre corn maze at the Los Poblanos Fields Open Space. 1701 Montano Rd. NW, Albuquerque. The 2010 Maize Maze will depict a coyote. The Maze is open to the public every Friday evening and all day on Saturdays (including Saturday evenings) and Sundays. For more information see www.riograndefarm.org or call 505-345-4580. *Photo courtesy of Eagle's Eye Photo Imaging.*

OCTOBER 2010

ONGOING: FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH, 7:30 AM. *Guided Bosque Nature Walk. Registration is recommended one month in advance.

Every Sunday, 9:00am -10:30am, Every Wednesday, 5:30-7:00pm. *Yoga with a View.* Yoga with instructor Jenny Dominique. \$15.00 donation. A portion of the donation benefits the Open Space Alliance.

ONGOING through October 28th. *The 5th Annual View with Room Plein Air Art Exhibit and Sale.* Open Space Visitor Center.

October 16th, 2010, 8:30 AM - 1:00 PM. *Dia del Rio.* West side of the Central Avenue Bridge at Sunset. Register at REI by calling 247-1191 or visit www.rei.com/albuquerque. See page 2 for more details.

Saturday, October 16, 6:00pm-10:00 pm. *Star Party!* The Albuquerque Astronomical Society features Jupiter. Consult with astronomers on site to orient you to their telescopes and to the night sky. Also enjoy kids' educational activities. Call 897-8831 or visit <http://www.taas.org>.

October 17, 9:00 am - 2:00 pm. *Golden Open Space Guided Tour. Join naturalist Joshua Willis in exploring the beautiful Golden Open Space. More info: 897-8856 or jrwillis@cabq.gov. Limited to 10 people.

October 23rd 6:30pm - 8:30pm. *Harvest Moon Yoga and Meditation.* Join instructor Jennifer Dominique for a unique yoga practice honoring the rising full moon. All levels welcome. Please dress comfortably for the weather. Cost: \$15. For more details, go to www.gratefulifeyoga.com

October 23rd & 24th 9:00 am to 4:00 pm. *The Plein Air Painters of NM weekend workshop. Featuring New Mexico artists Michelle Chrisman and Mike Mahon. Call 897-8831 or see www.pleinairpaintersnm.org for more details.

NOVEMBER 2010

ONGOING: FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH, 7:30 AM. *Guided Bosque Nature Walk. See July listing.

Every Sunday, 9:00am -10:30am, Every Wednesday, 5:30-7:00pm. *Yoga with a View.* See October listing.

November 13 and 14, 2010. *The Return of the Crane Weekend Celebration.* See page 5 for more details.

DECEMBER 2010

ONGOING: FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH, 7:30 AM. *Guided Bosque Nature Walk. See July listing.

Every Sunday, 9:00am -10:30am, Every Wednesday, 5:30-7:00pm. *Yoga with a View.* See October listing.

December 4, 10am-3pm. *Visitor Center Volunteer Training. Call 897-8831 to register for the Open Space Visitor Center volunteer training. Become an important part of this special facility and help us Connect People to Place.

December 12, 2010, 12:30 - 2:00 pm. *Meet a Friendly Wolf with the Wanagi Wolf fund.*

December 18, 2010, 10:00am-12:30 pm. *Trail Watch Volunteer Training. Location to be announced.

****This event requires pre-registration. Call 897-8831 or email openspace@cabq.gov to register.***

The Open Space Visitor Center is located at 6500 Coors Blvd NW between Montaño and Paseo del Norte at the end of Bosque Meadows Rd.

Thank You Awesome Volunteers!

~By Jodi Hedderig and Jim Sattler



We can't thank our volunteers enough! But we do try. The annual Open Space Volunteer Appreciation Dinner was held in August at the Open Space Visitor Center as a small token of our thanks. The Open Space volunteer program has been growing steadily over the years and the event was well attended, including volunteers from as far away as the Golden Open Space and Juan Tomas Open Space.

Trail Watch Volunteers received awards for the amount of hours they contributed, which ranged from a 25 hour Open Space Volunteer T-shirt to a 1000 hour Open Space Volunteer jacket. Special awards went out to a number of volunteers to recognize their special contributions to Open Space, including Charlie Wood for his help at the VC, his adoption of the Pino Trail, his work on replacing faded trail signs at the Elena Gallegos and his help around the wildlife pond at the Elena. Mike Stark and Lori Floyd were recognized for they're contributions to Spring Cleanups, National Trails Day, National River Cleanup, Make a Difference Day and helping to staff Boca Negra Canyon during the Balloon Fiesta. Chuck Lee was recognized for contributing over 3,000 hours to the Trail Watch Program, Mike Deaton was recognized for his help opening and staffing the Elena Gallegos. Mark Spear received special Duende thanks for his help with trail building at the Golden Open Space.

At the Visitor Center, volunteers greet visitors, tend to the gardens, lead programs, and offer important support for special events. After meeting the minimum requirement of 50 hours per year, volunteers earn a vest and an Open Space Visitor Center patch. Special recognition awards were also given to Doug Calderwood for his commitment to the gardens; to Frank Ameduri for the extraordinary amount of time he dedicates to the facility, the gardens, and special projects; and to Dick Conway for the gorgeous podium he built and donated to the Center.

We'd also like to thank all of our Adoption groups who have been helping us maintain and improve our trail system. This years adoption Group of the Year went to Earth Web, who have been adopters of a trail in the Los Duranes area of the bosque, on the east side of the river, north of I-40. This section of the bosque burned in the summer of 2003. Earth Web adopted their trail in 2004, have been active partners ever since and have expanded their adopted area in 2009. Thanks again to all our volunteers, we can't say it enough! Remember, "Volunteers aren't paid because they are worthless, but because they are priceless". ~Anonymous

The Open Space Visitor Center Presents: The Return of the Crane Weekend Celebration November 13 and 14, 2010

The Open Space Visitor Center prepares 24 acres of agricultural fields as wintering grounds for a variety of migratory birds including Sandhill cranes. Join us for a variety of all age events that celebrate the return of this majestic creature including:

- Slide show/ Q and A / book signing by Casey McFarland, author of "Bird Feathers: a guide to North American Species."
- The Cottonwood Quartet with Doug Calderwood
- Piedras Marcadas Pueblo Tour with Dr. Matthew Schmacher

Please call 897-8831 or see www.cabq.gov/openspace for more details



HONORING THEIR MEMORY

Happy trails to you, until we meet again.
Some trails are happy ones,
Others are blue.
It's the way you ride the trail that counts,
Here's a happy one for you.
~Dale Evans

CLIFFORD SMEED CRAWFORD

The Open Space Division and Albuquerque community mourns the loss of CLIFFORD SMEED CRAWFORD, Professor Emeritus of Biology. Dr. Crawford left an idelible mark on our City's history by helping found and manage the Bosque Ecosystem Monitoring Program (BEMP), in which hundreds of children and adults have participated. Dr. Crawford was born in Beirut, Lebanon on July 30th, 1932 and eventually made his way to Albuquerque. He had a strong passion for biology and above all loved the Rio Grande and its cottonwood bosque. Thousands of his students and friends carry the torch and continue to champion the river, the bosque, and all that makes it precious. He passed away on September 4th, 2010.



MARGO SEABORN



Margo Seaborn began volunteering for Open Space in November 2002, with her husband Rick, adopting a portion of Trail 365 south of Embudo Canyon. Margo was an avid cyclist and not only spent a lot of time patrolling trails on two wheels, but contributed to their upkeep. In the last few years Margo and Rick took on the added responsibility of adopting a Mutt Mitt station in the foothills and further their contributions to the conservation of the Open Space lands we all enjoy. Margo Seaborn passed away on June 22, 2010. (Photo courtesy of www.remembertheirstory.com.)

PAUL DAILY

Paul Daily was among the founding Trail Watch Volunteers, attending the very first training in 1994. Avid in his contributions to Open Space, Paul logged over 3,400 hours to the program. Jim Sattler fondly tells the story of Paul hiking up to a group of volunteers working hard on the repair of a trail, taking a long drink of water, and then, referring to his volunteer shirt, said, "The shirt says Trail Watch, not Trail Work." But Paul always went above and beyond expectations. He was among the first CIOTEs, or Community Interpreters Of The Environment, teaching thousands of children about Open Space and its extraordinary features. Early to rise, we became dependent on Paul's help opening the Elena Gallegos and foothill gates during times of trim staffing. He hosted Summer Series and taught a popular Map & Compass class, which transitioned into a GPS class as technology took over. In fact, he was the first to make us aware of Geocaching and spearheaded the Open Space Division Geocaching guidelines. Every October he was atop Mesa Point Trail in Boca Negra Canyon during Balloon Fiesta guiding traffic movement and charming the visitors. He was a wonderful artist and a very clever poet and several pieces of his work were published in the Open Space News over the years. Paul was an important influence on the development of Open Space programming and, most importantly, on the Open Space family. Paul Daily passed away on July 23, 2010.



2010 EVENT SPONSOR SHOUT OUT!

The City of Albuquerque Open Space Division wishes to thank the following sponsors for their continued dedication to our programs and conservation efforts. We couldn't do it without you!

Café Riviera, Tru-Fit, REI, Tim Van Rixel of the Chocolate Cartel and Van Rixel Bros. Gelato & Sorbet, Janis Nelson of the Red Rooster crochet finger puppets, Jen Webb of tiedyedbabies.com, Jenniffer Singleterry (Jenna's Jams), Out of the Blue Toy Store, Heaven Scent All Natural Soap & Body Products, I Scream Ice Cream, General Mills, La Montanita Coop, WeCAN (West Central Alliance of Neighbors), Greenside Café (Cedar Crest, NM), Sunflower Market, Starbucks, Wolfe's Bagels, Frito Lay, Whole Foods, Friends of the Sandia Mountains, 2 Wheel Drive, Rio Grande Community Farm, and Los Poblanos Organics.

Get involved in the Open Space Alliance *today* and contribute to the future of YOUR Open Space!

Your generous contribution to the Open Space Alliance supports OSA's mission of enhancing our quality of life through: heightening public awareness of Open Space lands; building and strengthening partnerships with groups who share Open Space values; promoting conservation, acquisition, and stewardship of Open Space lands; strengthening volunteerism and community outreach programs, and providing financial support.

For information about our current activities, contact Steve Hamp, OSA Board President, at shamp7@comcast.net, or 247-2523.

To join, please fill out the information and return the form with your check or money order.

NAME: _____ DATE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP CODE: _____


HOME PHONE: _____ E-MAIL: _____

- | | | |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> NEW MEMBER | <input type="checkbox"/> \$15 STUDENT (18 & UNDER) / SENIOR | <input type="checkbox"/> \$250 SUSTAINING |
| <input type="checkbox"/> RENEWAL | <input type="checkbox"/> \$20 INDIVIDUAL | <input type="checkbox"/> \$500 CORPORATE |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> TRAILS DAY | <input type="checkbox"/> \$30 FAMILY | <input type="checkbox"/> \$1000 LIFE MEMBER |

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO: Open Space Alliance, P.O. Box 91265, Albuquerque, NM 87199



Non-Prof. Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Permit #297
Albuquerque, NM

 **Open Space Alliance**
P.O. Box 91265
Albuquerque, NM 87199

OR CURRENT RESIDENT

Open Space News

is a quarterly publication of the
City of Albuquerque, Parks & Recreation Department, **OPEN SPACE DIVISION**
P.O. Box 1293, Albuquerque, NM 87103
Phone: (505) 452-5200 (voice/relay) | FAX: 873-6628
www.cabq.gov/openspace
and funded by the **OPEN SPACE ALLIANCE**

STAFF & NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTORS

Mayor Richard J. Berry

Director
Parks & Recreation Department

Barbara Baca

Superintendent

Matthew Schmader, Ph.D.

Assistant Superintendent

Tony Barron

Planner

Jay Lee Evans

**Resource Management & Visitor
Services Program Manager**

Jim F. Sattler

**Operations & Maintenance
Manager**

Chris Tavasci

Associate Planners

James Lewis

Kent Swanson (Editor and Layout)

Park Specialist

James Marmon

**Environmental Education
Coordinator**

Bill Pentler

**Manager, Open Space Visitor
Center**

Jodi Hedderig

Open Space

Visitor Center Coordinator

Joshua Willis

President
Open Space Alliance
Steven Hamp

HOURS OF OPERATION

OPEN SPACE ADMINISTRATIVE OF- FICES

3615 Los Picaros Rd. SE
7:00 am to 5:00 pm
Monday through Friday
(505)452-5200

ELENA GALLEGOS PICNIC AREA

Winter: 7:00 am to 7:00 pm
Summer: 7:00 am to 9:00 pm
all week
\$1.00 weekdays / \$2.00 weekends
(505)857-8334

PETROGLYPH NATIONAL MONUMENT BOCA NEGRA CANYON

8:00 am to 5:00 pm, all week
\$1.00 weekdays / \$2.00 weekends
(505)897-8814

OPEN SPACE VISITOR CENTER

6500 Coors Blvd. NW
(505)897-8831
9:00 am to 5:00 pm
Tuesday - Sunday

TO REPORT VIOLATIONS

8:00 am to 6:00 pm, all week
(505) 452-5206 (voice/relay)
OR
242-COPS