



OPEN SPACE newsletter



Mayor Martín J. Chávez

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

Volume 9, Issue 3, July- October 2008

VOLUNTEERISM AND OPEN SPACE A MESSAGE FROM MAYOR MARTIN J. CHÁVEZ



This spring and summer the Open Space Division hosted three highly successful annual volunteer events that helped to preserve our precious natural resources and public lands. The Spring Cleanups in the Sandia Foothills, National River

Cleanup, and National Trails Day each received some of the highest volunteer turnouts we've seen for these events since their inception.

During the Spring Cleanups throughout April, over 300 volunteers spruced up 5 different Major Public Open Space areas in the Sandia Foothills. Each cleanup had a variety of tasks accomplished including trail maintenance, reclamation, graffiti removal, sign replacement, trash cleanup, and dog poop cleanup. An estimated 100 lbs of poop were cleaned up each weekend!

The May 17th National River Cleanup was attended by over 150 volunteers who collected about 280 bags of garbage, 20 bags of recyclable materials, and miscellaneous garbage including tires, chairs, and car parts from several different sites within the Rio Grande Bosque. Volunteers also installed around 75 storm drain markers that will discourage dumping in neighborhood drains near the West Central Bridge.

On June 7th, over 160 volunteers came out to celebrate National Trails Day and worked to protect our extensive recreational trails system in the Sandia Foothills and Sandia Mountain Wilderness.

The Open Space Division, U.S. Forest Service, the Open Space Alliance, Friends of the Sandia Mountains, and REI all pitched in to help organize this important event.

The success of these events shows that the citizens of Albuquerque truly value having a clean and healthy environment in which to enjoy a variety of outdoor recreational opportunities.

As Mayor I recognize that Open Space, outdoor recreation and the environment are all essential elements to the quality of life of current and future residents.

In addition to being great ways to protect our natural resources, the Open Space Division strives to make these events fun and family oriented. With food, prizes, and projects appropriate for all ages, Open Space always makes the volunteer experience enjoyable.

Thank you Albuquerque for all your hard work! The Open Space program is strong thanks to the dedication of our citizen volunteers.

Join the Open Space Division and other local conservation organizations on October 18th for **Día del Río**, a celebration of the Rio with fun and a volunteer projects.

Make a Difference Day, with volunteer projects throughout Albuquerque, is October 25th 2008.

And don't forget to join us for next year's annual spring and summer volunteer events:

Spring Cleanups in the Foothills: Each Saturday in April
National River Cleanup: May 16th 2009
National Trails Day: June 6th 2009

GET INVOLVED!

Open Space Volunteer Opportunities:
www.cabq.gov/openspace, 505-452-5200

Mayor's Office of Volunteerism & Engagement:
www.cabq.gov/move, 505-767-5815

ANNUAL VOLUNTEER EVENT SPONSORS

*Thanks to our sponsors
for making our annual volunteer
events such a success!*

- Recreational Equipment Incorporated (REI)
- The Open Space Alliance
- Sportz Outdoor
- Sport Systems
- Frito Lay
- Great Harvest Bakery
- Whole Foods Market
- Sunflower Market
- Stoneage Climbing Gym
- The Way
- Friends of the Sandia Mountains
- Albuquerque Rotary Club
- Wolfe's Baking Company
- Satellite Coffee
- Starbucks Coffee
- Bowwow Blues
- Sophia's Place Café
- La Montanita Coop
- Wal-Mart on San Mateo
- I Scream Ice Cream
- General Mills
- Trader Joe's
- Martini Grill
- WeCAN (West Central Alliance of Neighborhoods)
- Fat Tire Cycle
- 2 Wheel Drive
- Rio Grande Community Farm
- NM BioPark Society
- Los Poblanos Organics

Volunteer Opportunities in Our Beautiful Open Space Parks!



Sandia Foothills Volunteers: Are you an early riser? Do you enjoy watching the sun rise over the Sandias and seeing wildlife? If you have some extra time on your hands in the mornings and you don't know what to do with it, we can help you!

Volunteers are needed to assist our Park Attendant staff with opening the Elena Gallegos Picnic Area and the Sandia Foothills Trailheads. All of these facilities need to be opened by 7:00AM. Opening procedures take about 1 – 1.5 hours to complete, which means an early start. Rewards include beautiful sun rises, wildlife and our gratitude.

Petroglyph/Boca Negra Canyon Volunteers: We are looking for volunteers to assist our Park attendants at Boca Negra Canyon in the Petroglyph National Monument. Volunteers will typically work 4 hour shifts at Boca Negra and will spend time patrolling trails, passing out information, and interacting with visitors.

Contact Jim Sattler at 452-5213 for details.

DRY SPRING MEANS HIGH FIRE DANGER

We've had a dry spring this year, with limited rain and strong winds that have wicked away the little moisture we've received. Consequently, fire restrictions are in effect throughout Open Space.

The Trigo Fire in the Manzano Mountains was a clear reminder that fire represents a serious hazard to the environment, private property, and wildlife.

The Rio Grande Valley State Park is particularly at risk for fires. Although bosque restoration crews have cleared significant amounts of non-native species and dead material, the fire danger is still high until monsoon rains arrive. If the summer rains are light, we may extend the fire restrictions well into the summer months.

Partial or full closures of Open Space areas are also an option during this time.

Fire restrictions permanently in place for Open Space are:

1. No Smoking
2. No Fireworks
3. No Open Fires (e.g. campfires, barbecues)
4. No Camping

There are developed areas within the Open Space system where barbecues and open fires are allowed, namely the Elena Gallegos Picnic Area. However, during the fire season, Open Space restricts these activities. During fire season, we will clearly post fire regulations throughout Open Space areas.

Please note that smoking in Major Public Open Space areas, especially the Rio Grande Bosque and East Mountain properties, creates an extreme fire hazard and is prohibited at all times. Please follow all posted restrictions and call 452-5200 if you have any questions about our regulations.

THE 2008 MAIZE MAZE IS COMING!



Rio Grande Community Farm (RGCF) is going to "amaze" everyone once again with the **2008 Maze in the Maize** event at Los Poblanos Fields Open Space this fall. The theme for this year's maze is "Made in the Shade," to celebrate the wonderful shade that Rio Grande cottonwoods give to humans and wildlife during the hot days of summer. "MazePlay," a company that specializes in corn mazes,

will cut several acres of corn into the form of a giant cottonwood tree. The special corn used for the maze is intended as a wildlife crop for migratory birds such as Canada geese and Sandhill cranes, who will be visiting us in the fall and winter.

The maze will open on Saturday, August 30th and will be open every weekend through Saturday November 1st. RGCF is planning a series of special events this year to make the Maze an extra special experience for the whole family. Please note that the dates and themes are subject to change as we get closer to August.

- * **Saturday September 6th** – Grand Opening (time to be determined)
- * **September 12th and 13th** – Moonlight Maze
- * **September 20th** – Hot Air Balloons at the Maze (tentative)
- * **September 26th and 27th** – Night-sky Telescopes
- * **September 27th** – Sustainability Fair (to be determined)
- * **October 18th** – Arts Day (to be determined)
- * **Halloween and November 1st** – Haunted Maze

Hours:

Friday Evenings 6:00 pm – 9:00 pm, Saturdays 10:00 am-9:00 pm, Sundays 12:00 noon-6:00 pm

To schedule a weekday visit or for more information on the maze please call Rio Grande Community Farm at 345-4580.

RGCF is currently recruiting volunteers and maze staff. If you would like to help this be one *amaizing* year please inquire by calling 505-999-1258 or by emailing riograndecommunityfarm@earthlink.net

3rd Annual Open Space: A View with Room Art Exhibition and Sale

Paintings by Invited Artists on view in the Main Gallery and *Little Gems*, a juried art show of small works by Plein Air Painters of New Mexico members in the Reception Area.



Marilyn Drake, La Orilla Acequia (Pastel)

As a thank you for your support of the Open Space Alliance, **OSA members only** are invited to a private preview & opening night celebration on **Friday, September 19 from 5 pm – 8 pm** at the Open Space Visitor Center. During the event you can:

- Delight in two outstanding art shows featuring spectacular paintings of Albuquerque Open Space landscapes.
- Meet and mingle with the artists.
- Purchase your favorite paintings before the public sees the show.
- Treat yourself to food, drink and music.
- Enjoy stunning views from the Open Space Visitor Center in the evening.

All this for simply being a member of the Open Space Alliance!

The third annual **Open Space: A View with Room Art Exhibition and Sale** featuring locally and nationally renowned *plein air* (painting in the open air, or outdoors) artists opens to the public on Saturday, September 20.

The paintings, in a variety of media including acrylics, oils, pastels and watercolors, express each artist's unique vision and interpretation of the various landscapes found within the Open Space properties.

30% of all art sales benefit the Open Space Alliance and the programs that promote stewardship and conservation of Open Space lands. "Little Gems" paintings will be available to take as soon as they're purchased, so don't miss the opportunity to buy an original piece of art before the public has a chance to view the show.

Not a current Alliance member, or do you need to renew?

Simply use the remittance envelope included in this newsletter that will also serve as your RSVP to the opening night gala. Guests may also join or renew at the door the night of the reception.

Learn more about the Open Space Alliance at www.openspacealliance.org or the Plein Air Painters of New Mexico at www.pleinairpaintersnm.org

Call (505) 897-8831 for more information about this event.

Celebrate with us and enjoy this marvelous evening!



Jeannie Sellmer, Four Hills Open Space

Surfin' the Rio GRANDE!?

Lots of snow and a cool spring have made for tons of water in the Rio this year. If you haven't had a chance to check out the record high flows in the Rio Grande, plan a trip to one of the Open Space areas in the Rio



Grande Valley State Park and bring your camera! We may not see this much water for years to come. Be aware that the flows have affected some of our trails, so use caution when hiking in the bosque.

Excerpts from an Interview with Bob Burgan, the First Director of the City's Parks Department, PART 2

~by Matt Schmader, Open Space Superintendent

This article is the second part of a two part article. Part 1 appears in Volume 9, Issue 2, April - June 2008.

I was fortunate enough to get an interview with Bob Burgan on September 13, 2007. Burgan, 89, was the first director of the Parks Department when it was formed in 1954. Our talk took place in his living room as movers packed boxes. The next day he left Albuquerque after living here for 60+ years and moved to Ogden, Utah. – Matt Schmader

RB: The city then proceeded with getting lands down by the river and of course by the extension of Candelaria where we built a structure so people could get an idea of what the aquatic life was and animal life in general as well as the characteristics of the bosque including the vegetation. We also worked with the Corps of Engineers because the City had worked with them for many years before that, when they acquired the use of land for Tingley Beach under the late Clyde Tingley. Later on we hired a man, he'd been a school teacher—

MS: Rex Funk?

RB: Yes, Rex Funk. While I was working there he broadened the scope of interest so that the City negotiated with the Forest Service and they traded land in Las Cruces and were able to put that whole block of land together along the foothills along the Sandias from Central north all the way to Glenwood Hills [the Elena Gallegos land exchange].

MS: Now, you were the first actual Director of the Parks Department? This is why I wanted to be able to talk with you because people forget. When did you actually become the Director?

RB: August 23, 1954.

MS: You remember to the day!

RB: I will never forget that.

MS: How old were you then— you must have been pretty young?

RB: I was about 36.

MS: That's pretty young to get an appointment for a big job like that. The City had a number of parks of course, but they never really had a department?

RB: No, they didn't have a department. But they had a superintendent of recreation and a superintendent of park maintenance.

And they were sort of managing the zoo. But the whole department was organized, combining the recreation and the Heights Community Center, which was the only community center at the time.

MS: At the time you were hired who was the City Manager?

RB: The City Manager was Ed Engel, he started in April of '54 and he went till 1966 when they booted him out unfortunately, but that was a political deal.

[Politics] made it more difficult to provide stability for professional types of employees.

MS: I know we only have a couple of minutes here, so—you started in 1954 and you retired when?

RB: June 30, 1981. But I was demoted in 1978, about the first of May.

MS: So you served for 24 years as the first department director and your comment is interesting because we've had several since then that have not lasted as long nor been in the profession necessarily.

RB: Well, Orlie [Sedillo] took over from me and he was a professional.

MS: I know that as you sit here now and you're getting ready to move out of Albuquerque, I'm just going to ask you what you feel like was your greatest accomplishment or what sort of memories do you leave behind as your legacy?

RB: The main thing I feel, having had some responsibility with it, was expanding the recreation services for the people—recreation in the sense that we built tennis courts and baseball fields, we built swimming pools, we built golf courses, more community centers, and we got more land which could be used by the public.

The whole mission was to provide opportunities for people to have something constructive to do in their leisure time. In order to do that you have to have not only people who are trained to do this kind of work but you also have to be able to provide facilities for the people to use. So I think that it's sort of three major points: recreation, parks, and land acquisition which included the Open Space. Those are the main things.

MS: Thank you, Bob— this community is much better because of everything that you've done.

Bosque Restoration and Open Space

~by Martin Martinez, Open Space Forester

The Bosque Ecosystem Restoration Project is an ongoing project for the environmental revitalization of the Rio Grande Valley State Park (RGVSP) cottonwood forest. One of the main components of the project is extensive reforestation and revegetation with native plant species.

This winter Open Space planted 1000 cottonwood trees and 200 Black Willow trees throughout the RGVSP. Additionally, we assisted the Rio Grande Nature Center and Army Corps of Engineers in planting 2000 Coyote willows, 75 black willows, and 100 cottonwood trees along the newly constructed silvery minnow channel near the Nature Center. This summer we are reseeding the channel with native grasses and planting native shrubs.

Additionally, within the RGVSP Open Space there are hundreds of acres of native grasses that we have planted and that have already germinated.

The reduction of high fuel loads by clearing has been ongoing and will continue until the native flora and fauna has been established. This aspect of the project will help to reduce the risk of fire in the bosque.

For additional habitat diversity, we've built many "swales," which are depressions that maintain areas with moist soil, to create habitat for critters such as the Willow Fly Catcher. The project also includes creating low flow channels for the silvery minnow. There have been 4 wetland projects that have been completed this year for silvery minnow and waterfowl habitat.

New researched projects such as overbank flooding during high flow have allowed water from the river to flood areas that have not seen this water level for 30 years. It is exciting to see the "feathering" caused by this procedure, where the water spreads out along the riverbed.

Additionally, the revitalization of the Pueblo Montano area has been accomplished by planting shrubs and new bosque native grasses.

This area is used quite extensively by the public and includes a sculpture garden, which serves as a tribute to wildland fire fighters.

Also this year, a new native plant nursery has been constructed to allow Open Space to produce native plant species for restoring the bosque.

This plant material center will hold up to 10,000 native plants. Tree New Mexico was awarded a \$410,000 Collaborative Forest Restoration Program Grant and is partnering with the City Open Space Division to construct the native plant nursery at the City's Candelaria Farm.

The Nursery will provide a sustainable source for native plant species that will be part of our re-forestation efforts within the 2,600 acres of bosque and over 50 miles of shoreline in the Rio Grande Valley State Park.

Tree New Mexico, along with other Federal, State and local organizations announced the dedication of the Rio Grande Bosque Native Plant Nursery at the City's Candelaria Farms on Saturday, May 3, 2008.

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Volunteer Appreciation Banquet



**July 10
5pm - 8pm
Open Space
Visitor
Center**

Join us in honoring Open Space Volunteers for their accomplishments, dedication, and stewardship of Open Space lands and facilities. A catered dinner will be followed by an awards ceremony. Volunteers are invited to bring a family member or friend.

Please call 897-8865 to RSVP.

Plein Air Painters of New Mexico

by Marilyn Drake

(PAPNM) is an organization of artists dedicated to preserving and promoting the tradition of painting *en plein air* — in the open air, or outdoors. PAPNM provides regular opportunities for members to paint together at paintouts and also hosts exhibitions and workshops. PAPNM evolved from Plein Air New Mexico, which was founded by Deborah Paris in 2004.

Since the City of Albuquerque's Open Spaces offer an abundance of scenic locales in which to paint, PAPNM fully supports the efforts of the Open Space Alliance by participating in **Open Space: A View with Room Art Exhibit and Sale**. This special fundraising event benefiting OSA has grown to include many well-known established artists as well as providing other PAPNM members the opportunity to enter **"Little Gems,"** a juried show of smaller works.

Additionally this year, PAPNM has arranged for a series of reasonably priced **one-day workshops and demonstrations** to be held at various Open Space lands. They are open to the public and conducted by experienced instructors working in all media. Details can be found on the PAPNM website. Space is limited, so reserve early at:

www.pleinairpaintersnm.org

Building upon the tradition of New Mexico's early *plein air* painting pioneers of the late 19th century, PAPNM schedules monthly paintouts in various parts of the state. PAPNM offers opportunities for contemporary *plein air* painters throughout the nation to experience our splendid open spaces by organizing an annual *plein air* painting event.

Please join us on one of our paintouts and see for yourself how wonderful it is to paint New Mexico *en plein air*.

For more information about PAPNM, please visit our website: www.pleinairpaintersnm.org

Please Respect the Wildlife in Open Space. You are a Guest in *Their* Home.

Open Space is home to an abundance of wildlife. In our diverse Open Space lands, visitors can expect to see harmless creatures such as lizards, birds, turtles, rabbits, squirrels, etc.



Photo courtesy of Flickr.com

Infrequently visitors may also observe snakes (including rattlesnakes), bobcats, coyotes, mountain lions, and bears. Attacks and injuries due to wildlife are extremely rare, and mostly occur when people provoke an animal.

If you see wildlife in Open Space, keep at a distance and remain calm. If you encounter a large mammal such as a bobcat or bear, make noise and try and make yourself look bigger. They will typically run away. Always keep small children in view. Always keep dogs on a leash for their safety and yours.

Remember, wildlife is a precious natural resource, and we are guests in *their* home.

July 1st - August 28th:

Bosque Idyll

Selenium toned gelatin silver photographs of the Rio Grande Bosque by Photographer David Ondrik.

Open Space Visitor Center.

Call 897-8831 for more information.

The Lore of *Los Duendes* By James Lewis, Associate Planner

Most people probably take trails for granted without giving much thought to the design or sustainability of a trail. Those of you who have built trails with Open Space know a great deal of time and care goes into the planning, design and construction of our trails. If you have built trails with Open Space, what you are about to read should be a fascinating tale of the trail building lore of *los duendes*.

The new book, 60 Hikes Within 60 Miles: Albuquerque by Stephen Ausherman is a must read for people who love trails, nature, exploration, and interesting facts of the Albuquerque area and the 60 mile radius beyond. Stephen Ausherman reached the following conclusion after his experience hiking out at the Golden Major Public Open Space: “Weeks passed, and the [pink survey] flags were replaced with a freshly scraped path marked with cairns. Unable to locate anyone to take credit for the trail work, I reached the only logical conclusion: the land was beset with *los duendes*. Some people describe them as industrious elves, others as evil dwarfs.” Open Space workers and volunteers are indeed industrious, but did you ever think that someone one day would associate us with mythical creatures?

So who in reality are *los duendes*?

Ausherman points out that in a 1910 paper written by Aurelio Macedonio Espinosa titled New-Mexican Spanish Folk-Lore, “*los duendes* are identified as individuals of small stature who frighten the lazy, the wicked and in particular the filthy.” The Open Space “*duendes*” must be extremely frightening to the lazy, as we prefer and often attract hardworking, good natured, and somewhat clean individuals to help build trails.

I conducted a bit more research about *los duendes* to inquire if us “trail builders” are really this “frightening” or “evil”. I believe that *los duendes* are not all that bad. Although the Open Space “*duendes*” may be short, sometimes a bit slow, sport huge ears, whiskers, carry trail building tools such as McLeods and Pulaskis, and with almost all of our names beginning with the letter “J”, we are exceptionally good at what we do.

I found that elves are part of the race called *féérica* and are known by different names throughout the world. In Europe for example, elves are also known as trolls, fairies, hobgoblins, leprechauns, pixies, trasgos, gremlins, tontems, lutins, kobolds, and gnomes. The most uplifting piece of information I found is that *los duendes* and their counterparts are defined as guardians of nature and human beings. But it may be most accurate to identify us with the sub-species of *los duendes* called gnomes. Research shows that gnomes adore animals, beautiful gems, and jokes of all kinds. Gnomes have a great sense of humor and they love puns, jokes, and games. They also take pleasure in tricks, the more intricate the better. They also apply the same dedication to more practical arts, such as engineering trails, as they do to their pranks. Their curiosity makes them skilled engineers, since they are always trying new ways to build things. Outstanding!

This concludes that *los duendes* are builders and engineers of sustainable trails that protect nature by reducing erosion and leaving as little impact on the environment as possible. Furthermore, these sustainable trails help human beings by their carefully designed and engineered layouts that minimize sharp turns and steep downhill sections creating an enjoyable recreational experience for all users. Therefore, the Open Space Division encourages anyone who has wondered about building trails to come out and participate at any of the Open Space Division’s upcoming trails projects. Who wouldn’t want to become a *duende* for a day? We promise that it won’t make your ears grow.....too much.



JULY 2008

July 1st - August 28th: Bosque Idyll. Selenium toned gelatin silver photographs of the Rio Grande Bosque by Photographer David Ondrik. Open Space Visitor Center. Call 897-8831 for more information.

July 5th: Visitor Center Volunteer Training 10:00am-3:00pm, Open Space Visitor Center. Open Space Visitor Center Volunteers greet visitors, provide information about the Center and the greater Open Space system, and help in areas that suit their interests such as education, gardening, and special events. Training covers Open Space history and geography, volunteer responsibilities, and a tour of the facility. Call 897-8831 to register.

July 12th 3-5pm: Reception for Bosque Idyll, Open Space Visitor Center.

July 12th 9:30am - 12:30pm: Advanced Nature Journaling. Open Space Visitor Center. Take your nature journaling to a new level with Margy O'Brien. Bring a blank sketch book of your choice, pencils and any art supplies you enjoy using. Sun protection, water and a portable stool or blanket for your comfort are recommended. Cost is \$15.00 per person. Space is limited to 20 people, 10 years old and above. Call 897-8831 to register.

July 23rd, 6:00 PM: Outdoor puppet show with puppet maker and performer, Sunny Birkland. Bring a blanket or chairs and a picnic dinner. Please, leave the pooch at home.

July 27th 9:30am - Noon: Home Composting Made Easy. Open Space Visitor Center. Space is limited to 30 people. Call 897-8831 to register.

AUGUST 2008

ONGOING through August 28th: Bosque Idyll. Selenium toned gelatin silver photographs of the Rio Grande Bosque by Photographer David Ondrik. Open Space Visitor Center.

August 9th and August 23rd: Survival: Living Off the Land - Mike Bochnia, Survival Specialist. Call 897-8831 for more information.

August 16th 9:30am-12:30pm: Nature Journaling for Beginners. Learn how to begin your own nature journal. Prior art experience is not necessary. See July 12th event for information on what to bring. Space is limited to 20 people, 10 years old and above. Call 897-8831 to register.

August 23rd Presentation & Book Signing: Stephen Ausherman's 60 Hikes within 60 Miles: Albuquerque. Call 897-8831 for more information on this event.

August 30th Advanced Nature Journaling, 9:30am - 12:30pm. Open Space Visitor Center. See description of the June 12th event.

SEPTEMBER 2008

September 6th Pinch Pot Workshop, 10am - Noon, \$10.00 fee. The art of pinch pots is thousands of years old. Laguna Pueblo potter, Michael Cantina, will teach you how to make these ancient vessels and then fire them for you. All materials will be provided. Please dress to get messy. Space is limited to 20 people, 7 years old and up. Call 897-8831 to register.

September 6th, 3:00 PM: Book Signing with Hanging with Bats author, Karen Tashek. Book available at the Open Space Visitor Center in August.

September 13th Ancient Agriculture: A Special presentation by Estevan Arellano. Open Space Visitor Center. Call 897-8831 for more details.

September 20th: 3rd Annual Open Space: A View with Room Art Exhibition and Sales. Exhibit officially opens to the public.

September 27th National Public Lands Day. Special events to be announced. Call 452-5200 for more information.

September 27th Urban Farm Festival. Open Space Visitor Center. Call 897-8831 for more details.

Note: The Open Space Visitor Center is located at 6500 Coors Blvd. between Montano and Paseo del Norte.

Please see www.cabq.gov/openspace for a regularly updated calendar of events.

Saturday SUNSET SERIES at the Elena Gallegos Picnic Area

The Saturday Sunset Series will feature talks, demonstrations and shows by some of Albuquerque's best speakers, teachers and performers at the Elena Gallegos Picnic Area Amphitheater on Saturdays at 7:00pm.

July 5: Insects and Spiders of the Area - Talk by Sandra Brantley and David Lightfoot from the UNM Biology Department

July 12: Bat Chat - Talk by Rob Yaksich from NM State Parks

July 19: CumuloNimbus - Musical performance of flutes, drums and storytelling

July 26: Birds of Prey - Animal demonstration and talk by Denise Coil of Wildlife Rescue

August 2: Lights, Color, Kaleidoscopes - Talk by TK O'Geary of La Casita De Kaleidoscopes

August 9: Folk Music, Storytelling and Dance - An evening of ancient tales and original music on guitar, fiddle and flute - Johanna and Scott Hongell-Darsee

August 16: Wolves - Wanagi Wolf Fund - Animal demonstration and talk by Stephanie Kaylan

August 23: Chris Nolan, One Man Band - Musical Performance

August 30: Ice Age Vertebrates of the Albuquerque Area - Educational talk by Gary Morgan of the NM Natural History Museum



SUNDAY HIKES -

Taking place throughout Open Space. On Sundays, starting at 9:00 a.m., unless stated otherwise.

Hikes with an * will be included in our partnership with the Nicodemus Wilderness Project's Apprentice Ecologist Initiative (see www.wildernessproject.org for more information). We hope that youth who attend most or all of the designated hikes will follow through with an Apprentice Ecologist Project and essay. The young, student author of the best essay could win a \$500 scholarship. Call 452-5222 for more details and directions.

July 6: *Petroglyphs of Piedras Marcadas - Dr. Matt Schmader, Open Space. Meet at the Piedras Marcadas Canyon Trailhead for a 3 hour hike.

July 13: *Volcanoes and Geology - Larry Crumpler, NM Natural History Museum. Meet at the volcanoes in the Petroglyph National Monument for a 2 to 3 hour hike.

July 20: Albuquerque Overbank Project 10th Anniversary Hike - Nancy Umbreit, Bureau of Reclamation Biologist. Meet at the Bosque Gate on the west side of the river off Cesar Chavez. This is a 2 to 3 hour hike. **Please pre-register (452-5222)**

July 27: *Community Gardening - Ian Simmons of the Rio Grande Community Farms. Meet at Los Poblanos Fields for a 2 to 3 hour talk and hike.

August 3: Introduction to GPS - Erik Zsemlye, Open Space. Meet at the Elena Gallegos Double Shelter for a 2 to 3 hour instruction. Bring your GPS, limited borrowing. **Pre-register by calling 452-5222**

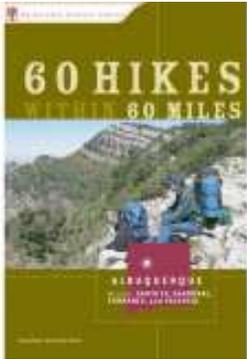
August 10: Basic Orienteering by NM Orienteers - Elena Gallegos Double Shelter. 2 to 3 hour instruction by the NM Orienteers. **Pre-registration required, 452-5222.**

August 17: *Survival: Living Off the Land - Mike Bochnia, Survival Specialist. Elena Gallegos Double Shelter. A 2 to 3 hour talk and demonstration.

August 24: *Organic Farming - Monte Skarsgard of Los Poblanos Organics. Los Poblanos Fields. A 2 to 3 hour talk and hike.

August 31: *Tracking and Animal Signs - Casey McFarland, Tracking Specialist and Survivalist Mike Bochnia. Location to be announced. A 2 to 3 hour instruction.

Meet the Author of 60 Hikes within 60 Miles: Albuquerque Stephen Aushman at the Open Space Visitor Center on August 23rd!



Stephen Aushman is a local author that takes you to classic trails and reveals new paths in his new hiking guide. Hikes lead to ancient pueblos, ghost towns, slot canyons, strange hoodoos and other treasures in the heart of New Mexico, all just a daytrip or less from the Duke City. Aushman's book is available at the Open Space Visitor Center bookstore.

See www.cabq.gov/openspace or call 897-8831 for more information about this and other exciting activities at the Open Space Visitor Center.

Volunteer at the Open Space Visitor Center Traditional Demonstration Garden



Help cultivate a demonstration garden that represents several early farming methods and the foods that were collected and cultivated in New Mexico. This is intended to be an educational garden where groups can actively take part in its development and observe its successes and failures.

Farming methods that will be represented are terraced arroyo, waffle garden, cobble mulch garden, and orchards. Projects will involve preparing garden areas, planting, mulching, weeding, watering, harvesting, preparing seeds for storage and more. Volunteers should be at least 14 years old or accompanied by an adult. Participants will need work gloves, sun protection, sturdy shoes and water. Groups up to 10 people welcomed. **Call 897-8831 to find out how to get involved.**

HELP SUPPORT THE OPEN SPACE ALLIANCE BY READING YOUR NEWSLETTER ONLINE!

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www.cabq.gov/openspace/news

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