

FOSM 2025-26 Election, New Bios

Kerry Jones:

Now retired, Kerry Jones spent nearly 30 years as a meteorologist at NOAA's National Weather Service (NWS) including 25 years at the forecast office in Albuquerque, NM. Kerry served as a Lead Forecaster, Warning Coordination Meteorologist and Meteorologist-in-Charge and also worked at NWS offices in Spokane, WA and Norman, OK. Early in his career, Kerry was a certified Incident Meteorologist (IMET) on both wildfires and prescribed fires. This led him to the U.S. Forest Service where he worked for several years just prior to his retirement as an air and water quality specialist and liaison to the New Mexico Environment Department in Santa Fe, NM. Kerry is on the Board of the East Mountain Wildfire Protection Association and currently volunteers with Scouts BSA as an outdoor adventure program leader. Kerry received a B.S. in Meteorology from the University of Oklahoma and a Master's degree in Water Resources from the University of New Mexico. Kerry and his wife, Julie, have called the East Mountains home for 15+ years. They are proud parents of three young adult children.

Scott Dietrich:

Scott spent his 32-year career in pharmaceutical research, marketing, sales and sales management, the last 26 years with Merck, where he retired as an Associate Director of Sales in 2014. Scott and his wife Carla moved to New Mexico from Pennsylvania in 2000. They are avid outdoors enthusiasts and enjoy cross-country and downhill skiing, road and mountain biking, hiking, fishing and just being in the great outdoors. In 2017, Scott was the driving force behind the foundation of the Sandia Nordic Ski Club and currently serves the Club as its President and CEO. He has developed detailed spreadsheets that help Sandia Nordic track their income and expenses and stay on track with the various federal and state filings which are required for a 501(c)(3) corporation. Scott and Carla have been lifetime members of FOSM since 2016.

Cliff Giles:

Cliff Giles grew up in and around Lubbock, Texas. He moved to Albuquerque in 1969 with wife Joyce and two sons. He thoroughly enjoyed a 43-year career in science and technology management with the USAF, EG&G, and Los Alamos National Laboratory during which he was privileged to see much of the world. He continued his international travel for several years after retiring in 2006.

Cliff has been a FOSM member since 2018. After working with the Monday crew for two years, he joined the Wednesday crew with which he continues to serve. He was elected FOSM Vice President in October 2020 and assumed webmaster responsibilities in 2021.

Cliff earned a bachelor's degree in mathematics at Texas Tech, a master's degree in Engineering Space Physics at the Air Force Institute of Technology, and a Master of Management degree at UNM. He holds a commercial pilot's license (SEL) with instrument rating and commuted to Los Alamos in his Cessna 182 airplane for 19 years. He loves hiking, snowshoeing, downhill skiing, and spoiling his four grandkids and two great-grandsons.

Laura Leon:

Laura Leon grew up in Southern Wisconsin and after graduating from Drake University in Iowa with a medical technology degree, she headed to Corpus Christi, Texas to play on the beach for a couple of years. Thirty years passed which included a marriage to Landy, an elementary school teaching certification and teaching career, raising 2 sons and quite a bit of playing on the beach and sailing. Laura and Landy left Texas for Albuquerque in 2010. She received a Masters degree in Library and Information Sciences and became a children's librarian at Cherry Hills Public Library where she stayed for 12 years until retiring from all things involving lesson plans and cutting out crafting materials.

Since retiring in 2023, Laura has taken on several volunteer opportunities which include helping at Road Runner Food Bank, Compassus Hospice, Saranam, NMVFO, City Open Spaces and of course, FOSM activities and organizing the Thursday crew each week. She loves being out every week in the mountains but does occasionally miss the beach and satisfies that with some travel.