



# GLYPHS

The Monthly Newsletter of the  
Arizona Archaeological and Historical Society  
An Affiliate of the Arizona State Museum, University of Arizona  
Founded in 1916



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*Basketry ladle from the West Ruin of Aztec. Ladle has a rattle handle and bears the remains of a red clay coating; it was probably once painted with a geometric design. (American Museum of Natural History catalog number 29.1/3219; illustrated with permission of the American Museum)*

Next General Meeting: October 15, 2007

<<http://www.statemuseum.arizona.edu/aahs/aahs.shtml>>

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



A major objective of the AAHS is to promote preservation of archaeological and historical sites. This goal is prominent both in the Articles of Incorporation of the society and in its bylaws.

The next two field trips are to sites near Tucson that highlight the importance of preservation in this growing region. We will visit Tumamoc Hill on October 27, and the San Pedro River Valley on November 17.

Tumamoc Hill is a *trincheras* (walled, terraced) site that was occupied in the 500 B.C.–A.D. 500 time frame and that has extensive rock art, largely dating from later Hohokam time periods. Unfortunately, its proximity to central Tucson has exposed these cultural resources to ongoing threats. Today, the summit is disturbed by the presence of a number of small buildings and communications towers, as well as by the presence of a great deal of modern graffiti, some of which defaces prehistoric rock art.

Tumamoc Hill is now the focus of significant research. Drs. Paul and Suzanne Fish of ASM have been studying the site intensively the past few years, and AAHS is conducting fieldwork there to record rock art, as well as graffiti and other disturbances. A major objective of the AAHS work is to assess disturbance of the rock art since it was originally studied by AAHS in the 1970s, and to clearly document its present condition. The data will be used to support

efforts to protect the site and to provide a benchmark against which future change can be measured.

The Lower San Pedro River Valley is extremely rich in archaeological sites. There are a number of Hohokam ballcourt and platform mound sites, Puebloan migrant sites, and later Sobaipuri sites. These have been studied extensively by researchers at the Center for Desert Archaeology in Tucson, co-sponsor of the field trip in November. It is clear from their research that this is a very important archaeological area; thus far, it has escaped the urban expansion that has destroyed so many sites in Tucson and Phoenix.

Personnel at the Arizona Department of Transportation (ADOT) are currently considering the San Pedro River Valley as an interstate highway bypass route around Tucson. Many believe construction of such a highway would directly endanger these sites and would result in subsequent growth in the area that would further threaten them. Residents of the area are strongly opposing the bypass proposal, as are several groups concerned with preserving the ecological and archaeological integrity of the San Pedro Valley. There is additional information on this in the "Take Action!" section of the Center for Desert Archaeology's website, <<http://www.cdarc.org>>, as well as links to other sites that provide background, perspective, and a way to submit your comments directly to ADOT.

Today, it is possible to visit and study Tumamoc Hill and the many sites along the San Pedro River. Decisions we make now will determine if this will continue to be true for future generations. I urge you to make your

point of view known on these issues and to join us on the field trips to learn about and enjoy these wonderful cultural resources.

—Peter Boyle, President

## 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. 15, 2007: Laurie Webster, *Out of the Museum Basement: The Textiles, Baskets, and Painted Wood from Pueblo Bonito and Aztec Ruins*
- Nov. 19, 2007: Eric Klucas, *Recent Archaeological Work on the Colonial Period in the Tucson Basin*
- Dec. 17, 2007: Doug Gann, *Preservation Archaeology at Casa Malpais*
- Jan. 21, 2008: John Ware, *Pueblo Social History: Upstreaming into the Past*

## APPRECIATION AWARD TO JAMES E. (JIM) AYRES

In June of this year, Jim Ayres announced the presentation of Appreciation Awards to several individuals for their contributions to AAHS. The Board of Directors has approved one additional Appreciation Award, and that award is being presented to Jim.

Jim recently completed a three-year term as President of AAHS, during which time he contributed much to the society. The society is now offering more programs and activities than before and is beginning to bolster membership. AAHS is strongly supporting its publications and striving to improve them. And importantly, the society is in an improved financial position. Of particular note is that the Haury Fund has recently reached a long-standing financial goal and can now be used as a resource to sustain the excellence of our publications.

Jim's personal involvement in these and many other facets of the society has been a major factor in strengthening AAHS and setting the stage for continued success.

## AAHS HAPPENINGS

### TOPIC OF THE OCTOBER 15 GENERAL MEETING

#### Out of the Museum Basement: The Textiles, Baskets, and Painted Wood from Pueblo Bonito and Aztec Ruins

by Laurie Webster

Few visitors to Chaco Culture National Historical Park and Aztec Ruins National Monument realize that thousands of perishable artifacts were preserved within the massive walls of these multistoried great houses. Significant quantities of woven textiles, baskets, mats, sandals, painted ritual wooden objects, and other perishable items were recovered from Pueblo Bonito, Pueblo del Arroyo, Chetro Ketl, Peñasco Blanco, and the East and West Ruins of Aztec, where the thick standing walls and relatively intact ceilings produced unique environments conducive to the preservation of organic materials. Although decades have passed since George Pepper, Neil Judd, Edgar Lee Hewitt, and Earl Morris conducted excavations at Chaco and Aztec, most of the perishable artifacts they recovered remain unpublished and unknown to archaeologists and the general public.

In 2004, I began a study of the perishable collections from Aztec Ruins

and Chaco Canyon. Since then, more than 1,500 worked perishable artifacts have been identified from the West Ruin of Aztec and another 800 from Pueblo Bonito. In this presentation, I will discuss some of the more remarkable perishable artifacts recovered from these eleventh and twelfth century great-house communities, and I will explore evidence for political, religious, and social ties between the people of Chaco and Aztec.

Morris, Earl H.

1919 *The Aztec Ruin*. Anthropological Papers No. 26(1). American Museum of Natural History, New York.

Pepper, George H.

1920 *Pueblo Bonito*. Anthropological Papers Vol. XXVII. American Museum of Natural History, New York.

Webster, Laurie D.

2006 Ritual Uses of Textiles and Basketry. In *Salmon Pueblo: Chacoan Outlier and Thirteenth-century Middle San Juan Community Center*, edited by P. F. Reed. *Archaeology Southwest* 20(3):11.

*Speaker Laurie Webster is an anthropologist specializing in the indigenous textile traditions of the U.S. Southwest. Her publications include Beyond Cloth and Cordage: Archaeological Textile Research in the Americas (with Penelope Drooker) and Collecting the Weaver's Art. She recently edited a special Kiva issue on perishables research. Dr. Webster resides in Tucson, Arizona.*

## TUMAMOC HILL: THE OCTOBER AAHS FIELD TRIP

October 27, 2007; 9:00 a.m.

Tumamoc Hill is one of only a handful of *trincheras*, or terraced hillside sites, in the Tucson Basin. It appears to have been occupied between about 300 B.C. and A.D. 400, by Early Agricultural people. It was subsequently used by the Hohokam. Its features include terraces, walls, petroglyphs, trails, bedrock mortars, and approximately 150 rock-outlined pit structures. AAHS members are currently resurveying the rock art of Tumamoc, which was originally recorded in 1974–1977, by ASM staff member Alan Ferg.

Drs. Paul and Suzy Fish, who are currently conducting archaeological investigations at this site, will lead the first part of the tour. We will then break into groups led by AAHS members to view the petroglyphs. This will involve a small amount of rock scrambling. An optional lunch at a nearby restaurant will conclude the tour.

Participants will meet at 9:00 a.m. in the Safeway parking lot on the southeast corner of Silverbell Road and St. Mary's Road to carpool up the hill (park behind the 7-11). Group size is limited to 21. To make reservations, e-mail Katherine Cerino at <kcerino@gmail.com>.

## ASM LEARNING EXPEDITION TO MEXICO

### Tucson, Tula, and Tlaxcala: 4,000 Years of Cultural Interaction

June 7–16, 2008

Discover roots of American Southwest cultures by exploring Mesoamerican and Spanish colonial sites in central Mexico with ASM archaeologists and historians. You will trace 2,000 miles and 4,000 years of cross-cultural contact and exchange. Based in Mexico City, your 10-day adventure features visits to the cities of Puebla and Tlaxcala; major archaeological sites such as Teotihuacán and Tula; cathedrals, open-air markets, palaces, monasteries, and museums—all emphasizing links between central Mexico and the American Southwest. Experience and enjoy the artistic traditions, culinary delights, and dynamic history of this connection.

ASM scholars leading the expedition are: Paul Fish, curator of archaeology and professor of anthropology; Suzanne Fish, curator of archaeology and professor of anthropology; Michael Brescia, assistant curator of ethnohistory and assistant professor of history; and Patricia Fournier, ASM visiting scholar and professor of archaeology at the Escuela Nacional de Antropología e Historia in Mexico City.

Itinerary and registration are available at <<http://www.statemuseum.arizona.edu/public/tours.shtml>>. For further information, please contact Darlene Lizarraga at 520.626.8381 or <[df1@email.arizona.edu](mailto:df1@email.arizona.edu)>.

Cost: \$3,250 ASM members; \$3,500 nonmembers [includes round-trip ticket from Tucson to Mexico City; \$800 is a tax-deductible gift to ASM].

## White Sands Camp

by Denise Amber Ryan, Payson Ranger District Archaeologist

During the early 1900s, many of the Tonto Apaches who had been confined to the San Carlos Reservation since 1875 returned to resettle some of their traditional territories. Although not all the old camp locations were accessible, several areas were still open, particularly along Tonto Creek south of the Payson area.

The White Sands Camp was one such area, situated on a large narrow terrace above Tonto Creek. When the camp was resettled, the nearby community of Gisela was just a couple of working ranches. The Apache community that re-formed there began by the 1910s, and was not abandoned until 1964. Most of the residents moved to the Payson area by the 1950s, leaving Silver Allen as the final occupant.

The camp is well remembered by both locals and Tribal members. In the late 1990s, the Tonto National Forest Heritage Staff conducted a multiyear survey of the camp location under the auspices of the Passport In Time Program (PIT), which nationally, offers the public a chance to volunteer for archaeologically related projects. Named for distinctive geological features, the Box Ruin Area Documentation Passport In Time (BRAD PIT) project took place one week every October over a 4-year period, eventually producing a detailed inventory of surface expressions and components of the White Sands Camp and recording several prehistoric sites.

The camp covers approximately 24 acres. While several families lived at the camp over the years, it should not be confused with our expectations of what an "Indian village" would look like. In all likelihood, only a few families were present at the site at any one time—and they almost certainly utilized different areas at different times. There are 11 separate loci showing Apache presence, which appear to span more than 50 years of occupation. There is also a cemetery. Several of the loci contain two or three obvious places where structures were situated. Several others have a density and a variety of artifacts to suggest there was an associated habitation at that spot, but there are no obvious structural remains; the rest may be work areas only.

The structures themselves exhibit a wide range of styles, although all were small, perhaps 10-15 feet in diameter. There is one locus where we identified a shallow depression surrounded by a low berm of pea-sized and smaller gravels, likely the remains of an adobe structure, with a few pieces of milled lumber nearby. At least the base of the wall was likely adobe, with a wood-framed roof and possible upper wall superstructure.

Another locus has multi-course walls of local dry-laid fieldstone masonry, although again, it was probably topped by a wooden superstructure. Near this home is a less substan-

tial structure composed of a rock alignment for the eastern wall, with the western wall having been adobe. This may have been a home, a storage area, or a ramada that offered shade and a windbreak where one could do outside chores. Silver Allen's home consisted of upright juniper posts that formed a framework for the galvanized sheets that made up the walls and roof.

Artifacts observed throughout the area illustrate different periods of use for the site. At the northern end of the site, several "killed" items were found, a traditional way to dispose of items used by a deceased individual or for when permanently leaving an area. These consisted of enamel basins and 6- to 10-quart stockpots that had been punctured using metal axes. Because this treatment of artifacts is comparable to those reported for other Reservation period sites, this area likely contains the oldest Apache occupation.

Purple glass, a diagnostic indicator of pre-1920, is present in a few areas of the site, notably in association with the killed pots and near the southern portion of the site, particularly in the vicinity of the adobe structures and two other areas that may only represent activity areas.

Artifacts from later periods, such as the 1930s and 1940s, were associated with several of the structures scattered around the site. All loci had can and glass fragments, indicating a strong contact and use of commodities available in town, even while some traditional lifeways were still

being pursued. Some items recovered were particularly interesting, such as parts of a pocket watch with the initials "EJK" and "HM" scratched into the back, as well as the upper portion of a mouth harp near the adobe structures. A metal whistle from a Crackerjack box was not far from the burned structures. A flattened nickel spoon, possibly preparatory prior to making a *concho* belt, was found near a trash mound. Pieces of wood stoves, some very decorative, were also found in several areas. The carbon cores of D-sized batteries were also located in almost every locus, as were occasional pieces of various flashlights.

Perhaps the most interesting items collected and curated were two U.S. Indian Service coat buttons dating from the Reservation period, suggesting that one or more of the Camp's occupants had served in the Tribal police.

The cemetery is at the southern end of the site and contains at least 14 graves. Many have cobble outlines, and one group is enclosed by the remains of a wire fence. Several small pieces of milled lumber, probably the remains of deteriorated crosses, are scattered across this area. Several of the graves have been vandalized, presumably by pothunters.

The site is currently monitored by volunteers of the Arizona Site Steward Program. If you are interested in volunteering for this group, e-mail <mestes@pr.state.az.us> or call 602.542.7143. For more information about PIT, see <<http://www.passportintime.com>>.



## THE CORNERSTONE

### *Group Helps Museum Fill Gaps*

Everyone needs friends. You can never have too many. That's especially true when you're an inadequately funded state institution. Arizona State Museum (ASM) has recently formed a group called the Friends of the ASM Collections. A subset of the museum's general membership, folks who join the Friends work to promote and strengthen the museum's world-class collections.

As a group, Friends of the ASM Collections has: (1) raised tens of thousands of dollars through memberships and special fund-raisers for an acquisitions budget that allows curators to selectively and strategically add pieces to the museum's permanent collection; and (2) sponsored a \$3,000 acquisition award at the museum's Southwest Indian Art Fair last February.

Individual Friends have purchased items for the museum, such as the newly installed bronze statue that now adorns the front entrance of the museum's north building on the University of Arizona campus. Arnold and Doris Roland are the generous donors of "Watercarrier" by Apache artist Craig Goseyun.

Another Friend, Richard Spivey, facilitated the acquisition of an important collection of contemporary Southwest Indian pottery from Tucsonans Milton and Anita Katz.

More recently, Friends member and Indian art dealer Michael

Higgins facilitated a most amazing reunion of two parts of a historic Navajo woman's dress. Both halves are now part of ASM's permanent collection.

"These are just a few examples of how important this group is to the museum and how big an impact a group can be when it consists of truly caring individuals dedicated to its mission," says Friends steering committee co-chair Joan Oesterle. "We've accomplished quite a bit in just two years of existence."

In addition, as part of the group's educational and social functions, the Friends have sponsored events, travel trips, and have even established a speaker series. "We have lots of fun together while helping to benefit the museum," says Oesterle. "Join the Friends and join the fun!"

The Friends hope to increase interest in their group, and thereby increase their ranks, by hosting a number of events in the coming year. The kick-off event for the 2007-2008 season is Friday, October 26, 2007, with the Arnold and Doris Roland Distinguished Speaker Series.

The inaugural lecture of this distinguished speaker series features scholar and author J. J. Brody, professor emeritus of art history, University of New Mexico. Dr. Brody will speak about early twentieth century Native American painting. The lecture will be held at the Marriott Uni-

versity Park, 880 East Second Street, with a reception at 6:30 p.m., followed by the 7:00 p.m. lecture. This event is free and open to the public.

For other exciting events and programs sponsored by the Friends of the ASM Collections, and to join, log on to <<http://www.statemuseum.arizona.edu/public/index.shtml>> or call 520.626.8381.

The Cornerstone is presented by:  
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## UPCOMING ARIZONA STATE MUSEUM EVENTS

### **Opening Celebration: *El Camino Real de Tierra Adentro*** **October 5, 2007; 6:30 p.m.**

Come celebrate our newest temporary exhibition featuring the photography of Mexican artist Eniac Martinez and the soundscape of historian and radio producer Jack Loeffler. Panel discussion at the Center for English as a Second Language (building directly east of ASM's north building). Reception, exhibition viewing, and booksigning follow the discussion at ASM north.

### **Arnold and Doris Roland Distinguished Speaker Series** **October 26, 2007; 6:30 p.m. reception, 7:00 p.m. lecture**

The inaugural lecture of this distinguished speaker series features scholar and author J. J. Brody, professor emeritus of art history, University of New Mexico. Dr. Brody will speak on early twentieth century Native American painting. Marriott University Park, 880 East Second Street; sponsored and produced by the Friends of the ASM Collections. [Free and open to the public]

## SOUTHWEST LAND, CULTURE AND SOCIETY DISTINGUISHED SPEAKER

### **The Phenomenally Enigmatic Mystery of Chaco Cylinder Jars** **Patricia L. Crown, Professor of Anthropology, University of New Mexico** **November 13, 2007; 7:00-8:45 p.m.**

There are only 210 known ceramic cylinder jars in the prehispanic American Southwest, and 192 of these come from Pueblo Bonito in Chaco Canyon. Because of their unusual shape and limited distribution, these vessels have received more attention from archaeologists than almost any other artifact category. Based on an ongoing study, this talk explores the production of these unusual vessels and reveals new insights into their use at Chaco. For more information, contact Paul Fish at 520.621.2556. [Lecture, 7:00-8:00 p.m., Center for English as a Second Language, Room 102; Reception, 8:00-8:45 p.m., Arizona State Museum]

## 2007-2008 ASM COMMUNITY LECTURE SERIES

### Southwestern Roots in Central Mexico: 4,000 Years of Cultural Interaction

Please visit <[www.statemuseum.arizona.edu](http://www.statemuseum.arizona.edu)> to confirm dates, times, and locations. Lectures are free and open to the public. Community partners include the Amerind Foundation, Arizona Historical Society, and the Western National Parks Association. For more information, contact Michael Brescia at 520.621.4895.

**October 5, 2007:** *Cultural Commerce Along the Camino Real de Tierra Adentro*, Enrique Lamadrid, Ph.D., University of New Mexico

**December 8, 2007:** *Agave Beverages in Hospitality, Feasting, and Ritual Traditions of Ancient Mesoamerica and the Borderlands*, Suzanne Fish, Ph.D., Arizona State Museum

**January/February 2008:** *Local Adaptations of Majolica Pottery in Sinaloa*, Patricia Fournier, Ph.D., Escuela Nacional de Antropología e Historia

**February 7, 2008:** *Majolica Pottery in New Spain*, Patricia Fournier, Ph.D., Escuela Nacional de Antropología e Historia

**March 1, 2008:** *Mesoamerican Style and Symbolism in Hohokam Architecture and Artifacts*, Paul Fish, Ph.D., Arizona State Museum

**March/April 2008:** *Mexican Popular Culture on Both Sides of the Border*, William Beezley, Ph.D., University of Arizona

**March/April 2008:** *Natural Resources and the Law in Hispanic Arizona and New Mexico*, Michael Brescia, Ph.D., Arizona State Museum

### OLD PUEBLO ARCHAEOLOGY

5100 W. Ina Rd., Tucson, AZ 85743  
520.798.1201, <[info@oldpueblo.org](mailto:info@oldpueblo.org)>

### "Third Thursdays" Lecture Program 7:30 p.m., Old Pueblo Auditorium

**October 18, 2007:** Ronald H. Towner, Ph.D., *The Earliest Ancestors of Navajo and Apache in the Southwest*

The Navajo and Apache are the only Athapaskan-speaking peoples in the Southwest. Surrounded by Puebloans and Uto-Aztecan speakers such as the O'odham, Pai, and Yuman peoples, how and when the Athapaskans entered the Southwest is one of the enduring questions of American anthropology and archaeology. This presentation discusses various theories and presents new archaeological data from early Navajo sites in the northern Southwest relevant to this issue. The results suggest a complex process that led to the development of distinct Athapaskan enclaves in the Southwest.

## AAHS MEMBERSHIP/SUBSCRIPTION APPLICATION

(A membership subscription makes a great gift for your loved ones!)

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Monthly meetings are free and open to the public.

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- Please do NOT release my name on requests for the AAHS mailing list.

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Visitors are welcome at all of the Society's regular monthly meetings but are encouraged to become members to receive the Society's publications and to participate in its activities at discount rates.

Memberships and subscriptions run for one year beginning on July 1 and ending June 30. Membership provides one volume (four issues) of *Kiva*, the Journal of Southwestern Anthropology and History, 12 issues of the monthly newsletter *Glyphs*, and member rates for Society field trips and other activities.

For a brochure, information, or membership/subscription application forms, write to:

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