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Arizona WATCH

DEDICATED TO PROTECT AND PRESERVE ARIZONA'S HERITAGE AND CULTURAL RESOURCES

SHPO Message: James Garrison

Stabilization versus Reconstruction

Historic Preservation focuses on real resources and real places. These places are a part of our real history involving real people. Places set aside for public visitation and interpretation have an increased obligation to authenticity. If George Washington slept there, by gosh, he had better have slept there! At the same time the mainstream American culture is quite happy to accept the use of fake or faux places, features or materials as part of everyday life. How excited we are to see a fiberglass volcano erupt while strolling down the Las Vegas Strip or to relax at home in front of a fake fire in a fake fireplace. As I have said many times before, the treatment of historic places (including archaeological sites) must be related to their use and interpretation. *Cont. page 3*

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Watch Newsletter
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Program Manager's Pen

Wow! What an end to a stimulating first quarter of work with the Site Stewards. We have a newly revised Site Steward and Land Managers handbooks and a brand new Regional Coordinators' handbook as well. These new handbooks set a firm foundation for the further development and growth of our program. They are needed to help our rapidly growing program. Over the last quarter, we have trained 48 new site stewards and brought in four new sites. Within the next few months we are expecting up to 80 new sites from a land trade that is currently underway. Each quarter our site stewards log in close to 8,000 activity entries. In order to keep up with this rapid growth we need to modernize some of our techniques. This has included our new on-line application form, our on-line newsletter (which you already know about if you are reading this article right now) and our current online activity log.

This last has been difficult for many of us. It does not have the ease of use that we had hoped for from our new website. Unfortunately, due to the current budgetary restraints, we were forced to replace our multi-use website with a free but less versatile on-line form. We hope to replace that on-line form with our planned website in the near future. In the meanwhile, please stick with us through this time of transition. I promise you it will be much easier to enter your hours on the day you were at your site than trying to remember what you did during the last three months. Additionally, you'll always be able to double-check your hours whenever you want with our new website.

As always, if you have any questions, please feel free to contact me over any questions or concerns at (602) 542-7143 or kmclean@azstateparks.gov

I look forward to seeing all of you at the March meetings. Until then, Happy Site Stewarding,

Kristen McLean
Site Steward Program Coordinator-AZ State Parks

Alert: Special rate for Conference is at Best Western-Benson for a mere $66.32 per double queen bed. Must book before Feb. 25th to get this date.

SHPO Message cont.

Although "stabilization" (reducing the rate of deterioration) is the first obligation of managing any historic property, stabilization efforts can quickly move into the realm of "reconstruction" (using new construction to depict the form features or character of an historic property). And invariably, interpretation suffers because of the confused treatment even a basic stabilization effort can cause. This misinterpretation through stabilization is most easily and unknowingly personified at archaeological sites. Even though the National Park Service has dealt with these issues since Mesa Verde or Casa Grande Ruin came under their control stabilization efforts have often blurred the interpretation of sites into the realm of reconstruction of romanticized ruin settings. The worse case scenario is when faux presentation overtakes stabilization such as the "over reconstruction" at Kinishba in the 1940s. Many time better interpretation can be more affective than additional site development especially reconstruction.

March will again be "Arizona Archaeology and Heritage Awareness Month" with a theme of "Celebrate Arizona's Past: Museums, Places, People." Featured on this year's poster is an Adriel Heisey aerial photograph of Pueblo Grande, a National Historic Landmark and a City of Phoenix Museum and Archaeological Park. Celebrating its 80th anniversary, Pueblo Grande, will be the site of this year's Archaeological Expo March 14th and 15th, 2009. Come to Pueblo Grande and ponder the efforts to save archaeological sites for future generations and consider the fine line that exists between stabilization, interpretation and reconstruction.

Jim Garrison--SHPO

Announcements

We have farewells and welcomes galore this quarter. First, we would like to thank Pete Reilly (Region 22, Prescott), Don Duey (Region 3, Sierra Vista), and Steve Thoemmes (Region 17, Kingman) for all the intense and much appreciated work they have done for the program in the last few years as regional coordinators. We'll miss you.

Everything is balanced so let's welcome our five new RCs. Fred Krapp is taking over Prescott. Larry Mozis is our new Kingman RC. Larry Tice is our new RC from Central 9A who replaces Howard & Doodle last quarter. Karen Peitsmeyer is our new RC from Sierra Vista. Finally, we are pleased to announce the reopening of Region 19-Homolovi. Homolovi was one of the first sites in the site steward program and that region has been under the care of Joanne Weldon's group for a while. Steve Jones is back with us as the new RC for that region.

The Land Manager's meeting is January 28 at the downtown Phoenix office. There are a lot of important changes coming down the line for the LMs including a discussion of the handbook. Please try to make this meeting.

Get ready to book your rooms for the annual Ambassadors Aligned Event being held March 20 & 21 at Kartchner Caverns. This is when we honor you for all the hard work that you put into the rest of the year. The event offers great educational opportunities such as a mapping class and a collecting evidence class. Plus, the cave is really cool. Literally, bring a sweater.

The RC meeting was a great success. We had 15 RCs attend and learn everything from how to mentor new RCs to a discussion of our new handbook, to how to improve our on-line form. Hope you enjoy your new Site Steward bags.

THE GOLDEN EYE AWARD

Region 22 was pretty lucky when Bill Atherton moved from a Phoenix region to Region 22 in Jan 2007. By this time, Bill had about 7 years of experience as a Site Steward and just plunged into his new assignments. Despite a recurrence of some serious health issues, Bill currently monitors five sites, some of them fairly remote and requiring a fair amount of travel time. He diligently does his quarterly or more frequent visits when needed. He is aware that having a "partner" on these remote visits is important, and is quick to volunteer to return the favor to another Site Steward visiting their sites. In addition to being a serious SS, (over 550 acknowledged volunteer hours), Bill is interested in geo-caching and has notified the appropriate Regional Coordinator when a "cache" might be too close to a sensitive archeological site. In his spare time, Bill also volunteers with the Yavapai County Search and Rescue Team. We know that Bill likes Yavapai County and we intend to keep him here!

Judy Stoycheff, Assistant Regional Coordinator, Region 22

REGIONAL NEWS

Region 14 Payson

On October 25, 2008, 6 site stewards from the Payson Region took a road trip to the Mogollon Rim. A greatly missed site steward, David Ricker, who died in 2007, had previously been assigned to monitor these cabins as historical sites. Our mission... to locate the cabins and assess their current status, so that they could be re-assigned to other stewards in the Payson Region.

The cabins (Pinchot, General Springs, Buck Springs, and the foundation of the Holder cabin) were located. According to The Trail Guide to Northern Arizona, by Bruce Grubbs, the Pinchot cabin is named for Gifford Pinchot, the first chief of the Forest Service. It was used for many years as a guard station. These cabins, along with the Aspen Springs cabin we did not visit, are all located on the Cabin Loop trail system, which includes the U-Bar, Fred Haught, Houston Brothers and Barbershop Trails, along with part of the newly formed Arizona Trail. This trail system provided early routes for transportation and communications on the Mogollon Rim.

We also had some heated debates about the best ways to find these cabins. GPS coordinates, the Coconino Forest map and the author's directions from the book noted above were each touted as the best way to locate the cabins. We also ate our share of dust. As we did not hike the Cabin loop, the +50 miles of dirt road travel, after weeks of little precipitation, left its remnants on our lungs and vehicles. The dust remains in my truck bed, as a reminder of our adventures.

These sites are accessed off of the 300 Rim Road and other Coconino forest roads. They are not accessible during most winter months.

Photo taken 10/25/08 by David Shank

Region 37 Lake Havasu

The Lake Havasu region kicked off the fall season with a meeting at the Lake Havasu Museum of History on Nov 25th. As stewards return from the north country, they are jumping right into their site visits. We all enjoy being in the great outdoors during these cooler winter days. Our next meeting is scheduled at the BLM field office on Jan. 29'th. This will be a 1/2 day training session with Kristen and our local archeologist. Some of our stewards are also going to participate in training for the historic cemetery project.

***Jenny Anderson*, Regional Coordinator**

Region 20 Arizona Strip

Our annual Appreciation Pot Luck in November was well-attended by site stewards, both new and experienced, and dedicated BLM'ers. We appreciated Kristen making the long trek to St. George to be there. The presentation "Secrets of Caves on the Arizona Strip" by archaeologists David VanAlfen and John Herron and caver Kyle Voyles was excellent.

Muddy, snowy, icy, and generally soggy roads have halted most site stewarding efforts recently. Intentions are good, but Mother Nature is winning right now. We have an indoor ceramics workshop scheduled for February, and hopefully spring will arrive shortly thereafter.

***Lesley & Roger McPeek*, Regional Coordinators**

Region 1A Yuma

It has been awhile since I have submitted an article for the Yuma Region1A, but I have made a New Year's resolution to do a better job this year and keep everyone updated on the hard work of our dedicated site stewards in this region. First, I would like to welcome four new stewards to our region, Melissa and Eddie M, Dan A., and Stephanie M. These new stewards are a welcome addition to our region and have already shown their dedication and hard work ethic. This time of year brings many visitors to the Yuma area to enjoy our beautiful weather. Many of these visitors like to also enjoy our beautiful deserts, but are unaware of the impacts they can have on sites within our region. In addition, the Yuma area has seen a rapid increase in year round population which also adds to the amount of people enjoying the outdoors year round. Our site stewards work
tirelessly throughout the year, but especially during the winter months to monitor sites. Each year we experience a dramatic increase in the amount of damage done to our local cultural resources. Without the dedication of our site stewards many of our sites would go unprotected. I want to personally thank these stewards for their hard work.

***Jill McCormick*, Regional Coordinator**

Region 16 Northeastern Arizona

On October 25, 2008 Site Stewards from Region 16, Region 19, the Homol'ovi AAS Chapter and Dr. Michael Lawson's Southwest Archaeology class, from Northland Pioneer College, joined together for an enjoyable and informative tour of the "Steps" petroglyphs in Chevelon Canyon, (also called Rock Art Ranch) and a trip to nearby Chevelon Ruin.

The "Steps" petroglyphs are located on private property and access to them is strictly controlled. The owner charges an entrance fee and arrangements must be made to meet a guide to gain access to the canyon. Our group was fortunate to have Darlene Brinkerhoff as our guide. Darlene is an active Site Steward and was a member of the group that recorded these incredible petroglyphs over a period of 6 years. Everyone appreciated her knowledge and understanding of the site.

After touring the petroglyphs and taking many pictures we enjoyed a "bring your own lunch" at the private picnic area overlooking the canyon, and then departed for the short trip to Chevelon Ruin.

Chevelon was a large 500 room Pueblo, occupied from AD 1280-1380. The ruin is located on a butte overlooking Chevelon Creek near. St. Joseph, AZ. Extensive excavation was done at this site from 2002-2006 by a team lead by Dr. Chuck Adams and Dr. Rich Lange. The project was a part of the Arizona State Museum's Homol'ovi Research Program. The pueblo has been back-filled but outlines of the major areas are visible and an interesting variety of potsherds and lithics are scattered over the site. Tiny burned corncobs visible on the surface emphasized that portions of the pueblo had probably been intentionally burned before being abandoned. Dr. Lawson discussed the significance of this site in relationship to sites, in and around, Homol'ovi State Park and pointed out that 10 times more white mountain red ware was found in the Chevelon excavations than found at other near-by sites, indicating that Chevelon had a strong trade relationship with the pueblos some 50 miles to the south near Show Low.

In the future, Region 16, Region 19, Dr. Lawson's Classes, and the Homol'ovi AAS Chapter will be cooperating to plan combined activities to benefit our mutual knowledge and understanding of archaeology and anthropology.

***Jo Ann Weldon*--Regional Coordinator**

Region 9H Hassayampa

We would like to welcome two new site stewards to the Hassayampa Region. Jim M. and Bernadine M. recently completed their training. We are happy to have them join us. The Hassayampa and the Salt River Regions got together for two field trips this quarter, The trip in October took us to Pueblo Grande Museum where Sandy H and David M. gave us a great tour of the museum, platform mound, pithouse, and the Native American garden. We also hiked out to the Park of the Four Waters to view the ancient canals.

In November our two regions went to a pre-historic as well as a historic site in the Aguila area. The Site Stewards had a chance to see evidence of prior vandalism in the form of digging, damaged historic stone cabins and a badly damaged pictograph.

Besides being able to enjoy these events, the field trips are also educational in nature so that we can continue to learn about the different cultures. It also gave us the chance to talk to other site stewards and discuss their experience s and challenges they find in monitoring their sites.

***Shelley Rasmussen,* Regional Coordinator**

Region 1 Yuma BLM

The Yuma Region would like to welcome two new stewards to the program. Mary Bell and Theresa Herrick both completed their training in December and will soon start monitoring their sites.

Overall the winter has been relatively quiet and uneventful. Many site stewards have been stepping up and taking on tasks above basic site monitoring. At one of our intaglio sites, an ATV decided to drive over a t-post and barbed wire fence. Luckily, the site wasn't damaged, and two diligent stewards, Diane and Charlie Stewart, volunteered to repair the fence. They also discovered some recent minor vandalism at a popular petroglyph site. Another steward, Thom Engel, repaired a fence at another intaglio site.

A few stewards attended a lecture given by archaeologist Allen Dart at Arizona Western College. Mr. Dart gave a succinct overview of changes in Hohokam material culture over time, and brought in select artifacts for viewing.

Thank you to all the Yuma stewards that have been willing to take on monitoring additional sites. Keep up the great work!

***Tara Hoffmann*, Regional Coordinator**

Region 9P Salt River

Welcome to all the new and not so new Site Stewards. I personally want to thank Kathryn Frey our newest steward. Kathryn belongs to the Salt River Area but would like to spread her wings to sites outside of the Salt River area, also.

Many of us have a passion for Arizona and rightfully so. Here in Arizona we have both men and woman who love being part of preserving the remains of the ancient as well as the historic place no matter how big or small. Site Stewards all have our own unique places to monitor. Many Stewards know their site better than anyone. Our Phoenix Area is filled with sites to monitor. Graffiti continues to be a major issue within the city.

This year we were able to have two Site Steward group tours. In November, we all gathered at the Pueblo Grande Museum where we were given a spectacular tour. We were also given a special tour by Dave Morris and Sandy Haddock to the Park of Four Waters located just beyond the canal at Pueblo Grande. In December Shelley Rasmussen conducted a tour of a Historic Site beyond Wickenburg. We saw a Pictograph as well an old sheep camp.

***Rose Werner,* Regional Coordinator**

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Thanks to our wonderful contributors for their generous support of the Arizona Site Steward Program's fiscal year 2008-2009 budget:

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