



# SITE LINES

VOLUME 8 ISSUE 5

NOVEMBER 2009

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## SITE STEWARD ANNUAL MEETING REVIEW

Mike, Jeremy, several site stewards and the bif-fies arrived at the campground throughout the day on Friday; the Forest Service yellow tarps went up, we arranged our tent sites on the landscape, basked in the sunshine, absorbed the spectacular views, and prepared for the evening kick-off event at David Strip and Elaine Gorham's beautiful home, *Corazon de Bosque*, in Ojitos Canyon east of our campground. Their hospitality at a very generous happy hour was much appreciated. It is a peaceful place, this 160-acre homestead deep in the forest. The food was wonderful, liquid refreshments plentiful and varied, their off-the-grid home showing loving attention, and the two visiting horses, looking for carrots, were a special treat. Thank you, David and Elaine!!

More folks showed up on Saturday morning for a total of 48, including four Site Watch stewards.

### Business Meeting

Jan Stone, SFNF stewards' Council Chair, presided over the business meeting, which consisted of various announcements, area reports, committee reports, the Site Steward Foundation report, descriptions of the afternoon

events, and Sunday site tours. The morning session ended with Mike's state of the forest presentation.

Paul Jones, budget director, reported that the total cash available as of 9/27/09 is \$1,640; of that amount, \$1,410 is in the Foundation's account. Annual meeting registration fees of \$450 (minus any expenses) will be added.

Jan announced that since the 2008 annual meeting, Cathy Gates agreed to become the new ATL of the Pecos area team, and that Sandy Seehaver was elected secretary to the Council. Elaine Gorham and David Strip will be the new co-ATLs of the Gallina area, as of October 1. After many years of dedicated service, Candie Borduin has resigned; many thanks for all your hours and hours, Candie.

### Area Reports

ATLs or their representatives briefly described their activities in each of the six areas of the forest.

Of the training class of 2008, Jamie and Chris Gardner, Sandy Baker, Rita Gallegos, Henry Lanman, Olin Van Dyck, Sandy Seehaver, Karen Kotch, Isabel Caravahal, Cathy Gates, David Strip, Von Whitley, Ted Greer, Donna Lea, Phil Young, Mary Jebsen, and

Brian Martinson have completed their provisional year and have been officially certified as site stewards. Congratulations to our new stewards!

### Committee Reports

#### Communications

Nancy Cella reported that the fourth quarter issue of *Site Lines* was recently published. Contributions from stewards are always welcome, especially stories of their field experiences. Ted Greer requested that any change in e-mail addresses be sent to him so that list server messages are successfully received. Ron Krantz described relatively light usage of our web site, with the number of visits highest during the first quarter of 2009.

#### Education

Pat Farr distributed a list of dates and speakers for the lecture series for 2009-2010: 10/7 (David Kice); 11/4 (Larry Baker); 1/6 (David Eck); 2/20 (John Pitts); and 3/10 (Sam Duwe).

Details about each speaker will be forthcoming. All meetings begin at 6 pm, and are held in the new beautiful Forest Service office at 11 Forest Lane, approximately six miles southwest of Santa Fe south of the intersection of NM 14 and NM 599. Come at 5:30 with your brown bag supper, and enjoy socializing with stew-



The Chuapera Camp Meeting

Gary Newgent



Our Leaders: Mike and Jeremy

Bill Cella

## Annual Meeting Review (continued)

ards from other areas before the talks.

### Field Operations

Bill Cella reported that he and John Morris will be monitoring the forest travel management plan conclusions in 2010, and will keep stewards apprised of road closures. Stewards are permitted administrative access to sites in the event of a road closure. The stabilization of several sites in the Gallina area will be the focus of a request for funds from the Foundation; a grant application proposal is in the draft stages.

### Training

Sandy Seehaver announced that the next training for new site stewards will be held on Saturday, March 20, 2010. Stewards are urged to ask those whom they feel would make good stewards to submit an application by January 31. Applications and information are available on our web site at [www.sfnfsitestewards.org](http://www.sfnfsitestewards.org). Any interested persons who wish to make further inquiries are welcome to e-mail Irene Wanner at [iwanner@myuw.net](mailto:iwanner@myuw.net).

### Site Steward Foundation

Gary Newgent, President, reported that membership in this 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization is composed of about half SFNF stewards and half Site Watch stewards. The Foundation serves as a fiscal entity for site stewards, and helps support annual meetings of both organizations, sponsors tours of archaeological sites, and has the ability to apply for grants to fund special projects. One such project is partial funding of the position of Site Watch coordinator, as well as finding grant money for the Gallina stabilization effort. The next Site Watch annual meeting will be held in February 2010 at the new history museum in Santa Fe. Membership

in the Foundation is on a calendar basis at rates of \$10 and \$25. Watch for upcoming tour and lecture announcements on their website [www.sitestewardfoundation.org](http://www.sitestewardfoundation.org) and reports of past tours.



Site Steward  
Foundation  
President,  
Gary Newgent

Bill Cella

### State of the Forest

Mike Bremer described the new Forest Service offices, where his belongings were due to arrive over that weekend. The conference room space is ample for steward events. Exhibits and area information will be available to the public in the lobby. Dan Jiron is the new SFNF supervisor.



Mike at the Podium

Bob Greene

The Travel Management Plan draft Environmental Impact Statement is on target for approval in January 2010. There will be a period for public comment, with final decisions made sometime in 2010. The plan will better manage motorized vehicles (and motorized recreation) on the forest by allowing motorized travel only on designated roads, trails and other areas.

The Southwest Jemez Mountains Landscape Restoration Project in the Jemez and Guadalupe river drainages (95,000 acres) is a joint plan with the Valles Caldera National Preserve (80,000 acres). The goal is to return the forest in these areas to natural or near natural conditions. The project is seeking funding from legislation sponsored by Senator Jeff Bingaman. The legislation will provide long-term (10 years) funding to one restoration project per state. Lands not yet surveyed for archaeological sites will be surveyed. Six surveys of approximately 12,000 acres will begin in spring 2010.

Dean Wilson, Office of Archaeological Studies, is developing ceramic identification classes for Rio Grande pottery, which will lead to an Archaeological Society of New Mexico certification.

Mike is leading the effort to install a new roof for the Gallina excavated pit house. Lee Borduin is the supervisory consultant. Materials have been purchased, and it is hoped that the roof will be installed before snow inhibits access.

Eighteen sections of forest land will be transferred to the Santa Clara and San Ildefonso pueblos, which will affect site monitoring in the Garcia area.

New range allotment permits have been granted in the El Pueblo (Pecos District) and Caja del Rio (Española District) allotments. Extensive archeological survey and site assessment work was conducted in advance of the permit renewals by Brent Abel, Anne Baldwin, and their crews. Additional site protection measures will be put in place at sites that had evidence of damage by cattle.

Responding to a site steward observation of a man happily ensconced in one of the cavates at Tsi-p'in-owinge, Mike said that

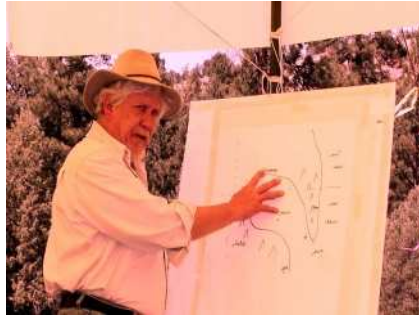
## Annual Meeting Review (continued)

camping at sites is not presently regulated. We can point out to such visitors that sites are protected from disturbance, but we can't tell anyone not to camp there.

### Geology of the Gallina

Jamie Gardner provided a comprehensive background narrative of the geology of the area in view all around us. The Gallina area borders the southeastern edge of the San Juan Basin, a large geologic feature in the northwestern corner of the state. The basin is known principally for its petroleum resources.

Beginning with the Cretaceous period (120 million years ago), the region was part of a huge north-south trending inland sea, with an arm into the basin to Durango. For tens of millions of years, the sea advanced and retreated, resulting



Jamie and a sketch of the San Juan Basin  
Bill Cella

in sedimentary deposits of sandstone and shale of varying thicknesses. The swampy shorelines became deposits of petroleum products—natural gas and small amounts of oil. During later periods, the vast inland sea gradually receded and dried up. Deposits at the Cretaceous-Tertiary boundary show the demise of the dinosaurs, now thought to have resulted from the impact of a large asteroid and/

or comet at 65 million years ago (my). The Cretaceous-Tertiary boundary is an important source of paleontological remains.

One of the principal and very visible features in the Gallina area is a hogback—an uplift of dipping strata. Hogbacks result from the action of tectonic plates farther west whereby the oceanic plate is subducted under the continental plate. The deposits in the basin are thus compressed; the Nacimiento Mountains arose at the southern and southeastern edge of the basin. At 30 my, the process was reversed, with basin and range material being pulled apart. What we see in the uplifted and tilted strata are these sandstones and shales of varying depths and exposures.

Many thanks to Jamie for his talk.



Tour group at the Mera Site:  
(From left) Mike, Bandit, Bob Greene, Paul Jones, David Strip, Grant Luckhardt (foreground) and Ann White (behind Grant)

John Pitts



Uplifted strata of the Gallina highlands

Bob Greene

### Afternoon Tour

Following Jamie's presentation, Mike, Bill Cella, and Candie Borduin led a group up a flagged trail on the slope north of the campground to tour a group of unit houses, pit houses and other features that comprise the Mera site, so named because of its initial excavator, H.P Mera. Those features that remain open show wall construction and how the features were arranged on the landscape. Interior features are obscured by subsequent fill. As a site type, this village also has been referred to as an isolated homestead. Intervals of 50 to 100 meters between surface dwellings and pit houses make distinguishing between the two types difficult, but this pattern of dis-

persed site loci actually represents a community of seven surface habitation structures and five pit houses.

Rumbling thunder, darkening skies, and lightning flashes did not bode well as the tour ended. And sure enough, just as camp sites were secured, tables moved under the large yellow meeting place tarp, outside tables covered with more tarps, the rain descended. While we huddled, mingled and enjoyed the happy hour offerings, it rained, and rained, and rained.

The Foundation-sponsored silent auction and awards for outstanding service somehow went on, but the trivia contest was saved for the evening campfire gathering when the rain went east.

## Site Steward Awards

Awards, which are presented annually, went to Bill Cella, Elaine Gorham, John and Diane Lenssen, Beth Parisi, David Strip, and Ray Willison for their outstanding contributions to the organization. Each was presented with a Certificate of Appreciation and a gift from Keshi, a co-op for Zuni arts and crafts in Santa Fe.

**Bill Cella** received an eagle fetish – “For working tirelessly for the SFNF Site Steward Program as Co-Chair of Field Operations and AATL of the Gallina and founding member of the Site Steward Foundation and by contributing countless hours researching, networking for and completing the application to the Site Steward Foundation for the Gallina Site Assessment and Stabilization.”



Jan congratulates Bill.

**Elaine Gorham** received a turtle fetish – “For combining a preservation ethic with residency when she and her husband, David, started building a home in Gallina in 2003. Elaine trained as a site steward the same year with the intent of learning about and monitoring sites in her home area. Elaine and David faithfully monitor sites year round, cheerfully take on new assignments and consider the entire Forest around them as their monitoring area.”



Mike congratulates Elaine (right)

**Diane Lenssen** received a dragonfly fetish – “For serving as a site steward on the Gallina team for over five years with her husband John. They faithfully make monthly site visits weather permitting and cheerfully take on new assignments and conduct reconnaissance in the Gallina area and willingly take on other site steward assignments. Diane and John represent the image of exemplary SFNF Site Stewards. In addition, Diane is one of the most pleasant people in the world!”



Diane accepts her award

**John Lenssen** received a badger fetish – “For serving as a site steward on the Gallina team for over five years and with his wife Diane, faithfully making monthly site visits weather permitting and cheerfully taking on new site assignments, conducting reconnaissance in the Gallina area and willingly taking on other site steward assignments. Despite John being a studied but loveable curmudgeon, he and Diane represent the image of exemplary SFNF site stewards.”



John receives his award

**Beth Parisi** received a bear fetish – “For your many years of faithful stewarding as a member of the class of 1998, the second training class given and your enthusiastic leadership as ATL of the Rio Chama and as Treasurer for the Site Steward Council and most recently as Vice President of the Site Steward Foundation. Thank you for focusing on and planning activities that reward all New Mexico Site Stewards for their volunteer efforts!”



Beth about to receive her certificate

**David Strip** received a wolf fetish – “For continued and proactive interest in the SFNF site steward program by supporting his wife’s site steward activities and training for the program in 2008 and faithfully conducting site monitoring not only on assigned sites but in large areas of the Forest around their Gallina home. In addition, David uses his computer expertise to support the team and program.”



David (center) accepts his award.

All photos by Isabel Caravahal

**Ray Willison** received a bear fetish – “For your work on the Board of Directors of the Site Steward Foundation as Treasurer since its inception and for keeping accounting and membership records current and for working successfully to complete the transfer of site steward funds to the Foundation. In addition to being the AATL for the Caja del Rio area and having served as treasurer for the Site Steward Council, Ray and Corinne are tied with John Pitts and Bob McCarthy on the number of site visits to Caja del Norte, the Caja’s most prized site.”



Ray (left) anticipates his certificate

### The Silent Auction

Featuring 32 items, the total of all bids was \$851!! A great variety of items were contributed by many people. Some were outside of our site steward organization and included the Museums of New Mexico, the Museum of New Mexico Press, Las Golondrinas, Travel Bug, IMA Glass and Liquid Light Glass. **Many thanks** go to those who solicited, brought, and bought items for this event. A sampling included two nights at the Inn of the Governors, gift baskets, books, photos, posters, glass bowls, Bandelier topo maps, a Dutch oven, bird feeders, a fleece vest, jewelry, and Nigerian tin art, and many more items.

**We very much appreciate the donation of books to savor throughout the winter by the Public Lands Information Center and John Morris!!!**

### Sunday Tours

Soggy road conditions suggested a change of site destinations. Led by Candie and Lee Borduin as well as Bill Cella, the group visited the Carricito Ridge Community, the Largo-Gallina excavated pit house, and Nogales Cliff House complex.

Our first stop was a short climb from the road to the Carricito Ridge Community on the crest of a ridge overlooking a sagebrush-covered flat on the south and west, and a deep arroyo on the east. The site consists of 15 surface units attributed to the later stage of settlement types in the Gallina area. Earlier sites usually have a homestead pattern consisting of individual units within a ridge-top community. In contrast, most of the units at the Carricito Ridge Community are in two contiguous groups on the north-south trending ridge, with a large tower later converted to an apparent storage area, a pit north of one of the groups, and a pit between the two groups. Two units were excavated in the 1940s by Frank Hibben, which revealed the typical interior features and overall plan of Gallina unit houses. The site had two occupations, the first of which ended peacefully in the late 12<sup>th</sup> century. The second group was apparently forced to leave in the middle to late 13<sup>th</sup> century, since structures were burned.

The Largo Gallina excavated pit house is unique in that it is the only excavated structure of its type with visible architectural representation of the Gallina culture. The structure represents a valuable scientific and educational training tool for Gallina visitors and researchers. The interior structures preserved within the unit house consist of two bancos and a fire deflector. The original structure had fitted sandstone lids covering the bancos and an access hole at the bottom to which a ceramic plug was fitted. Excavations have revealed that the bancos primarily held corn for storage. Ori-

nal wall plaster is visible over the original masonry walls. The floor was flagstone laid over dirt. The pit house access was by ladder through a roof hole through which smoke also escaped. The original roof structure would have been a series of larger to smaller logs laid at 90° to each other, then covered with smaller cedar logs or willow branches, depending on the location of the site and resource materials available. The roof then was covered with mud up to 8 inches thick, which was molded around the wooden structure. In many cases, finger prints can still be seen in the daub.



Interior of Pit House (Bill Cella and Isabel Caravahal)  
Bob Greene

The Nogales Cliff House complex consists of 11 rooms or houses and at least 20 cists in three different levels. Two houses, located in a balcony above the complex are hidden behind a high jacal wall with some of the structural timbers showing through. Eight houses con-



Balcony at Nogales Cliff House

Paul Jones

## New Forest Service Office Information

### Mailing Address

11 Forest Lane  
Santa Fe, NM 87508-1324

### Phone Numbers

Mike: 505/438-5380  
Jeremy: 505/438-5381  
Front Desk: 505/438-5300  
Dispatch: 505/438-5600

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We're on the web  
sfnsitestewards.org

form to the natural contour of the talus slope upon which they rest. The balcony is not believed to be a second story to the village. One house clings precariously on a ledge to the left above the main village. Upon excavation, all of the structures were found to have typical Gallina features inside each room including fire pits, deflectors, ventilator shafts, and storage bins located in the southern end of each house.



Houses at the base of the talus slope, Nogales Cliff House. (Lee and Candie Borduin, Elaine Gorham, left) Paul Jones

### Chili Cook-Off

Saturday lunch was bountiful and varied; anyone who left even slightly hungry didn't take advantage of the many offerings: pots of chili of all kinds, salads, fruits, chocolates, breads, and beverages. Lunch was followed by quiet time. Many thanks to all who contributed, and most especially to **Shelley Thompson and Pat Farr**, who organized it all, set up the tables and provided the necessary accompaniments. Cooks received a jar of the chili sauce, donated by Shelley.

Thank you all very much.



Saturday's lunch line.

Bill Cella



Sunset in the Gallina Highlands

John Pitts

Those who packed up belongings at the conclusion of the site tours agreed it was a fantastic gathering of outstanding folks.

Many thanks go to all who made it all possible, especially to Ann White, Committee Chair, and her committee members Jan Stone, Irene Wanner, Chris Gardner, Will Dearholt, Pat Farr, Shelley Thompson, and Candie Borduin.



Ann White, Chair of the Annual Meeting Committee

Bill Cella

**And, of course, much gratitude to Mike Bremer and Jeremy Kulisheck for providing Forest Service materiel, overall guidance, and for spending their "off-duty" weekend with us.**