



Santa Fe
WATERSHED
ASSOCIATION

**1413 SECOND ST. #3
SANTA FE, NM 87505**

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Santa Fe River, December 18, 2013



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FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Santa Fe Watershed Community,

As I write, I am simultaneously packing my desk. Change is afoot here at the Santa Fe Watershed Association. After close to four years I made the difficult decision to pass along the Executive Director baton. I am astonished at how quickly the time has passed. Many lunar cycles, many breaths, and many successes later I am genuinely thrilled by our accomplishments.



For starters, our elementary school education program reaches over 1000 public school 4th and 5th graders, gets them out of their square classrooms and into the forests, without their cell phones, where they play the role of enthusiastic, curious scientists for an entire day. For many of these students, seeing Nichols reservoir is the first time they've seen a large body of water. For others, it's the first time they've donned a pair of rubber boots and stepped into a rushing stream. I have yet to see a child actually

want to return to the bus after spending time amongst the towering ponderosas and cut throat trout in the upper watershed. Education Director Eileen Everett has done an outstanding job creating the curriculum to meet science standards AND give the students an unforgettable outdoor, unelectronified experience.

Our Adopt-the-River and Adopt-an-Arroyo program, under the steady leadership of Marty Peale and Volunteer Steward Coordinator Keely Kennemore, has tripled the number of volunteer hours logged and the

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FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Friends of the Santa Fe Watershed,

As a wonderfully snowy December draws to a close, the Santa Fe Watershed Association bids a fond farewell to outgoing Executive Director Felicity Broennan. It has been a pleasure to work with Felicity over the past four years, and the organization has truly thrived under her leadership, expanding our environmental education programs into almost all of Santa Fe's schools, completing several ambitious restoration projects, launching a climate change education and adaptation initiative, and expanding our long-standing Adopt-the-River program into Santa Fe's arroyos, among many other accomplishments.

We offer Felicity our sincere gratitude for her outstanding leadership and we look forward to her continued involvement in our work in new capacities.

We are also delighted to welcome the Santa Fe Watershed Association's new Executive Director, Andy Otto. Andy holds a degree in watershed management from the University of Arizona and has spent the last four years working with the Truckee River Watershed Council in California and Nevada. Andy's experience working collaboratively with diverse stakeholders—from city and county governments to tribes to individual property owners—to improve the health of that watershed prepares him well for the challenges facing the Santa Fe Watershed. His past successes include spearheading a campaign to fund and construct a Truckee River Legacy Trail that now runs the length of the Town of Truckee. Along with life experiences that range from living on a Montana cattle ranch to managing a restaurant, Andy brings longstanding connections to Santa Fe and a passion for working with communities to protect the natural environments that sustain them.



Andy Otto



Kristina G. Fisher

Kristina G. Fisher, President of the Board

BOARD NEWS

Welcome Janet McVickar



We are also happy to welcome Janet McVickar as our most recent board member. Janet is an avid hiker, rafter, and outdoors-woman. She has lived in the Santa Fe area most of her adult life. Her career as an archaeologist (and nine years as a river guide) allowed her to pursue a life outdoors where she is most in her element. As an archaeologist, Janet worked for the National Park Service, private consulting companies, and the State of New Mexico, where she directed and participated in dozens of projects. As part of her Master's research at Northern

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amount of garbage collected in just one year. The total dollar amount of sweat equity these volunteers have produced is equal to \$35,000! And what a difference they've made to the health of the river corridor and the reaches of major arroyos within the City limits. The heavy summer rains encouraged an enthusiastic growing response from many undesirable invasives from elms to plastic bags. These stalwart volunteers, some from as far away as Madison, Wisconsin, helped curtail these streams of garbage and unwanted vegetation. We are ever grateful to them for vastly improving our community.



Keely Kennemore



Our Green Lodging Initiative, winner of a Sustainable Santa Fe Award, has helped to decrease the amount of chemical waste going into our river from the waste water treatment plant, reduced the amount of plastic water bottle refuse (the Inn of the Governors has reduced their water bottle use by 15,000 bottles per year!), and we have our fearless leader Evadne Gianini of Hospitality Green to thank for her leadership in that program. We also applaud the enthusiasm of the staff at the participating lodging facilities for caring about their hometown community.

And thanks to Esha Chiochio, who spent the last eleven months coordinating a dedicated group of experts on sustainability, water, and energy, we have a climate adaptation plan! No small undertaking, this plan covers the potential effects of climate change on our economy, forest health, water quality and quantity, and energy future. Esha has worked tirelessly, reading, writing, and reviewing the possibilities and action steps that will help to stabilize the health of our community in the face of climate change.



Eileen, Raquel, Felicity and Marty

And just as important as the program work is the binding that keeps the organization in peak administrative health. I am ever-grateful to the woman who is this glue, the woman whose desk actually IS the cockpit that operates the SFWA torpedo, Raquel Baca-Tompson. Celebrating her seventh year as Administrative Director, she keeps the membership renewals tracked, the bills paid, the correspondence up to date, the insurance current, taxes straight, and most recently, she has become our social media aficionado.

To all of you incredibly talented, creative, resourceful, passionate, and thoughtful women, I bow in humility and gratitude. It has been such a pleasure to grow this organization with you amongst the outbursts of laughter, mandatory chocolate-laden staff meetings, dog barks, tailgate dinners, building of Fido the Fish, losses of loved ones, and every kind of mayhem that befits a busy organization. These four years have been completely transformational for me because of you. Thank you for all you do to promote, support, and build the health and happiness of the Santa Fe River Watershed community.



Felicity Broennan

And to the greater community of board members, friends, and supporters of our work, I give great thanks. We would be irrelevant without you. Thank you for standing beside us, offering your talent in creative ways, sending us your financial support, and keeping our spirits soaring. See you on downstream!



Welcome continued from page 2

Arizona University, she studied past environments and climate to better understand why prehistoric populations occupied areas at certain times and not others. This enduring interest in the environment and climate led her to the NM Climate Masters course in 2012. She quickly took an active and ongoing interest in SFWA and Got Sol, an effort to bring solar power to the state's capitol complex. Her experience with and active approach to local issues is a great advantage to our board. We are happy you're here Janet!

Nichols' New Tower

The Santa Fe Watershed Association is looking forward to resuming its popular My Water, My Watershed program for Santa Fe Public School classes in Spring 2014. Nichols Reservoir has been under construction this fall to replace the intake tower of over 70 years. How appropriate that it is getting a replacement! During the project most of the reservoir was drained into the river and we were able to enjoy the spectacular experience of having a flowing river through the fall and early winter months! Truly wonderful and novel, and the topic of many comments heard by young and old. Recognizing that large dump trucks and small children could collide in an unfriendly manner, our My Water, My Watershed programs were postponed during the construction.



Fortunately, spring will burst forth with new vigor when we will once again bring our local students out of their classrooms and into the upper watershed to help them understand where their water comes from and reveal many great mysteries of the forest and river habitats.

©:Courtesy City of Santa Fe Water Dept.

SFWA strikes back at Toys R Us

By Eileen Everett

When Toys R Us ran an ad campaign implying that outdoor education is boring, we took action. In the ad, a fake employee, Ranger Brad, leads kids from an implied group such as a Boys and Girls Club onto a bus labeled with a fake organization name called the "Meet the Trees Foundation" for a field trip to the forest. While on the bus, Ranger Brad shows flash cards of tree leaves. Although this is meant to show that the kids are bored, there are several kids in the video who appear genuinely curious. Then



©:Anna C. Hansen

Ranger Brad states that this trip to the forest is a joke and instead, they are going to the much more wonderful Toys R Us to pick out a toy.

Having worked with kids in outdoor settings for the last ten years, I have observed many times that kids react to a situation in response to how you present the information. If I got up in front of a group yawning saying we are going to learn about trees, naturally, the kids are going to start yawning too. On the other hand, if I genuinely show enthusiasm for learning about trees, then the kids will get excited as well. Through their actions, Toys R Us decided to portray to the kids that nature is really boring while toys are super fun. We fully disagree. Isn't there room for both toys and time in the outdoors?

It took one week for us to respond with our own video; a true grit parody that cost us nothing but an outburst of collaborative creativity to produce. Using stills from our My Water, My Watershed program to highlight the overwhelming benefits of outdoor education, we mock a trip to a toy store. As of mid-December, the video had received over 3,000 views in more than 40 countries worldwide. Continue our "viral" success by watching the video at <www.santafewatershed.org>.

Adopt-the-River and Adopt-an-Arroyo Triple the Numbers!

Each year, Adopt-the-River Stewards volunteer their time picking up litter from the Santa Fe River bed and now, from reaches of Santa Fe's largest and most downtown arroyos. SFWA Steward Coordinator, Keely Kennemore, has been especially busy this year organizing not only the regularly scheduled monthly outings, but also larger groups that sometimes come great distances (like the Orchard Ridge Church group from Madison, Wisconsin). Dubbed "Angel Groups," the volunteers can have a huge impact on our rivers and arroyos. For example, of the 817 volunteers



Orchard Ridge Church angels

who have participated this calendar year, 417 of them were from Angel groups. These Stewards not only collect trash, but also help with vegetation management by removing dry brush, pulling elm seedlings, cutting elm & olive saplings, branches, and understory trees, and planting native saplings. Imagine what river corridor would look like without their efforts.

Unusual finds this year include: a purse that had been stolen just before Xmas 2012, a handgun, a \$50 bill, a \$10 bill, garter snakes, and parts of an old urinal!

NEW ADOPT SPONSOR

The River Memorializes the Glassmire Family

By **Bonnie Brody Stewart**

My family was delighted to see the space of the Santa Fe River below El Alamo Street available for adoption. Here's why: In 1954 my family moved into 716 E Palace, which was, and is, at the other end of El Alamo Street. My brother and I use to play in the river all year long. We would actually take inner tubes and ride in it. We fell on the ice when crossing in winter. We would fish in the deep holes. We would cut down pussy willows for fall dry arrangements. My Mother would often comment that she wished the city would fix up this part of river, park like, since it was downtown.

My father became a successful geologist/mining engineer. He helped discover uranium in Grants, NM, explored newly discovered parts of Carlsbad Caverns, taught geology at St. Mike's college and Socorro School of Mines and eventually discovered substantial quantities of placer gold in Central America. My brother and I graduated from Santa Fe High when it was down town, went on to college, married and had children. My brother was in one of the first graduating classes in computer science. He worked in the labs of Los Alamos but eventually moved his family to the East coast. My Mom, as many Moms did back then, held it all together running my Dad's office and raising my brother and I, as my Dad traveled.

My mother, Norma Glassmire, died in 1992. My dad Sam Glassmire, died in 2002. My brother, Marc Glassmire, died in 2009. As we sponsor this spot of land on the Santa Fe River we will be reminded of the family that we miss so much. By the way, in 2013 my mother's dream of a park like spot was completed with a picnic table, benches and even fruit trees! Thanks to the Adopt-the-River program we can contribute to the health and well-being of the river that contributed so much to our family.

Sincerely,

Bonnie Brody Stewart, Tavie Glassmire, Niki Glassmire, Doug Stewart, Lauren Brody Clarke, Christopher Clarke, Estrella Clarke, Shiloh Clarke, Jason Brody Stewart, Christina Stroeh, Dana Stewart, Mike Wheeler, Mitzi Lancaster, Joe Lancaster, Ashley and Savannah Lancaster.

Only two reaches are left for sponsorship! Please contact Adopt Coordinator Marty Peale: Marty@santafewatershed.org or 505-820-1696.

Thank You Loyal Watershed Community!

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Whole Foods Market Day features Fido the Fish



Back in February, Whole Foods Market reached out to us and asked us to apply for their Whole Foods Market Community Day money. We did and were granted 5% of all proceeds on May 22. Fido the Fish-out-of-Water spent the day greeting and delighting the shoppers and alerting them to the charitable giving going on that day. Inside both stores, SFWA staff and volunteers chatted with customers, testing their knowledge on water issues, holding a blind water tasting (Santa Fe River Water was the clear winner against various brands of bottled water!), and locating the arroyo-shed closest to their homes. All in all it proved a valuable and fruitful day with a check for \$8,800. Thanks to ALL volunteers who helped us prepare for and staff the tables. Special thanks to Patty and Marty for creating Fido the Fish and giant thanks to Whole Foods Market for their valuable community support!



Board member, Francois-Marie Patorni with Fido



Trust our SFWA Merchandise to keep you hydrated, shaded, warm, and smart!



Klean Kanteen®
Water bottle – \$20

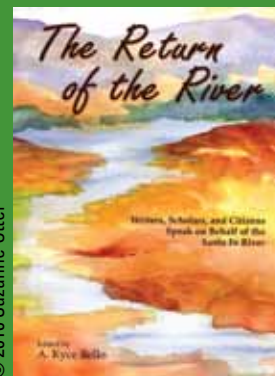


Baseball Cap – \$15



SFWA Blanket – \$25

To order any or all of these fine items (they make great gifts!), please call the SFWA office, 505-820-1696.



© 2010 Suzanne Otter

The Return of the River – \$25

If you haven't already, buy this book and read it twice. The collection features poignant, funny, interesting, and adventurous tales from a broad spectrum of writers, all devoted to our beloved, beleaguered, and most precious Santa Fe River.



Santa Fe
WATERSHED

ASSOCIATION

**1413 SECOND ST. #3
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WWW.SANTAFEWATERSHED.ORG



The SFWA takes environmentally responsible business practices seriously. We have chosen to work with a certified Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) printer. This means that both the print company and the paper used were rigorously reviewed and controlled to ensure that the paper came from eco-responsible sources, which helps limit the impact this project will have on the environment.

Extend Cupid's Arrow and Love Your River!

WHEN: SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15TH, 9:30 AM TO NOON

WHERE: FRENCHY'S FIELD PARK

We all know it's important to love each other, especially around Valentine's Day. And once again, SFWA is offering you the chance to Love Your River too! Sign up for our Annual Love Your River Day Community Clean-up event. Join other dedicated volunteers for this mid-winter event laced with hot cocoa, delicious baked goods, good friends, and a worthwhile mission. Last year, close to 70 friends of the river came to haul out approximately 100 bags of garbage from our river corridor.



Volunteers on February 16, 2013

CHECK IN at the barn at Frenchy's Field where you'll receive Reach assignments, bags, refreshments, and good cheer from SFWA staff!



Voted First Place — Best of Santa Fe!

Thank you Santa Fe, for voting us #1 in the Santa Fe Reporter's Best of Contest this year! As your Best Local Environmental Organization we greatly appreciate your support and confidence in us. Together we really do make a difference. We are honored by your enthusiastic response to our work and we know we couldn't do it without YOU.