



Dear Volunteers:

When you signed up to become a volunteer you agreed to pay dues to the Volunteer Association. Currently, **\$8 of your membership fee goes to the Volunteer Association** and helps to pay for continuing education, volunteer recognition, the volunteer directory, some volunteer events, and other related expenses.

Your museum and volunteer memberships are renewed annually. At the time of renewal you will receive a notification from either the Foundation or from Friends of Paleontology (FOP) letting you know that your membership is expiring. (Please check your membership card for its date of expiration.)

On the current annual museum membership renewal form **there is a box to check to let the Foundation know that you wish to serve as a volunteer. If you don't check that box, or if you have made a membership payment or donation on an older form that doesn't have such a box, the Volunteer Association has no record of receiving your dues and you may not be listed as a Volunteer!** (Note that new or renewing members of FOP use a different membership form and are automatically recorded as volunteers.)

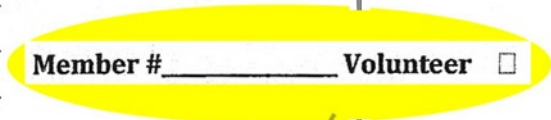
Is anyone exempt from paying dues? Yes. Glad you asked! Students, Junior Docents, and Interns are exempt from paying dues.

In order to update and correct our present records, we will soon initiate a **new notification process** for the benefit of all. If there's some uncertainty about your dues, when you sign in on the computer in the Volunteer Lounge, a message on the computer will ask you to double check your dues status.

You can do that by either calling Nick Seid at the NMMNHS Foundation (505-841-2889) or by emailing (nseid@naturalhistoryfoundation.org). You can also stop by the Foundation/Membership desk just inside the front door of the museum. We appreciate your patience as we get this new process underway.

-Penny Goldstine
 Volunteer Association, Membership Chair

Membership Application			
Choose Level	One Year	Two Year	Benefits
<input type="checkbox"/> Family Plus	\$100	\$175	Free museum admission 50% off DynaTheater shows 30% off Planetarium shows 10% off at NatureWorks store & cafe Advanced Seating for Select Special Events ASTC passport program Subscription to TimeTracks newsletter
<input type="checkbox"/> Family	\$75	\$125	
<input type="checkbox"/> Senior Couple	\$50	\$90	
<input type="checkbox"/> Senior Individual	\$30	\$55	
<input type="checkbox"/> Duet	\$60	\$100	
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual	\$45	\$80	
<input type="checkbox"/> Student	\$25	\$45	
1 st Adult Name _____		2 nd Adult Name _____	
Address _____		City, State, Zip _____	
Telephone _____		E-mail _____	
Child #1 Name _____		Child #1 Birth Date _____	
Child #2 Name _____		Child #2 Birth Date _____	
Child #3 Name _____		Child #3 Birth Date _____	
Child #4 Name _____		Child #4 Birth Date _____	
GIFT MEMBERSHIP ONLY (Write recipient's information below)			
Name _____			
Address _____			
Telephone _____			
Send membership to: <input type="checkbox"/> Me <input type="checkbox"/> Recipient			
Payment Information <input type="checkbox"/> Cash <input type="checkbox"/> Check (made payable to NMMNHF) <input type="checkbox"/> Credit Card Visa MasterCard American Express Discover			
Date: _____ New <input type="checkbox"/> Renewal <input type="checkbox"/> Member # _____ Volunteer <input type="checkbox"/>			





Pat Robinson
President
NMMNHS Volunteer
Board

Notes from the President

Dear Volunteers,

I wanted to update you on a few important matters that affect volunteers.

1. The Board of Trustees is hard at work with the long process of choosing a new Director for the Museum and hopes to have someone chosen by summer.
2. Both Penny Goldstine and Dwight Harris have worked hard to reconcile our membership rolls and the dues which we have paid. This has gone a long way to solving a challenging issue that we have had for some time.
3. Your Volunteer Board is working hard at being sure that your monies are spent responsibly. The dues are spent primarily for operating expenses which include coffee for the lounge, support for volunteer events, extra volunteer recognition, library books, the volunteer directory, etc.
4. In addition we have a small fund from past fundraising events which we call the reserve fund, and those monies have been carefully allocated to a number of projects this fiscal year including: supplies for the Volunteer-sponsored Hall of the Stars, Electric Microscopes for the Naturalist Center, two electronic tablet devices for use with visitors, and a new Dinosaur Family Tree which will soon appear in the Cretaceous Hall. If you would like to support future projects like these to benefit the museum, we would welcome your additional tax-exempt donations to this reserve fund. Dwight Harris, our treasurer, would be happy to answer any questions you might have. dwightharris@gmail.com
5. It's already time for a nominating committee for Fiscal Year 2015-16. Members of that committee include Bill and Nita Burns, Christie Lucero and Penny Goldstine. If you would like to serve on the committee, run for office, or know someone who would be a good candidate, please contact Penny at penny_sg@yahoo.com.

CONTINUING EDUCATION SEMINAR

DATE: May 5, 2015
TIME: 10:30 am
WHERE: MPR
SPEAKER: Barry Granoff

Epigenetics: The Genie in Your Genes

Can you inherit experiences from your parents and grandparents? A decade ago the answer would have been a resounding "no," because experiences were not believed to be encoded in our genome. Our DNA is the very essence of who we are. It determines every feature and characteristic about us, ranging from hair and eye color to aptitude for math and science. DNA is the one human feature that is virtually unchangeable. In the classical genetic model, you get genes from mom and dad, and they got them from their parents, and those genes stay almost identical from generation to generation - with the exception of a few dozen random mutations. But it's becoming clear that **epigenetics** reveals a mechanism that alters the way genes work without changing the genes, passing down to children the experiences of parents and grandparents, by detecting molecular tags that are not encoded in DNA. So if Grandma Sadie was a heavy smoker, or was exposed to toxic chemicals, it's possible that your health might be affected.

Barry Granoff received a B.S. in chemistry from City College of New York and a Ph.D. in physical chemistry from Princeton University. He worked for DuPont and Sandia National Laboratories. Since retiring he has been an active volunteer with Albuquerque Reads, the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair, and the NM Museum of Natural History & Science. He is an Instructor for LifeLong Learning New Mexico, and has taught a variety of courses in science.

-Malcolm Siegal, Coordinator, Continuing Education Committee

May-August 2015 Museum Adult and Family Educational Programs

MAY

May 1 • Space Science
New Exhibit

May 2 & 3 • Special Event
Save the Frogs Day

May 12 • Curator's Coffee
Humans and Natural Systems

May 22 • Field Trip
Rio Grande Raft Trip

May 25 • Space Science
Lunar Monday

JUNE

June 7 • First Sunday

June 8 • Young Explorers Begins

June 8 - 12 • Computer Girls
Graphic Designer

June 12 • Prehistoric Preschool Begins
City Bird, Country Bird

June 17-20 • Field Trip
San Juan River Raft

June 18 • Lecture
Getting Men to the Moon

June 20 • Family Workshop
Breeze

June 21 • Space Science
International SUNDAY

June 22 - 26 • Computer Girls
Video Game Designer

June 27 • SMNHC
Solar Fiesta

June 29 • Space Science
Lunar Monday

LECTURE

Getting Men to the Moon: Behind-the-Scenes Stories

Loretta Hall, Author of
Space Pioneers: In Their Own Words

Thursday, June 18, 2015 7 - 8:30 pm

Nearly half a century ago, the world watched in awe as seven Apollo missions over a four-year period took twenty-one men to the moon and back. Twelve of those men landed on the moon, explored it, and brought back samples of rocks and dirt. April, 2015, marked the forty-fifth anniversary of the Apollo 13 mission, in which an explosion aboard the spacecraft nearly doomed three astronauts. And, of course, one of the two last men on the Moon was our own New Mexico geologist, Dr. Harrison Schmitt.

Join Ms. Hall for this fun and informative evening, as she reveals insiders' stories of what it took to overcome challenges and accomplish triumphs in the Apollo program and its predecessors, Mercury and Gemini.

Her new book, *Space Pioneers: In Their Own Words* will be available for sale in NatureWorks prior to the lecture; Ms. Hall will be available to sign her book after the lecture.

Loretta Hall is the author of two space history books. *Out of this World: New Mexico's Contributions to Space Travel* recounts the stories of New Mexico people and programs that played crucial roles in the development of manned spaceflight and, more recently, the commercial space industry. *Space Pioneers: In Their Own Words* presents annotated excerpts from oral history interviews with ninety men and women who worked on various space programs from 1945 through the space shuttle era. Ms. Hall is a member of the Historical Society of New Mexico's Speakers Bureau and a Space Ambassador for the National Space Society.

Held at the New Mexico Museum of Natural History & Science;
1801 Mountain Rd. NW, Albuquerque, NM 87104 • (505) 841-2800
Visit: www.nmnaturalhistory.org

Cost: \$6 (\$5 members, \$4 students) Museum Volunteers are FREE.
Purchase in advance online to guarantee your seats, go to www.NMnaturalhistory.org or purchase tickets at the admissions desk the night of the event. Doors open at 6:15 pm

Questions: August Wainwright, call (505) 841-2861
email: programs.NMMNHS@state.nm.us

NEW EXHIBIT

"Out of the Cabinet: Curious Specimens from our Collections"

April through October, 2015

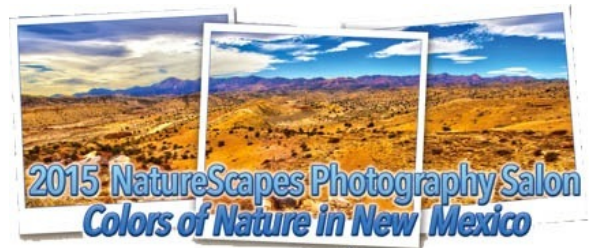
Historically, "cabinets of curiosity" were used to display specimens and artifacts from world expeditions to impress wealthy guests. We have gone on our own adventure, exploring collections from our museum, the Rattlesnake Museum and the Museum of Southwestern Biology at the University of New Mexico to select beautiful and interesting animals, plants and fossils to create our own cabinet of curiosity.

Free with Museum Admission.

NatureScapes PHOTO SALON

NatureScapes 2015: "Colors of Nature in New Mexico"

This theme celebrates the many beautiful colors occurring naturally in the land, sky, minerals, flora and fauna of New Mexico. We encourage a diverse variety of subjects that capture the color of New Mexico - from the smallest insect to the grandest landscape. Photographs may include humans interacting with nature, but the focus must be on the *Colors of Nature* in New Mexico.



Photographers at all levels of experience are invited to submit their work, and there will be special prizes for student photographers. Photographers do not have to be residents but the photographs must be taken in New Mexico.

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Entries accepted between **July 17 and September 4, 2015 only.**

More information about the submission process: <http://www.nmnaturalhistory.org/2015-naturescapes-photo-salon.html>.

CURATOR'S COFFEE

A Café Style Program

Join us for a casual discussion followed by a themed tour. Limited to 15 people and includes coffee, light refreshments, and Museum admission.

Humans and Their Impact on Natural Systems

Janie Chermak, Ph.D.

Tuesday, May 12, 2015 • 9:30 to 11am

Humans can stress the natural environment. Expanding populations, exploitation of resources, and the resulting externalities intensify the strain on the natural. The arid southwestern U.S. is no exception. While the region has abundant energy resources, it also has increased demands for its limited water resources. Changing climatic conditions may intensify many of the problems associated with resource use.

Finding viable solutions to these increasingly complex problems requires solutions that are not only technologically and economically viable, but also acceptable to society. In order to assess the outcome of potential policy prescriptions this research focuses on the interactions and tradeoffs between the human and physical system, including the impact of human preferences and behavior on the natural system.

Dr. Janie Chermak is an applied micro-economist who specializes in natural resource economics. She earned her MSc and PhD in Mineral Economics from the Colorado School of Mines and a BA in geology from Western State College. She is a Professor of Economics and Chair of the Department at the University of New Mexico. She is also associated faculty member of the Water Resources Program at UNM and is affiliated faculty at the University of Colorado - Denver's Global Energy Management program. Her research focuses on natural resources with an emphasis in the energy and water and the nexus between, as well as climate issues and consumer response scarcity.

This Curator's Coffee is co-sponsored by EPSCoR which is partnering with the NMMNHS to bring researchers and their work to the public.

Sandia Mountain Natural History Center

\$8 (10% discount for members and volunteers) **Pre-registration required. Limit 15 participants.** To guarantee your place, register online, go to

www.NMnaturalhistory.org

Questions: August Wainwright, call (505) 841-2861, email:

programs.NMMNHS@state.nm.us

PUBLIC PROGRAMS

The Sandia Mountain Natural History Center is an offsite environmental education center located in Cedar Crest, managed by the New Mexico Museum of Natural History and Science.

Forest Fiesta

Sat., June 27 • 9:00 am - 2:00 pm

The Sandia Mountain Natural History Center will be hosting a public event with hikes, demonstrations, and activities focusing on forestry. Learn how to identify trees and plants, witness the positive effects of forest fires, and participate in a number of hands-on forestry activities and crafts. For a full schedule of events and more details please check our web page at nmnaturalhistory.org/smnhc.

MUSEUM TOURS

Museum Exhibit Tours

Mondays • 1:30 - 2:30 pm

Take a docent-led, fact-filled, fun, guided tour of the Museum exhibits. Limited to 14 participants ages 13 and up. Meet in the Atrium at the stadium seating.

Free (with Museum Admission)

No registration required. First-come, first-served.

FIELD TRIP**Family Fun on a River Run!
Rafting the San Juan River****June 17-20, 2015**

Join us for a family rafting adventure next summer! We'll float 26 miles between Bluff and Mexican Hat, Utah. Learn about the natural history of this river ecosystem, and the plants and animals of the area through games, stories and other fun activities. There will be lots of time for playing in and on the water. It is a great family experience!

For children 7 years and over with parent(s), grandparent(s), aunt(s) or uncle(s)—no experience necessary. Complete itinerary available.

Expert Guides:

Tish Morris – has led this trip for the museum for many years; she has retired from the Museum, but thinks a few days on the San Juan are just the best!

Kristin Gunckel, Ph.D. – (Tentative) is also a veteran of many Museum raft trips, is a geologist, educator and now faculty at the University of Arizona and brings a wealth of knowledge and engagement with children to this trip.

Pre-registration required. Registration through:

Four Corners School of Outdoor Education:
<http://www.fourcornersschool.org/programs/southwest-ed-ventures-swed> 800-525-4456

Cost: \$715 adults, \$690 child under 12 (\$20 off for Museum members: \$695 adult/\$670 child)

Includes all food from dinner Day 1 through Lunch Day 4, expert staff, river guides, group equipment and supplies. Families meet in Bluff, Utah, on the evening of Wednesday, June 17th and get off the river and back to Bluff the afternoon of Sunday, June 20th. Camping equipment may be rented.

Co-sponsored by Four Corners School of Outdoor Education

Detailed Trip questions: Contact Tish Morris at tish.morris11@gmail.com

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

FIELD TRIP**Geology and Landscape of
the Rio Grande--Raft Trip****Friday, May 22, 2015**

Trip Leader: Paul Bauer, Ph.D., Principal Geologist at the New Mexico Bureau of Geology and Mineral Resources, New Mexico Tech.

Join us on this special one-day raft trip on the Rio Grande in Northern New Mexico.

Our special guide will be of Dr. Paul Bauer, author of the award-winning book, *The Rio Grande--A River Guide to the Geology and Landscapes of Northern New Mexico*.

The geology of the region is...exceptional, including three major volcanic fields (including the Jemez supervolcano), seismically active faults, Pleistocene lakes, and ancient rocks of the Rocky Mountains. Dr. Bauer will help us understand the geology, hydrology, landscape evolution, ecology, and water management of the Rio Grande of Northern New Mexico.

We will run both quiet and white water, during the day; the typical trip will have everyone paddling under expert direction by our river guides; oar boats are available if anyone has special needs. Our trip will be with Far Flung Adventures, experienced rafting company. A riverside buffet lunch with sandwiches, trimmings, and salad will be provided.

Preregistration required. Go to NMnaturalhistory.org Adults Only. Minimum number of participants 12; maximum 24

Trip participants will meet in Pilar, NM (north of Española, south of Taos) at 8:30 am. Return to cars about 3 pm.

Cost: \$ 143 (10% discount for Museum members)

Questions: August Wainwright at programs@state.nm.us; 505-841-2861

Information about Dr. Bauer's book: <https://geoinfo.nmt.edu/publications/guides/riogrande/home.cfm>

SPACE SCIENCE SPECIAL EVENTS

NEW Space Science EXHIBIT Opens Early May

It Came from Mars: The Story of Mars Meteorites

Earth has been invaded by Mars. Rocks from Mars have crash landed on our planet. And one of the few places on Earth that specializes in studying these unusual rocks is right here in Albuquerque at the University of New Mexico, Institute of Meteoritics (IOM). In partnership with the IOM, this one-of-a-kind exhibit, created by this Museum, displays samples of rocks from Mars, some of the most valuable rocks found on Earth. The exhibit also leads you through the detective story of how these rocks were discovered, why we know they are from Mars, how they got to Earth, and what they can tell us (and what they can't tell us) about our neighboring planet.

Exhibit is included in general museum admission. Check the Museum website for more information. and details.

INTERNATIONAL SUNDAY

Sunday, June 21 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

International SUNDAY encourages participants to share their creative photos, drawings, and thoughts about the sun on social media sites. The Albuquerque Astronomical Society will offer safe views of the sun on social media sites. The Albuquerque Astronomical Society will offer safe views of the sun along with fun activities. For more information, visit <https://www.facebook.com/INTLSUNDAY>

No Registration required.
Free with museum admission

Canceled if the Sky is Cloudy

LUNAR MONDAYS

**Monday, May 25,
Monday, June 29
8:30 - 9:30 pm**



Join members of The Albuquerque Astronomical Society in studying the moon and other sky objects from the museum's observatory. Each month focuses on a different lunar feature.

Admission by Donation

Canceled if the Sky is Cloudy

FIRST SUNDAYS

**Sunday, May 3, June 7
9:00 am - 5:00 pm**

FREE Admission to the Museum for all New Mexico Residents

On the first Sunday of every month, the New Mexico Museum of Natural History and Science is FREE to all New Mexico residents. Bring NM ID or proof of residence. Regular admission fees for DynaTheater and Planetarium shows.

**Guided Tour of the Museum Public Exhibits
Every First Sunday • 1:30-2:30 pm**

Take a free, fact-filled, fun, guided tour of the Museum exhibits.

Limited to 14 participants ages 13 and up
Tours are first-come, first-served

BIOSCIENCE SPECIAL EVENTS

Save the FROGS Weekend May 3, 11am - 2 pm

Join the New Mexico Museum of Natural History and Science in partnership with New Mexico Tech to celebrate *Save the Frogs Day 2015*. (<http://www.savethefrogs.com/day/>).

The official *Save the Frogs Day* is April 25 this year, but we will be hosting events at the Museum on the Sunday, May 3. Activities led by NMT will occur on Sunday, and the Museum will have outreach activities.

No registration
required.
Free to all NM
Residents



NEW EXHIBIT

"Out of the Cabinet: Curious Specimens from our Collections"

April through October, 2015

Historically, "cabinets of curiosity" were used to display specimens and artifacts from world expeditions to impress wealthy guests. We have gone on our own adventure, exploring collections from our museum, the Rattlesnake Museum and the Museum of Southwestern Biology at the University of New Mexico to select beautiful and interesting animals, plants and fossils to create our own cabinet of curiosity.

Free with Museum Admission.

PROGRAMS FOR STUDENTS AND FAMILIES

YOUNG EXPLORERS SUMMER SCIENCE CAMP 2015

Looking for summer fun for children from Kindergarten through 8th Grade?

Experience an adventure with the New Mexico Museum of Natural History & Science this summer! Explore space, climb volcanoes, dig fossils, and hike forest trails with experienced instructors.

Interested in space? Space camps for all ages will be offered. Discover the biology, geology, paleontology, ecology, and space science of our state. Create art through natural exploration.

Week-long, full-day or half-day camps for children entering Kindergarten through 8th grade will be offered. Aftercare will be available for full day camps.

Camp schedules and registration are available on our website, www.NMnaturalhistory.org.

New for Summer 2015

Just Winging It: All About Birds for 2nd-4th graders

Mission Possible: Museum Quest, Jr. for 2nd-3rd graders

Mission Possible: Museum Quest for 4th-6th graders

Museum Makers for 5th-8th graders

New Mexico Wilderness Camp for 7th-8th graders

Plus Returning Favorites

Space Camps for all grade levels

Nature Detectives

Natural World Around Us

Dinosaur Detectives

Animal Art Around Us

Summer Science Sleuths

Base Camp to Summit Sandia Mountains

YOU NEED TO KNOW

These classes are scheduled rain or shine. The minimum number of participants for a class is six (6). Please note that the Museum staff (including instructors, aides and all other staff) cannot take responsibility for dispensing prescription or over-the-counter medications. Campers are required to provide their own lunch for full-day programs and a snack and drink for half-day programs.

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Field trips require a daypack with lunch, water bottle, hat and sunscreen as well as any other necessary items noted in the registration confirmation letter. Campers must wear shoes appropriate for field trips—no open-toed shoes such as sandals.

Young Explorers REGISTRATION POLICY

Register on-line through <http://nmnaturalhistory.org/young-explorers-summer-camp.html>

For more information on Young Explorers 2015, e-mail programs.NMMNHS@state.nm.us or call (505) 841-2861. A waiting list will be maintained for each session that is full; no deposit is required. People on the waiting list will be notified in sequential order. If they wish to reserve for the program they must make full payment within three days of notification.

Full refund will be given if the session is canceled by the Museum due to low enrollment.

Young Explorers' scholarships are available, contact programs.NMMNHS@state.nm.us or call 505-841-2861

PREHISTORIC PRESCHOOL

NEW this Summer!

City Birds, Country Birds

June 12 - July 25, 2015

Join us as we explore birds, learn ways to watch them, and find different birds in the city and the country - spending two classes in the "City" - in the Museum's Learning Garden Outdoor Classroom, and two classes in the "Country" - at the Sandia Mountain Natural History Center in Cedar Crest. Explorations in the **Birds of Paradise** exhibit round out this Family Class.

Time choices (summer session only):

Participants choose to attend all Friday or all Saturday mornings 10 am to noon, or all Saturday afternoons 1 to 3 pm.

PLEASE NOTE: our location will change between the Sandia Mountain Natural History Center in following classes.

Cedar Crest [link to <https://sites.google.com/a/aps.edu/smnhc/directions>] and the Kiwanis Learning Garden Outdoor Classroom (across the street from the Museum) as per the classes below.

CLASS 1

*Be a Bird Watcher @ the Sandia Mountain Center
June 12 or 13*

CLASS 2

Be a Bird @ the Kiwanis Learning Garden June 26 or 27

CLASS 3

*All About City Birds @ the Kiwanis Learning Garden
July 10 or 11*

CLASS 4

*All About Country Birds @ the Sandia Mountain Center
July 24 or 25*

Preregistration required.

All class participants must be accompanied by an adult. No more than two children may be registered per adult companion and no more than two adult companions may accompany any one child. Permission for attendance by siblings younger than 3 is made on a case-by-case basis with Early Childhood Educator. Maximum class size is 12 children and their adult companions.

\$90 first child, \$81 for the second child in same family.

Museum member 10% discount - \$81 first child, \$72.90 for the second child in the same family. Scholarships available to families who qualify [link to scholarship pdf - see attached] Register: <http://www.nmnaturalhistory.org/preschool.html>
Questions? Contact: August Wainwright programs.nmmnhs@state.nm.us (505)841-2861

PREHISTORIC PRESCHOOL ONE-DAY FAMILY WORKSHOPS

Feel the Breeze Family Workshop • Saturday, June 20th • 10 - Noon
Ages 3 through 5 + adult

Explore air in its most tangible form - wind - by feeling it, making it, and seeing its effects on other objects. Program will be filmed for evaluation.

Registration required: email cirrelda.snider@state.nm.us (Please include name, # of children, phone number).

Cost: Donations will benefit our scholarship fund.

This is a LEAP into Science Family Workshop, which is a partnership between The Franklin Institute Science Museum and the Free Library of Philadelphia, designed to engage children and families in science and literacy learning.

The Volunteer Association Newsletter (The VAN)

The VAN is published bimonthly. There are six regular issues each year: January-February, March-April, May-June, July-August, September-October, and November-December with an occasional Special Issue. The deadline for submitting articles and photographs for the next regular issue is always the fifteenth of the month prior to the publishing date of that issue. The deadline for the **July-August** issue, for example, will be **June15**.

Please send items for the VAN to Louise Harris, VAN Editor, <louise@goingourway.net>, with a copy to Chris Sanchez DCA <chris.sanchez@state.nm.us> and Doug Simon DCA <doug.simon@state.nm.us>

The VAN mission is to inform, engage, and enhance the experience of NMMNHS Volunteers by acting as a vehicle of continuing education, keeping volunteers informed about the Museum, and relaying news of volunteers and their activities.

*Your articles pertaining to the museum are most welcome.
Articles may be edited for clarity and space limitations.*

EDITOR'S REQUEST: Please put the word "VAN" in your email title when you submit an article or photo for the VAN. Thank you!
