



### *Simple Solutions rarely solve Complex Problems*

Over the last few months I've had the opportunity to visit Arizona's border with Mexico in several locations, at Lukeville and the Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument, at Nogales, at Naco and at the San Bernardino Ranch in the very southeastern corner of the state. The idea that a fence (real or virtual) can solve our terrorist threat, our drug problem and our immigration crisis seems to me to be wishful thinking. While at the same time the unexpected consequences of building the fence on the cultural resources along the border is barely a blip on the radar screen compared with these substantive issues.

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## Simple Solutions/Complex Problems, cont

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This document is available in alternative formats by contacting Arizona State Parks ADA Coordinator at (602) 364-0632.

#### **Watch Newsletter**

The Arizona Watch is published four times per year: Winter (January), Spring (March), Summer (July) and Fall (October) by Arizona State Parks. Please submit articles via email to [sitestewards@azstateparks.gov](mailto:sitestewards@azstateparks.gov) or mail to 1300 W. Washington, Phoenix, AZ. 85007 .

The desire for a continuous fence appears to go back at least to the Pancho Villa era and was one of the tasks assigned to the Buffalo Soldiers at Camp Naco. The recent attempts to upgrade the earlier fence or install new fencing has made everyone aware that the construction of the fence comes with many other related environmental impacts. To construct the fence you need access that leads to road construction that leads to regrading of the natural topography and providing staging areas. Controlling people and cars crossing the border also affects the ability for animals to cross the border. Clearing and grading the 60-foot wide border easement impacts everything along this alignment. Rerouting of crossing routes affects previously pristine areas. Blocking of watercourses increases the potential for flooding that can cause damage to archaeological sites. Some archaeological sites straddle the border. Some areas along the border haven't even yet been surveyed for sites.

The National Park Service staff of the Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument faces vandalism of historic ranching-related adobe buildings for salvage of the very metal security doors and window grills installed to protect the resource. The Coronado National Forest finds archaeological contractors on Forest Service land but cannot talk to them due to the policies of the "Virtual Fence" contractor, Boeing. The City of Nogales, Sonora has 6 feet of flooding because the Border Patrol has blocked the underground flood channel to prevent human smuggling.

## Simple Solutions/Complex Problems, cont

A unique Mormon house, part of the San Bernardino Ranch National Historic Landmark, whose foundation straddles the border, had to be hastily excavated in order to allow the construction of a vehicle barrier. All the federal agencies have also face the threat of exemption by Homeland Security from compliance with most federal environmental laws because Secretary Chertoff signed a waiver on April 1, 2008. Thankfully Homeland Security has still tried to let environmental issues be addressed.

From the initial list of issues and agencies listed above, let alone tribal and state agency issues, you can quickly see how the simple idea of building a fence can become complex and complicated. The Governor's Archaeological Advisory Commission is currently studying the boarder issue. If you have information on agencies doing the right thing or doing the wrong thing let us know. Hopefully, our desire for safety and protection does not lead to the unintentional destruction of the nation's patrimony in the process.

*~ Jim Garrison, SHPO*



Site Stewards having a good time at Kartchner Caverns State Park.

## Announcements

Farewell to three regional coordinators. Tara Hoffman down at Yuma BLM is heading up to Flagstaff to work on her archaeology degree. Good luck Tara and maybe we will see you at some of the sites in Region 18.

Larry Tice from Central 9A has also resigned as Regional Coordinator but will remain on as a site steward. If you know of anyone in these regions who want to be a RC let me know.

Finally, Steve Jones, a Homolovi Park Ranger, has joined the National Guard. We wish him the best of luck and hope he remains safe.

In the meanwhile, Jo Ann Weldon will once again do dual duty for Northeast Region and Homolovi until a new RC can be found.

## **THE GOLDEN EYE AWARD**

Rose Werner from the Salt River district nominated Nell A Teter and Doug Gregory for the Golden Eye Award this quarter. Nell and Doug have been watching a Maricopa County Park site several times a week. They quietly hid in a place and patiently watched. The result was a good pay off. A gang was caught vandalizing a site. When you see Nell and Doug they are always smiling. They never complain. They fix what they can when needed. They are champions of preservation and they love a challenge. Congratulations Nell and Doug!

# ARIZONA SITE STEWARD PROGRAM CELEBRATES OUTSTANDING VOLUNTEERISM

Despite the difficulties of the Arizona State budget, over 200 people gathered at Kartchner Caverns State Park on Friday, March 20<sup>th</sup> to celebrate the spirit of volunteerism that is vital to the park system, and to public lands as a whole.

With the generous support of the Arizona State Parks Foundation, many individual donations of money, raffle prizes and silent auction items, Arizona State Parks was still able to recognize outstanding volunteerism found throughout our system. The gathered volunteers were able to enjoy presentations by Dr. Robert Casavant, Arizona State Parks Science Manager, Jack and Anna Childs, researchers and authors of *Ambushed on the Jaguar Trail: Hidden Cameras on the Mexican Border*, several discussion topics lead by Joanne Roberts, Arizona State Parks Ecologist, Brad Geeck, Arizona State Land Department, Cristie Statler, Arizona State Parks Assistant Director, Outreach, Jim Garrison, State Historic Preservation Officer and Carol Griffith, Deputy State Historic Preservation Officer. All volunteers were also able to experience one of our majestic cave tours. During lunch, the following volunteers were recognized for their outstanding contributions to the Arizona Site Steward Program:

***Land Manager of the Year:*** Bryan Lausten, Bureau of Reclamation

***Regional Coordinator of the Year:*** Jo Ann Weldon,

***Asst. Regional Coordinator of the year:*** Valerie Davison, Tucson Region

***Regional Support Steward of the Year:*** Ruth Williams, Phoenix Office

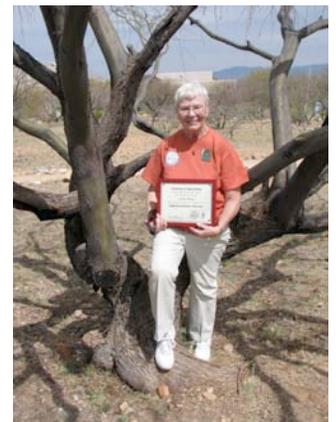
***Outstanding Site Steward of the Year:*** Mike Baxter, Central region

***Outstanding New Site Steward of the Year:*** Mike Foley, Tucson

***Lifetime Achievement Award:*** Shelley Rasmussen

***Appreciation Award:*** Darryl Montgomery, Yuma Region  
Alice Van Lunen, Northeastern Region  
Richard Logsdon, Arizona Strip  
Christine Tetzloff, Payson region

***Angel Award:*** John Schuering, Tucson Region



***Jo Ann Weldon***  
Regional Coordinator of  
the Year



***Ruth Williams,***  
Support Steward  
of the Year



***Alice Van Lunen***, Appreciation Award and ***Valerie Davison***, Assistant Regional Coordinator of the Year



***Shelley Rasmussen***, Lifetime Achievement Award Winner

Change. In some it inspires optimism; in others it instills apprehension. No matter how you react to it, change means that the familiar and habitual way of going about what we do will probably be different; not necessarily bad, just different.

The Arizona Site Steward Program has most certainly experienced its share of change over the last 18 months; some good, some not so good. It has tested the patience and goodwill of many, including me. Glass Half Full Perspective: We have learned something at each bend in the road. As a close friend regularly reminds me, “No experience is wasted!”

The Site Steward Program, once again, stands at a fork in the road. Though you, as the steadfast and dedicated stewards of Arizona’s cultural assets continue to monitor sites, work with your Land Managers and submit reports, the program is without focused leadership.

As you may be aware, meetings with ASSP Program Partners have been conducted in an attempt to find a new home for the program and a program coordinator. Unfortunately, many of our partnering agencies are in the same fiscally sinking boat alongside Arizona State Parks. Extremely limited resources in Federal, State and local budgets have severely impacted our ability to uncover a solution to these problems. However, we here at Arizona State Parks are dedicated to resolving the issue, with faith that the result will lead us to an even stronger and more effective Arizona Site Stewards Program.

Be of good heart! All who know of your work and its relevance to the preservation of our history and culture appreciate you and are grateful for your continued perseverance in the face of change.

*Cristie M. Statler*  
Assistant Director, Outreach  
Arizona State Parks

# REGIONAL NEWS



## Region 23 Ajo

The Ajo Region is winding down their efforts for this season as most of our stewards are winter visitors. As usual our primary task was to monitor sites for Cabeza Prieta National Wildlife Refuge, Organ Pipe Cactus National Monument, the Bureau of Land management and the Barry M. Golwater Range. We also undertook several projects for each of the land managers. This includes a survey of a high impact area between Ajo and Why for the Bureau of Land Management, recording the imperiled pictographs at Wild Horse Tank for Organ Pipe, survey and recording impacted sites on the gunnery range and survey at the mouth of Charlie Bell Canyon and the south end of the Sierra Pinta Mountains for the wildlife refuge. The later are areas that have never been investigated for archaeological remains, but are being heavily impacted by illegal immigrants, drug smugglers and the Border Patrol. Indeed, it was a busy year!

**Rick & Sandy Martynec, Regional Coordinators**



## Region 9P Salt River

Not everything in the Phoenix Salt River Valley has gone so well. We have had more than our share of troubles with graffiti and damage. Our City Sites need monitoring all the time. We have a gang that hangs out at one of the city sites. Using helicopter surveillance, Shelly Mac Donald and Beth Venturo, found much paint damage from various gangs. We have not been able to catch any of them. However, at another site, Nell A Teter and Doug Gregory, along with the rangers, have caught a group of people doing damage. These people have been fined and all their license plates are on record. Our Shaw Butte Fort has also made the list since Greg Pentowski found marijuana there. Recently, I was informed by Donna Thrasher, who monitors one of the cemetery's, that the gravestones are breaking and are falling over or cracked.

On a positive note, Kathy McKee will be helping me log activity reports. Chris Reed has volunteered to help in the Maricopa Park with things other than monitoring the sites. Lastly, thank you to all my new stewards: Bill Wild, Jason Rushmeyer, Donald Sleight, Pam Kunkel, Joanne Brookshire, Marina Novaes, Katherine Frey, I apologize for leaving off names if I have done so. With my medical issues I am only now just getting back into getting you back out to your site.

We have continued our year with great outings to see wonderful sites in and out of town. Lori Greenstein is to be thanked for making all the flyers that advertise the hikes we do. She also has put on the Photo Contests, paying for everything without asking for anything in return. Shelley Rasmussen, Hal Stahl and Ann McDermott have all led one of our wonderful hikes. Besides seeing the petroglyphs and ruins we saw very unusual birds and wild flowers blooming!

**Rose Werner, Regional Coordinator**



## **Region 37 Lake Havasu**

Several of the site stewards in the Lake Havasu Region have been working on documenting historic cemeteries in Mohave and La Paz counties. Thus far we have documented Hackberry, Hi Jolly (Quartzsite), Erhenberg, Culling's Well, Swansea, and Yucca. Each of these sites is unique, and has brought greater awareness of our history to the volunteers. We enjoy working on this project, and realize that these cemetery sites need to be protected, too!

***Jenny Anderson, Regional Coordinator***



## **Region 18 Flagstaff**

There continues to be a small but active group of Arizona Site stewards in the Flagstaff Region devoted to monitoring sites in the Coconino National Forest. Joe and Nancy Jordan monitor a number of sites with their passion being Historic Sites such as cabins and homesteads from the time that Flagstaff was first settled. Bern Carey, with help from Rich Rogers and Christine Stephenson, completed a significant site relocation project for the Coconino National Forest. A water distribution system was constructed in 1979 over 25 miles of the forest to support grazing leases. Sites near the pipelines had not been monitored since that time. Over 60 sites near the water pipelines and tanks were relocated and monitored to assess whether they had been impacted by the water system. All of those sites are in good condition and the Forest Service now has accurate coordinates for each site. Carol Thompson joined our group and is monitoring a large Sinagua Pueblo III site near Flagstaff. Christine Stephenson continues to organize group activities.

***Bern Carey, Regional Coordinator***



## **Region 6 Tucson**

At our annual regional celebration we were honored to have two of our own hard working Site Stewards present their outstanding project. Cherie Freeman and Valerie Davison made public their unique study of the historic railroad culverts in Cieniga Preserve. Their work will be recorded and provide information for future generations to look back at a time long past. We also celebrated the state award winners: Valerie Davison, assistant regional coordinator of the year, Mike Foley Outstanding New Steward, and John Schuering Site Steward Angel Award.

Site Steward Cherie Freeman, area coordinator, and the Center for Desert Archaeology sponsored a party at the AZ State Museum for local Site Stewards. Doug Gann PhD of The Center for Desert Archaeology presented "Virtual Technologies in Archaeology" and ASM's Pottery Vault. We were also invited to view the current exhibits at the museum. Many thanks to these sponsors for a chance to get in on the leading edge of what's happening. The treats afterwards were delicious.

***Robin Rutherford and Malcolm McGregor. Co- Regional Coordinators***



## **Region 16 Northeastern Arizona**

Region 16 wants to thank State Parks and the State Parks Foundation for rescuing our state meeting. Kartchner was absolutely incredible and the volunteers and staff did a fabulous job of hosting this event. THANK YOU!

Our site acquisition team has been working with archaeologist Pete Taylor of the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest to acquire new sites. On April 7th they evaluated a large petroglyphs site that will be entered into our inventory along with several others. Site kits for four new sites are being prepared by Mr. Taylor and will be submitted soon.

*Jo Ann Weldon, Regional Coordinator*



## **Region 1 Yuma BLM**

The Yuma BLM Region has experienced one of its busiest winter seasons, both in recruitment of new site stewards, and in field trip opportunities. We would like to welcome Howard A., Bob M., Helen and Happy G., Nancy and Dalton L., and Maynard K. to the program. This group of stewards is already monitoring many sites, and unfortunately finding vandalism at some of our historic mining cabins. But thanks to their diligence in documenting the vandalism and informing the BLM, these sites will be better protected in the future.

On February 7, 2009, sixteen adventuresome site stewards turned out for a field trip to the Sears Point Petroglyphs site. The trip was led by Regional Coordinator (and BLM Archaeology Technician) Tara Hoffmann to familiarize the stewards with the thousands of Hohokam and Patayan petroglyphs at the site. Luckily, we were able to see the highlights of the site before it began to rain. A big thank you goes out to Hunter, who made miniature wood carvings of a double coyote petroglyph for those stewards who attended the field trip.

In March, another group of ten Yuma site stewards assisted in a paleontology survey led by Arizona Western College Professor Fred Croxen. To make up for the lack of fossils that we found on the survey, Fred took us to see a mammoth skull that will hopefully one day be excavated from its resting place.

It is with a mixture of excitement and sorrow that I announce I will be resigning my post as the Regional Coordinator. The excitement is that I will be going to grad school at NAU in the fall to pursue a Masters degree in Anthropology. The sorrow comes in leaving the many friends I have made in the site steward program over the past two and a half years; I will miss being able to work with all of you. Although the program is going through some lean times, I know that the enthusiasm and dedication of the site stewards will carry the program through to its next chapter. I wish you all the best.

*Tara Hoffmann, Regional Coordinator*

# **PARTNERS' CIRCLE**

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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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