



OPEN SPACE newsletter



Mayor Richard J. Berry

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

Volume 13, Issue 2, April - June 2012

Spring into Open Space A Message from the Open Space Alliance

Spring is a busy time in Open Space. We welcome volunteer support as the weather warms and we prepare for summer. I will give you some headlines of ways you can participate. Don't forget that the Open Space Alliance rewards volunteers with food and prizes at our cleanup projects. Bring the whole family to these exciting events!

Four Saturdays in April mark the Foothills Clean-up days, with projects from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. All clean-up sites are east of Tramway in the Sandia Foothills. Always popular during the events is the search for weird trash. Collect an unusual piece of trash and you may win a prize! See page 11 for full details.

The Recycled Art Fair is our signature Earth Day event, celebrated at the Open Space Visitor Center on April 21st. National River Cleanup, May 19th, is a great way to get out and celebrate the river. National Trails Day is June 2nd, 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Elena Gallegos/Albert G. Simms Park in the Foothills. Across the nation, volunteers will work on conservation projects during this important event. The Open Space Summer Series begins Memorial Day weekend with hikes, music, informational talks, and more! Page 5 will give you a preview.

We are excited about all that the Open Space Division is planning for spring and summer. Further details on all events are found within this edition of the newsletter. Also, please go to the website for up to date information on all Open Space activities: www.cabq.gov/openspace. We look forward to seeing you in your favorite Open Space and at the events.

Sincerely,

Sallie McCarthy, President, Open Space Alliance



The Young Boy Who Listened



The young boy who listened to his father's stories with ears as keen as a fox grew up to enjoy all things. His father told him that everything has some sort of story to tell. Once the boy heard this, he began to listen to everything. One day the boy was out on the mesa behind his family's house. He was testing his ears on everything he came across. He heard the grass of the mesa swaying. He heard the wind swooshing. The boy then picked up a rock and held it close to his ear. He heard nothing. He thought that maybe the rock was shy. He then spoke softly, "I am patient. I will wait for you to speak to me."

To the boy's surprise, the rock eventually did speak to him, once it knew he was patient. All of rock's stories require patience. The boy began to apply his newly found skill to all rocks. They all had different stories to tell. The boy began to carry shiny rocks in his pockets during school hours. Sometimes, his sweaty hands turned the surface dark with moisture.

The children at his school did not understand his skill of listening to rocks. They asked impatiently what the rocks were saying. The boy had a hard time answering them, because the rocks did not speak the same language as the children. Only he seemed to know their language.

The boy's father understood his son's skill. The boy's father had once been touched by the stories his father had told him and his sister. The boy's father said, "Once I listened to birds as you now listen to rocks."

The boy understood. The boy then asked, "Why have you stopped listening to the birds?"

His father replied, "The birds told me to listen to you as I had once listened to them," and the boy understood.

—by Joshua Willis

Professional Trail Builders Association Legacy Project

~Jim Sattler

Special thanks go out to the Professional Trail Builders Association (PTBA) and local PTBA member Mark Reineke for their recent work in the Sandia Foothills. Seventeen members of the PTBA contributed their time, expertise and equipment during a cold and windy two day project near the Hilldale access to the Foothills.

Much of the work was done using specialized trail building machines which were only four feet wide. These machines, combined with the skill of the operators were able to demonstrate different trail building techniques for use on steep and boulder strewn terrain which could be applied to many areas of the Sandia Foothills.



Mark Reineke and Crew working in the Sandia Foothills

Part of the project focused on reworking an old road that was eroded approximately 3 feet deep. Work included the construction of several water diversions known as rolling grade dips to help control erosion and storm runoff. The trail tread was also relocated to higher ground and sloped to provide drainage off the trail. The trail was also given some movement across the old road bed to provide further drainage opportunities and to help add some interest to the alignment. Most of the old road bed will be reclaimed with native plants during the Copper Cleanup on April 7. A second section of steep and eroded trail was bypassed by a new, sustainable section of trail. This part of the project required the construction of several stone retaining walls.

This was a project that was too big for hand crews to build using Pulaskis and McLeods, and too small to built with standard front end loaders and back hoes. In all over 200 volunteer hours were contributed as well as four pieces of machinery. All of the work was donated at no charge to the Open Space Division. Learn more about the PTBA at www.trailbuilders.org.

Welcoming our Newest Member of the Open Space Team!

Susannah Abbey is the newest member of the Open Space Division's Resource Management and Visitor Services Sector. A native of Arizona, she came to Albuquerque nearly eight years ago to attend the University's Landscape Architecture program and decided to stay. She came to the City from a private consulting firm where she practiced landscape architecture, urban planning, and environmental restoration. As an Associate Planner she will perform development case reviews, assist with trail and trailhead design and participate in service days, among other duties. Her background in design and her interest in natural resources planning will support her work here at the OSD.

The Visitor Center Gallery Presents....



2nd Annual "A Good Place to Stumble Upon"

Traditional Haiku Exhibit of Poetry and Art

What: Juried Haiku Poetry Displayed in a Gallery Setting

Where: Open Space Visitor Center, 6500 Coors Blvd., NW
(Between Montañito & Paseo del Norte at Bosque Meadows Rd.)

Phone: 505-897-8831

Exhibit Dates: March 6th through April 29th, 2012

Opening Event: April 7th, 3pm-5pm

A Good Place to Stumble Upon is a collection of illustrated Haiku poems submitted by local Albuquerque poets for a special exhibition at the City of Albuquerque Open Space Visitor Center. These poems capture the essence, wonder, and intellect of the landscapes of the City's Major Public Open Space. First, the poets submitted their work to the review committee. After selection, the imagery complimenting the poems was

added as a secondary project. The application of imagery to the poems changes the Haiku poems to "Haiga."

Featured image: Painting: Joshua Willis, Poetry: Julie Brokken, Calligraphy: Jay Lee Evans

New Deal- NM Statehood Centennial Event, Historical Society of NM

Opening May 20th, 3-5pm

Exhibit runs through June 30th



Where: Open Space Visitor Center

The New Deal was a series of economic programs implemented in the US between 1933 and 1936 by FDR as a response to the Great Depression. NM benefited from these programs in many ways, including the commission of many mural paintings, weavings and public work projects. This show is a collection of photographic documents of the artistic fruits of The New Deal. Open Space will host these photographs in commemoration of New Mexico's 100 years of statehood.

Contact: Joshua Willis, 505-897-8856, jrwillis@cabq.gov

APRIL 2012

***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, *Yoga with a View*. Yoga with instructor Jenny Dominique. \$15.00 donation. A portion of the donation benefits the Open Space Alliance.

ONGOING: CALL FOR ENTRIES: “Waterways and Wildlife” Little Gems Juried Art Exhibit: Annual Open Space Alliance fundraiser. Entry Deadline August 3rd, 2012.

ONGOING through April 29th, *A Good Place To Stumble Upon, Art and Poetry Exhibit*. See page 3 for more information.

April 2nd- April 30th, *Arch Design Studio 402 Bird and Bat Boxes*. On display at the Open Space Visitor Center.

April 21st, 9:00 am - 5:00 pm. *4th Annual Recycled Art Fair*. Learn about upcycling, re-use, repurposing and recycling at the 4th Annual Recycled Art Fair! See page 7 for details.

***April 21 10:00 am - 12:00 pm. *Basic Home Composting with Omar Sadek, Master Composter*.**

***Starting April 28 10:00 am - 5:00 pm. *Natural Topbar Beekeeping. Workshop Series with Les Crowder*.** Fee and registration required. This workshop is part of several taking place during the spring and summer.

Saturday, April 28, 6:00 pm - 10:00 pm. *The Albuquerque Astronomy Society’s “Out of this World” Stargazing*.

MAY 2012

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

Every Sunday, 9:00am -10:30am. *Yoga with a View*. See April listing.

May 20th, 3-5pm. *Opening Reception: New Deal- NM Statehood Centennial Event, Historical Society of NM*. Exhibit runs through June 30th. See page 3 for more information.

JUNE 2012

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

Every Sunday, 9:00am -10:30am. *Yoga with a View*. See April listing.

ONGOING through June 30th. *New Deal- NM Statehood Centennial Event, Historical Society of NM*. See page 3 for more information.

June 23rd 11am-4 pm. *Pollinator Event*. Annual event with honey tasting and beekeepers Q&A. See page 9 for a full listing of activities.

****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.

Open Space Summer Series

~By Bill Pentler

Spring has sprung and it's time to talk about the upcoming 2012 Summer Series. I'm working feverishly so by the time you read this the Series will be complete and ready to pique your curiosity and create joyful times. It seems that every year is different with the people and opportunities I trip over. Last year was a performance based year and this one is offering a greater mix of talks and performances.

The Hongell-Darsees will be back with music and storytelling, as will the Albuquerque Worldwinds Woodwind Quintet, an amazing African musician Facinet Bangoura who plays the Balafon, and also Chris Nolan, the One Man Band. Gina Marselle has coordinated performers for an evening of Spoken Word Poetry, the New Mexico Herpetological Society offered to show off some critters found locally, Steve Harris will give a talk on the Environmental History of the Rio Grande, plus there will be a Nano-science talk and demonstration by Heather Armstrong and some students from UNM.

I'm still trying to find someone to talk about Bonsai trees and there is great potential for an Herb or Medicinal Plant hike, and possibly a Mariachi Band. So bring the family out for an evening of entertainment and experience new wonders, old favorites, and information that will widen your perspective of the world around you.

Our Sunday Hikes will continue to explore the Open Space outlying properties with trips to the San Antonio Oxbow and possibly the Juan Thomas property. We'll also again attempt to see the North Geologic Window in the Petroglyph National Monument if they don't close us down again. The Magic and Juggling Shop has stepped up to offer a unique magic and juggling hike and there's an instruction of varied forms of Meditation by Dug Corpolongo from the Albuquerque Buddhist Fellowship, and, of course, a Wildflower hike with Pearl Burns.

Paddlefest has grown from last year and will be an all day instruction on safety, water techniques, and an opportunity to float in non-motoring craft down the Rio Grande. This event will grow beyond the Summer Series next year and will likely be associated with the Open Space National River Day Cleanup, forming into what could likely be River Week. The Paddlefest event will focus on river safety and instruction and conservation activities.

Please check the full schedule for the Summer Series on our website at cabq.gov/openspace under the events icon or feel free to contact Bill Pentler at 452-5222 or wpentler@cabq.gov if questions arise or you have suggestions of talks or performances for future Series.

So come explore with us, expand your views and discover the joys of Open Space.



Arch Design Studio 402 is Making Habitats for Urban Birds this Spring



Fourteen undergraduates in the Architecture Program are coordinating with the City of Albuquerque Open Space Division and the Army Corps of Engineers to build bird and bat nesting boxes for the Tingley area of the Bosque Restoration Project.

The boxes will be installed in the Tingley Restoration area to replace the habitat lost when fire-damaged and fallen cottonwood and elm trees were recently cleared from the Bosque. Certain local bird species are cavity-nesters (Western Bluebirds, Ash-throated Flycatchers, Kestrels, and Screech Owls), and rely on the presence of dead and fallen trees for nesting. After meeting with local experts from Hawks Aloft, Wildlife Rehabilitation, and the US Geological Survey, students designed and constructed habitats to be hung on trees, mounted on posts, even floated on the newly created wetlands ponds.

After being displayed at the City of Albuquerque's Open Space Visitor Center (6500 Coors Blvd.) from April 2nd- April 30th, the boxes will be installed in the Tingley Restoration area and monitored to learn more about species population and behavior in the Bosque. The bird and bat 'boxes' are constructed from those Cottonwood and Elm trees, as well as salvaged wood. Much of the salvaged wood came from the Historic Werner-Gilchrist house, which was located at the corner of Silver and Cornell SE and deconstructed this winter by two UNM Architecture students (Hilary Noll and Bron Heintz). After completing the wild bird habitats, the Arch Studio 402 students will begin designing and constructing chicken coops for East Central Ministries Farms, Casa Shalom, and a local community center for refugees.

Participants include:

Noreen Richards, Visiting Assistant Professor

Students:

Cynthia Contreras
 Ruben Contreras
 Matthew Trujillo
 Taylor Horger
 Chad Griffin-Lucero
 Dylan Goyer
 Ethan Palmer
 Nick Nuccio
 Gasinee Pitikkan
 Caitlin Velazquez-Fagley
 Stacey George
 Christina Woody
 Peter Takeuchi
 Stephanie Schneider



4TH ANNUAL OPEN SPACE RECYCLED ART FAIR!



WHERE: Open Space Visitor Center | 6500 Coors Blvd NW between Montañito and Paseo del Norte at the end of Bosque Meadows Rd.

WHAT: Annual event to celebrate the Spring Clean-ups in the Sandia Foothills and the creativity of upcycling.

WHEN: Saturday, April 21, 2012 | 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM

FREE!

CONTACT: Kim Selving | 505-897-8831 | kselving@cabq.gov

The City of Albuquerque is celebrating its annual Foothills Spring Clean-ups with the Fourth Annual Recycled Art Fair. Please join us to see how this amazing art form is evolving and becoming a sustainable alternative to “shopping at the mall.” Recycled Art, also known as Upcycle Art, has been of immense diversity in our four years’ experience. There are artists who have used discarded materials for years and achieved wide acclaim but are not known for the source material, those who repurpose into creations that have no resemblance to the original material and those who make us clever, useful objects to make our daily life easier and prettier. This immense diversity led to our decision to divide the show into the Juried Art Exhibit and the Recycled Art Fair with sales booths. We have also added a “sustainable business” component this year.

Tentative Schedule of Events

- Music with Juniper Hill and others
- Learn about the City of Albuquerque’s expanding recycling program with Keep Albuquerque Beautiful
- Sustainable, healthy food with the “Chopping Block”
- Awards to volunteers who found the “most interesting trash” at Spring Clean-ups
- Art workshops: Tin punch aluminum, art with Art Street, Styrofoam block printing, creative garden tools, paper-making and more.
- “Recycling” workshops: Basic Composting, Worm Composting, Water Harvesting, Waterwise Gardening, Seed Saving and Repurposed Material Garden Tool-making! Get ready to garden sustainably.
- Juried Art Show awards and Opening Reception
- Meet environmental heroine Rachel Carson via Anne Beyke’s chataqua presentation.

NATIONAL RIVER CLEANUP 2012

WHEN: May 19th, 2012 from 8:00am – 1:00pm

WHERE: The event hub is on the northwest side of the Central Avenue Bridge. Parking is available on the west side of the river and north of Central Ave. at Sunset. Parking spaces are limited, so *please carpool!*

DONATED LUNCH AND PRIZE DRAWING: All registered volunteers are invited to a delicious donated meal and prize drawing starting at 12:30pm.

Please pre-register starting April 16th with REI online at www.rei.com/albuquerque or call 247-1191.



2012 RIVER CLEANUP ACTIVITIES:

- 1. Community Bosque cleanup at the Central Avenue Bridge:** Cleanup activities for all ages in the bosque along the Central Avenue Bridge including trash pickup and graffiti removal.
- 2. Organize your own Bosque Cleanup:** Have a favorite area of the bosque? Consider hosting a cleanup of your own! The Open Space Division will supply trash bags and dispose of the collected trash. Those wishing to organize a cleanup must contact the Open Space Division at 452-5200 or email kswanson@cabq.gov.
- 3. Clean the River in a Guided Raft:** On the day of the event, Kirtland Outdoor Recreation will provide a limited number of guided rafts that help remove trash from the river starting from the Montañito Bridge and finishing at Central. Rafts are on a first come first serve basis and space is limited. Arrive early at the Central Avenue Bridge to reserve a space on the rafts. Children 7 years and older may ride on the rafts, but children under 18 must have a parent/guardian (at least one parent per 4 children) with them.
- 4. Clean the river in your own boat:** Call the Open Space Division at 452-5200 or email kswanson@cabq.gov for more information. People with their own rafts, kayaks, and canoes are encouraged to clean up the river on this day. You must provide your own transportation and shuttle for your boat. The Open Space Division will provide you with trash bags and will dispose of the collected trash.
- 5. Rio Rancho Area River Cleanup:** Quiet Waters Paddling Adventures (QWPA) is organizing a simultaneous cleanup near Rio Rancho. Please contact Michael Hayes for reservations and more details. 771-1234 in the ABQ metro area, out-of-area can call toll free at (877) 45-FLOAT (877-453-5628), or email to mhayes@quietwaterspaddling.com.

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS! National River Cleanup is sponsored in part by the City of Albuquerque Open Space Division, REI, American Rivers, the West Central Alliance of Neighborhoods (WeCAN), the Rotary Club of Albuquerque, Kirtland Air Force Base Outdoor Recreation, and the Open Space Alliance.

A NOTE ABOUT BOATING SAFETY: It is legal to float down the Rio Grande in kayaks, canoes, rafts and other non-motorized water craft. Home-made craft do not qualify as legal water craft. Volunteers who bring their own canoe, kayak or raft must also follow all New Mexico State Parks boating regulations. Please call the Boating Safety Officer at 1-888-NMPARKS or see www.emnrd.state.nm.us for more information.

For more information about this and other volunteer opportunities in Open Space, please contact Jim Sattler or Kent Swanson at 452-5200 or email kswanson@cabq.gov.

POLLINATOR AWARENESS DAY *Celebrating New Mexico Pollinator Week*

WHAT: Promoting pollinator conservation with beekeepers, honey tasting, and presentations

WHERE: Open Space Visitor Center | 6500 Coors Blvd NW at the end of Bosque Meadows Rd. between Montañño and Paseo del Norte

WHEN: June 23 | 11:00 AM – 4:00 PM

FREE!



Bee aware! Join us for a FREE event on Saturday, June 23 from 11am-4pm during National Pollinator Week.

Imagine how bleak our diets would be without apples, melons, berries, carrots, broccoli, almonds, coffee, chocolate, and, dare I say it, chile. These foods and many other foods that nourish and comfort us cannot reproduce without pollinating animals such as bees and wasps, flies, butterflies and moths, hummingbirds, and bats. But pollinators are threatened.

Dramatic declines of pollinator species are being documented world-wide. The Sichuan Province of China is one of the world's largest apple producers and they manage this by pollinating every flower by hand -- by human hand. The heavy use of pesticides has eliminated the visitation of native pollinators and beekeepers refuse to bring their hives into the toxic environment.

Pesticide assault, loss and degradation of habitat, and the spread of disease and parasites are the primary threats to pollinators. But these threats can be mitigated by sharing information with neighbors and the greater community on how each household can contribute to pollinator conservation.

Activities include:

- BUTTERFLY PAVILION
- HONEY TASTING: Is West side honey better than East side honey? What's the difference between local honey and store-bought honey? Come and sample honey from beekeepers in Albuquerque.
- URBAN BEEKEEPING: Learn about beekeeping in Albuquerque and how you can create a bee-friendly environment in your garden and community.
- MEET BEEKEEPERS: Come and meet local beekeepers, ask questions, check out the parts of a bee hive and try on their "bee hat."
- CHILDREN'S GAMES

Contact Jodi Hedderig at 897-8831 or email jhedderig@cabq.gov for more information.

NATIONAL TRAILS DAY 2012

Calling all hikers, mountain bikers, horseback riders, and all those who love the Great Outdoors! National Trails Day is just around the corner!

The Open Space Division, along with the National Forest Service, the American Hiking Association, REI, other local organizations and businesses are hosting this great family-friendly event on June 2nd, 2012!

We're encouraging everyone young and old to get outside and connect with your community to experience, appreciate and celebrate the natural places where we can all enjoy wildlife, peace and quiet, and reap the benefits of happiness and health.

WHEN: June 2nd, 2012 starting at 8:00am until about 1:00pm.



WHERE: The Elena Gallegos Picnic Area/Albert G. Simms Park in Albuquerque. The Elena Gallegos Open Space is located east of Tramway at the end of Simms Park Rd., just north of Academy. Parking is limited so *please carpool!*

REGISTRATION: Registration starts soon through Recreational Equipment Inc (REI). For online registration information check www.rei.com/albuquerque or call 247-1191.

ACTIVITIES: There will be activities for all ages and fitness levels. Children under 18 must be accompanied by an adult. Volunteers will work on over 10 different conservation projects

including trash cleanup, land restoration, trail maintenance, and new trail construction in the Sandia Mountain Wilderness and Open Space trail systems.

WHAT TO BRING: A hat, water bottle, snacks, sunscreen, work gloves, and lots of enthusiasm! The Sandia Ranger District and Albuquerque Open Space will provide all tools and instructions. Please leave your pets at home!

AFTER EVENT PICNIC AND PRIZES! At the end of the event, we reward our volunteers with a free lunch and lots of prizes donated by our generous sponsors!

Los Duendes, Unidos, Jamás Serán Vencidos!

Spring Clean-up in the Sandia Foothills

Join us for our annual Spring Clean-up in the Sandia Foothills, every Saturday in April from 9:00AM to 1:00PM. Tasks include trash clean-up, graffiti removal, and trail maintenance. Meet at the following areas and bring water, work gloves, and dress for the weather. Arrive early for snacks and to sign in. Weird trash collected during the events will be judged by a panel of experts. The strangest objects found win a prize and will be on display at the Open Space Visitor Center during the month of April!

Call 452-5200 or email kswanson@cabq.gov for more information.

- April 7 – Copper Trailhead
- April 14 – Embudo Canyon (Indian School)
- April 21 – Menaul Picnic Area
- April 28 – Piedra Lisa Open Space (south of the east end of Candelaria)



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 Sallie McCarthy, OSA Board President, at mccarthy_sal@hotmail.com.

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: _____

☐ NEW MEMBER

☐ \$15 STUDENT (18 & UNDER) / SENIOR

☐ \$250 SUSTAINING

☐ RENEWAL

☐ \$20 INDIVIDUAL

☐ \$500 CORPORATE

☐ **TRAILS DAY**

☐ \$30 FAMILY

☐ \$1000 LIFE MEMBER

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





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(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