



SITE LINES

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Council Chair's Message

Happy New Year, Site Stewards! I don't know about you, but Carolyn and I are ready for some warmer weather and getting back out to visit our site on the Rio Del Oso. As always, please use your best judgment when deciding whether the weather and road conditions are good enough for a site visit, and coordinate with your Area Team Leader.

At our first council meeting of 2023, there was some discussion about the problem of attrition. I think all of our areas have stewards who are ready to retire, or will be in the next few years. We had a training session last year and added sixteen new stewards, but at least one of them is already moving out of state. So it is an ongoing challenge to bring in a constant stream of new stewards.

One of the unforeseen benefits of doing our training online last year (due to Covid, of course) is that we now have the video and slides from that session available on the internet! So recently, Carolyn and I had the opportunity to meet with five new potential stewards, and after giving them an introduction to the program, I sent them links to the online training. By the time you read this, they should be finished with the online portion, assigned to their new areas, and meeting their ATLS to arrange field training and site visits.

What's interesting to me is that all of them contacted us because they had heard about our program from existing site stewards. Word of mouth is probably our best recruiting technique. So if you have any friends or acquaintances

who might be interested in joining us, please send them to our website (www.sfnfsitestewards.org) to fill out an application, or contact me at bob-florek@gmail.com.

A couple of reminders about our related organizations:

New Mexico SiteWatch and the Site Steward Foundation will have their annual meeting in Socorro on Saturday, March 4. As SFNF Site Stewards, we are welcome to attend. (See the story on pg 6.)

Most importantly, the Site Steward Foundation generously provides financial support to our program, allowing us to provide additional activities for our members like our spring presentation on April 15. As you know, there is no membership fee to be a SFNF Site Steward, but you are **STRONGLY ENCOURAGED** to become a member of the Site Steward Foundation for only \$30 per year. In addition to supporting our efforts, the Foundation also provides some great benefits to their members, including field trips to amazing archaeological sites around New Mexico. You can find out more and become a member or make a donation at www.sitestewardfoundation.org.

Here's wishing everyone good health and an enjoyable season of hiking in our beautiful National Forest while helping preserve its cultural resources. Hope to see you at our Spring Get-Together and Presentation on April 15 (see pg 7).

— Bob Florek

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News from the Forest

At the January 21 Site Steward Council meeting, Kathi Turner shared that Shaun Sanchez has been appointed the Forest Supervisor for the SFNF. Shaun is new to the Forest Service, but previously served with the US Fish and Wildlife Service. He is a native of Mora, NM.

Kathi currently is without a supervisor. She and Jeremy Golston are working together to complete necessary tasks.

The priorities of the entire SFNF team are centered around fire recovery for the Hermits Peak/Calf Canyon Fire and the Cerro Pelado Fire.

Kathi hopes to soon have seed for the Poshouinge erosion mitigation project. Amina Sena, hydrologist, has been advising on what seed to procure. The team is looking at other mitigation possibilities in developing a comprehensive plan, including Zuni bowls. (Michelle Enseay, Deputy NM SHPO, has suggested work at Pueblo Blanco in the Galisteo Basin as an example)

Seed for Poshouinge will be a mix of native grasses that does well post-fire, so it is also being ordered for Cerro Pelado fire recovery. Weed-free straw mulch will cover the seeded area. They will need a work party to put down the seed and mulch. Site Stewards may be able to help with this project.

Improved signage is in the works for several sites. Lewis Borck has almost completed the sign design for Rattlesnake Ridge. Next comes getting the sign produced; some cultural preservation monies may be available to pay for this.

Protection of the midden at Nogales is still being discussed.

The Forest has had a number of recent personnel changes, but is still understaffed.

Pete Taylor, Cuba/Jemez District, is still on temporary assignment to the Kaibab National Forest and will be retiring April 2023 after that assignment.

Becky Baisden is acting as the Zone Archaeologist, plus her usual duties as Assistant Zone Archaeologist, Cuba/Jemez District.

Currently there is no Zone Archaeologist for the Pecos/Las Vegas District. Gilbert Burkman continues as the Assistant Zone Archaeologist.

Jana Comstock, Zone Archaeologist for Española/Coyote Districts, will continue her temporary assignment for the Regional Office in Tribal Relations through the end of February.

Robin Gibbs has become a permanent employee as an Assistant Zone Archaeologist for Española/Coyote District.

Liz Cutright-Smith has been on extended leave, but has returned to her position of Assistant Forest Archaeologist.

Aly Wolf, archaeologist assigned to the Supervisor's Office, is providing program support as well as support to the Zones.

Andy Wakefield has joined the Supervisor's Office Heritage Team. Most recently he worked for NPS at Valles Caldera, and previously for the NM State Historic Preservation Office.

The Acting Deputy Forest Supervisor is Jeremy Marshall, who is on a 120-day temporary assignment.

District Rangers:

There is an acting DR for Pecos/Las Vegas, Paul Hancock. Brian Riley retired from the Jemez Springs Office. Dawn Cordova is Acting District Ranger for the Jemez District.

—Kathi Turner

Site Steward Council Election

The Site Steward Council met on January 21, 2023. At the meeting, Bob Florek announced that the current officers have agreed to serve another one-year term. These are:

Bob Florek, Chair

Carolyn Florek, Vice Chair

Susan McGrew, Budget Coordinator

Anne Beckett, Secretary

Note that, according to the Council Manual, *... [O]fficers serve for a one-year term, may serve one additional consecutive term, and may serve again after an absence of at least two years.*

This means that, a year from now, we will need to elect new officers. Any Site Steward who is interested in serving as an officer should contact Bob for more information (you don't have to be a current member of the Site Steward Council).

Site Steward Foundation Report 2/15/2023

Greetings from the Site Steward Foundation!

2023 marks the fifteenth-year anniversary of the founding of the Site Steward Foundation in 2008. We continue our assistance to site steward programs in New Mexico and Colorado.

The 2022 Site Watch and Foundation annual meetings and election of officers were held online May 21, 2022.

The Site Steward Foundation awarded two H. Wayne Nelson grants of \$1,000 each in 2022. The first grant was to the South Park Site Steward program to create an educational presentation of how obsidian from the Jemez Mountains traveled to and was utilized in the South Park area of central Colorado. The second grant was to Margaret Berrier to print and distribute copies of her rock art preservation coloring book.

Another H. Wayne Nelson grant of \$1,000 is offered in 2023, with a new grant application deadline of April 30, 2023 and a grant award date of June 1, 2023. To apply for a Foundation grant, contact Gary Newgent at sitestewardfoundation@gmail.com for a grant application.

The 95th Annual Pecos Conference, held on Rowe Mesa near Rowe, NM, August 11-14, 2022, was organized and hosted by the Site Steward Foundation, with over 450 archaeologists, advocates, and volunteers attending. Thanks to all the site stewards who volunteered at the Pecos Conference this year! The 2023 Pecos Conference is scheduled for August 10-13, 2023 in Flagstaff, Arizona.

During 2022, the Foundation conducted two tours: The first was a two-day tour in April, visiting Aztec West Pueblo in Aztec, NM, and Navajo pueblitos and rock art panels in Largo Canyon, NM. The second was a three-day tour in October visiting sites in Tularosa Canyon, White Sands National Park, and Three Rivers Petroglyphs, NM.

The Foundation is actively planning two tours for 2023: A spring tour to the Gila Cliff Dwellings and nearby sites based in Silver City, NM, and a fall tour to sites in eastern Arizona, based in Winslow.

The 2023 Site Watch and Foundation annual meetings will be held on March 4, 2023 in Socorro at the Macey Center, New Mexico Tech. (For more information, see the story on page 6.)

The Archaeological Society of New Mexico's 2023 annual meeting is scheduled for May 5-7, 2023 at the Ruidoso Convention Center, Ruidoso, NM.

Please help us make our goal of over 100 members in 2023. If you are not a member of the Site Steward Foundation, or have not renewed your membership for 2023, please consider joining or renewing today. The Foundation accepts credit cards for membership dues and donations on our website, sitestewardfoundation.org.

If you would like to be notified of Foundation tours and activities, please subscribe to our email list on the Foundation website.

Thank you for your support of site stewards!

— Gary Newgent, President



Bald Eagle Census at Abiquiu Lake

Lori Whitley and I (Garcia Area stewards) took part in the annual bald eagle census in early January at Abiquiu Lake. About 35 people converged at Abiquiu Dam on a January Saturday at 9:30 am for a very interesting 30-minute talk on eagles, their life cycles, and their habitats. After the talk, the volunteers were divided into four groups, two on boats on the lake and two groups stationed along the lake shore. We were assigned to a place on the south side of the lake just west of the dam. The other land-based group was closer to Ghost Ranch to the north. I have to say we were skeptical of seeing any eagles, but were up for a nice day outside. It turned out that we saw two adult eagles by the water almost immediately. One of them flew overhead and we got a fantastic look at it from our viewpoint.

After about an hour, someone in our group noticed an juvenile eagle (darker, more mottled wing feathers than an adult) on a power pole about a half mile away. The photograph at right was taken by Lori through her cell phone lens, which was up against the eyepiece on one of the telescopes. On the same power pole were two ravens which, although they are big birds, were dwarfed by the eagle.

Each group of volunteers was accompanied by two government employees. The two accompanying our group were biologists working for the Army Corps of Engineers. Both were knowledgeable on the local wildlife and interesting to talk with. They also brought really nice telescopes to look through. Lori and I each brought binoculars and a 20x spotting scope to set on a rock.

The whole eagle observing time lasted about two hours, from 10 am to noon, so it didn't eat up our entire Saturday. And Lori and I had a great lunch afterwards at the Abiquiu Inn.

We would definitely recommend taking part in the eagle census as an interesting winter outing at a time of the year when visiting sites might not be feasible. The census, sponsored by the US Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), takes place nationwide on the first two weekends in January. It was supported locally by the Army Corps of Engineers at Abiquiu Dam, (505) 685-4371. We noticed the call for volunteers in the local online publication, ladailypost.com, the week before the event.

— Will Dearholt



Eagle at Abiquiu Lake. Photo: Lori Whitley

Updates to SFNF-SS Website

Our SFNF Site Stewards website has been a reliable source of information for many years. (Many thanks to Ron Krantz for keeping it updated!) However, a few sections are out of date, and some links to other sites no longer work. Also, the site organization may need improvement, as it's sometimes difficult to find the information you need quickly.

Our Communications Committee will be taking a close look at the website in March and evaluating it for possible revisions. However, we appreciate input from anyone who uses the site and has ideas on how to make it a better tool for site stewards.

If you'd like to help with this effort, you can start now:

1. Go to the site, <https://www.sfnfsitestewards.org/>
2. Take a look around.

3. Make notes on anything you have difficulty with, such as links that take you to the wrong page on another site.
4. If there is any information that you feel should be added (e.g., under Links and Resources), note that.
5. Forward your ideas to the Communications chair (Paula Lozar, lozarpaula@cs.com).

We'll be glad to hear from you. We will also need people to test the revised site, so let us know if you're interested in helping with that. Many thanks!

The Communications Committee:

- Paula Lozar, chair
- Paul Leo
- Ron Krantz

ATL Reports

Jemez: Ann White reports: On November 20, 2022, Chris Gardner and I met Ted Greer for an orientation to Kebakwa, a site he and Rick Stearns used to watch. Before we started, I presented Ted with an award he received at the annual meeting (see photo) thanking him for his continued help in the Jemez area taking call-outs and -ins when Chris and I were out of town. He usually donates one of his photographs on canvas to our silent auctions at the annual meeting. He and his partner, Rick Stearns, have gone to visit their sites consistently throughout the pandemic and afterwards. Ted is a valued member of the Jemez team.

The Jemez team got a late start watching our sites this year due to the fire and resultant damage to the Jemez. Roads remained closed through late summer. We also had a late start training new stewards to our open sites due to schedules. We hope to start this year as soon as the roads open up in our area after the snow melts. We look forward to the new stewards recruited by Chris, and hope to get all of our sites looked at in 2023.



Ted Greer displays his Badger fetish.
Photo: Ann White

Rio Chama: K. Paul Jones said that, until November, each site was being visited, but not much has taken place since then. The Forest Service has proposed a project at Poshu'owingeh for erosion mitigation in an arroyo. He will be submitting Evelyn Seth for certification.

Garcia: Will said that Chupadero and Guaje had been visited, but there hasn't been much activity since last fall. There are the usual concerns with hunters, ATVs, wood gathering, and cattle. The site near Irma Ruth's house is a concern because the public trail attracts visitors; but it was decided that, if taken on, that site actually belongs to Jemez.

Pecos: Nothing much is going on this time of year because of weather. They need more site stewards: They had 3 new people, and 2 are trained, but the third is moving out of the area.

Caja del Rio: Gary Newgent took on James Ackard and Jennifer Steketee as provisional stewards. They learned about Site Stewards from our signs. He and they visited Tsinat.

The BLM has proposed new locations for what is now an unofficial shooting range, and one of them is right next to the SFNF border. Gary suggests that Site Stewards watch for the environmental assessment (EA) comment period to weigh in (as private citizens) on the possible effects this location would have on cultural resources in the area.

Gallina: Anne and Sharon reported no site visits due to weather. Gallina is in dire need of more Site Stewards: One team retired; another steward was temporarily out of commission due to surgery, but has returned; another person moved away and his partner doesn't want to continue; others are part-time residents. They have only about 9 people to monitor 44 sites.

Caja del Rio in the News

The Caja del Rio Coalition, which includes local environmental organizations as well as representatives from several Pueblos, has been continuing their efforts to provide greater Federal protection for the Caja. Currently the push to extend power lines across a large stretch of the Caja to serve Los Alamos Laboratory's needs, and the BLM proposal to relocate a shooting range to a location near the border of BLM and SFNF lands (see the report above), are cause for concern.

Those of us who monitor the Caja, or who have

visited this interesting and often poorly treated landscape, may share the Coalition's concerns and want to get involved. We need to be careful, however, not to imply that we are acting as official representatives of the SFNF or the Site Steward program. Our Code of Conduct states:

Site Stewards will not make news releases, give interviews, or otherwise distribute information to the public concerning sites, collections or steward activities without the approval of the Heritage Resource Program Manager.

Site Watch/Site Steward Foundation Annual Meeting

The Site Watch / Site Steward Foundation Annual Meeting will take place on **Saturday, March 4, 2023, 9 AM – 4 PM**, at the Macey Event Center at New Mexico Tech, Socorro, NM. The talks will be broadcast on Zoom for those who can't attend in person.

NOTE: New Mexico Tech requires all attendees to present a vaccination card/NM vaccination record or a negative COVID test at the door.

The meeting will include the Site Stewards Foundation Silent Auction, chapter updates, awards, and hands-on help with the new reporting system.

Choose between 2 talks and lunch, OR 1 talk, lunch, and a field trip.

The site visit will take place at the same time as the second talk and be available on a first-come, first-served basis, limit 20, high clearance and carpooling will be necessary.

10 AM Lecture

Cody L. Dalpra, Archaeologist -- Bureau of Land Management, Las Cruces District Office.

Lithics: A General Overview of Prehistoric Stone Tools, Sources, and Associated Mobility

Stone tools and debitage (flakes) are the most prevalent prehistoric artifact in New Mexico and worldwide. Since 2.6 million years ago at minimum, with the Oldowan tool kit, early hominins have produced and used stone tools. Lithics is one of the scientific terms for stone, and in archaeology is generally used to denote culturally modified stone. Not every rock is suitable for stone tool manufacture, as certain attributes are needed to ensure a predictable edge. New Mexico has a diverse and plentiful array of raw material that is perfect for manufacture. These sources were used throughout time in New Mexico and were transported and traded far past the current state boundary. This presentation will not only discuss these attributes, but also the variety and local availability of raw material in New Mexico and the different tool types, including those that are not exclusively chipped. The presentation will end with a focus on mobility and settlement patterns in relation to lithics, that is, what research is possible with this artifact class, and how this research can impact our understanding and view of the past.

2 PM Lecture

Christopher D. Adams, East Zone Archaeologist – Gila National Forest .Truth or Consequences, New Mexico

Victorio Fight on Palomas Creek, May 24 – 25, 1880

For the last 15 years the Gila National Forest Heritage Program has conducted archaeological investigations at this 1880 Palomas Fight site, located on the Black Range District of the Gila National Forest. This fight represents the only time Victorio (Warm Springs Apache) was defeated on the Black Range. And it was not at the hands of the military, but by sixty Western Apache scouts (White Mountain & San Carlos) led by Chief of Scouts, Henry Parker. This program will highlight the archaeological techniques and forensic studies that were used in the investigation of the historically important Victorio Wars Fight.

2 PM Field Trip

Site visit to *Teypama Pueblo* with Michael Merritt, Archaeologist and Paleontology Program Contact, Socorro Field Office

In the early 1970's, Linda Cordell led a series of field schools for UNM students that she later reflected on in an article in *Journal of Anthropological Research*. One of these was at Teypama. First mapped by H.P. Mera in 1929, the pueblo was impacted by unauthorized excavation. The field school excavated only one room, and Cordell's research showed that the area was occupied in the 1300s and 1400s. Research on this pueblo is limited, so this will be a low-key site visit. High clearance may be necessary. Trip participants will be expected to carpool, so be ready to offer a ride or ride along.

Limit 20.

Difficulty: This trip likely involves minimal hiking, but does require walking on uneven ground without a trail. There are no bathroom facilities.

To sign up for the meeting, go to

<https://forms.office.com/g/hPg38JmESD>

Sign-up ENDS **February 22** at 11:00 PM

NOTE: If you intend to listen to the lectures on Zoom, please sign up using this link.

SFNF Site Stewards Spring Get-Together and Potluck

As the Spring site visit season begins, let's meet for lunch, socializing, and a talk about Petroglyphs. Please plan to attend!

When: Saturday, April 15, 2023

Where: SFNF Office, 11 Forest Lane, Santa Fe

Time: If you want to attend the SFNF Site Stewards Council Meeting, come at 10 AM, otherwise show up sometime between 11 AM and noon.

12:00: Potluck lunch. Please bring food to share. (There will be plates, napkins, and utensils, but if you want to bring your own, go ahead.)

1:00: Talk by Candie Borduin, Recording Coordinator, Mesa Prieta Petroglyph Project: *The Best of the Best of Petroglyph Recording on Mesa Prieta in 2021.*

2:00-3:00: Q&A, followed by clean-up

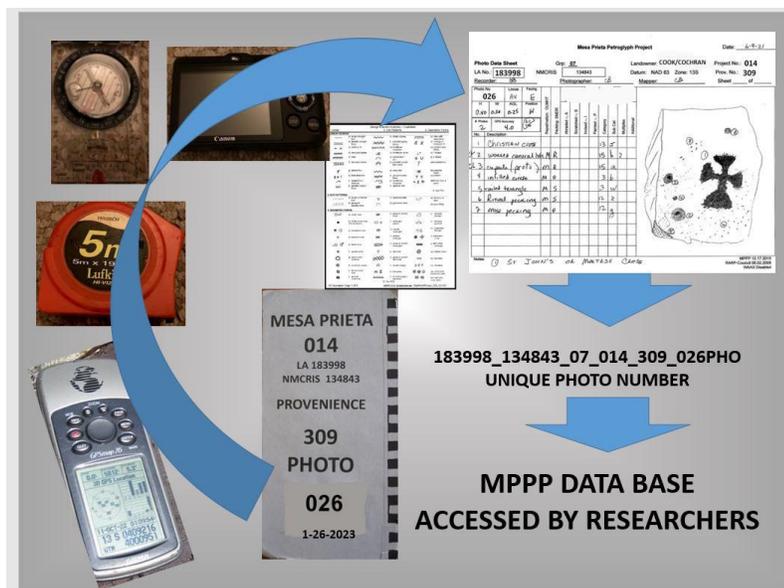
About the Presentation: The most spectacular, well made, unique, well documented petroglyphs and other archaeological features are featured in this presentation. This is a rare opportunity to see images on several parcels of private land that are not accessible to the general public.

Mesa Prieta is now known to be the largest petroglyph site in New Mexico, surpassing better known sites such as Albuquerque's Petroglyph National Monument and Three Rivers. Most of the images are on private land and protected in their isolation. The 80,000 images recorded to date include about 5% Archaic images made thousands of years ago, 70% Ancestral Pueblo images made by the ancestors of today's nearby Pueblos, and 25% Historic images made by the Spanish and other Europeans who came to the area in 1598 and later.

About the Speaker: Candie serves as Volunteer Recording Coordinator for the Mesa Prieta Petroglyph Project, and supports the recording and survey teams as well as managing the initial processing of all the data collected. She has volunteered with MPPP since 2002, and has served as Petroglyph Recording Trainer and Coordinator since 2008. She considers working on the mesa to be a rare privilege and the opportunity to work with MPPP volunteers to be equally rewarding.

In 2014, Candie was recognized with a New Mexico Heritage Preservation Award for her work with recorders on Mesa Prieta. In 2017 she was recognized by the New Mexico Archaeological Society with a Bice Award for Archaeological Achievement. She and her husband, Lee, have been Site Stewards with the Santa Fe National Forest since 2000.

— Grace Brill



The MPPP Recording Process
 (Courtesy of Candie Borduin)

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Save the Date!

February 27, 2023: *Roads and Power in the Chaco World*, Rob Weiner and Taft Blackhorse, Jr., Southwest Seminars, Santa Fe Women's Club, 1616 Old Pecos Trail, Santa Fe, 6 PM. \$20 at the door.

March 4: Site Watch/Site Steward Foundation Annual Meeting, Macey Event Center, New Mexico Tech, Socorro, NM (or on Zoom), 9 AM – 4 PM. See story on pg. 6.

March 10-13: American Rock Art Research Association (ARARA) Annual Conference, Tucson, AZ. For more information, and to register, see <https://arara.wildapricot.org/Conf-Info-2023/>

April 15: SFNF Site Stewards Get-Together and Potluck, SFNF Office, 11 Forest Lane, Santa Fe. Council meeting 10 AM, get-together 11 AM—3 PM. See story on pg. 7.

April 18: *Cliff Dwelling Architecture and Mesa Verde National Park*, Larry V. Nordby. Santa Fe Archeological Society, Pecos Trail Café, 2239 Old Pecos Trail, Santa Fe, 7-8 PM.

May 5-7: Archaeological Society of NM Annual Meeting, Ruidoso, NM, sponsored by new affiliate, the Jornada Research Institute. Details will be posted on <https://archaeologicalsocietynm.org/>

May 27: 12th Annual Pueblo Fiber Arts Show, presented by the New Mexico Pueblo Fiber Arts Guild, Poeh Cultural Center, and School of Advanced Research, Poeh Cultural Center, Pojoaque, NM, 9 AM – 4 PM.