

# Site Stewards 2017

## Site Steward Brag List – What a year it has been! Look what *YOU* did!

- 11 new stewards trained; total of 23 stewards
- Total 2,500 of steward hours; total 16,681 of steward miles
- 9 sites monitored; 22 separate sites visits were conducted
- 291 steward training hours plus 413 hours at seminars, conferences, public courses
- 2 conferences: Colorado Archaeological Society Annual Meeting in Denver and Archaeological Society of New Mexico Annual Meeting in Moriarty, New Mexico
- 322 lab hours; majority of accession and data entry completed; Berta created a new, easier to use catalog format

**Thank you for all the time you have given and all that you have accomplished!!**

### Site Visits and New Discoveries:

#### Buffalo Peaks Ranch (Land Library)

- 6/30/2017 - Recorded a white chert broken point and a gray chalcedony spokeshave that were found during the site steward training on 6/11/17. Also found and recorded 3 new artifacts: a yellow chert biface, a gray chert broken point, and a white chalcedony broken point.
- 8/7/2017
- 9/1/2017 - Glass spokeshave from the 1800's

#### Chick Site

- 6/29/2017 - Biface, obsidian flake, scraper. GPS coordinates and photos taken.
- 10/1/2017 - Possible uncore of basalt

#### Cline Ranch

- 6/27/2017 - Possible animal burrow under Structure 1 and vandalism on front door sign  
Structure 1
- 8/16/2017

#### Magnolia Mill

- 7/4/2017
- 7/31/2017

- 8/15/2017
- 8/29/2017
- 11/27/2017

#### Mosquito Pass

- 9/16/2017

#### Rye Arc Cairn

- 6/28/2017 - Projectile Point South of Arc 1, flakes and debitage found east of Arc 1.

#### Salt Works Ranch

- 6/30/2017 - Keith Wells showed us an area on State land containing large boulder & lithics
- 8/30/2017 - Hunting blind within Feature 2 boundaries. Stewards hiked to an area pointed out by Keith Wells on Colorado State land and discovered tools, projectile points and light-to-dense lithic scatters (Site center at 13 S 419149 4311734). From Keith's sites we hiked up a nearby hill and discovered dense concentrations of petrified wood, chert nodules, and a variety of lithics (Hill top at 13 S 419401 4311966)
- 9/26/2017 - Sparse, but continuous, lithic concentrations are found on NW hillside (see past visits).

#### Three-Mile Gulch

- 7/22/2017 - Ron found a bi-face off site, CPT on quarry site recorded
- 8/28/2017

#### Willow Creek

- 7/20/2017 - 4 new artifacts: Complete tip Chalcedony - broken distal end / Red Chert biface scraper/ Red Chert Biface Broken / Yellow chert Projectile Point possible Late Archaic
- 8/22/2017
- 9/26/2017 - Scraper with graver point. This artifact was found during the previous visit to Willow Creek (August 22nd), when we were there with Julie Bell's crew

### **Administrative Accomplishments**

*Administration sounds a little boring but without this "behind the scenes" work all of what you accomplished may not have happened. **So thanks to Beth and Linda for all their work!!***



- Developed and implemented new leadership roles
- Created a new logo and business card reflecting the organizational identity based on the natural and cultural resources found in the South Park area
- Revamped the SPSS Site Steward Manual and associated Site Visit Forms to align with the latest archaeological standards, stewardship protocols, and the needs of Site Stewards out in the field
- Developed an SPSS Liability Waiver Form
- Developed an electronic stewardship application

- Developed two online reporting systems to more accurately and easily track and report steward activities and site visits results
- Revamped and upgraded the SPSS's Dropbox document storage system
- Enhanced and added security to the SPSS website
- Conducted strategic planning sessions for 2018, including hosting a PAAC class in South Park with Chris Johnston, Assistant State Archaeologist

## **Community Outreach**

3 private site visits

- Mountain Area Land Trust Site Visit – Reconnaissance training with Susan Bender on a property managed by MALT off the Elkhorn Road. Some lithics were identified.
- Bristlecone View Ranch – identified features/artifacts at a private land-owner's request
- Beaver Ponds Environmental Education Center – hike to identify any features; CMTs and USFS carved boundary marker trees found

Presentations

- County wide presentation on the Prehistoric Archaeology of South Park by Michael Troyer, BLM archaeologist; 40 attendees.
- Summit County Historical Society presentation on Archaeology of South Park by Susan Bender
- Boys and Girls Club 2-day educational event by Kathy Reeves and Mary Stenulson including artifact interpretation and importance of context, tipis, food, cultural games.

Partners & Preservation

- At the South Park National Heritage Area's request, a letter of support and recommendation for the Cline Ranch was written by Linda Carr to the Endangered Places Program Director for the Cline Ranch. The nomination has been accepted and the Ranch can now qualify for federal funds to preserve and protect the property.

## **Training**

- SPSS Stewardship Training at Beaver Ponds: 3 days including instructional presentations by Beth (Site Steward ) Foundation; Linda (on-line system); Chris Johnston (Assistant State Archaeologist); and Ben Perlmutter (Archaeologist). The training also included field trips to Buffalo Peaks Ranch, Willow Creek and Salt Works Ranch.
- Field GPS training given by Michael Troyer at a location between Hartsel and Guffey
- Field reconnaissance training given by Susan Bender on private property (MALT stewarded site)

## **PAAC classes, conferences, other trainings:**

- PAAC – Colorado Archaeology (Carrs and Ambroses) which covered the major periods and cultures of Colorado's prehistory, concluding with a brief summary of historic period American Indian groups in Colorado; Lithics (Abeyta's and Beth).

- San Luis Valley survey program co-sponsored by History Colorado and the Paleo Cultural Research Group (Beth- the highlight of her week was finding a Folsom point!)
- New Mexico Site Steward Foundation Annual Conference in Moriarty, NM (Linda & John Carr). The conference included a full day of presentations and a second day of field trips. The Carrs explored the Sevilleta excavation site near Albuquerque.
- Colorado Archaeology Society annual conference in Denver (Linda & John Carr). This conference included a full day of presentations and 2 days of field trips. The Carrs were able to go behind the scenes at History Colorado Museum and view the private Wetherill collections.
- Passport in Time: USFS program to preserve the nation's past with help of the people. Offers volunteers opportunity to participate in 1-2 week programs in a wide variety of archaeological arenas. Ambroses have participated in 4: documenting rock art in Utah, surveying old cabins in New Mexico, searching for prehistoric artifacts in Mississippi, and finding dinosaur bones in South Dakota. [www.passportintime.com](http://www.passportintime.com)

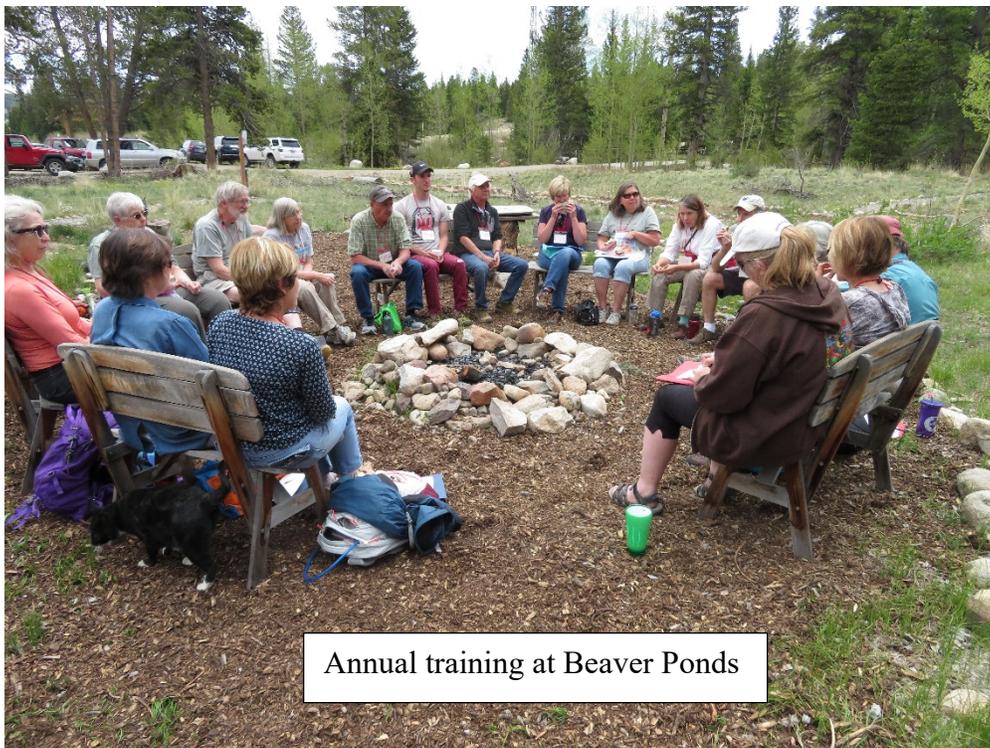
### **New Discoveries/Significant Site Activities & Tales Strange and Otherwise**

- Rye Arc Cairn: site established; movement study initiated; projectile point discovered.
- Salt Works Ranch: old lichen covered hunting blind found in a tree. Look up now and then!
- Willow Creek: worked with USFS to extend site boundaries & update maps/paperwork. Of great value to our relationship with USFS.
- Magnolia Mill: continues to be vandalized; stewards diligent in recording, photographing, reporting damage.
- Mosquito Pass: site visit was attempted but stewards found the road had been illegally blocked by a nearby mine owner. Site visit incomplete.
- Chick Site: met a friendly neighbor (might be helpful in an emergency) who proudly showed us artifacts he had found and regaled us with tales of the UFOs that have visited his property.

## Scenes from the Summer



Establishing the Rye Arc Cairn Site  
with the BLM



Annual training at Beaver Ponds



Sifting for artifacts at Willow Creek with the USFS archaeologists

## Tales from the Summer & Steward Adventures

- In August Beth helped The Site Steward Foundation host the 2017 Pecos Conference. This was a 3-day gathering of over professional and avocational archaeologists set up on Santa Fe National Forest Land. The conference features two days of papers, panels and discussion groups, as well as poster presentations, book sales and souvenirs. A third day is devoted to tours of important archaeological sites, led by archaeologists who are working at that location or are highly knowledgeable about the area.
- Jo went to Peru visiting archaeological sites and museums.
- Jo went to Canyon of the Ancients NM to visit archaeological sites.
- Mitch and Cindy went to Canyon of the Ancients and Hovenweep National Monuments to visit archaeological sites. They acquired a great poster on lithics for the lab.
- Joyce climbed Mt. Kilimanjaro.

What other adventures did any of you have?

## Looking ahead to 2018

What a great year for the South Park Site Stewards and 2018 should hold more great opportunities and adventures!

- A History-Colorado PACC class and a Survey Class are being planned in South Park.
- The lending library will be available.

- Preliminary reconnaissance visits to two new BLM sites was done this summer and the sites will become officially established and stewarded on a regular basis in 2018.
- There may be a formal excavation in South Park conducted during the summer.
- Archaeologically-related social field trips
- A variety of committees are being formed and members will be needed to support SPSS's growing needs and events
- Public presentations. We would like to continue sponsoring our annual community presentation and also participate in the Fall Buckskin Cemetery Moonwalk.

Stay tuned for these and other trainings, conferences, classes and ???

**“ Archaeology is a form of history that seeks to create stories about where, how, and why people lived during the past. The trick is, unlike fictional stories which come from the imagination, archaeological stories have to be grounded in evidence, and in our case the evidence comes from fragments of objects, food stuffs and other natural forensic evidence left in the ground in an archaeological site. Archaeologists study the objects and their relationships to each other within an archaeological site and among other archaeology sites of the same period. Straight out of CSI or Sherlock Holmes. Similar to scientific principles of analyzing the residue left from ancient activity. And the final process of putting together the evidence to create a logical story of what happened at any specific spot on the landscape, at any time period.”**

**NPS Archaeologist, Isle Royale National Park**