

SITE LINES

JUNE, 2004

SANTA FE NATIONAL FOREST SITE STEWARD PROGRAM NEWSLETTER

SITE STEWARD PROFILES

With this edition of Site Lines, profiling of the Site Stewards in the program is initiated. We start with our mentor, Mike Bremer, and Wayne Nelson, the longest serving Site Steward, who is Area Team Leader of the Garcia Area, Chairperson of the Training Committee and member of the Council.

MIKE BREMER HERITAGE ARCHAEOLOGIST, SANTA FE NATIONAL FOREST

By Anne Baldwin

Mike got his first taste of archaeology during a summer at Ghost Ranch Conference Center as a high school student when he visited a dig at Rattlesnake Ridge in the Llaves Valley conducted by Florence Hawley Ellis. During one of the breaks, Florence brought out ice cold watermelon and Mike figured that would not be such a bad job – to get ice cold watermelon during a break on a hot day!

Mike attended high school in Moscow, Idaho then to the University of California at Riverside and finished his BA at the University of Arizona in Tucson. He received his MA in archaeology from Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff in 1987. He remained in northern Arizona, working for the Coconino National Forest and National Park Service for about 12 years.



Mike at Oaxaca, 2004.

Photo by Anne Baldwin

Some of the most exciting work conducted during that time was at Wupatki National Monument and Walnut Canyon National Monument as well as in the Grand Canyon and Death Valley. Mike enjoys applying his field experience and schooling in thoughtful discussion and interpretation from prehistoric and historic contexts as well as modern populations. He enjoys the archaeological survey

because it allows vision of the big picture of how people distributed themselves across the landscape, the value of different environments and habitats and what each can contribute by virtue of how and where people left their remains.

Mike came to the SFNF in 1992, first as the District archaeologist at the Española RD, then later as the Heritage Resource Program Manager (Forest Archaeologist) on the Forest. He has been very active as Forest Archaeologist, occasionally playing the role of technical specialist during the recent fires in Northern New Mexico.

Mike derives great satisfaction from working with volunteers. He feels strongly about sharing his archaeological knowledge with folks who want to devote time to his program and to learning. He appreciates people who care about the resources as much as he does. Mike is very devoted to the SFNF Site Steward Program and can take pride in having created the active and successful program that it has become.

WAYNE NELSON

By Jeanne Gozgian

Wayne Nelson could rightly be called the “God Father of the Santa Fe National Forest Site Steward Program”.



Photo: Jeanne Gozgian interviewing Wayne Nelson.

Photo by: C. Borduin

Wayne arrived in Santa Fe as a retiree after a seven year search for the ideal home. He attended classes at Santa Fe Community College in Soil Science, Environmental Law, and Sylvan Culture, then knocked on the door at the Forest Service, presenting himself as a volunteer. He became aware of the rich archaeological treasures on the Forest and his interest focused in that direction.

He was one of four people who took classes with

the State Land Office on monitoring archaeological sites, and was certified as a "site steward". The others attending were Mike Bremer, Terry Ballone, and Susan Scott.

This original cadre started the Santa Fe National Forest Site Steward Program and went on to develop the Program as we know it today.

Wayne was born on a cattle ranch in Wyoming. It was so remote that he had to spend winters in Utah in order to obtain schooling. Wayne says that he "escaped" by joining the U.S. Army at age 18. He never returned to the ranch life.

Because of his interest in computer study, Wayne attended the SW State College in Springfield, MO. He joined Rand, Corp. to explore applications of computer use. He was sent to Tinker AFB, in OK City, OK, to implement the first installation of the IBM 705 computer for Air Force use.

He spent two years at the Pentagon and fled when overwhelmed by the bureaucracy! He eventually moved into world-wide marketing and sales for Burroughs, Corp. Wayne traveled for ten years before settling into being in charge of strategic and business planning.

When Wayne retired, he headed back to the mountains that he had so dramatically left behind, in his youth. As a resident of Santa Fe, Wayne is now the Area Team Leader for the Garcia area, also known as the Pajarito Province. He sits as a Council member due to his status as an ATL and as the head of the crucially important Training Committee.

SFNF SITE STEWARD AREAS

Several Site Stewards have mentioned they have little idea of the areas on the Santa Fe National Forest being monitored other than the one they are assigned to. In an effort to familiarize stewards with the areas of the Forest, Site Lines will feature each of these areas in subsequent newsletters.

The six areas and approximate locations are:

- Caja del Rio – bounded by the Rio Grande on the west, La Bajada on the south, San Ildefonso on the north and Santa Fe on the east.
- Gallina – north of SR 96, east of the Continental Divide, west of the Chama River and south of the Jicarilla Apache Reservation.
- Garcia – north east of Los Alamos bordered by Santa Clara on the north and east and by Valle Caldera on the west.
- Jemez – West and south of the Valle Caldera to the borders of the Forest
- Pecos/Las Vegas Area – extends north, east, south and west of the Pecos National Monument and includes Anton Chico
- Rio Chama – East, west and south of the town of Abiquiu.

MESSAGE FROM COUNCIL CHAIR

Lee Borduin

The major focus of the SFNF Council during its first two years of existence necessarily was to develop and structure and the governance documents for the Site Steward program. In the aftermath of the Cerro Grande fire, the program had all but ceased to exist. Thanks to the leadership of George Gozgian and Wayne Nelson, those tasks have been successfully completed.

Now we have a program structure and 60 stewards on the roster and I believe the focus should now shift to the main reason we exist: Field Operations. Emphasis is needed on what is happening in the field. Are we getting the monitoring done? Is the frequency and approach adequate for each site? What can be done to assure and improve our effectiveness as stewards? And most important, how can we maintain good morale while striving to improve operations.

To achieve this, I'm asking all stewards to forward any suggestions you may have as to how site monitoring effectiveness can be improved. I've also asked Terry Ballone and George Gozgian to take the lead for Field Operations within the Council so that adopted changes can be made quickly on a Forest-wide basis. Please send your suggestions to the site steward e-mail address: SiteSteward@comcast.net.

As you know from an earlier e-mail I sent, there has been an increased number of vandalism incidents at sites in several of our areas. There's a real need for us to rededicate ourselves to preservation of these resources. Thanks again for all the hours spent and miles driven and hiked in support of the program. We all have a great program going and with everyone's help it will get even better.

MAY 1 SFNF SITE STEWARD COUNCIL MEETING NOTES

- Assistant Area Team Leaders named for the Pecos area are Alan Everson; Jemez – Terry Ballone; Caja del Rio - Ed Crow and for Rio Chama – Beth Parisi. The Garcia and Gallina areas have not named an Assistant to date.
- The next Site Steward training class is scheduled for August 28 and 29. Articles will be placed in the New Mexican, Rio Grande Sun, Albuquerque Journal North, Los Alamos Monitor and Las Vegas Optic concerning the training and application due date.
- Mike reminded members that stewards must call-in and call-out promptly when making site visits.
- Mike also requested that in the event of a site incident, the FOREST DISPATCHER should be called at 438-7800, not the LEO. SITE NUMBERS should be used in reporting information about sites, not the site name.

- Site INCURSIONS have occurred at Rio Chama, Gallina, Garcia and the Pecos including removal of artifacts, excavation of a pueblo room, ATV damage, pot hunting, graffiti and surface collecting.
- Next Council meeting is August 7 at MIAC.

SFNF OFFICES “ILL”

For the second time in two years, the offices of the Santa Fe National Forest and BLM have been infested with several types of mold. Mike Bremer and Melissa Powell have moved to temporary quarters within the building and all meeting rooms are closed for the duration.

EDUCATIONAL MEETING

Larry Sitney, Site Steward for Gallina, will present a program on his work with Anasazi Pottery-Firing Technology. Larry has participated in this work for a number of years at Los Alamos National Laboratory. Once the Forest Offices are open, a date for this program will be announced.

ANNUAL NEW SITE STEWARD TRAINING

Training for new Site Stewards is scheduled August 28 and 29 in Santa Fe at MIAC. Mike would like to recruit 20 new stewards which will bring the total number of stewards on the SFNF to the amazing number of 80. Nearly all of the six areas are in need of additional stewards to increase monitoring and to cover the numerous new sites assigned.

Information about applying for the training will be in local newspapers in early June; applications are due by July 1. In 2003, almost 150 queries were made, 56 applications received and 22 people chosen for the program. The Web Site is updated and contains information for candidates – please pass this information on to qualified individuals who may be interested in the Program.

SITE SURVEY TRAINING SESSIONS

By Mike Bremer

We completed the first session of site survey training just a couple of weeks ago. As a pilot study to determine the need and feasibility of the training I would characterize it as a rousing success. We have some obligations to provide training to stewards who were not able to participate in the training and will fulfill those as time allows.

In terms of results, we found a total of four sites in the area on the Caja del Rio where we conducted the survey, and many other isolated artifacts. We were able to address some of the questions I had about the area but were not able to cover as much of the area as I expected. I would like to propose that during the fall and next

spring we continue to conduct survey in the area on a similar schedule, setting aside one day every two weeks to cover more of the area. The four sites we recorded suggest that as we move further away from the rim of the river we encounter more limited activity sites rather than the Coalition field house and occupation sites I anticipated. As we move to the west I would like to test this idea with the hypothesis that we will encounter more Coalition phase sites. The survey provides the Forest with additional research about heritage resources to help us better understand their distribution across the Forest.

Our summer schedule and obligations to other Heritage issues will mean putting a hold on further survey until the fall. At that time we will schedule additional days for survey. We will also schedule survey in other areas so that stewards will have the opportunity to learn more about their specific area.

We would like to thank all those who participated in the survey training. It was a wonderful opportunity for myself, Melissa, Anne and Lisa to get to know the stewards and learn some amazing things about those who volunteer on the Forest. We want everyone to know that your time working with us is truly appreciated.

TREASURER’S REPORT

- Bank Balance includes the following contributions:

Anonymous	\$400.00
4 Site Stewards	525.00
Coffee can collection	6.25
Interest	.20
- Balance in account: \$931.45
- Those wishing to make a contribution to the SFNF Site Steward Program may send a check to: Beth Parisi – Treasurer at P.O. Box 31943, Santa Fe, NM 87594-1934. Indicate in memo section “SFNF Site Steward Program”.
- (Because the program is neither a 501c3 nor a business, a tax ID number cannot be issued. Therefore, the account is listed under the Treasurer’s name.)

Thank you for your Support!

ANNUAL SITE STEWARD MEETING

Terry Ballone, Gary Hein and Lee Borduin are working on plans for the Annual Meeting, tentatively scheduled for the end of September or early October. A site in the Jemez is being sought for the two day meeting with close proximity to archaeological sites, which may be toured. Stewards will receive communication about the meeting as details develop.

WEB SITE

Web Site Meister Gary Hein reports the Web Site has recently been updated and contains extensive information for interested parties about the upcoming training session as well as reference sources related to Site Stewards' interests. Gary has sponsored a domain for the site as well as monthly costs for the coming year. Thank you Gary! The new web site address is: <http://sfnfsitestewards.org/>.

GALLINA PASSPORT IN TIME

Mike Bremer and Melissa Powell led a Passport in Time weeklong session in the Gallina area May 16-21. Several Site Stewards from the Gallina team participated including Bill Rogers, Dwight Fieselman and Lee and Candie Borduin as well as Sal Morreale from the Caja del Rio.

A highlight of the week long outing was a visit by Martha Dick, who's husband Herbert Dick conducted extensive excavation work with Adam's State College in the 1970's.



Lee Borduin, Candie Borduin, Melissa Powell, Dwight Fieselman, Mike Bremer, Sal Morreale

Two new areas were identified, surveyed and added to that team's roster of sites to monitor as well as the survey of an eagle trap site which has been monitored for the last several years.

CAUTION!

The Forest Service recently received warnings from land management agencies in California about two homemade explosive devices found in a campground and on a BLM gate. A warning to Site Stewards: if you see something that does not look right, leave it alone. Be alert and wary of unusual objects and conditions. Call the Forest Dispatcher.

ABOVE AND BEYOND THE CALL OF DUTY

Jemez Site Steward John Morris and wife Linda were camping recently in the Jemez and came across a smoldering campfire, which had spread, to an adjacent tree in a very remote area. After unsuccessfully attempting to douse the fire, John quickly went down to Jemez Falls to call the Forest Dispatcher then contained the growing burning area

until a pumper unit arrived. It took the fire crew over 45 minutes to put out the then fire – certainly could have had a different outcome. Good job, John and Linda!

UPCOMING ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVENTS

- **Seminars "Voices From the Past 2004"** Monday evenings, 6 pm at Hotel Santa Fe, May 3 to July 5 and July 12 to September 27. See Website below
- Watch for new **Passport In Time** projects in NM for later this summer @ www.passportintime.com
- **Pecos Conference** August 11-15, 2004, Bluff, Utah
- **SFNF Site Steward Training** August 28 & 29, Santa Fe, see website below
- **SFNF Annual Site Steward Meeting** – Date TBA

INFORMATIONAL WEBSITES

SFNF Site Steward Program <http://sfnfsitestewards.org/>

Southwestern Archaeology's Newsletter "Got Caliche"
<http://www.swanet.org/news.html>

Southwestern Archaeology's Archives
<http://www.swanet.org/zarchives/>

Southwest Seminars
<http://www.southwestseminars.org>

Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
<http://www.achp.gov>

The Archaeology Channel
<http://www.archaeologychannel.org/>

Society for American Archaeology
<http://www.saa.org/>

Map Tools
<http://www.maptools.com/>

National Atlas
<http://nationalatlas.gov/atlasftp.html>

Archaeological Conservancy
<http://www.americanarchaeology.com/aawelcome.html>

Archaeological Institute of America
<http://www.archaeological.org/>

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