Greetings Coalition Members!

The past few months have been an extremely busy time for the Nine Mile Canyon Coalition. I want to take this time and space to thank the Board with whom I serve, for the many hours they spend in the service of Nine Mile Canyon and its Coalition of preservation enthusiasts.

In addition to serving as Coalition Treasurer, Craig Houskeeper and his wife Dawna (who actually keeps the Coalition books!) rallied Coalition members together for another successful Spring Work Day.

Edythe Marett serves as Coalition Secretary, making sure that board meeting minutes are written accurately and thoroughly.

Steve Tanner is extremely busy coordinating the planning and execution of this year’s annual Fall Gathering. Held each year on the weekend following Labor Day, this year’s gathering on September 9th through 11th will surely delight all who attend. Many new twists are being planned that you won’t want to miss!

Our Vice-Chair, Pam Miller is working hard to implement the Canyon’s interpretive plan. You will soon see the fruits of Pam’s labors with the installation of new interpretive signs at the Cottonwood Glen facility, Daddy Canyon trail system and The Great Hunt panel.

Diane Gorman dedicates much time and energy in representing the Coalition on Carbon County’s Nine Mile Canyon Advisory Committee and keeping the Coalition store stocked. Not only does she make sure that inventory levels are adequate, she designs much of the Coalition’s merchandise. Please support the Coalition by purchasing Coalition and Canyon related gift items and memorabilia at the Fall Gathering. Our new Coalition pin designed by Diane will be unveiled and made available for purchase.

Our past Chair Bill Walsh and his wife Shirley Weathers dedicate many, many hours of their time to serve the Coalition and the Canyon. They are seasoned and skilled advocates and writers for many worthy causes, and we can all be thankful that one of their causes is the protection and preservation of Nine Mile Canyon.

Board members Chanel Atwood, Jim Brown and Shirley Burdick are always available to take on the next Coalition call to action and Wayne Ludington, BLM’s representative to the Coalition, keeps us informed of public land issues affecting Nine Mile Canyon. The entire board meets at least every other month for our official Board of Directors meeting, and members are always invited to attend and participate.

A special thanks to our newsletter publisher, Jerry Vaculin, and our webmaster, Tracey Johnson, who’s talents and hard work keep our membership informed of canyon issues and Coalition events.

I would like to thank Jerry Spangler who recently retired from the Coalition Board, for his service to the organization. Though his time on the board was short, his influence, fresh ideas and service to the Coalition and the Canyon will be felt for many years to come.

I am truly grateful for the time and efforts these lovers and protectors of Nine Mile Canyon so freely and willingly give to fulfill the Coalition’s mission. I am very lucky and happy to know and work with such outstanding people.

Steven C. Hansen
The Great Hunt Panel Project
by Margene Hackney

The Great Hunt Panel was previously known as the Cottonwood Hunting Panel for years. It was known worldwide and has been featured in The National Geographic’s Volume 157, Number 1, January 1980 issue. Gary Smith’s great photography in a fold out page shows a color close up of the illustrious hunting scene. People have come from all over the world to see this famous rock art panel.

The Cottonwood road was located right beside the hunting scene. The road is no longer there. The change came about when the Bill Barrett company began to work in Nine Mile Canyon drilling for gas and building the compressor station at the mouth of Dry Canyon.

There were many objections to the Gas Company’s presence in Nine Mile. One of many reasons was that it would damage the cultural resources that the canyon is famous for. But the company stated that there would be no damage to any of the rock art. They wanted to prove that their intentions were to help save sites.

They approached the School Institutional Trusts Lands Administration (SITLA), owners of the land around the panel. They said they wanted to do something to help preserve the Great Hunt panel. After some meetings it was determined that the road would be moved away from the site. This would keep heavy truck and vehicle traffic from putting dust and debris on the panel. It would also be protected by the construction of a fence.

At a March 18, 2004 meeting with the Castle Valley Archaeological Society, Corrine Springer the project manager from SITLA asked for the chapter’s assistance in securing funds to help with supplies. The CVAS members are dedicated to the preservation of cultural resources and voted to support their efforts. A State History Antiquities grant was applied for and it was awarded. In-kind matching funds would include volunteers helping SITLA archaeologists excavate the fence footers and making trails.

Work began by moving the road away from the panel and placing large boulders to discourage vehicle traffic from going near the rock art. An architect from Utah State University was hired by SITLA to design a fence, trails and a possible place for picnic tables.

Kristine Curry, new project manager was brought on board when Corrine Springer left to work in Range Creek. Money from the Antiquities grant and Bill Barrett Corporation was put into a building fund at the College of Eastern Utah. With this money, cultured stone and cement was ordered by the Carbon County Planning and Zoning department for the work to be completed.

Castle Valley members recruited volunteers to help excavate the footers on September 18, 2004. On November 19, 2004 the Sun Center volunteers went to the site and reapplied seeds to the area around the panel. Since winter was approaching, work was put on hold until spring. Meetings continued to take place by the Nine Mile Canyon Advisory committee.

Spring came and on April 16, 2005, the designated workday set by the committee, volunteers showed up to work. The Bureau of Land Management donated fence poles but due to the fact that the cultured stone or cement was not there the entire project was put on hold. The fence poles were taken to Steve Hansen’s property for safe keeping until work resumed.

Due to the heavy spring runoff of Cottonwood Creek the moved road has been flooded. The intended parking lot for visitors could not be used. At this time the area looks forlorn and abandoned. This is not the idea that was conceived by any of the planners of this project. The work was to be all completed by the spring of 2005.

But the project has not died a slow death. It will be finished, there will be a fence, there will be trails and a place for a kiosk and picnic tables. There are dedicated people who are willing to work until the project is finished.

The famous Great Hunt Panel will again grace the pages of famous journals, periodicals and books. Just give it some time.
Coalition’s Annual Canyon Spring Clean-up a Success
by Pam Miller

The Nine Mile Canyon Coalition happily combined our usual May clean-up day in Nine Mile Canyon with a service project planned by the College of Eastern Utah’s Sun Center and supported by the Carbon County Nine Mile Advisory Committee on April 16, 2005. It was a beautiful day in the canyon. Although the weather was very warm, participants worked very hard and accomplished a great deal. Hunt Oil Company supplied much appreciated drinks and snacks to all the volunteers. We counted 53 participants from CEU, members of the Coalition, employees of Bill Barrett Corporation and its subcontractors, and the BLM. Carbon County Roads Department hauled gravel out previously for the handicapped accessible trail.

Three projects were originally planned for the day in addition to the clean-up. BLM and Carbon County provided additional materials to finish the Daddy Canyon Trail. Plans to finish the stone and pole fence at the Great Hunt in Cottonwood Canyon hit a last minute snag and that project was not completed. The group of volunteers working with Kathy Smith of the Carbon County Travel Bureau at the Cottonwood Glen picnic area decided to do their project in May.

At Daddy Canyon the CEU students completed the construction of the handicapped accessible trail. Under the direction of Jaynee Levy of the Price Field Office BLM, they laid the poles, drilled holes and pounded in the rebar. Gravel was used to fill in gaps near the new poles and to flatten the trail. A new set of steps was built out of the major wash in addition to steps constructed into the wash near the pictographs of the buffalo and elk, and steps in and out of the small wash after the rock fall. We constructed a “U” in the trail so visitors can now move away from the rock face at the appropriate spot to view a petroglyph located out of sight of the main trail.

Several volunteers worked for part of the morning at the Great Hunt site, picking up trash and cleaning out the holes for the fence footers. The BLM brought poles for the Great Hunt fence but because the project wasn’t finished, the poles were stored at Steve Hansen’s property.

Those dedicated people on the road clean-up covered approximately 20 miles of the canyon. The BLM furnished the trash bags. With the increased traffic in Nine Mile Canyon it looks like the road clean-up will have to be held more frequently.

The Coalition appreciates all those who spent time with us in the canyon on April 16th. We are inspired by the enthusiastic hard work of the CEU students and hope to continue working with them on future projects in the canyon. We also appreciate Dawna and Craig Housekeeper for coordinating the coalition efforts for the day and arranging for hauling the trash out of the canyon. We can accomplish great things when we all work together.
In the 1940’s Thorald and Lucille Rich were raising a teenaged boy and “city cowboys” on their ranches. At that time their ranches included the George Fasselin places called the Alger ranch (with the ancient orchard), the Neal Hanks properties (the place below the balanced rock), the “lower ranch” now owned by Steve Hansen and the old Egan place, home of the Fasselins. There was plenty of room and things to do, so when the school year ended, here come the kids of relatives and friends to spend the summer and “help out” on the ranch. There were always four, usually eight and sometimes more visitors helping out on the ranch for board and room. More than likely the visitors brought friends. Lucille was a fun-loving person and a practical joker. She kept the kids busy doing chores that the “Lord of the Manor” (Thorald) directed each morning. When everyone got their chores done, she hauled the kids off to the swimming hole, which was at that time under the Argyle Bridge, or she would take them rock chuck hunting.

In the Spring, often calves that were born after the spring roundup, or missed getting branded, castrated, vaccinated, dehorned and waddled were gathered up on the summer range to meet their comeuppance. One such time, the whole ranch party camped at the head of Prickly Pear under the tall ponderosa and the cowboys worked the cattle in the makeshift corral of mashed together pine tree branches, just over the saddle to the south. The corral is still there.

After breakfast the cowboys descended on the bunch of cattle that were gathered to the corral the day before the fun began. The cattle, bawling from thirst and not wanting to be corralled, were a busy lot. Some were on the prod, especially those with little calves. However, the branding fire was lit in the middle of the corral, the irons heated, the box of supplies set nearby and the cowboys went to work. Usually two ropers milled through the herd, finding matches in cow and calf, dropped a loop under the calf’s back feet and pulled him howling toward the fire. He then gave the brander the name of the kind of brand the mom had. Most often the frustrated mom cow followed, blowing snot and protesting. No one paid her any attention, and it wasn’t unusual for her to bunt the kid sitting on her calf. This is the time the kids got to learn and use some good cussing words.

There were usually two calves down, and it took two or three kids to hold each calf while the branders, dehorners, etc. worked. So there was a lot of noise and yelling as the seasoned cowboys ordered the city cowboys around. Also there was a can present that the mountain oysters were thrown into. And the old cowboys got a kick out of telling the kids that those little round bloody balls were their upcoming lunch - a fact that Lucille confirmed from her perch on the makeshift fence. She served as safety counselor, shouting directions to the mounted cowboys when she saw a kid in danger.

One particular cow was really nasty. The cowboys watched her warily and warned the kids over and over to keep an eye on her, and if she charged, for them to ‘git the hell out of there’.

Lyle, one of our city boys was so excited about the branding, that he insisted he have boots to wear. Most of the boys came with cowboy boots, but Lyle didn’t. Lucile looked in every corner for boots. Her own boys threatened that if she gave anyone a pair of their boots, he’d shoot ‘em. Finally Lyle found an old, twisted, dried up pair of boots in the saddle shed. They were huge, six sizes longer than his feet. He hobbled as he walked because they wouldn’t straighten out. However, he wore them with pride ignoring the snickers of his saddle pals.

Lucille yelled, “She’s comin,” the cowboys yelled, “RUN” and everyone did! Lyle however, took off for the fence the farthest away. In the meantime, the cow was diverted by one of the ropers, but Lyle kept running. His huge boots flapped the dusty air and everyone focused their attention on the spectacular run he made, to the fence, over the fence and beyond. After he cleared the fence, it took a hundred yards for him to get slowed down and to a stop. When he turned back, he was met with the stares of dozens of astonished eyes and then everyone broke up in laughter. From then on, his ranch name was BOOTS!
Coalition Accepts the Driver’s Seat in the National Register of Historic Places Nomination Effort

In a meeting organized by the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) last February 10th, the Nine Mile Canyon Coalition, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and the SHPO met to discuss the nomination of Nine Mile Canyon to be listed on the National Register of Historic Places. In that meeting, the Coalition eagerly accepted the responsibility of seeking and hiring a qualified writer/archaeologist to research, compile contributing data, and write an accurate, comprehensive and compelling nomination, as well as raise the funds required to do so.

The Coalition began the funding effort by pledging an initial $3000 contribution. Eagerly stepping up to help the Coalition in funding the project were the Utah Rock Art Research Association (URARA), Hunt Consolidated, Inc., and the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Thanks to the generous contributions from these organizations, the project’s $14,000 anticipated cost is already fully funded. The BLM is contributing maps, photographs and other needed resources and the SHPO is contributing archival resources as well as the time and expertise of their National Register Coordinator, Cory Jensen, and others.

We are very fortunate that Jerry Spangler, former Coalition board member and writer of the book *Horned Snakes and Axle Grease, a Roadside Guide to the Archaeology, Rock Art and History of Nine Mile Canyon*, and his wife Donna have accepted the Coalition’s request for them to research and write the nomination. The SHPO, the BLM and the Coalition are pleased that the Spanglers are completing the task at hand.

With the assistance of other dedicated and qualified people, the Spanglers have already begun work on the nomination. Having reviewed the draft nomination previously composed by the BLM-Price Field Office, they have compiled a comprehensive outline of what can be used from that draft, as well as an outline of research and photos that are still needed to complete the desired results. We are hoping that the nomination will be submitted by the BLM to the National Register of Historic Places by the end of the year.

Jerry Spangler Resigns From Coalition Board

Jerry Spangler, noted archaeologist and author of *Horned Snakes and Axle Grease, A Roadside Guide to the Archaeology, History and Rock Art of Nine Mile Canyon*, has resigned his position on the Board of Directors of the Nine Mile Canyon Coalition. Jerry’s resignation will allow him to work on the National Register of Historic Places nomination as well as other archaeological opportunities in the region.

Shortly after being inducted onto the Coalition Board of Directors, Jerry and his wife, Donna, transferred to Washington, D.C. where Jerry works as the Washington Correspondent for the *Deseret Morning News*.

The Coalition Board thanks Jerry for his service to Nine Mile Canyon and the Coalition.
Fall Gathering 2005
In This Land of Still and Motion
Native Americans Yesterday and Today
Friday September 9th thru Sunday September 11th
Nine Mile Ranch Bunk & Breakfast (milepost 23.7)

Schedule of Events

Friday September 9th
3:00pm   Registration & Fireside Story Telling Signup
5:00     Supper at Ben & Myrna’s Camp Fire
5:45     Presentation by Vice-Chair, Pam Miller
6:30     Unveiling of the Coalition’s First Collectors Pin
6:45     Round Robin Story Telling and Singing

Saturday September 10th
7:00am   Early Bird Coffee
8:00     Breakfast
9:30     Game Registration—Pairs Horseshoes, Atlatl Throwing, Ol’ Hat Contest, Liar’s Contest
10:00    Let the Games Begin!
11:00    Kachina Carving Demonstration, by Hopi Artisan Earl Denet
11:45    “A Way of Life” by Navajos Joe, Shirley & Susie Begay
1:00 pm  History of the Trade Bead, by Patti Thompson
1:45     History of the Kachina, by Hopi Earl Denet
2:30     Music by the Nine Mile Players
3:30     “Living In Two Cultures” by Navajos Joe, Shirley and Susie Begay
4:15     Silent Auction & Coalition Store Closes
4:15     Historical Presentation, by Les Schultz
5:00     Annual Coalition Membership Meeting
6:00     Fireside Supper
6:45     Live Auction for High-End, Canyon-Related Items
7:00     Singing and Telling Tales Around the Camp Fire

Sunday September 11th
8:30am   Breakfast
9:30am   Organized Canyon Hikes/Tours

Please join us for this fun and inspiring weekend in Nine Mile Canyon. This is the Coalition’s biggest event and only fund raiser of the year. The auction and Coalition Store are plumb full of Coalition and Nine Mile Canyon related art, souvenirs and gifts. All proceeds will be used to benefit Nine Mile Canyon and to fulfill the Coalition’s Mission.
### Pairs Horseshoe Pitching Contest

**Entry Fee:** $2 per team  *No Professionals Please!*  
Each person on the winning team will receive a Nine Mile Canyon Coalition Collector’s Pin

**ROUND 1** (2 shoes per person)
- Ringer/5 points • Leaner/3 points • Closest shoe/1
- First pair to get 9 points wins round

**ROUND 2** (2 shoes per person)
- Same as Round 1
- Winning pairs advance to Round 3

**ROUND 3** (1 shoe per person)
- First pair to get 5 points wins /Winners advance to Final

**FINAL ROUND** (1 shoe per person)
- First pair to get 5 points wins contest!
- Note: You may bring your own horseshoes if you prefer, however, shoes must not be attached to the horse!

### Ol’ Hat Contest

**Entry Fee:** $2  *Open to all hats (cowboy, caps, lace bonnets, etc!)*

Winners will receive a Nine Mile Canyon Coalition Collector’s Pin

**Contestants Must:**
- Model their hat
- Give a brief introduction as to where they acquired the hat, how long they’ve owned it and of course what makes it special!
- Donate the hat to the Coalition. (Folks are certainly welcome to buy back their own hat!)

*Note: There will be three winning places awarded in the Ol’ Hat Contest; those who come in first, third and fifth!*  
*Any person inquiring as to why there is no second and fourth place will be charged $5 (checks accepted!) payable on demand to the Coalition…. (receipt given upon request)*

### Lie Your Butt Off Contest

**Entry Fee:** $2  *Participants must be semi-fit, full of hot air and at least 6 years of age!*

Winners will receive a Nine Mile Canyon Coalition Collector’s Pin

- There will be a two minute time limit for all contestants, (except those who need an additional minute to sort out their story).
- Contestants are not allowed to tell the truth during this contest.  • All contestants must bow to the judges, state their name, what town they represent and then let the lying begin!  • Judges may question the contestants at any-time.  • Judges will be instructed to deduct points anytime in the story that the truth becomes suspect.  • All Judges’s decisions are final  • Any and all complaints must be submitted in writing along with a $50 processing fee.

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**For accommodations at the Nine Mile Bunk and Breakfast, (and campground) please contact:**

**Ben & Myrna Mead**  
(435) 637-2572

Visit their website at:  [www.ninemilecanyon.com](http://www.ninemilecanyon.com)
The Nine Mile Canyon Coalition exists to preserve and protect Nine Mile Canyon, in partnership with land holders, user groups, federal, state and local agencies, and Native American organizations. To that end, the Nine Mile Canyon Coalition will foster educational and interpretive programs which include but are not limited to: assisting in the coordination of canyon interests; promoting programs of scientific research in the canyon; helping with inventory of cultural and natural resources; raising funds, from earnings or gifts, for research, education interpretive or preservation groups, as such funds become available.

**Mission Statement**

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### Mission Statement

The Nine Mile Canyon Coalition exists to preserve and protect Nine Mile Canyon, in partnership with land holders, user groups, federal, state and local agencies, and Native American organizations. To that end, the Nine Mile Canyon Coalition will foster educational and interpretive programs which include but are not limited to: assisting in the coordination of canyon interests; promoting programs of scientific research in the canyon; helping with inventory of cultural and natural resources; raising funds, from earnings or gifts, for research, education interpretive or preservation groups, as such funds become available.

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## Registration for Fall Gathering / September 9, 10 & 11, 2005

Please mail this form and payment in full to: Nine Mile Canyon Coalition, P.O. Box 402, Price, Utah 84501

Please indicate the number of people for each activity:

- **Friday Dinner** (5 p.m.)
  - Adult ($15ea)________
  - Child*($6ea)________

- **Saturday Breakfast** (8 a.m.)
  - Adult/Child*($5ea)________

- **Saturday Dinner** (6 p.m.)
  - Adult($15ea)________
  - Child*($6ea)________

- **Sunday Breakfast** (8 a.m.)
  - Adult/Child* ($5ea)________

*12 years and younger. Children 4 and younger are free!

I cannot attend but would like to make a donation $__________

Total amount enclosed $__________

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As always, all proceeds directly benefit the Coalition and its mission in the Canyon.

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### Join the Coalition, Renew Your Membership or Sign Up a Friend!

Please mail this form to: Nine Mile Canyon Coalition, P.O. Box 402, Price, Utah 84501

Please circle membership type:

- Annual ($25)
- Corporate ($1000)
- Make an additional $25 tax deductible contribution and receive a copy of Jerry & Donna Spangler’s wonderful book *Horned Snakes and Axle Grease* as our gift to you!
- Additional Gift $__________
- Send Gift Book

Please make check or money order payable to: Nine Mile Canyon Coalition

Thank you for your support!

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Note: Non-members add $2 per meal.

Please RSVP by September 2nd!
These brand new tees and sweatshirts were designed by our own Diane Gorman. The tees are light grey and the sweatshirts are charcoal. The backs have a large white image of two pictographs found along the Cottonwood Canyon Road while the front has the Coalition’s logo. And now, available for the first time, we’ll ship them right to your own front door!

Or, have your order placed by Aug 27th and we’ll have them ready for you to pick up at the Fall Gathering. Watch for our new collector pins as well!

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**Brand New Tees and Sweatshirts!**

**HOT OFF THE PRESS!**

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**Grand total $**

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**Thank you!**
Have we spelled your name wrong?
Used the incorrect address?
Do you know someone who hasn't been getting their newsletter?
If so, please let us know!

PO Box 402 - Price Utah - 84501
or
hansenstevenc@qwest.net