

The Watch

Saving Our Sites Preserving Our Past

Summer 2012

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Please encourage your friends to fill out an on-line application today for the fall Site Steward trainings.

Letter from the SHPO: ARCHAEOLOGICAL DESTINATIONS

The Governor's Archaeological Advisory Commission (GAAC) has been compiling a list of archaeological and historic sites that can be visited by the general public and the list will soon be on the SHPO web site. It is a great thing to have an updated list but it is equally necessary to challenge the managers of these properties to engage the public through interpretive programs and exhibits. Nothing is more disappointing than traveling to a remote place and finding almost no information about the site once you're there.

Strong interpretive programs are rare at public archaeological sites and most visitors rarely investigate background material before they make their visit, preferring to return home and then look up information on-line. We all have heard of the economic benefits of "cultural heritage tourism," but how do we make these destinations exciting to the twenty-first century visitor?

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Crime Scene Management Workshop

The Maricopa regions are sponsoring a crime scene workshop on Saturday, October 27th from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm at Skyline Regional Park west of Phoenix. Gary Cantley from BIA will be teaching the workshop that will include several crime scenes that you will interpret. Lunch will be served. Bring your dig kit if you have one, good boots and plenty of water. RSVP kmclean@azstateparks.gov if you wish to attend by October 1st. Look forward to seeing you there.

REMINISCENCES:

How We Got Our Stars

One of the most difficult duties a volunteer coordinator has is to find ways to thank the volunteers for all their hard work. Small budgets make it difficult to reward our volunteers at the level they deserve.

The most common form of volunteer recognition is the hours' award. Our program acknowledges hours through the presentation of stars for our name badges. If you have been a steward for more than one year (not counting our last year when the state made it impossible to order badges) you should have a badge shaped like the state of Arizona with a hole in it. When you reach 100 hours you get a bronze star. When you reach 500 hours you get a silver star. When you have volunteered 1,000 hours you get a gold star.

This whole star system began when, in the autumn of 1991, the new state coordinator, Mary Estes, was looking for ways to honor her site stewards.

She started sticking paper metallic stars on the old service reports that were distributed quarterly. The gold stick-on stars stood for 100 hours. Red stars symbolized 300 hours. Silver stars stood for 600 hours and green stars represented 1,000 hours. Looking back, I guess we seem pretty cheap to our volunteers; but everyone's labor was truly treasured.

Many other appreciation programs were tried over the years and included the Mimbres rabbit coupon that stewards could redeem for prizes at the conference. This was the forerunner for the special awards that we hand out at our annual conference. Other stewards donated the prizes at that time.

How many out there actually remember these old systems? Let me know if you still have a rabbit or paper star or remember another way in which we honored stewards in the past.

Hold the Date! Site Steward Conference March 9th & 10th, 2013



Picket Post House

sites, a hands-on GPS/ Geo-caching workshop and a tour of the historic Picket Post House (built by philanthropist and mining engineer, William Boyce Thompson) and much more.

The annual site steward conference will be held March 9th and 10th at Boyce Thompson Arboretum and Apache Gold Resort. We have several enriching sessions planned including a talk on prehistoric medicinal plants, a conversation with the San Carlos Tribal Preservation Officer on recognizing Apache



Bes Ba Gowah



Apache Gold Resort

A free box lunch will be served at the Picket Post House on Saturday at noon and a steak and lobster dinner (or vegetarian option) at our Saturday evening award dinner. We end the conference on Sunday with a 9:00 am tour of Bes Ba Gowah Ruins in Globe. Hope to see you there.

New Site Steward Calendar Photo Contest



We are putting together a 2013 calendar with all the important site steward dates on it. We need 13 pictures; so email your favorite vandalism or archaeological picture into Kristen at kmclean@azstateparks.gov in jpeg file by September fifteenth to be part of the contest. You will receive photo credit. Arizona State Parks reserves the right to use the photo in any media form. Remember if there are visible faces in the picture(s) we must have signed permission from each person to print it. All stewards will receive a calendar.

R C Conference Next Month

Our annual Regional Coordinators conference will be held on September 15th. It will be at the Northern Preserve Park meeting hall from 10:00-2:00. If you cannot make it please try to send a substitute as we have many important items on the agenda. Please RSVP to Kristen.

NPS Contracts Suspended Through December

There has been concern about the cancelling of the national parks service contract. The most effected are the Page, Tucson, and Ajo regions. We are working on the problem and hope to have it resolved by the beginning of November. This is a result of new

internal policies caused by the current administration. The NPS archaeologists want to assure you that they are really happy with all the time and work that the stewards volunteer at their park.

Page Newest Region in Program

We extend a warm welcome to Glen Canyon and the new Page Region. We are starting with twenty new stewards and as many sites. Sean Teeter is the land manager and we have a committee set up to split the RC duties.

PAYSON REGION

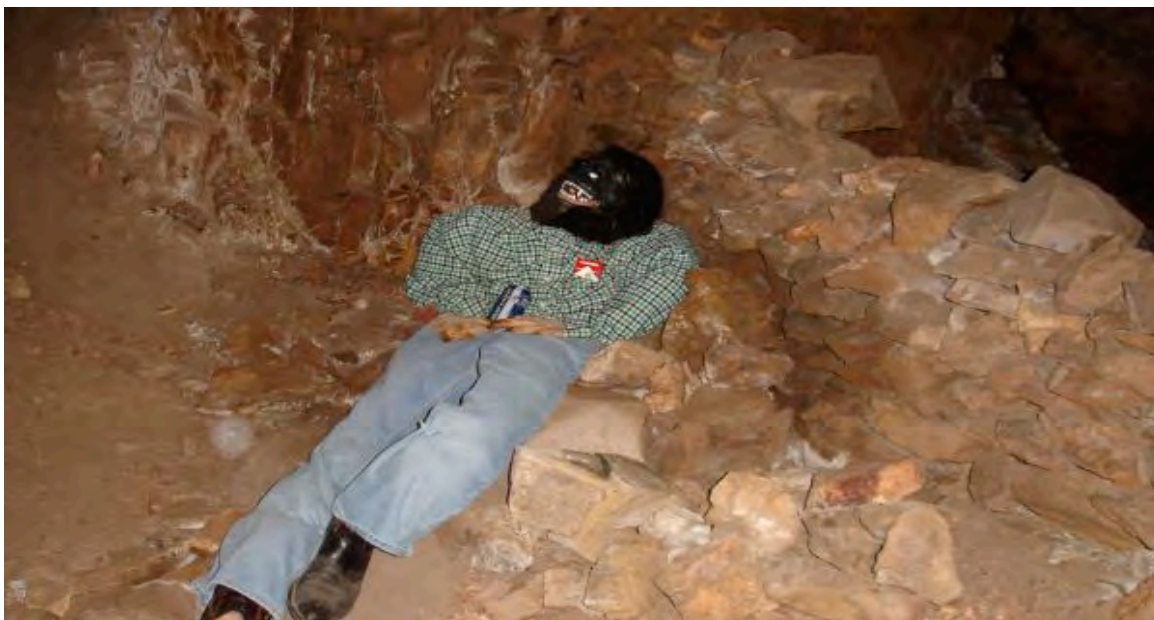
The Payson region has done two group outings. The first, on May 5, was to Sycamore Creek Ruin. Bob and Del W. showed us several additional sites, up the road from Sycamore Creek, and we were able to identify a new site that they had projected with their GPS, on the basis of terrain and location of other sites.

On July 28, 8 stewards joined John Lemon, who agreed to lead the outing and share his Payson Pueblo sites in Round Valley to us. We were able to locate coiled and black and white pottery John had not previously found at Payson Pueblo 106, with many sets of eyes exploring the site.

Our new stewards are having some learning experiences. On an initial outing with mentor Bob W. and Rich N. to Copper Mountain Cave, Mark Boys found a "dead body," with which he initially used his first aid assessment skills to determine need for assistance. It appears that there have been some interesting extra-curricular visits to the site, since Bob and Del W. were last there. Bright lights were brought, which led to this discovery, deeper within the cave than had been previously explored.

We hope to have another group outing in the Roosevelt or Young area in late October or early November.

Chris Tetzloff, RC Region 14



The "Dead Body" found at Copper Mountain Cave. Photo by Marc B.

Hassayampa Region

We would like to welcome to the Hassayampa Region Mike F. and Cheryl R., who recently completed their site steward training. They found the site steward program when Mike, who delivers propane, spotted the I BRAKE FOR PETROGLYPHS bumper sticker on Trudy's car. The rest is history.

In May one of the region's hilltop sites was badly vandalized. Three site stewards from Payson region discovered several deep holes that had been dug by someone obviously looking for artifacts. The BLM law enforcement was called in and the crime scene was studied for evidence of which there was plenty. The investigation is ongoing. There have been more site stewards assigned to the site.

Our recent monsoon storms have wreaked havoc on several sites, a historic ranch had roof damage, broken tree limbs and a lot of water running through the property. Other sites were badly flooded, fences down and roads impassable. Hopefully, the next storms will be less intense.

Shelly Rasmussen, RC Region 9H

Northeastern/Homolovi Regions

Spring and summer have been busy and interesting for our regions. In late March, the archaeologist for Lakeside District in the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest requested assistance for a long-term project to determine the characteristics of two sites that had been identified as probable agriculture areas used by the ancient peoples. The first step in this process was preparing the probes. Early in April several site stewards assisted archaeologist, Sandra Coombs, in assembling the electronic probes that would be used to measure the moisture content of the soil and the ambient air temperature. During the last week of April site stewards helped with the installation of the first set of probes on the northeastern slope of a high altitude area dotted with ancient field houses. On May 17th stewards again participated in installing a second set at a different site, located at a lower elevation. These probes are programmed to record the data once every minute for a year or more. Cont. page 7

Northeastern/Homolovi Regions

Analysis of this data will give insight into the viability of agriculture at these sites.

In addition, for over a year now, our site stewards have been working with the archaeologist to record two newly identified sites. On June 30th, with the help of Site Stewards Pam and Dodie, the last of the necessary mapping was completed. All of the forms required to obtain an ASM number will be submitted, allowing these two sites to be added to our regions inventory in the near future.

Heavy monsoon rains and muddy roads have made it challenging to get to all our sites.

Jo Ann Weldon, RC, Regions 16/19
Sheri Anderson, Assistant RC



Archaeologist Sandra Coams (in brown) and Regions 16/19 installation crew with cool looking probe.

Continued from page 1

When it comes to historic and archaeological resources one particular group is often overlooked, the traveling family. The PGAV Destinations group out of St. Louis has recently completed a study called “The Art of the Family Vacation.” One of their findings was that although only one-third of the US population is connected to a family they make up one-half of all visits to attractions; therefore

the visiting family should not to be overlooked.



Tom Sawyer Day: Arizona State Parks interpretation of “the art of the family vacation” for historic sites.

What are families looking for on their family vacation? The top ten list includes: Togetherness, Fun, Variety, Uniqueness, Learning something new, Seeing animals, Seeing new rides or exhibits, Being in a new location, Getting a discount coupon

and/or Attending a special event. Certainly, historic and archaeological properties can rarely fulfill all ten of these expectations but the managers of these sites need to actively plan programs, exhibits and events that specifically address the needs of the family.

Once the family is at the attraction what motivates families and what happens to determine if they will leave happy and hopefully return again in the future. Expectations include, thrills, interactivity, technology, authenticity, dining and shopping, Again the managers of these properties need to think about the nature of the family visit and the expectations of the visitor not just the nature of the place.

One of the conclusions in Freeman Tilden’s classic book entitled *Interpreting Our Heritage* is to “make places come alive.” The application of modern technology and interactive exhibits are necessary today in order to engage the next generation to champion the preservation of our historical places. Engaging the family visitor is key.

Jim Garrison, SHPO

Agua Fria Region

Welcome to the new Site Stewards in the Agua Fria Region. Some of you joined just as hot weather descended upon us. There will be field trips once this weather leaves us...as I write it is 114 degrees today. Many thanks to JJ, Trudy and Ron who took several new Site Stewards into the field while I've been recuperating from knee surgery. They have been extremely helpful. There is cross over with Stewards from other Regions monitoring sites in the AF Region. Thanks to you all, for the more Stewards monitoring sites, the better.

Our Region has sustained some vandalism on the north part of the Agua Fria National Monument. It never ends, unfortunately. There are many sites that need monitoring, though our presence has made a noticeable difference. Why don't you email me with a preference of field trip ... I'll tally the responses and we can go from there. I'm sure everyone is ready for hiking.

Don't forget the Crime Scene Workshop and RSVP to Kristen. Hope to see you all there, for its good information given by a great instructor.

Lila Elam, RC Region 9S

Central & Salt River Regions

We have a busy autumn planned. We will be having a new volunteer training on September 29th & 30th. If you know of anyone who wants to attend please have them send in their application soon. October 27th we will host a crime scene management workshop presented by Gary Cantley. Things have been fairly slow otherwise in this part of the state. Vandals and stewards alike hate the 110-degree heat. We are also working with some of the other Maricopa regions on a petroglyph project in the fall.

Kristen McLean & Greg Davies RC 9A & 9P

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Ann Howard, Asst. SHPO/Archaeologist

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Watch Newsletter

The Arizona Watch is published four times per year: Winter, Spring, Summer and Fall by the Arizona State Parks, /State Historic Preservation Office. Please submit articles via email to kmclean@azstateparks.gov or mail to 1300 W. Washington, Phoenix, and AZ. 85007.

PARTNERS' CIRCLE



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Malcolm McGregor

Robert McLean

Shelly Rasmussen

JoAnn Weldon

**and all our Land Managers
who donated money this previous year**