

# YOUR AMERICAN WEST

## **PARKS**

Living History in New Mexico

Art in the Parks

## **EVENTS**

WNPA Returns to the Tucson Festival of Books

Guadalupe Mountains Celebrates 50 Years

Poetry in the Parks

## **PRODUCTS**

Holiday Gift Guide!



El Capitan at sunrise in **Guadalupe Mountains National Park** (Texas) (courtesy of Justin Meissen, Flickr).

# Table of Contents

Letter from the Chief Executive Officer..... 3

Research Matters ..... 4

People & Happenings..... 7

In the Parks..... 9

Holiday Gift Guide ..... 11

Focus On ..... 14

Featured Events & Activities ..... 15

Kids in Parks ..... 17

**Marie Buck**  
Chief Executive Officer

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## Details

Western National Parks Association (WNPA) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit partner of the National Park Service, serving more than 70 national parks in the western United States.

The Home Office and The National Parks Store are located at 12880 N Vistoso Village Drive, Tucson, AZ 85755. Learn more by contacting [info@wnpa.org](mailto:info@wnpa.org) or visiting [www.wnpa.org](http://www.wnpa.org).



## Letter from the Chief Executive Officer

Thank you, everyone, for the warm welcome I've received since becoming WNPA's chief executive officer in July. Reflecting on my short time with WNPA, I am genuinely grateful for our talented and dedicated staff, board of directors, and the National Park Service. The enthusiasm and commitment to the WNPA mission they exhibit inspires me every day.

This is an exciting time for our organization as we move past the effects of COVID-19 over the last several years and emerge a stronger organization. We are excited to be looking ahead and moving forward with initiatives to strengthen and grow our support of partner parks. What a joy it is to see the National Park Service hosting special on-site programming and events that highlight the history, culture, and significance of these treasured locations.

We're also ramping up our own outreach activities. Programming has resumed at The National Parks Store in Tucson, and WNPA will once again have an engaging presence at the Tucson Festival of Books and other events throughout our community. For a list of upcoming activities, please visit [www.wnpa.org/events/month](http://www.wnpa.org/events/month).

I'm particularly excited by our efforts to strengthen our smaller partner parks, which most often need the support, publicity, and event planning that enhance the experiences of park visitors. I hope you'll join in our "Small Parks—Big Impact" campaign to help provide them the funding they deserve.

For as long as WNPA has existed, our core mission has been to help our partner parks provide the best visitor experience possible and to create lifelong stewards of public lands. We've launched an initiative to make sure everyone can access parks and that the stories parks tell include all types of people. Read in *Your American West* about how we're using justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion training to learn how to embrace communities of all kinds.

Our partner parks inspire creativity, research, learning, and recreation. We all connect to parks in different but profoundly meaningful ways. I would love to [hear from you](#) how our partner parks inspire you. Thank you for supporting WNPA and public lands. I look forward to working with you to preserve these national treasures for future generations.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Marie Buck". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

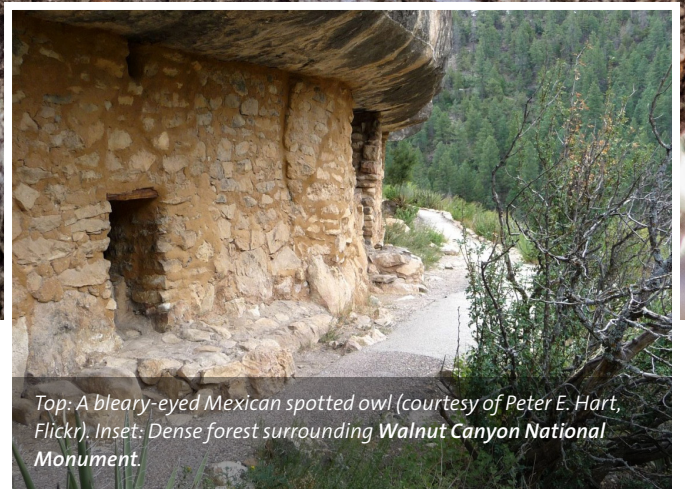
Marie Buck  
Chief Executive Officer



## Research Matters

Good management of habitats fosters healthy plants and animals that thrive together. The threatened Mexican spotted owl depends on the piñon pine and juniper forest in **Walnut Canyon National Monument** in Arizona for hunting. A first-ever survey on what the owls consume in the monument will help resource managers shape forest management plans to ensure that necessary prey remains in abundance. Read more in the following article, “What Did You Have for Breakfast?”

*Mexican spotted owl (Strix occidentalis lucida) (all photos courtesy of NPS unless otherwise noted).*



Top: A bleary-eyed Mexican spotted owl (courtesy of Peter E. Hart, Flickr). Inset: Dense forest surrounding Walnut Canyon National Monument.

## What Did You Have for Breakfast?

### Contents of Mexican Spotted Owl Pellets Inform Forest Management Policy in Walnut Canyon National Monument

By **Susan E. Swanberg**, Associate Professor, Associate Director, School of Journalism at the University of Arizona

In the fall of 2021, more than a hundred children and other members of the public participated in “dissect a barn owl pellet” demonstrations held as part of the annual Flagstaff Festival of Science program. Participants in these events learned how to dissect and examine sanitized barn owl pellets for the remains of creatures the owls once feasted upon. These “owl pellet” demonstrations, three sessions of which were funded by [Western National Parks Association](#) (WNPA), informed an engaged public about techniques used by scientists to study the habits and habitat of the Mexican spotted owl (MSO) in [Walnut Canyon National Monument](#), located approximately 10 miles southeast of downtown Flagstaff, Arizona.

The Endangered Species Act (ESA) was passed in 1973 to safeguard species biodiversity by protecting endangered or threatened plants and animals. The ESA classifies a species as threatened when the plant or animal is likely to be in danger of extinction within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its range.

Once a species is listed as endangered or threatened under the ESA, habitat needed to support recovery of that species can be declared critical habitat and protected from degradation. The Mexican spotted owl has been designated a threatened species, and **Walnut Canyon NM** has been designated critical habitat for the owl.

Discovering what the MSO eats in specific locations within the monument will help scientists determine whether the monument’s habitat can adequately support and aid in the

recovery of the bird. With climate change models predicting alterations in the forest composition that might impact the owl’s prey species, it is important to establish baseline estimates of the prey animals sustaining the MSO population residing within the monument.

WNPA funding supported both the research examining categories of prey consumed by MSOs roosting within the monument and the public outreach program that explained, using a hands-on experience, how owl pellet dissection can help determine which prey species the owls are eating.

The scientists who conducted these studies—John Harges, Mark Szydlo, and Brent Hetzler—focused their efforts on the diet of Walnut Canyon’s Mexican spotted owl population during the breeding season by dissecting MSO pellets collected from the species’ roosts and identifying—to the extent possible—the types of creatures the owls were consuming.

Prior to data collection, several MSO nesting and roosting sites had been identified. In 2018, a pilot study of 48 MSO pellets collected from six roosting sites within the monument was undertaken, and in 2020 a study of 70 MSO pellets collected from nine roosting sites within the monument was conducted.



A complete *Sorex merriami* (Merriam’s shrew mandible (enlarged) recovered from a Mexican spotted owl pellet (courtesy of NPS/J. Harges).

No birds were perturbed during the collection of the pellets. According to Harges, the Walnut Canyon Mexican spotted owls were not bothered by National Park Service (NPS) staff who cautiously and quietly collected the birds' pellets. Pellets collected by NPS staff were wrapped in foil and labeled according to the location where they were found. Prior to dissection, the pellets were sterilized to kill any parasites they might contain.

Harges, an archaeologist and vertebrate osteologist, dissected the MSO pellets from both the 2018 and the 2020 studies and examined the contents of the pellets for animal remains, including skeletal or exoskeletal elements from which he could identify the MSO's prey to the family, genus, or species level. To identify animal bones, Harges used a skeletal comparative collection housed at the Museum of Northern Arizona in Flagstaff (called a "bone room" in scientific vernacular) and his own collection of animal bones in conjunction with inventories, reports, and manuals containing information on vertebrate osteology.

The 2018 pilot study conducted in Walnut Canyon NM was remarkable in that the majority of animal remains found within the MSO pellets were the bones of mammals (97% of the remains) and birds (3% of the remains). No arthropod remains were identified in the 45 pellets collected from the six roosting sites examined in 2018. According to Harges, scarab beetles and other arthropods are commonly found in MSO prey studies, so it had been a bit of a surprise to find no arthropod body parts in the 2018 study. Also interesting was the fact that remains of the silver-haired bat were found in the 2018 pellet sample.

In comparison, the 2020 study of 70 MSO pellets collected from nine roosting sites within the monument also contained a large percentage of mammalian remains (95%). Pellets from two of the roosting sites, however, did contain the remains of scarab beetles (members of the arthropod group of animals). A very few

frog or toad remains were found in the 2020 MSO pellet sample.

Harges, an accomplished scientist who is not, however, an entomologist, was able to identify arthropod remains using identification resources available to him. In his research report to the WNPA, Harges noted that pellets collected in 2020 from two Walnut Canyon roosts contained more than one hundred limb, thorax, and abdominal elements from scarab beetles.

In his examination of the 2020 pellets, Harges also identified skeletal elements from several mammalian species not previously identified as Walnut Canyon MSO prey species. These newly identified species included Merriam's shrew, a species of pocket mouse, and the white-throated woodrat

(a packrat, in common parlance).

In a scientific note published in the journal *Western Birds* in 2022, Harges wrote that this WNPA-funded study "will provide resource managers with baseline data critical to the development of more effective forest-management plans and fire-management projects that support the prey of this protected bird."

Harges led "barn owl pellet" dissections at three locations in Flagstaff during the weeklong 2021 Flagstaff Festival of Science. Those locations included Wheeler Park, Bushmaster Park, and the [Walnut Canyon National Monument](#) Visitor Center. Participants who found particularly fascinating objects in the pellets they dissected were encouraged to share their finds with the other participants using a projection system Harges had assembled by attaching a dissecting scope to a television screen.

"Working with the kids is what I enjoy the most," Harges said with a laugh in a recent interview about the 2021 barn owl pellet events. "Working for the Park Service you have a dual mission: preserving the resources but also sharing the resources with the public because they are the true owners of those resources. You're not serving the public unless you are teaching the next generation."



*Kids dissect sterilized owl pellets to identify what owls have eaten (courtesy of VSPYCC, Flickr).*

# People & Happenings



WNPA Trader Irvin Jones (left) inspects a handwoven rug created by a local Navajo artist at August's craft buying event at **Hubbell Trading Post** (Arizona).

## NEW TRADER AT HUBBELL TRADING POST COMES HOME

Irvin Jones is the new trader at [Hubbell Trading Post National Historic Site](#), a place he remembers fondly from his youth.

As a child who lived on the Navajo Nation as a member of the Bear Clan, Jones, 52, and his family used Hubbell's in Ganado, Arizona, as it was intended: as a place to trade goods for credits used to buy groceries and other essentials. "What my grandma used to do," Jones said, "is when she would finish her rugs, she would bring them in and they would give her a line of credit."

As an adult, Jones sold cars, furniture, and life insurance, as well as worked on economic development for the tribal government. He expects his strong connections to the Diné community to enrich the historic site by encouraging more artists, craftspeople, and storytellers to interact with visitors.

An August buying event at Hubbell's that was meant to allow Jones to purchase items for sale turned into a homecoming. Childhood friends, work colleagues, and others came by with congratulations and to reconnect. Of course he also bought merchandise: rugs, blankets, jewelry, pottery, katsina carvings, and moccasins. Jones said he likes meeting people who come to visit from all over: Italy, Japan, Germany, Vermont, Washington,

Hawai'i and more. "I do like to try to talk to them about the history of Hubbell," he said. "It's a delight to see tourists in awe when they come into the trading post."

Visit [Hubbell's NPS website](#) for directions, events, and help in planning your visit.



## WNPA BOARD MEMBER EARNS THE WILDLIFE SOCIETY'S HIGHEST HONOR

The Wildlife Society awarded WNPA board member [John Koprowski](#) its highest honor, the [Aldo Leopold Memorial](#)

[Award](#), for his distinguished service to wildlife conservation.

Koprowski is dean of the University of Wyoming's Haub School of Environmental and Natural Resources. He formerly was director of the University of Arizona's School of Natural Resources and the Environment.

His community-based methods to conserve and manage biodiversity have been adopted by eight countries and other locations worldwide. He's authored five books and more than two hundred peer-reviewed articles.



Participants in the Kansas Archeological Training Program worked alongside NPS at [Brown v. Board of Education National Historical's](#) dig site (courtesy of NPS).

## WNPA SUPPORTS KANSAS VOLUNTEER ARCHEOLOGY PROGRAM

A modest WNPA investment last summer brought worthwhile dividends for volunteer archeologists at the [Brown v. Board of Education National Historical Park](#).

WNPA furnished refreshments for the 15-day annual Kansas Archeology Training Program. Participants did field and lab work to uncover historical treasures at the site—the Monroe Elementary School, which was at the center of the 1954 Supreme Court’s decision ending legal segregation.

Working with the National Park Service's Midwest Archeological Center, volunteers uncovered artifacts from the late 1800s and early 1900s, including rusted nails, broken glass, and a jar that might contain red paint.

## FESTIVAL BOOTH INTRODUCES BIRDERS TO TUMACÁCORI

National parks yield lots of species to add to birders’ checklists. WNPA helped them explore one of those places, [Tumacácori National Historical Park](#), at our booth during the summer [Southeast Arizona Birding Festival](#).

Tumacácori tells the story of Spanish missionary work in southern Arizona, but it also boasts verdant hiking trails along the Santa Cruz River.

Festival participants also received information about the Santa Cruz Valley National Heritage Area and the National Park Service. Some



fun giveaways included a chance at a free WNPA [Park Protector](#) membership.

## NPS HONORS WNPA FORMER CEO WITH MURFIN AWARD

Jim Cook, who recently retired after serving 11 years as WNPA’s chief executive director, received the National Park Service’s [James V. Murfin Award](#). The citation honors people who contribute to strengthen NPS’s partnerships with cooperating associations like WNPA.

Cook’s involvement with the Public Lands Alliance led to deeper collaborations among associations. He helped develop the WNPA Parks and Partners Conference, which allowed for networking among cooperating associations and NPS.

He’s credited with connecting national parks with new audiences, especially underserved urban youth. Cook was instrumental in creating the award-winning



Jim Cook (center) with WNPA board of directors members Patti Carocci (left) and Chrystal Morris Murphy (right) (courtesy of Chrystal Morris Murphy).

National Park Experience Pavilion outreach project at the [Tucson Festival of Books](#). He also worked to create the [Gateway to Nature Center](#) in Los Angeles.

WNPA has established the [James E. Cook Nature’s Classroom Grant](#) to increase access to national parks for underrepresented youth in kindergarten through 12th grade.

In accepting his award, Cook said, “There is nothing more gratifying than seeing someone—especially a young person—have an aha moment of learning and insight about our nation’s history and culture.”



# In the Parks

## ASIAN AMERICANS, PACIFIC ISLANDERS IN FESTIVAL SPOTLIGHT

### [Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area](#)

celebrated Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders with its first Asian American and Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander Heritage Day.

The event coincided with May's Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month. Sophia Wong, WNPA's store and events manager at the recreation area, wanted to highlight these cultures in response to harassment of Asian Americans because of COVID-19.

She and two National Park Service employees secured Los Angeles-area performers and artists, who volunteered their talents. The day included taiko drummers, hula and Maori dancers, and calligraphers. Visitors created origami, played Sungka, and danced in a Japanese song circle.

## CIVIL WAR EVENT RETURNS TO PECOS NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK

[Pecos National Historical Park](#) held a successful hybrid in-person and virtual Civil War Encampment event this year, following a cancellation in 2020 and a virtual event in 2021. Two online talks covered roles of Civil War figures and places in New Mexico. Living history participants then gathered at the park for a day full of demonstrations and kids' activities. WNPA volunteers provided support for the in-person event and staffed a booth.



Julie Myers, left, and Grace Leo showcase their artistry at [Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area's](#) first Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Day.

## UPDATED INTERACTIVE TOUR BRINGS JOHN MUIR TO LIFE

A long-standing interactive tour for the [John Muir National Historic Site](#) recently got a lively update.

Using a \$500-plus WNPA grant, National Park Service employee Luther Bailey hired a Scottish voice actor to authentically recite John Muir's words, which Bailey added to the self-guided tour at the Martinez, California, location.

Luther also honed the audio tour, making it simple to use on a cell phone.



Visitors gather to watch a musket firing demonstration during [Pecos National Historical Park's](#) living history presentation (courtesy of NPS).



Tuzigoot National Monument

## TUZIGOOT MONTHLY EVENTS RETURN

Monthly cultural demonstrations are in full swing at [Tuzigoot National Monument](#) in Arizona, thanks to the resumption of direct aid by WNPA. The financial support was suspended during the COVID-19 disruptions and reinstated in 2021. One of the latest events at the park in Clarksdale featured Hopi wood carver Nuvadi Dawahoya, from Hopi's Second Mesa, and Hopi basket weaver Marvene Dawahoya. These cultural demonstrations provide an opportunity for park visitors to interact with area tribal artisans as they share their history and crafts.

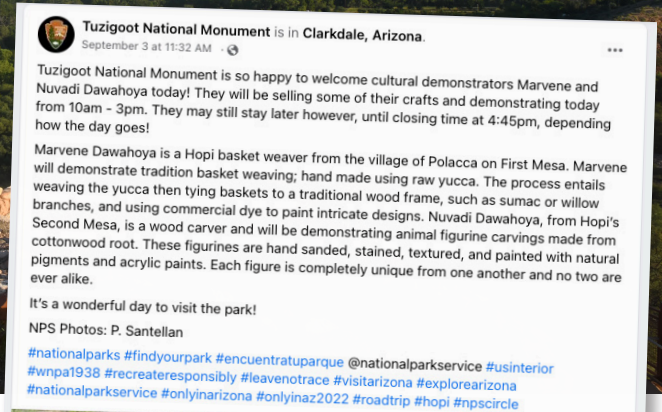
## ART MADE AT CANYON DE CHELLY

Some four hundred visitors to [Canyon de Chelly National Monument](#) in the Navajo Nation were treated to American Indians demonstrating how they make beautiful works of art and craft in the park's inaugural Arts in the Park event.

WNPA paid honorariums to the artists, who participated in the two-weekend September event to demonstrate how they handcraft pottery, jewelry, and paintings.



Navajo Jackie Hunter, right, demonstrates pottery-making at Canyon de Chelly National Monument. Above are silver pieces by Navajo Andrew Henry.



# Holiday Gift Guide

Check out these ideas to help you get started on holiday shopping.

Shop any time at [store.wnps.org](http://store.wnps.org).

## Under \$10

- A. [I Belong in a Park Sticker](#)
- B. [Smokey Bear Paisley Bandana](#)
- C. [Smokey Bear Hiking Stick Medallion](#)
- D. [Prickly Pear Gummi Bears](#)
- E. [Prickly Pear Jelly Beans](#)

A



D



E



C



B



# Holiday Gift Guide

Check out these ideas to help you get started on holiday shopping.

Shop any time at [store.wnps.org](http://store.wnps.org).

## Under \$30



F. [Passport to Your National Parks](#)

G. [Passport to Your National Parks—Collector's Edition](#)

H. [National Parks Small Badge Sticker Set](#)

I. [National Parks Postcard Set](#)

J. [Smokey Bear Ball Cap](#)

K. [Smokey Bear Plush Toy](#)

L. [See America's National Parks Camper Mug](#)

M. [Junior Ranger Vest](#)

N. [Brazilian Free-Tailed Bat Plush Toy](#)

O. [Passport to Your National Parks Junior Ranger Edition](#)

G

K

# Holiday Gift Guide

Check out these ideas to help you get started on holiday shopping.

Shop any time at [store.wnps.org](http://store.wnps.org).

Q



## \$30 and Up

P. [Passport to Your National Parks - Explorer Edition](#)

Q. [The Art of the National Parks](#)

R. [I Belong in a Park Insulated Water Bottle](#)

S. [Love + Protect Your Parks® Hoodie](#)

T. [I Belong in a Park REPVEVE T-Shirt](#)

P



S



T



R



# Focus On

## WNPA'S NEW CEO, MARIE BUCK

It's full steam ahead for [Western National Parks Association](#) and new [Chief Executive Officer Marie Buck](#). The resolution of COVID-19 disruptions finds WNPA financially fit and with renewed intent on expanding awareness of national parks to more people.

Buck took WNPA's leadership position in July following the retirement of Jim Cook, who served for more than 11 years.

"We're just really excited about looking forward," said Buck, an avid outdoorswoman who has lived in Arizona most of her life. "We're getting back to public programming, getting out again and intermingling with the public. That's huge."

Buck is inspired by forward-looking leadership at the Department of the Interior—led by Deb Haaland, the first Native American cabinet secretary that aims to protect public lands. "That's just so refreshing to see what they're doing," she said.

Buck most recently was Grand Canyon Conservancy's chief operating officer and board member. At Phoenix Raceway (NASCAR) as senior director of business operations, she led a \$180 million modernization project.



WNPA employees Darius Pittman and Mariah Arreola at Carlsbad Caverns National Park

## GRANT FOCUSES ON STRENGTHENING WNPA CULTURE

National parks tell the American story, but not always a complete one. With a [National Park Foundation](#) grant, we hope to make all stories accessible to everyone.

The foundation has provided \$50,000 for [WNPA](#) and [Eastern National](#) to conduct training on practices that embrace the value of all their employees and board members. Both organizations, which additionally contributed \$75,000 each, are currently examining gaps and opportunities in achieving justice, equity, diversity, and inclusion (JEDI) in their practices and services.

Such examinations, also implemented as DEI (diversity, equity, and inclusion), aim to identify bias and discrimination. They illuminate the concerns of people regardless of their gender identity, sexual orientation, race, ethnicity, religion, and physical, mental, or developmental abilities. "It's the right thing to do," said WNPA CEO Marie Buck. "Do we have an equitable culture, an inclusive culture? This is a series of deep dives, deep reflection." This work ultimately can affect policy. For example, it could lead national parks to tell little-known histories of marginalized communities.

In 2023, the two associations, which together have 240-plus park partners, will develop tools and resources for other associations and parks to use for similar examinations.

**Western**  
National Parks  
Association



# Featured Events & Activities

## The National Parks Pavilion Returns to Tucson Book Fest

WNPA and our [National Park Service](#) partner parks will return to the [Tucson Festival of Books](#) in 2023, with popular exhibits, presentations, demonstrations, merchandise, and kids' activities.

Disruptions caused by COVID-19 forced the cancellation of the festival in 2020, a virtual version in 2021, and, in 2022, a smaller event, which did not include the pavilion and other regular features.

More than one hundred thousand people attend the festival, the third-largest book event in the United States.

The festival is scheduled for March 4 and 5, 2023.

## Give the Gift of Reading

The WNPA annual Holiday Book Drive runs from November 22 through December 25. Between these dates stop by [The National Parks Store](#) in Oro Valley and pick up a recommended title from among WNPA's published children's books to add to your purchase, or donate a gently used book. Your generosity allows our partner Literacy Connects, to give a new book to a Tucson-area child in need. We've donated 2,718 books over the last three years! During the Book Drive you may also [shop online](#) and receive free shipping for your entire order when you donate a book.



### FEE-FREE DAYS

Monday, January 16

Enjoy fee-free entrance to all

NPS sites in honor of Martin Luther King Jr. Day!



Visitors pose at The National Park Pavilion's selfie-station at Tucson Festival of Books.



WNPA sells a wide variety of books and national park products at the Tucson Festival of Books.



Poetry workshop participants reflect and write at **Casa Grande Ruins National Monument** (courtesy of NPS).



The Big House at **Casa Grande Ruins National Monument** offers inspiration to poetry workshop participants (courtesy of NPS).

## Poetry and National Parks Connect

In 2023, a series of poetry workshops at several national park locations will teach participants how to put poetic voice to thoughts and experiences. Poetry in the Parks aims to encourage visitors to more deeply and personally connect with the parks' nature, cultures, and histories.

Colorado poet Jodie Hollander will lead the yet-to-be-scheduled poetry workshops.



In April 2022 Hollander ran six sessions at four Arizona WNPA partner parks: [Saguaro National Park](#), [Casa Grande Ruins National Monument](#), [Montezuma Castle National Monument](#), and [Walnut Canyon National Monument](#). WNPA supported her [Casa Grande Ruins National Monument](#) appearance and funded journals for the entire program's 70-plus participants.

Read more about what you can expect at these poetry workshops in [our blog](#).

*Jodie Hollander, above, leads poetry workshops.*

## Guadalupe Mountains Celebrates 50th Year

[Guadalupe Mountains National Park](#) heralded its 50th anniversary with 15 special activities this fall. Visitors were treated to eight days of guided hikes, history walks and tours, and night sky programs.

WNPA designed the park's 50th anniversary logo, featuring a javelina, agave, big sky, and the iconic mountain range, and printed new Junior Ranger booklets in time for the celebration.

The park, located in Salt Flat, Texas, became a national park on September 30, 1972. It contains the state's four highest peaks and the world's most extensive Permian fossil reef.



WNPA created a custom logo to help celebrate **Guadalupe Mountains National Park's** 50th anniversary.



# Kids in Parks

## New Cook Grant Brings Parks to Classrooms

Jim Cook dedicated his efforts as WNPA's chief executive officer to expanding awareness of national parks to everyone, especially underrepresented youth who have historically had more difficulty accessing these recreational and historical treasures.

In honor of his 11 years with WNPA, which ended this year, we've created the James E. Cook Nature's Classroom Grant. Kindergarten–12th grade educators can apply for funds to enable them to bring national park information into their classrooms and take their students to national parks.

Read more about this and other [WNPA awards, grants, and scholarships](#).



*Jim Cook, former WNPA CEO*

## Returning to Navajo Nation Youth Days

Navajo Nation fair season provided the perfect setting for the National Park Service to show Navajo youth what it's like to be a park ranger.

WNPA joined rangers from [Hubbell Trading Post National Historic Site](#), [Canyon de Chelly National Monument](#), and [Navajo National Monument](#). They staffed booths at the Navajo Nation Fair in Window Rock, Arizona, where youth were invited to Ashkii Happy Kids Day, as well as at Youth Days at the Northern Navajo Fair in Shiprock, New Mexico, and the Central Agency Fair in Chinle, Arizona.

Kids learned what park rangers do, collected free goodies, and found out how to protect national parks.

The NPS booth had been absent from the fairs for a couple of years, so this year's appearances provided reconnection with the Navajo community. The fairs draw residents and visitors from throughout the Four Corners area for several days of food, powwows, pageants, parades, rodeo events, and carnivals.



*From left to right: Rangers LaShanne Deschine and Alvis Burbank from [Hubbell Trading Post National Historic Site](#); and Cora Bahe from [Navajo National Monument](#), join Ashkii Happy at the WNPA booth that returned to Navajo fairs (courtesy of NPS).*

**For the most current event information at WNPCA-affiliated sites near you, check out the NPS app or their park page at [wnpa.org](http://wnpa.org). For events at The National Parks Store in Tucson, AZ, visit [wnpa.org](http://wnpa.org).**

### **Arizona**

[Canyon de Chelly National Monument](#)  
[Casa Grande Ruins National Monument](#)  
[Chiricahua National Monument](#)  
[Coronado National Memorial](#)  
[Fort Bowie National Historic Site](#)  
[Hubbell Trading Post National Historic Site](#)  
[Lake Mead National Recreation Area](#)  
[Montezuma Castle National Monument](#)  
[Navajo National Monument](#)  
[Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument](#)  
[Saguaro National Park](#)  
[Sunset Crater Volcano National Monument](#)  
[The National Parks Store](#)  
[Tonto National Monument](#)  
[Tumacácori National Historical Park](#)  
[Tuzigoot National Monument](#)  
[Walnut Canyon National Monument](#)  
[Wupatki National Monument](#)

### **California**

[Channel Islands National Park](#)  
[Eugene O'Neill National Historic Site](#)  
[John Muir National Historic Site](#)  
[Mojave National Preserve](#)  
[Pinnacles National Park](#)  
[Port Chicago Naval Magazine National Memorial](#)  
[San Francisco Maritime National Historical Park](#)  
[Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area](#)  
[Whiskeytown National Recreation Area](#)

### **Colorado**

[Bent's Old Fort National Historic Site](#)  
[Black Canyon of the Gunnison National Park](#)  
[Curecanti National Recreation Area](#)  
[Great Sand Dunes National Park & Preserve](#)  
[Sand Creek Massacre National Historic Site](#)

### **Kansas**

[Brown v. Board of Education National Historical Park](#)  
[Fort Larned National Historic Site](#)  
[Fort Scott National Historic Site](#)  
[Nicodemus National Historic Site](#)

### **Montana & Wyoming**

[Bighorn Canyon National Recreation Area](#)  
[Little Bighorn Battlefield National Monument](#)

### **Nevada**

[Great Basin National Park](#)  
[Lake Mead National Recreation Area](#)

### **New Mexico**

[Aztec Ruins National Monument](#)  
[Bandelier National Monument](#)  
[Capulin Volcano National Monument](#)  
[Carlsbad Caverns National Park](#)  
[Chaco Culture National Historical Park](#)  
[El Malpais National Monument](#)  
[El Morro National Monument](#)  
[Fort Union National Monument](#)  
[Gila Cliff Dwellings National Monument](#)  
[Pecos National Historical Park](#)  
[Petroglyph National Monument](#)  
[Salinas Pueblo Missions National Monument](#)  
[White Sands National Park](#)

### **Oklahoma**

[Chickasaw National Recreation Area](#)  
[Washita Battlefield National Historic Site](#)

### **Texas**

[Alibates Flint Quarries National Monument](#)  
[Big Thicket National Preserve](#)  
[Chamizal National Memorial](#)  
[Fort Davis National Historic Site](#)  
[Guadalupe Mountains National Park](#)  
[Lake Meredith National Recreation Area](#)  
[Lyndon B Johnson National Historical Park](#)  
[Padre Island National Seashore](#)  
[Palo Alto Battlefield National Historical Park](#)  
[San Antonio Missions National Historical Park](#)

### **Utah**

[Golden Spike National Historical Park](#)  
[Timpanogos Cave National Monument](#)

### **Trails**

[Juan Bautista de Anza National Historic Trail](#)  
[Lewis & Clark National Historic Trail](#)  
[Santa Fe National Historic Trail](#)  
[Trail of Tears National Historic Trail](#)

# Support Our Mission

## Small Parks. Big Impact.

As a nonprofit education partner of the [NPS](#), [WNPA](#) raises funds for our national park partners. Your contributions to our fundraising efforts are directed to parks to improve the visitor experience and expand educational opportunities, while aiding operations.

## Your generous gifts help us support more than 70 park sites in 12 states.

From meteor craters, awe-inspiring caves, and calming preserves to battlefields, historic forts, and sites of cultural significance, our Western parks have a big impact. Your donations, along with sales from our national park stores, help fund

- [Scientific research and discovery](#)
- [Junior Ranger programs](#)
- [Ranger-approved interpretive programs, events, videos, and books](#)

**100% of our financial resources support these goals. We need your investment of \$150 or more** to continue this critical work. If you have already donated, thank you for your support.

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**Western**  
National Parks  
Association



SMALL PARKS  
  
BIG IMPACT

