



Friends of the Sandia Mountains
friendsofthesandias.org

Friends of the Sandia Mountains

General Membership Meeting
August 5, 2025

Featured speaker:
Quinn Mendelson, Rocky Mountain Youth Corps





Agenda

- President's Remarks – Mike Madden
- Projects Report – Sam Beard
- Treasurer's Report – Jeff Young
- Future Programs – Cliff Giles
- RMYC – Quinn Mendelson
- Q&As
- Adjourn



August 5, 2025



President's Remarks, Mike Madden

- Notables since our meeting on July 1, 2025:
 - Historic sign at the new Crest Road roundabout is up!
 - Little Free Library was approved by Ken Born!
 - Time to submit your July individual volunteer hours
 - Nominations for VP, Treasurer, and At-Large vacancies are due August 15
 - 14 people answered the call for creating a brushers email group list



President's Remarks, Mike Madden

- Notables since our meeting on July 1, 2025:
 - Jamey Browning activities
 - Working on Hike Smart Campaign with Sandia Tramway, Cibola S&R, and others -
> press release soon
 - Inventoried and compiled extensive reference library on Sandia Interpretive Signs
 - Hiked extensively on the upper part of the mountain gathering centerline trail data for accurate maps
 - Installed signs on new Kiwanis Meadow fence recognizing contributions of FS, FOSM, TTYL, and Dr. Charles Wood
 - Snowshoe Race Committee will be forming soon
 - Seeking a Paint Crew Leader



President's Remarks, Mike Madden

Welcome, New Member!

Iris Meyer-Guthman – July 12

Memberships by Level

Individual – 53

Family – 18

Sustaining – 6

Sponsor – 6

Benefactor – 2

Life Sponsor – 64

Total Memberships – 149

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Projects Report, Sam Beard, Projects Chair



Projects	Since 7/1/25	FY2025 YTD
Trail Maintenance	4	26
Trail Construction	5	37
Painting and Graffiti Removal	3	21
Adopt-a-Highway	0	2
General Projects	14	50
Totals	26	136





Projects Report, Sam Beard, Projects Chair

- Trail Maintenance Led by Bob Lowder and Byron Garner (4 outings)
 - July 7 – Double Eagle and Survey Trails
 - July 21 – 10K South Trail
 - July 28 – North Crest Trail
 - August 4 – Sulphur Canyon – Armijo area Trails

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 (5 outings)
 - July 3 – Wagon Trail extension
 - July 10 – Wagon Trail extension
 - July 17 – Wagon Trail extension
 - July 24 – North Faulty Trail reroute
 - July 31 – North Faulty Trail reroute

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Projects Report, Sam Beard, Projects Chair

- Painting and Graffiti Removal Projects Led by Sam Beard (3 outings)
 - July 1 – Removed graffiti from Juan Tabo PA
 - July 22 – Removed graffiti in Kiwanis Cabin, painted Crest restroom interior, removed Crest tag
 - July 29 – Painted parking lot stripes in Crest Highway sites



Projects Report, Sam Beard, Projects Chair

- General Projects Led by Sam Beard (14 outings)
 - July 2 – Processed donation wood at Pine Flat and Tree Spring Pas
 - July 4 – Removed old recreation site sign on Oak Flat Road
 - July 7 – Installed new recreation site sign on Oak Flat Road
 - July 7 – Repaired Sandia Ranger Station kiosk
 - July 8 – Repaired Sandia Ranger Station kiosk
 - July 9 – Processed donation wood at Ellis TH
 - July 11 – Repaired table at Kiwanis Road gate



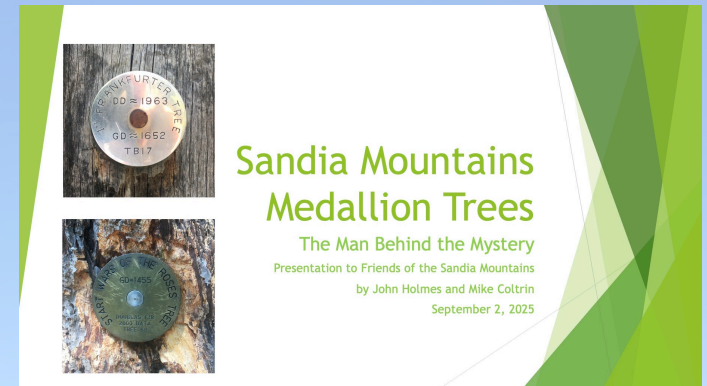
Projects Report, Sam Beard, Projects Chair

- General Projects Led by Sam Beard (14 outings)
 - July 16 – Selected hazard trees along four trails in Crest area
 - July 16 – Removed trees on South Crest and North Faulty Trails
 - July 19 – Removed down tree on N. Faulty Trail and felled trees on Rocky Point Trail
 - July 23 – Felled hazard trees on Rocky Point Trail
 - July 26 – Replaced rotten short post in Doc Long PA
 - July 30 – Felled hazard trees on Gravel Pit Trail
 - August 2 - Replaced four fence rails in Cienega Picnic Area



Future Programs, Cliff Giles, Vice-President

- September 2, 2025 – Medallion trees, John Holmes and Mike Coltrin
- October 7, 2025 – FOSM year-end update and election results, Mike Madden; Guest speaker – Stan Davis, “Earthcaches in the Sandias”



EarthCaches of the Sandias

presented by Stan Davis
prepared for FOSM, October 7th, 2025





Future Programs, Cliff Giles, Vice-President

- Progress relative to 2022 poll of board of directors regarding organizations of interest
- Seeking new VP with fresh program ideas
 - **You don't have to become webmaster!**

Potential FOSM Program Speakers

Organization	Date	Speaker/Comments
La Madera Volunteer Fire Department	7/5/22	Jerry Carroll
NM Volunteers for the Outdoors	5/3/22	Ed DiBello
Southwest Coordination Center -- Dispatch	8/2/22	Elliott Herrera, Albuquerque Interagency Dispatch Center
Bernalillo County Open Space	7/11/23	Adam Splitek
City of Albuquerque Open Space	9/6/22	Jessica Sapunar-Jursich
Albuquerque Mountain Rescue Council	6/6/23	International Mountain Medicine Center, Jason Williams
	8/1/23	Gibola SAR, Shannon Braune
NM Forestry Division	8/6/24	Lawrence Crane, Bernalillo District
Sandia Mountain Natural History Center	9/5/23	Paul Mauermann
Albuquerque Mountain Bike Association	5/2/23	Hannah Russert
FS Kids in the Woods Program		Still active?
NM Cross Country Ski Club	9/3/24	Sam Beard
Sandia Collaborative*	6/1/21	Mike Madden
Talking Talons Youth Leadership	5/7/24	John Ross
Tijeras Creek Watershed Collaborative		Steven Glass, CNM, Sandia Collaborative
Central New Mexico Audubon Chapter		
Cuidad Soil and Water Conservation District		Steven Glass, CNM, Sandia Collaborative
Rocky Mountain Youth Corps	8/5/25	Quinn Mendelson, Conservation Program Director
Sandia Nordic Ski Club*	4/6/21	Scott Dietrich
Albuquerque Wildlife Federation		
The Nature Conservancy in New Mexico		
Think Trees New Mexico		
East Mountain Wildfire Preparedness Association		
East Mountain Regional Trails Council		
New Mexico Mountain Club		
Friends of the Tijeras Pueblo		
505 Cycling		
Albuquerque Road Runners Club		
Backcountry Horsemen of NM		
Boy Scouts of America, Great Southwest Council		
Bureau of Land Management		Jackie Leyba, BLM; participates in Sandia Collaborative
NM Wilderness Alliance		
NM Historic Preservation Division - Sitewatch		
*Presentation preceded ranked-choice poll.		

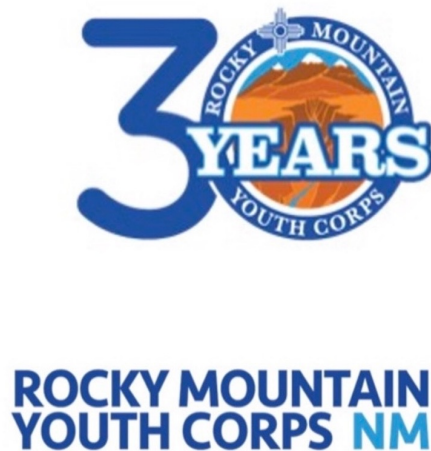


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Program Introduction, Cliff Giles, Vice-President



Quinn
Mendelson



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Program Introduction, Cliff Giles, Vice-President

- Rocky Mountain Youth Corps (<https://www.rockymountainyouthcorps.org>)
 - Engaging young adults in meaningful conservation projects throughout New Mexico for 30 years.
 - Focus
 - Creating a more resilient landscape in the face of an ever-changing world
 - Serving as a stepping-stone to new opportunities
 - Couple intensive training and project work with personal and professional training opportunities
 - Goal: ensure that graduates from the Corps are walking into a professional path that is both rewarding and offers a degree of long-term stability.



Program Introduction, Cliff Giles, Vice-President

- Speaker: Quinn Mendelson, RMYC Conservation Program Director
 - Oversees field programs based out of RMYC's offices in Taos and Albuquerque
 - Focused on outdoor youth development and conservation work for the past decade in New Mexico, Colorado, and the Northeast
 - Albuquerque resident
 - Spends as much of his free time exploring the Sandias as possible
- Will discuss importance of paid landscape stewardship opportunities for young people, share success stories from recent RMYC projects, and explore opportunities for increased partnership and collaboration in the Sandia Mountains and beyond.