



Friends of the Sandia Mountains
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Friends of the Sandia Mountains

General Membership Meeting
October 1, 2024

Featured speaker:
Jeff Young

History of the Sandia Ranger District: People, Places, Events





Agenda

- Election Results and President's Remarks – Mike Madden
- Projects Report – Sam Beard
- Treasurer's Report – Tim Brown
- Programs and Speaker Introduction – Cliff Giles
- History of Sandia Ranger District – Jeff Young
- Q&As
- Adjourn



October 1, 2024



President's Remarks, Mike Madden

- Election of officers and board members:
 - A hearty thank you to Tim Brown (3 years on the Board followed by 15 years as Treasurer) and Eric Russell (5 years on the Board).
 - The Nominating Committee led by Steve Roholt, plus Jenny Blackmore, Jamey Browning, and Joe Meade chose: Jeff Young for Treasurer and Susan Gregory for the Board.
 - Those up for re-election and choosing to continue to serve are: Officers Mike Madden (President), Cliff Giles (VP), Silke Bletzer (Secretary); and Board Members Sam Beard, Sim Cook, and Byron Garner.



President's Remarks, Mike Madden

- Election of officers and board members:
 - Ballots went out September 10 and were due September 24.
 - Were any write-ins received on the ballots? Any additional nominations from the floor?
 - Election vote by acclamation.
 - Congratulations to the new Board!
 - A meeting of the new Board will follow soon.



President's Remarks, Mike Madden

- Notables since our September 3 meeting:
 - Sam Beard created our 35-page FY2024 Annual Newsletter, Silke Bletzer formatted it
 - It's very impressive how much work we do in a year, be sure to read it!
 - FOSM tracked our own hours for the first time this year, led by Silke Bletzer and Rav Nicholson
 - Our weekly crews totaled 6,600 hours (5,757 last year and 6,017 two years ago)



FOSM in Numbers

October 1, 2023 – September 15, 2024 (FY2024)

As of end of August, FOSM had 147 active members:

- more than 50% have joined weekly crews
- a large hardcore group goes out almost every week, undeterred by sun, rain or snow
- many others also monitor trails and provide input into [Sally's Tree Report](#)

Total Volunteer Hours
FY2024

9173

Total Number of
Volunteers FY2024

80

Individual
Contributions
2573 Hours

Total Participants & Hours by Crew **6600**

Group sizes vary by event, total number of volunteers shown represents members who joined at least on one day

FOSM Crew	Volunteers	Hours
Monday Trail Maintenance Crew	24	1817
Tuesday Paint & Graffiti Removal	20	265
Wednesday General Projects Crew	38	2254
Thursday Trail Building Crew	31	2265



Top Contributors

October 1, 2023 – September 15, 2024 (FY2024)

We all love the Sandia Mountains and its forests.
Some are continuously going above and beyond!
A big Shout Out goes to:

Volunteer	Total Hours
Jamey Browning	1354
Sam Beard	577
Byron Garner	400
Eric Russell	329
John Cooper	305.5
Dan Benton	304
Bob Lowder	286
Bill Perkins	259
Sim Cook	248.5
Laura Leon	243

Total Volunteer
Hours by Top 10
Contributors
4306

Almost as much was contributed by:
Cliff Giles, Jerry Carroll, Joelle Hertel,
Rav Nicholson, Mike Madden, Luis
Cuadros, Sally Lowder, Claudia
Bergsohn, ...

It is hard to say where to stop! We are
also aware that some contribute much
more than what the numbers show.

A BIG THANK YOU to all!



President's Remarks, Mike Madden

- Notables since our September 3 meeting:
 - Sally Lowder has taken on Sawyer Certs, continues Membership and Trail Trees Removed.
 - Steve Roholt is leading a Fall Adopt-A-Highway Clean-Up Oct 15.
 - Carl Smith celebration of life Oct. 19 at 2 PM (details on website)
 - USFS Canyon Young will be teaching a Brushing Class Oct 25.
 - SRD will be hosting an All-Volunteer Recognition Event, TBD in late Oct.
 - 21st Sandia Snowshoe Classic will be January 18, 2025
 - Committee: Mike Madden, Silke Bletzer, Jeff Young, Jamey Browning, Jeff Huser.
 - Need: a Snowshoe Classic Marketing/Publicity & ABQ food person, a Brushing Leader, a Paint Crew Leader!



Welcome New Members!

Janet Simon and Mark Weber – September 2, 2024
Scott Christenson – September 3, 2024

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Projects Report, Sam Beard, Projects Chair

Project	Since 9/3	FY2024
Trail Maintenance	3	32
Trail Construction	4	35
Painting and Graffiti Removal	2	28
Adopt-a-Highway	0	1
General Projects	6	67
Totals	15	163



Projects Report, Sam Beard, Projects Chair

- Trail Maintenance Led by Bob Lowder and Byron Garner (3 outings since 9/3)
 - September 9 – Remove obstructions on 130N and Survey Trails
 - September 23 – Removed trees and brush on South Crest and Faulty Loop Trails
 - September 30 – Removing obstacles in Crest area.

Note: This does not include trail maintenance performed by individuals and reported via Cibola Trail Rangers (CTR). We recognize and greatly appreciate these efforts



Projects Report, Sam Beard, Projects Chair

- Trail Construction Led by Laura Leon (4 outings since 9/3)
 - September 5 – Ellis Trail reroute
 - September 12 – Ellis Trail reroute
 - September 19 – Ellis Trail reroute
 - September 26 – Ellis Trail reroute



Projects Report, Sam Beard, Projects Chair

- Painting and Graffiti Removal Projects Led by Sam Beard and Anne Hickman (2 outings since 9/3)
 - September 24 – Remove graffiti at Juan Tabo Cabin and stone shelter in Juan Tabo Picnic Area
 - October 1 – Paint restrooms at Crest and Ellis TH

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Projects Report, Sam Beard, Projects Chair

- General Projects Led by Sam Beard (6 outings since 9/3)
 - September 2 – Assembled Salas Cabin shutters (Sam Beard and Joelle Hertel)*
 - September 8 – Cutting brush on Crest Highway shoulder at 8000-ft sign
 - September 4 – Buck and Split Wood Oak & Pine Flat PAs
 - September 11 – Process and haul wood from three logs near Ellis TH
 - September 18 – Process and haul wood from near Ellis TH
 - September 25 – Fell, limb, and buck hazard trees along Cienega PA Road between Wagon Trail and the road to the picnic area

* Not reported last month



Future Programs, Cliff Giles, Vice–President

- Preliminary thoughts for 2025 speakers
 - Trail mapping, Jamey Browning
 - Cibola National Forest Supervisor, Heidi McRoberts
 - Fossils in the Sandias, Stan Davis
 - "New Mexico's Magnificent Sandia Mountains: The Complete Geological Story," Dick van Hart
 - "Sandia Mountain Landscapes," Les McFadden
 - "The Future of the Forests," Aaron Johnson (Forestry Program Manager) and/or Shawn Martin (Forest Silviculturist)
 - NM Game and Fish, Caitlin Ruhl
 - BLM, Jackie Leyba
 - Ciudad Soil and Water Conservation District, Steve Glass
 - Topic of interest, Kerry Wood
- Suggestions welcome!



Program Introduction, Cliff Giles, Vice-President

- Speaker: Jeff Young
 - Lived in New Mexico for most of his life; resident of Sandia Park since 1992
 - Life member of FOSM
 - Started the Sandia Snowshoe Race
 - Avid hiker, mountain biker, skier, hunter, and fisherman.
 - After graduating from Lovington High School, went on to an accounting degree from Abilene Christian University and then an MBA from New Mexico State University.
 - Retired from Sandia National Laboratories in 2021.



Program Introduction, Cliff Giles, Vice-President

The presentation will provide a brief summary on people, places and things of the Sandia Ranger District, how the Sandia Ranger District came to be, history of recreation in the Sandias, hunting and wildlife, and other historical events.