



AWF Newsletter

FEBRUARY 2008

Founded by Aldo Leopold in 1914 to protect and perpetuate our wildlife and natural resources

GENERAL MEETING

WHEN: Thursday, February 14, 2008 — 7:30 pm
WHERE: Manzano Mesa Center (*map p4*)
PROGRAM: City Open Space — Urban Havens...and More!
GUEST SPEAKER: William Pentler, Educational Coordinator,
City of Albuquerque Open Space Division

Do you know what Albuquerque Open Space is, where it is located...what is it *open for*??

William Pentler, Albuquerque Open Space Educational Coordinator, will answer these questions and any others you may have. Bill will talk about the Division's many locations, programs, and activities, including service projects, available to us on our Open Space. In fact, the AWF February restoration project will be in conjunction with Open Space, planting trees along the Rio Grande on the 23rd of the month. (More information about the project is found on page 3). So come listen to Bill, get inspired, and then go help to restore the Bosque!

Bill tells us he grew up fascinated by animals and guided his studies to focus on working with them. He holds degrees in Zoology and in Psychology (mostly animal behavior), trained as an Animal Technician, and was a lead zookeeper and Educational Coordinator at Lion Country Safari in Florida for several years. Next came a move to Albuquerque to work at the Zoo, followed by a position as Law Enforcement and Interpretive State Park Ranger at Fenton Lake.



Bill Pentler, City Open Space Educational Coordinator, is shown here introducing the Summer Series at the Elena Gallegos Picnic Area.

**Jim Hubert's
NOTABLE QUOTE
of the month**

Man's attitude toward nature is today critically important simply because we have now acquired a fateful power to alter and destroy nature.

— Rachel Carson, author of "Silent Spring",
in a 1963 CBS interview

After three years he moved back to Albuquerque to get married and work for the City as a Supervisor at the animal shelters. Then he "got lucky" and transferred into his current position as the Educational Coordinator for Open Space. Through this job he gets to utilize many aspects of his past training. Overall, Bill explains, "I can't say that I'm expert at any one thing but can do just about anything generally well. If you're curious, sometime ask me to list all the different jobs I've done, but be ready to stand for a bit as the list is long."

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Mr. Aldo Leopold's birthday was January 11th. I must admit that, if not for AWF Board member Jon Schwedler, I would not have known that our organization's founder's birthday was in January. Mr. Leopold's importance is often forgotten; after all, he died in 1948. But Mr. Leopold's pursuit of science carved a course toward modern wildlife and conservation biology. He was educated as a forester, was a game manager, and became a wildlife ecologist and educator. His understanding of predator/prey relationships has influenced the development of the concept of biodiversity.

Thinking of Aldo Leopold's legacy, Jon Schwedler is the Sierra Club's first Sportsmen Outreach Coordinator. Jon has helped develop an excellent web site for the Sierra Club. I highly recommend you check out Jon's interview with Aldo Leopold's great-grandson Jed at <http://www.sierraclub.org/sierrasportsmen/people/meunier/>. Jon also forwarded an article from the *Albuquerque Tribune* written by UNM adjunct professor Dewey Moore; an edited version of that commentary appears on page 6.

One final note: our 30-day legislative session comes to a close on February 14th. There are several legislative proposals that are being tracked by conservation organizations. Several of these proposed bills are, unfortunately, structured to favor short-term economic interests over clean air and water. Examples are:

HB 125/SB 394 (Rep. Foley, Sen. Adair):

This bill would create an Oil Conservation Division Oversight Committee that would weaken the ability of the Oil Conservation Division to set strong standards for protecting soil, water and public health from oil and gas waste pits.

HB 310 (Rep. Berry): This bill would require regulatory impact statements, hamstringing our environmental agencies from taking effective action to protect our environment.

I hope that we will be able to notify everyone in a timely manner so you can contact your State Senator and Representative. You can find info regarding this legislative session at <http://legis.state.nm.us/lcs/default.asp>.

— Gene Tatum

YOU CAN ENCOURAGE ENFORCEMENT OF OHV SAFETY RULES

Public pressure will be key to ensuring that the New Mexico Off-Highway Vehicle Safety Advisory Board, which oversees the monetary fund generated by the sale of permits for ATV use on public lands in the state, spends those funds on enforcement to promote safety and eliminate recklessness and habitat damage.

The NM-OHV Safety Advisory Board will hold a meeting, expected to last three hours, which you are urged to attend:

Tuesday, February 19—10:00 am
New Mexico Environment Department
5500 San Antonio NE, Albuquerque

Included on the agenda is discussion about the need for enforcement. It is vital that the board make the right decision and not spend money on promotion or building additional motorized trails.

If you can attend, please do so. If you are unable to attend, ask a friend or colleague to attend in your place. In addition, written comments can be directed to the board via Nicole. McKnight@state.nm.us.

Greg McReynolds, AWF Board Member
Trout Unlimited Public Lands Coordinator-New Mexico

SANDIA RANGER DISTRICT TRAVEL MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE

The Cibola National Forest's *Environmental Assessment for Travel Management on the Sandia Ranger District* was just released for public comment. Two public meetings are advertised:

Wednesday, February 20: 6:00 – 8:00 pm
Roosevelt Middle School — Cafeteria
11799 State Highway 14S, Tijeras

Thursday, February 21: 6:00 – 8:00 pm
UNM Continuing Education Conference Center (North Building),
Rooms B & C, 1634 University Blvd NE (at Indian School)

The Environmental Assessment can be obtained at the following link: www.fs.fed.us/r3/cibola/travel-management/tm_sandia/index.shtml.

The Forest Service offers the public 30 days to comment on this project's Proposed Action, which will designate a motorized road and trail system that provides for public access and motorized recreation travel on the District. Designation will include class of vehicle, including ATVs and motorcycles, and time of year for motor vehicle use. The decision will result in the publication of a Motor Vehicle Use Map, after which travel off the designated system will be prohibited.

The AWF Board will formulate comments and forward them to you; you may wish to utilize these as a basis for your own submittal, which can be written, faxed, or delivered by hand, orally, or electronically (contact details will follow at that time).

2008 FIELD PROJECTS – “TEAM UP FOR WILDLIFE”

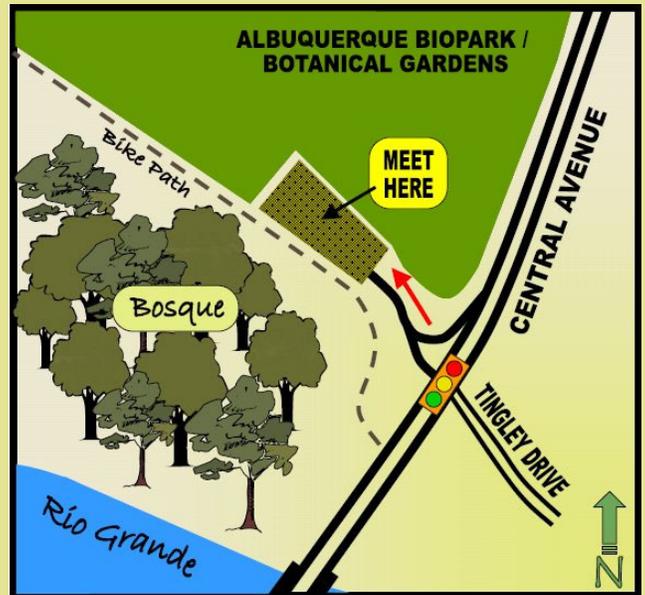
FEBRUARY 23 ● RIO GRANDE BOSQUE *(Albuquerque Wildlife Federation)*

The Bosque, the cottonwood forest lining the Rio Grande in the Albuquerque region, is the largest of its kind in the world. Much of the Bosque is managed by the City of Albuquerque as Open Space, a tremendous benefit for those who live here. More important are the benefits this Bosque ecosystem provides: beaver, coyote, porcupine, myriad birds, bees, and butterflies, and many other species thrive within the confines of New Mexico’s largest city.

Besides managing and protecting the Bosque, Albuquerque Open Space is working on restoration. Martin Martinez, the Open Space Division’s new Forester, will guide us in planting cottonwood poles in deep holes (already created), starting near Central and Tingley Drive and proceeding north toward Montano. **Meet at 9:30 am** at the unpaved lot at the SW edge of the BioPark (watch for AWF signs). From there we will carpool along the levee to each planting location.

FOOD: In the morning, enjoy hot beverages and baked goods provided by AWF, and snacks and drinks during the project. Volunteers, please provide your own lunch.

CONTACT: Gene Tatum at 505-255-1960, gtatum3@msn.com for more information and to sign up.



PARTNER PROJECT

February 8-10 ● San Andres Nat’l Wildlife Refuge *(New Mexico Wilderness Alliance)*

The San Andres NWR is generally closed to the public. It is located north of the Organ Mountains between Las Cruces and Alamogordo. It was created in 1941, mainly for protection of desert bighorn. In 1952 White Sands Missile Range was established and it completely surrounds San Andres NWR. For security reasons, public access to the refuge is strictly limited. This is a unique opportunity to visit the refuge.

THE PROJECT: We will be building rock structures in arroyos to aid in riparian restoration. We will also remove unneeded fence that poses a danger to wildlife.

On Friday we will camp nearby (optional) in the Organ Mountains at Aguirre Springs. We will meet with the refuge manager on Saturday morning along Hwy 70 and shuttle to the worksite. We’ll head back out in the afternoon, with another optional campout. On Sunday, we’ll do a couple more hours of work and then enjoy a tour of the refuge.

MEALS: NMWA will provide Friday dinner, Saturday breakfast, dinner on Saturday evening, and Sunday breakfast. Vegetarian options will be available for all meals. Volunteers will need to pack their own lunches.

MAXIMUM PARTICIPANTS: 40

CONTACT: Michael Scialdone at 505-843-8696, scial@nmwild.org for more info and to sign up.

DRIVING DISTANCE: 3½ hours south of ABQ; ½ hour east of Las Cruces; 1 hour north of El Paso.

2008 PROJECT SCHEDULE

★	FEB 8-10	SAN ANDRES NWR
	FEB 23	RIO GRANDE BOSQUE
★	MAR 1	RIO GRANDE NATURE CTR
★	MAR 8	LAS HUERTAS CREEK
	MAR 15 & 16	CEDRO CREEK
	APR 18-20	CEBOLLA CANYON
★	MAY 2	SAN FRANCISCO RIVER
	MAY 16-18	LIMESTONE CYN ★
	JUNE 20-22	RIO DE LAS VACAS
	JULY 18-20	VALLE VIDAL
	AUG 15-17	VALLES CALDERA
	SEP 19-21	WIND RIVER RANCH

★ Project of NM Wilderness Alliance

NEW MEXICO WILDLIFE FEDERATION SEEKS APPLICANTS FOR 3 NEW POSITIONS

The New Mexico Wildlife Federation is seeking candidates for the following new positions:

- **DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR:** The ideal Development Director will have experience in financial management, fundraising, and event organizing.
- **FIELD BIOLOGIST:** The ideal Field Biologist will have experience in planning and implementing habitat improvement projects.
- **CONSERVATION ORGANIZER:** The ideal Conservation Organizer will be an outgoing people person with strong political sense, and have a passion for passing on a conservation legacy to future generations.

Pay is competitive and commensurate with experience. All candidates should be passionate about wildlife conservation and the future of outdoor opportunities.

The New Mexico Wildlife Federation was founded in 1914 by Aldo Leopold. Today, the NM Wildlife Federation is composed primarily of conservation-minded hunters and anglers, and carries on Leopold's tradition as an outspoken and centrist advocate for wildlife and outdoor opportunity for average citizens.

To apply, please send a resume and cover letter to: nmwildlife@nmwildlife.org. Please inquire at the same e-mail address for more information.



ATTENTION MEMBERS: AWF DUES ARE PAYABLE NOW!!

As you know, the AWF membership term runs from January through December of each calendar year. This means that if you haven't yet paid dues for 2008...*it's time now!*

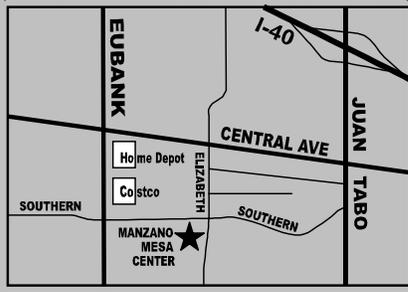
An application form is contained in this newsletter for your convenience in renewing. Please be sure to indicate on the application form whether you are choosing AWF membership only, or whether you prefer AWF + NMWF membership.

If you have questions about your membership, please contact AWF Treasurer Glenda Muirhead at 505-281-2925 or g.muirhead@usfamily.net.

Thank you and welcome back!

AWF MEETING LOCATION

Manzano Mesa Multigenerational Center
501 Elizabeth SE at Southern
(south of Central between Eubank and Juan Tabo)



ALBUQUERQUE WILDLIFE FEDERATION
PO BOX 1234, ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87103

TO SUBMIT MATERIAL FOR
THE AWF NEWSLETTER:

Please contact Glenda Muirhead
505-281-2925 or g.muirhead@usfamily.net

OUR THANKS TO THESE NEW AND RENEWED MEMBERS:

Stephen Bohannon
Beverly deGruyter
Larry Dwyer—*Life Member*
Robert & Marge Gerber
Dale Hall
Jim & Margie Hubert
Joanne Hertz & Peter Mondragon
Andy Iskra—*Sustaining*
Dean & Mary Kuehl
Rich Leonard
Greg & Denise McReynolds

Cliff & Joyce Mendel
Larry & Mariane Miller
Dennis & Glenda Muirhead
Linda Patterson
Toby Rosenblatt—*Sustaining*
Luke Shelby—*Sustaining*
Gene Tatum & Pat Hester
Hamish Thomson
Dave & Joan Weingarten
Jim Wilson

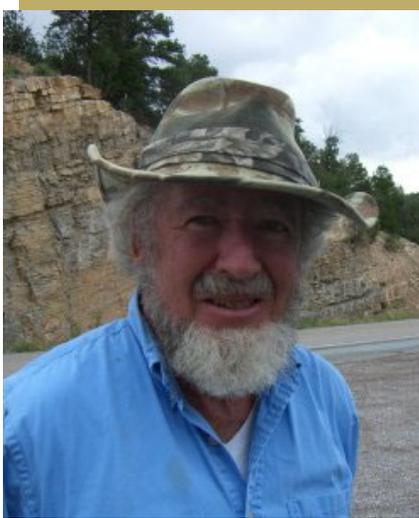
MEET OUR MEMBERS

WILLIAM D. "BILL" ZEEDYK

A long-time AWF member, Bill currently serves on the AWF Board and has been "Team Up for Wildlife" Projects Chairman for many years. He has also held the offices of President and Vice President for several terms, and has been an inspiration to many through the generous sharing of his expertise and knowledge of riparian and wet meadow restoration.

Born/grew up where? April 2, 1935, New Jersey. Grew up in New Jersey and Maryland with summer vacations in Maine.

Marital status: Married to Mary Maulsby for three years. We're still newlyweds! Mary is my business partner and a licensed psychotherapist with a practice in Albuquerque.



Children: Four grown children, 3 grown step children, 6 grandchildren, 2 step grandchildren and 3 great grandchildren.

Education: BS in Forestry (Wildlife Management), 1956, University of New Hampshire.

Occupation: Presently a consultant in wetland and riparian habitat restoration for 15 years. Previously, wildlife biologist, USDA Forest Service, Southwestern Region. Retired from Forest Service in 1990 with 34 years service.

Previous jobs: I began work for the Forest Service in Pennsylvania in 1956, with frequent moves including Maine, Delaware, West Virginia, Kentucky, Georgia, North Carolina and Washington, DC, before coming to Albuquerque in 1977. Two years US Army stationed in Germany.

How long in New Mexico? 30 years. I moved to the Albuquerque area in December 1977, replacing Dale Jones as Director of Wildlife and Fisheries Management for the Southwestern Region when Dale moved to the Washington Office of the Forest Service.

Favorite place in NM: The Valle Vidal, the Zuni Mountains (nobody goes there), the Peloncillo Mountains in Hidalgo County (everything there is different: trees, plants, rocks, wildlife) and our new home in the making on Manuelitas Creek in San Miguel County.

Favorite outdoor activities: Turkey hunting whenever the season is open; ice fishing with my grandson, Jason; camping, hiking and wildlife watching with Mary; AWF wildlife habitat projects with my friends.

Greatest adventure: Year long, round-the-world trip 1991-1992 with my late wife, Gene. Visited South Pacific Islands, New Zealand, Australia, Hong Kong, Singapore, Thailand, Nepal, India, Egypt, Greece, Italy, Great Britain. Trip of a lifetime!

AWF member since: 1978; National Wildlife Federation member since 1949; founded Rockaway Junior Sportsman's Club in 1950, at age 14.

Origin of my interest in wildlife: Hard to tell! My dad taught me to fish at age 4. My favorite uncle, Uncle Dan, taught me to hunt. I learned to trap at age 9. I have always loved the outdoors, especially streams and wetlands and the wildlife associated with them. Their conservation has been my life's work.

Goals for AWF: That we continue to prosper through changing times; that we provide leadership in resource conservation; that we leave the natural world a little better than we found it.

AWF OFFICERS AND BOARD

PRESIDENT — Gene Tatum

VICE PRESIDENT — Barbara Coulter

SECRETARY — Linda Patterson

TREASURER — Glenda Muirhead

DIRECTORS

Stephen Bohannon

Kurt Nolte

Larry Dwyer

Toby Rosenblatt

Patricia Hester

Jon Schwedler

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Dennis Muirhead

Bill Zeedyk

ALDO LEOPOLD

Ecological genius played huge role in shaping New Mexico's landscape, environment

by Dewey Moore

[Edited version of a commentary from the *Albuquerque Tribune* issue of Wednesday, January 16, 2008]

Fresh out of Yale, where his strong attraction to the outdoors had led him to study forestry, Aldo Leopold arrived in Albuquerque early in July 1909 and began working in the forests of southwestern New Mexico and southeastern Arizona. In these and other forests he later supervised in New Mexico, Leopold observed overgrazing, overstocking, erosion, successions of plants, prey-and-predators relations and the role of fire in a natural setting. These provided the facts, clues and impressions that led him to his final conclusions about the relation between humans, their cultures and the land.

According to Curt D. Meine, author of the biography, "Aldo Leopold: His Life and Work," Leopold once wrote, "The reaction of land to occupancy determines the nature and duration of civilization." Leopold devoted his life to raising awareness about the public cost of the private use of land. Leopold's lyrical and articulate writings, especially "A Sand County Almanac," made him the nation's most influential thinker about the relationship between humans and ecological realities, about carrying capacities and, in a term not invented in his lifetime, about sustainability.

An indication of Leopold's awakening understanding occurred during a 1919 horseback inspection trip he made deep into the Gila National Forest, when he resolved to do what he could to keep those forests free of "civilizing" influences, such as roads. His efforts, with some like-minded supporters, resulted in 755,000 acres being set aside by the Forest Service on June 3, 1924, as the Gila Wilderness – the first wilderness area in the country. In 1980, the National Wilderness Preservation System formalized this wilderness and added the contiguous Aldo Leopold Wilderness and Blue Range Primitive Area.

During this time, his focus shifted to game management. He was a prime mover in establishing game preservation organizations, game preservation laws and the office of State Game Warden. This made New Mexico one of the most progressive states in the nation in this regard. He often found himself as the negotiator between hunters and preservationists. The tension from the extreme positions of these two groups still exists, as is displayed by the bullet holes in a Gila Wilderness plaque honoring Leopold, which has since been replaced.

Born to a Germanic family attuned to the outdoors and living on the limestone bluffs of Burlington, Iowa, [Leopold] grew up overlooking sloughs of the Mississippi River, full of migrating water fowl, and hunting in upland prairies and oak-hickory groves, alongside his father and

grandfather. Recognizing that unlimited shooting was not sustainable, Leopold's father modeled a developing conservation ethic by adjusting his hunting practices to give up all duck hunting in the spring, according to Meine's biography.

His daily letters to his family from Lawrenceville Preparatory School in Lawrenceville, N.J., revealed his growing conservation ethic, as he described the relationships among what he had seen on his almost daily, long, solitary walks. Writing long, detailed letters was a lifetime habit.

Meine...characterizes Leopold as a responsible rebel fully aware of the dilemmas he caused. He used Leopold's many letters, reports, recorded talks and papers written for professional and lay audiences to analyze the ways in which Leopold's thinking and understanding evolved. Meine tracks Leopold's boyhood thinking about having enough game to hunt and fish to a man's comprehensive understanding of the interrelations of plants, animals, soil, water and climate and to how humans fit into, or more often disrupt, these relations.

In early letters from prep school, Leopold recounted his killing of crows or even hawks – creatures that threatened the animals he favored. In his last term, he swore off killing crows, an indication that he was beginning to see how the crows fit into the balancing of nature.

Perhaps Leopold's most famous epiphany occurred in his first years in southwestern New Mexico, after he had shot a wolf. Leopold wrote:

We reached the old wolf in time to watch a fierce green fire dying in her eyes. I realized then, and have known ever since, that there was something new to me in those eyes . . . something known only to her and to the mountain. I was young then, and full of trigger-itch; I thought that because fewer wolves meant more deer, that no wolves would mean hunters' paradise. But after seeing the green fire die, I sensed that neither the wolf nor the mountain agreed with such a view.

All New Mexicans have benefited from Leopold's initiatives, so it seems the least we can do is wish him a happy birthday [January 11] and refresh our thinking based on the thoughts and the role model he has bequeathed us.

Dewey Moore, an adjunct professor with the University of New Mexico's Department of Earth and Planetary Sciences, retired from the Illinois Geological Survey after 15 years in 2001 as emeritus clay mineralogist and taught at Knox College in Galesburg, Ill., for 25 years.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

ALBUQUERQUE WILDLIFE FEDERATION, PO BOX 1234, ALBUQUERQUE, NM 87103

An affiliate of New Mexico Wildlife Federation

Please choose between **AWF MEMBERSHIP ONLY** or **AWF + NMWF MEMBERSHIP**. **AWF MEMBERSHIP ONLY** does **not** include membership in NMWF. **AWF + NMWF MEMBERSHIP** includes **one** voting membership in NMWF, for which \$10 of your dues payment goes to NMWF. For Family Membership, if a second person* desires NMWF voting rights, an additional \$10 payment is required.

➔ **PLEASE ✓ ONE :** **AWF MEMBERSHIP ONLY** **AWF + NMWF MEMBERSHIP** ↴

Designate NMWF member(s*) _____

name(s) _____

address _____

city, state, zip _____

phone _____ email _____

Gift membership from: _____

✓ **MEMBERSHIP CATEGORIES**

- Student [under 18]..... \$10 ← [AWF Membership Only]
- Individual..... \$25
- Family..... \$35
- Sustaining..... \$50-\$99
- Patron..... \$100
- Lifetime..... \$500 ← [One-time Payment]

Dues \$ _____
 *Second NMWF Member \$10 _____
 Contribution \$ _____
TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____