



# SITE LINES

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## Mike Bremer and Anne Baldwin Retire

We all knew that someday this would happen, and it will, come December 31, 2019 for Mike; Anne has already retired. Those of us who have been with the site stewards for more than a couple of years recognize how much they have contributed to our organization.

Mike has been employed with the USDA Forest Service permanently since 1988 and seasonally between 1980 and 1988. He's been associated/worked with Santa Fe National Forest Site Stewards since 1996.



Annie and Mike under the yellow tarp at the 2016 Annual Meeting in Abiquiu.

Photo by Nancy Cella

### Here are Some Tributes:

This is a story about Mike Bremer, but it is also about Dwight Feiselman. Dwight was my first site steward partner and the AATL for the Gallina site stewards. Dwight was a great guy, an enthusiastic site steward, and Mike liked him. Dwight died of a brain tumor. It was very sad for all of us and Lee and Candie, Mike and I went to Dwight's funeral service. Mike got up and gave Dwight a lovely eulogy. Mike didn't need to do this. But this is the type of guy Mike is. He is kind, thoughtful, and he goes

the extra mile. That's when I realized that the SFNF Site Stewards is more than a volunteer organization, but a lovely group of folks who care for each other. Mike created us and set the tone for the group. We are truly his creation.

--Elaine Gorham

In the Garcia area, we have a site that's little more than a low mound, scattered rocks, and a few sherds. If you didn't know it's a site—and most people who drive out there to hunt or just to explore have no idea what it is—you wouldn't think twice about driving on it and turning around, as that's where the road ends. That's exactly what a lot of vehicles did. We'd go out to monitor a string of pueblos on the mesa of nearby Guaje, only to find tire tracks all over this lower site at the end of the "road." (Our roads are terrible; we once found an old Pontiac abandoned in a particularly bad spot. Even though we asked, Mike would not buy us a bulldozer.) To try to deter the traffic, many big logs were set up crossing the road every few feet from about a quarter of a mile away. Tire tracks started going around them until the logs gradually disappeared, taken away as free firewood.

The climb to that mesa is neither steep nor long but we used to tease Mike that we'd driven up there—instead of walking—and found everything OK except for the inevitable cows visiting from Santa Clara. We still threaten to appropriate one for a BBQ.

In another spot on the same road, drivers had begun making a shortcut right over a couple of field houses. They were little more than telltale lumps with small concentrations of stones. Annie and some other Forest Service hands came along one Saturday. We laid brush and dead trees across the tracks



### Contributors to This Issue

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Elaine Gorham  
Lois Haggard  
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Becky Johnston  
Paul Leo  
Paula Lozar  
Susan McGrew  
Gary Newgent

The Editors Thank You!!

## Mike and Anne Retire (cont)

but this time, Annie had brought some plastic posts, which we pounded into the ground to block access.

The stewards all thought the posts would be shot to bits or driven over in no time, but Annie had a trick up her sleeve. She'd brought a handful American flag stickers, which, she told us, seemed to prevent people from destroying the posts. Now, several years later, the posts and flags magically still stand. We'll miss our pals, Annie and Mike, for all the fun and expertise they brought to their jobs and ours.

-Irene Wanner

It's hard to believe that Mike B is retiring! For the past 20 years, he has been a great leader, mentor, and treasured friend. His uniquely supportive welcoming approach to volunteers established the Site Stewards as a sustainable program. Also, the Galina PIT projects were memorable and fun events. We will miss Mike as the SFNF Archaeologist but continue to cherish his friendship.

Thanks, Mike, for your patience and support of volunteers. Enjoy your retirement!

-Lee Borduin

My thoughts of Mike are twofold: first, for the establishment of the Site Steward Program on the SFNF. He not only mentored volunteers as stewards but entrusted us with managing the program when it became necessary. Mike provided leadership in the field, teaching us observation and archaeological skills; but perhaps more importantly, he taught us the value and skills to become valuable volunteers. Secondly, and on a more personal note, Mike has become a friend I value and will continue to value into his retirement. Mike, I can envision your enthusiasm as you enter this portion of your life as a volunteer. I expect you will continue to be a leader and mentor for those around you and I hope I continue to benefit from that relationship.

-Candie Borduin

## Co-Chair Message

Thanks to all who attended the annual meeting. It was great to see everyone and the food and the Archaeological Conservancy-led field trip to San Marcos were high points. Our group will make a contribution to the Conservancy as a token of thanks.

Our speaker's series is underway. Candie Borduin presented on the Mesa Prieta petroglyphs in October and the next month, Andrew Lescht talked about using archaeology concepts to encourage use of evidence and critical thinking skills in young students. Shout-outs go to Susan McGrew and Chris Gardner who have secured speakers throughout the season, with topics including animal tracks (see Save the Dates).

January marks the end of the current co-chairs' term. SFNFSS council chair and vice chair for the new term will be announced soon. Council members who just completed one-year terms (secretary Judith Isaacs, treasurer Nancy Brouillard, and at-large members Paula Lozar and Susan McGrew) have all agreed to serve a second year. (Thank you all!) The next council meeting will be January 18, 2020, at the usual location (Forest Service headquarters conference room) starting at 10. All stewards are welcome to attend.

January also marks the beginning of a new

chapter for the SFNFSS. Mike Bremer has been our Forest Service agency sponsor for 23+ years (!) and will retire from his position at the Forest Service at the end of December. We wish him the very best and hope he has an enjoyable and active retirement. He has worked on the Site Steward Program since 1996; it has been such a pleasure working with Mike. Let's remember to raise a glass and toast his retirement during the upcoming holidays. We've honored Mike's wishes and have not held a party, but that was a difficult decision. SFNF wants the SS program to continue. Mike's position will be filled by Kathi Turner, who will be Acting Heritage Program Director through the end of February 2020. Watch *Site Lines* and the listserv for any new developments.

Site steward training is scheduled for 9 a.m., March 21, 2020, probably at the Forest Service headquarters conference room. Provisional stewards should mark their calendars. Please stay tuned for more details.

Stewards should visit their sites as weather permits. Be careful on muddy roads. And have a warm and cozy winter holiday season.

— Paul Leo and Lois Haggard, co-chairs

## Annual Meeting

The Site Steward 2019 Annual Meeting was held on Saturday, September 21, in the Santa Fe National Forest conference room in Santa Fe. Paul Leo presided, and called the meeting to order at 9:25. Appropriate introductions were made. Ray Willison, Foundation treasurer, presented the budget report for the stewards. As of September 1, we are under budget by \$558, without the proceeds (\$684.32) from the silent auction held throughout day of the annual meeting. Thanks to Shelley Thompson for spearheading the auction and all who bought items. State of the Forest. Mike Bremer discussed various aspects of the SFNF. The 90-day comment period has begun and ended on November 7. This plan determines policies governing the SFNF for the next 10 or more years. The court-designated injunction has been eased to include firewood gathering by local residents; curtailed are activities that disturb the land: logging, and prescribed burns. In the injunction, five New Mexico forests and Tonto National Forest in Arizona were asked to evaluate the status of the Mexican spotted owl's habitat. This closure order responded to criticisms of the owl protection plans by the Forest and Fish and Wildlife Service. Traditional Cultural Properties (TCPs) are now in the plan. The national Christmas tree will come from the Carson National Forest.

Anne Baldwin retired in November, and Mike will retire at the end of this calendar year. Mike has been employed with the FS for 39 years, and says, "I'm done." He worked as a seasonal employee from 1980–88, then became permanent since 1988. His plans are to volunteer with SiteWatch at Bandelier National Monument where he'll work with Daisy Levine.

Kathi Turner is the acting Forest Archaeologist who began training with Mike until he leaves on December 31. Replacements for Jason McInteer and Anne Marie Kmetz have not yet been hired. Jana Comstock will be the acting archaeologist for Española, Coyote, Caja, and Gallina Districts. Thus, archaeological leadership will be short until replacements are hired. The Forest Supervisor wants the Site Steward Program to continue.

Various projects are in progress throughout all six districts of the forest, such as treatment programs on sites within the areas of prescribed burns (treatment plans remove trees and shrubs within the site boundaries), and a multi-agency program to treat excess fuels in general, all of which are affected by the injunction.

The Jemez Pueblo claim on the Valles Caldera has been rejected; witnesses included archaeologists Ana Steffen and Kurt Anschuetz. The pueblo may appeal the decision.

Please continue to use your old off-road vehicle permits. The SFNF LEOs (Law Enforcement Officers) have been asked to honor them.

The big news about this year's fires is that there was nothing spectacular. Unfortunately, there were lots of abandoned campfires. In the Jemez District alone, the season's total was 164 abandoned campfires.

Federal government officials are streamlining the NEPA (National Environmental Protection Act) process, which will affect future decision making. Regulations are changing; the Antiquities Act continues to affect national monument status.

Mike commented that there is a shortage of archaeologist and anthropologist graduates now to fill existing vacancies.

ATL Reports. K. Paul Jones reported for the Rio Chama area; it was a great season, all sites were seen twice, no issues except at Ku where stewards found an abandoned car. Presently there are 18 stewards on the team.

Cathy Gates reported that her team has inspected 95 percent of the sites, the roads are in bad shape, and more fences were cut at the hacienda. No other evidence of damage was found. Stewards began their third year of public tours of the horizontal rock art sites. Demand is greater than stewards can handle.

Ann White reported for the Jemez team. All sites have been visited except those on Cat Mesa. There is a new fence at Twin Sisters site, and a site steward perk tour of Boletsakwa was held (see articles in this issue).

Elaine Gorham reported for the Gallina team. There have been some tree falls on routes to sites, and incidents at Nogales cliff dwelling site. An animal trap was found next to a trail; no identification on the trap, which was sprung. Lots of ille-

## Annual Meeting (cont.)

legal activity has been observed: ATV tracks not on designated routes and geocaching. Stewards were reminded that elk and deer hunt seasons are well attended in the Gallina District through November. Don't wear white.

Gary Newgent reported for the Caja del Rio team: All sites were visited, and the roads are bad. An article in a recent *Santa Fe New Mexican* mentioned the revival of the construction of a four-lane highway to Los Alamos that would be built from the Caja and bridges over the Rio Grande and Frijoles Canyon. It was a proposal in the 1990s that was never approved or funded, and it will probably never be built due to the cost.

Site Steward Foundation: Ray Willison reported that the Foundation annual meeting was held in March at the International Museum of Folk Art. Kay Lee and Beth Parisi have retired from the Foundation board, and Ray Willison joined the board as treasurer. Two grants of \$1,000 each will be awarded this year, and the Foundation sponsored a silent auction at the ASNM (Archaeological Society of New Mexico) annual meeting, set up an information table and silent auction at the Pecos Conference in August. Members are reminded that the 2020 membership dues for 2020 began October 1. Presently there are 107 members in the Foundation.

Awards for outstanding service were presented at the close of the morning business session, and a potluck lunch was set up and set upon with much pleasure at noon. Awards were presented to Ann White, Chris Gardner, and Nancy Cella.

**Ann White:** *For doing about everything related to belonging to the Site Steward Program. Ann served as Council Chair, Annual Meeting Chair, AATL of the Jemez Team and now is Co-ATL of the Jemez team with Chris Gardner. She has chaired the Archive Committee since 2013, the Awards Committee since 2011 and maintains an up-to-date steward roster. Ann is always ready to pitch in and help and does so with a very pleasant attitude. Thank you, Ann!*

Ann was awarded a fox fetish with her certificate of appreciation. *One great gift of fox medicine is that they can adapt well to most anything for the good of the self and clan, so they will most certainly survive,*

*dwelling comfortably in the borderlands and twilight, always allowing for a bit of amusement and magic along the way.*



From left: Nancy, Ann, and Jan Stone



Jan and Chris

**Chris Gardner:** *For enthusiastically planning and organizing Site Steward Perks three times a year. Chris plans outings to interesting archaeological sites and arranges for a knowledgeable trip leader to lead the outing. She graciously agreed to be Co-ATL for the Jemez Area, and she goes out on many site visits with stewards whose partners are unable to go out for various reasons. Chris has stewarded in the Jemez for years and led the 2018 Annual Meeting field trip to Se-shukwa. Chris was awarded a dragonfly fetish with her certificate of appreciation. Dragonfly is the messenger who carries prayers to Spirit World. The double-winged form of Dragonfly is sometimes referred to as the Pueblo Cross. Dragonfly is recognized as a sign of water, which is where this remarkable creature lays its eggs. Where there is Dragonfly, there is water; where there is water, there is life. Dragonfly is a skilled aerial acrobat, and like the mind, can move quickly in any given direction to accomplish its goal. Being mindful of dragonfly can help us guide us to our own positive and transcendent goals.*

## Annual Meeting (cont)

**Nancy Cella:** *For serving as Co-Editor with Irene Wanner of Site Lines since 2008! And for consistently producing an informative, interesting quarterly newsletter. For coming through snow and ice from her Jemez Mountains home to the Wednesday evening lectures to document the evening's speaker for Site Lines, for having served as Chair of the Annual Meeting Committee and as a member for countless years and for always pitching in where ever she can help. For always having her thumb on the pulse of the Site Steward Program.*

Nancy received a beaver fetish with her certificate of appreciation. *Beavers are extremely energetic and exhibit great diligence in whatever they do. Their willingness to participate in purposeful and cooperative activity is part of their medicine. We can learn a great deal from this singular quality. Whether building their underwater lodges, repairing dams, or taking care of their kits, beavers do it with zeal. This is why we have the expression "eager beaver." They are gentle creatures who show us that working hard can be its own reward.*

Instead of having several speakers during the afternoon session, we took a field trip to San Marcos Pueblo, south of Santa Fe. Mike introduced Jerry Rogers, a volunteer for the Archaeological Conservancy, which now owns most of the pueblo and oversees its protection. We were provided with a multi-page, comprehensive handout for the pueblo; it provided the background, the historical record of its visitation, the turquoise trade and ceramic production, research, preservation efforts, several site maps, a timeline of occupation of major areas in New Mexico, and a chart of Rio Grande Glaze Ware bowl rim type distinctions. Not only was the pueblo a major center for the manufacture of Rio Grande Glaze Wares, but also its proximity to the water source and the turquoise and lead deposits in the Cerrillos Hills are thought to be major contributors to its success. The pueblo is thought to have about 2,000 rooms, one of the largest



Jerry Rogers describes the site showing low mounds in the background.

All photos by Bill Cella

for a prehistoric pueblo. It is estimated that the site was occupied in the early 1300s with a probable occupation in the middle-to-late 1200s. Its Keres name is Ya'atz. The settlement was abandoned at the time of the Pueblo Revolt in 1680; its occupants are thought to have moved to Cochiti and San Felipe, to their Keres speaking relatives.

Due to the abundant spring vegetation growth, we waded from one room block to another, trying not to make obvious trails. The site spreads across some 75 acres containing 22 room blocks that enclose eight to ten plazas. The site is on the north bank of an intermittent tributary of Galisteo Creek – San Marcos Arroyo. Since the pueblo was made of adobe bricks, there are no visible structures. Chaco Canyon it is not.

Some of the rooms and walls of the pueblo and the nave of the church were still standing when Diego de Vargas visited in 1692. A photo taken in 1915 taken by Nels Nelson showed mounds scattered across the landscape, similar to today's view. There is some speculation, not widely accepted, that San Marcos was founded in the 11th century when Chaco Canyon imported large quantities of turquoise. A Chacoan-era vessel was found at San Marcos and now resides at the School of American Research.

In 1915, Nelson carried out tests in every room block. Limited testing was conducted in 1954, and in 1981, the Archaeological Conservancy carried out emergency salvage excavations on two room blocks that were being eroded by San Marcos Arroyo. The area was stabilized. A 1989 survey revealed many agricultural features surrounding the pueblo: pebble and cobble mulch fields, bordered gardens, borrow pits, terraces, and check dams. Mapping was performed in 1993, and a ceramic study was carried out in 1994 by a University of California graduate student. In an attempt to reveal the occupational sequence and chronology, two UNM

## Annual Meeting (cont.)

graduate students conducted a mapping and research project. Further surface survey and ground-penetrating radar identified two anomalies, one of which was the remains of two small Spanish furnace features that dated between 1537 and 1652. Because of its low profile, the site has attracted few looters. The site still holds potential for understanding New Mexico's early historic period near Santa Fe. (A Google search reveals further sources of information about the site.)

—Nancy Cella

With contributions by Gary Newgent, Mike Bremer, Becky Johnston, and Elaine Gorham



## Site Steward Foundation Update

The Foundation is currently accepting applications for the 2020 grant program and if you would like to apply and be considered for a grant up to \$1,000, please contact Gary Newgent at [sitestewardfoundation@gmail.com](mailto:sitestewardfoundation@gmail.com) for an application. The deadline is October 1, 2020. There were no applications during 2019 and no grants were provided.

Ray Willison has accepted the position of treasurer on the Foundation Board of Directors after the recent retirement of Kay Lee as treasurer. Ray was an original founder of the Site Steward Foundation in 2008 and the original treasurer of the Foundation for its first five years. The vice president position on the Foundation board is still vacant and available for anyone interested in supporting site steward programs in New Mexico and the Southwest.

Please contact Gary Newgent at [sitestewardfoundation@gmail.com](mailto:sitestewardfoundation@gmail.com) if you are interested.

The Foundation managed an information table, and helped out with the silent auction at the recent Pecos Conference in Cloudcroft, New Mexico, August 8-11.

Please help us make our goal of more than 100 members in 2020. If you are not a member of the Site Steward Foundation, or have not renewed your membership for 2020, please consider joining or renewing today. The Foundation accepts debit and credit cards for membership dues and donations on our website [www.sitestewardfoundation.org](http://www.sitestewardfoundation.org). If you would like to be notified of Foundation tours and activities, please subscribe to the email list on the Foundation website.

— Gary Newgent, President

## Hunting Season

As you prepare to make your fall monitoring days, please remember that it's still hunting season; no hunt days are Thursdays and Fridays. The season for both elk and deer runs until December 31. For more specific information, here are some websites provided by Elaine Gorham and David Strip. The statewide guide is [here](#)

Everything you could possibly want to know about hunting is contained in the proclamation, issued annually. You can find the current year's copy [here](#). I think the hunts of greatest concern for the Site Stewards are the deer and elk hunts. You will need to check the maps to determine which game unit your sites are in. Then you can get hunt dates for those specific units in the sections on elk and deer (and any other game animals you are concerned about). You can find a map of the "Game Management Units" [here](#).

-Elaine Gorham and David Strip

## New Fence at Twin Sisters Site

Nancy Broulliard and I would like to give a great big THANK YOU to the Forest Service people in the Jemez District for erecting a good strong fence to protect Twin Sisters. The site has been threatened for years by access via an old road that was cut along one side. We have reported campers and woodcutters on the site numerous times, and several efforts have been made in the past 10 years to block intrusions.

First, the Forest Service dropped a half dozen big trees across the road. That just made it convenient for woodcutters, and the trees were soon gone. Then the FS created a berm at the top of the road and moved several big boulders to block it off. That was good for about a year, and then ATVS and trucks found a way around the boulders. On one visit we found that one boulder had been moved to make an opening wide enough for a vehicle.

This summer, a long fence made from iron pipe and set in cement was installed, and we think this may be the answer. This fence is a beautiful thing to behold!

Thanks again to everyone involved who valued this site and made the effort toward its preservation.



Text and Photo by Judith Isaacs

## Stewards' Perks

### Touring Tsi Ping

On September 14, Bill Hill and I climbed into K. Paul Jones' vehicle in Abiquiu to make the journey to the fabulous Tsi Ping site. The drive on dirt roads to the trailhead parking area took about 1-1/2 hours. The closer we got to the parking area, the rougher the road became, though certainly doable. A high clearance vehicle is helpful but 4WD is not required.

The somewhat challenging trail to the site switchbacks down off the mesa, crosses a land bridge and scrambles up a bit of a rocky hillside where you find your own way to the site mesa top. Interesting rock formations, especially at the south end of the mesa, attract your attention. The path goes behind a lot of wall work at the entrance to the site. Tsi Ping was occupied from approximately AD 1275–1450 with 335 to 400 rooms. One of the spectacular things about this that there is a World Quarter Shrine. These

large circular shrines are often found at Tewa sites at the south end of the site at some distance from the main living and working area, even up to a quarter mile away, as was the case with this shrine.

This is a large site with many walls, room blocks, 16 kivas, petroglyphs, an eagle trap, potsherds everywhere, interesting rock formations, and cavate dwellings on the southeast side of the mesa, which we didn't get to see. One of the most interesting things to me was the path through the site worn into the bedrock by centuries of feet traversing it and the squared off spots where building blocks were quarried from the volcanic tuff bedrock. K. Paul was an excellent guide describing and explaining so much about the site. Though we could have lingered at Tsi Ping much longer. dark storm clouds were gathering over Cerro Pedernal and we thought it prudent to be on our way back up the trail to the cars.

— Becky Johnston

## Stewards' Perks (cont.)

### A Visit to Boletsakwa

On a beautiful October morning, Chris Gardner led our small but enthusiastic group (Susan McGrew of the Rio Chama team, and me from the Caja del Rio team) on a tour of Boletsakwa. The site is located a short distance (but 400 ft uphill) from the Paliza Campground where past Site Steward meetings have taken place. But it is easily reached from a Forest Road that leads to a nearly level trail with some short, steep bits. For orientation, Chris gave us maps of the site and a brief description by Michael Elliott, who has studied the Jemez pueblos extensively and written several reports on them.

Boletsakwa is familiar to many Site Stewards, but, for those who don't know it, an overview: The site covers about 5.5 acres on a mesa top. It is actually two sites, "Little B" at the north end of the mesa and "Big B" farther to the south. The mesa top is wooded with ponderosa and oak, with a few impressive alligator junipers. Both sites are covered with grama grass, chamisa, and four-wing saltbush, with a scattering of cholla that favor disturbed ground. There are woodpeckers and jays in the pines, and we were greeted by a flock of colorful Western bluebirds as we explored the site.

Ceramics date Boletsakwa to the 1350–1650 period, with a second component dated (by tree rings as well as ceramics) to 1680–1700. It was first recorded by Dr. Harry Mera in the 1930s, but has never been formally excavated, although the Girl Scouts Archeological Unit (organized by Bertha Dutton) did a little digging in the 1960s. And in the mid to late 2000s, Matthew Liebmann investigated the site for his dissertation research (later published in his book *Revolt*, U. of Arizona Press, 2012).

Little B occupies a triangular area separated from the rest of the mesa by a rough stone wall. This effectively renders it inaccessible to invaders, as the other two sides of the triangle are steep cliffs. According to Elliott, this site contains 350 rooms, but it was hard for us to see any details because of the heavy grass overgrowth, and most of the site appears unexcavated. This is the older component of the site, although the wall looks comparatively recent to me.

South of the wall, a large stretch of the mesa top consists of sparsely wooded bedrock that breaks off sharply above the cliffs. Especially near the cliff edge, the bedrock is covered with numerous cupules, basins, and grinding slicks. There are petroglyphs on some of the vertical rock faces, but the designs are difficult to make out because the rock is rough and often covered with lichen. We speculated about how the grinding slicks were used: They are too small to be metates, and many of them are angled so sharply that anything placed in them would fall out. Likewise, most of the cupules are small, 3 to 5 inches in diameter, so their use remains a mystery.

Big B is several hundred meters to the south of Little B. Between the two sites is a depression that is sometimes described as a kiva, but it is irregularly shaped and appears too wide to be spanned by a pine log, so I agree with those who think it is a reservoir. Big B is a large multi-component site: According to Elliott, it consists of at least 650 rooms in 11 room blocks, with three enclosed plazas, a great kiva, and two plaza kivas. This was one of the "refuge sites" constructed by the Jemez people after the Pueblo Revolt, but it was inhabited for only a short period of time until the Reconquest.

Unfortunately, Boletsakwa has been badly pot-hunted because of its proximity to public campgrounds. Still, the site is impressive because of its size, and some of the room blocks have standing walls several feet high. The ceramics and lithics on the site have been thoroughly picked over, but we found a few smooth, attractively painted potsherds that hinted at the expertise of the local potters. The name Boletsakwa supposedly means "place of the abalone shell," but we found no shells of any kind. I was surprised that there were more fine-grained basalt flakes than obsidian, given the proximity of the Valle Grande obsidian quarries, but it's likely that (alas) most of the obsidian has walked off the site in the pockets of visitors.

Besides its intrinsic interest as a site, Boletsakwa is worth visiting because the views are spectacular. To the east is Paliza Canyon and the wooded mountains; to the west is a view of

## Stewards' Perks (cont.)

San Juan Mesa; and, looking down the canyon, there is an expansive view all the way to distant mountains. It's impossible to say whether the original inhabitants chose this site for aesthetic reasons, but, especially in the post-Pueblo Revolt period, a site with a good view would have had obvious defensive advantages.

Those of us in the Site Steward Program have visited pueblo sites on our own, but it's a very

different experience visiting with the steward(s) responsible for a particular site. Chris pointed out features to us that a casual visitor might easily miss. If you're interested in visiting a site outside the area you usually monitor, contact the ATL for that area and ask if you can accompany them on a site visit. You'll learn a lot.

-Paula Lozar

## Fall 2019 Wednesday Evening Lectures

### The Best of the Best 2018 from Mesa Prieta

The first steward lecture for 2019/20 was held on October 2 and presented by Candie Borduin, long-time SFNF steward and volunteer with rock art recording at Mesa Prieta for many years. Founded in 1999 by Katherine Wells, recording began on Wells' property in 2002. To date, 55,000 images have been drawn, photographed, given global positioning coordinates, and described, making this preserve the largest petroglyph site in New Mexico. Some 40 persons worked on this database in 2018; they then voted on their favorite petroglyphs, from which a selection was presented as part of a fund raiser earlier this year.

Having trimmed her talk a little for us, Candie explained that everyone learns to do all tasks in five days of training, then teams of three are formed and expected to work a minimum of a day a month for a year. In 2009, Richard Cook, a neighbor owning thousands of acres, gave permission for recording on some of his land as well. (For a more detailed background, read Wells' biography, *Life on the Rocks*.) Six more parcels were added in 2018.

The rock art has been divided in to four periods. Archaic, the earliest, dates roughly 5500 BCE to 500 CE. The local people were hunter-gatherers. Their petroglyphs were deeply pecked, often geometric, and since some are so old and have be-

come fully patinated, they can be hard to see. Usually, they're on the tops or north sides of the basalt boulders. Surfaces of some stones were smoothed. Cupules, shallow holes, also occur and seem to have had ceremonial purposes.

Next is the Ancestral Pueblo period dating from about 800 to 1598 CE; these account for nearly 70 percent of the rock art on Mesa Prieta. People who arrived from the Four Corners area around 1200 began growing food and traveling less. Their art was more representational including people, birds, and even an animal flute player. Candie said there was "a lot of sex on the mesa," referring to some images' graphic nature. Because the style on the southern portion is very different, perhaps a new culture had arrived. The Historic period spans 1598 to about 1930 and began with the arrival of the Spanish, who had a huge impact. They brought religion, horses, cattle, and many societal changes; the rock art reflects this. There are now, for example, a great many crosses on the boulders.

The most modern petroglyphs, those of the Euro-American period from about 1920 to present, are made with metal tools. There are some Works Progress Administration images.

Another facet of the project is recording of cultural landscape features such as terraces, dams, walls, ceramics, lithics, trails, corrals, fences, lambing pens, horseshoes, and animal bones. Details are available for those studying the area.

We appreciated Candie's well organized and illustrated talk. Her long experience among the



One of the Best: Eagle Tipped Shield

## Fall 2019 Wednesday Evening Lectures (cont.)

black rocks of Mesa Prieta gave us a clear sense of the area's importance to people who called it home for millennia.

-Irene Wanner

### "Inspiring Heritage in Youth: Project Archaeology & Beyond"

The talk on Wednesday, November 6, 2019, was given by Andrew Lescht, a third/fourth grade teacher at Santa Fe School for Arts & Sciences – "Bright Minds, Kind Hearts, Whole Child." Andrew has been a classroom teacher using the Expeditionary model since 2013. Prior to teaching, Andrew worked as a professional archaeologist in both the public sector, for the Forest Service in Colorado, and in the private sector for consulting firms. Andrew is also a Project Archaeology master teacher leading professional development for other educators. Added to his résumé is teaching skiing at Steamboat Springs.

The topic and presentation was different and most interesting for us. I wonder how many stewards were wishing, as I was, that we and/or our children had been the beneficiaries of private school classes such as are presented at this school. A promotional handout from the school explains that Expeditionary Learning "emphasizes high achievement through active learning, character growth, service, and collaboration. Through extended 'learning expeditions,' students delve deeply into academic topics, meet experts from the greater community, do field work outside the school, and apply their learning in real-life projects." The school also offers free summer and after-school programs for the Santa Fe public

school students who struggle with reading and math.

Project Archaeology is a Montana State University and BLM-sponsored program specifically designed for teachers that provides guidance and teaching materials for students. The program aims to educate students about past and present cultures, as well as respect for archaeological sites. It was first conceived in 1990 in Utah because of looting of archaeological sites. One of the teaching tools was a doohickey bag, which Andrew distributed to each of us. Essentially, it was a sandwich bag full of various items: feathers, beads, bits of plastic, pebbles, etc. that represented an artifact assemblage. We could sort by color, shape, function, type of manufacture or whatever grouping we chose. Field trips (the expeditions of Expeditionary Learning) are part of the curriculum. Another handout provided by Andrew was entitled "Tips for Visiting an Archaeological Site with Children," provided by the New Mexico Office of Archaeological Studies ([www.nmarchaeology.org](http://www.nmarchaeology.org)) – click on Education (great for visiting grandchildren!).

Andrew further talked about the dynamics in his classroom of third and fourth grade children. Teachers have opportunities to include activities that foster trust, solve problems together, use mindfulness training when appropriate—all with the goal of building a community.

Many thanks to Susan McGrew for asking Andrew to share his knowledge and experiences with teaching children, and their teachers, to appreciate archaeology.

— Nancy Cella

### Santa Fe National Forest Looking for Site Stewards

Comprehensive training in a full-day session will be presented on Saturday, March 21, 2020, for eligible site steward applicants who wish to become a certified steward responsible for an assigned site within the forest. Site stewards work with a partner to regularly monitor their assigned site for evidence of deterioration due to natural causes or vandalism. The training prepares them for all responsibilities and contingencies, so they feel confident to perform the duties of a site steward. The position has many rewards, such as occasional workshops and special visits to other sites, all contributing to a better knowledge of the area's ancient cultures and archaeology. To apply, visit the "Become a Site Steward" page on the Santa Fe National Forest Site Stewards website, (<http://www.sfnfsitestewards.org/becomeasteward.php>), to complete an application and review the program's criteria.

— Susan McGrew

(Ed. Note: The above is the text of the press release recruiting new site stewards. If you know of anyone who is interested, please direct him/her to our website listed in the last paragraph)

## Site Lines

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## Save the Dates

Saturday, January 18, at 10 a.m. Quarterly Site Steward Council Meeting. All stewards are welcome. The location is the Forest Service building conference room at 11 Forest Road, Santa Fe. Note this start time is an hour later than usual.

### Spring 2020 Wednesday Evening Lectures

Doors at the Forest Service office in Santa Fe open by 5:30 p.m. and the lectures begin at 6 p.m. You have time to bring a brown bag supper and socialize with site stewards from other teams. If you need a reminder, check our web site for times and speakers' names, thanks to Ron Krantz.

February 5 Fraser Goff's talk is entitled "Geology of Northern New Mexico and the Jemez Mountains, and Possible Archeological Insights." This ±45 minute talk will first provide a geologic overview of the four tectonic provinces of northern New Mexico: Colorado Plateau, southern Rocky Mountains, southern High Plains, and Rio Grande rift. The rocks in these provinces are highly variable in composition (igneous, metamorphic, sedimentary) and in age (1.6 billion years ago, or Ga) to the present time. We will then concentrate on the geology of the Jemez Mountains volcanic field, which hosts the relatively young Valles caldera (1.25 million years ago, or Ma) and even younger post-caldera volcanic domes and tuffs (1.22 to 0.07 Ma). Finally, we will briefly discuss the geology at some famous archeological sites in the region such as Chaco, Pecos, Salinas, the Jemez, including Bandelier, Clovis (Blackwater Draw) and Folsom, and will mention some rocks used for ancient tools.

March 4 Ann Hunkins, animal tracker

March 21 Site Steward Training

April 1 Mollie Toll, biologist/botanist

More information about the March and April talk titles and speakers will be sent to ListServ recipients as well as being posted on our web site, as they become available.

On Sunday, October 27, members of the Gallina team met for lunch at El Brunos in Cuba. Elaine had invited Mike and Annie, but Mike was sick that day; we missed him.

From left: Elaine Gorham, Lyn Bain (partially hidden), Shelly Martin, David Strip, Ramey Douglas, Rich Blanchard, Katy Blanchard, Jo Douglas, Jon Orovecz, Larry Singer, Nancy Cella, Eugene Smith (Nancy's brother), Anne Beckett, Becky Johnston and Eliane Strip (David's mom). Eliane is the French version of Elaine and she is from Belgium (fled the Nazis.....). Missing from the photo are Bill Hill, who stepped out for a bit, and Bill Cella, photographer

