

## **Friends of Bosque del Apache – Bios for Board Members 2018-2019**

### **Officers**

#### *President - Jack Lockridge*

Jack was first elected to the board of Friends of Bosque del Apache in 2016, and has served as its Finance Chair since that time. 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. 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 running. 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 the Socorro Amateur Radio Association and President of 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, 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 through advocating for important issues that affect the refuge.

**At-Large Directors**

*Elveta Bishop*

Elveta has been a Board Director at Large since 2016, and was elected for a second term in September 2018. She will soon take over as Finance Committee chair. Elveta is the sole proprietor and primary consultant for Bishop Management Associates, and is retired from Sandia National Laboratories. She holds a Master's degree in Business Administration, and has wide-ranging experience in organizational analysis, program leadership, planning and technical writing. She regards the refuge as one of her favorite places, and serves the Friends in any of several capacities, including offering her facilitation skills at staff retreats. Her interests include reading, singing, writing and bird watching.

*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.

*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 15 years ago, and although he lives in Maidenhead, UK, he has returned to the refuge 5 times since 2002. Jonathan is moving to the US in 2018 or 2019; 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.

*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.

### *Ben Wilson*

Ben Wilson was elected to the board in 2017 for his first term. He is founder and president of Gas Corporation of America (GCA). GCA sells and operates equipment that processes vented natural gas produced from oil wells to make propane and other liquids. This equipment reduces the carbon footprint and at the same time makes a valuable product. Ben is an avid outdoorsman. Raised in North Texas, he has hunted upland game and waterfowl all of his life. While sitting in a duck blind on cold wintry mornings he would dream of ways to build better decoys. He invented an RC Duck which is a radio controlled model boat that he took apart and positioned into a duck decoy. The propeller action makes the decoy look lifelike. Then he took to the sky. He invented the first Flying Goose Decoy and received a U.S. Patent on it. Field and Stream Magazine did a feature on his hunting experiences and his decoy expertise in 1980. Although a lifelong hunter, he has always been a guardian of the environment and the wildlife he loves. He founded the Wichita Falls Chapter of Ducks Unlimited in 1980'to raise funds for wildlife conservation. He currently serves on the board of the North West Texas Chapter of Boy Scouts of America. Ben has enjoyed the Festival of the Cranes many times over the past several years and enjoys serving on the Board of Friends of Bosque del Apache National Wildlife Refuge.