

## **Friends of Bosque del Apache – Bios for Board Members 2020-2021**

### **Officers**

#### *President - Jack Lockridge*

Jack was first elected to the board of Friends of Bosque del Apache in 2016, and served as its Finance Chair from 2016-2018. In September 2018, he was elected President. Previously, Jack served as Executive Director of the Federal Bar Association from January 2000 to December 2012. He was also the Executive Director of the Federal Bar Building Corporation and the Foundation of the Federal Bar Association. Prior to joining the Federal Bar, he was the Vice President for Business and Development at the National Center for Nonprofit Boards in Washington, DC. His move to Washington, DC came after serving as the Associate Executive Director, COO and CFO of the State Bar of Texas for 9 years. From 1966 to 1990, Jack was a banker. His banking career started as a management trainee at First National Bank of Memphis, which would become First Tennessee National Corporation and concluding as Chairman, President, and CEO of a community bank. He has had the honor to serve on 28 nonprofit boards and has served as chair or president of 11 of those. His schooling includes Memphis State University in Education, Southwestern Graduate School of Banking at SMU in Finance, and The LBJ School at the University of Texas in Government Management. Jack retired in December of 2012 and currently lives on a conservation preserve outside Mountainair, NM. He is President of Promised Land, a local food bank, is active in Senior Olympics, hiking, and discovering more of the Southwest. He continues to learn and grow as a photographer. Jack and his wife collect Native American pottery, and he collects old marbles. Being a volunteer for Friends of the Bosque del Apache NWR has given Jack the opportunity to give back to a place that has given him much pleasure.

#### *Vice President-Jim Lommen*

Jim served one term on the Friends Board of Directors as a Board Member at Large and has been the Vice President since 2017, now serving his second term in that office. During his time on the board, Jim has been the chairperson of our Audit Committee. He and his wife Penny won the Martha Hatch Award in 2015 for their many contributions to the Friends and Bosque del Apache, including organizing and running the Wildlife Zone at Festival of the Cranes for eight years. Jim and Penny first came to Socorro to visit Bosque del Apache while returning home to Denver; they loved it so much that they moved to Socorro in 2007. While their house was being built, they attended their first Festival of the Cranes that fall. Since that time, Jim and Penny have thrown themselves into making a difference in Socorro, volunteering or holding office in many non-profits, including the Friends of Bosque del Apache. Jim is a chemical engineer specializing in extractive metallurgy. He has worked for several mining companies and later moved into engineering and construction. Now, Jim is “mostly retired”, still doing some consulting on occasion. He’s an avid birder and wildlife watcher. Besides his contributions to the Friends of Bosque del Apache, he has also served as President of both the Socorro Amateur Radio Association and the Socorro Tennis Association.

*Secretary – Lesley Urquhart*

Lesley has been a Board member since October 2015. In 2016, she was elected to the position of Board Secretary, and was elected to her second term in this position in September 2018. Lesley's professional history and expertise are primarily in healthcare administration (both risk management and quality, in the private and public sectors), with early years as an air traffic controller. She recently retired from her job with the Medicaid program through the New Mexico Human Services Department. Lesley has experience in policy, programs, education, and group process, as well as training and experience in workplace mediation. From past volunteer work with several organizations including Literacy Volunteers, Solace Crisis Treatment Center, and Santa Fe Cares, Lesley brings experience in event planning and fund-raising. She has lived in Northern New Mexico most of her life and is blessed with two grown children, their spouses and extended families, and two grandsons, as well as a rich network of friends and colleagues.

*Treasurer – Mary Ruff*

Mary served one term as a Board Director at Large. During that time, she served on the Finance Committee and chaired the Nature Store Committee. In 2016, Mary was elected to the position of Board Treasurer, and was elected to her second term in this position in September 2018. Mary has a Bachelor's degree in Engineering and a Masters in Mathematics, and has worked as an industrial engineer and industrial engineering supervisor. She has also been a lecturer in the Math Department at New Mexico Tech. She loves the refuge and has contributed to the continuing success of the Friends, not only with her finance expertise but also through advocating for important issues that affect the refuge.

**At-Large Directors**

*Linda Barker*

Appointed to the board in May 2019, and formally elected in February 2020, Linda graduated in 1978 from Humboldt State University with a Master's Degree in Biology. She spent her career with the US Forest Service on forests in California, Oregon and New Mexico where she served as Forest Botanist, District Resource Officer, and Natural Resources Planner/Interdisciplinary Team Leader prior to her retirement in 2010. She took a mid-career break to serve as a Peace Corps volunteer working in agroforestry in Rwanda in 1988-90. She has served on several non-profit boards in New Mexico including the Alamogordo Public Library Advisory Board, the Native Plant Society of New Mexico State and Chapter boards and the Southern NM Wellness Alliance/Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner program board for Otero and Lincoln counties. Linda enjoys travel for natural history and cultural studies, reading, and birding. Her most exciting trip was a 30-day overland safari in East Africa which visited several of the important refuges for wildlife, the Serengeti National Park known for excellent birding and mega-fauna viewing, Gombe Stream Preserve where important research on chimpanzees has been conducted and the Volcanos National Park in Rwanda which protects mountain gorillas and other important flora and fauna. She has enjoyed visits to the Bosque del Apache

every year since she moved to New Mexico in 1993 and is now enjoying visits in each season to observe seasonal changes in the vegetation and birds life. She appreciates the opportunity to help support the resources and managers of Bosque del Apache.

*Jon W d'Alessio*

Jon was elected to the board in 2020. He has over 30 years of financial management experience with both for-profit and nonprofit organizations, and has a passion for protecting wildlife, inspired by his photography hobby. He spent 24 years with McKesson Corporation in various financial roles, including stints as Corporate Treasurer and Group CFO. He has served as Treasurer on several nonprofit boards, including Slide Ranch, Angel Island Conservancy, and Friends of Midway Atoll NWR. His education includes a BS from University of California and MBA and JD degrees from Stanford University. Since retiring in 2008, Jon has taken up wildlife photography and has traveled the world trying to get that perfect photo. During his travels, he first visited Bosque in 2010 and has come back almost yearly ever since. "Can't get too much of those birds" he says. Jon looks forward to bringing his financial and business expertise to help Friends better support Bosque del Apache NWR.

*Cathy Eells*

Cathy was elected to the board in 2020. She is a native of Idaho where she graduated from Caldwell High School and then studied and graduated from the business and accounting program at Link's School of Business. Cathy has more than 35 years of business experience. She worked for Intermountain Gas Company for ten years and then Simplot Soilbuilders in the Mineral and Chemical Division of JR Simplot Company for six years. While working for Simplot, Cathy and her husband opened and began operating an independent fast food drive-in, where she served as bookkeeper. Then, she left Simplot and for almost twenty years, Cathy and her husband Rick were "hands-on partners and co-owners" of their fast food drive-in, finally selling it in 2018 and retiring. We They were recognized as entrepreneurs in the drive-in business for nearly 30 years. Cathy considers herself a "professional volunteer" now. She volunteers at local elementary schools, plays in a community band (where she also serves as the Treasurer), is a 20-year member of her local Audubon chapter, and is a long-time board member and now Vice President and on the Community Outreach Committee of Friends of Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) in Nampa, Idaho. At Deer Flat NWR, she is also co-chair of their nature store, Grebe's Nest. Cathy loves Bosque del Apache National Wildlife Refuge, is a Friends member, and in the last two years has come here to volunteer at our Holiday Open House and for the full week of Festival of the Cranes. Cathy is a "people person" and enjoys working with visitors to raise awareness, encourage membership and volunteerism, and share her passion for nature. She says, "I realize the importance of protecting and preserving our public lands for the flora and fauna living there, but also for humans to nurture their souls with the music of the birds and beauty of the land." Cathy loves working with children as well and raising their awareness of the natural world and the importance of getting outside. Cathy is excited to bring her skill set, passion, and work ethic to Friends of Bosque del Apache.

*Pat Funes*

Pat was elected to the board in 2017. She has more than 35 years of executive-level international business experience. She is currently Vice President of McGuire Research Services, Inc. Pat manages new business development, client relations, analytic services, and global qualitative/quantitative market research. Her expertise in marketing communications and public relations helps Friends build these skills/capacities. Pat's first career was in corporate finance, managing \$2 billion in real estate assets. Her financial expertise includes performing audits and tax preparation for three corporations and 42 general/limited partnerships. Pat marvels at the wonders of Bosque del Apache and is highly honored to bring her skills and passions to serve the Friends of the Bosque.

*Forest Graber*

Forest was appointed to the board in May 2019 and formally elected in February 2020. He is a retired Ph.D. chemist, having worked 25 years for Amoco Oil Company and Chevron Global Lubricants. Forest received his BA degree in chemistry and mathematics, spent 6 years in the US Navy during Vietnam, and then completed his doctoral degree. During his employment with Amoco and Chevron he worked in lubricant formulation, plant operations, quality and technical training. He has been involved in several not-for-profit organizations including Peoples Resource Center and Ten Thousand Villages where he was a board member and officer. He recently completed a 5-year position as stewardship elder and congregational chair of Albuquerque Mennonite Church. The Grabers spend a lot of their vacation time visiting national parks like Yellowstone National Park, Grand Teton National Park, and Rocky Mountain National Park. Growing up in Kansas and later in Illinois, Forest would listen to the sandhill cranes as they flew over. His first visit to Bosque del Apache was over 20 years ago and was a vacation destination when he visited family in Albuquerque. Since moving to Albuquerque in 2012, Forest visits Bosque del Apache several times a year and shared the refuge with students in a gap-year program.

*Lane Leckman*

Lane was elected to the board in 2017 and is passionate about public lands, wildlife, and social justice; he has visited and loved Bosque del Apache for many years. He is a retired MD and was also an Associate Professor of Psychiatry at UNM, specializing in substance abuse and trauma. Lane has used his excellent skills in advocating, fundraising, and making presentations in service of Bosque del Apache.

*Jonathan Manley*

Jonathan was elected to the board in 2017 and has been a Lifetime Member with Friends of Bosque del Apache since 2015. He fell in love with Bosque del Apache on his first

visit here 16 years ago, and although he lives in Maidenhead, UK, he has returned to the refuge 7 times since 2002. Jonathan and his wife Tina increasingly split their time between the UK and the USA; he is experienced and able to participate with the Friends via teleconference and email. He is a Life Fellow of the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) and a member of the Wildfowl and Wetlands Trust in the UK. Jonathan is creating transatlantic links between Friends of Bosque del Apache and other organizations that protect wetlands, sharing best practices and collaborating wherever possible. Jonathan is also a long-time sponsor of the Cornell Lab of Ornithology (Ithaca, NY) and is leading our efforts to maximize the value of that relationship.

*Jon Morrison*

Jon was reelected for his second recent term on the Friends Board of Directors in 2017, after serving extensively a number of years ago. Jon has much experience serving on the Friends Board of Directors. He first joined the board as a Member at Large in 1995, and worked on the Festival committee. He was editor of the Friends newsletter from 2000 to 2005. Jon was elected Vice President in 2002, and became President in 2005. During his time as President, he was instrumental in the Friends' securing funds from the Lannan Foundation for our Visitor Center education wing and in the fundraising drive to purchase 140 acres on the west boundary of the Refuge that included Chupadera Peak. Since 2008, Jon has organized fund raiser birding trips, via Holbrook Travel, for the Friends to Costa Rica, Belize, Equator, Galapagos, Peru, and Cuba.

*David Policansky*

David is serving his second term, having been elected to the board in both 2015 and 2017. David was born in South Africa and has lived in the United States for more than 50 years. A lifelong interest in natural history and wildlife photography led him to an increasing appreciation for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (FWS) National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) System. He regards Bosque del Apache NWR as one of the jewels of the system. As a result, he spends as much time here as he can. David has a PhD in biology and his work experience includes assessing natural resource management and review of large federal programs, including FWS activities. He has worked at the National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine for more than 30 years, where he has been intimately involved in the publication of more than 35 reports. His work, including academic research, has given him experience working collaboratively with committees and other groups as well as insights into environmental problem solving. It also has provided experience in dealing with federal and state governments, private industry, and other stakeholders.