



# glyphs

The Monthly Newsletter of the  
Arizona Archaeological and Historical Society

Vol. 64, No. 12

June 2014



*James Watson in the field.*

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**Next General Meeting: June 16, 2014**  
7:30 p.m., DuVal Auditorium,  
University Medical Center  
[www.az-arch-and-hist.org](http://www.az-arch-and-hist.org)

## President's Message

by Jesse Ballenger

The Society's Annual Meeting happened in May, and featured an announcement by Peter Boyle and Gayle Hartman that the Society has received a Historic Preservation Award for our efforts to document the rock art of Tumamoc Hill and prepare a successful National Register of Historic Places nomination. The award was presented by Terry Majewski on behalf of the Tucson-Pima County Historical Commission. The announcement was followed by an excellent lecture by Benjamin Bellorado. The Board of Directors results have been certified, and we welcome the new members. Also, Treasurer George Harding and the rest of the Budget Committee members deserve special recognition for their proposed budget for the next fiscal year, which is roughly \$50,000. Jeff Clark reports that our investments are up, and Mike Diehl says that our membership continues to grow. We also called for nominations for a guest editor to assemble a 100-year celebration issue of *Kiva*, on behalf of our Publications Committee. I will call for Appreciation Award nominations from the Board of Directors in the coming days. Finally, Patrick Lyons and the Awards Committee have identified the recipients of this year's Cummings and Stoner Awards, to be announced at the 2014 Pecos Conference in Blanding, Utah.

In late May, I traveled with C. Vance Haynes, Jr. to the Murray Springs Clovis site to participate in another scoping meeting organized by the Bureau of Land Management. As many of you are aware, the Murray Springs site is being impacted by nearly 10 years of elevated groundwater



levels, a circumstance caused by the City of Sierra Vista's wastewater recharge facility located less than a mile up the draw. In concept, the recharge will halt the cone of depression that exists underneath the city and prevent it from reaching the luscious San Pedro River, so it is a tricky struggle between water resources and cultural resources.

It is easy to defend cultural resources against the construction of WalMarts and even housing, but water is king in the desert Southwest. Bruce Babbitt referred to Arizona as an "oasis society" and predicted that by the early 1980s, Arizonans would be taking no more water out of the ground than nature returns to it, but we remain an "arroyo society," pretending to live in an oasis. Long-range plans to bring abundant water to the Southwest have bordered on the fanciful. As an example, more than 20 years ago, physicist John Hult predicted that we would be using submarines to tow enormous icebergs from Antarctica to California by now, with each one providing a 2- to 3-year supply of fresh water.

I want to thank Katherine Cerino for managing such an exemplary field trip program, and I encourage you to keep your eyes open for new field trips organized by Cannon Daughtrey and Leslie Aargon in the months ahead.



### AAHS Lecture Series

All meetings are held at the Duval Auditorium, University Medical Center  
Third Monday of the month, 7:30-9:00 p.m.

- June 16, 2014: James T. Watson, *Can't We All Just Get Along? Domestic Disputes and Warfare in the Prehistoric Sonoran Desert*
- July 21, 2014: Rebecca Orozco, *La Frontera: A History of the Borderlands in Cochise County*
- August, 2014: No lecture; Pecos Conference
- Sept. 15, 2014: Paul E. Minnis, *What! No Chiles in the Ancient Southwest*

## June 16: Topic of the General Meeting

### *Can't We All Just Get Along? Domestic Disputes and Warfare in the Prehistoric Sonoran Desert*

by James T. Watson

Sibling squabbles. Coworker disagreements. Political sniping. Government protests. Full-scale warfare. The contentious nature of humans is neither new nor modern, nor exclusive to specific parts of the world. Anthropologists all over the world strive to understand our most destructive motivations and behaviors.

Numerous studies have documented violence, warfare, and perhaps even cannibalism throughout the prehistoric Desert West. Traumatic injuries are common among skeletal samples from early farming communities of the Sonoran Desert and have the potential to document some of the earliest evidence for interpersonal violence in this region. Skeletal trauma observed in a large sample of individuals from the Early Agricultural period (2100 B.C.–A.D. 50) site of La Playa, located in northern Sonora, yields strong evidence for regular violent interactions among early farmers in the Sonoran Desert.

Violence is also manifest in the unusual and irreverent interment of several individuals at the site. As residents of the earliest permanent village settlements based on agricultural investment in the region, members of these irrigation communities likely experienced considerable social tensions generated by balancing public cooperation for the management and maintenance of irrigation systems and private property interests among households controlling agricultural fields and production. Investments at specific (irrigable) locations along a narrow floodplain would have also made communities vulnerable to conflict with adjacent farming communities.

#### Suggested Readings:

Dean, Rebecca M.

2005 Site-Use Intensity, Cultural Modification of the Environment, and the Development of Agricultural Communities in Southern Arizona. *American Antiquity* 70:403–431.

Herr, Sarah

2009 The Latest Research on the Earliest Farmers. *Archaeology Southwest* 12(1).

Watson, James T.

2010 The Introduction of Agriculture and the Foundation of Biological Variation in the Southern Southwest. In *Center for Archaeological Investigations: Archaeological and Biological Variation in the New World*, edited by B. Auerback, pp. 135–171. Occasional Papers No. 36. Southern Illinois University Press, Carbondale.

Watson, James T., and Marijke Stoll

2013 Gendered Logistic Mobility among the Earliest Farmers in the Sonoran Desert. *Latin American Antiquity* 24:433–450.

*Speaker James Watson is an Assistant Curator of Bioarchaeology at the Arizona State Museum and an Assistant Professor of Anthropology at the University of Arizona. His research examines health and disease in prehistoric populations through their skeletal remains. He is specifically interested in understanding prehistoric human adaptations in desert ecosystems and the role local resources play in the adoption of agriculture and their impact on health. Current projects involve the excavation and analysis of the earliest farmers in the Sonoran Desert and of incipient agriculturalists in the Atacama Desert, along the northern coast of Chile.*



*glyphs*: Information and articles to be included in *glyphs* must be received by the first of each month for inclusion in the next month's issue. Contact me, Emilee Mead, at emilee@desert.com, or 520.881.2244.

## Upcoming AAHS Field Trips

*AAHS membership is required to participate in field trips.*

### Behind the Scenes at the Amerind

**July 26, 2014; 10:00 a.m.**

Come beat the summer heat by touring the Amerind Museum! A discounted group entry fee of \$5 gains you access to the main gallery, as well as some “behind the scenes” glimpses of the museum’s borderland collections. Located in Cochise County a mile south of I-10, the drive includes stunning views of rolling desert hills and Texas Canyon’s peculiar walls of naturally stacked granitic boulders. The facility is prized not only for the antiquity and significance of what is held inside but also for its architectural merit. Constructed in the 1930s in the Spanish Colonial Revival style, the buildings of the Amerind are a testament to Arizona’s heritage resources and another sight to see on your visit.

The tour is open to 20 people. A boxed lunch will be provided by the museum at an additional cost of \$12; options will be available. Carpooling from Tucson is encouraged; a place and time to meet will be announced.

For additional questions or if you would like to register, please contact [leslie@desert.com](mailto:leslie@desert.com) or [cannondaughtrey@email.arizona.edu](mailto:cannondaughtrey@email.arizona.edu).



### New AAHS Board Members

July 1 marks the start of the AAHS year, and we welcome four new members to our Board of Directors. John Hall (Statistical Research, Inc.) will be the new Communications Officer. Joanne Canalli (University of Arizona) will serve as our new treasurer. Jaye Smith (avocational archaeologist) and Steve Swanson (Environmental Planning Group Inc and Arizona State University) are new Members-at-Large. A special thanks to retiring Board members, Jon Boyd, George Harding, Janine Hernbrode, and Todd Pitezal.

## Guest Editor of *Kiva* Celebrate 100 Years of AAHS

In honor of the 100th anniversary of the Arizona Archaeological and Historical Society (AAHS) in 2016, the AAHS Publications Committee is seeking a guest editor to create a forward-looking issue of five to six articles about how we practice anthropology and history in the Southwest United States and northern Mexico, a region where some of the most innovative work in North America was and is being conducted. Topics could include, but are not limited to, collaborative U.S.-Mexican projects, indigenous views of history, big science/big data, the new conservation archaeology, communication to scholarly and public audiences.

AAHS seeks a guest editor who can encourage narrative articles that consider disciplinary history in the Southwest while looking forward, as well as someone who is committed to creativity in finding voices who can write for avocational and professional audiences. Proposals will also be judged based upon how well they fit with the AAHS’s objectives:

- to encourage scholarly pursuits in the history and anthropology of the southwestern United States and northern Mexico;
- to encourage the preservation of archaeological and historical sites;
- to encourage the scientific and legal gathering of cultural information and materials;
- to publish the results of archaeological, historical, and ethnographic investigations;
- to aid in the functions and programs of the Arizona State Museum; and,
- to provide educational opportunities through lectures, field trips, and other activities.

Please reply with a letter of interest that summarizes your vision for this issue, a proposed table of contents (you do not need to contact authors in advance), and a curriculum vitae. Materials should be addressed to: Publications Committee, c/o Sarah Herr ([sherr@desert.com](mailto:sherr@desert.com)) by July 1, 2014.

A draft volume will be due to the acquisitions editor of *Kiva* one year after a contract is signed for publication in volume year 81. A stipend will be offered when the final draft of the volume is submitted.

## Cornerstone

Darlene Lizarraga, Director of Marketing  
Arizona State Museum

### Year One, Job One

*Observations by Patrick Lyons after one year as director of the Arizona State Museum, and what he sees as is his greatest responsibility*

It has been one full year since Dr. Patrick D. Lyons took the reins as director of the Arizona State Museum (ASM).

“This time last year, I said it was my dream come true,” he related, sitting back in his chair at his desk. “I say that still today. I am living my dream.” Those of us who know him and work with him on a daily basis know that this is no exaggeration. The man loves his museum and loves his work.

Lyons spent seven years as the museum’s head of collections and, concurrently, four years as its associate director before being named director in 2013, following a nation-wide search. The native of Chicago is steeped in the history and accomplishments of all ASM’s eminent directors and is mindful of the importance, responsibilities, and possibilities of the office he now holds. Through multi-decade tenures, Cummings, Haury, and Thompson all left deep and abiding legacies. Just 44, one cannot help but think that Lyons has the same potential.

As he was on his first day, he remains as serious about his duties as he is enthusiastic about tackling them. Most folks do not realize how broad the responsibilities and duties of the ASM director are: from law enforcement to archaeological field work, from scholarly research to publication, from teaching to student mentoring, all in addition to the expected administrative duties of budget management, fundraising, and public relations.

I asked him if he had any observations to share, from the perspective of one full year in office. Naturally, he did.

### Job One

“It infuriates me that there are people in the state who think they can get away with violating our antiquities and burial protection laws. Chief among my duties as ASM director is the responsibility of protecting the state’s archaeological resources. I take this very seriously. It’s Job One to me”

The state has more than 100,000 recorded archaeological sites; more are being recorded all the time.

Stakeholders, including tribal communities, rely on ASM to administer state laws and to help administer federal laws which protect those sites – known and unknown, recorded and unrecorded.

ASM is the permitting authority for archaeological activity conducted anywhere in the state on state lands (this includes county and city). With an average of 140 permits issued a year, the oversight is staggering. According to the statute drafted by Byron Cummings in 1927 and later amended by Emil Haury, and then again by Raymond Thompson, the ASM director is the sole authority on such matters.

In the past year, Lyons has had to divest several archaeologists of their permits. A field archaeologist himself, Lyons is chief among those who would do archaeology in the state. “This is my house,” he said, only half joking, to put a fine point on what he considers his primary responsibility as ASM director. “It’s my signature on those permits. Most importantly, irreplaceable sites and objects are at risk. I can’t allow violation of any variety. I won’t.”

The message – archaeologists who exhibit less than the highest professional and ethical standards in the field will not work on state lands in Arizona.



*(continued on page 10)*

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## Further Reflections

Archaeological permitting authority is just the tip of the ASM directorial iceberg. As for other aspects of his responsibilities, Lyons made the following observations:

“I have an even greater understanding of how amazingly dedicated ASM faculty and staff truly are. No opportunity, at any level, is wasted. My colleagues inspire and humble me with their drive to serve our many and varied audiences. We continue to recruit, and strive to keep, the best people who can fulfill ASM’s multi-faceted mission.”

Key hires in the past year include a new business manager, a curator for American Indian relations and, search still in progress, a new head of collections.

“I love being the museum’s champion, head cheerleader, and chief fundraiser. In these roles, I can make a difference in my colleagues’ abilities to be the best at what they do – and they are the best, believe me!”

In the past year, private support for ASM has increased significantly. The museum is preparing to celebrate the completion of a new basket storage facility and the opening of a new basket exhibit, the majority of both paid for by private and tribal donations.

The next immediate priorities, which will also require significant private support, are upgrading the archaeological repository’s collections management database and moving more than 30,000 cubic feet of objects and associated research materials to an offsite storage facility.

“And finally, I am very proud of this museum – of its history, its future, and of what we all do here on a daily basis. I wish I could snap my fingers and immediately make everyone in the state understand how special ASM is, how important our work is to them, and how proud they can be of their state museum.”

## AAHS Membership Application

Membership is open to anyone interested in the prehistory and history of Arizona and the Southwest and who support the aims of the Society. Membership runs for a full year from the date of receipt, and covers all individuals living in the same household.

Monthly meetings are free and open to the public. Society field trips require membership. Members may purchase an annual JSTOR subscription to *Kiva* back issues for \$20 through the AAHS website.

### Membership Categories

- \$50 **Kiva members** receive four issues of the Society’s quarterly journal *Kiva* and 12 issues of *Glyphs*
- \$40 **Glyphs members** receive *Glyphs*
- \$35 **Student Kiva members** receive both *Kiva* and *Glyphs*
- \$75 **Contributing members** receive *Kiva*, *Glyphs*, and all current benefits
- \$120 **Supporting members** receive *Kiva*, *Glyphs*, and all current benefits
- \$300 **Sponsoring members** receive *Kiva*, *Glyphs*, and all current benefits
- \$1,000 **Lifetime members** receive *Kiva*, *Glyphs*, and all current benefits

Note: For memberships outside the U.S., please add \$20. AAHS does not release membership information to other organizations.

### Institutional Subscriptions

For institutional subscriptions to *Kiva*, contact Maney Publishing at subscriptions@maneypublishing.com or <http://maneypublishing.com/index.php/journals/kiv>.

For institutional subscriptions to *Glyphs* (\$50), contact AAHS VP for Membership at the address below.

You can join online at [www.az-arch-and-hist.org](http://www.az-arch-and-hist.org), or by mailing the form below to:

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