

# ELDORADO at SANTA FE VISTAS

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Monthly Newsletter of the Eldorado Community Improvement Association

1 La Hacienda Loop, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87508 ▼ (505) 466-4248 ▼ [www.eldoradosf.org](http://www.eldoradosf.org) ▼

## Eldorado's Unsung Heroes

Over the decades, hundreds of dedicated volunteers contributing immense expertise and energy have benefited Eldorado in untold ways. Such community activists have helped run Eldorado Community Improvement Association (ECIA) for over 40 years. Given Eldorado's sizable and diverse population, and its common buildings and grounds, this has been no mean feat.

Because of its tradition of volunteerism, ECIA recognizes one "Resident of the Year" who has rendered outstanding service to the community. ECIA also sponsors an annual "volunteer appreciation party" for its dozens of committee members. Still, the community-at-large seldom acknowledges many others who enrich this subdivision well beyond ECIA's official purview.

This short list of august community members is but a sampling of those invaluable individuals who may be off your radar screen.

### **DOLORES BROCK — ELDORADO PIONEER**

Dolores Brock and her husband, Bernard, were first drawn to the Santa Fe area in 1974 because of its dry air, wide open spaces, and opera.

Since developers owned the vast majority of lots in Eldorado's infancy, they dominated ECIA policies. To balance that situation, Dolores, along with other residents, founded the Eldorado Residents Association (ERA). "ERA," says Brock, "determined to make this place the greatest place to live."

Dolores considers the creation of the ERA a "great achievement." Yet, in addition to helping "level the playing field" between the residents and the developers, Dolores served on "more committees than I can recall." Among those were fire protection, water, incorporation, the 285 Corridor, and ERA's fall and spring flea market fundraisers.

Dolores also opened the first Children's Center, which she says gave her the most satisfaction, since she's always liked young kiddos. Besides the hard work, Dolores recalls "there were a lot of great parties." Dolores still likes parties and continues to help organize the TGIF social gatherings that are hosted at the Community Center.

Today, Dolores continues her regular volunteering at the Adam Senior Center. For several years she served on its board and presently arranges day trips "that are both fun and educational."

Rightly proud of her contributions to Eldorado over the years, Dolores says, "Looking around today I think, 'Not too bad a job.'"

### **MARILYN WALKER — SAFETY FIRST**

Marilyn Walker and her husband, Eric Wiswell, have lived in Eldorado for 11 years. They came here because Eldorado filled their needs regarding affordability and access to arts and culture and natural beauty. Eric discovered Eldorado while on assignment during a photography workshop.

Nine years ago, Marilyn attended a few Eldorado Neighborhood Watch (NW) meetings. When its then-leader decided to step down, Marilyn decided to step up. Marilyn's goal has been to have NW groups cover all Eldorado. To accomplish that goal, Marilyn has continued to organize, recruit block captains, and create an e-mail alert system. And now, thanks to Marilyn's encouragement, Eldorado Stables has its very own NW.

Marilyn points out that NW has not attained her 100% coverage goal in Eldorado just yet. Still, Eldorado boasts the largest NW group in New Mexico, with its approximately 140 block captains, each covering between 10 and 15 homes. Marilyn's greatest satisfaction in working with NW has been "helping people connect with their neighbors and helping create a sense of community."

### **JOE EIGNER — ONCE IS NOT ENOUGH**

Joe Eigner says it was the open spaces, large lots, and lovely homes that caused him and wife, Janet, to move here in 1999.

Eigner's pet project, Eldorado/285 Recycles, is an all-volunteer citizen's group devoted to improving recycling and composting. Eldorado/285 Recycles collects a number of otherwise hard-to-recycle items (at La Tienda). He also installs straw-bale vermicomposting (using worms, bacteria, and fungi to break down organic material) systems in local backyards.

*ECIA Board Meeting,  
Community Center  
Railroad Bldg.  
Thurs.,  
April 21,  
7 PM*



Dolores Brock



Marilyn Walker



Joe Eigner

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Election: **Kathie Graham**  
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Finance: **Dan Drobnis**  
Information: **Frank Schober**  
Roads: **Felicia Probert**  
Stable: **Open**

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COMMUNITY RESOURCES

Vista Grande Library  
466-READ  
Fire and Rescue  
466-1204  
eldoradofirerescue.org  
County All Purpose  
820-CNTY (2689)

## Recent Board Actions

The ECIA Board held its regular meeting on March 17, 2016. Five Board members were present: **Dag Ryen** (president, presiding), **Pam Henline** (vice-president), **Todd Handy** (treasurer), **David Yard**, and **Antone Forneris**. Director **Greg Colello's** absence was excused. The following formal actions were taken by unanimous vote.

- ▼ A motion was approved to table a variance request for a wrought iron spiral staircase at 61 Herrada Rd.
- ▼ A motion was passed to approve an easement agreement with PNM for the Eldorado Preserve.
- ▼ A motion was passed to remove **Eddie Marshall** from the Facilities and Grounds Committee.
- ▼ A motion was passed to approve a revised Road Committee charter.
- ▼ A motion to appoint **Bob Sandlin** to the Conservation Committee was passed.

- ▼ A variance request for fence encroachment into the setback and a shed at 10 Redondo Court was approved.
  - ▼ The Board read into the record a letter to the homeowner at 43 Cuesta Road acknowledging the long-time existence of a fence in the utility easement, and stating that the ECIA plans no further action at this time.
  - ▼ A motion was passed approving an amendment to the HOAMCO management agreement transferring responsibility for all current and future employees to the management company.
- Regular Board meetings are scheduled on the third Thursday of each month at 7 PM at the Community Center and are open to the public. An open forum and community announcements are normally included. Complete minutes and meeting agendas are available at the ECIA office and on the website: [www.eldoradosf.org](http://www.eldoradosf.org).

## Brush Piles and Rodents

With predictions for a dry summer, and with an abundance of weeds left over from a wet summer in 2015, properties in Eldorado are susceptible to summer wildfires. And while Santa Fe County had not yet issued a burn ban, the ECIA is already receiving calls from concerned residents about their neighbors' dead weeds and debris growing right up to their homes.

The ECIA also receives many calls from residents whose neighbors allegedly have collected dead and downed wood and/or weeds on their lot, leaving them in large brush piles. These piles are not only a visual nuisance (which can be considered a violation of Article II, Section 14 of the Eldorado Covenants/Nuisance Clause), but more importantly, they are a fire hazard for both the resident and the neighborhood.

Just as important is the fact that such piles of dead vegetation can provide homes for many of our local rodents, such as mice and rats, which can carry infectious diseases such as typhus, trichinosis, salmonella, and hantavirus.

Given these safety and health issues, the ECIA asks that residents inspect their lots for any dead weeds (especially the tall weeds over the septic field), cut branches, or dead vegetation that might be accumulating around their homes. If you find any such dry brush on your lot, please remove it. These clean-up efforts will help to reduce the chances of a wildfire and will prevent potential nesting sites for rodents.

To learn more about rodent control, refer to the valuable article from New Mexico State University: [http://aces.nmsu.edu/pubs/\\_1/L-209/welcome.html](http://aces.nmsu.edu/pubs/_1/L-209/welcome.html). Thank you for your cooperation in this important matter. For any questions, call me at 466-4248.

—Mark Young, Covenant Compliance Rep.  
mark@eldoradosf.org



## Unsung Heroes, cont. from p. 1

Joe's recycling passion was inspired while attending a 2011 workshop held by the now-inactive Sustainable Eldorado Residents Alliance (SERA). Joe ended up co-chairing the "solid waste group" which has been meeting monthly ever since.

"Many in Eldorado," Joe points out, "moved here from places where recycling was the norm and recycling rates are high."

Improving Eldorado's traditionally low recycling rate in a meaningful way has been a great challenge. For Joe, it has meant using some of his working-life skills (chemistry, hazardous waste legislation), which, he exclaims, has kept him "82-years young!"

— Gershon Siegel



### Dogipots Pet Stations Installed

Like dog owners everywhere, Eldorado's dog owners are reminded to pick up after their pets, but now they have help from the friendly and accessible DOGIPOT® Pet Stations, complete with litter pick up bags and trash receptacles, recently installed by the ECIA. Dogipots are discreetly and strategically placed for our convenience at street junctions, the playground, and Community Center. Currently there are 15 installed (10 new ones), so please let's use them, for poop does not go away easily here but dries up and lingers on endlessly to the disgust of man and beast. A round of applause is due to our guys for taking care of our Eldorado environment; the rest is up to us.

### Commemorative Trees

We hope you enjoy the new island landscaping at the Community Center as it takes shape, turns green, and begins to bloom. This project is well on its way to becoming an Eldorado community park. The shrubs and the first 10 purchased commemorative trees were planted this past year. If you wish to remember someone or commemorate an event with a tree, there are only about 6 trees left. Carved stone plaques are available to be placed with the trees. Contact the ECIA office to become part of this community project. Order now to have your tree planted this spring!

### Cactus Class

The Cactus Rescue Project is holding an introduction to cactus gardening class on Sunday, May 1, at 10 AM at the ECIA Community Center Cactus Demonstration Garden. Our garden is the third largest cactus garden in New Mexico. Come see what will be blooming and expand your interest in cactus. Learn about the types of cactus that will grow in our area and how you can start your own cactus garden. For more information, go to [CactusRescueProject.info](http://CactusRescueProject.info).

### Spring Cleaning!

Here we are in April and turning our thoughts to Spring Cleaning. Whether large or little, practical or foolish, emotional or odd, we accumulate Stuff. If you haven't visited your accumulated Stuff in a long time, perhaps you are reconsidering keeping some of it. If so, consider whether to ReUse it, by depositing it at the ReUse Area at the Eldorado Convenience Center on 285; Recycle it; or ReGive it to a worthy cause rather than heaving it all into the trash to fill up the land fill. Please go to our website for help about disposing of it. [www.Eldorado285Recycles.org](http://www.Eldorado285Recycles.org).

### At the Library

**Artist Exhibits:** Monthly temporary exhibits by area artists are being scheduled for the current year. Applications and the selection process are available on the library website at [www.vglibrary.org/services.php](http://www.vglibrary.org/services.php), and at the circulation desk in the library. This new enhancement to the library is sure to delight patrons, support our local artists, and contribute to the library's fundraising efforts, as a percentage of revenue from sold art will come back to the library.

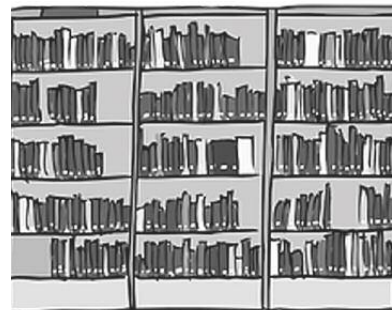
**General Programs:** On Friday, April 22 at 7 PM, local film historian **Jeff Berg** will be presenting his film on Native American films filmed in New Mexico. Attendance is free. **Robert Henderson** will present the final spring **Physics for Everyone** program on Thursday, April 28, at 12:30 PM in the VGPL meeting room. Subject: Temperature, Heat, and the Laws of Thermodynamics. Attendance is free. The **Chess Club** brings together players of all ages and levels to study the game of chess. They meet every Friday from 3 to 5 PM in the library meeting room. There is no fee. Children under 12 can be signed up by a caregiver. No registration is required for adults and kids over 12.

**Children's Programs:** **Story Time** for the pre-K and under crowd and their caregivers meets on Friday mornings at 11:30 AM. **Builders Club** (with Legos) for all ages meets on the 3rd Tuesday of every month from 3 to 5 PM. All programs will follow the SFPS schedules and snow closings, so please call the library or check the website to verify the group will be meeting that day.

**Family Movie Night:** On Friday, April 8, at 7 PM, the library is showing the PG-rated animated sequel following the adventures of a group of monsters in their very unusual hotel. The movie is shown on the big screen in the meeting room, and popcorn is provided. There is no admission charge, although donations are welcome. The May Movie Night is scheduled for May 6.

**Strategic Planning:** VGPL wants to learn how to best serve the community in coming years. In light of this, there will be three community meetings held in April in the library meeting room, where the public—it isn't necessary to be a cardholder—is invited to come and share their opinions and ideas about the future of VGPL and its role in the community. The public meetings are scheduled for Tuesday, April 5, 6:30–8 PM; Thursday, April 7, 1:30–3 PM; and Saturday, April 9, 1–2:30 PM.

**Book Donations and Sales:** Please bring your donations of gently used items on Saturday, April 2 or May 7, from 9 to 11:30 AM, while our processing team is available. Please note that textbooks, law books, magazines, and video or cassette tapes are not accepted. Save the date for the Spring Book Sale on May 12 to 14!



### PROTECT OUR NIGHT SKY

Lights carelessly left on may spoil our night skies (and waste energy).





## IN THE COMMUNITY

### Reel New Mexico

On April 14, "The Grey Fox" (1982, 100 minutes) will be screened at 7 PM at La Tienda's Performance Space. Long-time New Mexico resident (the late) Richard Farnsworth stars in this gently paced and quietly told turn-of-the-century Western, based on the true story of Canadian train robber, Bill Miner.

The film opens with: "On June 17, 1901, after 33 years in San Quentin Prison, Bill Miner was released into the 20th Century." A former stagecoach robber, Miner, then 60 years old, looks ahead to the life before him, accepting and adapting to his new situation. One day he sees a movie in the local nickelodeon that speaks directly to him: Edwin Porter's "The Great Train Robbery" (1903); and to a professional who "always specializes," the message is clear. Watch what happens!

### Rattlesnake Avoidance Clinic for Dogs April 24

The Central New Mexico Brittany Club will again be hosting a Rattlesnake Avoidance Clinics in Eldorado on Sunday, April 24, conducted by Terry and Janet Chandler.

Before the work begins, the snakes are rendered harmless through milking and removing the multiple sets of fangs. This protects both the snake and the dogs. Terry strives to get each dog to achieve the "perfect interaction" with the snake, scenting, hearing, seeing, and touching it. (The "touching" may be just coming in close proximity to the snake.) Upon a "touch," the dog receives a controlled jolt through an e-collar stimulation. Afterward, the dogs are circled back to see the snake, to embed the association of what caused the fright. Several minutes later, the dog is brought back without the e-collar to see if it will approach the snake. The dogs never want anything to do with that rattlesnake.

The clinic is open for all breeds Sunday, April 24 at 20 Casa del Oro Loop beginning at 8 AM. For more, contact Tom Mauter on 466-6511 or at [tjmauter@comcast.net](mailto:tjmauter@comcast.net).

# April Events

## Left out? Help us compile a comprehensive events listing.

Email [diana@eldoradosf.org](mailto:diana@eldoradosf.org) with your meeting/event information, or bring it to the ECIA office by the 3rd of the month for publication in the following month's Vistas. Please include "Attn: Vistas" and be sure to indicate:



1. Type of Event
2. Location
3. Date & Time

4. A Resource Person (one who can answer questions both about the event and the sponsoring organization) and his/her telephone number.

Photographs (digital or snapshots) are encouraged!

Note: All meetings are at the Community Center, unless otherwise noted.

LR=Living Room, F=Foyer, CFR=Conference Room, CR=Class Room, RR=Railroad, K=Kitchen

### COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Architecture Committee	Tues., April 12, 7-9 pm	Mark Young	466-4248	Foyer
Architecture Committee	Tues., April 26, 7-9 pm	Mark Young	466-4248	Foyer
Board Work Study	Mon., April 18, 6-8 pm	ECIA	466-4248	CFR
Conservation Committee	Tues., April 5, 7-9 pm	Jim Daniel	609-941-4527	F
<b>ECIA Board Meeting</b>	<b>Thurs., April 21, 7-9 pm</b>	<b>ECIA</b>	<b>466-4248</b>	<b>RR</b>
Election Committee	Wed., April 13, 2-4 pm	Kathie Graham	466-2133	CFR
Facilities & Grounds	Wed., April 6, 4-6 pm	John Calzada	466-1947	CFR
Finance Committee	Mon., April 18, 9:30-11:30 am	Dan Drobnis	466-4781	CFR
Information Committee	Mon., April 25, 7-9 pm	Frank Schober	310-8593	CFR
Road Committee	Mon., April 11, 6-9 pm	Felicia Probert	466-1563	RR
Stable Committee	Thurs., April 4, 7-9 pm	Alice Griffin	795-6424	F

### MONTHLY / SEMI-MONTHLY MEETINGS / BIMONTHLY

EAW&SD*	1st & 3rd Thurs., 7-9 pm	Anna Mondragon	466-1085	RR/CR
Eldorado Arts & Crafts	Last Thurs., 7 pm	Mary Fredenburgh	466-1035	CR
Eldorado Book Club	3rd Wed., 3:00 pm	Pam Henline	phenline@comcast.net	
Eldorado/285 Recycles	2nd Tues. of month, 4-6 pm	Sue Daniel	856-220-7087	CFR
Roadrunner RV	3rd Thurs. of month	Brad Cottingham	795-1167	TBA
Search & Rescue	2nd Thurs., 7-9 pm	santa fe sar.org		VGPL

### WEEKLY MEETINGS

AA	Tues., 5:45-6:45 pm			CFR/LR
AA	Wed., 7-8 pm			CFR
AA	Thurs., 6-7 pm (Women Only)			CFR
AA	Fri., 6-7 pm			CFR/LR
AA	Sat., 11-12 pm			CFR
AA	Sun., 5:15-6:15 pm			La Tienda
Boy Scout Troop 414	Wed., 7-9 pm	Fritz Denny	466-4070	RR, CR, LR
Bridge	1st & 3rd Fri., 1-5 pm	Shirley Davis	982-6179	LR
Community Church**	Sun., 9:00 & 10:30 am	David McPherson	466-2495	La Tienda
Eldorado Hikers	Tues., 8:30 am	Terry Gibbs	466-6914	CC
Eldorado Writers Club	2nd & 4th Tues., 7-9 pm	Randy Schultz	505-220-4327	CFR
Fire & Rescue Training	Tues., 7-9 pm	Fire Station Office	466-1204	Station
Fire & Rescue Duty Sections	Sat., 8-12 noon	Fire Station Office	466-1204	Station
Knitting Club	Tues., 10-12 noon	Joyce Hanmer	466-3018	LR
Life Drawing	Mon., 10-12 noon	Jack McCarthy	466-9601	RR
Mah Jongg	Fri., 1-5 pm	Nancy Robbins	466-1780	CR
Overeaters Anon	Mon., 7-8 pm	Barb	954-1533	LR
Senior Lunch***	Mon.-Fri., 11:30-12:30 pm	Senior Center	466-1039	
Spinning Group (Fiber)	1st & 3rd Thurs., 9:30-11:30am	Ellen Higgins	970-201-4776	LR
Square Dancing	Fri., 6-9 pm	Connie Walters	466-4226	RR
Yoga/Gentle Stretch	Mon. & Wed., 9-10:15 am	Mary Horst	490-2790	CR
Yoga/Vinyasa	Tues. & Fri., 9-10:15 am	Mary Horst	490-2790	CR
Zumba	Tues. & Thurs., 9-10 am	Tana Monaco	505-690-4332	RR

\* Eldorado Area Water and Sanitation District

\*\*For other religious/spiritual services, go to <http://santafe.areasconnect.com/churches.htm>

\*\*\* Reservations required

VISIT OUR WEBSITE: [www.eldoradosf.org](http://www.eldoradosf.org)