

FRIENDS OF BANDELIER

ANNUAL REPORT

2002

LOOKING BACK

I remember a lovely autumn day in 1986 when ranger Ed Greene, then Chief of Interpretation, invited me down to Bandelier. It was a time when federal deficits were rising, and Congress was slicing appropriations for federal agencies. Ed showed me a letter from the Chief of the National Park Service explaining that he, the Chief, could not do anything to alleviate the budget cuts. He advised each unit to, "go to your friends." Ed asked if I would be interested in starting a Friends group. I said that I hadn't the vaguest idea how and was the world's lousiest fundraiser. "I don't either, and so am I," said Ed. So, we did it anyway. Superintendent John Hunter started us with a donation of \$100; the park request list that year totaled over \$100,000! Things didn't improve. By 1989, Superintendent José Cisneros said, "We've tighten our belts so much there is nothing left to tighten on."

But gradually, mostly because of pressure from the American people, Congress provided relief for the Park Service. In addition to increased budgets, a new program lets Bandelier use 80% of the money they collect at the gate to maintain, preserve, upgrade, and study their many resources. Also, the park received some good grants by competing for Park Service special funds. The rangers were chipping away at a backlog of needs and the future looked better. Now the country faces the war on terrorism, possible war with Iraq, large tax cuts, and massive deficits. What will become of our country's collective treasures, like our national parks? Must we go back to the bad old days? It would be nice to be optimistic, but....

LOOKING FORWARD

Bandelier faces big tasks. The 1930s buildings are unsuitable for administrative offices. There was a big push to get a federal building in Los Alamos to house the Park Service, Forest Service, the Valles Caldera Trust, and I think even the Post Office. I haven't heard about that lately.

The Southwest has experienced ever more severe drought the past four years. This year, with glorious 50-degree January weather, does not promise any relief. Nature is responding with a massive outbreak of various bark beetles that are attacking virtually every type of evergreen we have. Land agencies, including Bandelier, are facing entire landscapes of dead trees. Bandelier rangers began an aggressive fire mitigation program along State Road 4, where they thinned trees within a 200-foot corridor. They are scaling back now to see how bad the die-off will be. Equally affected is the proposal to restore the pinyon-juniper belt in the Bandelier Wilderness. Pinyons are dying at a rapid rate, but the key to bringing back grasses and small plants is in using pinyon slash for mulch. The rangers must go

back and think again about how best to manage the land. The elk problem has eased a bit. The elk prefer to stay in up the Valles Caldera grasslands during mild winters. Unfortunately, they browse too heavily there, too.

FRIENDS GRANTS FOR 2002

In 2002 we granted Bandelier \$16,038. As is often the case, we had to make adjustments as the year progressed. Archaeologist Rory Gauthier spent his \$6,000 grant for a successful season surveying the most remote part of the monument on the mesas of Hondo Canyon. (Obviously, we are not Rory's sole support.) In 2003, he will be closer to civilization between Frijoles and Alamo canyons. Our \$3,000 Vanishing Treasures grant sponsored one of five pueblo students to stabilize stone walls at Tyuonyi Ruin and to document the caves in Frijoles Canyon. The park newspaper is the superintendent's highest priority for our grants. Costs came in higher than expected at \$6,358.71. Chief of Interpretation Lynne Dominy cancelled our grant for a critical resources brochure to help pay the increased cost. The board really wanted to help with a Pueblo Outreach grant to bring pueblo people on special tours to Bandelier. We applied for a grant from the LANL Foundation, but were denied. However, we had some unexpected revenues from sales of our Pablita Velarde prints to spend on the project. I'm sorry to say that everyone just ran out of time. Maybe next year! Our total for 2002 is \$15,358.71

FIRE RECOVERY

As we are all still painfully aware, the 2000 Cerro Grande Fire, ignited as a control burn by Bandelier fire managers, roared through Los Alamos and burned out over 300 families, including ten members of the Friends. In addition, I keep hearing of Friends whose homes were severely damaged, but not completely destroyed. Now, almost three years later, the town is well along in recovery, though the pain obviously remains for those most affected. Although a couple of families still live in FEMA trailers here, our ten are all settled into new homes, Two left town; three bought existing homes; two built new homes on different lots; one built anew on the same lot; two moved to the senior condos. The county took advantage of the opportunity and the FEMA money to revamp its aging infrastructure in the burned areas. With the help of hundreds of volunteers and lots of aerial seeding, the Forest Service has put a decent grass cover on many parts of our mountains. Our volunteer coordinators even went to communities burned in the 2003 western fires to advise on recovery efforts.

Dorothy Hoard, President, Board of Trustees

FRIENDS OF BANDELIER

Financial Statement

2002

FRIENDS OF BANDELIER ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT

January 1, 2002 to December 31, 2002

Balance Forward as of December 31, 2001:

General Fund	
9,444.10	
Major Purchase Fund	<u>16,925.22</u>
TOTAL BALANCE FORWARD	\$ 26,269.32

Income:

Contributions	11,593.00
Memorial Contributions	275.00
Velarde Print Proceeds	737.50
General Fund Interest	305.05
Major Purchase Fund Interest	<u>1,167.93</u>
TOTAL INCOME	14,078.48

Disbursements - Bandelier National Monument:

Arthropod Analysis Project	2,000.00
Bandelier Newspaper	6,358.71
Pueblo Student Intern	3,000.00
Archaeological Survey	<u>6,000.00</u>
TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS	17,358.71

Expenses - Friends of Bandelier:

Bulk Mailing Permit	128.00
Corporate Report Filing Fee	10.00
Postage on Deposit	100.00
Post Office Box Renewal	45.00
Web Page Expenses	<u>350.01</u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	633.01

Net Income:

General Fund	3,362.93
Major Purchase Fund	<u>19,093.15</u>
TOTAL NET INCOME	
(Balance as of December 31, 2002)	<u>\$ 22,456.08</u>

Notice to Artists

From August 8 to September 6, 2003, the Art Center at Fuller Lodge in Los Alamos will host an art exhibit featuring works of or inspired by Bandelier. We, the Friends, are a cosponsor. This will be a juried show. Artist in all media are invited to submit entries. Deadline for entries will be in late June. Any Friends who would like a brochure, let me know. I'll send one when they are printed.

Welcome, Congratulations, and Farewells

Welcome, little Spencer.

The Dominys—Lynne, Brian, and Jessie—were expecting a new baby girl in December. Lo and behold, a lovely little boy arrived on December 30. Father is ecstatic, mother is not demanding a refund, little Jessie is adjusting, and the Bandelier circle of friends is delighted that medical science still has room for surprises. (Lynne is Chief of Interpretation and our liaison ranger from Bandelier)

*In Celebratorium**

For Ken and Rita Bowman

On their 50th wedding anniversary
From their children: Carl, Lori, Cecelia,
Eric, and Martha Bowman

*(Hi, Saul. I made up the word myself)

George Voelz, MD

Many Friends will be sad to learn that George died on January 31, 2003. Dr. Voelz was world renown for his studies of workers exposed to radionuclides, primarily plutonium. He brought an aura of sanity and reason to the subject. The world lost a good man and we lost a good Friend.



In Memorium

Florence NaVeaux

From her friends in X-Division
Pam Paine, Cathy Stallings, Marge Trujillo
Cay Spicocchi, Joyce Takamine
and also from Dorothy Hoard



In Memorium

Thomas and Adell Ripley

From Jane Smith



FRIENDS OF BANDELIER

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2002

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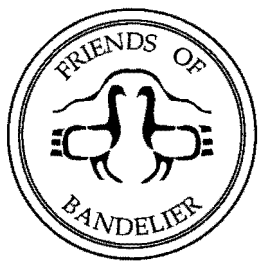
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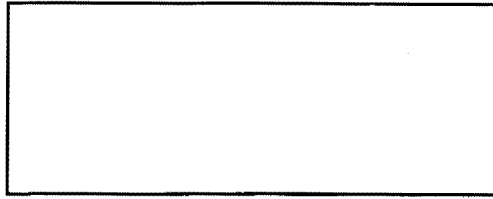
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*THANK YOU, DEAR FRIENDS, WHO RENEWED WITHOUT
BEING PRODDED!!*

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Friends of Bandelier PO Box 1282 Los Alamos NM 87544-1282



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