GLYPHS
The Monthly Newsletter of the
Arizona Archaeological and Historical Society
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Members of the Green Expedition excavating in Grand Gulch, Utah, in 1891. (Credit: Cowboys and Cave Dwellers, 1997, p. 68. Field Museum of Natural History, Negative No. 63329)

Next General Meeting: October 21, 2013
7:30 p.m., Duval Auditorium, University Medical Center
www.az-arch-and-hist.org
PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

October has always been my favorite time of year. I decided this when I was a college freshman, a time when so many young men ponder the question of their favorite season. Speaking of seasons, a few months ago I pitted the climate predictions of the Old Farmer’s Almanac against the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). According to the latter, the farmers are winning this summer. The U.S. Seasonal Drought Outlook indicates drought improvement or removal from eastern Arizona to beyond west Texas, where NOAA previously forecasted hot and dry conditions. I suppose it was hot and dry out there at times though, so, I’ll continue to pay my taxes and hope that they have better luck next year.

The Board of Directors reconvened on September 11, after their traditional August break. Absence does make the heart grow fonder, so they accomplished a lot of work. I abruptly adjourned the meeting after 8:45 p.m., because they wouldn’t stop yammering about how much they plan to help the Society. We are fortunate to have them. They have a busy holiday season of events, so I encourage interested members to look for volunteer opportunities.

Speaking of volunteer opportunities, the Society has initiated two projects that will result in what promises to be interesting research and preservation tasks. One of these is the Fort Mason Project, aimed at assisting the Arizona State Museum with its acquisition and processing of a large collection of 1st U.S. Dragoon (1st U.S. Cavalry) artifacts mostly deposited between 1865 and 1866. A separate project is focused on the analysis of the Finley and Sally Richards collection of projectile points from the 1950s ranchlands of southeastern Arizona and southwestern New Mexico. Both of these will be rewarding experiences for members.

Finally, I assume that most of you are by now intimately familiar with a new genre of TV about digging things up. These shows glorify the thrill of finding a rare artifact with your metal detector, digging it up, and then convincing the star-struck owner of the local antique store to shell out good money for it. The act of digging holds the whole thing together, though. The shows are good drama for archaeologists because they make you both laugh and cry. Regrettably, they are promoting a new wave of profit-minded relic hunters.

I admit that I love metal detecting, but my forte is mapping city volleyball courts. I found $1.36 last winter. Of course, there are parks in Tucson where metal detecting is prohibited, and occasionally someone asks me if what I’m doing is legal. The web page of one show, American Digger, provides a link to the Society for American Archaeology’s information page about laws regarding metal detecting. Oklahoma’s archaeological legislation was one of the featured examples. I recently clicked there to see if they had anything to say about volleyball courts, but that only led me to a defunct web page for the City of Okeene. Wondering what that could mean, I searched for “Okeene metal detecting.” As it turns out, there is a Treasure Hunting Dating Community of Okeene. I don’t know what the Oklahoma legislatures will do about that, but TV could have a new reality show.

—Jesse Ballenger

AAHS LECTURE SERIES

All meetings are held at the University Medical Center, Duval Auditorium
Third Monday of the month, 7:30–9:00 p.m.
Oct. 21, 2013: Laurie Webster, New Research with the Earliest Perishable Collections from Southeastern Utah
Nov. 18, 2013: J. Jefferson Reid, Prehistory, Personality, and Place: Emil W. Haury and the Mogollon Controversy
Dec. 16, 2013: Stephen H. Lekson, Mimbres: Its Causes and Consequences and AAHS Annual Holiday Party (lecture and party will be held at ASM)

2013 APPRECIATION AWARDS

OCTOBER 21, 2013 GENERAL MEETING

At the July 2013 Arizona Archaeological and Historical Society board meeting, it was moved and seconded that 2013 Appreciation Awards be prepared for Jenny Adams, Jeff Clark, Sarah Herr, Homer Thiel, and Donna Yoder. The motion passed unanimously. Please join us in acknowledging their professional service and dedication to our Society.

AAHS/TMA NAVAJO TEXTILE STUDY GROUP MEETING

In cooperation with the Tucson Museum of Art, we meet to study historic trends in Southwestern textiles. Tuesday, October 22, Arizona State Museum will host Laurie Webster to present “Two Thousand Years of Pueblo Weaving and Its Impact on the Navajo Textile Tradition. For details about the event and location details, contact Marie Lynn Hunken at NavajoRugInfo@gmail.com.
AAHS HAPPENINGS

TOPIC OF THE OCTOBER 21 GENERAL MEETING

New Research with the Earliest Perishable Collections from Southeastern Utah
by Laurie D. Webster

During the 1890s, local collectors, including Richard Wetherill, Charles McLoyd, Charles Cary Graham, Platt Lyman, and Charley Lang, excavated thousands of Basketmaker and Pueblo-period artifacts from rockshelters and cliff houses in southeastern Utah and shipped them to museums outside the Southwest. The majority of these artifacts are composed of perishable organic raw materials, and many survive in near-perfect condition. Despite their importance, only a handful of these artifacts have been systematically studied or published.

Following the groundbreaking work of the Wetherill-Grand Gulch Project in the 1980s to determine the present locations of these collections (see Cowboys and Cave Dwellers below), Webster began a long-term study to photo-document the textiles, baskets, sandals, hides, wooden implements, and other perishable artifacts to make them more widely known to other archaeologists and the public. In 2011 and 2012, she documented two of these collections at the Field Museum of Natural History in Chicago: the Green Collection compiled by McLoyd and Graham in Grand Gulch in 1891, and the Ryerson-Lang Collection made by Lang and colleagues in Grand Gulch and the surrounding area in 1894–1895. In this presentation, Webster will discuss her work with these collections and highlight some of the more remarkable 1,000- to 2,000-year-old perishable artifacts recovered from the region.

Suggested Readings:
Hurst, Winston 1996 Colonizing the Dead: Early Archaeology in Western San Juan County. Blue Mountain Shadows 17:2–13.
UPCOMING AAHS FIELD TRIPS

AAHS membership is required to participate in field trips. Prospective members may attend one AAHS field trip prior to joining.

Safford Hanging Canals and Pottery of the Mills Collection
October 19, 2013

We will leave Tucson at 8:00 a.m. to travel to the Safford area, about 135 miles from Tucson. With our guide, Don Lancaster, we will view a few of the more accessible of the 27 canals (more than 40 miles in length). These unique canals, which have recently been rediscovered, are a spectacular engineering and stunningly efficient water-carrying system. They differ from canals in the Tucson and Phoenix basins in that their water is obtained from mountain drainages fed by runoff springs and artesian sources rather than from rivers. They traverse vertically undulating and severely erratic uplands. More information can be found at www.tinaja.com/canal/cansum1.pdf and at www.tinaja.com/tinsamp1.shtml.

For this portion of the trip, high-clearance vehicles are recommended but walking distances are minimal (less than one mile). It is also a bit cooler in Safford!

After lunch at El Mezquite Taqueria (www.facebook.com/ElMezquiteTaqueria) in Pima, we will visit the Discovery Center, where a portion of the Mills Collection of prehistoric pottery is housed. We should be on the road back to Tucson around 3:00 p.m.

To sign up for the trip, please email Katherine Cerino at kcerino@gmail.com.

Pueblo Grande / Mesa Grande Mound Sites (Phoenix)
November 16, 2013

Led by Laurene Montero, Phoenix City Archaeologist, and Jerry Howard, Director, Mesa Grande Archaeological Project

Pueblo Grande features a large platform mound with retaining walls, which was once surmounted by walled structures. There were also many houses and at least three ballcourts, probably constructed starting 750 C.E. We will also visit irrigation canals at the Park of Four Waters. After a picnic lunch, we’ll visit Mesa Grande Cultural Park, which showcases a platform mound, built between A.D. 1100 and 1450. The mound was the public and ceremonial center for one of the largest Hohokam villages in the Salt River Valley, a residential area that extended for more than a mile along the terrace overlooking the river.

To sign up, contact Lynn Ratener at lynnratener@cox.net.

Tour of Murray Springs and Other Mammoth Kill Sites
December 7, 2013

Dr. Jesse Ballenger will lead this field trip starting at the Murray Springs site outside Sierra Vista. Murray Springs was recently designated a National Historic Landmark. Dr. Ballenger will guide us through the site, covering the history of investigations there from 1966 to the present, and describing the challenges faced by managers to preserve the site. After Murray Springs, we will continue to the Lehner Clovis site. This site witnessed the demise of approximately 13 mammoth, perhaps in a single event. The tour will end at the Turquoise Valley Golf and RV Park in Naco, Arizona, not far from where Emil Haury excavated a single mammoth kill in 1952. We may also make a quick visit to Camp Naco, a 1917 post erected as part of the Mexican Border Project.

Participants who do not want to do the full-day tour may opt to just visit the Murray Springs site. The Murray Springs interpretive trail is ¾ mile, and it includes one deep arroyo crossing with footsteps. The Lehner, Palominas, and Naco area stops are each about ¼-mile walks, with minimal rough terrain.

We will meet at Houghton Road and I-10 at 9:00 a.m. to carpool and will be back around 4:00 p.m. We plan to picnic at the San Pedro House (which does sell cold drinks). The tour is limited to 20 people. To sign up, send an email to kcerino@gmail.com.

Save the Date!
January 25, 2014: Sutherland Rock Art District  [led by Janine Hernbrode; organized by David McLean]

PALEOINDIAN ODYSSEY CONFERENCE

The Center for the Study of the First Americans is excited to present three days of public lectures by leaders in the field of first Americans studies, as well as posters and artifact displays. The conference is open to the public and will be held October 17–19, 2013, in Santa Fe, New Mexico. The Center is excited not only about visiting this gorgeous and historic place, but also reaching a large audience of professionals, avocationalists, and members of the public interested in the Ice Age peopling of the New World.

Additional information is available at: paleoamericanodyssey.com/index.html.
The Bajada Canals of the Safford Basin: Small Corporate Group Collaboration in Southeastern Arizona

by James A. Neely
University of Texas at Austin
Don Lancaster
P.O. Box 809
Thatcher, AZ 85552

Continued from the September 2013 issue of Glyphs...

A number of unusual constructions were incorporated into some of these canal systems; two examples are: an aqueduct, about 1.5 m in height and 100 m long, was constructed to bridge a “saddle” in the topography associated with prehistoric segment of the Lebanon Canal. At a point where the primary Frye Mesa Canal is situated near the top edge of the mesa, a branching “counterflow” canal was excavated down the mesa slope at an acute angle, apparently to irrigate fields lying below and behind the point of branching.

Several canal systems illustrate elaborate methods of purposeful switching of the water routes between major delivery drainages. In sum, these systems appear to represent a major understanding and a very careful exploitation of both hydraulic fundamentals as well as extreme energy and use efficiency.

Engineering can be defined as a sense of the fitness of things. Aply meeting these criteria, the Safford Basin bajada canal systems are a sophisticated innovation that is superbly energy optimal and a brilliant engineering solution for reliable water transport and delivery over the basin and range topography of the area. They are a phenomenal adaptation to an arid environment to irrigate agricultural fields distant from a once apparently abundant water source.

The discovery of these canals and our continuing survey in the Safford Basin suggests the basin was a prehistoric population center and a major supplier of cultivated crops. Survey in Lefthand Canyon (near the western boundary of our survey) and Marijilda Canyon (near the eastern boundary of our survey) has recorded a rather heavy population concentrated along the canals, but the sites are nearly all small and scattered. Survey along many of the other canals recorded only a few small sites. These findings provide evidence in the form of agricultural intensification and settlement that points to a sociopolitical organization based on the collaboration and collective action of small corporate groups rather than a more complex social stratification and sociopolitical structure. These findings parallel those reported by Hunt et al. (2005) on the Hohokam area. As a Hohokam presence has been noted for the Safford Basin, we might suggest that Hohokam migrants may have, at least in part, engineered the sophisticated canal constructions.

Suggested Reading:
Hunt, R. C., D. Guillet, D. R. Abbott, J. Bayman, P. Fish, S. Fish, K. Kintigh, and J. A. Neely

Looking down canal at the narrow, nearly completely filled channel of the Robinson Canal as it courses along the steep side of a mesa on its way to fields on Robinson Flat. Note the illusion of the canal coursing upslope.

Canal (middle ground) going around a contour on the western side of the long, narrow mesa landform near the mouth of Marijilda Canyon. At this point, the canal is approximately 50 m above the basin to the west. Again, the canal coursing upslope illusion is discernible.

GLYPHS: Information and articles to be included in Glyphs must be received by the 10th of each month for inclusion in the next month’s issue. Contact me, Emilee Mead, at emilee@desert.com or 520.881.2244.
Preliminary Excavations at the Largo Gap Great House, West-central New Mexico

by Kristin Safi
Washington State University
[AAHS 2012 Grant Recipient]

The Largo Gap great house, LA 3918, is one of seven Pueblo II period (PII) Chacoan-style great houses located in the southern Cibola region of west-central New Mexico. These great houses are located on the margins of the Chacoan system at an interface between Pueblo and Mogollon culture groups with the material culture present reflecting a mixture of both traditions. Recent research at Largo Gap examines the extent to which the great house reflects ideas and activities promoted by PII period populations within Chaco Canyon and participated in a larger regional interaction group. Here, I present preliminary excavation results identifying architectural characteristics of the Largo Gap great house reflecting an ideational link to the Chacoan system.

The Largo Gap great house is located in prominent view on a small hill within the Largo-Carrizo Wash as it cuts through Tejana Mesa to the east. During the 2012 field season, a Washington State University-based crew began mapping and placing test excavations within the Largo Gap great house and middens. In contrast to earlier site maps, our mapping highlighted a D-shape structure with a large rectangular central block located at the top of rise, giving the impression of a two-story building. The overall shape, location, and emphasized building height are reminiscent of the monumental structures observed within Chaco Canyon, suggesting Largo Gap’s builders were familiar with canyon-style architecture.

But do these features represent intimate knowledge of building techniques or do they reflect emulation of Chacoan ideals? Our test excavations targeted external and internal walls to examine whether less visible Chacoan architectural conventions, such as core and veneer masonry, were utilized at Largo Gap. We assumed external Chacoan-style masonry but a lack of similar interior masonry would indicate emulation by the builders rather than direct knowledge.

A unit placed at the interface between the front external wall of the main rectangular block and an adjacent side room revealed Chacoan-style Type II banded masonry on both faces. A second unit was located along the same wall and excavated into the interior of the blocked-in kiva, located in the central block. While not enough of the internal wall remained to identify the construction technique, several Chacoan-style kiva characteristics were identified. Most notable is a lower curved wall, which may be a bench, displaying Type II-style masonry. Other features include a large rectangular hearth, a vent shaft or wall niche, and a deflector/covering stone. The room showed no evidence of ritual burning.

Preliminary excavations at Largo Gap identified several features linking its construction to architectural characteristics of Chaco Canyon, supporting Largo Gap’s participation within a Chacoan regional sphere. However, the extent to which Mogollon characteristics are also represented, particularly within the blocked-in kiva, remains unclear. Continuing research at Largo Gap aims to resolve this uncertainty to better understand the role and use of Chacoan-style great houses on the margins of the Chacoan sphere.
The Cornerstone ————————————

Chemistry that Serves the Community

Meet David Smith, a chemist with a sense of community service. He is one of Arizona State Museum’s (ASM) highly skilled and dedicated volunteers.

Smith is an adjunct conservator in ASM’s Preservation Division and a recently retired adjunct faculty member in the University of Arizona’s Department of Chemistry. He also works as a senior engineering fellow at Raytheon Corporation in Tucson.

With more than 40 years of experience, Smith has a vast knowledge of analytical chemistry—the separation, identification, and quantification of the chemical components of natural and artificial materials.

Smith developed an interest in the conservation of cultural objects when he began working with ASM Conservator Dr. Nancy Odegaard in 1998, testing Hopi sacred objects for pesticide residues. After that experience, he was hooked, and thus began a long volunteer relationship.

“My relationship with Nancy began serendipitously through a common coworker and initially focused on the assessment of toxic residues on artifacts,” said Smith. “While we continue to collaborate on this important issue, our research efforts now include a variety of projects, employing diverse analytical techniques, and using equipment across the university campus.”

“Conservators are materials scientists who strive to understand the complex chemical makeup of an object’s fabric, whether it be fiber, ceramic, metal, leather, glass, paper, or any mix of an infinite number of possibilities,” explained Odegaard, head of ASM’s Preservation Division and one of the world’s foremost object conservators. “Analytical chemistry, therefore, is the foundation of this profession. Any time a chemist becomes interested in museum work it is a blessing to my lab, to the museum, and to the communities we serve.”

For 15 years, Smith has worked with Odegaard on the analysis of heavy metal toxins in southwestern pigments and on the interpretation of toxic pesticide residues on cultural objects. Working as part of a team including tribal elders, cultural preservation officers, conservators, and medical toxicologists, Smith has helped numerous tribal communities and cultural institutions to understand, use, and retire objects of cultural patrimony that have undergone repatriation.

Of his collaborations, he said, “Coming to conservation from the pragmatic world of science has required me to expand my horizons into the area of cultural sensitivity. It has allowed me to grow in my understanding and respect for not just the chemistry and the materials, but the meaning of objects within different cultures.”

Smith’s current research projects include: (1) the release of arsenic in trade beads suffering from glass disease, (2) the de-activation of black powder cartridges in museum collections, (3) the identification of ancient nicotine residues, and (4) the identification of ancient corn residues.

“My team members are key to the research conducted in this lab, which relies on chemistry,” explained Odegaard. “David is one of my top two chemist volunteers. I am so grateful he has remained an interested and dedicated volunteer over the past 15 years. He is an outstanding collaborator.”

Smith, with Odegaard, has co-taught courses in materials characterization of cultural objects at the University of Arizona, cross-listed in chemistry, anthropology, and materials science and engineering. He has also taught short courses with Odegaard at the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City. Additionally, he has helped develop student research projects using FTIR, pXRF, and GC-SPME technologies.

“A commitment to cultural preservation is far from ordinary for most scientists,” Odegaard noted. “Discretion with culturally sensitive issues, a genuine interest in the people who make cultural objects, and a commitment to solving problems of cultural significance is not typical of most chemists.”

Indeed, Smith has that special mind set which compels him to use his knowledge and skills for a higher purpose and a greater good. As a result of his contributions to the conservation field, Smith was invited in 2007 to be a research associate at the Smithsonian’s Museum Conservation Institute.

“As Nancy stated, scientists are generally data-driven individuals and are trained to look at the world objectively,” noted Smith. “Coming to conservation science has caused me to change my approach to the world, broadening my interests in the cultural use of materials and my understanding of peoples and cultures.”

“Dave is an excellent analyst and teacher,” concluded Odegaard. “His tenure with us attests to his amazing ability to communicate knowledge and mentor others.”

The Cornerstone is presented by:
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**STUDENTS’ CORNER**

Gaining more student members and providing more benefits to students is a ongoing concern for the AAHS. As such I, the student representative, welcome comments from our current student members on how this society can do both. I can be contacted at bencurry@email.arizona.edu (please provide a clear subject line that does not sound like spam). As part of this goal, a table was set up in the Haury Building at the University of Arizona last month specifically for students. The table gave students a chance to meet with the AAHS with me, purchase back issues of *Kiva*, purchase AAHS t-shirts, pickup copies of *Glyphs*, and fill out membership forms. However, this corner piece was written before that actually happened, so reporting how effective the table was will have to wait for the next issue.

Again, I would like to invite student members to submit short pieces summarizing their research to the student corner. Please send submissions to the above email. This is an opportunity to showcase your (student members) research in an informal setting and a chance for other AAHS members to get to know you and coming archaeologists. The submissions should be short, under 500 words or so, with exceptions made for some special cases.

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**ARCHAEOLOGY SOUTHWEST’S ARCHAEOLOGY CAFÉ**

Archaeology Southwest and Casa Vincente invite you to the Archaeology Café, a casual discussion forum dedicated to promoting community engagement with cultural and scientific research. Meetings are at 6:00 p.m. Casa Vicente is located at 375 S. Stone Avenue. The café is free and open to the community. The remainder of the 2013–2014 season includes:

- **Oct. 1:** David Doyel, *Archaeology in the Great Bend of the Gila*
- **Nov. 5:** E. Charles Adams, *3,000 Years of Migration: Rock Art Ranch to Homol’ovi*
- **Dec. 3:** T. J. Ferguson, *Collaboration with Descendant Communities*
- **Jan. 14:** Patrick Lyons and Suzanne Eckert, *Southwestern Potters and Gender: Implications for Understanding Craft Production*
- **Feb. 4:** Homer Thiel and Bill Doelle, *Rio Nuevo Archaeology*
- **Mar. 4:** Peggy Nelson, *The Lives of People and Houses: Mimbres and Beyond*
- **Apr. 8:** Arthur Vokes, *Exotic Exchanges*
- **May 6:** Lewis Borck, *Livin’ on the Edge (of Salado): An Examination of Life, Community, and Resistance on the Frontier of an Expansive Ideology*

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**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, or by mailing the form below to:

Michael Diehl, VP Membership
Arizona Archaeological and Historical Society
Arizona State Museum, The University of Arizona
Tucson, AZ 85721-0026

Name: ___________________________________________ Phone: ___________
Address: __________________________________________________________________________
City: __________________________________ State: ___________ Zip: ______________
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**2012-2013**

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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.