

## 2018 Los Pinos Ranch News

Dear Ranch Friends, here are some highlights from our 2017 season.

A group of high school buddies reunited at Los Pinos Ranch last summer: *"The Pecos is a perfect place to gather with family and friends and get away from all the distractions of social media... and really get into the natural environment through fishing and hiking and just enjoy the natural beauty there...it's a perfect place to have a reunion of four guys who hadn't seen each other in fifty years...the rustic charm of the place is what I love."*



The Sunset Hikers, 5 outdoor enthusiasts, visited in June. Day hikes of this genial group were curtailed a bit by the high elevation snow pack. It was a pleasure to host them for their 2017 hiking adventure. *"We searched North America for authenticity and we found it."*

Bird watching adventures: Two birding groups enjoyed a day's outing with our guide, Dave Hawksworth. They spent mornings and afternoons observing and learning about our avian residents with lunch served on the Lodge porch. *"Luncheon was such a treat, absolutely delicious food, the table setting so cool and elegant...the fire in the fireplace a welcome sight...Thank you for showing us another treasure of New Mexico."*

*[Birding photos by Richard Harris]*



*"Dave was great as a birding guide, very easy going and patient."*



New riding experiences: We had a couple of first time riders who did exceptionally well last season. A 10-year-old from England, who enjoyed lesson time on Chico, showed great potential for equestrian skills. Another new rider mastered Cochise's habit of snacking along the trail and so was able to enjoy a beautiful ride to Grass Mountain in late September.

Not to forget our local wildlife: Thanks to the observant eyes of a family of visitors from England, we were privileged to witness the first outing of a family of chipmunks. The parents and 7 babies were emerging from their nest in the back of the Lodge chimney and kept us entertained with their attempts at rock climbing up and down the walls, under the constant watch and assistance, of course, from mom and dad.

It is now time to get the ranch ready for summer. We look forward to return visits from old friends and the chance to welcome new guests to Los Pinos Ranch.

Hoping to see you again *"Where the road ends and the trails begin."*