



SITE LINES

VOLUME 10 ISSUE 1
WINTER 2011

Site Steward Foundation News

It has been a good year for the Site Steward Foundation and the New Mexico site steward programs we support. Site steward volunteer spirit and activity is alive and well in New Mexico. Since the Foundation's beginnings in 2009, we have grown to more than 100 members, equally represented by SiteWatch and Santa Fe National Forest site steward volunteers. We look forward to 2011 and the opportunities the new year presents.

Several accomplishments of the Foundation during 2010 and plans for 2011 include:

1) **Conducted four tours** during 2010: two tours of the Ojito Wilderness Area, a tour of the Dittert Site, and an overnight raft trip down the Rio Grande and Whiterock Canyon to visit river sites www.sitestewardfoundation.org/tours/index.php.



Front: Jerry Richardson, Isabel Carvalhal, and Ken Ahler. River guide Jon Asher rowing and Jim Mickle back row. Photo by Beth Parisi.

2) **More tours are planned for 2011.** Watch for upcoming announcements and information about a three-day, Foundation-sponsored tour the end of March 2011 to archaeological sites in southeast Utah. Other tours are planned for sites in New Mexico throughout 2011.

3) **Silent auction fundraisers** were held at both the Santa Fe National Forest site steward and SiteWatch annual meetings in 2010. More than \$1,306 was raised for the groups and bidders went home with art-

work, books, jewelry, gift certificates and more.

4) **Establishment of an ongoing ceramics project** between the Foundation and the New Mexico Office of Archaeological Studies (OAS) headed by Dean Wilson. The project's goal is to educate site steward volunteers in identifying different types of pottery sherds. Stewards can then, in the course of their regular stewarding activities, find and identify any sherds of special interest or foreign origin. These sherds will be photographed and their location recorded. All the information gathered will be provided to Dean Wilson of OAS for the creation of a statewide ceramics database for further evaluation and research.

5) **Preparation and pursuit of funding** for a public interpretive signage project at Rattlesnake Ridge in the Gallina area of the Santa Fe National Forest.

6) **Plans are underway** to provide additional support for SiteWatch by significantly increasing the Foundation's role as fiscal agent for Site-Watch.



Ceramics Project Volunteers Left to Right: Arabelle Luckhardt, John Morris, Cathy Gates, Grant Luckhardt, Sonny Farr, Pat Farr, Mary Jebson, Elaine Gorham, Beth Parisi. Photo by Isabel Carvalhal

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NEWS FLASH

Archaeologist Named Santa Fe Forest Supervisor

Story on Page 3

Contributors to this Issue

Candie Borduin
Mike Bremer
Isabel Carvalhal
Bill Cella
Cathy Gates
Nancy Hudson
Gary Newgent
Beth Parisi
John Pitts
Ann White
&
Irene and Nancy

Site Steward Foundation News (cont.)

7) **Co-sponsoring 2010 annual meetings** of both Site-Watch and the Santa Fe National Forest site steward programs. The Foundation's 2011 annual meeting will be at the Hibben Center at the University of New Mexico in Albuquerque.

If you have not already done so, please consider renewing your membership or joining the Site Steward Foundation for 2011. Your assistance will help the Foundation continue its support of New Mexico site stewards. The Foundation membership form is currently available on the Foundation's website at www.sitestewardfoundation.org/files/Foundation_Flyer_2011.pdf. For other information, please refer to: info@sitestewardfoundation.org and www.sitestewardfoundation.org.

Thank you for your support and volunteer spirit.

—Gary Newgent, President

Council Chair Message

Already, 2010 has drawn to a close and we are in 2011. It seems as though Y2K was only a couple of years ago.

It has been a good year for the SFNF Site Steward Program. We recruited and trained 30 new stewards on May 15. One qualified applicant who had been approved by the review committee but could not attend training was oriented to the Gallina team by co-ATLs Elaine Gorham and David Strip. Five more approved applicants are eligible for interim training when the need arises. Thirty-one new stewards have been oriented to their sites and have been busy monitoring them during the past several months. I wish to extend my thanks to the many who made training such a success and all of the area team leaders who put in long hours getting everyone on board in the field.

In reviewing my goals for past year, I find that we have increased the number of newer stewards on the council. Von Whitley (class of 2008) is the vice chair of the council and has agreed to serve another term. Thanks, Von. Courtney Perkins (class of 2006) has volunteered for one of the member at large positions. She prepared a short survey to all stewards that will help evaluate the program as a whole. Courtney has agreed to continue as member at large for the coming year as well, even as she was preparing to deliver her baby. Thanks, Courtney. David Strip and Elaine Gorham (class of 2008 and 2003, respectively) have taken on the role of co-ATLs for the Gallina area from long-standing stewards, Lee and Candie Borduin. Elaine and David have done a great job in their new roles getting the five new stewards oriented to their sites. Thanks again to everyone!

Another goal was to increase safety awareness among stewards. This project has been accomplished in great part thanks to our Forest Service archaeologists Mike Bremer and Jeremy Kulisheck as well as our operations chairs Bill Cella and John Morris. A Job Hazard Analysis (JHA) was developed for stewards; forms were distributed to all of the ATLs at the annual meeting along with two DVDs on safety. By now, you should have signed the JHA and can contact your ATL if you are interested in watching the DVDs. Contact your ATL if you have any questions, were unable to attend the annual meeting, or haven't yet received and returned a signed JHA.

Another goal was to increase safety awareness among stewards. This project has been accomplished in great part thanks to our Forest Service archaeologists Mike Bremer and Jeremy Kulisheck as well as our operations co-chairs Bill Cella and John Morris. A Job Hazard Analysis (JHA) was developed for stewards; forms were distributed to all of the ATLs at the annual meeting along with two DVDs on safety. By now, you should have signed the JHA and can contact your ATL if you are interested in watching the DVDs. Contact your ATL if you have any questions, were unable to attend the annual meeting, or haven't yet received and returned a signed JHA.

I attended the Site Steward Foundation board meeting in December. In the future, either the council president or another council member will attend foundation board meetings so that we're informed of each other's activities. As you are aware, the Site Steward Foundation was formed to manage the resources (read: money) to support the conservation, preservation, monitoring of, and education about archaeological, historical, and cultural resources in the state of New Mexico. If you have not joined or renewed your membership in the Site Steward Foundation, now is a great time to send in your dues. Please go to the website, www.sitestewardfoundation.org, to get an application and information. Membership fees can be sent to P.O. Box 32224, Santa Fe, NM 87954.

I look forward to serving another year as council chair and welcome your input on matters as they concern stewards. As always, anyone is invited to attend council meetings. The next one will be held on Saturday, January 22, 2011, at 10:00 a.m. in the conference room at the Forest Service office.

Please complete the survey that arrived from our Yahoo list server as an e-mail attachment, and return it as soon as it's convenient. We've made it short and sweet, and hope for lots of ideas and suggestions from you.

—Ann White

Archaeologist Named as Santa Fe National Forest Supervisor

Corbin Newman, Regional Forester, Southwestern Region, U.S. Forest Service, announced that **Maria T. Garcia**, who is currently the deputy forest supervisor on the Plumas National Forest in Region 5, will become the new Santa Fe National Forest supervisor, and will arrive in Santa Fe in early February to assume her duties.

Ms. Garcia began her career with the Forest Service in 1989 as a district archaeologist on the El Rito Ranger District of the Carson National Forest. She later held the positions of assistant forest archaeologist and public affairs officer on the same forest. In 2000 and 2001, she was the incident information officer on the New Mexico Type II team.

In 2001, she became the deputy district ranger on the Española Ranger District of the Santa Fe National Forest. In 2003, she completed acting ranger assignments on the Gila and Prescott National Forests, and in 2004, was named district ranger on the Mt. Hough District of the Plumas, California.

In 2006, she was temporarily promoted to the acting deputy forest supervisor position on the Stanislaus National Forest. She has held her current job since 2007.

Throughout 2009, she was on detail to the Washington Forest Service office as one of the team leads

for the Albuquerque Service Center-Human Resources Management Redesign effort. During this time, she also completed a short detail for Region 3 as acting director of lands and minerals. In 2010, she detailed to Region 4 as acting forest supervisor on the Dixie National Forest.

Ms. Garcia is married to Kurt Winchester, chief of fire and aviation on the San Bernardino NF. They have three grown daughters.

Ms. Garcia received bachelor's and master's degrees at the Universidad de las Americas, Cholula, Puebla, Mexico. Her thesis was based on fieldwork at a Classic Maya residential ruin in

Becan, Campeche. In the 1970s and 1980s, she did contract archaeology in New Mexico, Wyoming, Idaho, California, and west Texas. She worked on a Ph.D. at the University of Calgary and, during that time, participated in three seasons of fieldwork near Capitan, NM.

By 1989, she had a strong background in research, compliance, and interpretation. Working for the Forest Service, she became very involved in tribal relations and traditional uses of the forest by Native Americans and other groups. As a result of her anthropological/archaeological background, Ms. Garcia brings a unique perspective to the line officer job.

—Nancy Cella



Kurt Winchester and Maria T. Garcia

Photo by Bill Cella

Special SFNFSS Benefits!

Two great local Santa Fe sporting goods stores are supporting the Santa Fe National Forest site stewards by offering discounts to us. Please read about these offers below and visit these local businesses that support us!

We are pleased to announce a new partnership with **Santa Fe Mountain Sports**, which has generously agreed to give our stewards a 15% discount on all merchandise purchased.

In case you are unfamiliar with Santa Fe Mountain Sports, it is a family-owned bicycle and snow sport specialty shop focused on customer service. It also has a wide selection of items that can benefit our site stewarding and outdoor activities such as socks,

gloves, daypacks, hydration systems, sunglasses, hats, long underwear, supplements, etc. Don't forget to go upstairs to see the whole store!

Please visit their website: www.santafemountain.com. The store is located at 1221 Flagman Way in the Baca Street Railyard, Santa Fe. Call 505/988-3337 or go to the website for directions.

Just show your SFNF Site Steward identification card at the checkout counter to receive your 15% discount. If for some reason you don't have a current card, contact your ATL. Please make sure to tell the folks at Santa Fe Mountain Sports thanks for supporting the SFNF site stewards and site stewarding in New Mexico.

Special Site Steward Benefits (cont.)

Sangre de Cristo Mountain Works has also agreed to give those stewards who are interested a free membership in their Summit Plan.

Sangre De Cristo Mountain Works (SDCMW) is a full-service sporting goods store offering clothing, equipment, and accessories for hiking, camping, winter sports, biking, paddling sports, and more. Please check out their website at www.sdcmountainworks.com. The telephone number is 505/984-8221. Free membership in the Summit Plan is a \$15.00 value with the following benefits.

How Do I Earn?

Earning is easy with the Summit Plan. Members receive a 10% in-store credit redeemable after January 15, 2011, on the previous year's purchases. It is all members' responsibility to make the store aware that you are a participating member. The store staff is unable to retroactively reward credit on purchases. Present your membership card or notify your service specialist of your participation the Summit Rewards Plan.

Dividends

are restricted to non-sale items. Excluded are sale and clearance items, gift cards, shop service, rentals, and any item discounted 15% or more. Please note that dividends must be redeemed by December 15th of the following year for the accounting purposes.

As a Summit Plan member

you get so much more: annual member in-store dividend; 10% off all rentals and demos; exclusive invitation to our members-only sale; 10% off on all shop labor; special seasonal members-only discounts.

Site stewards who are interested should complete the Summit Club membership form at the SDCMW store located at 328 South Guadalupe St. , Santa Fe. Indicate that you are a site steward at the top of the form.

Thank you Sangre de Cristo Mountain Works for supporting the Santa Fe National Forest site stewards!

—Beth Parisi

And thank you, Beth, for arranging these benefits.

Lots of News from the Field

The Caja del Rio team found no disturbances to monitored sites on the Caja except for the theft of the site steward sign and signpost from Caja del Rio Norte pueblo and the theft of the site steward sign near the Tetilla Arroyo petroglyphs adjacent to Los Aguajes pueblo. A sifting screen near a Caja del Rio Norte pueblo midden was found and reported by John Pitts and Bob McCarthy.

Orientation to Caja sites this year included four new, provisional site stewards and two transfer site stewards.

On Saturday, November 6, several stewards joined Mike Bremer on a visit to a new site in the Caja area, the Tsinat Ruins in the Santa Fe River canyon near the agricultural site. Those attending were John Bennett, Mike Harris, Nancy Hudson, Bob McCarthy, Gary Newgent, and Ann White. A rocky trail from the top of the escarpment trailhead leads to the Santa Fe River canyon bottom and the Tsinat Ruins, 600 feet below. These dwellings were occupied most recently between A.D. 1100 and 1300. Several room blocks, fieldhouses, and an arroyo-exposed pithouse have been identified, in addition to numerous rock art panels. A portion of the Camino Real is also visible in the Santa Fe River canyon.

Effective December 1, 2010, the Acting ATL is Mike Bremer and the AATL is Gary Newgent until a permanent ATL and AATL can be assigned.

—Gary Newgent

Pecos Area stewards had some interesting finds this year: potsherds and projectile points! Several sherds were found on the Commissary Creek site. They appear to be historic Pueblo micaceous pottery and one piece is possibly Apache grayware. In Anton Chico, the stewards found a complete projectile point on one of their sites. Also in Anton Chico, they discovered several sherds that appear to be either Galisteo Black-on-white or possibly Santa Fe Black-on-white. More analysis is needed before a positive identification can be made. This was especially exciting for the team since the site records do not document any artifact findings. While ceramics are routinely seen in other areas of the forest, Pecos sites have lots of lithics from tool making but potsherds are rare.

—Cathy Gates

Field News (cont.)

Devastating Flash Flood in Gallina Canyon

Late summer rains in the Gallina area of the SFNF resulted in severe flooding in several places and at least one total road washout in the Gallina Canyon. Forest Road 8 traverses north from Highway 96 and connects to the Gallina Canyon via a side track that links with Forest Roads 6 and 7. The trip is not an easy one and requires 4WD and high clearance under normal circumstances.

On a visit to the area, we discovered that a flash flood poured down what had been a minor drainage feeding into the Gallina River, cutting the walls of that drainage down at least 16 feet, ripping out 30- to 40-foot ponderosas, and depositing them at the river's edge as well as spewing a flow of boulders up to four feet in diameter to cover the road bed for up to 300 feet.



Lee Borduin checks out the remains of a portion of the Gallina River access road. These kinds of cuts are not unusual in the soft Gallina area soil.

Photo by Candie Borduin

More News from Gallina Area

On November 12, 2010, Candie and Lee Borduin, David Strip, and Nancy and Bill Cella attached a large tarp over the deteriorating roof tarp of the excavated pithouse in the Gallina area.

Materials for a new permanent roof were delivered to the home of David and Elaine, and await good weather and Forest Service personnel to reroof the structure. Interior features have been subjected to damage because of water leaks, and the roof is a favorite elk resting place.

Visitors to the backcountry anywhere in the Southwest should be aware of the dangers of flash flooding. Rain does not have to occur in the area where one is walking or driving. Sudden, heavy cloudbursts near the tops of drainages and in canyons can send walls of water six to ten feet high down the drainage. The water carries all manner of debris ripped away with its passage. Recent fires in the area accentuate this activity by burning off soil-retaining grasses and bushes. A recent small fire had affected the upper reaches of this minimal drainage.

—Candie Borduin



What had been a minor drainage was ripped by water to expose huge boulders and tear ponderosas that were carried to the river below.

Photo by Candie Borduin



Roof tarp in place; center bulge is roof entry

Photo by Candie Borduin

Field News (cont.)

Unwanted Activity on Monitored Sites

When you go out on site visits, you are looking for any damage, natural or manmade. You expect that you might find walls knocked over by cows or burrowing by critters. You hope you don't find evidence of digging or other damage caused by pot hunters. What my partner, Sandy Baker, and I have found is damage caused by people, but in the form of wood cutting and camping.

Sandy and I monitor site 647, which is near the Paliza Campground, Pejunkwa on FR 266, and sometimes the Twin Sisters sites on FR 10 in the Jemez Area.

On June 9, 2010, we found a camping spot near the top of 647 that contained a fire ring made from rocks removed from the site, shrines (sticks with writing on them) planted in the ground) behind the fire ring, and a wood pile. We've removed the shrines, only to see them reappear the next time we visited. Two additional fire rings lower on the site also appeared since the first was discovered. There is an abundance of used toilet paper in the bushes. We frequently find trash. The campers might be unaware that they are on an archeological site. We never see evidence of digging or pieces of pottery displayed. The campsites show frequent and regular use. We've seen ATV tracks, wood cutting (dead and green trees), drag marks (hunting?), and spent rifle casings.



Fire rings and shrine on Site 647 in Jemez area

Photo by Nancy Hudson

The second place where camping is taking place is at the Twin Sisters site close to FR 10. This area receives a lot of vehicle traffic. Camping activity here was first noticed on the site by Nancy Brouillard and Courtney and George Perkins on August 8, 2010. The following month, Sandy, Nancy Hudson, and I made a regular visit to the site and were able to observe the extent of the disturbance. There had been extensive tree cutting/wood gathering activity just north of the fence line separating the two sites, particularly at

the south end of LA 133. The vehicle(s) drove in from FR 10J north of the fence and west (two places) onto the site. A large area was cleared of ground cover for camping. A large fire ring had been made of stones taken from the site, and there was a big ash pile behind the fire ring. Tire tracks led in various directions from the camp. Stones from the site were also placed in low spots to even out the terrain. There was no evidence of digging on the site. In two spots, potsherds were displayed. Damage to the site consisted of tire tracks, clearing of ground cover, and rock removal from the site. Part of the fence was down where it appeared that a vehicle had backed into it.



Ann checks out wood-cutting activity at the Twin Sisters Site

Photo by Nancy Hudson

Can anything be done about this activity? While camping on archaeological sites is not technically illegal, damaging a site intentionally or unintentionally by camping there is prohibited. Collecting rocks from a site for a fire ring, then, is prohibited. Even someone who is not intentionally damaging an archaeological site could be subject to civil penalties under the Archaeological Resources Protection Act (ARPA). The same goes for wood cutting and gathering. Activities that damage sites during wood collection are illegal.

We've consulted with our ATL, John Morris, who advised against dismantling fire rings. I asked Mike Bremer for advice, and he recommends "getting GPS locations, photographing them, and then getting with Jeremy, me or the appropriate district archaeologist to decide what to do. I do not want them [stewards] to take it upon themselves to dismantle them [fire rings]." I plan to meet with Mike and Jeremy soon about this problem, and, at the upcoming meeting, the council will likely discuss options to provide extra protection from sites at high risk.

—Ann White

Mike and Jeremy's clarification: "While camping and wood gathering (Forest-wide dead-and-down wood collection does require a permit) on sites may not be prohibited, theft and destruction of cultural resources is under ARPA. Significant impacts to sites inspected by stewards must be reported to their ATLs and the information passed on to the Forest. Review of the impacts may require further investigation by the Forest Heritage Staff and/or Law Enforcement."

Altered Silence, White Rock Canyon

All day long, the sounds remained muted. The walls of the canyon seemed to muffle the vibrations of earth and nature. The only disruption was the loud bellow from the feral bull who resented my presence. Smartly, he took off at a trot when he saw I was well protected high on jagged boulders.

Later, at the end of the day, I would ascend the cliffs with the last traces of energy I possessed. It was then that the soft breeze played a trick on me, chilling me through three layers of sweat-soaked material. It had not been a particularly easy exploration. Just a walk down to the spring-fed Pajarito Creek and then following the contour lines down the side of the sinuous river. Or so I thought. Still, lurking in the cranial recesses I knew that it would not be an ordinary day.

The first sign of an extraordinary day appeared as I started my descent. I was met by a curious roadrunner. He seemed as surprised as I was at the chance meeting and flicked his tail as if to say, "I see you and, since you might be a threat, of course, I can fly, if I want to." Despite the large open spaces below us, the bird chose to hop from boulder to boulder, keeping a constant eye on me. So much for bird-human trust!

When I got to the river edge, I was already filled with anticipation. My map showed several LA-numbered pueblo ruins and spots with ancient agricultural fields, lithic scatters, maybe even ceremonial sites. But I was aiming higher. The cliffs above held their own secrets: ancient art work created by people who had lived along this powerful river hundreds of years ago. These signs of the past contained the clues I needed to access their thought processes, or so I believed. It made sense that the images pecked and scratched on naked volcanic boulders would be the result of rational thought or, maybe, even provide a window into their world vision. Only time would tell.

With only minor effort, I found the first panels, a couple of snakes and a lopsided spiral, all with excellent views of the floodplains below. Next, things got tricky. My path through boulder fields was circuitous as I weaved between large slabs of basalt now standing like sentinels in a juniper forest. When I came to a clearing, I saw the old stone wall made of flat stones designed to hold in the soil and gravel mulch, a standard design for those old agriculturalists. Eventually, through tree branches and hidden behind a large evergreen, I saw the first big find of the day. A large rattlesnake image virtually jumped out of the dark patina of a room-sized boulder. But

that was just the beginning. The snake had a surprised anthropomorphic figure straddling it and the whole boulder hid a cave underneath with its two openings blocked by stone masons of the past. Another snake lurked coiled in front of the boulder and another stretched on top of the boulder as if sunning itself. What a nice "Snake Cave."

Elated by my initial success, I headed downstream toward another dot on the map. The route followed the sandy riverbank with more agricultural fields and deserted shelters. Inspecting several dozen boulders and entire cliffs (with binoculars) yielded little noteworthy rock art. So, I decided to rest on a small, flat boulder surrounded by mature junipers and large basalt fragments. I took time to consume a nutritious lunch, hoping my luck would change. Feeling energized by food and drink, I headed back upstream. Almost immediately, I found some odd pecking on the back side of a rock. While inspecting its front side, I realized that I had stopped for lunch less than 100 feet from the "Standing Snake!" The snake sported a set of horns and a cyclops eye staring into space. Next to it stood a decorated anthropomorphic figure brandishing a large shield festooned with feathers. Very satisfying.

The end of the day came when I clambered up a boulder-strewn cliff and spied in the bottom of a small valley a multi-element petroglyph, which had a threatening aspect. The principal anthropomorph appeared to be brandishing two sticks or clubs. Soon after, the light faded and I started the long climb up and out of the canyon, glad after several hours to have survived with minimal injuries, but sated by the artistic and diverse petroglyphs.

At the top of the trail, I stopped when I heard the gurgle-croaking sound high in the sky. Eventually, the chatty flock of sand hill cranes passed directly over my head. Keeping to a southerly course, all 81 cranes formed a near-perfect V in the sky. Their song, although totally unintelligible to humans, resembled a take-off from Disney's "Hi ho, hi ho, it's off to work we go," from *Cinderella and the Seven Dwarfs*. Actually, the cranes were not going to work, just off to winter in the Bosque del Apache!

After experiences like the above, I do marvel at the good fortune to live in this diverse and inspiring land. And more than once I've asked myself how best can I live to ensure my appreciation of all aspects of my existence. The obvious answer is to live life fully, one breath at a time.

—John L. Pitts © 2010

Two Meritorious Awards

From time to time, *Site Lines* acknowledges site stewards' achievements that are not archaeologically related.

Certificate of Excellence

We are delighted to announce that Melodie Usher (Gallina Team) successfully completed three years of preparation to pass an examination that resulted in earning a Certificate of Excellence. Sponsored by the Handweavers Guild of America, Inc., (HGS), the certificate is for Level 1, Technical Skills in Handweaving.

According to its press release of September 7, 2010, "The Handweavers Guild of America, Inc., a not-for-profit fiber arts organization [is] dedicated to encouraging excellence, inspiring creativity and preserving fiber traditions through education HGA's Certificate of Excellence (COE) is a comprehensive 2-tier program available for handweavers, handspinners, dyers and basketmakers, certifying excellence in a chosen field. HGA offers the COE Program to its members to provide guidelines for evaluating individual skills, for encouraging research and exploration in the fiber arts, and for recognizing technical excellence in weaving, spinning, dyeing and basketmaking. Each applicant's submitted materials are evaluated according to accepted standards of superior quality."

Melodie's 40 individual samples of handweaving that met the requirements for technical skills were on display at an open house on December 4, 2010, at the Fiber Arts Center in Española.

Congratulations on an outstanding achievement, Melodie!



Respect the Rio Certificates of Appreciation

In October 2010, **Chris Gardner** (Jemez Area) and **Irene Wanner** (Garcia Area) were presented with Respect the Rio certificates of appreciation by Jemez Ranger District Ranger Linda Riddle.

An education-based watershed restoration program, Respect the Rio teaches campers and other visitors how to protect and help restore sensitive riparian areas. In the Jemez, projects have included fencing off riverbanks, range and meadow management, road improvements, and working to reduce impacts from a great deal of public use along rivers. Trash, unfortunately, is a never-ending aspect of this use. For many years, Chris has collected trash on her frequent outings in the forest. Irene, too, usually carries a trash bag in her daypack since there always seems to be plenty of empty beer cans needing a more appropriate end at the recycling center. Site monitoring is a good opportunity for stewards to remove garbage or other trash less than 50 years old from the forest and its roads.

Congratulations, Chris and Irene, for being good stewards of the land.



A few of Melodie's 40 samples of her impressive handweaving expertise

Photos by Nancy Cella

Site Stewards' Lecture Series

Education Committee chairwoman Gail Bryant has assembled a terrific lineup of speakers for the 2010/11 Wednesday evening lecture series.

An enthusiastic crowd of about 60 stewards and friends turned out on **November 3**—Rio Chama ATL K. Paul Jones joked that his team, whose members were all (or nearly all) present, deserved the day's gold star for attendance—for the beautifully illustrated presentation given by Santa Fe rock art scholar and prolific writer Polly Schaafsma. Her talk, titled "Xeroxing on Stone," examined the "special, unusual" proto-historic rock paintings (she dislikes and avoids the term "pictograph," which is easily confused with petroglyph) of northwestern New Mexico, a part of the Dinetah homeland in this case comprising primarily Largo, Blanco, Carrizo, and Gobernador canyons.

Images there, she explained, date not before 1690 and not after 1750, a short time when the Navajo were both establishing themselves and refining their belief systems in the area. Indeed, Schaafsma noted that Navajos to this day say the paintings were done by holy people who eventually left. She suggested these carefully drafted yei-like figures, cornstalks, clouds, stars, and other repeated—"xeroxed"—forms made in selected settings of sheltered alcoves secluded from pueblitos and living places suggest the locations were ceremonial destinations. Painted on soft Eocene sandstone, these fragile panels were sometimes refreshed at later dates. Most of the images include red, white, or black, and some also have yellow or orange. There are petroglyph sites, too, she added, but the work is generally more random and less carefully rendered, often with glyphs superimposed; whether placing an image over older ones was a statement of dominance or simply meant the location was powerful is impossible to say.

Although headdresses and the occasional bison are details that seem to indicate influences from the plains, the iconography also features "lots of borrowing from pueblos" as well as clear ties with the Rio Grande valley. Schaafsma showed many versions of the war twins, Monster Slayer, and his younger brother, Born-for-Water, who are major deities in Navajo mythology. She noted these 18th-century rock paintings resemble more elongated sand painting figures used in present-day ceremonies, and she gave other examples of long-lived symbols, such as "scalp knots" associated with Born-for-Water and bows with Monster Slayer.

After wrapping up with a brief discussion of the preservation difficulties these images face—erosion, rock fall, weathering, defacement or vandalism, and

even illegal removal for sale—Schaafsma answered several questions. She demonstrated how fortunate we are to live near such rich cultural heritage, and thanks to her brief, well-organized overview, we can now visit many sites with a greater appreciation for their history and importance.

—Irene Wanner

On **January 5**, site stewards and guests heard an unusual lecture by David Phillips, Ph.D., RPA, Curator of Archaeology at the Maxwell Museum of Anthropology, University of New Mexico. His presentation was entitled "Casas Grandes Effigy Vessels: Portraits of Individuals? Individual Potters?" Over the years, Dr. Phillips has accumulated photographs of effigy vessels that were mostly looted from various Casas Grandes sites in northern Mexico. These effigy vessels were, and are still, highly regarded by private collectors of prehistoric artifacts as well as museums not concerned about provenience. Valuable context information has been irretrievably lost.

The vessels date to the Medio Period of the Chihuahua Culture, A.D. 1200-1450. The two samples brought to the group are one each of Ramos and Barbicoa Polychrome. In the late 19th century, Alfred Kidder began studying pottery at these sites at the southern end of the Pueblo sphere of influence in northern Mexico. Northern New Mexico and Arizona and southern Colorado represent the northern edge of the Pueblo world. Although many types and styles of pottery occur through this large area, there are regional variations, and common motifs are widespread. For instance, Casas Grandes designs show up in Mimbres and Hohokam pottery, and the horned serpent occurs repeatedly in different pottery groups.

Dr. Phillips is primarily interested in pots with human faces, hooded jars, seated males, smoking seated males, seated females with legs outstretched, and diadem or coiled snake wearers. His comprehensive slide show illustrated many pots, for which Dr. Phillips has attached his own, sometimes whimsical, descriptive labels based on their primary characteristics, e.g., Red V females, Curl males, Dos Bigotes males and females, Weeping Eye males and females, Vertical Zig Zag male, Diagonal Zig Zag face, Zig Zag Check, Elvis (faces with sideburns) and Elvis Impersonators (faces with sideburn variations), feather faces, snake wearers, etc. All the pottery was coiled and shaped, and painted in a variety of colors.

Questions about these pottery types abound. Do these individualistic pots represent leaders wearing

Field News (cont.)

crowns, like kings? Do the faces represent individual people? Do they represent general figures recognized by anyone (like Santa Claus) that have meaning to each cultural group? Were potters artisans who placed their maker's mark on each piece?

Archaeologists have tight controls for their research studies; specific location, associated artifacts, soil and botanical samples for each location provide specific provenience. Dr. Phillips readily says that these types of controls are not part of his study, unfortunately. He is trying to make sense of this pottery based on its appearance and general anthropological knowledge about ceramic styles and their symbolism and function in each society.

—Nancy Cella

Two more lectures are scheduled for the first Wednesday of the month. Bring a sack dinner to the Forest Service building any time after 5:15, socialize with your fellow stewards, then enjoy the following presentations, which begin at 6:00 and run roughly one hour.

February 2 — Rick Wessel, New Mexico Department of Transportation Cultural Resources Bureau, Environmental Design Division, will speak about "Tejaños and Salteros: Harvest and Conflict along the Salina de San Andres Salt Trail, 1820-1854"

March 2 – Jessica Badner. Lecture Title to be announced

Did You Know?

Did you know that archaeological resources may be lying underneath the very building you are sitting in?

Imagine a modern facility, held in private hands, consisting of a large complex of buildings including administrative offices, a large congregation space and residential facilities. To modern eyes the complex is permanent and imposing, meant to last forever. Continue to imagine that on closer examination, the facility lies on land adjacent to a much older community consisting of the weathered and rubble remains of a large habitation structure and the larger settlement infrastructure associated with that community. Today these two areas would look separate and unassociated; however, in the past the older community extended onto the land occupied by the more recent facility. The newer buildings lie on top of the land used and occupied by the older community. In our modern world, we assume construction practices remove the remains of previous settlement, but frequently such is not the case. It may be

true for large urban renewal projects but more often in rural circumstances and where material remains are deeply buried, the chances of having older settlements covered by new construction exists. In these circumstances, occupation and use of the new facility may lead to the unearthing of evidence of earlier occupation. In communities like Santa Fe and Albuquerque, existing city ordinances account for this possibility and require further investigation.

Frequent headaches for developers and city managers may be new and informative resources for the public and archaeologists. An awareness of the possibility of mysteries beneath our feet should make us first aware of the potential for damage and second of the surprise of new and enlightening information. As you walk through your neighborhood or travel down a highway, ask yourself what may have been there in the past. Try to see that landscape as different and modified once it's covered in concrete and asphalt. Then think of the marvels that lie beneath (or not).

—Mike Bremer

Thank you note from Mike Bremer to all Site Stewards

"Dear Ann,

Please find some way to express to all the stewards my amazement and gratitude for their support and contributions after my father's passing. I know we have something special with this group but I am continually amazed at the heart shown by the group as a whole and we haven't been the only ones to benefit from such compassion.

Again, my heartfelt thanks and gratitude to all.

Thanks,

Mike. "

Site Lines

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We're on the Web
www://sfnsitestewards.org

Just Arrived!!

Proud, and already tired, parents **Courtney and George Perkins** announce that **Cora Rose Perkins** was born at 8:34 a.m. on New Year's Day (1/1/11), weighing 5 lbs, 9.8oz., and 17-1/2 inches long. They report that she has been on oxygen a bit due to the high elevation in Los Alamos, but she's healthy and doing well! Mom and Dad doing well, too, and are excited.

Congratulations!!



2011 Dates to Remember

January 22 — Site Steward Council Meeting, 10 a.m. in the Conference Room at the Forest Service Office in Santa Fe. All site stewards are welcome to attend.

February 20 — Site Steward Foundation annual meeting, Hibben Center, UNM, in conjunction with SiteWatch Annual Meeting

Late March — Three-day Foundation-sponsored tour of archaeological sites in Southeast Utah; watch for announcements.

August 11-14 — Pecos Conference, Kaibab National Forest, AZ

September 16-18 — SFNF Site Steward Annual Meeting, San Antonio Campground, Jemez Area. Business meeting, State of the Forest, chili cook-off lunch, guest speakers, silent auction, awards, Jeremy's challenging trivia contest, and good socializing. The field trips and afternoon speakers are always informative. Proceeds from the silent auction pay next year's annual meeting costs.

This campground reopened late last year after extensive renovations and is impressive. It has 29 campsites including tent-only, a few sites with utilities, large vehicle accessible sites, new restrooms, a covered group area; each site has a picnic table or two, a grill, a pole with hooks, and a fire ring. The group area, which has several metal tables and a large fire ring partially encircled with a concrete bench, has been reserved for Site Stewards, but the campsites are also available to the public. If you want to camp, get there early — it's first come, first serve. A walking path paralleling San Antonio creek offers a few benches and fishing access.

Happy Hour on Friday evening will be offered at Ralph and Jan Stone's cabin, and supper will be at Bill and Nancy Cella's home. Both residences are nearby.

Motel accommodations are available at the nearby La Cueva Lodge (15 rooms) and the Elk Mountain Lodge (five rooms including large rooms for groups). Both facilities have web sites and prices are moderate.