Center Adopt-a-Highway Clean Up

The Center has a permit with the Arizona Department of Transportation in the Adopt-a-Highway program to clean a one-mile stretch of Highway 260, east of Camp Verde, across from Verde Lakes and below Clear Creek Ruin. We are required to do a clean up at least twice a year. Our Spring clean up was held on May 7 with Henry Zimmerman, Leigh Wheldon, Marika Vaaranen, JoAnne Schnyder, Bill Kern, George Dvorak, Bob Whiting, Elizabeth Dean, Iris Restivo and Ken Zoll. Our next clean-up will be in the Fall and we will ask for volunteers at that time. Thanks to those who participated this Spring.

College Interns Invade the Center

Perhaps “invade” is a little strong because we are indeed very fortunate to have three college students working and learning with us this summer. On the left is Nora Sullivan, Beloit College (Wisconsin) an Anthropology major who says this has been a “very eye-opening experience to the culture and archaeology of this region.” In the center is Janee Becker, Iowa State University, also an Anthropology major who says she has “learned a lot and gained lots of practical skills.” On the right is Colin Coble, Florida Gulf Coast University, an Anthropology major who found his time at the Center to be “enlightening and helpful towards my career.” Colin was with us from late May through early July. Nora and Janee started in June and will be with us into mid-August.

New Directors and Trustees Elected

A common issues with nonprofit volunteer organizations is director turnover. The Center is no different in that we have lost Kathy Davis, Scott Newth, Renee Bartlett-Webber and Steve Goetting to other obligations. They have been very instrumental in getting the Center off the ground and they leave with our gratitude and best wishes. However, we have been very fortunate to have other members step forward to fill these vacancies. The Board of Directors has elected Kate Compton-Gore, Lee Silver, Kimberly Spurr and John Ward to the Board of Directors. Kate holds an M.A. degree in anthropology from Northern Arizona University. Lee is a retired educator. Kim also holds an M.A. in anthropology and is a Registered Professional Archaeologist. John is co-owner of Trailhead Video with his wife Lisa. They have been recording many of our speakers since the Center began.

The two-year terms of the Board of Trustees expired at the end of 2012. The Board of Directors elected a new slate to the Board of Trustees. Stan Loft and Mary Taylor Huntley were re-elected. New to the Board of Trustees are Herb Henderson, Robert Whiting, Denise Kelly, and Robert Burt.

We welcome these new directors and trustees and wish to thank them in advance for their time and efforts on behalf of the Center.

Research Laboratory Taking Shape

The Center has finished construction of its Research Laboratory and Library in the space previously occupied by the Visitor Center, which has moved to the Historical Society. A Members-Only Grand Opening will be held later this summer.
President’s Report
Dr. James Graceffa

Events and progress are moving quickly at your Center. I will do my best to attempt to bring you up to date. But before I do that, I would again like to thank all our members who have volunteered for various projects.

Many of our members completed the Survey class and have started doing Survey work out on Wingfield Mesa. For those who have not taken the class and would like to participate with survey work, another class will be given in the Fall. Other classes, including Pottery Identification and Archaeoastronomy, will be given again in the Fall. I am also hopeful we will be able to have a rock art recording class for all you rock art enthusiasts.

An increase in the number of Field trips is a possibility if that is what members want. We really need your feedback on what interests you and what the Center can provide for you, our members.

This is the time of year the Center hosts college interns. This year we have 3 hard working and very capable interns. Colin Coble from Florida Gulf Coast University, Nora Sullivan from Beloit College, Wisconsin and Janee Becker from Iowa State University. They have an opportunity to work at the Center learning about prehistoric people of the area. They also participate in projects the Center is involved with and work with the Forest Service and National Park archaeologists to better understand the type of work being done by these federal agencies. Fortunately for them they were able to participate in the excavation in Cornville. This year they will also be able to spend time at the Museum of Northern Arizona assisting with collections.

The Center also completed the first 2013 field excavation school in Colorado and it was well attended. Many were trained and are ready to participate in excavations here in the Verde Valley. Along those lines we recently finished an excavation here in the Verde Valley on Archaeological Conservancy property for APS, as part of a power pole relocation project. Our Director of Archaeology, Dr. Todd Bostwick, put in a lot of work making this happen for the Center. It was a good shake down run for future excavation projects. It was hot but satisfying for the participating members. We will now need to analyze the artifacts retrieved and report.

Our partnerships remain strong with the Coconino and Prescott National Forest as they continue to supply us with projects. In the Fall we are looking forward to more work with the Coconino National Forest, Prescott National Forest and the Archaeological Conservancy. One of the projects will be a survey project with Prescott National Forest of the Prehistoric Salt Mine in Camp Verde. We are partnering with Prescott National Forest and the Town of Camp Verde to make this a tourist attraction by installing paths with interpretive signs and then setting up a docent program for the Salt Mine. This project will need volunteers from start to finish and I know I can count on our membership to participate. All these projects take trained volunteers, so if you want to participate, please take advantage of the classes so you will be ready to go.

The Visitor Center moved to the Camp Verde Historical Society on May 1. We are in the process of completing the Lab and Library area. We hope to have our grand opening of the new lab later this summer. All will be invited and hope you will take the time to visit.

It has been through your generosity, both in volunteer hours and monetarily, that we have achieved what we have to this date. The Center needs your continued support. I would like to leave you with these parting words. Thank You for believing in our mission and supporting the Verde Valley Archaeology Center through your membership and generous donations.
My husband and I are new to the Verde Valley and the Verde Valley Archaeology Center in Camp Verde. As retired educators from the Arizona school system, we are excited about helping to bring archaeology and the cultures of the past to school children in the Verde Valley.

However, being new to the discipline, we feel the need to learn about all aspects of this science. So, when an opportunity opened for us to attend a field school through the VVAC, we enrolled ourselves and our 15 year old grandson, Brennan.

The anticipation of participating in an archaeological dig at Mitchell Springs, Colorado was even more exciting as we made daily trips to Home Depot, Big 5 and Walmart to purchase trowels, buckets, brushes, gloves, and hats to make sure we were well equipped for our first dig.

Finally, the day arrived! We caravanned to Mitchell Springs, set up camp, and met with our unit leaders who would mentor us. The morning of our excavation began with an orientation of the site. Our leaders taught us how to ready the unit that we would be excavating by measuring, staking corners, setting up sifters, and properly use our new tools.

We dug and sifted soil for eight hours, with a quick break for lunch. Some groups found sherds, animal bones, and ancient corn cobs. We dug up (what we believed) a fallen wall. By evening, we were extremely tired and unsure if we could repeat the procedure the next day. But exhaustion gave way to excitement and we were up at 6 am the next day anxious to continue our search for answers about past people and the lives they led.

These activities continued for 3 more days. We learned how to use survey equipment and how to properly bag our finds from the day. Needless to say, we learned more than we believed we could in such a short time. Brennan can’t wait to go again, and you can be sure that we will accompany him to a new site, new finds, and a new adventure.

Lee and Jean Silver

Archaeological Conservancy Property Excavation

The Center, under the supervision of our Director of Archaeology, Dr. Todd Bostwick, undertook a project for Arizona Public Service (APS) to excavate several locations on a property owned by the Archaeological Conservancy prior to power pole relocation. Analysis and reporting of the artifact retrieval is underway.
The Verde Valley Archaeology Center presents the

5TH ANNUAL FESTIVAL OF
AMERICAN INDIAN ARTS

Native American Film Night
September 27 -- 7:00 pm
Sedona Creative Life Center -- 333 Schnebley Hill Rd., Sedona
Two films from Vision Maker Media and the premiere of an historic Hopi dance film preserved by a grant to the Hopi Tribe and the Center from the National Film Preservation Foundation

Tickets are $10 -- children under 12 are free

Canyon Records Artist Showcase
September 28 -- 7:00 pm
Camp Verde Auditorium Theater -- 370 Camp Lincoln Rd., Camp Verde

Featuring 2012 Grammy-nominated
Radmilla Cody
World Champion Hoop Dancer
Tony Duncan and Violet Duncan
Aaron White and Anthony Wakeman
Estun-Bah
Tony Duncan, Darrin Yazzie and Jeremy Dancing Bull

General Admission $20
Premium Seating $25
Patron Seating $75 includes pre-show reception with artists and autographed CD to benefit the Verde Valley Archaeology Center

Invitational American Indian Art Show
September 28-29 10:00 am to 4:00 pm
Camp Verde Community Center Main and Hollamon Streets
The Verde Valley’s Largest FREE Indoor/Outdoor American Indian Art Show
Creating A Legacy -- Anyone Can Be a Philanthropist

The Verde Valley Archaeology Center is approaching its Third Anniversary in October. We have accomplished much in such a short amount of time with a great deal of volunteer labor, donations and memberships. However, now is the time to begin to plan for our long-term sustainability. Toward this end, the Board of Directors has established the Verde Valley Archaeology Center Endowment Fund and opened the account with a generous donation designated for the Endowment Fund. Our Endowment Fund has several advantages:

- It allows the Center to be good stewards of gifts received from donors
- It is invested to create a permanent source of income for the Center
- It assists the Center in meeting our mission and serving the community while planning for financial stability
- It expands giving opportunities for donors
- It is established so that the principal can remain intact to benefit the Center forever

The Power of Endowment

Strengthening a nonprofit, like the Center, is a fundamental aspect of philanthropic endeavors. Endowed funds ensure that your contributions will last in perpetuity, always providing a source of funding to help meet the needs of the Center. The income-generating power of endowment allows you to make gifts that support your passions and personal values with the assurance that your wishes will be honored beyond your lifetime. Donations of any amount will help the Center to build the Endowment so that the interest earned can eventually meet our daily operating expenses without touching the principle.

Consider the Center in Your Estate Planning

Whether large or small, planned estate giving can leave your impact on our programs and services. Creating a lasting gift in your name or a loved one helps meet the future needs of the Center in good times and in hard times. Visit the Center’s website under Support - Legacy Circle to learn more about the options that are available through your financial advisor, or call our Executive Director, Ken Zoll (928-593-0364) for further information about our Endowment Fund.

Coming Events

**Summer Archaeology Film Fest**
Sedona Public Library, 7:00 pm, Free admission

- **August 9**
  - *Ramses II, The Great Journey* (France; 63 min.)

- **August 23**
  - *Black Sands* (Greece; 52 min.)

**August 16-19**
Excavation Field School, near Dove Creek, Colorado

**September 17 - Quarterly Archaeology Presentation**
Camp Verde Multi-Use Complex, 7:00 pm
Local Geologist Paul Lindberg will speak on "The Geology of Central Arizona and the Relationship of Rock Formations to Archaeological Sites." This talk will cover the complex geologic structural of Central Arizona and how indigenous people used the landform.

**September 22 - Equinox at V Bar V Heritage Site**
V Bar V Heritage Site, 1:00 pm, Red Rock Pass required
Archaeoastronomer Ken Zoll will explain the solar calendar on the Autumnal Equinox.

**September 27-29 - Festival of American Indian Arts**
Full details at www.NAFestival.com
- September 27 - Native American Film Night
- September 28 - Canyon Records Showcase Concert
- September 28-29 - Invitational American Indian Art Show

**October 19 - International Archaeology Day**
International Archaeology Day is a celebration of archaeology and the thrill of discovery. The Center will hold activities to mark this special day. Details will be given in the Fall issue of the *Archaeology Quarterly*.

**October 20 - Archaeology Sunday**
Camp Verde Multi-Use Complex, 2:00 pm
John Hohmann, PhD, will talk on "The Archaeology of Q Ranch Pueblo." Site construction began about A.D. 1270. The pueblos were abandoned around A.D. 1385-1390 when a large forest fire burned the structures. The residents appeared to have escaped the fire but did not rebuild.
Thanks For Your Support

The Verde Valley Archaeology Center would like to thank the following individuals and businesses for their generous support received in the past 12 months.

Business Members

- The Horn Saloon
  348 S. Main St., Camp Verde
  www.TheHornSaloon.com

- Tours of Jerome
  www.ToursOfJerome.com
  928-639-4361

- Poco Diablo Resort
  1752 State Route 179, Sedona
  www.PocoDiablo.com

Life Members and Gifts of $350 to $499

- Sally & Thom Alcoze
- Frank & Karen Geminden
- Bruce & Patricia George
- Robert Jonas
- Roger & Mary Kearney
- Joe & Sonya Landholm
- Kristine Moehring
- Ann & Jack Urick
- Robert Whiting
- Bob & Debbie Wych

Patron Members and Gifts of at least $1,000

- Dr. & Mrs. A. Dean Campbell
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- Joe & Sonya Landholm
- James & Diane Graceffa
- Frank & Karen Geminden
- Bruce & Patricia George
- Robert Jonas
- Roger & Mary Kearney
- Paul & Phyllis Lindberg
- C. A. McDonald Family
- Kurt Starbuck & Roberta Stockman
- Marshall and Jane Whitmire
- Rick and Julie Zabor

Become a member to help protect the ancient cultural heritage of the Verde Valley. Visit us at www.verdevalleyarchaeology.org to join online or download an application, or stop by the Center.