



NMVFO 2019 VOLUNTEER APPRECIATION NIGHT DINNER & ANNUAL MEETING

December 7, 2019





NMVFO Business Meeting & Annual Report

Overview –

- The 2019 NMVFO Volunteer Appreciation Night dinner was held on December 7, 2019.
- The Annual Meeting was conducted as required by the Bylaws.
- The 2019 project season accomplishments were reviewed.
- Awards were presented to an Agency Representative and NMVFO Volunteers.
- A Lifetime Achievement Award was presented.
- Election results for the Board were announced.
- Fifty-five NMVFO members and volunteers attended the celebration along with the entire 2019 NMVFO Board of Directors.
- The official minutes of the Annual Meeting are on file with the Secretary, NMVFO.



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Program -

- 2019 Year in Review – Report to the membership
- 2020 Project Schedule
- Guest Speaker – David Ryan
 - 60 Hikes within 60 Miles of Albuquerque
- 2019 Awards Presentation
- Election Results
- Door Prizes



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2019 Project Accomplishments –

- Projects - 23 Scheduled; 5 Added, 26 Completed
 - Added weekday projects:
 - Manzano Trails (3)
 - Winsor Stream Crossing improvement
 - Winsor Trail Improvement (43 days of work)
 - Two St. Peter's Dome projects cancelled by weather
- Worked with public agencies across New Mexico
 - FWS (3), USFS (7RD), BLM (2), NM State Parks (4), ABQ-Open Space
- Volunteers
 - 113 volunteers (*42% worked on more than 1 project*)
 - 44 new volunteers (*29% worked on more than 1 project*)
 - 3600+ hours – equivalent to approximately \$76.6K
 - *Reference: Independentsector.org*



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2019 Project Accomplishments –

- Completed 1.8 miles of new trail, restored 23.7 miles of old trail, closed approximately 1 mile of social trails
- Participated in 2 habitat restoration projects
 - Planted 700 trees at Sevilleta
 - Provided docents and volunteers for Valle de Oro “BYRD”
- Initiated work with Dr. Travis Perry, Furman University Cougar Project
 - Conducted Aldo Leopold trail survey
 - Cleared Spud Patch Trail in October
 - Project will continue in 2020





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***Improved 8 miles of the
Grand Enchantment Trail***



Worked on joint projects with CDTC and Heart of the Gila



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2019 Accomplishments –

- Attended Central Rockies Wilderness Volunteer Workshop.
 - Our issues and challenges are similar to other volunteer organizations
 - Attracting and retaining members and volunteers
 - Continuity of operations
 - Spreading the workload
 - Fundraising
- Moved to new office space
 - Provides better venue for committee work & overall organization





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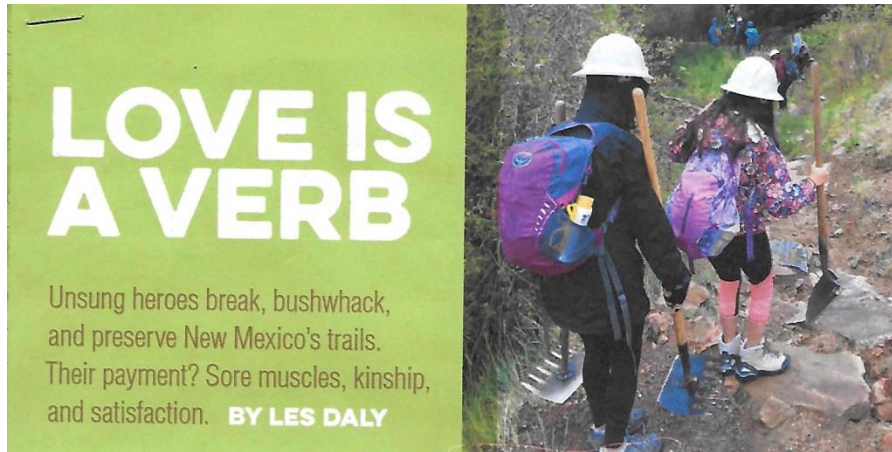
2019 Outreach Accomplishments –

- Completed trail maintenance workshop & field project with ABQ-Open Space
- Tabling and presentation events:
 - Participated in 6 REI Outreach Events
 - Tabled at Valle de Oro
- Issued 4 e-Newsletters
- NMVFO featured in print and on TV (see next slide)





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El Palacio (Winter edition, 2018)



Puerto Nambe Project (August)





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Sources of Income

Grants – 64%

REI - \$11k (\$5k base, \$6k member input grant.)

Private Trust - \$1k (one time grant)

Clean Trail (Extreme Terrain) - \$250

Membership dues – 27%

68 Members (21 Family) plus 31 Life Members (3 new in 2019)

Other – 9%

Expenses

Office & Equipment Storage – 32%

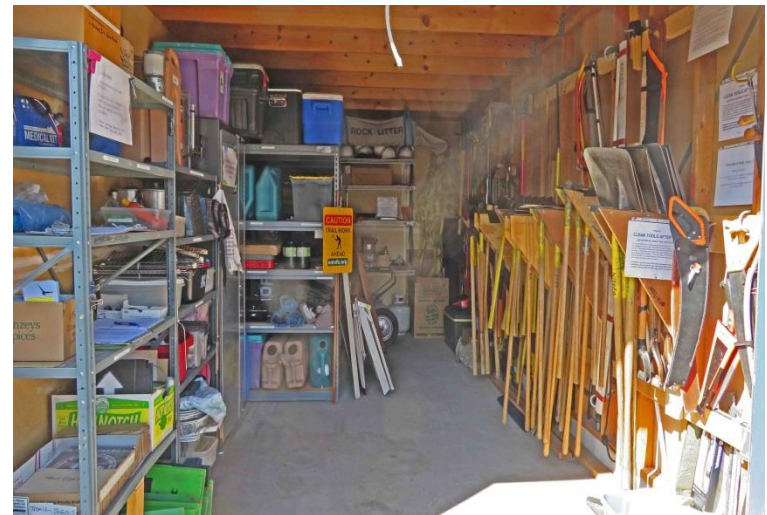
Equipment Purchase & Repair – 16%

Projects – 15%

Volunteer Appreciation – 15%

Insurance – 14%

Administrative/Other – 7%





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Planning for the Future

- Started Strategic & Institutional Plan effort
 - Planning & implementation will continue
 - Issued survey for new volunteers
 - Issued 'member & volunteer' survey
- Training
 - Training coordinator in place
 - Conducted Wilderness First Aid and CPR class for members sponsored by USFS
- Web site
 - Improving the site to provide more information to members and for organization continuity
- Fundraising
 - We are financially stable with adequate reserves. However, we need to diversify our sources of income in 2020.





NMVFO 2020 PROJECT SCHEDULE



Volunteer Opportunities New Mexico Volunteers for the Outdoors 2020 Project Season



Version 1, 13 Jan 2020

Valle de Oro National Wildlife Refuge (FWS) ↗

Saturday, February 8
Leader: Ed DiBello, e.dibello@nmvfo.org
Saltgrass planting in the southeast playa wetland

Sevilleta National Wildlife Refuge (FWS) ↗

Saturday, February 15
Leader: Larry Benson, lbenson@nmvfo.org
Plant Goodings Black Willows and Cottonwoods to restore riparian habitat for Southwest Flycatcher and Yellow-billed Cuckoos.

Trail Workshop-Classroom

Thursday Evening, March 12
Leaders: Larry Benson, lbenson@nmvfo.org
Jenny Blackmore, jblackmore@nmvfo.org
Join us 6:00 PM at REI Albuquerque for a classroom introduction to trail construction and maintenance

Trail Workshop-Field (ABQ Open Space) ↗

Saturday, March 14
Leaders: Larry Benson, lbenson@nmvfo.org
Jenny Blackmore, jblackmore@nmvfo.org
Hands-on training in trail construction, maintenance, and repair.

Perea Nature Area (BLM Rio Puerco) ↗

Saturday, March 28
Leaders: Phyllis Martinez, nmmtgo@icloud.com
Larry Benson, lbenson@nmvfo.org
Repair tread, noxious weed removal and improve drainage.

Guadalupe Pueblo Ruins (BLM Rio Puerco) ↗

Saturday, April 11
Leader: Michael Myers, michael_myers@c.com
Repair tread and improve drainage along the 1/4-mile trail to the ruins.

Three Rivers Petroglyph Site (Las Cruces BLM) ↗↗

Saturday, April 18 through Sunday April 19
Leader: Don Lemke, dlemke@nmvfo.org
Trail work in a sensitive archeological area.

Trigo Canyon (Mountainair RD) ↗↗

Saturday, April 25 through Sunday April 26
Leaders: Don Lemke, dlemke@nmvfo.org
Ed DiBello, e.dibello@nmvfo.org

Ted Mace Trail (BLM Rio Puerco) ↗

Saturday, May 2
Leaders: Phyllis Martinez, nmmtgo@icloud.com
Larry Benson, lbenson@nmvfo.org
General trail work along a CDT connector trail near Cuba, NM

Middle Fork Trail (Gila NF) ↗↗↗

Saturday, May 2 thru Friday, May 8
NMVFO Coordinator: Jenny Blackmore, [720-470-4631](mailto:jblackmore@nmvfo.org), jblackmore@nmvfo.org
Work alongside volunteers from Heart of the Gila.

Cole Spring (Sandia RD) ↗↗

Friday, May 15 thru Sunday, May 17
Leader: Jenny Blackmore, [720-470-4631](mailto:jblackmore@nmvfo.org), jblackmore@nmvfo.org
Repair tread, realign a spur trail along the Faulty Trail in the Sandias

Hillsboro Bypass Trail Backpack (Gila NF) ↗↗↗

Thursday, May 28 thru Tuesday, June 2
NMVFO Coordinator: Jenny Blackmore, [720-470-4631](mailto:jblackmore@nmvfo.org), jblackmore@nmvfo.org
Repair tread, improve drainage and brushing alongside volunteers from Heart of the Gila.

South Crest Trail Backpack (Sandia RD) ↗↗↗

Friday, June 12 thru Monday, June 15
Leader: Jenny Blackmore, [720-470-4631](mailto:jblackmore@nmvfo.org), jblackmore@nmvfo.org
Brushing, deadfall removal, and tread work along South Crest Trail

Columbine Trail Backpack (Carson NF) ↗↗↗

Thursday June 18 thru Monday June 22
Leader: Jenny Blackmore, [720-470-4631](mailto:jblackmore@nmvfo.org), jblackmore@nmvfo.org
Repair tread, improve drainage and brushing

Skyline Trail Backpack (Santa Fe NF) ↗↗↗

Thursday, June 25 thru Sunday, June 28
Leader: Mike Timmer, [281-622-6858](mailto:m_timmer@nmvfo.org), m_timmer@nmvfo.org
Co-Leader: Jim Sells, gsells@earthlink.net
Back Country Horsemen providing support

Aldo Leopold Wilderness Backpack ↗↗↗

Thursday, July 9 thru Sunday, July 12
Leader: Nick Tenorio, n.tenorio@nmvfo.org
Maintain trail access for UNM Wilderness and Wild Semester programs, and Furman Cougar Project research.

Making New Mexico's Outdoors Great With You!

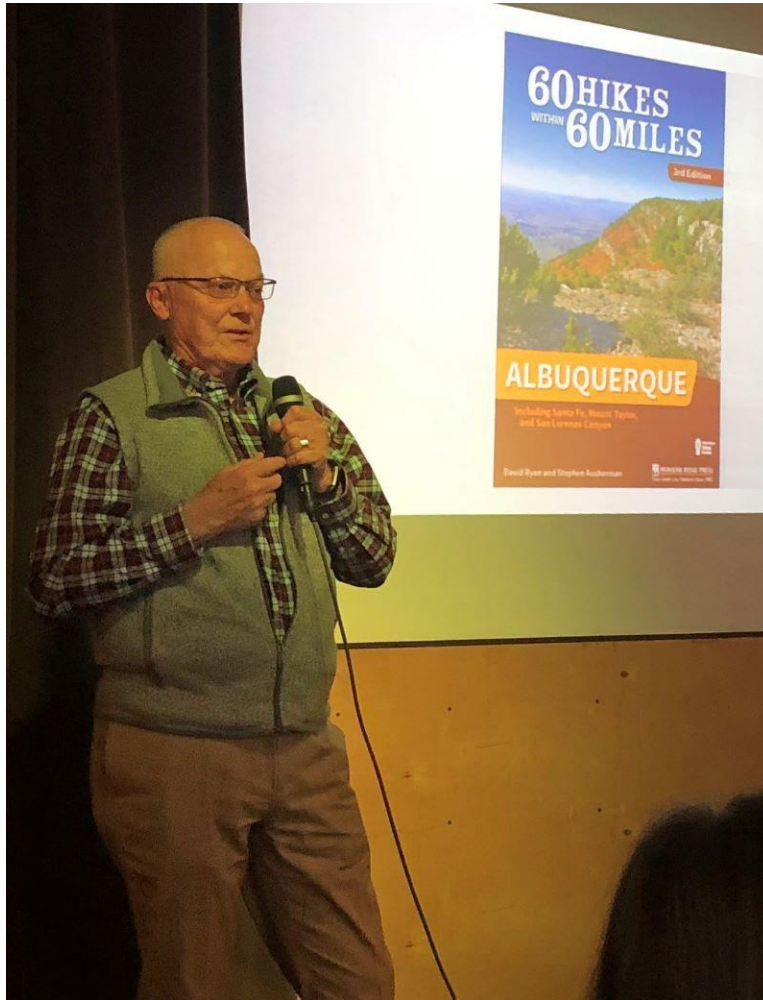
For more information about NMVFO and projects visit www.nmvfo.org or find us on Facebook & MeetUp

See NMVFO.org for the latest 2020 Volunteer Project Opportunities





David Ryan – Guest Speaker



David Ryan, author of the new edition of 60 Hikes within 60 Miles, was the guest speaker at our Volunteer Appreciation Night. He started his talk by saying that the VFO project list for the last few years is nearly the same as his table of contents page.

He had good things to say about VFO work on the new Piedra Lisa trail, and he had suggestions for future work.

Copies of his book were given away as door prizes to some lucky attendees.



NMVFO 2019 Awards

- 2019 Agency Representative of the Year
 - Jennifer Sublett, Santa Fe National Forest
- NMVFO Lifetime Achievement Award
 - Phyllis Martinez, United States Forest Service, ret.
- The following volunteers were awarded a \$25 REI gift certificate and a Certificate of Appreciation.
 - Jim “Sagebrush” Sells – Volunteer of the Year
 - Christina Tenorio – Cook of the Year
 - Kitry Krause – New Volunteer of the Year
 - Ed DiBello – Project Leader of the Year



Board of Directors Election Results

- The following volunteers were elected to the Board of Directors for a 2 year term:
 - Jenny Blackmore
 - Chris Fritzsche
 - Gena Robertson
 - Jim Sells
 - Kevin Wall
- Returning Board members are:
 - Larry Benson, Ed DiBello, Jeff Duray, Walter Futrell, Don Lemke, Nick Tenorio, and Mike Timmer