A mule deer in the eastern Mimbres area, southwestern New Mexico (photo by Steve Northup).

Next General Meeting: March 17, 2014
7:30 p.m., DuVal Auditorium,
University Medical Center
www.az-arch-and-hist.org

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President’s Message

by Jesse Ballenger

The 2014 Scholarship and Research fundraising campaign was hugely successful, and the Board of Directors is increasing again this year the amount of support available to student and professional researchers. Thanks to all of you who made donations, and I look forward to seeing the selections made by the Scholarship and Research Committee.

I want to thank Kay Richter and Stephen Buchmann for volunteering to inventory, scan, and photograph the Finley and Sally Richards collection. Our plan is to include the collection as part of a landscape-scale study of Middle Archaic to Early Agricultural period projectile point variability in the Sonoran Desert. Archaeologists have had a hard time teasing apart the transition to agriculture using stone tools. What’s interesting is that projectile points appear to be the only component that changed, despite an inferred shift from high residential mobility to increased logistical mobility during the forager-to-farmer transition. Either a reduction in residential mobility had little impact on stone technological strategies, or early maize agriculture did not significantly disrupt traditional settlement patterns and stone tool technologies. We anticipate that a basin-to-basin analysis of projectile point diversity, raw material, and condition will provide a valuable new look at an old problem. Financial support is needed to source the obsidian projectile points.

Finally, the annual Archaeology Expo is scheduled on March 29, at Catalina State Park near Tucson. This is a great opportunity for families in southern Arizona to attend the Expo, so please spread the word.

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.

Mar. 17, 2014: Karen Gust Schollmeyer, Hunting, Farming, and Human Impacts on the Prehistoric Southwestern Environment

April 21, 2014: Gayle Harrison Hartmann and Peter Boyle, New Perspectives on the Rock Art of Tumamoc Hill

May 19, 2014: Benjamin A. Bellorado, The Ties that Bind: The Social and Religions Context of Building Murals in the Western Mesa Verde Region

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

Nominations Now Being Accepted for the AAHS Byron S.* Cummings and Victor R. Stoner Awards

The Arizona Archaeological and Historical Society is once again accepting nominations for the Byron Cummings and Victor R. Stoner awards. The Cummings Award recognizes outstanding research and contributions to knowledge in Southwestern archaeology, anthropology, ethnology, or history. The Stoner Award celebrates the promotion of historic awareness and is given to someone who brings Southwestern anthropology, archaeology, ethnology, or history to the public over an extended period of time. These awards are presented annually at the Pecos Conference in August. Please forward nominations 5:00 p.m., April 15, to Patrick Lyons at 520.621.6276 or plyons@email.arizona.edu.

*Diligent research by Todd Bostwick, including collaborations with David Wilcox, Allen Dart, and other usual suspects, finds no evidence that Dr. Byron Cummings had a middle name. The Society is poised to rectify the record in the absence of new discoveries.
Humans have always influenced local plants and animals in the environment around their settlements. As settlements become larger and longer lived, these impacts become more pronounced and can have positive, neutral, or negative consequences for the inhabitants. In many times and places, people have wondered how to maintain access to important wild plants and animals as local human populations expanded, a situation that continues today. Archaeology can help us address this issue by providing long-term information about how plants and animals responded to different types of human activities over very long time scales, the choices past people made to adapt to these changes, and the consequences of those choices for continued access to important resources.

Permanent farming villages in the Southwest show interesting patterns in plant and animal remains. Some species thrived, maintaining or increasing their presence in the areas around villages. Others did not; for example, large hoofed mammals became less common over time in many areas. People in some locations were able to maintain higher levels of long-term access to these sensitive resources, while in other places, access declined. Long-term access to different plants and animals was related partly to characteristics of the species themselves, such as habitat needs and reproductive rates. Village location also played a large role, particularly locations in relation to productive habitat areas and to dense human populations.

Understanding factors influencing if people lost, maintained, or increased access to plants and animals over long time spans in the past may help us plan use of these resources in the future, including ways to balance conservation with economic needs and social values.

Suggested Readings:


**Speaker Karen Gust Schollmeyer** is a Preservation Archaeologist at Archaeology Southwest, a Tucson-based nonprofit organization. She grew up in Arizona, and earned her undergraduate degree at Stanford University and her doctorate from Arizona State University. She has worked on archaeological projects in the Peruvian highlands, the Ethiopian desert, and throughout the U.S. Southwest. Her research interests include zooarchaeology, long-term human-environment interactions, and food security and landscape use. She is also interested in how long-term insights by archaeologists can be applied to contemporary issues in conservation and development. Recent projects include field research in the eastern Mimbres area, interdisciplinary archaeology-ecology work with an ASU team, and an upcoming summer field school focused on Preservation Archaeology in the Upper Gila area.

**Upcoming AAHS Field Trips**
AAHS membership is required to participate in field trips.

We are looking for five volunteers for next year’s Field Trip Committee. The committee will brainstorm field trips for the year, and each member will be responsible for organizing two field trips. It’s not hard, it’s fun, and it’s much appreciated by the AAHS membership. If you are willing to help out, or if you have ideas for field trips, please contact Katherine Cerino at kcerino@gmail.com.

**Cocoraque Butte Petroglyph Site — PENDING BLM APPROVAL**
March 15, 2014
This site, west of Saguaro National Park, contains a marvelous
collection of petroglyphs, as well as some interesting features. Visiting the site requires walking about 2 miles and rock scrambling to view some of the rock art.

The tour is limited to 20 people, and will last for several hours. To register, contact Katherine Cerino at kcerino@gmail.com.

The Mission Garden
April 5, 2014

The Mission Garden is a re-creation of the Spanish Colonial walled garden that was part of Tucson’s historic San Agustín Mission. In preparation for the Río Nuevo redevelopment of the area, archaeological investigations were conducted, revealing a time depth that goes back to the Archaic period. We will explore both the historical aspect of the site and the re-created ethnobotany with Diana Hadley and Donna Tang. We will meet at the Garden at 9:00 a.m. and plan an early lunch or late brunch at the nearby Mercado San Agustin following the tour. For additional information about the Mission Garden, go to www.tucsonsbirthplace.org/tucsons-birthplace/mission-garden-project.

The tour is limited to 20 people. A $5.00 per-person donation to the Garden is requested. To reserve a space, contact Katherine Cerino at kcerino@gmail.com.

Arizona State Museum Labs
May 16, 2014; 10:00 a.m.

You will be treated to a curator-hosted, behind-the-scenes peek into storerooms, and you will see examples of the museum’s incomparable collections, some of which are the largest and most comprehensive of their kind in the world! Meet preservation scientists who will tour you through their state-of-the-art conservation laboratory and explain their work and current projects. Visit a unique zooarchaeological laboratory, where you will meet researchers who will explain how and what they learn about human behavior from studying animal bone. We will also have the opportunity to see the newly completed Basketry Vault.

Space is limited. To register, contact Suzanne Crawford at suzanne2400@gmail.com.

ARIZONA ARCHAEOLOGY EXPO
Saturday, March 29, 2014
Catalina State Park
9:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.

This year’s Archaeology Expo will be held at Catalina State Park in Tucson. In addition to displays from many archaeological organizations, including AAHS, this year’s Expo will feature talks and tours you won’t want to miss.

There will be presentations from Matt Pailes on The Place of Cerro Prieto in the Classic Hohokam World, and Janine Hernbrode on Flowers, and Butterflies, and Birds, Oh my! Rock Art at Sutherland Wash, as well as a panel discussion on How the Public Can Get Involved in Archaeology or Hey, This is Really Neat, How Can I Participate? presented by members of the Arizona Archaeological Society, Arizona Archaeological and Historical Society, Archaeology Southwest, Southwest Archaeology Team, and Arizona Site Stewards.

There will be hourly tours offered of Romero Ruin, Henry Wallace will give two tours of Honey Bee Village, and docents will be stationed at Steam Pump Ranch for tours and viewing the reconstructed prehistoric pit house built by Allen Denoyer. Sign up for tours at the Arch Expo Information booth. Warning: they fill up fast!

For more information and schedules check the website at www.azstateparks.com/archy. If you would like to help staff the AAHS booth contact Katherine Cerino at kcerino@gmail.com.
After a combined 90 years of service, the majority spent at the Arizona State Museum (ASM) and the University of Arizona (UA), distinguished Hohokam archaeologists Dr. Paul R. Fish and Dr. Suzanne K. Fish are preparing to hang up their trowels and head into semi-retirement.

Symposium as Send-off

How else would scholars and academics celebrate the careers of their colleagues? With a symposium of course. On Saturday, March 8, the Fishes’ careers and legacies, both individually and collectively, will be celebrated at a free public symposium and reception. The symposium, from 2:00–5:00 p.m., will feature papers presented by six Hohokam scholars who, as students, worked with the Fishes and who now represent the depth and breadth of the Fishes’ impact in the field. They will be joined by colleague Elisa Villalpando of Sonora, who will speak to the Fishes’ role in binational collaboration. A reception will follow the symposium, and will feature a small exhibit of artifacts and items representative of Paul and Suzy’s work.

“Paul and Suzy’s combined careers represent nearly a century of dedication to survey, excavation and analysis, publication, teaching, and public service,” remarked Dr. Patrick D. Lyons, director of ASM. “They’ve loved every minute of every aspect, loved each other at every step, raised a family along the way, and all the while, made contributions and established legacies that will endure well into the next generations of Hohokam scholarship.”

ASM has been home base for the Fishes’ research and teaching since 1980, when Paul was recruited to oversee the museum’s burgeoning responsibilities under the Arizona Antiquities Act, a response to the explosion of population, urban expansion, and new development in the state in the late 1970s, ‘80s, and ‘90s. At this time, Paul also coordinated the joint ASM-Department of Anthropology cultural resource management (CRM) master’s degree program.

From the Haury Tradition to the CRM Effect

Most folks would think that rapid and large-scale urban expansion and new development have done more harm than good in the world of archaeology and cultural resource preservation, but, in fact, the opposite is true. Archaeological survey, legally required prior to disturbance or modification on Arizona lands, opened up, quite literally, new worlds in Hohokam research.

“Our enthusiasm for Hohokam archaeology rose sharply in 1979. It was an exciting time,” said Paul. “All sorts of new data and new ideas about the nature of the Hohokam were coming forward due to CRM projects. I remember David Doyel and Fred Plog had organized a symposium at which the nature of the Hohokam was discussed and new data reviewed. We came out of that wanting to be involved.”

It was a boom time in Arizona. New communities were being founded. Existing ones were growing. New civic and residential architecture was under construction. New water delivery systems were being engineered. Highway systems were being improved and expanded. Under the category of unintended consequences, all this modern-day development concurrently and fortuitously served the needs of the Hohokam researcher by revealing details about ancient community development. Hundreds of years before, our desert-dwelling predecessors were managing and serving the needs of their sprawling communities by building civic and residential architecture, engineering water canals, and improving travel systems.

“Before this time, Emil Haury and his contemporaries had focused mainly on settlements such as Snaketown, established at major water sources,” Suzy explained. “But now, the discovery of new sites revealed many new aspects of Hohokam life, unimagined by our predecessors. It had been thought that once you got away from large and constant sources of water, such as the Salt and Gila rivers, large villages could not be sustained. Tucson had yet to be recognized as a populous and important center for the Hohokam because the Santa Cruz didn’t run year-round. But as we began to see newly revealed settlements, successful with

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smaller supplies of water, we began to see exciting things. The agricultural
techniques were ingenious, enabling desert farmers to raise crops and
successfully support large and thriving communities away from a river.”

Many substantial settlements far from the Salt and Gila rivers were
being unearthed all over the state by, for example, the Central Arizona
Project, a 336-mile-long system of aqueducts, tunnels, pumping plants,
and pipelines begun in 1973. When completed, 20 years later, it would
run from Lake Havasu to the southern boundary of the San Xavier Indian
Reservation southwest of Tucson, bringing 1.5 million acre-feet of Colorado
River water per year to Maricopa, Pinal, and Pima counties. Such large-
scale, long-term public works projects brought dramatically increased
funding for legally mandated archaeological investigation.

“With so many well-funded cultural resource management studies
on the horizon, we asked where we might contribute most to Hohokam
research and scholarship,” remembered Paul. “Our solution was the
Northern Tucson Basin Survey, undertaken with our ASM colleague John
Madsen, many collaborators, and more than 200 students by the time it was
finished. The project was designed to provide a regional framework for the
many scattered excavations and surveys so that they could be seen as part
of a changing landscape of Hohokam settlements and society.”

From Hippies in Love to Power Couple in the Field

“We were sort of hippies, you know. It was the ‘60s,” joked Paul.
He (Ph.D., ASU, 1976), from Michigan, and Suzy (Ph.D. UA, 1993), from
Texas, met in 1969, in Arizona, at a new student
orientation. Graduate assistant Paul was behind
a registration table matriculating his incoming
student colleagues. Newbie Suzy approached, took
the initiative to invite him to lunch that day, and
thus began a match made in archaeological heaven.

They married in 1971, in Ann Arbor, Michigan,
where Suzy was practicing her specialty of
analyzing archaeological pollen samples from
Mexican excavations.

Next came a teaching stint at Georgia for Paul,
field projects in Mexico and Georgia for Suzy, and two children—son

“I heard reports of Marcus, at a year old, happily eating spicy food in
a hotel kitchen in Amecameca,” laughed Paul.
“Local ladies took care of the baby there while
Suzy worked in the field.”

With two kids in tow, the young family
was in Tucson permanently by 1980—Paul
at ASM and Suzy, finishing her Ph.D., with a
consulting business in pollen analysis. “After
returning to Arizona, we began to work in the
field together around town so that we could
get the kids to soccer practice after school,”
said Suzy. Eventually, she would join Paul as a
curator at ASM.

From 1980 to the present, Paul and Suzy, with many collaborators and
students, have explored numerous sites in the Tucson Basin and northern
Sonora. Their work has examined Hohokam organization from the level of
individual settlements to regional patterns, and has illuminated a diversity
of ancient agricultural and water management practices in the Sonoran
Desert. Their research and excavations include:

- Los Morteros/Linda Vista Hill Trincheras Project (1998)
- University Indian Ruins (2010–present)

“Paul and Suzy have been a central force in the museum’s research
division for decades, providing a model and guidance for their colleagues
on depth, breadth, and quality of archaeological investigation,” said Dr.
James Watson, head of ASM’s research division. “They leave a legacy, not
just of inspired research, but as models for community engagement, an
admirable aspect that is completely lacking in many academic research
institutions.”

The Family that Digs Together Stays Together

Paul and Suzy have brought togetherness to a whole new level,
making both marriage and careers work despite being together day after
day after day. When asked if there had ever been significant professional

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disagreements, Suzy simply joked, “Oh, I can tell you a few times Paul has been very wrong, but not many.”

“We stay very busy and since we emphasize somewhat different areas, we don’t overlap or get in each other’s way very often,” said Paul. “I tend to focus on settlement pattern aspects while Suzy tends to follow ethnobotanical research and societal organization.”

And what of the kids? “Although they grew up in the field with us, and perhaps because of that very fact, the kids never really wanted to be archaeologists themselves,” said Suzy.

“Archaeology certainly looms large in their collective memories, though,” added Paul. “Our family history is told in terms of this field season here or that field season there.”

Fondest Field Memory/Greatest Discovery
Both are interested in traditional agricultural practices and so Paul and Suzy quickly cited a favorite moment when they realized just how large the practice of agave cultivation actually was. Paul recalled, “Sitting under the shade of a mesquite tree near the Marana Mound, looking out at roasting pits in preserved Hohokam fields, we could see just how much land was involved in the cultivation of this very important, drought-resistant crop.”

For Suzy, who spent most of her early years working in central Mexico, another major insight came when she began to see similarities between the development of Hohokam societies and the early villages and towns of ancient Mexico.

Seeing an Ever-evolving Profession Evolve
“A very positive evolution in Southwest archaeology is the regular and common practice now, to consult with descendent communities,” said Suzy. “We’ve seen archaeology improved over the years because of this—for the input, the insight, and their special sets of goals and objectives. And, most importantly, more and more Native people are directly involved in archaeological research and that can only be a good thing.”

In addition, the Fishes have collaborated with many colleagues across the border through the Instituto Nacional de Antropología e Historia (INAH) in northern and central Mexico. And, over the years, they have established strong ties with Brazilian archaeologists through a series of workshops and summer projects there, along with student and scholar exchanges.

A Lasting Legacy
“Archaeology doesn’t belong to the archaeologist,” Suzy pointed out. “It’s a public pursuit, conducted in the public interest. The public wants to know about it and should know about it. I’ve loved teaching, working with volunteers, interacting with AAHS, consulting with members of Native communities, and collaborating with our colleagues across the border. And I’m proud of the fact that we’ve helped bring the archaeological communities of Arizona and Sonora closer together.”

“Working with students is a big part of a satisfying career,” added Paul. “As far as a legacy, I would hope exposing all those students to archaeology, and even to interdisciplinary studies about arid lands, will have a positive impact into the future.”

Indeed, the Fishes, over the decades, have taught innumerable students in the classroom, in the laboratory, and in the field. And, in an effort to make their research and scholarship accessible to the public, the Fishes have given scores of scholarly lectures and public talks, conducted workshops, participated in panel discussions, presented at symposia, led field trips, organized travel tours, and have published many articles and books.

The Hohokam Millennium, the 2007 compilation of state-of-the-discipline essays, co-edited by the Fishes, is a supreme example of a content-rich but (continued on page 14)
Not Quite Ready for Rocking Chairs

Although they are retiring from fieldwork, they both have book projects on tap, and are intending to re-examine the Tucson Hohokam Classic period through existing collections at ASM.

“Now is the time to go back and look at all those Hohokam discoveries of recent years,” said Paul. “We need to ask new questions, and when possible, use scientific technologies to extract new information from those existing collections.

“There are lots of things to write up,” added Suzy. “And, of course, we will continue to participate in our respective national organizations.”

The Future of Hohokam Studies at ASM

“ASM has been a seat of Hohokam studies since the 1930s;” reflected ASM Director Patrick Lyons. “The Fishes retiring from the field causes a potential gap in that long-standing and essential tradition. It is our vision to establish an Endowed Chair in Hohokam Studies—a constant and well-funded source specifically in support of a Hohokam expert at ASM.”

The museum intends to announce its vision and launch its fund-raising efforts toward this goal at the March 8 symposium. In the meantime, Lyons says he expects to see Paul and Suzy at the museum on a regular basis, conducting and concluding their ongoing research projects. “As long as they wish to continue their work, ASM will continue to be their proud home.”
The objectives of the Arizona Archaeological and Historical Society are to encourage scholarly pursuits in areas of 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, University of Arizona; and to provide educational opportunities through lectures, field trips, and other activities. See inside back cover for information about the Society's programs and membership and subscription requirements.