

News Ltr Apr 05 DP 12000

# Friends of the Sandia Mountains

Spring Newsletter, April 2005

Possibly

Publisher 2000



Friends of the Sandia Mountains  
PO Box 1832,  
Tijeras, New Mexico 87059

### Meeting Schedule:

Next Meeting: Tuesday, June 7  
7:00 PM at SRS

See Article on Page 4 for Special May and Subsequent Meetings Notice

### New Name: Friends of the Sandia Mountains

This newsletter is the first to be published under our "new name". Our volunteer organization, which is now called **Friends of the Sandia Mountains**, began originally in 1997 as "New Mexico Friends of the Forest". We retain that name in our official articles of incorporation and adopted Friends of the Sandia Mountains as our "trade name" in October 2004. The Board of Directors determined that the new name more accurately reflects our areas of concentration, the Sandia and Manzanita Mountains, and also our mission, which is to maintain, protect and restore the natural, cultural and scenic resources of these areas for the enjoyment and use of present and future generations. It was also suggested that the new name would further differentiate our group and its purpose from other more controversial, political activist groups with similar names.

Bob Lowder, President.

### Publication of the Field Guide to the Sandia Mountains By the Friends of the Sandia Mountains and UNM Press

Don Carnicom first suggested the idea of the Friends developing a field guide to the Sandias for Sandia Ranger District volunteers and the general public in 2002. The idea was approved by the Friends of the Sandia Mountains Board of Directors, and a Steering Committee was selected to move forward with the project. After some discussion, it was decided to approach UNM Press to see if they were interested in our project. They were, and they proposed terms that we agreed with - and made it clear that if we wanted all the color that we proposed, we would need to get funding to assist them in this effort. Mary Stuever was appointed Editorial Co-coordinator and Gerry Sussman was named Project Manager. Time lines were established which set dates that had to be met to keep the Guide on schedule. The Friends worked with the SRD staff to select the various subjects to be included in the guide, and sections were assigned to

(See Guide on page 2)



(Guide continued from page 1)  
volunteer experts in each area.

When Mary accepted a position with the White Mountain Apache Tribe in Arizona, Bob Julyan took over the day-to-day editorial responsibilities. As each chapter was completed, the Editorial Committee of FOSM members and three SRD staff reviewed it and sent it to an outside expert for a second review before handing the manuscript over to the Press. During this time, the Fund Raising Committee was successful in raising enough money to produce a high quality Guide with 124 color plates that had been envisioned.

The official publication date is May 6, 2005. At this point, approximately four weeks after copies of the Guide arrived at

the Press warehouse, sales are approaching 1,000 copies. The early efforts of the Press Sales and Publicity Staff and wonderful work by our volunteers have produced excellent results. Sales at meetings of the N. M. Cross Country Ski Club, New Mexico Mountain Club, and other similar organizations have been very successful. We gave 56 copies to the Albuquerque Public Schools for use in their science curriculum. Major publicity is expected in the near future, including a feature article in the **Albuquerque Journal** and the start of a four-part series of lectures by Field Guide authors at the New Mexico Museum of Natural History.

The Guide may be purchased at all major bookstores and other places, as well. It is also available at the Crest House, REI, and the Sandia Ranger Station. For sales opportunities that volunteers have, Don Carnicom, Bob Julyan and Gerry Sussman stock copies or will order them at your request. When we sell copies at meetings or to friends, the FOSM makes \$8.00 per copy, because we buy books at a 40% discount. The difference between the \$19.95 list price (we sell at \$20.00) and FOSM's approximate \$12.00 buying price is always turned over to FOSM. We are not allowed to sell for less than the list price. Gerry Sussman, Field Guide Project Manager.

**OFFICERS, BOARD MEMBERS,  
AND CHAIRPERSONS**

President: Bob Lowder  
Vice President: Gerry Sussman  
Treasurer: Don Carnicom  
Secretary: Margaret Furman

**Board Members**

Richard Becker crbecker@unm.edu Bob Moore	Don Peterson Anne Hickman
Tim Brown	Paul Stubbe
Sam Beard	Sally Lowder

Officers listed above are also Board Members

**Committees/Chairpersons**

Finance:	Don Carnicom
Publicity:	Open
Projects/Trails:	Sam Beard
Education:	Open
Membership:	Don Peterson
Fund Raising:	Open
Newsletter:	Don Peterson

**Lecture Series about the Sandia Mountains at the Museum of Natural History**

To celebrate the availability of this new and wonderful resource for our community, the N. M. Museum of Natural History has scheduled a series of four evening talks about the Sandias by some of the authors of the Guide. The first lecture, on April 12, will cover Ecology, and the guest speakers

(See Lectures on page 4)

## **Phyllis Martinez Transfers to the Jemez Ranger District**

Long-time Sandia Ranger District employee, Phyllis Martinez, has transferred to the Jemez Ranger District on the Santa Fe National Forest. In addition to planning and managing many projects on the local District, Phyllis taught trail maintenance and construction to volunteers. She was especially known for her carefully built rock retaining walls installed without mortar. We will miss Phyllis and wish her well in her new position.

## **Summer and Fall Volunteer Field Projects**

Dates and other information about these projects will be in future bulletins and emailed to members of the Sandia-Volunteers-and-NMFOF Egroup. Contact the project leader or Projects Chair, Sam Beard, for information at 828-0673 or [samgbeard@msn.com](mailto:samgbeard@msn.com).

- **Tecolote Trail Maintenance** – We will perform spring maintenance on the Friends adopted trail as soon as the snow melts. Don Carnicom at [d-mcarnicom@att.net](mailto:d-mcarnicom@att.net).
- **National Trails Day** – This annual event is conducted on the first Saturday in June (June 4, 2005). Local volunteers do maintenance on trails and other facilities in the City Open Space and on the National Forest. Refreshments are usually available before and after the one-day projects. Meet at 8:15 a.m. at the Elena Gallegos Picnic Area at the east end of Simms Road which is north of Academy Blvd. and east of Tramway Blvd. Don Carnicom at [d-mcarnicom@att.net](mailto:d-mcarnicom@att.net).
- **Installation of Braille Signs on Cienega Nature Trail** – Replacement interpretive signs in Braille about the forest and ripar-

ian area will be glued and screwed to posts. Don Carnicom at [d-mcarnicom@att.net](mailto:d-mcarnicom@att.net).

- **Cutting and Chipping Elm Trees and Salt Cedar Plants** – These plants are considered noxious weeds, and volunteers will help remove them from the ranger district. Sam Beard at 828-0673 or [samgbeard@msn.com](mailto:samgbeard@msn.com).
- **Wildlife Drinker Maintenance** – Repairs will be made to the rain water collectors and storage containers and dispensers in all parts of the Ranger District. Sam Beard at 828-0673 or [samgbeard@msn.com](mailto:samgbeard@msn.com).
- **Rebuilding Kiwanis Meadow Fence** – Sections of the buck-and-pole fence protecting the meadow will be rebuilt using small timbers and bolts. Sam Beard at 828-0673 or [samgbeard@msn.com](mailto:samgbeard@msn.com).
- **Install Trail Markers on Crest Trail between the Crest and Upper Tramway Terminal** – Green aluminum hiker markers (3-inch diameter) will be nailed to trees on this section of Crest Trail 130 which is very popular with out-of-town visitors who frequently become lost in the maze of trails at the top of the mountain. Bob Lowder at [rjlowder@msn.com](mailto:rjlowder@msn.com).

## **Email Groups for Sandia RD Volunteers and Friends**

The Friends manage two Yahoo email groups in support of the Sandia Ranger District. The **Sandia-Volunteers-and-NMFOF Egroup** transmits official information from SRD personnel and the Friends Board of Directors. Contact Margaret Furman ([springazure@flash.net](mailto:springazure@flash.net)) to join the SVANMFOF Egroup. The **Cibola Trail Rangers Egroup** is used to communicate

*(See Email on page 4)*



## Treasurer's Report - April 2005

The financial health of the organization continues to be very good. The original Friends of the Sandia Mountains account has a balance \$4,312.52 and the Field Guide to the Sandia Mountains account has a balance of \$86.12. The Guide has now been published and all bills relating to the Guide have been paid. The remaining balance of \$86.12 will be transferred to the original Friends account and the Guide account closed. Royalties for books sold in regular book stores will start coming into our account later this year; however proceeds from books sold by our members and friends are reflected in our account immediately with over \$1000 being deposited in the last three weeks.

If you would like a detailed Treasurer's report, call or email me.

Don Carnicom, 281-3421, d-mcarnicom@att.net

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*(Lectures continued from page 2)*

will be Bob Julyan, Paul Stubbe, and Mary Stuever. The second lecture, on April 26, will be about the Geology of the Sandias. Guest speakers will be Jayne Aubele, Larry Crumpler, and Spencer Lucas, all scientists at the NMMNH. Lecture 3, on May 3, will cover the Sandia Mountains Flora and Fauna, and the guest speakers will be Helen Haskell, Mary Stuever, Pearl Burns, David Lightfoot, Rich Anderson, and Paul Polechla. The final lecture, on May 17, will be given by John Hayden and Bob Julyan, and their topic is Human Presence in the Sandias. All lectures begin at 7:00 pm. Admission will be \$1.00 for Museum members and \$2.00 for all others. Gerry Sussman, Field Guide Project Manager.

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*(Email continued from page 3)*

trail conditions and maintenance information among volunteers who frequently hike and those who remove fallen trees from the trails. Contact Don Carnicom (d-mcarnicom@att.net) to join this Egroup.

## Monthly Public Meetings of the Friends of the Sandia Mountains

The monthly meetings are at 7 p.m. on the first Tuesday of each month at the Sandia Ranger Station in Tijeras. Invited speakers present programs on many natural history topics. The programs are considered training for Sandia Ranger District volunteers. The May meeting has been cancelled so members can attend the lecture on the flora and fauna of the Sandia Mountains at the Museum of Natural History. Program topics for other months will be announced in future bulletins and through the Sandia-Volunteers-and-NMFOF email group.

## Informal Volunteer Projects on the Sandia Ranger District

Volunteers participating in these impromptu projects or workdays perform various types of maintenance from time to time as needed in the Sandia and Manzanita Mountains. Contact the leader for information about these activities.

- **Emergency Trail Maintenance** – This crew removes fallen trees from hiking and cross country ski trails during all seasons of the year. Don Carnicom at d-mcarnicom@att.net.
- **Trail Sign Fabrication and Installation** – New and replacement trail signs are made in the SRD shop by volunteers and installed in the National Forest. Don Carnicom at d-mcarnicom@att.net.
- **Painting Signs and Small Buildings** – Members of the Spruce Up Crew paint small structures (such as restrooms) and various types of signs, especially large information display boards. Sam Beard at 828-0673 or samgbeard@msn.com.

# FRIENDS OF THE SANDIA MOUNTAINS

If you hike, bike, ride a horse or use the Sandia Mountains in any way, we know you enjoy what nature has given us. As you know, all this traffic takes a toll on our forest lands. Working in conjunction with the **United States Forest Service** as a volunteer organization, we provide many services in support of the Sandia Ranger District.

## WHO WE ARE

Friends of the Sandia Mountains is a non-profit organization of local volunteers. We are dedicated to working in partnership with the USFS, other groups, and individuals to maintain, protect and restore the natural, cultural and scenic resources of New Mexico's forest lands for the enjoyment and use of present and future generations. Our focus is conservation and education within the Sandia Ranger District of the Cibola National Forest and adjacent lands.

## WHAT WE DO

Conservation  
Education  
Restoration  
Site Stewardship  
Wildlife & Habitat Monitoring  
Trail Construction & Maintenance  
Junior Ranger Program  
Visitor Services  
Fundraising  
Adopt-A-Trail  
Co-publisher of **Field Guide to the Sandia Mtns.**

## WHAT IS THE NEED

This uniquely beautiful land can't wait another minute. It truly needs our help! As USFS funds are inadequate to handle the increasing demands on the forest land by the public, the Friends of the Sandia Mountains will work to help meet the forest needs. Learn more about how you can be a part of this vital effort.

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## YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN OR RENEW:

You can be part of this effort; work with friends, visitors and USFS personnel.

Tell us briefly how you would like to Participate & we will get back to you.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone & Email \_\_\_\_\_

## Dues:

- \$10 Student
- \$15 Individual
- \$20 Family
- \$30 Organization
- \$50 Sponsor
- \$100 Benefactor
- \$250 Life Sponsor
- \$500 Corporate Sponsor

Please make your check payable to:  
**Friends of the Sandia Mountains**

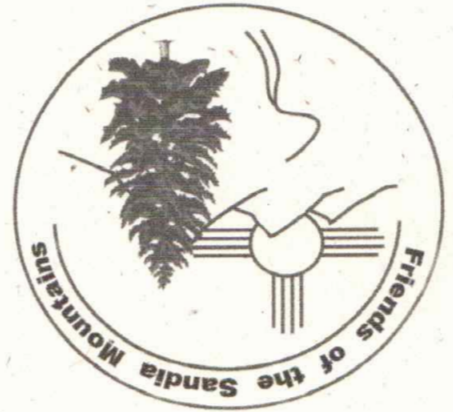
Mail To:

Friends of the Sandia Mountains  
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Tijeras, NM 87059

FOSM is a 501c3 non-profit organization. Dues & donations are tax deductible.



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### IN THIS ISSUE

Friends of the Forest Has a New Name.....	Page 1
Field Guide to the Sandias is Published.....	Page 1
Officers, Board Members, Committees.....	Page 2
Lecture Series on Sandia Mountains.....	Page 2
Phyllis Martinez Transfers.....	Page 3
Summer and Fall Volunteer Field Projects.....	Page 3
Email Groups for Volunteers and Friends.....	Page 3
Treasurer's Report.....	Page 4
Monthly Public Meetings of FOSM.....	Page 4
Informal Volunteer Projects on SRD.....	Page 4
Membership Application.....	Page 5