

SITE LINES

OCTOBER, 2003

SANTA FE NATIONAL FOREST SITE STEWARD PROGRAM NEWSLETTER

ANNUAL SITE STEWARD MEETING SEPTEMBER 20 & 21, 2003

About thirty-five people including Forest Service employees, Site Stewards, Site Steward Training Candidates and guests attended the First Annual Site Steward Meeting at the Holy Ghost Campground in the Pecos. Michael Frazier from Forest Service Headquarters and Joe Redden and Brent Abel from the Pecos District office greeted the stewards and participated in the day's activities.

GENERAL MEETING

- Status reports of Area Teams were given; several incidents of vandalism were reported, sites have been added to the Pecos Area for monitoring, fires have caused damage in the Jemez and Gallina.
- Wayne Nelson has again accepted the position of Area Team Leader for the Guaje/Garcia; Gary Hein has been named the Area Team Leader of the Caja del Rio
- The Web Site planning is well underway and hopefully will be up and running this fall. Gary Hein, Phil Vergamini and Shelley Thompson are working together to produce an excellent communication tool for the Program.
- Work is underway to explore means of obtaining revenue to help with the activities of the Program such as training and continuing education. As the SFNF Site Steward Program may not become a 501c3 non-profit, other avenues of seeking revenue and or donations are being explored.
- Mike Bremer, in response to Forest Service directives to identify and survey priority sites, will be involved in training and leading Site Stewards in archaeological site surveys starting in 2004.

Following an interactive business meeting, attendees were treated to four workshops given by Forest Service personnel and Site Stewards. Jeremy Kulisheck of the Santa Fe Office shared his extensive knowledge about pottery dating, answered questions and presented samples of pottery representing over 1000 years of habitation in New Mexico. Bob Lawrence of the El Rito District gave ongoing demonstrations on flint knapping, exhibiting the tools used, types of stone and finished results – all without a scratch on his hands! Our own Mike Bremer gave an introduction to surveying archaeological sites – a focus for the upcoming year for all interested stewards. Wayne Nelson and Lee Borduin presented an introduction to GPS usage and helped attendees with various questions about using their equipment.

Social Hour followed the meeting with awards recognition given to Wayne Nelson, Terry Ballone, Lee Borduin and Candie Borduin "For Outstanding Assistance to the Santa Fe National Forest Site Steward

Program." Shelley Thompson, Gallina Site Steward obtained "bags full" of door prizes given out during the evening. A fantastic potluck followed with stewards drifting to a great bonfire and more conversation.

Sunday, Curt Hawley, Area Team Leader for the Pecos and Mike Bremer led the group to a 5-6000 year old horizontal petroglyph panel. The panel contained characteristic geometric designs as well as more recent characters. Following the tour, lunch was enjoyed on a ridge overlooking the Pecos. The weekend was educational and enjoyable; the opportunities to get to know fellow stewards one of the best benefits.

Any steward who would like a copy of the Annual Meeting minutes, please contact Candie Borduin Borduin@att.net.



Curt Hawley, Area Team Leader for the Pecos, presented an overview of the history of the Pecos from archaic times, through the Civil Way to the present.



Gary Hein, Area Team Leader for Caja del Rio, fields questions about that area.



Bob Lawrence, forest archaeologist with the El Rito District, gave a fine demonstration on flint knapping.



Wayne Nelson, one of the longest serving Site Stewards in the Program, receives a merit award from Council Chair George Gozigian.



Jeremy Kulisheck discusses pueblo pottery characteristics with stewards



Waiting for the bratwurst.



Mike Bremer, Heritage Resource Manager, giving demonstration on site survey and documentation.



On Sunday, Curt Hawley led the group to a panel on Rowe Mesa of petroglyphs 5000-6000 years old.

SITE STEWARD TRAINING CLASS OF 2003

In an effort to recruit new members to the Site Steward Program, Terry Ballone was able to facilitate the printing of an excellent article describing the program in the Albuquerque Journal in August. Terry fielded over 100 responses, applications were then submitted and a team lead by Mike Bremer selected 25 new candidates for training. These candidates received the initial portion of their Site Steward Training (classroom and vandalized site introduction) on the weekend of October 4 and 5. They now will be assigned to the six area teams and receive the third portion of their training from the Area Team Leaders. Please welcome this new class – they represent a very well qualified and capable group.

- Nancy Brouillard – Albuquerque
- Ted Bryant – Albuquerque
- Wally Newman - Albuquerque
- Bill and Nancy Cella – Albuquerque
- Will Dearholt – Los Alamos
- Dwight Fieselman – Albuquerque
- Shad Goldstein – Albuquerque
- Charles Allinger – Albuquerque
- Elaine Gorham – Albuquerque
- Jon Greening – Tijeras
- Sterling Grogan – Albuquerque
- Lorayne Gutierrez – Las Vegas
- Robert Holbrook – Placitas
- Greg Lach – Albuquerque
- Sal and Annette Morreale – Santa Fe
- John Morris – Bosque Farms
- Steven Rogers – Santa Fe
- Henry Saiz – Belen
- Linda Thibodeaux – Albuquerque
- Anne Watkins – Albuquerque
- Clara Zschaler – Las Vegas

Wayne Nelson is to be credited with chairing the Training Committee. The primary goal of this committee was to create a format for training on Power Point, which can be used intact by various presenters over the next several training sessions. The Class of 2003 will be asked to evaluate the program for its effectiveness with suggestions being incorporated into the text for the next training. Greg Lach will be contacting the new stewards for their comments and input.



Photo by Terry Ballone, Site Steward Jemez Area and recipient of over 100 inquiries into training for the SFNF Site Steward Program from Albuquerque Journal article.

WEB SITE DEVELOPMENT

The Council approved the design document for the Santa Fe National Forest website at the September 6, 2003 meeting. The purposes of the website are to

- Communicate with the Public to promote recruiting additional stewards,
- Increase the public's awareness and importance of protecting our Cultural Heritage Resources,
- Inform the Site Stewards of significant information, and
- Be a resource to assist the Site Stewards in completing their mission.

The website content will provide answers to the following questions:

- Who are we?
- What do we do?
- Why do we do it?
- What are the necessary qualifications?
- Is there training?
- How do you contact us?
- Upcoming events
- Public version of the Newsletter
- Application
- Newsletter (password protected area)
- Visitation reports (password protected area)
- Site files without location data (password protected area)

The website will be developed by Gary Hein, Shelly Thompson, and Phil Vergamini.

OPPORTUNITY TO VISIT THE HACIENDA SITE

Paul and Linda McClendon have offered to lead a tour to the Hacienda Site in Anton Chico in the Pecos Area November 15 or 16. As Site Stewards for the Hacienda, also known as El Viandante, the McClendons have been involved in an ongoing research project into the who, what, when and why of this site.

The Hacienda site is a 75-acre parcel of land on a larger 26,000 acre tract that became a part of the public domain in 1939 after the original Anton Chico Land Grant sold it to the Gross Kelly Company in 1930. The Forest Service took over management of the 26,000 acres in 1947.

The improvements on the site include an 8 room, cut stone house, stone corrals and thousands of feet of stone walls, along the north bluffs overlooking the Pecos River between El Cerrito and Tecolotito. A house this large is very unusual for the area as typically the little subsistence ranches observed in the area have only two or three room dwellings.

Four PIT projects have been held on this site, the first for historical research and the last three out at the site doing stabilization and some archeological "digging".

A high clearance vehicle is required, car-pooling will be encouraged. This will be a five hour tour leaving mid-morning and returning mid-afternoon, so plan to bring lunch.

Please indicate interest in attending this tour with the McClendons via SiteSteward@comcast.net, indicate which day you prefer. The McClendons will determine the day and schedule.

EXPANDED OPPORTUNITIES FOR SITE STEWARDS

The Santa Fe National Forest has determined that the Site Steward program can provide an invaluable role in evaluating priority heritage assets (PHA), also known as significant sites, on the Forest. As part of determining site stabilization and protection needs, the Forest is required to evaluate maintenance requirements on over 100 sites. The work will involve visiting these sites, completion of site forms and an evaluation form, as well as some mapping, and additional documentation. The Forest will be training interested site stewards in the methods for accomplishing this task. Many of the sites to be evaluated are currently being monitored by the site stewards. The training will be on-the-job rather than in a classroom situation.

Separate from the evaluation of the priority heritage assets, the Forest would like to train stewards to conduct archaeological survey and site documentation. As the training progresses the Forest hopes to extend the activity to include survey of areas of the Forest that are not subject to survey associated with project or other compliance activities. This nonproject survey will assist the Forest in meeting Section 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act guidelines, and will also help the Forest in understanding site distribution. This activity will be new to the majority of students but we hope it will help stimulate an interest in learning how archaeologists survey, document, record and evaluate sites and other heritage resources.

At first the Forest would like to set aside one to two days a month to train the stewards in these tasks. If you are interested in participating in these valuable activities, please notify you Area Team Leader, any member of the Council or Mike Bremer.

HISTORIC SITE DAMAGED DURING VIRGIN MESA FIRE

In August of 2003 Michael Elliott and Mike Bremer, Archaeologists with the Santa Fe National Forest, conducted a post-fire damage assessment of the Abouselman Mill Site (Jemez Mesa Logging Camp Number 3, AR-03-10-03-745/LA56507). The Virgin Fire started from an escaped campfire and burned fiercely for a day before it was contained. During the earliest burning the fire burned over the mill site and consumed all perishable remains on the surface. Elliott and Bremer expected the fire to have destroyed all evidence of the site. However, during the inspection it became clear that significant portions of the site remained although all wood and other combustible materials burned.

In one way, the fire cleared the extensive brush and organic material on the site, making the site layout more visible including the ability to see where the saw platform was located, and the location of other features and structures. The object lesson of the inspection is that it would be incorrect to assume that all intense fires burning over sites result in complete destruction of the sites. Only a complete inspection of the site after the fire can determine if any features or information potential exists on sites, especially historic sites with documented perishable remains. Of course the loss of the perishable materials means we may never fully understand the use of the site.

UPCOMING ARCHAEOLOGICAL EVENTS

- November 15 or 16, 2003, Tour of the Hacienda Site in Anton Chico. See Text.
- SFNF Site Steward Council Meeting, January 10, 2004, 11-3 @ MIAC
- Bridges to Cultural Stewardship: San Juan Mountains Association's Third Annual Stewardship Conference-Fort Lewis College, Durango, CO-October 24-26, 2003
- 9th Southwest Symposium, Chihuahua, Mexico-January 9-10, 2004
- MIAC Brownbag lunch, October 24, 2003 and November 28, 2003-Contact MIAC for speakers (505) 476-1250
- Southwest Seminars "Native Voices 2003 -Culture and Community, Land and Language", Monday evenings at 6 pm, Hotel Santa Fe
- Southwest Seminars "Stories From the Quiet Time, November 24 - December 29, 2003, Monday evenings at 6pm, Hotel Santa Fe.

INFORMATIONAL WEBSITES

Southwestern Archaeology's Newsletter "Got Caliche"<http://www.swanet.org/news.html>
Southwestern Archaeology's Archives
<http://www.swanet.org/zarchives/>
Southwest Seminars -
<http://www.southwestseminars.org>