

300,000,000BP	Future site of the Sandia Mountains is below sea level at the bottom of a shallow sea.
20,000,000BP	Rio Grande rift began to develop in response to extensional forces within the earth's crust.
10,000,000BP	Sandia Mtns began to form on the eastern edge of the Rio Grande rift.
10,000BP	Sandia Mtns were much the same as they are today. Sandia Man Cave was occupied by early hunters. Bones of mammoths, mastodons, camels, & bison were <i>reported</i> to be found embedded in the cave floor sediments.
1313	Tijeras Pueblo inhabited until it was abandoned by 1370. The site was reoccupied from 1390 to 1425
1680	<b>Pueblo Indian Revolt:</b> At least 5 Spanish mines in the Sandia foothills, which included the Montezuma Mine, were in operation at the time. The Spanish used Indian slaves from Cochiti, San Felipe, Santa Domingo, & Sandia Pueblos to work the mines. The Indians sealed and hid the mine entrances after the revolt.
1706	<b>Albuquerque founded</b> by Governor Francisco Cuerva Valdez in honor of Duque de Albuquerque.
1711	What is now known as the "Elena Gallegos Land Grant" was awarded to Captain Diego Montoya
1748	Massive fires in Southwest U.S. Very dry year in Sandias with only 20% of normal tree ring growth.
1763	Settlers locate in Carnuel; abandoned in 1770 due to Apache raids; resettled in 1819.
1767	Las Huertas (later Placitas) was occupied by settlers; abandoned in 1774 & reoccupied by 1840.
1776	<b>United States declared independence from England.</b>
1800 (circa)	Road of the oxen (El Camino de Los Bueyes) passed by the springs at future site of Sandia Park.
1819? or 1822?	A great fire burned many trees in the Sandias. 1819 & 1822 were dry years in the Sandias & therefore likely fire years.
1819	San Antonio was settled by 22 families at the ancient pueblo ruins of San Antonio north of Tijeras.
1819	Tijeras was settled less than a year after the settlement of San Antonio. Water was more available along Tijeras Creek.
1821	<b>Mexican rule replaced Spanish influence in the New Mexico Territory</b>
1821	Trade over the Santa Fe Trail began. More Americans began filtering into the region.
1826 or later	Canoncito was settled by Juan Nuanes et al. Apache attacks slowed growth. More settlers arrived in the late 1850s.
1828	Placer Gold discovered in Ortiz Mtns; may have intensified mining interest in Sandia Mtns.
1844	San Antonito was settled possibly by a feuding group split from San Antonio.
1846	<b>Mexico relinquishes control of New Mexico to the United States</b>
1851	Massive fires in Southwest U.S. Mildly dry year in Sandias with 80% of normal tree ring growth.
1853, 10 Oct	Dr Bigelow & Jules Marconi did the first recorded climb to the Sandia Crest summit.
1858	U.S. Army made a dirt wagon road through Tijeras Canyon to replace a narrow horse trail.
1861	Massive fires in Southwest U.S. Start of 3 very dry years in Sandias with about 30% of normal tree ring growth.
1861 - 1865	<b>Civil War in the United States</b>
1862, March	A brigade of Confederate troops camped for a week at San Antonio on their way to defeat at the battle of Glorieta.
1867 - 1903	A railroad grade was surveyed and possibly constructed through Tijeras Canyon but then abandoned in 1903
1870	Leonard Skinner "The San Antonito Lumber King" opened a large saw mill in the vicinity of Doc Long Picnic Ground.
1874, 27 June	Charlotte Ellis was born in Joliet Ill. She collected plant specimens & documented much of the flora of the Sandia Mtns in the early 1900s. She lived at the Ellis Ranch in Las Huertas Canyon.
1879	Massive fires in Southwest U.S. Start of 2 very dry years in Sandias with about 70% and 20% of normal growth.
1881	Pipeline (15 miles long) constructed from Sandia Mtns to supply water for the placer mines near the San Pedro Mtns. Source of the water was a small dam below the Las Huertas P.G.. A road was built from Placitas to the dam site when the pipeline was constructed. Ex General & President U. S. Grant proposed the pipeline & had it built.
1887	La Luz ore vein discovered below Sandia Crest by Juan Nieto; the vein was then lost and not rediscovered until 1907.
1892	Puerto Nambe forest fire in the Santa Fe National Forest burns for two months. 1887 was cited by a different source
1893	George Ellis, a Civil War veteran, established a 160 acre homestead in Las Huertas Canyon. Ellis built a trail from the road's end up Las Huertas Canyon to access his ranch. A trail from La Madera via Lagunita Seca was also used.
1893	Tijeras was at the junction of primitive roads: East to west through Sedillo to Albuquerque and north to south from Santa Fe through Cedro Canyon.
1894 to 1904	Mines at Bland & Albemarle in the Jemez were in their most active years.
1897	Francisco Duran started homesteading at Piedra Lisa tract in South Fork of del Agua Canyon. He built a house, fences, & irrigation ditches. This property was later acquired by the Sandia Pueblo who then traded it to the USFS.
1900 to 1914	Charlotte C. Ellis (daughter of George) collected several hundred different plant species in the Sandia Mtns. She did this in cooperation with the leading NM plant biologists at the time. Her plant specimens can be found in herbariums throughout the country.
1906	George Ellis' son Augie shot the last recorded grizzly bear in the Sandia Mtns.
1907	H. B. Hammond became the first Forest Ranger for the 100,555 acre Sandia District. Turkeys, deer, & bear were plentiful. Almost no roads existed in the area at the time.
1909 to 1921	"La Luz Mine" in operation (originally named the "Ruppe Mine" after its owner). Access to the mine was by precursor to the La Luz Trail.
1909	"Well Country Camp" was established by Larry Glasebrook, a Chicago physician with tuberculosis (now Hobbies).

1910	William Henry "Doc" Long, a forest pathologist, lived in a cabin and studied at the site of Doc Long Picnic Ground.
1912, 6 Jan	<b>New Mexico becomes the 47th State of the union.</b>
1912	George Ellis died & was buried at his homestead in Las Huertas Canyon next to his mother's grave.
1917	Rev. Hugh A. Cooper bought the Ellis Ranch from Charlotte Ellis for \$10,000.
1917 to 1918	<b>United States Involvement in World War I</b>
1918, 22 Feb	Peter M. Totemoff was born in Alaska well before it became a state. Pete was to be an important figure in fire fighting, forestry, & the Ski industry in the Sandia Mtns as well as the entire SW region.
1920, approx.	A single wire phone line was constructed from Placitas to La Madera or Sandia Park. The line was abandoned in about 1950. There were only about 14 phones on line. Traces of its poles, wire, and route can still be found.
1920, approx.	A fish hatchery was in operation in the ponds below the Tunnel Spring outlet until about 1948. Fish grown there were sold as food for those living in the vicinity.
1920	"Lorenzo Log Trough" constructed in 1920 or later (youngest annular growth ring found on trough dates to 1920)
1920s	The road through Tijeras Canyon was widened, paved, and made part of rerouted Route 66.
1921	Carl Webb, a 21 year old with tuberculosis, settled in what is now Cedar Crest and opened the "Cedar Crest Resort".
1921	"Sandia Wildlife Refuge" was established and firearms were banned in the Sandia Mountains.
1924, Oct	The road from Placitas to San Antonito, via Balsam Glade, was completed and a formal dedication was held.
1924	Hugh P. & Lester Cooper donated a 70 Acre portion of their ranch to the Presbyterian Church. The Church used it for youth conferences from mid 1920s until World War II. It is still owned and used by the church.
1925, 5 Oct	Balsam Glade Picnic Grounds dedicated; 700 people attended.
1925	Capulin Mine near Capulin Peak started mining operations.
1925	Cedar Crest & Sandia Park became communities with the establishment of post offices.
1927	A water storage lake built at one of four springs in Sandia Park. H. B. Hammond was the developer of Sandia Park.
1928	Original road to Sandia Crest completed. Road was primitive and called a truck trail. Improved in 1940s by CCC.
1929, 4 July	Original log Kiwanis Observation Cabin completed & dedicated on ridge south of Sandia Crest.
1930	Carl Magee, founder of the Albuquerque Tribune, purchased the Carlito Springs Property previously called "Whitcomb Springs" (named for a Union Civil War veteran who homesteaded it). Magee renamed his property "Carlito Springs" for Carl, his deceased son.
1931	National Forest name changed from Manzano to Cibola.
1932	The first attempt to transplant bighorn sheep to the Sandias failed. Banff NP supplied 6 sheep in the effort.
1933 to 1941	CCC projects active during this period in the Sandias. These projects included picnic grounds, buildings, road improvements, & trails. A CCC camp was set up in Sulfur Canyon & later moved north of Tinkertown location.
1933	Three navigation light structures were constructed in the Sandias at South Sandia Peak, South of the Tram Terminal, & at North Sandia Peak. Acetylene gas for the lights was supplied from numerous steel cylinders in the enclosures.
1935	Start YMCA summer camp at Balsam Glade; ran until 1941 (Balsam Glade's white fir trees looked like balsam firs).
1935	Picnic shelter constructed by CCC at Doc Long Picnic Ground; Tree ring dating suggests that South Sandia Spr & Bear trail shelters were also built in late 1934 or early 1935 by the CCC; It's also likely that the Embudito Trail Shelter was built in 1934.
1936	Kiwanis Log Cabin rebuilt by CCC using limestone. Also Nordhaus cleared small ski slope at Tree Spring vicinity.
1936	Tilton's Store & Post Office was opened at Sandia Park around 1936 by a tubercular man named Vance Tilton.
1937	Nordhaus & others cleared a 15 to 20ft wide ski slope from site of present Lodge to the main Sandia summit ridge. They also constructed a 1500ft rope lift.
1937, 18 July	A light plane crashed on the east mesa 200 yards north of US 66 near the Sandia Mtn foothills. Two young student pilots, Horace Ross & Harold Kimmell were killed in the crash. Their airplane was a 2 seated tandem Taylor Cub.
1938, 22 June	Two young men, Richard Whitmar & Medill McCormick were killed climbing the Shield in the north Sandias. Before their bodies were found, kidnapping for ransom was suspected because of the McComick family wealth.
1940	First successful transplant of big horn sheep (3) in the Sandias from Banff NP, Canada.
1941, 17 Nov	Northrop A-17 US Army Air Corps attack bomber crashed in the middle fork of Bear Canyon in clear weather. Both the Pilot and Navigator were killed in the crash. The fuselage burned and melted. The engine (14 cylinder, dual row radial), propeller, wings, and various parts still at the site in 2012.
1941 to 1945	<b>United States Involvement in World War II</b>
1942	Bighorn sheep released in Sandia Mtns. The herd thrived for years but then they gradually died off due to lung disease by the 1980s. This may be the same sheep reported released in 1940 or a second release???
1944	First recorded ascent of the "Needle": William Elam & companions.
1944, 16 Nov	A C-47 Military airplane crashed on the east slope of the north Sandia Mtns. There were 5 survivors out of 12 people on board. After waiting a couple days for rescue, two of the survivors found their way to Placitas to get help.
1945	Sandia Crest Antenna Farm's first antenna erected. Use of the 3 navigation beacons along the main Sandia ridge line was ended after World War II.
1946	Vance Tilton died. Tilton's store in Sandia Park closed in 1970.
1946	Power line to Sandia Crest installed up the east slope of the mountain. A spur line went to the Ski Area.
1951	All stock grazing removed from the Sandia Mountains.
1951	Charlie & Shirley Hobbie purchased the "Well Country Camp" property and renamed it the "Hobbies Mountain"

	Resort". Penny Lane, the access road, is named for their daughter Penny.
1952, 23 Jan	The <i>New Mexico Mountain Club</i> was founded by Bill Stamm & Monte Lawton. "Albuquerque Hiking Club" was its name of origin. The club provides a means for people of many interests to share their knowledge of the Sandias with others.
1952, 7 July	A Navy World War II Grumman JRF-5 "Goose" amphibious twin engine airplane crashed south of Cienega Canyon Trail at 8750 ft elevation on a flight from Wichita Falls, Texas to Kirtland AFB. The five people on board were all killed in the crash. Some of the wreckage has been removed, but most of the wings, one engine, nose and tail parts of the fuselage, and misc fragments remain at the site as of Dec 2009.
1953	Bernalillo Watershed Conservation Project began. Contour furrows graded in the vicinity of Del Agua Canyon foothills.
1954, 8 Oct	A Navion low wing (4 place) airplane crashed at 0.5 mile north of the CCC Trail at about 9075 ft elevation. The pilot was able to walk east out of the mountains with only minor injuries. Much of the wreckage is still at site in 2018.
1955, 19 Feb	TWA flight 260, a Martin 404 Airliner, crashed west of the future site of the upper tram terminal in a fork of Domingo Baca Canyon. All 16 persons aboard the flight were killed. Much of the wreckage was left at the site. It crashed at 7:09 AM Saturday in thick clouds; It was found Monday. The Martin 404 had two 18 cylinder, dual row radial engines; Cause of crash was probably compass malfunction & near zero local visibility.
1958, 20 Mar	Navigation light structure on South Peak still completely intact. Acetylene cylinders for the gas beacon light still inside it (photo).
1958	Start construction of Ideal Cement Plant in Tijeras. Plant dedicated in May 1959
1959, 12 Feb	The three \$7,000 navigation beacons at N. & S. Sandia peaks plus the one south of the Tram terminal have been removed for scrap. The land they occupied has been transferred back from the Air Force to the Forest Service. They were officially decommissioned 18 months previously, but ceased operation at the end of World War II.
1960 - 1970	Several Hippie Communes were established in the Placitas area. "U.S. Grant", a commune leader, was suspected of murdering two commune members around 1970. He fled and the Hippies gradually also left the region.
1960	First recorded ascent of the "Thumb" on ridge south of La Luz Trail: David Hammack & Don Lundergan.
1960, 20 Aug	Dedication of a new road to Sandia Crest. Paving stopped at La Madera Ski Area (not paved yet on 6 Aug 1961 photo).
1961, 2 Dec at ~7:30 PM	A twin engine Piper Aztec PA-23 crashed at the main Sandia ridge line north of South Sandia Pk. Four California occupants, all killed in the crash, were flying to Texas to attend Ross Aviation School to get advanced pilot training. The plane missed clearing the ridge by about one foot with all the wreckage just east of the ridge 1/2 mile north of South Peak. Parts of the fuselage, wings, and tail assembly are still at the site at the top of a small knoll in July 2010.
1961 or 1962	The movie <i>Lonely Are The Brave</i> , starring Kirk Douglas, was filmed in the western Sandias.
1962	Tinkertown carving projects started at Sandia Park by Ross Ward.
1962, 27 Jan	The Embudito Trail Shelter still standing & in good condition (photo). On 24 Oct 1964 hiked to trail shelter and assume it was still standing on this date.
1962	Robert Nordhaus formed the "Sandia Peak and Tram Co.". He died in Feb 2007 at age of 97.
1963, 13 Apr	My final hike using Carlito Spring Trailhead for South Crest Trail. Resumed using this trail in the 1980s from Canyon Estates Trailhead.
1963, 27 July	My first hike using the recently moved south terminus of the Crest Trail at Canyon Estates (previously at Carlito Spr).
1964	16 big horn sheep from Sandia herd were successfully transplanted to the Gila wilderness.
1964, 24 Apr	Hiked lowest portion of new La Luz Trail in hike to Crest.
1964, May	Begin construction of Sandia Tramway.
1964, 12 July	A Piper Comanche PA24 crashed in cloudy weather on east slope of Sandias at about 8200ft and 0.4 miles north of the CCC Trail. The plane broke up upon impact killing the four occupants. Fragments are still at site in 2009.
1964, 14 Nov	Found A-17 crash site in Bear Canyon. Engine new in 1937. Last inspection 3 Aug 1941. Crashed 17 Nov 1941, about 3 weeks before Pearl Harbor attack. Both crew members died in the crash. Most of wreckage still at site.
1965, 2 Jan	Work in progress on middle segment of the re-routed La Luz Trail; Knudsen & Lewis contractors.
1965, 16 Jan	Met Milo Conrad for the first time (he initiated the effort to create the North Sandia Wilderness Area).
1965, 13 Feb	My first snowshoe hike (old Tree Spring Trail).
1965, 15 Feb	Supreme Court Justice William O Douglas (66 yrs old) had to be rescued on an ill-planned Forest Service led snowshoe hike from Sandia Crest down the La Luz trail to Juan Tabo trailhead.
1965, 10 Apr	Small trail bulldozer was lying on its side below a section of the middle La Luz trail. It was probably pushed off the trail.
1965, 13 Jun	The Tram cables are hanging loose from 2nd tower.
1965, 24 Jul	Noticed Crest Trail east of North peak has been re-aligned.
1966, 7 May	Sandia Tramway held its grand opening.
1966, 29 Oct	My first day to work on Upper La Luz Trail (rock slide area); Jim Shelton of Datil was crew chief & Jay Parker was trail foreman. Upper trail section was to be finished by mid Nov (Due to early snow they didn't finish it until following spring). This contract covered from bottom of the rock slide to Summit House. My pay scale was \$2.03 per hr.
1966, 7 Nov	RB57F Crashed east of Kiwanis Meadow road; 2 crewmen killed; Entire wreck was removed except small fragments.



1966, 19 Nov 1967 Trail crew has moved all their equipment from the trail to the Summit House for winter.  
APS acquired a 128 acre parcel of land in the east mountains from the state & began teaching 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> grade New Mexico students about the environment.

1967, 3 Jun New La Luz Trail opened from parking lot to Summit House.

1967, 2 July Start of a forest fire that burned the upper 2/3 of Waterfall Canyon. Found one tree still burning on 15 July.

1967, 7 Oct Hiked new Tree Spring Trail & Sandia Crest Trail segment from Tree Spr Tr jct to Sandia Crest parking lot for 1<sup>st</sup> time

1967, 28 Oct Found a plane crash site in Tres Pisos Canyon east of the spring at 8320 ft elev below & west of main Sandia ridge.

1967, 5 Nov Sandia Man Cave Trail under construction. Trail rebuilt and widened by 25 June 1994.

1968, 2 May Hiked with Forest Service Managers & Conservationists to look over proposed route for a Crest to Placitas Scenic Highway. A survey crew was marking the route as we passed thru the area. Noticed road cut cleared at junction with Crest Trail near source of Del Agua Canyon on 27 June 1970. The scenic highway was never built.

1968, 22 Dec Crest trail is being re-routed to the ridge from top of Tree spring Trail to Tram Terminal (not completed yet)

1969 Charlie Hobbie died of leukemia.

1969, June First recorded ascent of "Donald Duck Rock" in La Cueva Canyon: Larry Kline & Keith Wrolstad.

1970 Larry Kline published the first hiker & climber guidebook to the Sandias titled *Guide to the Sandia Mountains*.

1970, 1 Mar Trail shelter at South Sandia Spring knocked down recently. Decaying logs can still be found at the site in 2009.

1970, 1 Dec A double murder was committed at a Hippie colony at about 5700ft in Las Huertas canyon north of Placitas. Their leader, Donald Waskey (A.K.A. U.S. Grant) was suspected in the murders. The entire group quickly fled the state. In 1988 U.S. Grant & his wife were believed to have been murdered & burned to death in a cabin fire in northern Idaho.

1972, 1 July Road to La Luz Trailhead closed for first time paving.

1973, Nov First hang glider flight from Sandia Crest.

1973, Dec **Twin Towers of the World Trade Center's construction complete.**

1974 George D. Hankins, a prominent figure relating to major events in the Sandias from late 1940s, died at the age of 76. At the time of his death he had earned the title "Old Man of the Mountains".

1974, 1 Apr Rescue of 4 lost hikers in Chimney Canyon. Two had to be carried out due to injured feet. Trail at this time was covered by a lot of dead fall which was mostly cleared to get the litters through. Trail had been blazed in 1966.

1974, 12 Oct 10K Trail cleared from its jct with the Tree Spring Trail to its Del Agua Overlook jct with the Crest Trail. Prior to this clearing, the trail had ceased being used and was blocked by years of fallen trees & branches. Old maps showed it as a "Pack Trail". I believe John Southwick named it the "10K Trail" because of its approx elevation of 10,000 feet.

1974, 30 Nov First work noticed on Faulty Trail (Upper Faulty section). It was first called the Diamond Trail or Mystery Trail.

1975, 26 Feb at 3:00 PM Charles Herndon & a student pilot practicing instrument flying in a Piper PA-23 Crashed into the west face of the Sandia Mtns (9350ft elev) between Pino & Bear Canyons. The pilot & student were killed in the crash.

1976 Tracey Tarbox, 22 yr old daughter of Dave Tarbox, died in a tragic fall while hiking the Crest Trail.

1976, 1 May Faulty Trail completed to Canoncito Spring from Upper Faulty junction with Crest Trail.

1976, 23 Oct First noticed Crest Trail re-alignment from Sandia Crest to Tunnel Spring trailhead. It's now routed west of the Wall and then circles east around the Del Orno Trail adding several extra miles to its length.

1977 Mike Hill published *Hikers & Climbers Guide to the Sandias*. It was revised & updated in 1983.

1977, 25 Jun Sandias closed to hiking due to very dry conditions. Small tree ring year (30% of normal) due to lack of rain. Major forest fire burning in Bandelier National Monument.

1978 North Sandia Mountain Wilderness created (30,981 acres).

1978 Douglas Fir tussock moth infestation kills mid-mountain (~8500 ft) band of fir trees in vicinity of Bart's Trail.

1978, 6 May Very bad ice storm in SE part of Sandias the previous day. Many downed trees & broken branches.

1978, 10 Nov Flood control dam in Embudo Canyon under construction.

1979, 17 Apr Main Faulty Trail section from south Crest Trail to Casa Loma Saddle (jct with upper Faulty segment) completed.

1979, 13 June Bart's Trail completed by this date (first version that followed the canyon bottom above Canoncito Trailhead).

1979, 23 Dec First Fire Break from Canoncito road to Crest Highway gravel quarry either in process or completed. Forest Service has cut trees on private land (they thought was National Forest land) on Hymenoxys Hill & Ridge NE of Canoncito Spring.

1980, 14 June Noticed that Embudito Trail Shelter had been torn down. It was standing on 14 Oct 1978 (photo).

1980 Royce Fletcher created the "FletcherTrail" up Juan Tabo Canyon around the base of UNM Spire to Dripping Spring scenic view point at the base of the Ramp.

1981 Elena Gallegos Grant land transferred to the Forest Service adding about 7000 acres to the Sandia Wilderness increasing its total acreage to 37,877 acres.

1981, 12 Sept Road work in progress for widening Sandia Crest spur highway.

1982, 29 May The Upper Crest highway in process of being widened & rebuilt. Open but not paved yet.

1983, fall "Tinkertown" opened to public along Crest Highway by Ross Ward. His carving project began about 1962.

1984 Kay Matthews published *Hiking Trails of the Sandia & Manzano Mountains*.

1984, 28 Apr The Faulty Trail section from Canoncito Spring to Cienega Trail completed.

1984, 31 May Bad wet snow storm bent, shattered, & toppled many trees in Sandias from about 6500ft to 8000ft.

1985, Aug A new paved road goes into Elena Gallegos Picnic Ground.

1987, 31 Jan	New paved parking lot built at Embudo Canyon Trailhead sometime after 25 June 1986.
1987, 7 Nov	A new paved parking lot at Canyon Estates trailhead is finished.
1988, 6 Aug	A new enlarged parking lot is built at Tree Spring Trailhead.
1988, 1 Oct	Forest Service extends Faulty Trail from Cienega Trail to Sulphur Canyon bottom. The actual Faulty Trail continues from Sulphur Canyon bottom to Barro Canyon parking area & then eventually continues north by Lagunita Seca & terminates at Sandia Man Cave parking lot trail head.
1988, 29 Oct	First hike on Pino Trail from Elena Gallegos picnic area to Crest Trail at main ridge where the Cienega trail tops out.
1989, 1 Apr	A new unpaved parking lot & trailhead for south Piedra Lisa Tank Trail. New trailhead moved about 0.4 miles south of old parking area.
1989, 6 Aug	Student pilot committed suicide by flying Cessna 172M into Whiskey Peak (near Thumb) at 9000ft level.
1989, 14 Oct	My First hike to Hawkwatch Saddle. The trail is just a path at this time but is gradually improved as the years go by.
1989	Many hungry bears came down into Albuquerque in search of food. Very dry year in Sandias (40% of normal growth).
1990, 26 May	Hiked Oso Corredor Trail from Sulfur Canyon bottom to its junction with Tree Spring Trail for the first time.
1990, June	The "Cooper Fire" burned between Capulin Peak & slightly below the Las Huertas Canyon road in Capulin Canyon.
1990, July 26	Pete M. Totemoff, an Aleut Indian from Alaska, died at Elephant Butte Lake at age 72. He came to NM in 1939 where he played a key role in design & development of most NM ski areas, including La Madera in the Sandias. Pete was expert at ski lift design & construction & one of the top skiers in the country. He was also one of the first snow rangers, working 30 years for the Forest Service in that capacity and also as a skillful fire fighting boss.
1991, 16 Nov	Major ice storm & 12 inches of new snow caused much tree damage from ice & wet snow on south end of Faulty Trail.
1992	Fayette "Bart" Barton Jr. died at age 65. He was the builder of Bart's Trail linking Canoncito Trailhead west to the Crest Trail at the main Sandia ridgeline.
1992, 22 Aug	Short new Forest Service trail section bypasses Media Spring from 10K trail toward Osha Spring.
1993	The New Mexico Museum of Natural History & Science has joined in the operation of the East Mountain APS Facility. The name has been changed to the <i>Sandia Mountain Natural History Center</i> .
1994, 6 April	Extension of the actual Faulty Trail from Sulphur Canyon to the Crest Highway at Barro Canyon completed.
1996, 23 June	Three climbers were tragically killed when they fell up to 817ft from the Muralla Grande Cliff in Chimney Canyon. The lead climber had actually reached the top of their route called the "Warp Moople". He then fell or was pulled off the top by the climber below falling from a precarious belay point. This was the highest fatality for a single climbing accident in the Sandias.
1996	Second major forest fire in Bandelier in recent years included summit of St. Peter's Dome. Very dry year in Sandias (20% of normal tree ring growth) with short trail closure period.
1997	Friends of the Sandia Mountains was organized by Sam Beard et al. The group is comprised of volunteers that work with the Forest Service to protect and maintain the Sandia & Manzanita Mtns.
1997	Tres Pistoles Canyon Open Space established. It provides a corridor to the Three Gun Spring Trail.
1997, 5 April	Tram preparing to replace main track cables. Replacement completed in May.
1998, 18 Mar	Major wet ice / snow storm snapped branches plus breaking off & uprooting many trees. Most damage was to Pinyons from about 7000 to 8500ft elevation throughout the Sandia mountain range.
1998, 27 June	Million dollar Crest Observation Platform upgrade completed. In some respects it's not as good as it originally was.
1999, 20 Jan	Cessna P210N crashed in Pino Canyon; Pilot & 2 passengers killed in crash. Vacuum & instrument failure contributed to loss of control. Excessive terminal vertical dive speed resulted in left wing separation prior to impact.
1999, 9 Oct	Crest trail rebuilt from Canyon Estates to Travertine Caves by WD Enterprises (WD for Wild Dog #1). 1Km length.
2000, 4 May	The Jemez Cerro Grande prescribed burn was ignited by the National Park Service. It got out of control and burned 48,000 acres of forest and the homes of 400 Los Alamos families.
2000 ??	Parking lot completed at 10K Trailhead on Crest Highway. It is paved and includes parking on both sides of the road.
2000? to 2002?	New fire break constructed near east Cibola Forest boundary from about Canoncito to Cienega or Sulphur Canyon.
2000, 19 Oct	Faulty Trail extended north from Barro Canyon parking lot on Crest Highway to bottom of Madera Canyon.
2000, 11 Dec	Carlito Springs property purchase for \$1.5 million was finalized by Bernalillo County. It is a 177 acre tract to be used as "open space". Just what that use will include has not been disclosed yet (2012).
2001, 14 Mar	Lowest section of original La Luz has been cleared from Juan Tabo Road at ~6650ft to trail ridge at ~7380ft.
2001, 19 Mar	I found my 1 <sup>st</sup> Medallion Tree on the south Crest Trail. It & many other trees have been named & tagged for an event that occurred near the date they germinated (GD). Over the years I & other hikers have found over 70 such trees mostly along Sandia trails. The tags are 2 inch diameter brass or aluminum discs with name & date engraved on the surface.
2001, spring	Road to Canoncito Trailhead closed due to dispute between Forest Service & homeowners over maintenance costs.
2001, 11 Sept	<b>Twin Towers of the World Trade Center collapsed following aircraft impacts.</b>
2001, 22 Oct	"Canoncito Cutoff Trail" has been cleared of deadfall & new growth from below pools north to Tonque-Tijeras Divide.
2001	Forest Service made a large meadow southwest of the 10K Trail parking lot.
2002, 13 Apr	Faulty Trail extended from Madera Canyon bottom north to meadow at Lagunita Seca.
2002, Oct	Settlement reached in Sandia Pueblo's claim to the NW face of the Sandia Mtns. The disputed land remains under Forest Service management but the Sandia Pueblo Indians have special use considerations and veto power over any

- future development plans.
- 2002, 13 Nov Ross J. Ward, creator of "Tinkertown Museum" died at age 62.
- 2002 Forest Service made another large meadow northeast of the 10K Trail parking lot.
- 2003 **The set of instructions (genetic code) for assembling a human being has finally been determined but only partially understood.**
- 2003, March I found a path from Crest Trail near Canon Estates trailhead to Carlito Springs complex.
- 2003 The 22 foot tall Aluminum Yucca erected in Tijeras Canyon was created by Gordon Huether with salvaged fuel tanks from military aircraft.
- 2003 & 2004 IPS beetle infestation killed pinyons in large isolated patches in Sandias & other parts of the state.
- 2003, 3 Dec Faulty Trail extended north about 1.3 miles from Lagunita Seca to Fantastic Cliffs overlook
- 2004 & 2005 Tussock moth infestation in Pino Canyon killed clusters of white fir trees.
- 2004, Feb New Mex Game & Fish Dept released wild turkeys (3 toms & 18 hens) near Balsam Glade picnic ground.
- 2005 Jim Koehler published *Answers*, a novel inspired by his extensive investigation of the Nov 16, 1944 crash of a military C-47 in the northeast Sandias. The story is fictional but there are many parallels to the actual event. Jim has also written an unpublished factual account of the crash & investigation.
- 2005, Mar Two new books dedicated exclusively to the Sandia Mountains were released: (1) *Sandia Mountain Hiking Guide* by Mike Coltrin. (2) *Field Guide to the Sandia Mountains* edited by Robert Julian & Mary Stuever.
- 2006, 17 Feb The Tussock moth infestation in Pino Canyon's north facing slope has defoliated all Douglas fir & white fir trees from about 7700ft to 8600ft. Trees below 7300ft are healthy. Trees above 8600ft are partly defoliated. From the base of the mtns it appears the same infestation may be occurring in Domingo Baca Canyon as well.
- 2006, 6 Oct **Albuquerque celebrates the tri-centennial anniversary of its founding in 1706**
- 2006, 6 Oct Numerous LED light sources were placed along the Sandia Crest ridge line to celebrate the cities tri-centennial. The display was lighted for a couple of hours after dark and visible in Albuquerque and vicinity.
- 2006, 26 Oct Faulty Trail extended from Fantastic Cliffs west to within 0.3 miles of Sandia Man Cave Trail parking lot. A path connects the end of the completed trail to the parking lot.
- 2006 A new book, *Towns of the Sandia Mountains* by Mike Smith was published.
- 2006, 14 Oct "Larry's Trail" completed from Faulty Trail to Crest Trail in the Lorenzo Canyon vicinity between Bart's & CCC trails.
- 2006, 17 Nov 12 adult turkeys seen at Lagunita Seca pond. Later on 22 Sept 5 adult turkeys seen ~1 mile north of Palomas Peak.
- 2007, Apr A 63 acre parcel of land between Hawkwatch Saddle & Historic Route 66 has been acquired by Albuquerque to be added to its Open Space land. The cost was \$630,000 dollars.
- 2007, 16 June at approx 8:00 PM A 2 engine 1980 Beechcraft 58 Baron piloted by Dr Robert Iacono of Loma Linda Calif crashed into the west face of the Sandias at about 10,000 ft elevation. The crash site is about 0.14 miles south of North Sandia Peak summit. **The pilot, a neurosurgeon, was killed in the crash. He was the only occupant.**
- 2007, 12 Oct Faulty Trail extended north to Sandia Man Cave parking lot. Total Faulty Trail length is now approx 16 miles.
- 2007, 27 Oct Palomas Cliffs Trail cleared & upgraded from Las Huertas Rd. to end of cliff traverse section by Forest Service & climber volunteers
- 2007, 17 Nov A route has been cleared from Palomas Climbers Trail to summit of Palomas Peak.
- 2007, Nov A one hour TV documentary featuring the Sandia Mountains & the neighboring towns was shown on public television.
- 2007, Dec Wild Turkeys &/or their tracks have now been sighted throughout the entire Sandia Mtn Range.
- 2008, Feb A parcel of Sandia Pueblo land in the south fork of del Agua Canyon that crosses the Piedra Lisa Trail has been transferred to the Forest Service. In exchange part of the western Del Agua Canyon was transferred to the pueblo.
- 2008, 18 May A cougar attacked a 5 yr old boy walking with his family on the Balsam Glade nature trail near dusk. His injuries were serious but not life threatening.
- 2008, Aug Del Agua Trail has been re-routed to the north of its former location to avoid newly acquired Sandia Pueblo land where the canyon exits the mountains. The new Del Agua trailhead has been moved to the Piedra Lisa north trailhead. Most of the new trail from Piedra Lisa Trailhead to Del Agua Canyon is of very poor quality and needs to be upgraded to trail quality.
- 2008, 8 Nov Wreckage from the 16 June 2007 plane crash south of N. Sandia Peak was removed from the mountain by helicopter to the 10K Trailhead parking lot. From there it was loaded on a flatbed truck and taken to an undisclosed destination.
- 2008, 8 Nov A combination trail / path has been cleared from the NW end of the climber's traverse trail that runs below the top Palomas cliff up to the Palomas Peak ridge where it connects to the trail that accesses the SE end of the Palomas Peak ridge. This trail provides a scenic loop from Lagunita Seca Meadow that includes the summit of Palomas Peak.
- 2008, 15 Nov **Located the crash site of a Navy World War II Grumman JRF-5 "Goose" amphibious twin engine airplane south of Cienega Canyon Trail at 8750 ft elevation. The plane crashed July 7, 1952 on a flight from Wichita Falls, Texas to Kirtland AFB. Much of the wreckage is still at the site (2010).**
- 2010, 1 May Cienega Canyon above the picnic ground to Big Rock Spring is in a state of devastation due to death of all white & Douglas firs in the canyon bottom. The Forest Service has cut all the dead trees down & cleared a route where the trail was. It is an ugly mess. This work was done before 1 May.
- 2010, 27 June A bear attacked a camper at Dry Camp PG at approx 3:00 AM. She fought off the bear and escaped with minor bites to the hip & calf muscles. The campers had food stored in their tent drawing the bear into the tent where the attack



	occurred. The bear was trapped the next day and euthanized.
2010, 3 July	The painted "EYE" on a rock face along a trail SE of the "U" (near the east end of Copper Ave), which earlier had been removed has now been restored to match the original. This happened sometime before 3 July.
2010, 6 July	Revisited Cienega Canyon Devastation: All the cut tree sections near the trail have been sawed into splitting length sections and neatly stacked along the trail (up to Big Rock Spring) for fire wood gatherers to remove. Brush has been placed in piles to be burned when it's safe. All is now set up for the canyon to eventually return to its former state of beauty.
2011, Jan 10	Albuquerque purchased 66 acres in Tijeras Arroyo for addition to its "open space" holdings. Its location is just east of the road to Four Hills subdivision from Central Ave.. It is comprised of the Tijeras arroyo bottom and its immediate vicinity.
2011, 27 May	Bob Cooper of Cedar Crest died at age 83. He was owner of the LS Cooper Ranch and was involved in many other Sandia Mountain activities including positions with the Forest Service and Sandia Peak Ski Area. Bob's wife Kay died 11 Sept, 2010. They are survived by their four children who most likely inherited the LS Cooper Ranch.
2011, 30 July	A short segment (0.2 miles) of the Survey Trail has been re-aligned where it crossed the Crest Highway. The rather high guard rail made the original route difficult for short people & horseback riders to cross the highway.
2011, 20 June	Road access to Canoncito Trailhead & Cole Spr Picnic Ground denied by property owners. Also on this date all Sandia trails except ski area were closed due to extreme fire hazard. Later all Sandia roads were closed until access was permitted again on 23 July 2011. <b>Canoncito Trail access road has remained closed to the public.</b>
2011, Dec	Capulin Snow play area & picnic grounds are open after extensive remodeling. It had been completely and/or partially closed for a couple of years.
2012, 28 Jan	The eastern Sandia Wilderness boundary line is being cleared of trees and shrubs making a narrow corridor. The clearing was noticed where it crossed the Faulty Trail near Bart's Trail junction. Ribbons were seen along the boundary at other trail crossings.
2012, 25 Feb	The Forest Service is cutting a 0.25 mile wide fire break along its eastern boundary from Tijeras north to the Crest Highway. On this date cutting is being done at the Forest Park Trail & Lorenzo Canyon.
2012, 9 May	The Sandia Ranger District planned to cut the Wilderness Information Specialist (WIS) Program from about 90 people to about 10. Keeping records for so many people got to be difficult. The WIS name was also dropped.
2013, 24 Mar	Drought conditions in the Sandias are perhaps as bad as the early 1950s. The only stream flow in Cienega Canyon is a short low-flow stretch next to the main meadow. Most of the other springs in the Sandias are very weak or dry.
2013, 29 Mar	Carlos Cox fell to his death while solo climbing the Trident on the upper La Luz Tr.
2014, 24 Apr	Bill Stamm died at age 99. He was a co-founder of the New Mexico Mountain Club in 1952
2014, 16 Aug	The Carlito Springs Open Space parcel was finally opened to the public. It is comprised of a parking lot, a group of restored buildings, a spring with a descending series of pools, and a 1.7 mile loop trail.
2014, 15 Nov	Sandia Tram re-opened after the main haul cables were replaced. Tram temporarily closed around noon the same day due to 50 mph winds.
2014, 30 May	A land swap between U.S. Forest Service & Sandia Pueblo approved by Congress. The Piedra Lisa Tract on Piedra Lisa Tr/in S. Fork of Del Agua Canyon & a small strip of land near the top of the La Luz Tr were added to the Cibola National Forest. In return, the NFS turned over a 700 acre parcel at the bottom of Del Agua Canyon to the Sandia Pueblo.
2015, 17 Feb	Hart Schwarz retired from the Forest Service after 30 years as their "bird expert".
2015, 21 Mar	Maya Spencer slipped on ice and fell to her death while hiking at the top of the La Luz Trail near the Sandia Crest parking area.
2015, 16 May	Brittany Johnson fell to her death while hiking on the Crest Trail about 0.25 miles south of the Crest parking area. Her body was found on this day at the base of a cliff just west of the Crest Trail
2015, 2 Sep	The bodies of 2 separate hikers were found on this day (the 3 <sup>rd</sup> & 4 <sup>th</sup> death for 2015). Bryan Conkling's body was found about 2 miles down the La Luz Trail due to a suspected fall. James Whitehead's body was found just off the Crest Trail about 0.5 mile south of the tram terminal. Both were experienced hikers.
2015, 16 Nov	A single-engine Cessna airplane crashed in the Sandias south of the Cienega Meadows. The three occupants were killed in the crash. Poor visibility was reported at the time of the crash.
2016, Apr	First hiked new trail bypassing dirt road at start of south Piedra Lisa Trail (poor quality trail).
2016, 7 May	New Tram cars installed & 50 year Sandia Tram anniversary celebrated. Grand opening was celebrated 7 May 1966
2017, 15 April	Sandia Tram reopened after tram haul cables were replaced.
2017, 12 Aug	Closure of access to Cienega, Sulfur, & Doc Long picnic grounds and all trails in their vicinity due to bear activity. This left only Canyon Estates Trailhead for entry to the entire low elevation Sandia East Mtn trails. This plus closures due to fire danger could close access to hiking for much of each spring, summer, & fall.

**NOTE: Some of the dates and statements may be in error.** Information was obtained from personal observations and notes, other people's recollections, newspaper articles, reports, books, etc with limited verification of accuracy. Many events of significance have been missed.