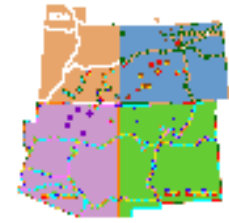




# Four Corners Region roots&shoots



Summer 2008

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## A Message from Jessica

**“The work an unknown good man has done is like a vein of water flowing hidden underground, secretly making the ground green.”**  
~Thomas Carlyle

Each night, I turn on the local news while I am making dinner. I am often shocked at the number of crimes that are reported on in one 30-minute newscast.

I wonder what my outlook on the state of our world would be if I did not spend the day at the Four Corners Roots & Shoots office or meeting some of the youth that participate in our programs. I love hearing about how Luke Zitwal is meeting with his city and county representatives to promote Prairie Dog Day or seeing a presentation from a Rio Grande Roots & Shoots member about river otters in the bosque. These projects, stories and photos brighten my day and give me hope that one day the newscast will feature positive community stories, overshadowing the negative.

Thank you to all of the Four Corners groups for making the ground around me green. Let me know if there is a way I can help to make yours a little greener.

Keep on inspiring!  
Jessica Morgan  
Regional Program Manager  
jmorgan@janegoodall.org

# First Annual Global Youth Summit Huge Success!

By Ray Powell—Four Corners States Regional Director

**"Tell me, what is it you plan to do with your one wild and precious life?" ~Mary Oliver**

This spring, two of our regional Youth Leaders attended the first-ever Jane Goodall's Global Youth Summit in Orlando, Florida to talk about how they plan to use their energy, passion and knowledge to make a positive difference in their local communities.

One hundred outstanding leaders, aged 16 to 24, gathered from 28 countries spread over six continents to visit together and talk with Dr. Jane Goodall and a host of other prominent individuals about important issues facing their local communities and our embattled planet.



*Dr. Jane and participants at Jane Goodall's Global Youth Summit take part in a Native American blessing led by Leonard Little Giner, Lakota elder, expert and author*

Jane Goodall's  
Global Youth Summit - 2008  
is made possible by:



It was an exciting and very intense week of work and play that resulted in many important new relationships and friendships that will help create opportunities for collaboration and cooperation across the globe for decades to come. Cody Stotts and Calvin Shaneyfelt were selected as our region's first Youth Leaders to attend this important conference. Both did an outstanding job and are sharing their experiences and ideas with R&S groups in our Four Corners States Region. If you are interested in participating in the R&S Four Corners Youth Leadership Council or applying for

next year's Global Youth Summit, please contact our office at [fcrootsandshoots@janegoodall.org](mailto:fcrootsandshoots@janegoodall.org).

## Apply Today for a Four Corners Mini-Grant Deadline: June 30

At the regional office, we have taken notice of the hard work that our groups put into their service projects on a very limited budget. We are excited to announce grants of \$200 - \$400 to support youth-led service projects in the Four Corners Region, which includes Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico and Utah. Up to 10 mini-grants will support Roots & Shoots youth groups (pre-K through college age) in planning and implementing service projects.

The projects should focus on helping animals, the environment or the human community. We encourage you to address an issue that your group is passionate about while also addressing a community need. Four types of mini-grants will be awarded:

1. Human Community
2. Environment
3. Tree Planting
4. Animals

If you are interested in applying for a Four Corners Mini-Grant, please contact Jessica Morgan, at [jmorgan@janegoodall.org](mailto:jmorgan@janegoodall.org) or 505.988.1670, to receive an application.



## One member's perspective on Dr. Jane's inspirational Utah tour stop

by Monica Ferreira—Westminster College R&S group leader, Salt Lake City, Utah

In March, Dr. Jane visited the community of Salt Lake City where she discussed our obligation to inspire and take an active part in the ever changing landscape of Utah. From protecting the Utah Prairie Dog to preserving wild spaces, we all have a part to play. Dr. Jane reminded us how Roots & Shoots is an amazing way for youth to become motivated and make Utah a leader in social and environmental issues.

When Dr. Jane spoke about Peace with Nature Finding Connections, her spirited passion was contagious to all who were listening. Her gentle reminder about responsibility and accountability was a way for everyone to walk away with a token of possibilities for personal and social growth.

Students at Morningside Elementary Roots & Shoots had an opportunity to attend the screening of the film *Jane Goodall's Wild Chimpanzees*. They were astonished by her work and moved by her commitment to articulate for those in our community that cannot communicate as we do.

Westminster College renewed their pledge to keep Roots & Shoots alive in Utah and work with interested groups and individuals who feel this important work must continue. Lecture attendee Jamie Rush from Park City is eager to start a Roots & Shoots group at the Swaner Eco Center in Park City. Jamie is motivated to create projects that would be meaningful to the individuals who live in his community.



## Four Corners Youth Leadership Council hosts a sustainable foods panel

by Cody Stotts—Four Corners States Youth Leadership Volunteer, Albuquerque, New Mexico

Today most people have a certain degree of awareness about current environmental issues. We are inundated with information regarding the state of the climate and what that means to the world as a whole. While this is a very good sign and trend, there are others who have been inspired to learn more about the specific components that contribute to these high-level issues and where and how these issues affect their local communities.



The newly formed Four Corners Youth Leadership Council has done just that. To approach the specific issues faced by the Southwest, the council first decided to gather local representatives who are dealing directly with these concerns in Albuquerque and throughout New Mexico.

Utilizing a grant from the Lumpkin Family Foundation and guidance from the Roots & Shoots Four Corners Office, the group was able to host a sustainable foods panel event at the Albuquerque Academy. Speakers came from many different areas within Albuquerque's sustainable foods community. Panel members included representatives from the University of New Mexico's Sustainability Program, La Montanita Co-op, Los Poblanos Organics, Rio Grande

Community Farm, New Mexico Organics Commodities Commission and the Roots & Shoots Four Corners Office.

All of the speakers were offered the opportunity to address questions and concerns covering an assortment of topics ranging from specific circumstances associated with the local region to attempting to define various interpretations of what sustainability means. There was not one question asked that did not illicit an extensive response or discussion between the speakers.

The emphasis of the evening was that individual decisions drive larger trends in our communities and around the globe. The speakers highlighted areas where positive changes can be achieved, and conversations focused on the factors that can drive or prevent more sustainable lifestyles.

By the end of the event, participants could identify with a growing network and trend toward more localized agriculture. They could recognize a positive attitude that continues to spread and inspire a greater sustainable community within Albuquerque and the rest of the world.

## **Four Corners Members Partner with the Prairie Dog Coalition to Help Save a Species**



Roots & Shoots in the Four Corners Region has joined with the Prairie Dog Coalition in Boulder, Colorado to help save the species.

The Prairie Dog Coalition is an alliance of non-profit organizations, concerned citizens and scientists dedicated to protecting prairie dogs and their ecosystems. Prairie dogs now occupy less than one percent of their natural grasslands ecosystem in the Great Plains, which stretch from Canada to Mexico.

Disease, extermination and prairie development are the main causes of the decrease in prairie dog populations. This is a big problem, because many other animals on the prairie depend on prairie dogs for their own survival.

The Roots & Shoots Four Corners staff sent out an email to regional Roots & Shoots groups to see who would be interested in learning more about

prairie dogs. The office quickly learned that prairie dog issues are very important to their members.

The Prairie Dog Coalition sent Prairie Dog Baskets to the interested Roots & Shoots groups. The baskets contained informative workbooks, a PowerPoint presentation, teacher resources, prairie dog bones, a prairie dog identification guide, a CD, a stuffed prairie dog toy and much more.

The Rio Grande Roots & Shoots group in Albuquerque, New Mexico ordered one of the baskets. The group adopts prairie dogs and feeds them until they can be moved outside of urban Albuquerque to a location where they can survive on their own.

"I liked holding the stuffed prairie dog and listening to the prairie dog songs!" said 6-year-old group member Olvia Velazquez. "It makes me feel happy that I can learn about them and feed our colony until they get a better home."

"The bones and teeth are interesting to hold and see," said 10-year-old Roman Velazquez, another group member. "The teeth grow throughout the prairie dog's life so it has to keep them short by nibbling."

Melisande's Roots & Shoots group in Boulder, Colorado went to the Denver Zoo to help educate others about prairie dogs. The group created an interactive puppet show for kids to watch.

"It was the best Roots & Shoots thing we've ever done, because we reached so many people," said 10-year-old Melisande Osnes. The group gave some of the puppets to another Roots & Shoots group, and they donated the rest to the Prairie Dog Coalition.

## Test your prairie dog knowledge:

1. How many species of prairie dogs are there in North America?
  - a. five
  - b. four
  - c. three
  - d. six
2. How many teeth do prairie dogs have?
  - a. 22
  - b. 18
  - c. 26
  - d. 30
3. What kind of sound do prairie dogs make?
  - a. a low-pitched, chattering call
  - b. a throaty, growling sound
  - c. they don't make any sound
  - d. a high-pitched, bark-like call
4. Prairie dogs live in burrows that they dig themselves. What are these burrows known as?
  - a. village
  - b. towns
  - c. cities
  - d. hamlets



5. Prairie dog colonies have faced a great amount of destruction from disease, poisoning, recreational shoots and human development. What percentage of their former habitat do prairie dogs now inhabit?
- 50 percent
  - 10 percent
  - 2 percent
  - 25 percent

(Answers at bottom of the page)

## Welcome to all of our new Groups!

The Nature Club- Fort Lupton, Colorado

Flower Birds- Phoenix, Arizona

Rio Gallinas Charter School- Las Vegas, New Mexico

Danielle's Roots & Shoots- Las Vegas, New Mexico

Bocock Roots & Shoots- Denver, Colorado

Eagles for the Environment and People- Windsor, Colorado

The Sovereigns- Tucson, Arizona

Prairie Dog Coalition- Boulder, Colorado

Los Adelantados- Santa Fe, New Mexico

Sonya Jacob's 2<sup>nd</sup> Grade- Santa Fe, New Mexico

Chaparral Roots & Shoots Group- Santa Fe, New Mexico

Wood Gormley Roots & Shoots- Santa Fe, New Mexico

Team Dominguez- Santa Fe, New Mexico

Team Randall- Santa Fe, New Mexico

Pam's Piñon Roots & Shoots, Santa Fe, New Mexico

Jo-Dee Chavez's 2<sup>nd</sup>-grade Class- Santa Fe, New Mexico

Sandi Holland R&S- Santa Fe, New Mexico

Chaparral R&S- Santa Fe, New Mexico

Sarah Furr 4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> Roots & Shoots- Santa Fe, New Mexico

Piñon Green Team- Santa Fe, New Mexico

WG Rooting Shooting 5<sup>th</sup> Grade- Santa Fe, New Mexico

Albuquerque Academy Environmental Club- Albuquerque, New Mexico

Koala Kids- Salt Lake City, Utah

Easter Seals Blake Foundation- Tucson, Arizona

Trekkers- Superior, Colorado

Mountain Care Program- Flagstaff, Arizona

City Different Roots & Shoots- Santa Fe, New Mexico

Salty Shoots- Salt Lake City, Utah

Dragonfly School R&S- Santa Fe, New Mexico

Sandia Mountain Natural History Center- Albuquerque, New Mexico

Bandelier Roots & Shoots Service Learning Club- Albuquerque, New Mexico

Roosevelt Leaders- Tijeras, New Mexico

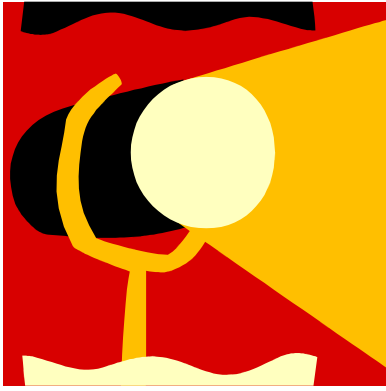
Enchanted ABQ Roots & Shoots- Albuquerque, New Mexico

Norwood Roots & Shoots- Norwood, Colorado

Rita's Roots & Shoots Group- Holman, New Mexico

**Answers to Prairie Dog Trivia:**

1)A 2) A 3) D 4) B 5) C



## Project Spotlight: Standout Projects from Around the Region

- **The Globe Roots & Shoots** group in Colorado Springs, Colorado, read the book *Dinosaurs to the Rescue, A Guide to Protecting Our Planet* and were inspired to make a difference at their school. The entire class created a 6-poster quilt with drawings of dinosaurs and messages about the importance of protecting the planet. The quilt now hangs outside the classroom for all of the students to see.
- **Johnstown Roots & Shoots** is located in the small, rural town of Johnstown, Colorado that does not provide Christmas tree recycling. The group decided to organize a recycling tree fundraiser asking members of their community to recycle their trees and make a donation for the recycling services. After advertising in the two local newspapers and in the community with signs, the group collected 18 trees for a total of \$110 in donations.
- **Westminster College** in Salt Lake City, Utah hosted the Third Annual Roots & Shoots Youth Environmental Fair on April 3. The event was a way for the 85 youth to connect and share their outstanding research on fascinating eco-products like solar panels and fruit batteries. If you are interested in participating in the 2009 Roots & Shoots Youth Environmental Fair, please contact Monica Ferreira, [mferreira@westminstercollege.edu](mailto:mferreira@westminstercollege.edu) or 801.832.3300
- As their kickoff project, **NE Phoenix R&S** in Phoenix, Arizona made magazine bowls to sell as a fundraiser. Using recycled magazines and newspapers, the members made nearly 30 bowls. The group sold the bowls at the holiday craft sale and raised \$170 for future service projects.
- **Rio Grande Roots & Shoots** in Albuquerque, New Mexico got up early on a Saturday morning to help support the runners in the Annual Rio Grande Zoo's Run for the Zoo event. The group helped pass out water, Gatorade and other refreshments as the runners crossed the finish line. Several members also participated by running in the event.



Rio Grande R&S at Run for the Zoo

NE Phoenix R&S member making a magazine bowl



Posters made by The Globe Charter School Roots & Shoots group



## Introducing new staff in the region

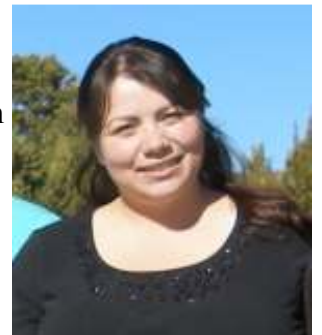
**Suzanne Garcia Pino** is a stay-at-home mom to her beautiful daughter, Lucy. Before coming to Roots & Shoots, she was a fourth-grade teacher in the Santa Fe Public School District. Now, we are lucky enough to have Sue working part-time as the Santa Fe Education Outreach Coordinator, connecting teachers and their students with Roots & Shoots for service-learning projects. Although her first priority is raising her daughter, she is very proud to be setting an example for Lucy about the importance of community and volunteerism. If you are a member in the Santa Fe area, please feel free to contact Sue, [sGPino@janegoodall.org](mailto:sGPino@janegoodall.org).



**Julie Velazquez** is the Youth Leadership Coordinator for Albuquerque, New Mexico. She is a native of New Mexico with a background in social work. Julie first became involved with Roots & Shoots as a co-group leader for the Rio Grande Roots & Shoots group in Albuquerque. For almost three years, Rio Grande Roots & Shoots has worked on various projects, such as caring for 10 acres of riparian forest land, adopting a local prairie dog colony and volunteering at a local food pantry. The projects she loves the best are those that get her whole family outside appreciating the natural beauty of the Rio Grande Valley. Her experience with Roots & Shoots naturally led her to helping the Four Corners Office build youth leadership in New Mexico. With the support of a great husband, Robert, who teaches high school athletics, and three great

homeschooling kids, Roman, Olivia and Marisol, Julie has been off to a great start with our youth leaders. Julie is looking forward to meeting more of the R&S team! If you are a member in the Albuquerque area or interested in youth leadership, please contact Julie, [jVelazquez@janegoodall.org](mailto:jVelazquez@janegoodall.org).

Teresa Gray is a native New Mexican from the Roswell area. She previously taught language arts to middle school students for six years. Teresa has joined the Roots & Shoots team as Environmental Education Coordinator for Wind River Ranch Foundation in Watrous, New Mexico. Teresa's goal is to get students outdoors to learn about native ecosystems, area wildlife and environmental stewardship. If you are a member in northern New Mexico and wish to find out what opportunities are available with Wind River Ranch, please contact Teresa, [tGray@janegoodall.org](mailto:tGray@janegoodall.org).



**June 30**

**Deadline to apply for Four Corners mini-grant**

**July 11-13**

**Four Corners Youth Leadership Retreat at Wind River Ranch**

**July 7**

**Notification of mini-grant awards**

**September 21**

**Roots & Shoots Day of Peace**

**September 30**

**Last Day for ReBirth the Earth Campaign**

**October 31**

**Mini-grant reports due**

## **New reusable bags available thanks to Resources for Health Roots & Shoots**

Resources for Health Roots & Shoots group in Scottsdale, Arizona, won the Environmental Excellence Award from SeaWorld/Busch Gardens/Fujifilm for their ongoing "Pollution Solutions" project. The group was motivated to take action to reduce the use of disposable consumer bags back in 2005. The award has allowed Resources for Health Roots & Shoots to offer cotton reusable shopping bags at ten bags for \$40 (includes shipping and handling). The bag has a blank space in the center giving groups the opportunity to screen print the logos of local green sponsors onto the bags which will help to reduce the purchase price of the bags while promoting environmentally friendly businesses. Along with the bag, you have the option to receive a CD of the "A Story About Shopping Bags" slideshow. Be sure to check out the group's "Pollution Solutions" blog on their website [www.resourcesforhealth.org](http://www.resourcesforhealth.org).

### **Congratulations Resources for Health Roots & Shoots!**



To order one of these reusable bags email [pollutionsolutions@resourcesforhealth.org](mailto:pollutionsolutions@resourcesforhealth.org) or call 480.282.8488

#### **Roots & Shoots**

**Four Corners Regional Office**

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**Santa Fe, NM 87501**

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**Emily Dietrich-Millstein, Regional Program Manager**

**Jessica Morgan, Regional Program Manager**

**Sue Garcia Pino, Santa Fe Education Coordinator**

**Julie Velazquez, Albuquerque Youth Leadership  
Coordinator**

**Teresa Gray, Wind River Ranch**