

OPEN SPACE ALLIANCE  
ANNUAL REPORT  
2013

The Open Space Alliance (OSA) is a nonprofit organization which supports the work of the Open Space Division (OSD) and the Open Space Visitor Center (OSVC) of the City of Albuquerque. The OSA Mission is to promote public awareness and conservation of open space areas, and to educate the public about the natural, historic, cultural, educational and recreational aspects of open space. As a nonprofit, the OSA would focus on fundraising and education. The Education component is well developed by the OSD over many years through numerous projects in open space lands. The OSA supports these outdoor activities with snack funding and volunteer participation.

OSA gave full attention to fund raising in 2013. First, the Open Space Gift Shop. An agreement between OSA and the City of Albuquerque was reached and signed this year. A committee of volunteers met to plan details of the Shop. Resumes for a Gift Shop Manager were sought and processed. A manager was selected in January 2014. The Shop will be located in the reception area of the OSVC and will be open on the weekends. The grand opening is planned for the last weekend in April 2014.

Secondly, OSA and OSD have received some grants this year for specifically designated projects.

PNM Foundation – Food Forest Grant.: Encouraging people to grow their own food while promoting appropriate climate techniques.

KEEN – funding for Get Into Open Space, a program which invites classrooms into open space for education.

Thirdly, OSA has received donations from movie companies making use of open space lands for their filming. The Railrunner Bike Tour on Paseo del Bosque Trail was promoted by Tom Rojas, the organizer. He generously donated funds to OSA. And corporate gifts were solicited for the OSVC Urban Farm and Harvest Festival and the Return of the Cranes festival. The OSA received a portion of Gallery art sales which are sold at the OSVC.

Membership is always a major focus for a nonprofit. This year OSA continued sending reminder letters to expiring memberships. In a further attempt to expand membership, OSA prepared a Tabling Display for outreach to community events. A volunteer script and guidelines for workers are included. A powerpoint slide show was created for use at conferences and for orienting volunteers.

The 2013 Goals have been reviewed by the Board. They are:

OSA will organize and implement one event to engage the community and raise funds for

OSA – Planning for the “Geocache Event” was underway when it ran into complications. OSA hopes to proceed with that goal in 2014.

OSA will open the Open Space Gift Shop, with an adequate number of volunteers, in April 2013 - The Agreement was not complete until November 2013.

OSA will offer recreational opportunities for people attending conventions in Albuquerque – still pending

OSA will expand the size of its Board – it grew by two and then lost two.

OSA will update and expand its outreach materials and use them to help increase OSA membership. – this goal is alive and well and nearly complete.

Finally, OSA lost one of its best friends this year. Jay Lee Evans often sat in our board meetings bringing humor and knowledge. His encouragement of community support for OSA was enriching. We regret his passing, but are grateful for the life he gave to Open Space.

Sallie McCarthy, President  
Open Space Alliance

Attachment: 2013 Financial Summary