

# Verde Valley Archaeology Quarterly



Protecting the Ancient Cultural Heritage of the Verde Valley

Summer 2016

## National Park Service Grant



The National Park Service (NPS) Rivers, Trails, and Conservation Assistance program supports community-led natural resource conservation and outdoor recreation projects across the nation. The NPS national network of conservation and recreation planning professional partners with community groups, nonprofits, tribes, state and local

governments to design trails and parks, conserve and improve access to rivers, protect special places, and create recreation opportunities.

The VVAC Project Goal is to develop a connector trail linking our new Native American Heritage Preserve trail to the future riverfront park administered by Arizona State Parks and the Prescott National Forest. They will also provide interpretation along the trail so that it flows with the riverfront park.

The NPS will assist the Center in identifying funding opportunities, facilitate collaboration with partners for interpretive planning, assist with developing programming concepts, and assist in planning the connector trail. Since members have provided the funding for the trail benches and most of the interpretive signs, work will begin on the preserve this Fall with possible completion late next year.

## Center Welcomes New Office Manager



Our new Office Manager is Susan King. Susan is a testament to the Center's success as she is our first full-time employee. Susan is a graduate of St. Ambrose University, Davenport, Iowa. She moved to the Verde Valley about 16 years ago. She says that "although I love and miss my roots, I have been adopted here and have come to belong in the Verde Valley . . . I am very grateful

to be working with one of my passions . . . archaeology." She has experience in marketing and sales as demonstrated by our many new business members and gala sponsors. She is also certified with QuickBooks, which is a big help. Please welcome Susan to our family the next time you are in the Center or at one of our activities.

## Welcome New Business Members

Thanks to the energy of our new Office Manager, we have several new Business Members who support the Center and our programs. A basic Business Membership is \$250 and a Patron Business membership is \$500. Anyone with a business that wishes to support the Center and receive some of the special advertising benefits should contact Susan King at [manager@vvarchcenter.org](mailto:manager@vvarchcenter.org) or 928-567-0066. Please support these fine businesses!

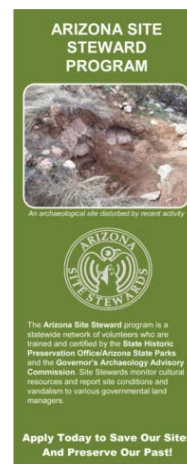


## Verde Valley Site Watch Program

Last year the Center received grants from the Arizona Community Foundation of Sedona and of Yavapai County to support the Verde Valley Site Watch Program. This program was developed to



assist the Volunteer Site Steward Program administered by Arizona State Parks. Among the items acquired with these funds were motion-sensing cameras for the Forest Service, public awareness signage for sites, the redesign and printing of the Site Steward informational brochure (shown here), development of a portable display to promote the program at various events, installation of satellite-based monitoring equipment at a test site (see page 4), and the production of a revised training video for site stewards to be used statewide.



In addition, we developed a new website at the request of the regional coordinator to educate the public on the program and to permit public reporting of vandalism either by phone, text or email. It is [vvsitewatch.org](http://vvsitewatch.org).



*The mission of the Verde Valley Archaeology Center is to preserve archaeological sites and collections, to curate the collections locally, and to make them available for research and education; to develop partnerships with American Indians, cultural groups and the communities it serves; and to foster a deeper understanding of prehistory and American Indian history in the Verde Valley through the science of archaeology.*

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# President's Message

Dr. James Graceffa

The first part of the year has been a most successful one for the Center. At the Archaeology Fair in March, we saw a record turnout. Native American artists gave demonstrations, and the films and lectures were presented to packed rooms. Recognition is in order for all the volunteers who helped make it a success, with special thanks to Glen Dotson, who drives up each year from Phoenix to demonstrate working with clay, as well as Ray Rybar (flint knapper) and Jan Anderson with her children's activities crew. Finally, many people had their first opportunity to be shuttled out to the Homestead Site to get a first-hand introduction to the Center's future plans.

Jan Anderson and her team of educators fulfill one of the Center's missions of public education outreach by giving over 20 presentations at schools, where they are always warmly welcomed and appreciated.

The field work, including surveying and collecting, continued at the Homestead Site. On hiatus now, due to overgrown vegetation, the work will resume in fall or winter when the vegetation has died back. The back-filling of the exposed pit house was begun but halted due to the heat. This, too, will resume as the weather cools. Analysis of the materials collected has not yet been accomplished, but the pottery appears to date around A.D. 800-950. This is an exciting proposal, if and when any excavation does take place.



The Building Committee is focusing on getting the water line at the site laid, since it is a stipulation of the Center's receiving the property from Mr. Simonton. This must be accomplished within two years, with an estimated cost of \$100,000. The public can help accomplish this goal by going online to the Center's website or stopping by the Center and purchasing some of the water line at \$50. a foot, as well as naming the section purchased. (This is a tax deductible donation.)

Many of you have been able to take advantage of this year's field trips, thanks to our team's many efforts to accommodate everyone wanting to participate. One of the highlights was a personal tour of the Sharlot Hall exhibits, given by Dr. Sandy Lynch. Besides trips, we have had some fantastic speakers, with more to come. If you have a particular speaker or topic, please let me know. As you enjoy these no-charge events, perhaps you will consider a donation or speaker sponsorship, as these are greatly needed and appreciated.



Our tireless volunteers also continue their work in the lab on Thursdays and Fridays. There is always need for help, whether it be assisting in analysis, photographing artifacts, data entry, or a



number of other activities. We will train you and put your talents to work. Docents are especially needed and, as with our other workers, we will train interested volunteers. This is a great opportunity to learn about the Sinagua and other cultures that occupied the Verde Valley for the past 12,000 years.



As you can see, so much is being accomplished at the Center. One of the reasons we are moving forward so effectively is due to Dr. Steven Di Naso from Eastern Illinois University and Dr. Karla Hansen-Speer of Indiana State University, with their teams, who worked tirelessly during the latter part of May at the Homestead Site. Arriving from the Midwest, they did a series of geophysical investigations on our property and set permanent markers so that any excavations can be plotted to within millimeters; in about six weeks we will receive a report regarding the limited area they completed. Dr. Di Naso hopes to return and aid us with investigations such as petrographic analysis of clays and temper, and perhaps establish a partnership between Eastern Illinois and the VVAC.



As the Center moves forward, there will be increased opportunities for volunteering, as well as experiencing films, lectures, and trips. By viewing our website and Facebook page, you'll be an active participant in the many activities the Center offers.

Thank you for your continued interest, support, and participation.

## Sponsor a Foot



Progress on the development of the Center's Homestead Property is moving along as anticipated. Part of the donation agreement requires the Center to extend the water line along the property - a 1300' extension. The Center contracted with an engineer and the plans have been completed and approved. Three contractors were contacted to provide bids to complete the project. While the preliminary estimate at the time the property was acquired was \$75,000, the water company increased the size of the mainline from 8" to 12". This increased the cost to put in the line with bids ranging from \$98,000 to \$105,000.

### YOU CAN HELP! ONLY 1,199 FEET TO GO!

BUY A FOOT for \$50! Have your name on a section of pipe before it is buried! Here is your chance to be part of history - a sort of buried time capsule with your printed name or your own signature! Your foot of pipe can be bought online by going to our VVAC Store on the website or you can mail a check to the Center. Here are the members who have purchased one or more feet as of July 1.

- |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| Mike Bencic and Cindy Parker - Two Feet | Bill and Justine Kusner - Twenty Feet     | Dean and Kathi Olson - Two Feet              |
| Ron and Suzanne Burkey - One Foot       | Ken and Marcia Lee - Four Feet            | Kimberly Spurr and David Purcell - Four Feet |
| Tom and Lucie Burris - Twenty Feet      | Ruthmary Lovitt - Two Feet                | Cathy and Tom Weimer - Two Feet              |
| Kathy Davis - Ten Feet                  | Tom Mathieu and Coco Januschka - One Foot | Maurine Wise - Twenty Feet                   |
| Frank Grinere - Two Feet                | Ray and Mel Nowaczyk - Two Feet           | Elaine and Jim Worthington - Two Feet        |
| Bill and Lynette Kovacovich - Two Feet  | Sharon and Norm Olsen - Two Feet          | Ken and Nancy Zoll - Three Feet              |





# Eyes in the Sky

## Remote Monitoring For Trespass



### National Center for Preservation Technology and Training

National Center for Preservation Technology and Training (NCPTT) was founded in 1994 on the campus of Northwestern State University of Louisiana in Natchitoches, Louisiana. The genesis of NCPTT began when the US Congress' Office of Technology Assessment published an assessment that cited the critical need to establish a federally funded institution "as a mechanism to coordinate research, disseminate information, and provide training about new technologies for preservation." NCPTT advances the application of science and technology to historic preservation. Working in the fields of archeology, architecture, landscape architecture and materials conservation, the NCPTT accomplishes its mission through training, education, research, technology transfer and partnerships.

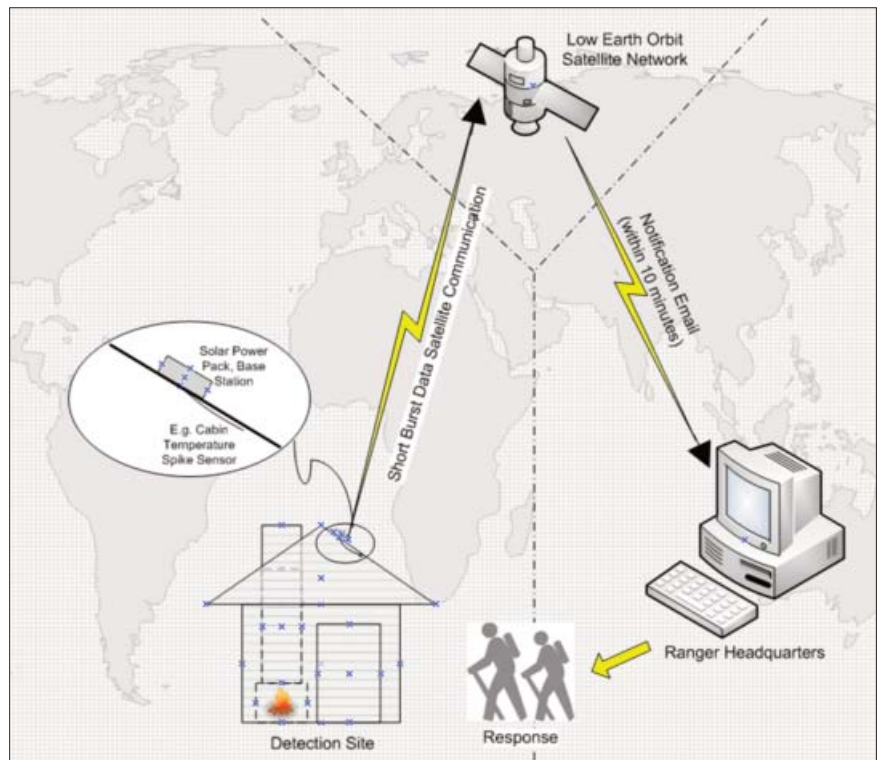
Dr. James Gibbs at the State University of New York, in collaboration with Irbis Solutions and Wildlife Intel, received a NCPTT grant in 2015 to adapt anti-poaching technology for wildlife to the particularities of protecting archeological, architectural and historic sites. Vandalism and looting are major threats to cultural resources on U.S. National Park Service and U.S. Forest Service properties. Electronic technology now exists that can inexpensively report in real-time on trespass at vulnerable sites in remote areas. The goal of the project is to enhance the existing technology to meet the particular needs of cultural resources protection. Anticipated needs include improvements to mobile device interfaces and wireless sensors and trail camera triggers to record intrusion events at vulnerable sites for cultural resources.

The grant provided for pilot projects to assess various types of remote monitoring. The first deployments were at the Banderier National Monument in New Mexico and at the Death Valley National Park in California. Since the Center had established the Verde Valley Site Watch Program with the goal of providing the Forest Service with new tools to monitor archaeological site, a call was placed to Irbis Solutions to learn more. During the conversation, the Center was offered some of these tools to participate in this pilot project. The offer was quickly accepted.

#### HOW IT WORKS

The systems are designed to detect intrusion into protected areas via a network of sensors and communications hubs. When sensors are tripped, users are then alerted in near-real time, through satellite messaging, to mount a response.

To deploy the Center's unit, a property owned by the Archaeological Conservancy was chosen. This site is managed by the Center and has been the subject of two pot-hunting incidents in recent years. With the approval of the Archaeological Conservancy and the Regional Coordinator for the Arizona Site Steward Program, the equipment was acquired. Representatives of the company visited the Center to explain how to install and configure the system. There is NO cost to the Center for the equipment. We are now part of the National Park Service pilot program to assess its effectiveness. The pilot will run through the end of the year. If we find the unit beneficial we will be able to keep it and only pay for the satellite link. Additional units would then be purchased for other Conservancy sites. If approved by the Forest Service, units may also be purchased for their use.



## INSTALLATION

There are several different technologies that can be deployed, depending upon the site. In this case it was decided to install a metal detection system. The picture to the right shows Scott Newth holding the metal detecting unit. It is a capped PVC pipe with the detection technology inside. A cable will connect it to the satellite base station.

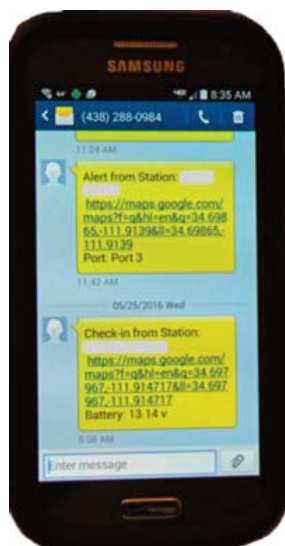
The unit was buried along the trail to the ruin, as shown in the picture below. Once buried and covered with vegetation or soil, it is undetectable.



Another technology that was considered was a “break-beam” that projects a laser beam across a trail to detect intruders. It is placed at a specified height to avoid javelinas and coyotes. This site, however, did not present an easy way to deploy and hide the equipment so it was not used at this site but may be deployed at other locations.



In the picture below, Ken Zoll is connecting the cable to the satellite base unit. The unit was then activated and a test signal was sent to satellite receivers. When the test confirmed that the unit was functioning properly, it was then buried. The only piece of equipment that is above ground is the very small satellite antenna that is virtually undetectable.



Every morning a “check-in” message is sent to several cellphones and the base station in the Center. The check-in confirms satellite reception, gives its location (blocked in the image to the left for security reasons), and the strength of the battery. The image also shows a test “Alert” that the unit was activated. In this case tests were run with someone carrying a shovel at various heights and also walking over the unit with a metal walking stick. In all tests, the unit sent an “alert.”

During this pilot, alerts are sent to the site steward Regional Coordinator. In the future they will be sent to the site steward assigned to the location to check on the site.



During the deployment we were accompanied by a field crew from KNAU, the National Public Radio station at Northern Arizona University. A special feature is being developed from the visit for later broadcast. It will describe the system and its purpose, not just to “catch” vandalism in the act, but to hopefully deter would-be vandals and pot hunters by making them aware of this technology.

If this pilot project is approved by the National Park Service it is the Center’s hope to acquire additional units and different technologies. One future enhancement will detect cellphones entering an archaeological site. If vandalism is later confirmed a court order could be obtained by law enforcement to identify the cellphone owner.





# Annual International Archaeology Day Gala

A Benefit for the Verde Valley Archaeology Center

**Saturday, October 15, 2016**

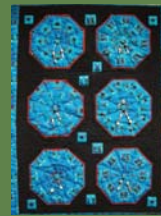
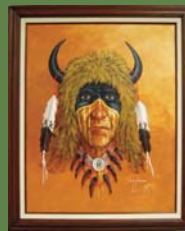
Sedona Poco Diablo Resort  
1752 Arizona Hwy179

**6:00 p.m.** Cocktails with *The Music of Indiana Jones*  
(from the years of the films - 1935-1939)  
by the Susannah Martin Quartet



### Silent Auction

Vintage Native American Jewelry, Paintings, Quilt, Pottery and more  
All items will be available for bidding at [BiddingForGood.com](http://BiddingForGood.com) starting  
October 3 and at the Gala



**7:00 p.m.** Dinner Choices:

Oaxaca Stuffed Chicken Breast

Herb Crusted Pork Loin

Grilled Vegetable Napoleon

*See website for full menu descriptions*

*Special Guest Speaker:*

**Filmer Kewanyama, Smoki Museum Board Trustee**



**8:00 p.m.** Music and Dancing Continues

\$125 (\$65 tax deductible)

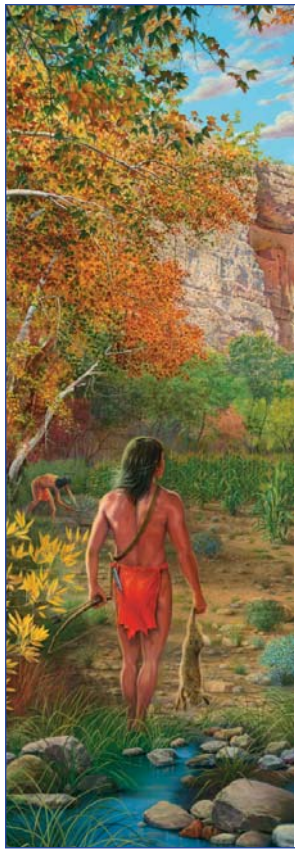
*Includes two drink tickets*

*Tickets go on sale August 15 at [BiddingForGood.com](http://BiddingForGood.com)  
or by returning the invitation card*

## SPONSORS

As of July 1, 2016





## The Past Is Our Future

The Verde Valley Archaeology Center (VVAC) has acquired 15.28 acres of the Simonton Ranch in Camp Verde that contains at least eight undisturbed ancient pit houses estimated to date from about A.D. 650. The property has been appraised at \$1.37 million. Mr. Scott Simonton of Gilbert, Arizona, donated \$1.12 million toward this acquisition. The remaining \$250,000 is covered by a note that is payable in 2020. Since its humble beginning in 2010, the VVAC has been turning big ideas into reality. Development will occur in three phases:

### PHASE 1 To Address the Curation Crisis

Collection Repository  
Administrative Offices

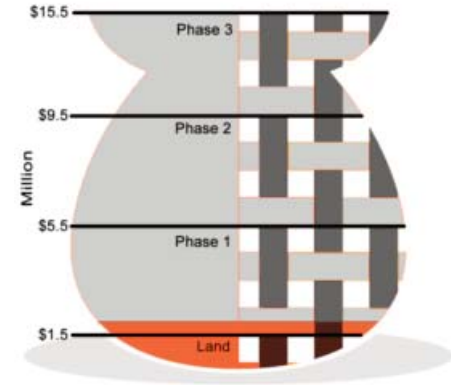
### PHASE 2 To Engage the Public

Museum and Gift Shop  
Courtyard Garden and Sculptures

### PHASE 3 To Enhance Educational Opportunities

Auditorium Theater  
Conference Center and Classrooms  
Native American Heritage Park  
Native American Traditional Use Garden

See the conceptual plan by the Design Group Architects of Sedona in the Center or on our website. The total estimated cost for this effort, including the land acquisition, is \$15.5 million which includes a \$2 million Reserve Endowment Fund.



## Capital Campaign Contributors

(As of July 1, 2016)

### Pledges

**\$50,000** - Ken and Marcia Lee  
**\$10,000** - Robert and Cora Whiting

**\$25,000** - **Native American Garden** - Available  
**\$10,000** - **Courtyard Garden** - Tom and Janet Taylor  
**\$10,000** - **Entry Garden** - Dr. Charles Rozaire

**\$1,000** - **Native American Heritage Preserve**

#### Interpretive Signs (One available)

Carol and George Dvorak  
Joe and Sonya Landholm  
Ruthmary Lovitt  
Dean and Kathi Olson  
Dr. and Mrs. Dennison Shaw, Jr.  
Larry Watkins  
Ken and Nancy Zoll

### Turquoise Circle Members

**\$2,500+ to Capital Campaign**

Anonymous (2)  
Louise Fitzgerald  
James and Diane Graceffa  
Bill and Justine Kusner  
Bob and Estelle Jonas  
Jo Parish  
Craig and Sue Sigler  
RJ and Jeanne Smith  
Kimberly Spurr and David Purcell  
Tom and Janet Taylor  
Gerald and Janet Walters  
George and Pat Witteman

### \$500 - Park Bench (Sold Out)

Nils and Janet Anderson  
Todd and Heidi Bostwick  
Mary Byrd in memory of Harris Byrd  
Mike and Barbara Cadwell  
Susan and Avrum Cohen  
Bridget Highfill  
Stan and Sue Loft  
Dean and Kathi Olson  
Michael Pollard and Mary Wiseman  
Lee and Jean Silver  
Jim and Elaine Worthington

### \$500 - Theater Seat (200)

Linda Guarino & Ken Kaemmerle  
Richard Henderson  
Bridget Highfill  
Stan and Sue Loft

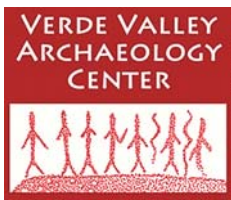
### \$250 - Conference Chair (300)

Ron and Jan Brattain  
Stewart Deats and Janet Hagopian  
Bob and Estelle Jonas  
Paul and Barbara Schnur  
Craig Swanson  
Jim and Elaine Worthington

### Other Contributions

Anonymous (3)  
Laura and Andy Beeler  
Melissa Bowersock  
Ron and Jan Brattain  
Marian Brookman  
Bern and Linda Carey  
Gay Chanler  
Robert and Audrey Erb  
Carol German  
Mary Huntley  
Charles Kaluza  
Ruth Kiessel  
Frank and Carol Lombardo  
Ruthmary Lovitt  
Thomas Mantovani  
Thomas Marshall  
John and Elizabeth Oakes  
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**ANNUAL BENEFIT  
GALA**

October 15, 2016  
Poco Diablo Resort  
Tickets available online

**Become a member** *to help protect the ancient cultural heritage of the Verde Valley. Stop by the Center or visit our website at [www.vvarchcenter.org](http://www.vvarchcenter.org) to join online or to download an application.*

**Thanks For Your Support**

The Verde Valley Archaeology Center would like to thank the following for their generous support of our General Fund **in the past 12 months**

**Business Members**



**Gifts of \$60,000**

Donalyn Mikels

**Gifts of at least \$5,000**

Daryl Kling  
Bill & Justine Kusner  
Craig & Sue Sigler

**Gifts of at least \$1,000**

Todd & Heidi Bostwick  
Al & Ruth Cornell  
Jim & Diane Graceffa  
Charles Rozaire  
Dennis & Janet Shaw  
Ken & Nancy Zoll

**Other Contributions  
of Cash or Supplies**

Anonymous (3)  
Dave & Cindy Bancroft  
Ron & Suzanne Burkey  
Jack Duffy  
Richard Henderson  
Sharon Olson  
Jo Parish  
Dick & Judy Williams

**Gifts of at least \$500**

Spence Gustav  
Ken & Marcia Lee  
Tom Mathieu & Coco Januschka  
Ray & Mel Nowaczyk  
Mark & Kate Pico  
Stanley & Anne Rulapaugh  
William & Elizabeth Sweeney  
John & Sue Tietsort  
Warner & Maurine Wise  
James & Elaine Worthington

Employee Matching or Retiree Volunteer Grants received from

