



SITE LINES

VOLUME 8 ISSUE 1

WINTER 2010

Needed! Candidates for Spring Training!!

As you know, the Santa Fe National Forest Site Steward Program depends on new members to replace those who retire or find, for one reason or another, they are unable or no longer wish to monitor sites on the forest. So it's crucial to recruit new candidates every couple of years to replace any outgoing stewards.

Our next training day – yes, one day only! – will be **March 20** at the Museum of Indian Arts and Culture in Santa Fe from 8:00 a.m. to about 4:30 p.m.

We ask our current stewards to help recommend new candidates. Please think

about people you know who might be interested.

Mention the program and what you like about it to them – or e-mail the suggestion – and suggest they visit the website at www.sfnfsitestewards.org, click on How to Become a Site Steward and Upcoming Training for details, as well as Forms to **apply by January 31**. If they have any further questions, you can refer them to [sistestewards@sfnfsitestewards.org](mailto:sitestewards@sfnfsitestewards.org).

Many, many thanks!

- Irene Wanner

Council Chair Messages

Jan Stone and Ann White

Outgoing Chair

In looking back at my first message in April 2008, it seems I was pretty much concerned about setting and reaching goals as I took on the office of chair. One goal we have very definitely achieved is enlisting newer and younger stewards to accept leadership roles. Since Candie and I are both leaving the council, senior status has dropped by a decade or more. In fact, our officers now represent the classes of 2008 and 2006.

Another pretty amazing accomplishment has been moving from the formation stage to the actual establishment and incorporation of the Site Steward Foundation as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. There are currently 39 site steward members, 46 SiteWatch

members, and some individuals with dual memberships. The Foundation has sponsored several successful fund-raising tours and already has received a major grant proposal from the Santa Fe National Forest Site Steward Program for much-needed conservation work in the Gallina area.

Collegial relationships with other sister organizations have been another of our goals. Foundation tours have included both SFNF site stewards and those from New Mexico SiteWatch. Each organization's annual meetings have included members from both groups as have our educational lectures on Wednesday nights during the winter. And site stewards have been present at Pecos Conferences and

meetings of the Archaeological Society of New Mexico (ASNM).

Under the leadership of our incoming chair, Ann White, we have had two very successful annual meetings - one at Bandelier National Monument and the latest at the Chupadero camping area in the Gallina, with the field trips at each location being one of the highlights of the gatherings.

At these meetings, I accomplished two of my goals. I was finally able to keep everyone on schedule at Gallina with my high-powered red whistle (thanks to Beth Parisi and the Foundation). I highly recommend that you carry one while out on site visits. You'll never get separated from your partner again!

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And the other accomplishment, after much searching and emailing others, was locating the site steward banner just in time to display it at an ASNM meeting. Seems that this important but misplaced item was properly wrapped up and stored away—under my bed? Oh, well! It's been a great ride!

- Jan Stone

Council Chair Messages (cont.)

Incoming Chair

It doesn't seem that long ago that I became a certified site steward, and here I am sitting down to write this message. I took on the AATL position for the Jemez group in 2007 and vice chair of the council in 2009. I gained valuable knowledge of the organization through such strong leaders as Jan Stone, Candie Borduin, and John Morris to name just a few among all the council members who do so much.

One of my goals is to continue to recruit some of our newer site stewards for council positions, which include ATLs, AATLs, offi-

cers, and members at large. They perform duties such as organizing the annual meeting, publishing the quarterly newsletter, as well as overseeing operations and budget. We are currently looking for someone to fill the position of AATL for the Pecos area. If you are interested in becoming the AATL, please contact Cathy Gates, Pecos ATL, ggroff7539@aol.com or 505-690-0389. I encourage all of you to get involved.

Another goal is to increase safety awareness among the stewards. This work is in the planning stages right now and is being dealt with by our Forest Service representatives,

Mike Bremer and Jeremy Kulisheck, and our Operations Co-Chairs John Morris and Bill Cella. You will be seeing more about this topic soon (page 9, this issue)

I also plan to continue to work with the Site Steward Foundation, especially with the Gallina conservation project. The first step in the process is obtaining the \$17,500 required for the needs assessment for the conservation. We have submitted an application to the foundation for that amount.

I look forward to working with the council and all of you in the coming year.

- Ann White

Site Steward Foundation News

Annual Meeting

The 2010 Annual Meeting for the Site Steward Foundation, Inc. will be held in conjunction with the Site-Watch Annual Meeting from 10:00 am-4:30 pm Sunday February 21, 2010 in the Meem Room at the New Mexico History Museum on Lincoln Avenue behind the Palace of the Governors on the plaza in Santa Fe. Arrangements are being made for a group luncheon within walking distance of the museum. For further information and upcoming meeting agenda, please visit www.sitestewardfoundation.org. To ensure that adequate seating is available, please confirm your attendance by emailing me at gnewgent@sitestewardfoundation.org.

- Gary Newgent

Foundation-Sponsored Tours

Santa Fe River Canyon Petroglyph Tour, June 8, 2009

We were lucky enough to have John Pitts lead a group of SFNF site stewards to the Santa Fe River canyon to view seldom visited petroglyph sites. As some of you might know, John is one of our more ambitious stewards.

petroglyph aficiando, photographer, and all around good guy.

Our tour started off across the Caja del Rio plateau. The landscape was especially green due to the recent rains. We soon reached the Santa Fe Canyon edge where we peered down to river about 500 feet below. John escorted us down an ancient pueblo trail through the volcanic cliffs and rock slopes. Once we reached the canyon floor we hiked downstream and along a bench above the river. We soon discovered petroglyphs on large boulders scattered along the way on the south and east facing slopes. There also were more heavily concentrated areas of petroglyphs where side canyons came down to the river. We saw a large and fascinating array of glyphs from Spanish crosses to Archaic geometrics with heavy patination. At the end of our day of exploration we hiked up to the canyon's edge where we explored some caves and additional Archaic petroglyphs.

John did a fantastic job leading, educating and entertaining our troop of eight, that included Paul Jones, Bob Greene, Ray and Corrine Willison, Bill Cella, Chris Gardner, Irene Wanner, and Beth.

- Beth Parisi

For Foundation news and events, check out their website at:

www.sitestewardfoundation.org



Santa Fe Canyon Petroglyphs

Photo by John Pitts



Left to right: Bob Greene, Beth Parisi, Paul Jones, Cathy Gates, Bill Cella & Chris Gardner
Photo by John Pitts

Foundation News (cont.)

On September 24, 2009, 20 brave and warmly dressed foundation members partook in a general archaeology tour of the Valles Caldera National Preserve. The day started out with the caldera being covered in a veil of fog and snow. As the sun rose, both burned off, and we set out in the vans for our first site (photo below).

We visited a work camp at the base of a hill containing an obsidian mine. The site was used for reducing larger pieces of obsidian into smaller transportable pieces and tools. We examined different pieces of obsidian, obsidian tools, and native rhyolite.

Our next stop was to visit a hunting blind and hunting camp. The blind had been built with rocks to take advantage of a hillside with a commanding view of the surrounding area (photo below, right). At the top, we made an exciting find - the middle portion of a projectile point made of quartzite!

Next, we visited a very interesting game drive site. This spot showed evidence of being used from Palaeo times right up to Spanish sheepherders. On the hilltop, we also visited two rock shelters.

One day in the caldera showed us many of the varied resources this region has offered people over time - from the natural landscape, water and fish, rocks and minerals, trees and plants for shelter, medicine and food, to native animals including wild turkey, elk, hawks, and coyotes.

We would like to thank our very knowledgeable and welcoming hosts – Ana Steffen, Jeremy Decker, Jackie Stark, and Paul Tsosie.

On September 30, another Valles Caldera tour was held with a different emphasis – obsidian quarries (photos on Foundation website). The large dome near the center of the Valles Caldera, Cerro del Medio, is the source of some of the finest quality obsidian in the western United States. Obsidian from this area was

widely transported, and probably traded, across North America in the prehistoric past for use as spear points, arrowheads, and various cutting tools. Staff archaeologists at the caldera refer to this obsidian as “weapons grade” obsidian – something of a joke, having been coined to sound similar to Los Alamos’ famous weapons-grade plutonium - because of its superior quality. A later pyroclastic flow that contained a lower grade of obsidian can be seen on the cliff faces just south of the junction of highways 4 and 126 as well as along Highway 4 toward Los Alamos.

Two vans transported 20 foundation members to the source – the vast quarries of Cerro del Medio. Our tour guides, a Trust archaeologist and the Jemez Pueblo historian were very informative.

- Beth Parisi



A cool day on the Caldera—September 24
Photo by Beth Parisi



From left, Candie Borduin, Corrine Willison and Caldera guide Jeremy Decker check out a hunting blind.

Photo by Beth Parisi

Remember to renew your Foundation membership or join soon

Many site stewards joined the foundation early in 2009 when it first became an official 501(c)(3) nonprofit entity. In addition to helping support conservation of and education about the New Mexico's cultural heritage, members are eligible to attend field trips and the winter lecture series. Dues and donations are tax deductible. For information, visit the website (address on page 2). There's also a wish list of items that would be most appreciated such as GPS units or digital cameras, binoculars, first aid kits or snake gaiters. Currently, more SiteWatch members belong to the foundation than SFNF Site Stewards, so renew or join soon!

Wednesday Evening Educational Lectures—Spring 2010

The final three presentations of the 2009/10 winter lecture series promise to be both fun and interesting. Bring a brown bag supper to the new Forest Service building about 5:30 p.m. and catch up with your friends after the holidays. Talks begin at 6:00, include a short Q&A period afterward, and end about 7:00. The new FS building is at 11 Forest Lane, which is close to I-25's exit 276 and the junction of Santa Fe bypass 599/State Route 14. 505-483-5300.

February 10, 2010

Kurt Anschuetz, PhD, of the Rio Grande Foundation for Communities and Cultural Landscapes, will speak on Tewa Landscapes and

World Views. Kurt is a long-time researcher in the Rio Grande Valley and western New Mexico. He specializes in articulating the relationship between living pueblo cultures and on their ancestral landscapes by focusing their world view of the landscape. This lecture promises to be stimulating and entertaining.

March 10, 2010

Sam Duwe will speak on the Tewa Basin Archaeological Research Project (T-BARP). Sam is a graduate student at the University of Arizona who is working in the Tewa Basin and the area of the Chama River and its confluence with the Rio Grande. He's interested in Tewa origins and has intensively

mapped several of the Classic Period ancestral Tewa sites.

April 7, 2010

John Pitts will speak on the San Rock Art of Southern Africa with examples from world-class sites in three countries, the Tsodillo Hills of Botswana, Twiefelfontain in Namibia, and the Drakensberg of South Africa. John spent three decades in the Foreign Service prior to "retiring" to Santa Fe, where he volunteers as a site steward with the Santa Fe National Forest, as rock art recorder for the Mesa Prieta Petroglyph Project and in Arizona with the BLM Sears Point Rock Art Recording Project. - Irene Wanner

Wednesday Evening Educational Lectures—Fall and Winter, 2009

October 7: David Kice, the representative for the Southwest Region of the FBI's Art Crime Team (ACT), opened the 2009/10 series of educational meetings in the new Forest Service building. Mr. Kice has an anthropological background (BA in anthropology and MA in physical anthropology). After 11 field seasons as an archaeologist in several Southwestern states and Mexico, he served as a consulting forensic anthropologist for the Los Angeles County coroner before being hired by the FBI in 1995.

The ACT, created in 2004 as a result of looting at the Iraq Museum, investigates all stolen art, including antiquities, under a variety of legislation. There are 13 special agents in the United States and three prosecutors in the Department of Justice who work with local law enforcement. Specific items of stolen art are listed on the FBI web site. Cultural properties include fine art, antiques, musical instruments, antique furniture, rare books, and manuscripts. Frequently, art crimes are associated with illegal drug activities; most thefts occur in private

homes and are committed by drug addicts. Another large amount of art is stolen from museum storage areas by staff members.

The FBI and other law enforcement agencies have jurisdiction over stolen items worth more than \$5,000, art transported across state lines, any item from a museum worth over \$2,000, any item included in the Native American Graves and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) and the Archaeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA) either over 100 years old or worth more than \$500, any item classified as government property worth more than \$1000, any item of tribal property (headdresses, tablitos, etc.), and property of the state in other countries.

The cultural property community provides information and expertise, serving as expert witnesses. Mr. Kice described the recent case of stolen antiquities in southeast Utah, where 24 people were accused of illegal excavation and selling artifacts from prehistoric ruins.

November 11: Larry Baker, Executive Director of the Salmon Ruin Mu-

seum in Bloomfield, NM, was our speaker at the Forest Service facility. Larry has been the museum director for the past 19 years, and has been associated with the Eastern New Mexico University's archaeological investigations of Salmon Ruins since the mid 1970s. He was hired by Dr. Cynthia Irwin-Williams as stabilization director, trained by the National Park Service in stabilization techniques, and assembled and trained a team of mostly Navajo craftsmen in stabilization techniques. Throughout the Salmon Ruins Project, the stabilization team followed the excavation of the multistory pueblo to shore up the newly exposed walls and restore the wall face where necessary to make the pueblo safe for excavators and subsequent visitors. At the completion of the field work phases, Larry was involved with report writing, artifact curation, subsequent research, as well as directing the on-going activities of a museum that must generate its own income. Although sponsored by the Bureau of Land

Wednesday Evening Educational Lectures—Fall 2009 (cont.)

Management, a Four Corners-based site steward program is administered by Larry and a volunteer coordinator.

Larry's stabilization team has been sustained by funded projects involving many kinds of historic and prehistoric sites in northwest New Mexico. Of special interest to Larry, and the principal focus of his slide presentation, are the ancestral Navajo fortified pueblito sites in the Largo and Gobernador canyons. As of 1987, 48 pueblito sites were listed on the National Register.

Slides and descriptions of the stabilization included Old Fort (stabilized in 1996, funded by the New Mexico State Historic Preservation Office), Three Corn (stabilized in 2005, funded by the State Land Office), and the Citadel (stabilized in 1998-99, funded by Williams Field Services). The slides and narrative—and even some opening music from *2001: A Space Odyssey*—illustrated the often difficult and hazardous process of reaching these deliberately inaccessible sites. At Three Corn, for example, scaffolding rising to 60 feet was erected on one side of the boulder. In several cases, the Navajo stabilization crew and the funding source specified that only local materials be used in the work. Stone and mortar materials are selected to match and

be indistinguishable from original materials.

Evidence of occupation by the ancestors of the current Navajo people dates to the early and mid-15th century in northwestern New Mexico in the early 1400s. The earliest dwellings were forked stick hogans, whose occupants were farmers, raiders, hunters, and gatherers during the 15th and 16th centuries. Pueblo refugees began arriving in the Dinétah country by 1694 following the Pueblo Revolt. Spanish retaliation for Navajo raids became more intense; a major Spanish campaign headed by Roque Madrid in 1705 resulted in the burning of many Navajo settlements and capture of survivors as slaves. Old Fort, Three Corn and the Citadel were constructed and occupied between 1710 to 1750. By 1768, the Dinétah was abandoned.

- Nancy Cella

January 6, 2010: Dave Eck presented an illustrated talk about the Galisteo Basin's Pueblo Blanco. He has been the trust land archaeologist for the State Land Office – not to be confused with the BLM, he emphasized – since 1998

Pueblo Blanco was established in roughly A.D. 1400, but had a relatively short lifespan; it was already abandoned when Coronado arrived in 1540. One reason may have been

what Eck calls "water problems." That is, the inhabitants' efforts to dam and divert water and occasional flashfloods were ineffective; the pueblo's plaza and parts of its walls eroded or were washed away repeatedly.

These problems persisted and worsened until Eck and a large team of volunteers as well as much-appreciated funding for heavy equipment and other supplies established grade control and straightened meandering stream channels that were undercutting banks below the building's puddled adobe walls. Unlike Larry Baker's pueblito restoration work described above, the focus at Pueblo Blanco was to re-engineer the site's surroundings to allay further damage.

The pueblo is now in relatively good shape. Its continued preservation, Eck notes, is largely due to its remote location and the difficulty of driving there. Bad roads, iffy weather, and locked gates sounded familiar to the room full of site stewards, who asked many questions after the presentation and were gratified to learn much of this beautiful ancient place will remain protected by such comprehensive stabilization work for many years to come.

- Irene Wanner

Several Site Stewards Join Mesa Prieta Petroglyph Project

Currently, reports Candie Borduin via e-mail, nine SFNF site stewards have received training in rock art recording and now participate with the immense, ongoing job of drawing, describing, and photographing Mesa Prieta's thousands of stone images. In addition to work already completed on property donated by Katherine Wells, since May of 2009, teams have recorded more than 300 acres of a neighbor's land and documented 2,000 petroglyphs. Survey teams (determining areas of high density of petroglyphs) have surveyed almost 500 additional acres of this land that will be assigned to teams to record.

The organization is in the process of building a website, Candie adds, noting that activities for 2010 include a new petroglyph recorder training, a new docent (tour) training, and four public tours in April, May, September, and Octo-

ber. "We give at least 15 school tours (Field Study Days) a year as a portion of the 4th grade school curriculum program 'Discovering the Story of Mesa Prieta,'" she writes. "...In addition, the Summer Youth Program will be held for the eighth consecutive year. In 2009, our volunteers conducted over 60 tours on the Wells Petroglyph Preserve." Candie will forward the tour dates when they are set. Tours are limited to 30 people and usually have one docent to six people; a \$15.00 donation per person is requested. There are five tour routes so more in-depth time can be spent on each tour. Private tours for small groups and for other interested parties can be arranged.

Stay tuned for further details. . .

- Irene Wanner

Field Stories

SFNF Jemez Area

A couple of years ago, my partner, Nancy Brouillard, and I made an unexpected discovery during one of our site visits: human remains. The site we monitor in the Jemez District had been cut along one side by a logging road, which had become deeply rutted. I had read in the file that archaeologists had earlier found a burial along that side. When we saw a thin brown bone that had been uncovered by the continuing erosion, I immediately thought it might be human.

Of course, cell phones don't work there, so we drove out to report our find. Along the road, we passed a Forest Service truck driven by an acquaintance, an archaeologist, who is a seasonal FS worker – and he was accompanied by two archaeology interns. There was a bit of confusion when he thought we were saying we had discovered a body. Once that issue was cleared up, he followed us to take a look.

We hadn't touched anything, but he brushed back more dirt and revealed the side of a skull, so we knew it was a human skeleton. After that, it was out of our hands. He reported to the district archaeologist, who reported to Mike, who conferred with tribal leaders at Jemez Pueblo. They took it from there. Mike told us the tribe had reburied the remains on the site. As hard as we looked later, we could not find a sign of a new burial.

A few months later, another skeleton was revealed near the same spot. Since then, we give extra attention to the deep ruts along that section of the site but have found no more remains

- Judith Isaacs

News from Not Too Far Afield

According to a brief story by Michael Tennesen in the September/October 2009 *Archaeology* magazine, excavation conducted before expansion of a sewage-treatment plant near Tucson, Arizona, recently uncovered a complex irrigation canal system that dates between 1200 and 800 B.C.

"It was the earliest large-scale system of its kind in the Southwest," notes Tennesen, adding that the find "is forcing archaeologists to reassess the idea that people from this period [the San Pedro Phase Culture] were primarily nomadic hunter-gatherers."

Project Director James Vint believes the canals, which watered an agricultural area of roughly 60 to 100 acres, shows a certain amount of settlement and "a high level of social organization." Clusters of pit houses there may have been used by workers. A village, now partly excavated, supported perhaps 80 to 150 people; human remains confirm they were healthy and without nutritional deficiencies.

The canals are "among some of the oldest canals in the entire New World," the article states. Indeed,

project geoarchaeologist Fred Niles goes on to say that in 35 years of work, he's "never seen a site, outside of Peru and Chile, that gave us such a detailed, day-to-day look at how early indigenous people used agriculture to make a living."

A major flood of about 800 B.C. buried the fields, however, and the canal builders moved on.

- Irene Wanner

And a bit more from Arizona....

The November/December *Archaeology* magazine, a publication of the American Institute of Archaeology, contains a fascinating article about National Park Service excavations of Ancestral Pueblo sites along the Colorado River within Grand Canyon National Park. Because Glen Canyon dam prevents the annual spring flooding that used to restore lost sediments, riverbanks – and the many ancient settlements located along them – are being lost to erosion. Results from several tests of high-volume water releases that might restore beaches have been inconclusive, so the archaeologists are pressured to learn as much as they can as fast as they can. The remote setting is both blessing and curse: beautiful but demanding since everything has to be brought in by boat for short summer digs. Study of artifacts and other data will follow field work, and the sites will be monitored annually.

- Irene Wanner

The New Archives Committee

The Archives Committee is collecting any and all historical materials related to both the founding of our site steward organization as well as its governance. Any hard copy materials -- old *Site Lines*, pictures, correspondence, training manuals, etc. -- you might have that you would like to contribute, please do! You can bring your stash on February 10 or March 10 to an educational program (see above) or drop it by Mike Bremer's office, also in the new building on Forest Lane in Santa Fe. Or you can e-mail me at pfarr@cybermesa.com, and I will make arrangements to collect your donation.

- Pat Farr

Book Review

Life on the Rocks - One Woman's Adventures in Petroglyph Preservation, By Katherine Wells, University of New Mexico Press. \$21.95 (paper). 197 pages, illustrated.

In the state of New Mexico, indeed, in the United States, writes Katherine Wells in her engaging new memoir, only graves and grave goods on private land are protected by law. If a prehistoric fieldhouse, kiva, or pueblo is discovered on private property, land owners can dismantle or bulldoze the walls, burn the vigas for firewood, use the pottery for target practice, as well as sell the jewelry, tools or anything else they find.

She should know. When she and partner Lloyd Dennis bought 188 acres near Española in 1992, the land was covered with countless basalt stones decorated with a total of many thousands of petroglyphs. Later, she would learn that most of these mysterious images dated to approximately A.D. 1300 to A.D. 1600, known as the Pueblo IV period, and were made by ancestors of present Tewa people. Then, however, she was simply surprised to find out the glyphs "did not seem to add anything to the parcel's value as real estate. The per-acre price seemed to be consistent with other plots of land in the area without glyphs. As far as I could tell, the petroglyphs were free."

Wells, however, is an artist. And the ancient pictures pecked so painstakingly on stone entranced her on a deeply personal and passionate level. "Diamonds don't interest me," she admits, "but the giant boulders around me are like one-hundred-ton jewels.... I love bare bones: shape, solidity, essence. Something ultimate. Something about my own rockness, stubbornness that helped me survive."

Wells and Dennis purchased the property and its petroglyphs. They

intended to build a retirement home and studio - and eventually did - but preserving the cultural resources there would become Wells' mission, requiring all the rock-solid stubbornness she could summon.

Life on the Rocks chronicles the couple's background, move to New Mexico, and first winter living in a trailer as they come to know their land and where they want to build. At the same time, Wells describes the community activism that gradually preoccupies her when she confronts her neighbor, the wealthy and politically well-connected George Baker (a pseudonym), who runs a gravel mining business that provides stone and concrete to the New Mexico Department of Transportation. He is oblivious to the rock art all over his adjacent property, and soon, the two are embroiled in a primal confrontation of conservation vs. exploitation.

Wells is an intelligent woman, well educated and keenly aware of the benefits her privileged background affords her. Living and working with Hispanics and Native Americans as well as other Anglos who had fewer opportunities in life made her count her blessings often, even when rain, summer heat, frequent delays - New Mexico's maddening *mañana* syndrome - and personality clashes stalled the several domestic construction projects. At the same time, Baker's trucks rumbled past day after day from before dawn until dark, causing dust and noise, threatening the safety and health of others, and damaging nearby vehicles and roads.

She began to participate with a local group, Amigos de la Tierra. "Our mission was to protect traditional agricultural communities," she writes, "maintain a healthy environment, and protect local archaeologi-

cal and cultural resources." Reorganized and named Vecinos del Rio, the group had an even bigger agenda forced upon it when, in 1995, Baker purchased 6,000 more acres of mesa top. "The land had little potential for development because there was no water and the soil was poor," Wells explains, "but it could be mined for rock," placing a vast archaeological resource in danger of destruction.

Wells is a skilled writer who manages to recount her personal and public battles in spirited prose. Too, her detailed drawings of favorite glyphs and a thoughtfully-chosen few photographs help round out this contemporary David and Goliath tale. She has donated most of her land to the Archaeological Conservancy, found success as an artist in the highly-competitive Santa Fe market, and in 2005, was awarded the American Rock Art Research Association's Conservation and Preservation Award.

Best of all, fighting apathetic state regulators and George Baker, which had become "a full-time...obsession," finally won success. Wells' property is now listed with the National Register of Historic Places and State Register of Cultural Properties. Volunteers of the Vecinos del Rio Mesa Prieta Petroglyph Project are gradually recording all the rock art there so that it can be preserved and studied. And, in December 2008, George Baker at last had a change of heart, permitting the project to begin recording petroglyphs on his land, too. Gracious to the end, Wells thanks him in print.

- Irene Wanner

Did You Know? New Mexico State Law

Most people know about the federal Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) regulating treatment of Native American human remains and associated funerary objects on federal land. However, most do not know that many states have comparable laws especially in the Southwest and Four Corners regions.

Generally, these laws fall into two classes: those that protect Native American remains and those that cover human burials or remains regardless of ethnicity. For most practicing archaeologists, the policy remains clear both from the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation in its *Policy Statement Regarding Treatment of Burial Sites, Human Remains and Funerary Objects*, and the ethics statement for the Society of American Archaeology in its *Statement Concerning the Treatment of Human Remains*. Both of these statements refer to treating remains with dignity and respect, however, the SAA statement recognizes the cultural sensitivity of human remains and the potential scientific value, which may conflict with the cultural sensitivity. Both of these statements prescribe ways for professional archaeologists and historic preservation specialists to deal with human remains in addition to legal requirements.

As site stewards working on the Santa Fe National Forest, your ethical commitment binds you to these statements as it does the professional archaeological staff of the forest.

What is less clear is what an individual's responsibility is on other land jurisdictions throughout the state. Many states have solved this question by developing state human remains or burial treatment laws. Most states have burial desecration laws that apply to formal cemeteries and unmarked graves including public decency, cemetery protection, and abuse of corpse statutes, but fewer have laws that apply to Native American remains or other human remains in archaeological contexts. The important thing to understand is that human remains in any context in most states are protected from some legal vantage requiring reporting the discovery of human remains.

More specifically, I would like to discuss human remains protection laws for New Mexico. This state makes a distinction between marked and unmarked burials. State law makes it unlawful for any persons to intentionally excavate, remove, disturb or destroy any unmarked burial unless they have a permit issued by the state medical investigator or the Cultural Properties Review Committee (CPRC). Doing so on any land is a fourth-degree felony and fines can be up to \$5,000 and 18 months in jail. The law also requires anyone

who discovers a human burial to cease all activity in the area and notify local law enforcement, which then notifies the state medical investigator and the state historic preservation officer. Important to realize is that this law applies to any land jurisdiction including federal land unless the state law is superseded by federal law.

In other states, such as Utah, Arizona, and Colorado, the discovery of human remains and reporting of the discovery is covered by state law. Treatment and disposition of the human remains and associated objects may be handled differently depending on land jurisdiction. All four states require a state-issued permit to excavate burials on state lands and in some cases on private lands. Several of the states make a distinction between human remains and Native American remains. All four states have provisions for notifying descendant Native American communities although the specifics and repatriation and reburial differ. Keep in mind that in most states, regardless of land jurisdiction, human remains are to be treated with dignity and respect, and that in the Southwest, we recognize the affiliation of living communities with the remains of their ancestors.

- Mike Bremer

The Borduin Award

In an end-of-the year progress letter from Katherine Wells, director of the Mesa Prieta Petroglyph Project, the following paragraph was featured:

"In October, we created a volunteer award to honor those whose work with the project over time has allowed us to tackle large and difficult tasks that would otherwise be impossible for us

to attempt. We named it the *Borduin Award* in honor of Candie and Lee Borduin, its first recipients. We'd like to list their achievements here, but it would take a whole page! Suffice it to say that their contribution to MPPP accounts for much of what we have been able to accomplish."

Congratulations, Candie and Lee!!

Site Lines

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www.sfnfsitestewards.org

By now it should be obvious to all stewards that your safety in the field is our primary concern. In recent years, stewards have occasionally been affected by unsafe conditions in the field and we hope to do all we can to change that. First, we need to instill in each and every one of you that your safety comes first before all else. We do not want folks to be injured in the performance of their volunteer duties and to that end, we continue to talk about how to be safe when you are volunteering. Second, we feel it is our obligation to develop a process that ensures you understand what our expectations of you are regarding safety.

If you have not yet been asked, you will soon be asked by your area team leader (ATL) to sign a new volunteer form to have all stewards covered by the same basic version of the form. In addition to the form, we will develop a Job Hazard Analysis (JHA) for those activities performed by stewards. The JHA provides the guidelines that we expect you to follow to practice safety while being a steward. We develop JHAs for ourselves and we expect that the JHA for steward activities will closely parallel the JHA we use for any archaeological survey and will incorporate standard safety measures all Forest Service staff practices in the field. The standards in a JHA cover personal protective equipment including headgear, clothing, and footwear. It also includes standards regarding hydration, sun exposure, and rest. Activities in the field such as walking, climbing, and driving are also covered.

Just so no one will be surprised, we wanted to let folks know early on that we know the JHA will include wearing

hard hats, appropriate clothing, and footwear. It will probably also include carrying gloves in your pack to be used when scrambling over difficult terrain. If it is not already obvious to stewards, it is not safe to be in the field in shorts and sandals with large patches of skin exposed to the sun. The JHA will specify that appropriate clothing includes long pants, long sleeve shirts, and protective headgear including a hardhat when conditions require. For Forest Service employees we have been directed by the Forest Supervisory to wear hard hats when we are in forested areas where tree fall dangers occur, which covers most of the forest. In situations with no tree canopy, a hard hat may not be required unless local conditions warrant. We also have to wear eight-inch high boots with rugged soles as well as long pants and long sleeve shirts. If you are wearing tennis shoes in the field or other shoes that do not provide adequate ankle support, that will have to change along with other elements of your wardrobe.

If the JHA reveals that hard hats and gloves are required, the forest will provide them for the stewards. We recognize this may not sit well with some and we also realize that we may lose some stewards as a result of instituting new safety standards. However, as we said earlier, your safety is our first concern. As a result, we need to have you meet the same safety regimen we ask ourselves to meet. We will be asking stewards to sign the JHA once it has been completed, and it will become a part of your volunteer agreement with the forest.

- Mike Bremer

As many of you already know, Jan Stone was involved in a head-on collision on her way home from Los Alamos on December 7. She suffered several broken bones and many bruises. The airbag in her RAV 4 literally saved her life. After several weeks' stay at Los Alamos Medical Center and a week or so at a rehabilitation center in Albuquerque, she (and Ralph) are now staying with friends in Albuquerque while she completes outpatient rehabilitation and can return to their mountain home in Horseshoe Springs. She and Ralph want to thank their many friends for get-well cards, telephone calls, and many good wishes. The Foundation sent a beautiful poinsettia, and site steward friends responded to her needs, especially Nurse Candie.