



VOLUNTEERS' ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER



NEW MEXICO MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY & SCIENCE

February - March 2011

PLEASE READ ME FIRST!!

Fellow Volunteers,

I'd like to ask a small favor. When you have read over this VAN issue, please ask yourself two questions and get your responses back to me.

QUESTION 1: *What didn't I see in this issue that I would like to have seen?* QUESTION 2: *What kind of article would I like to have seen more of?*

This is **your** newsletter, and I'd like it to reflect your wishes/interests. Send your responses to me by email or drop them in the "Aunt Blabby" box on the side table in the Volunteer Lounge and I'll pick them up there. Thanks!

Louise Harris, VAN Editor
louise@goingourway.net

TABLE OF CONTENTS

WORDS FROM OUR PRESIDENT	Page 2
SUN SHINES ON SOLAR SUNDAYS	Page 3
TOUR GUIDES NEEDED	Page 3
TO MUSEUM, DOCENTS & HOSTS	Page 3
LIBRARY LINE	Page 4
GEOLOGY FIELD TRIP	Page 5
VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES	Page 5
MEETINGS, LECTURES (Mars!)	Page 6
SOLAR SUNDAY, TOURS	Page 7
DOCENT DISCUSSIONS	Page 7
DETONOGRAPHY	Page 7
DOCENT SOCIALS	Page 8
OPEN SESAME	Page 8
FOP CHILDREN OF TIME	Page 8
FOP TRACKWAYS REVIEW	Page 9
FOP MEETINGS	Page 9
FEBRUARY CALENDAR	Page 10
MARCH CALENDAR	Page 11

NEWS OF THE DAY: AUNT BLABBY THRILLED TO BE OF SERVICE AGAIN

"My Darlings," she gushed. "You like me! You really like me! I knew you'd come to believe in me again—I just knew it!" And with that she flounced back to her typewriter.

VAN News Staff



Aunt Blabby is here!

Q: When will we hear more about the changes our Museum is undergoing?

A: *So tickled you asked, dear. For a starter, do see Hello, Volunteers on page 6 of this wonderful publication!*

Q: When can we have closed captioning for our Museum movies? Hearing loss visitors should be able to enjoy them, too!

A: *When, indeed! Such a splendid question! Your Aunt Blabby finds her own hearing aid quite... mystifying... She loves you for bringing this up and will yoo-hoo the people upstairs about this. Stay tuned.*

Q: What day in January is the Awards Dinner?

A: *How to break this to you, dear one... This is the February issue. It's over. Please don't cry on the newsletter. It makes the ink run.*

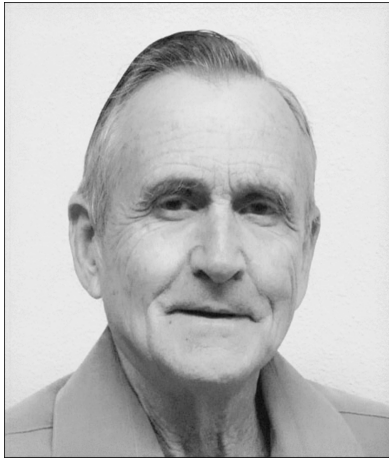
You'll find my question box on the table in the Volunteer Lounge. Your Aunt Blabby is all atwitter about the questions to come.

Until next time, Dear Hearts
⌘ Aunt Blabby ⌘



A FEW WORDS FROM OUR PRESIDENT

The New Year is underway with new and expanded volunteer opportunities including astronomy, outreach, and tour guides. I ask, though, that we all be both resilient and patient. Among other things, we are trying a new approach to our volunteer organization. On Tuesday, January 11, 2011, we had our first informational general meeting for all interested volunteers, although not as many came as hoped for. Nevertheless, it was a good meeting with Dianna Bunnell, Foundation Chief Financial Officer, and Greg Nelson, First Vice President of the Foundation Board participating. Dianna gave us an update of the finances, reporting that figures are up to date as of the end of November--much to the pleasure of our Treasurer, Joan Saberhagen.



John McDonnell

Greg Nelson reported on various efforts being done by the foundation: a complete revamp of the DynaTheater with the replacement of obsolete equipment with a new 3D projection system and new compatible screen, and a new effort to garner support for the Paleozoic Hall from oil patch communities. All in all, I think we who were there came out with a rather enlightened perspective on what's going on behind the scenes.

Continuing in this vein, we intend to have general informational meetings every other month, starting, again, in March where the emphasis will be on what's going on in different areas at the Museum. If time permits, the board will have a brief, *tie-up-loose-strings*, business meeting. The months for our

general informational meetings will be March, May, and July. In the intervening months of April and June the Volunteer's Association Board will meet as in the past.

Mike Pierce, fabrications manager, has agreed to say a few words at the next board meeting on Tuesday, February 8, about what's going on in that department. So, if you want to know more about what's going on 'over there', plan to attend. I can't promise all this as rock solid, but let's give it a try.

As for the Museum's reaccreditation, which may be on most everyone's mind, the information I got through the grapevine is that we did rather well, with the unconditional recommendation that we, this Museum, be fully reaccredited. A nice feather in our bonnet, *nes pas?*

*Cheers to all
John McDonnell*

A SPECIAL NOTICE TO ALL VOLUNTEERS

I'd like to set up a committee to review our By-Laws and possibly present amendments to the association assembled at some appropriate time. This committee, in my view, should be limited to no more than five or six active members, two of which should come from the present board, the others from off the board. I am leaving people to nominate themselves, with selection tentatively going to the first who volunteer.

I have some ideas and concerns I intend to present. However, to help assure the committee's perspective is association wide, I intend to leave it, for the greatest part, on its own.

Best hopes for our future, our continued service and enjoyment.

John McDonnell

THE SUN SHINES BRIGHTLY ON SOLAR SUNDAYS

Thanks to a hard-working, motivated and generally easy-to-get-along-with team of volunteers, our Solar Sunday program is seeing more light. These volunteers--*Dwight Harris, Gary Gyure, Stan Cohen, Doug Ray, John McDonnell, Dick Traeger, Roger Kennedy, new comers Steve Riegel and Terri Erskine, and Library Lady Linda Kennedy*--have put together various components that have been drawing good (and getting better) crowds on the observation deck since March 2010.

A "Feel the Power of the Sun Cart" was built by the EX-Fab staff back in 2009 and has seen a progression (should I say evolution) of activities added to it as we see what interests the public and what should educate the public. There are two underlying scientific concepts that drive the program: Solar Science and Solar and Power/Technology.



Solar Science involves direct solar observations via specially filtered telescopes, information about the dynamics of stars (focusing on our star), and large screen presentations of solar images from the NASA solar programs SOHO and SDO. There is a demonstration of Earth's "Water Cycle" (solar energy), a side-exhibit about the Earth-Moon-Sun system, and a library table that one visitor from Washington, DC, said was the most complete set of children's books about the sun she had seen. We are fortunate that Doug and Steve provide their own telescopes, since the planetarium/observatory telescope's hydrogen-alpha solar filter is beyond its useful life and needs to be repaired. We will add a "SunSpotter" solar imager later this spring, thanks to Jessica. For the past two events, *Laurel Ladwig* has loaned us hers.

Solar Power/Technology focuses on converting solar energy into useful applications. Gary has provided us with a working solar panel that

powers the pump of our swimming pool water heating system. This system was originally a science project of one of our junior docents. There are demonstrations of the importance of color and albedo and on how to use solar energy to cook/heat food. We are planning to up-grade these activities, seek donations from local solar energy companies, and develop our own activities. As the Climate Change and Weather Exhibits evolve, we hope to provide program support and expanded interpretation.

Of course none of these efforts would have seen the light of day without the assistance of the following staff: *Hollis Gillespie, Jessica Sapunar-Jursich, Charles Compton, David Baccaduttre, Mike Pierce, Mike Sanchez, Chris Sanchez, Alicia Borrego-Pierce, Amanda Alton and Carolyn Gregory.*

"Solar Sunday events are part of the Museum's Youth and Family Program in conjunction with the New Mexico Community Science Connections Coalition. Solar Sundays is funded by the Institute of Museum and Library Services with support from the New Mexico Museum of Natural History and Science."

Anyone who would like to join our merry band of sun worshippers is urged to contact Roger Kennedy at rwkennedy45@comcast.net. Get some sunscreen, a big floppy hat, and read up on Mr. Sol!!! Programs run every second Sunday, 12 noon until 3:00 pm.

Roger Kennedy, Volunteer Astronomy Committee Chair

TOUR GUIDES NEEDED

If you are a Museum docent and you are interested in becoming a tour guide, please contact me at 243-6220, or



bird57bugs@aol.com. Tour guiding is a satisfying and interesting experience, which is of great value to museum visitors, to the guide himself/herself, and most importantly to the reputation of our Museum. Contact me and let's talk.

Bud Hodgins, Tour Guide Coordinator

To: MUSEUM DOCENTS AND HOSTS

Happy New Year! I invite you to participate in our new series of Museum Docent and Host Refresher Trainings, Discussions, and Social Events. Times, dates, and topics are listed on page 8. Mark them on your calendar and join us!

And don't forget to keep those science content questions coming to me. You can leave them in the "malachite" box on the table in the volunteer lounge or by email, phone or in-person.

Jayne Aubele, Adult Programs Educator
Jayne.auble@state.mn.us or 505- 841-2840

LIBRARY LINE: THE LATEST ON EVOLUTION

Life Ascending: The Ten Great Inventions of Evolution, by Nick Lane, 2009, 344 p. (287 p. of text). Call number QH367.L36.

The "ten great inventions of evolution" that the author explores in this book are: the origin of life, DNA, photosynthesis, the complex cell, sex, movement, sight, hot blood, consciousness, and death. With one chapter for each "invention," he discusses its impact, ideas about how it developed, and evidence for and controversies about the various ideas. Considering that each of these is a very broad topic, it is not surprising that each chapter is quite long and packed with detail—yet each provides an interesting summary of cutting-edge thinking and research on these fundamental components of life.

What makes this book different from more familiar reviews in historical geology or paleontology texts is that it emphasizes not only evidence from the fossil record, but also evidence from rapidly developing studies in biochemistry, genetics, and molecular biology. These studies add a particularly valuable new dimension when you consider that of the ten "inventions" listed above, all but hot blood and

consciousness had developed by the beginning of the Cambrian, when the fossil record first becomes abundant. On the other hand, since the fossil record has little to contribute to the origins of consciousness and death (although all fossils are dead!), these last two chapters are far more speculative and stray into areas of psychology and medicine that I found less interesting.

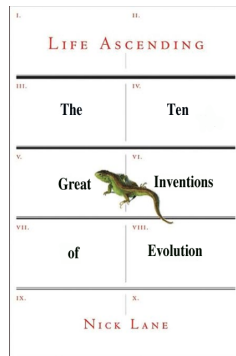
This is not an easy book to read. The author is a biochemist, and although he writes for a lay audience, not an academic one, he seems to assume a greater knowledge of biochemistry than most of us non-biochemists probably have. A glossary would have been helpful, but the chapters are generously furnished with footnotes and references.

Although the reading may be slow going, you will find many interesting new ideas in these pages, whether you choose to read or skim. The first two chapters include a discussion of how life, and DNA, might have originated in the extraordinary environment of deep sea vents, perhaps not in the intensely hot "black smokers" with their unusual flora and fauna, but in the less well known white "alkaline vents" with porous aragonite towers up to 60 meters tall. You will read about bacteria that can live on inorganic chemicals such as hydrogen sulfide, without any benefit of sunlight. You will discover how some components of modern cells, such as chloroplasts or mitochondria, may have begun as bacterial cells captured by other cells.

A particularly interesting chapter to me was the one on sight—it is amazing to learn about the many different ways that organisms can sense light, with or without actually seeing other objects. Eyes in tiny one-celled dinoflagellates appear to have developed from degenerate chloroplasts, whereas the familiar trilobites had eye lenses of sparkling calcite.

This book is not necessarily a page-turner, but is full of remarkable new ideas and insights.

Laurel Babcock, Librarian



VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

SMNHC VOLUNTEERS DO UNIQUE AND VARIED WORK

The Sandia Mountain Natural History Center has a small but very dedicated cadre of volunteers whose work sometimes goes unrecognized because of the SMNHC's separate location. Currently, the SMNHC has four volunteers who, combined, have worked at the SMNHC for over 25 years.

Paul Stubbe, our longest tenured volunteer, continues to display his passion for teaching and the outdoors every Thursday and his thoughts about the future of the SMNHC have been invaluable to our planning process.

Larry Littlefield, in addition to being a great teacher, has made himself an expert on the plants and fungi of the Sandia Mountains. His expertise has been a huge asset to the SMNHC. He is also pretty handy with a crosscut saw, which is needed pretty often when trees fall on our trails.

Kelly Dix, our newest volunteer and avid hiker, has been helping us with a dendrochronology study and set up a protocol, which will help us keep our data uniform. She has also been helping with some grant writing and is planning on leading some hikes for us in the spring.

Daniel Bush is the jack-of-all-trades volunteer at the SMNHC. In addition to leading hikes for us on most Fridays, Daniel has gone on outreach trips, helped with public programs and has done some trail-work as well.

In these times of shrinking budgets and diminishing staff, this group of hardy volunteers has really stepped up to help maintain the great programming at the SMNHC.

The main job of a volunteer at the SMNHC is to assist us with the 5th grade program. This assistance is more than just keeping kids in line and helping teach. In the past year our

volunteers have lead groups on their own, guided sick or injured hikers back to the office, helped when buses got stuck in the mud and even assisted in two medical emergencies that required a 911 response.

If you or someone you know would like to join this great team please contact Paul Mauermann at 281-5259 or paul.mauermann@state.nm.us.

CONTINUING EDUCATION

GEOLOGY FIELD TRIP, FEBRUARY 24

We will visit the UNM Earth and Planetary Science Facility, which has two parts:

1. At the Institute of Meteoritics our tour guide will be Mike Spilde, Research Scientist. He will demonstrate an important scientific tool

for our museum group. A sample meteorite will be analyzed and the



composition and structure identified using the sophisticated Ion Microprobe machine used in research at the Institute.



2. A second part of our tour will include a tour of the Geology Museum by Dr. Barry Kues. One of the highlights of this part of our visit will be the introduction of a hadrosaur femur, which was found in Paleocene formations in the San Juan Basin in NW New Mexico. This could be

evidence of the existence of dinosaurs beyond the usually accepted limit defined by the KT boundary.

For times and further information, see the Field Trip book or call John Throne at 345-6762

VOLUNTEER MEETINGS

TOUR GUIDES MEETING

The next continuing education meeting for tour guides will be held on March 3, 2011, in the multipurpose room from 10:30 AM to 12:30 PM.

If you are interested in becoming a tour guide or want to update your Museum knowledge, please plan to attend this meeting. The speakers are Dwight Jennison, who will speak on ***Archosaur Emergence during Late Permian to Late Triassic Periods***, and Roger Kennedy, who will educate you with ***A Docent Guide for Using the Mars Exhibit***.

There will be snacks and good conversation. Plan to attend.

Bud Hodgkin
Tour Guide Coordinator

Hello Volunteers,

The Museum has begun construction of its education wing renovation project in the old exhibits and fabrication area of the museum.

All Staff meetings are held every second Wednesday of the month in the Planetarium at 8:30 am. The meeting is led by either the Executive Director or Deputy Director, generally lasts around 20 minutes and is an opportunity to hear from the Director's Office staff about Museum updates, Museum financial and admissions report, Foundation report, Museum, Department of Cultural Affairs and/or State news related to the Museum. Volunteer staff is welcomed to attend All Staff meetings at any time.

Thank you for your continued dedication to the Museum.

Jessica Sapunar-Jursich
Director of Education

PUBLIC LECTURES

Mars Rover Mission Update: Seven Years Before the (Pancam) Mast

Larry Crumpler, Ph.D.

Tuesday, February 22, 7 p.m. – 8:30 p.m.

Dr. Crumpler has been a scientist on the NASA Mars Exploration Rover Mission throughout its entire 7 Earth years--or 3.5+ "Mars years"--roving the planet. Spirit and Opportunity are still in the process of the first true field geologic exploration of another planet. We have had several requests for a new Mars update and it is always "standing-room only" in the DynaTheater when Dr. Crumpler talks about the latest Mars Rover exploration results. Don't miss this presentation of the newest information and images from this historic natural history expedition to the surface of Mars.

Dr. Larry Crumpler is Research curator at the New Mexico Museum of Natural History and Science. He is a scientist on the NASA Mars Exploration Rover Mission and also served on HiRISE, part of the Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter mission. He divides his time between planetary geological research and New Mexico volcanology, and he was recently elected as a *Fellow of the Geological Society of America*. He continues to serve as "long-term planning lead" (LTP) for the daily telecons that define the activities of Spirit or Opportunity; and he continues to have a great time being a "field geologist" on Mars. Come hear some Mars stories from our local expert.

\$5 (\$4 members, \$3 students)

Purchase in advance online to guarantee your seats, go to www.NMnaturalhistory.org or purchase tickets at the door before the talk. Doors open at 6:15 p.m.

Questions: Contact August Wainwright at programs.NMMNHS@state.nm.us
Or call 505-841-2861

DETONOGRAPHY

Tuesday, February 15, 2011, 9:30 am in the Multi Purpose Room

Artist, Evelyn Rosenberg, has developed the technique known as *detonography*, which is created with metal, carved images and plastic explosives. Our art piece displayed in the museum, "A Walk Through Time", is one of her early works.



She has detonography art pieces all over Albuquerque and New Mexico including the scales sculpture in front of the new Albuquerque Court House. She has a fabulous sculpture at the Serengeti National Park Visitor Center in Tanzania, Africa. Some of you may have seen it there. Please join us to hear this very talented and interesting artist.

Coffee and donuts as usual!

Gerry Laidlaw

SOLAR SUNDAY



Programs run every second Sunday, 12 noon until 3:00 pm. See page 3 for more information.

PUBLIC TOURS

**Exhibit Design and Fabrication Tour
February 2, 10 a.m. – 11 a.m.**

Join us for a 60-minute *behind-the-scenes* tour of our NEW Museum Exhibit Design and

Fabrication Facility. LEED Silver Standard rated by the U.S. Green building Council. Meet our exhibit staff and see how Museum exhibits are created and produced.

Limited to 15 people. No strollers. An adult must accompany children.

Free with Museum Admission.

Registration welcome:

Go to www.NMnaturalhistory.org

Questions: Contact August Wainwright at programs.NMMNHS@state.nm.us or call 505-841-2861.

DOCENT DISCUSSIONS

Exhibit Hall Refresher Training For Museum Docents

Whether you completed Docent Training 20 years ago or more recently, there are always things to be learned and re-learned about the permanent exhibits of the Museum. Put these refresher trainings on your calendar for the coming year. This will be part refresher training on concepts and part discussions with your fellow docents. No lecture...no PowerPoints! Open to all Docents. Meet in the hall at the specific day and time.

NOTE: *In the tables below and on page 8, the current dates have a black background. Future dates will be republished in future VANS.*

Tues	FEB 15	1-2:30	Atrium/Minerals
Thur	MAR 24	9-10:30	Space Frontiers
Tues	MAR 8	3-4:30	Triassic
Thur	APRIL 7	2-3:30	Jurassic
Mon	MAY 9	9-10:30	Volcano
Tues	JUNE 7	1-2:30	Cretaceous
Wed	JULY 13	9-10:30	Ice Age
TBD	AUG	TBD	Cosmic Journey
TBD	SEP	TBD	Origins
TBD	OCT	TBD	STARTUP
TBD	NOV	TBD	Tertiary
TBD	NOV	TBD	Cave

DOCENT SOCIALS

All Museum Docents are invited to attend these relaxed get-togethers. They are designed to be an informal and fun way to interact with “fellow docents.” Talk with your colleagues about the way in which you interpret a specific exhibit, discuss the answer to a strange question you have received from a visitor, or ask me a science content question. Hear about updates on the Museum or learn about upcoming or proposed exhibits. Light refreshments and occasionally a very short mini-lesson. Held in the MPR.

MONDAY	FEB 7	11 am-12 pm
WEDNESDAY	MARCH 23	9:30-10:30 am
Tuesday	MAY 3	2-3 pm
Friday	JUNE 17	11 am-12 pm
Thursday	AUGUST 4	2-3 pm
Saturday	SEPT 17	11 am-12 pm
Tuesday	NOV. 1	9:30-10:30 am

OPEN SESAME

Cart Refresher Training for Museum Volunteers

Open a cart, make some “museum magic” and watch the visitors gather around. The museum carts entice visitors and offer them objects to touch and a “focal point” to begin to learn about the science in a particular hall. Plan to attend these cart refresher trainings even if you never took cart training in the first place. Open to Docents and Hosts. No lectures, no PowerPoints, just hands-on fun. Meet at the cart at the specific day and time.

TUES	2/8	9-10:30	BAT CART
MON	3/21	2-3:30	DINO CART
Thur	4/28	2-3:30	Rock/Mineral C
Thur	5/9	9-10:30	Skulls Cart
Mon	6/13	2-3:30	Solar Cart
Wed	7/20	9-10:30	Mars Cart
Mon	8/8	9-10:30	Sea Tank
TBD	TBD	TBD	STARTUP Cart



FRIENDS OF PALEONTOLOGY

Presentation Brings Paleontology and Paleoanthropology Together

The 17 January 2011 FOP meeting enjoyed a unique presentation by NMMNH&S illustrator Matt Celeskey and writer Anne Weaver, a paleoanthropologist, and author of a book about Charles Darwin called *The Voyage of the Beetle*. About three years ago museum volunteer Mary Sundstrom introduced Matt to UNM Press executives who were looking for an illustrator for Anne’s stories. Matt was granted permission to work on this project outside of his Museum duties. The two have since been collaborating on a book called *Children of Time*.

Anne’s story line starts in Clovis, New Mexico, with a young boy who helps a team of archaeologists uncover artifacts from Paleoindians who lived there. The remaining chapters describe the hypothetical lives of five prehistoric families seen through the eyes of their children, based on actual bones and archeological artifacts found in Africa, Israel, and the Czech Republic. Matt illustrated the features of the people in each species studied (*Australopithecus africanus*, *Homo habilis*, *H. erectus*, Neandertals, and modern humans) and drew the animals extant during the 2.5 million years spanned by the fossils and artifacts. He had to interpret fossil skull structures to flesh out several hominid faces, whose muscular complexity was a bit more challenging than his usual work reconstructing dinosaurs and fossil reptiles.

This collaborative effort is an example of how paleontology and paleoanthropology can come together in a natural history scenario. UNM Press will publish *Children of Time*, hopefully this year.

Dick Yeck
VP, Programs, FOP

FOP PROGRAM SUMMARY FROM DECEMBER 8: Robledo Mountain Permian Trace Fossils

Recently, Spencer Lucas, Chief Scientist and Curator of Paleontology gave presentations at two venues at the NMMNHS in order to educate volunteers about the Trackways site in the Robledo Mountains northwest of Las Cruces. The site contains early Permian (about 280 myo) fossils and traces of tetrapod and insect trackways, coprolites, gastroliths, burrows, nests and other indicators of fossilized behavior.



At the December 20, 2010 Friends of Paleontology (FOP) meeting, attendees learned that this scientifically important site on federal land was first seriously examined in the 1980's by Jerry McDonald, a non-professional in paleontology. Our Museum has been involved with study of the site for the past 20 years and has been funded for the past year and a half by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to conduct an in-depth assessment of paleontological resources. In 2006, Senators Bingaman and Domenici introduced legislation that created the Prehistoric Trackways National Monument.

The Trackways site formed along an ancient seacoast that ran through the Las Cruces area. This geologically complex area is not only difficult to study but also to traverse by foot. The 1000 foot thick Hueco Group formed in tidal flats and preserved a complex mosaic of microenvironments. There are non-marine red sandstones and siltstones that contain trace fossils, including trackways. The red layers alternate with marine limestone, containing shells, fossilized wood and non-track trace fossils.

This is a world-class record of trace fossils that will allow for a unique understanding of many

scientific problems regarding behavior and paleo-environments. Dr. Lucas encouraged volunteers to visit the site and appreciate this special place. However, to find the greatest number of high quality tracks collected from the area, you only have to walk across the street to our Museum's research facility.

Dr. Lucas also informed the group that because the BLM has a mandate to operate their lands as multiple-use assets, the on-site paleontological resources are at risk from those with other interests, such as off-road vehicle use. This spring, there will be a formal request from BLM asking for public comment regarding management of the Prehistoric Trackways National Monument. Dr. Lucas requested that interested volunteers make their wishes known during the BLM comment process.

Dick Yeck & Mary Moore

FUTURE FOP MEETINGS

The next two meetings of the Friends of Paleontology will be held in the Museum Multipurpose Room at the following dates and times:

Date: **Monday, February 21, 2011**
 Time: **7:00 pm**
 Speaker: **Pat Hester**
 Location: **Rio Puerco BLM Office.**
 Subject: **TBD**

Date: **Monday, March 21, 2011**
 Time: **7:00 pm**
 Speaker: **Dr. Tom Williamson**
 Subject: **Tyrannosaurs of the Southwest.**

~ February 2011 ~						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 TOUR: Exhibit Design and Fabrication 10-11 am	3 MEETING: Volunteers, Docent, & Tour Guides	4	5
6	7 DOCENT SOCIAL 11-12 pm MPR	8 OPEN SESAME Bat Cart 9-10:30 am Volunteer Board Meeting 1 pm MPR FREE DAY	9	10	11	12
13 SOLAR SUNDAY 12-3 pm	14	15 DOCENT DISCUSSION Atrium and Minerals 1-2:30 pm E.Rosenberg, <i>Detonography</i> 9:30 MPR	16	17 CURATOR'S COFFEE: Dynamic Digital Universe 9:30-11:00 MPR (PUBLIC) \$\$	18	19
20	21 FOP 7 pm	22 LECTURE: Mars Rover	23	24 DOCENT DISCUSSION Space Frontiers 9-10:30 am	25	26
27	28	Notes:				

~ March 2011 ~						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 TOUR Exhibit Design and Fabrication 10-11 am	3	4	5
6	7	8 DOCENT DISCUSSION Triassic 3-4:30 pm Volunteer Board Meeting 1 pm MPR	9	10	11	12
13 SOLAR SUNDAY 12-3 pm	14	15	16	17 CURATOR'S COFFEE: Triassic Salamander 9:30-11 am (PUBLIC) \$	18	19
20	21 OPEN SESAME Dino Cart Refresher 2-3:30 pm FOP 7 pm	22 LECTURE: Southwest Tyrannosaurs 7-8:30 pm	23 DOCENT SOCIAL 9:30-10:30 am MPR	24	25	26 EARTH HOUR Extravaganza Lights out for one hour.
27	28	29	30	31	Notes:	

COMING IN MAY!

"Degrees of Change: New Mexico's Climate Forecast"

Volunteer Training – May 25, 9 am-11 am

This new exhibit will open to the public on May 20...Put this on your calendar... for a great training on ways to introduce visitors to this important exhibit.



**NEW MEXICO MUSEUM OF
NATURAL HISTORY FOUNDATION**

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NMMNHS VAN

February-March 2011

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

In order to standardize more of the Van, the next deadline for submitting articles will be the 15th of the month before the next issue.

VAN MISSION STATEMENT

To inform, engage, and enhance the experience of NMMNHS Volunteers by:

- Acting as a vehicle of “continuing education”
- Keeping volunteers informed about the Museum
- Relaying news of volunteers and their activities.

Editor: Louise Harris

**April/May VAN Deadline - March 15, 2011
(June/July VAN Deadline will be May 15)**

Volunteer Coordinator's office – 505.841.2877
Please email articles to louise@goingourway.net
with a copy to chris.sanchez@state.nm.us

We welcome your articles pertaining to the Museum. We may edit for clarity and space limitations.

