



SITE LINES

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News from the October 20 Council Meeting

A couple of items came up under new business: one, a suggestion that the council meet three times yearly instead of four, and two, that the council consider whether mileage allowances might be warranted for stewards driving long distances. Those wishing to weigh in can email *Site Lines* co-editor Irene Wanner, iwanner@uw.edu, with their ideas.

The council would also value thoughts about the format and content of the annual meeting. Is the camping weekend fun and interesting? Should we try a one-day event indoors in winter catered by the foundation and featuring speakers? If we keep the camping weekend, do stewards like a Sunday outing after Saturday's lectures? Or what would appeal to you? Please let us know at the above email address.

Under old business, there are still vacancies for Caja ATL and AATL as well as Gallina AATL. There are also openings for council secretary, budget coordinator, and a member-at-large. These positions require only a little time and the rewards are many: friendships, involvement. You may be contacted by someone but you don't have to wait; if you're interested, get in touch with your ATL. For the Caja folks, that's interim ATL, Mike Bremer.

Gary Newgent reported that the Site Steward Foundation received two applications for its first round of grants, one from the Gallina and the other for the Pecos (Galisteo Basin). He anticipates the \$500 amount will be increased to \$1000 next year; if you have ideas for grant projects, bring them up with your ATL. More trips are being planned; watch for details online. The recent tour of Hueco Tanks State Historic Site and Alamo Mt. in Texas was well attended and enjoyed (see story on page 5).

For many of us, it's time to renew our membership. You can visit the website, www.sitestewardfoundation.org, print a copy of the application, then mail it with your dues to P.O. Box 32224, Santa Fe, NM 87594.

Area reports brought us up to date. Mike Bremer said the Caja is doing well with increased site visits. David Strip, ATL for the Gallina, notes that it's already getting cold up there but more trips are planned; the group met 10/27 for a potluck. The Garcia's AATL, Irene Wanner, mentioned that stones had been removed from a site for a fire ring but no other problems arose; more site visits are in the works before winter. Jemez ATL John Morris noted some road closures after the previous year's fires, but that all sites had been monitored; the team added three new sites as well as another close to Boletsakwa, which now has two teams visiting it officially since it's near roads and a popular campground. A Forest Service prescribed burn on San Juan Mesa in mid-October included studies on five Jemez sites to determine effects of fire clearance. Paul Leo, AATL for the Pecos, said the team added two members and that there were no new issues of concern; the familiar old issue—deterioration of roads—continues. K. Paul Jones, Rio Chama ATL, reported fairly good coverage during the season.

The next council meeting will be held Saturday, January 19 at the Forest Service building. Start time is 10 a.m. Stewards are always welcome to attend. It's a great way to learn what's going on with the program, meet folks from other areas, and bring your ideas to share with the council.

--Irene Wanner



Rainbow cactus at Hueco Tanks identified by Nancy Hudson Candie Borduin

Contributors to this Issue

Candie Borduin
Gail Bryant
Stella Davidson
Susan Dollenger
Cathy Gates
Ted Greer
Keytha Jones
Becky Johnson
Charlie Koenig
Steve Lund
Beth Parisi
Bob White

The editors thank you.

Annual Meeting, 2012

The Site Steward Annual Meeting and assorted related activities were held on Saturday, September 22, at the Juniper Campground group areas at Bandelier National Monument.

The business meeting convened at 10 a.m. Ray Wilison and Mike Bremer welcomed everyone gathered under the big yellow shade canvas, and introduced Jason Lott, superintendent of the monument. Mr. Lott described in some detail the effects of the Las Conchas fire of July 2011 and subsequent flooding in August.

Of the 17 square miles in the monument, 16 square miles burned. A two-inch rain recorded at Ponderosa Group Camp above the monument produced two feet of floodwater that roared through Frijoles Canyon, swirled around the barricaded visitor center, and cut through the parking lot, now 40% smaller than it was. Hence, the mandatory shuttle from White Rock, which has tended to discourage visitation. Fifty of the 70 miles of trails are affected; switchbacks are filled in, and the threat of trees and branches falling are the biggest risk to hikers.

Mr. Lott also described upcoming events: public lands day on September 29, a fall fiesta, National Archaeology day on October 20, and even a Mozart opera performance. He encouraged us to send in comments about visits so that the staff can better "protect the park resources and provide an enjoyable experience" as their mission statement declares.

Ray presented Ann White with silver Nambe candlesticks to acknowledge her previous service: council chair for two years, annual meeting chair for four years, continuous updates to the membership roster, as well as contributions to the committee that updated the site steward, council, and area team leader manuals. Congratulations well deserved, Ann.

As of September 22, the funds remaining in the site steward 2012-2013 budget total \$1968; proceeds from the annual meeting fees and silent auction will be added (there were 37 paid attendees and the net amount from the silent auction was \$466).

Changes to the council membership include new member-at-large John Varner, and co-chairs Ray Wilison and Cathy Gates. Member-at-large Courtney Perkins has resigned. A nominating committee will be seeking three new council members: secretary, budget director, and one member-at-large. Any steward who wishes to become more involved with organizational aspects of site stewards should contact Cathy (cathy75@me.com) or Ray (rwcpwill@aol.com).

Area Reports

Caja del Rio: Acting ATL Mike Bremer reported that the four new stewards (Steve Lund, Charles Lee, Will Karp, and Paula Lozar) are now well integrated into the Caja team. Breakfast at the Flying Tortilla in Santa Fe enticed 15 team members to partake, new sites have been added, and a canoe trip is planned (see story on page 8).

Gallina: Co-ATL David Strip reported that there are now 22 active members of the team, including four new stewards (Becky Johnston, Bill Hill, Mike Grebinski, and Mark Nelson). The monitoring season has been productive, more sites have been added, and new rock art was inspected by rappelling into a cave. The two Jemez/Cuba district areas' archaeologists (Connie Constan and Jennifer Dyer) spent a day visiting sites with David and Co-ATL Elaine Gorham.

Garcia: ATL Will Dearholt reported that the roads to all sites were in poor shape. Irene Wanner, Michelle Thomsen, Anne Baldwin, and a Forest Service crew helped Will dismantle a trick tank next to a pueblo. Motorcycles and cows continue to be a problem. Two new stewards, Bob and Michele Thomsen, have joined the team.

Jemez: AATL Ann White reported for ATL John Morris. Sites monitored east of SR 4 are high density, low profile, for the most part. Thom Ilg, a provisional member, joined the team during the summer; new stewards Susan Dollenger and Elsie MacKinnon were among those trained in the spring. Ralph Stone, emeritus steward, died on June 12, 2012; he will be missed. Recently constructed shrines were discovered at two sites; Jemez District archaeologist Jennifer Dyer confirmed that these are authentic shrines that include stone features, feathers, and ceramics.

Pecos: ATL Cathy Gates reported that the Pecos area sites are the most diverse in character as well as age, and include the oldest and most recent. Five new sites have been added to those monitored by 18 active team members, including two that were recorded on Glorieta Mesa in 2005.

Rio Chama: ATL K. Paul Jones reported that four new stewards (Cindy Blodgett, Abby Lieb, Stella Davidson, and Charles Koenig) have brought the team number to 16, which has enabled the addition of a second team to monitor Tsi-p'in-owinge and the pictographs. It has been a good season for the team.

Communications Committee

Chair Nancy Cella reported that the fall issue of *Site Lines* will be published in November, and that

Annual Meeting (cont)

contributions – prose and photos – from members are always welcome. The Yahoo List Serv continues to pose problems that Yahoo thus far seems unable/unwilling to correct. Any stewards who have not already signed up by requesting that Ted Greer send them an invitation are encouraged to do so. This service is for official business only, not a social network service. Webmaster Ron Krantz reports that all is well with our website; please check this site for upcoming events and news.

Education Committee

Chair Gail Bryant reminded the group of the forthcoming Wednesday evening lectures at the Santa Fe National Forest Service building. Doors open at 5:15 for those who wish to bring a brown bag supper and the talks begin at 6. Watch for List Serv notices.

Field Operations

Ann White reported for chair John Morris. She reminded us that safety in the field is our primary concern. If stewards discover any new features, the procedure is to carefully record them in writing and photographs, notify Mike Bremer and the district archaeologist, and take no individual action in the field. The finds may be related to contemporary Native Americans and should be respected. Online reporting to David Strip and your ATL is required via our website. Do not use Firefox to report online. Be sure you are aware of the hunting schedule in your area, and wear brightly colored clothing when you are monitoring your sites. If you need gloves or hard hats in the field, let your ATL know. Mike has a supply of both.

Site Steward Foundation

Ray Willison reported for President Gary Newgent. The foundation has 111 members this year, the most ever. It sponsored tours of San Marcos Pueblo as well as a lithics class. Autumn tours included visits to Mesa Prieta near Española and to Hueco Tanks State Historic Site near El Paso. Work on one grant has been completed, and another grant is ongoing. The foundation is offering \$500 grants to SFNF site stewards or SiteWatch participants for relevant projects. Two new board members (secretary and treasurer) are needed for next year; contact Gary Newgent if you are interested. The foundation is doing well financially, with almost \$8,000 in its general fund.

State of the Forest

The Travel Management Project for the SFNF has been signed off, but won't go into effect until the map is out in December or January. Enforcement is an

issue, but it is better to have an instrument to enforce even if there isn't enough staff for effective enforcement. Eighty percent to 90 percent compliance is expected. The forest has \$20 million for fuels treatment and restoration in the southeast Jemez area, which will include thinning and prescribed burning. The forest also has two large-scale research projects in progress. One is on fire and archaeological resources, and the other is a National Science Foundation project to study rural-urban prehistoric fire landscapes. The SFNF has hired a tribal relations program manager to deal with grants and with communications with pueblo people with interests in national forest lands. Jemez Cave, across the road from Soda Dam in Jemez Springs, has been temporarily closed for assessment. James McInteer, Mike Bremer's new assistant, started work on October 9.

Chile Cookoff Lunch

Near the conclusion of the business meeting, lunch items were assembled on long tables; several excellent types of chile joined a bountiful array of offerings, which kept the group entertained, enthusiastic, and well fed.

The line-up at lunch.

Candie Borduin



Shelley acknowledges our appreciation for organizing the lunch. Candie Borduin

The annual meeting is for families, too.

Will Dearholt and the Von Whitley family:

from left: Kate, Claire, Von and Lori.

Candie Borduin



Annual Meeting (cont)

After lunch, a group assembled for the afternoon hike down the Frey Trail into Frijoles Canyon. The hike was led by Rory Gauthier, most-excellent archaeologist at Bandelier, and Mike Bremer. Rory and Mike led the group to visit the mesa-top garden that mimicked the gardens that were there during the occupation of the area, and then on down the trail to Frijoles canyon bottom. The shuttle return trip to the campground was most welcome.



Rory Gauthier (knelling, left) begins the Frey Trail tour. Cathy Gates

In late afternoon, we assembled under the yellow tarp once again for the presentation of awards and the trivia quiz. Ongoing was inspection of the many items displayed at the silent auction, which closed at 5 p.m. Many thanks go to those who contributed items and those who purchased their choices.

Co-chair Cathy Gates announced the recipients of the 2012 awards for service to the organization. The Ushers and the Douglases were recognized as the Fabulous Four.

Sandy Seehaver: For serving as a loyal secretary to the council for 2 years; always on time, accurate, and organized; for serving as chair for the 2012 Training Committee and again demonstrating her outstanding leadership and organizational skills; for being a fun and interesting person and a wonderful steward friend.



Sandy receives her certificate and beaver fetish from ATL K. Paul Jones. Sandy was unable to attend the annual meeting. Keytha Jones

Co-chair Cathy Gates presents Nancy's certificate and dragonfly fetish. Candie Borduin



Nancy Cella: For serving as the lead editor of *Site Lines* and always striving to create an interesting, attractive volume for stewards to enjoy; for sending interesting information via the list server; for leading the grueling effort of updating the site steward manuals; for serving regularly on the Annual Meeting and Training Committees, and for having served as secretary of the Site Steward Foundation for four years.



Jo and Ramey Douglas receive their certificates of appreciation, bear and horse fetishes from Co-ATL David Strip. (Melodie {beaver} and Jon {wolf} were unable to attend the annual meeting nor the Gallina team get-together.) Candie Borduin

Melodie Usher, Jon Usher, Ramey Douglas, and Jo Douglas: For participating as a members of the Gallina team, demonstrating dedication to the goals of the program, and enthusiasm in monitoring and learning about their sites, all accomplished as a team in their first years of monitoring sites on the forest.

Lunch under the yellow tarp. From left: John Lenssen, Lee Borduin, Mike Bremer, Anne Baldwin, Candie Borduin, Nancy Cella and Diane Lenssen. Ted Greer



Site Steward Foundation Outing to Hueco Tanks and Alamo Mountain

Attendees: Shelley Thompson, Gary Newgent, Candie and Lee Borduin, Irene Wanner, Ann White, Shad Goldstein, Nancy Hudson, Bill Hudson (organizer and host, SiteWatch, Silver City), Linda Pafford (Silver City), Ron and Marvis Burkett (Ruidoso), Charlie Koenig, Stella Davidson, and Bob White (our guide for two days).

A group of 14 site stewards both with the SFNF Site Steward Program and SiteWatch gathered in mid-October near El Paso for a series of events and tours sponsored by the Site Steward Foundation. Meeting at the El Paso Archaeological Museum, the group enjoyed a private tour with Marilyn Guida, curator of education. The attractive museum features multiple dioramas of cultural time periods in the Southwest, an excellent introduction to the two tours on subsequent days. Its grounds exhibit a wide variety of well-established local flora including cacti, trees, and shrubs.

Our host, Bill Hudson, paid painstaking attention to detail in all aspects of our tour. The group dinner at Dominic's Italian Restaurant in El Paso featured a four-course meal with multiple entrée selections arranged by Bill. The evening's speaker, Alex Mares, a member of the Navajo Nation, is an archaeologist and former park ranger at Hueco Tanks currently working for the New Mexico State Parks. Alex provided a unique Native American perspective into the three major periods of rock art done at Hueco Tanks and he accompanied his commentary with exceptional photos.

The following day, we met at Hueco Tanks where we were greeted by our tour leader, Bob White, who also was recruited by Bill. Bob is very knowledgeable about the various rock art locations in the

El Paso region and has volunteered as a tour guide at Hueco for a number of years. He was tireless in showing us the features he felt we would enjoy and led us through the routes to the many sequestered grottos containing them. At the end of the day, we were tired but exhilarated.

Images at Hueco Tanks are primarily pictographs and are generally well preserved in caves and overhangs. Many human, ceremonial, and mythological images were viewed as well as several that depicted stories of the people who made them. Animals, particularly horses, were featured as well as a very small rendition of a jaguar. Hueco is famous for the more than two hundred mask images painted on the walls of the caves. As in most rock image sites, the art portrays features that were important to the people who made them.



One of the amazing, complex images seen on Alamo Mountain. Candie Borduin

The following morning, we met Bob again and were led to Alamo Mountain, just north of the New Mexico/

Texas border in the Cornudas Mountains on Otero Mesa. The mountain is a steep ancient volcano with basalt boulders strewn over its slopes. At one time, a spring existed halfway up the mountain, undoubtedly the attraction for the people who came there during thousands of years. The early inhabitants near Alamo Mountain were hunter-gatherers who left little evidence of having constructed permanent dwellings. Bob did show us one crudely built shelter with a nearby possible water retention dam. Historical occupation is noted in the remains of a Butterfield Stagecoach Station built in 1858. An old nearby ranch house has been reoccupied in the past several years and now an active cattle ranch surrounds the mountain.

Images seen at Alamo Mountain are primarily petroglyphs and are amazing in subject matter, craftsmanship, size, and preservation.

We enjoyed a full day of scrambling around the boulders, over the cacti, around the ocotillo—everything seemed thoroughly well protected by thorns—discovering images, discussing what they could possibly represent, photographing them and, as people have for thousands of years, looking out over the desolate but beautiful landscape.

- Candie Borduin



Hueco Tanks scramble
Bob White

October and November Wednesday Evening Lectures

“Cholula to Santa Fe: A Personal Journey (with detours) on the Camino Real de Tierra Adentro”

The initial Wednesday lecture in the 2012-2013 winter season opened on October 3 with an informative and entertaining talk by Santa Fe National Forest Supervisor Maria Garcia. To be selected as a forest supervisor in New Mexico fulfilled a dream for Ms. Garcia, an archaeologist who has held a variety of positions with the Forest Service. She says, “Anthropology got me here.”

First introduced to anthropology/archaeology through childhood trips to Mexico, her interest was further reinforced by the 1968 Olympics, which were held in Mexico City. Summer school in Mexico led to a five-year stay and completion of two degrees in anthropology. Ms. Garcia illustrated her field and academic experiences with slides of the many archaeological sites, which included Cholula and classic Mayan structures.

Returning to the United States, contract archaeology took Ms. Garcia to Fort Bliss in El Paso, southern New Mexico, as well as Wyoming. She returned to academia in Calgary where her field experiences led her to Capitan, New Mexico, for several seasons.

One of her first jobs in the Forest Service was in El Rito as district archaeologist; subsequent assignments in New Mexico and California in her 23 years with the Forest Service culminated with her present role as forest supervisor.

She related the various challenges that are intrinsic with the Forest Service attempting to be everything to everyone, resulting in inevitable user conflicts.

“Glorieta Pass Battlefield: Reconstructing the Battle at Johnson’s Ranch, March 28, 1862” was the topic of the November 7 lecture given by Rick Wessel, archaeologist with the New Mexico Department of Transportation. In connection with his task of conducting archaeological investigations for work on an I-25 underpass near Canoncito, Mr. Wessel became intrigued with the Glorieta Pass battle in March 1862 between the Confederate and Union forces, sometimes referred to as the Gettysburg of the West

primarily because of its decisive outcome that forced the Confederate forces to retreat to Santa Fe and, eventually, out of the New Mexico-Arizona Territory.

Mr. Wessel’s enthusiasm about the events of the three-day battle was evident in his recall of the troop strategies and movements, all without referring to his notes. The Glorieta Pass was (and is) a major transportation route between two drainages—Galisteo and Pecos—that has seen traffic of the Santa Fe Trail, the railroad, and I-25. The terrain was more open through the pass in 1862, since trees were cut for fuel and building purposes; the pass itself was a few hundred feet wide then. Canoncito, on the west edge of the pass, was a gateway.

The grand plan of Brigadier General Henry Hopkins Sibley was to gain control of the Colorado and California gold fields for the Confederacy. By March 26, the Confederate troops, under the direction of Sibley’s junior officers, established their supply camp near Canoncito. Union forces, commanded overall by Colonel Edward Canby who remained at Fort Craig, were led by junior officers Major John Chivington and Colonel John Slough. Skirmishes from March 26-28 between the two forces at various locales west, east, and within Glorieta Pass itself led to the eventual defeat of Confederate troops, their retreat to Santa Fe, and the end of General Sibley’s grand plan.

Any realignment of the features of I-25 in this historically sensitive area must be carefully planned to make the necessary adjustments, ideally sited to avoid disturbance of new ground. While field surveys were the principal method of detecting places that indicate areas to avoid, sources of information were used to recreate battle scenes and figure out what actually happened and where. Historical accounts may include official reports, field diaries, and journals. Post-battle investigations may yield information, but these were limited after 1862 for this particular battle. Previous archaeological studies are checked, and the results of metal detection are very useful to find subsurface artifacts and/or features. Adding to the complexity of determining where actual events took place are boundaries of various administrative units—private land, Pecos National Historic Park, and the Forest Service.

- Nancy Cella

Coming up! When you get your 2013 calendars, do put these dates down. See you there!

January 2	<u>Tim Maxwell</u> will be back from his Mexican tour and ready to disclose all.
February 6	<u>Jeremy Kulisheck</u> will travel back to bring us up to date about his new job at Cibola National Forest.
March 6	For her third annual lecture to site stewards, <u>Polly Schaafsma</u> will present new insights and comments concerning her long interest in petroglyphs.

-Gail Bryant

Field Notes

From the Jemez: Recently, Elsie MacKinnon and I (2012 trainees) went to visit one of our Jemez sites, Nanishagi. We had just walked a few feet into the site, when we spotted a pile of bear scat. Fresh! We turned and looked at each other.

"Hmmm..." we said. "What do you think?" Please bear in mind (no pun intended!) that we are both new to site stewardship and are still learning the ropes. "How about if we see another pile, we'll turn around?" We agreed to walk a little bit farther on.

After only few more steps, we saw another pile, again very fresh. Suddenly, the hair on the back of my neck stood up and I could just imagine the huge creature watching us from behind some nearby tree. "Let's get out of here. . . quick!" As far as we were concerned, it was his archeological site for the day!

When we got back, we called our ATL, John Morris, and he reassured us. "We wouldn't expect you to go on with the visit in such a situation," he said. "That would be stupid and we don't recommend acts of stupidity!"

So, next time Elsie and I return to Nanishagi, we'll make lots of noise and keep our eyes open for any signs. If that bear wants to claim Nanishagi as his headquarters, then he can be the new site steward there!
--Susan Dollenger



Susan Dollenger
Nancy Cella

From the Rio Chama: And the bears were out and about not only in the Jemez Mountains. Rio Chama stewards Beth Parisi and Stella Davidsen encountered several sets of bear tracks while visiting their sites. "The tracks covered an area more than a mile in distance and the bear seemed to be roaming around on different trails and up different drainages."



Story and photo by Beth Parisi

From the Gallina: Becky Johnson and Bill Hill sent these two photos of an unusual rim sherd and a nearly complete obsidian projectile point found during a recent visit to monitor their sites. Becky forwarded photos of two sherds to Dean Wilson, Office of Archaeological Studies, Director of the Ceramics Lab, who replied: "Both sherds are unusual but I think they are probably Gallina tradition types. The first, while unusual (photo below), seems to reflect a combination of fillet coil and punctate textures both characteristic of Gallina types. The second may be Gallina also but I can't rule out Navajo Utility based on the picture." Cheryl Muceus, archaeologist and museum director at Ghost Ranch, and Maisie Morris, lab director during the two-week archaeology course at Ghost Ranch, also stated that "they are not common for Gallina."



Obsidian projectile point and ceramic sherd from the Gallina area. Becky Johnson

Tom Ilg

As many of you already know, Tom Ilg was a site steward who received interim training in early August by Mike Bremer and was assigned to the Jemez team. While on a solo hike at a site on San Juan Mesa where he was photographing petroglyphs, he fell to his death. His obituary was published in the Los Alamos Daily Post (<http://www.ladailypost.com/content/obituaries>).

Please be careful while on your site visits.

Field Notes (cont)

From the Caja del Rio:

A Site Visit by River

There is a ruin out there that we knew about. It was on our list to get there. In this world with its web and satellites, you can see the outlines and incongruity of vegetation. The frustration here is that it's surrounded on two sides by private property. The side you can hike is rough, trailless, with a steep canyon smack in the middle. The last border of this geometry is the Rio Grande and that is where this story goes.

It's a lucky day, the kind when preparation meets opportunity. We've run this section of river twice before. We know it. Charlie Lee has convinced me to do this. No small feat because I really like to see the bottom of whatever water I'm in. Problem is, I have no other means of conveyance other than my feet and good intentions. River, it is.

The weather report is sketchy but it is cool, calm, and quiet here as the sun peeks over the Jemez and the crew arrives. I'm the engine, sitting up front. Mike Bremer is the science officer, sitting in the catbird seat. Charlie is the captain. We shove off and our chatter fades as the canyon swallows us. A great blue heron stares as we pass. The only sound is our paddles dipping in and out of the water. We pull up to a spiral petroglyph on the canyon wall. We've been wondering if it's a fake. Mike updates us. It's real.

Paddling the river in these conditions is not simple. The river is low, sediment is full of ash from last year's fires, and the channel changes frequently. Charlie gets out more than once to push. The takeout slowly comes into view. It's inside a lagoon surrounded by a sand bar. There's a small break, just wide enough for us to shove through and arrive at our destination along a rocky shore choked with reeds.

Boots on, gear stowed, we head uphill. Soon, we come to a large, open field. It's acres in size and occupied only by junipers, horse tracks, and not much else. Charlie and I have seen these before without

consideration. Mike informs us that it is a former dry agricultural field. We stand there a moment taking it in. I charge ahead; the guys' voices fade. Over a rise, I walk into a large stand of cholla. Pottery sherds tell me where I am while Charlie hollers in full Texas, "You made it, man!"

I yell back, "You did, too."

We gather and get to work. Mike heads off to do science as Charlie and I walk the ruin. Everything looks as described in the 1980 site file right down to the potholes and 1970s beer cans. The discovery does not diminish this place but instead provides resolve to protect it.

Mike returns. We head for the shade and munch sandwiches. Eyes turn to the caldera. Clouds are moving in, heavy on the bottom. Time to go.

We pass through the field again. Charlie stops to shake the dirt from the beer cans. Mike picks up a flat rock. It's a hoe, dull on one side. It's a good idea to have a science officer on your crew. Close to the takeout, we see a boy incised in rock. His face impassive, his arm out held in greeting or direction.

Reverie over, we head for the boat. Wind is up and clouds blacken. Charlie and Mike chat while Mike's radio crackles reassuringly. I paddle faster and Charlie keeps up. The clouds break as we pull up to the dock, lashing us with rain and hail.

No broken promises today.

Safety: Site monitoring by river can be done successfully; however, careful planning and experience are required. Most canoes are not designed to travel over rapids. The high hull makes it difficult to control in wind, and rain can swamp you. Travel on river should be planned to avoid periods of high flow. It's important to become very familiar with your route from put in to takeout. For this trip, the route was run twice before the visit. Done right, it can be effective and fun.

—Steve Lund

BLM Badlands Proposal - URGENT !!!

The Bureau of Land Management has released its management plan for the badlands in the San Juan Basin west of Cuba, with the comment period ending November 26th. Critical issues include rampant and illegal woodcutting old-growth juniper, petrified wood removal, off-road vehicle use, and realignment of existing usage maps. Members are strongly encouraged to register substantive comments to insure the fragile and often abused lands receive the highest level of protection possible. Contact Mike Richie, mrichie@comcast.net, for a toolkit that outlines the issues and suggested response. Mike (Richie) has been a real hero in getting this area placed under protection, and he deserves your support.

—forwarded email from Native Plant Society of New Mexico

Site Lines

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Ann White. Ted Greer



Mike Bremer
devises trivia
questions.
Cathy Gates



Claire Whitley. Candie Borduin



Kay Lee and Ray Willison, incoming and outgoing
treasurer for the Site Steward Foundation, respec-
tively. Kay is a Site Watch steward. Candie Borduin



Alamo Mtn. tour members, from left: Marvis and Ron
Burkett ((Ruidoso), Lee and Candie Borduin, Bill Hudson
(host from Silver City), Nancy Hudson, Ann White, Irene
Wanner, and Shad Goldstein. Bob White



Bob White, tour guide for two
energetic days of discovery at
Hueco Tanks and Alamo
Mountain. Candie Borduin



Ho, hum, just another beautiful day, monitoring Tsi-p'in-
owinge, Rio Chama Area with K. Paul, Charlie Koenig
and Stella Davidson. Stella (right) and Charlie (right)



One of the many unique masks
found at Hueco Tanks. Candie
Borduin

Save the 2013 Dates

- Jan. 2** 6 p.m. Tim Maxwell,
speaker
- Jan. 19** 10 a.m. Council Meeting,
FS Conf. Rm, Santa Fe
- Feb. 6** 6 p.m. Jeremy Kulisheck.
speaker
- Feb. 17** SS Foundation Annual
Meeting, Hibben Center,
UNM
- Mar. 6** 6 p.m. Polly Schaafsma,
speaker