

From Conrad Grims, President of Friends of Sabino Canyon (FOSC)

Despite the restrictions we've all experienced because of COVID, the Board of Directors of FOSC has been active over the past year. We've met virtually by Zoom, and we're pleased to report to our supporters that we've been able to meet important goals and complete important projects.

We are particularly pleased to have completed and published the FOSC Strategic Plan 2021-2025. Soon we will be sharing this document with the community we serve. We are committed to the future detailed in our Strategic Plan.

The Executive Committee of the FOSC Board of Directors has completed a five-year budget plan that clarifies our direction and our responsibilities. The budget plan includes a \$20,000 annual commitment for the next five years to the removal of invasive grasses. This effort has been identified as the top priority of the Forest Service in the Sabino Canyon Recreation Area. FOSC is committed to supporting the efforts of the Forest Service.

I'm proud of the projects that we've completed in support of the work of the US Forest Service and our partner organizations — the Regional Partnering Center (RPC), the Southern Arizona Rescue Association (SARA), the Santa Catalina Volunteer Patrol (SCVP), and the Sabino Canyon Volunteer Naturalists (SCVN).

I'm pleased to report that damage from the Bighorn Fire in the Sabino Canyon Recreation Area was minimal. The first bridge did sustain some damage, but the other bridges remained intact. Work that was done to clear out the culverts under the bridges before the monsoon helped to mitigate the threat of damage. That work was funded by your contributions to FOSC. We appreciate your support.



Two long-anticipated projects have been completed, and another remains in progress in the Rec Area with funding by FOSC. First, the Tech Project in the Visitors Center involved the installation of three video displays, the purchase of two tablets to support the displays, and an improved wi-fi system to better serve the needs of visitors. Second, four large "you are here" signs to guide hikers have been erected at various sites in the Sabino Canyon Recreation Area. In addition, with a total donation over two years in the amount of \$70,000 in the form of a grant to the National Forest Foundation, invasive species in Sabino and Bear Canyon have been surveyed and mapped. Eradication efforts commenced on September 6. The Tucson Audubon Society, in conjunction with the Forest Service and the Arizona-Sonoran Desert Museum did a remarkable job of surveying and mapping under contract with the National Forest Foundation. This team approach is an important way for FOSC to expand its endeavors in the Sabino Canyon Recreation Area.

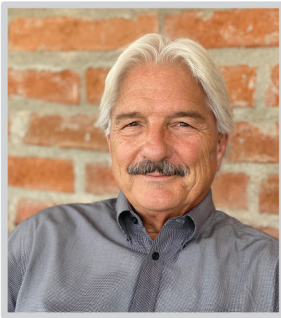


It's been a fulfilling commitment for me to serve as president of Friends of Sabino Canyon, and I'm proud of all we've accomplished together. I'm pleased to welcome Jim Darling, who will assume the position of FOSC president on January 1, 2022.

At that time, I'll assume the office of vice president, and I look forward to working with Jim and our board that has several new members. We all look forward to insuring a productive future for FOSC.

Your generous contributions enable FOSC to continue to meet its mission in the Sabino Canyon Recreation Area. Be assured that we are always mindful of our dependence on, responsibility to, and appreciation of our donors. Thank you.

Conrad Grims
President, Friends of Sabino Canyon



From our Incoming President, Jim Darling

Let me take this opportunity to thank Conrad Grims for his tireless work on behalf of Friends of Sabino Canyon (FOSC). Fortunately for FOSC, Conrad will continue to serve on the Board as he takes the position of our Vice

President with a focus on member donations.

I am very honored to be assuming the position of President of FOSC effective January 2022. I take on this important role with a great deal of admiration for the organization's past presidents, Board directors, our partner organizations — Regional Partnering Center, Southern Arizona Rescue Association, Santa Catalina Volunteer Patrol, and Sabino Canyon Volunteer Naturalists — and all the members and volunteers who have supported our Mission at Sabino Canyon.

Over the Fall, I have and am continuing to spend time meeting personally with the FOSC partner organizations, Forest Service staff, and others who are critical to our success. It is through strong collaboration that we will be most successful in fulfilling our Mission to provide sufficient "resources that conserve, protect and enhance the Sabino Canyon Recreation Area."

FOSC has recently adopted a new strategic plan that is the foundation on which we will move forward. That plan includes what we value...

- The priorities and guidance of the USFS.
- The long-term sustainability and conservation of the Sabino Canyon Recreation Area.
- Our trust responsibility on behalf of our contributors, members, and the USFS.
- Collaboration with those who support our Mission.
- The commitment of our contributors, members, and partners.
- Transparency in our decision making.

My priorities will be to build on the great work of recent Board members. Those priorities include identifying with the USFS and our partners projects that need our funding support, attracting additional Board members, continuing to solidify our brand in support of Sabino Canyon, increasing membership and contributions, and being ready and able to respond to future catastrophic events that may threaten the Sabino Canyon Recreation Area.

I look forward to working with everyone who supports and gives to Sabino Canyon with financial contributions as well as with personal service. See you on the trail!

Jim Darling
Future FOSC President

From Riley Blute, Our First Youth Member of FOSC Board of Directors

My service on the board of Friends of Sabino Canyon (FOSC) has really been eye opening and inspiring. Throughout my time on the board, which has been just over a year now, I've been able to apply many aspects of my daily life to the board as well as take what I've learned on the board and apply that to my daily life, from school to extracurricular activities. I've also been able to connect FOSC with my school, The Gregory School, with presentations in the first weeks of the 2021-2022 school year.

When Conrad Grims invited me to be the first youth FOSC board member, I remember thinking without a doubt that I should accept. As a lifelong Tucson resident, I've been going to Sabino Canyon for as long as I can remember. I've gone to Sabino Canyon for family excursions and school field trips numerous times each year. As someone who went to the canyon many times, I knew I'd have good suggestions for what people would appreciate in the area. I often went to the canyon with Conrad, so he knew just how much I cared about Sabino Canyon.

One of the things that I was most excited about when I was offered the position on the board was the opportunity to connect The Gregory School and FOSC. Because of COVID-19, we couldn't accomplish all we'd have hoped for last year. However, this past summer, Rebecca Davidson of the National Forest Foundation and I organized a presentation at The Gregory School with Imena Ezell of the US Forest Service, Amy Orchard of the Sonoran Desert Museum, and James Pitts of the Arizona Conservation Corps. That event introduced students to the work that FOSC and its partner organizations are doing to conserve the Sabino Canyon Recreation Area. We're hoping that our presentation will inspire students to get involved in environmental science careers that will benefit Sabino Canyon and the whole Sonoran Desert.

My decision to join the FOSC board has been rewarding. I look forward to sharing my future experiences with you, our FOSC supporters. Thank you for your involvement!

Riley Blute
Member of the FOSC Board of Directors



From Jim DeGrood, Regional Partnering Center (RPC)

Sabino Canyon Crawler Update

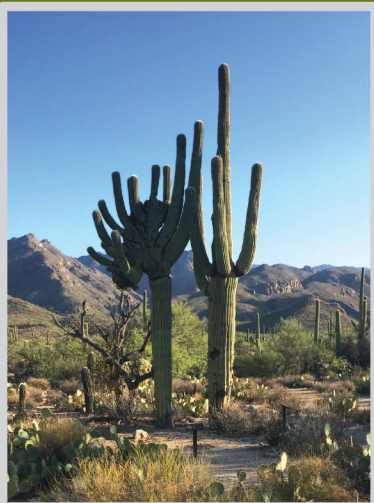
The Sabino Canyon Crawler service is preparing for the upcoming busy season. As with many small businesses, the pandemic has created several challenges for the Crawler, including increases in the cost of labor, staff shortages, cost increases or limited availability for key supplies and parts. Despite these challenges, we remain dedicated to our service, optimistic and excited about the season ahead.

The Sabino Canyon Crawler operated our legacy shuttle bus vehicles over the summer as we worked on some electric vehicle maintenance issues. We are working to improve vehicle performance with battery upgrades. We have begun to reintroduce the electric Crawlers back into service at our busiest times of day and hope to have the entire fleet on the road by the end of the year.

We recently launched a remote ticketing option at the overflow parking lot. This new kiosk is housed in a recycled shipping container and is powered entirely by solar electricity. Tucson Electric Power sponsored a student team from the University of Arizona College of Engineering to design and build the power system, and the kiosk is securely connected to the Sabino Canyon Crawler ticketing website. We're working with Tucson Electric Power to paint a mural on the side of the container to help it fit in with the landscape and demonstrate our commitment to environmentally conscious transportation service in the Sabino Canyon Recreation Area.

All of us at the Regional Partnering Center who work with Tucson Electric Power to make the Sabino Canyon Crawler a wonderful experience look forward to seeing you at the canyon soon and often! Check our web site (sabinocanyoncrawler.com) for more information.

Jim DeGrood
RPC Director





FRIENDS OF SABINO CANYON

Sabino Canyon Recreation Area
5700 N Sabino Canyon Road
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FOSC Newsletter Fall 2021

FOSC Directors

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Kate Blute	Jim McDougal
Riley Blute	Diane Meuser
Jim Darling	Sharon Vandergriff
Conrad Grims	Susan Walker

FOSC Directors Emeritus

Terry DeWald	Jude McCarthy
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FOSC Partner Organizations & Representatives

Regional Partnering Center, Jim DeGroot
Southern Arizona Rescue Association, Nic Jones
Santa Catalina Volunteer Patrol, Judith Peters
Sabino Canyon Volunteer Naturalists, Phil Bentley

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Join Us in Support of Sabino Canyon!

Your donation of \$25 or more registers you as a member of Friends of Sabino Canyon (FOSC) for one year.

Your contributions fund the projects that FOSC undertakes to conserve, protect, and enhance Sabino Canyon in support of the US Forest Service. Your contributions also support educational, ecological, and enhancement activities of our partner organizations — the Regional Partnering Center, the Southern Arizona Rescue Association, the Santa Catalina Volunteer Patrol, and the Sabino Canyon Volunteer Naturalists.

Sabino Canyon is a vibrant and engaged community because of your financial support as well as your valuable volunteer time commitments. We would also like to give a special nod to those of you who support FOSC through AmazonSmile and employer matched contributions. Thank you!

FOSC is a 501(C)(3) charitable organization.

If you would like to update your contact information or advise us of your communication preferences, please email us: donors@sabinocanyon.org. Thanks!

We invite you to visit our web site: sabinocanyon.org

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