



GLYPHS

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



Vol. 58, No. 5

Tucson, Arizona

November 2007

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Collection of complete ceramic vessels from house floor at the Richter site, AZ AA:12:252 (ASM).

Next General Meeting: November 19, 2007

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

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

 Sometimes, it is the unexpected occurrence that makes for a great event. That was very evident in two recent AAHS activities.

At the September General Meeting, Emory Sekaquapetewa was awarded the Byron S. Cummings Award for his outstanding contributions to anthropology. After the customary "thank you" remarks, Emory spoke for another 10-15 minutes reflecting on his work in preserving Hopi life, especially the Hopi language, what this has meant to him, and his hopes for the future. It was one of the most powerful, moving presentations I have ever heard, a sentiment expressed by many after the meeting.

This was the proverbial "act you would not want to follow." But follow she did, and Suzanne Griset gave an excellent presentation on California basketry in which she emphasized the functional use of baskets and how they fit into people's lives. With the help of Mark Cattanach, she brought along quite a few spectacular baskets from ASM for everyone to see. All in all, it was a wonderful evening.

In October, we took a field trip to the San Pedro River Valley near Sierra Vista to see a mammoth bone bed excavation at Clanton Draw, being conducted by Jesse Ballenger, as well as to the nearby Murray Springs site, an important Clovis site excavated by Vance Haynes and others in the 1960s and 1970s.

As it turns out, the day before our trip, Jesse found a new mammoth bone site nearby and had a crew working there at the time of our visit. As Jesse was very busy excavating two mammoth sites, one might have thought he would keep the field trip on the short side. Instead, he showed us both active sites and thoroughly explained them. He then gave an excellent tour of Murray Springs, during which he explained the renewed interest in the site. It has been recently hypothesized that the well known "black mat" layer that is so clearly evident at Murray Springs resulted from the break-up of a comet over North America, resulting in the extinction of megafauna.

Jesse also showed us two historic sites that have never been studied, both residences of early Anglo settlers in the area. One of them was the family home of the Clantons. As Jesse said, "Yes, *those* Clantons;" that is, the ones who didn't fare so well at the OK Corral. This added up to a full day that was thoroughly enjoyed by everyone. We all walked away with a new appreciation of both Pleistocene archaeology and local history.

Sometimes things turn out even better than advertised. We have many more lectures and field trips scheduled, some of which are listed in this issue of *Glyphs*. I hope you'll join us; you never know what might happen!

— Peter Boyle, President

THE NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER AAHS FIELD TRIPS

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

November 17, 2007; 8:00 a.m.

The November field trip will be led by Bill Doelle and Jeff Clark of the Center for Desert Archaeology. We will visit Hohokam and ancestral Puebloan migrant sites in the San Pedro Valley east of Tucson. This is an ALL day trip. Participants will meet at 8:00 a.m. at Desert Archaeology, 3975 N. Tucson Blvd. There is a locked parking lot where you can leave your car. We will proceed by van to the San Pedro. Return is expected to be around 6:00 p.m. Bring lunch and snacks, and wear shoes appropriate for walking in the desert. There is a \$15 donation for the trip for van rental. Checks should be made to AAHS.

This trip is presently full. To be placed on the waiting list, please send an e-mail to Katherine Cerino at <kcerino@gmail.com>. If you have signed up and cannot attend, please let Katherine know.

December 15, 2007; 9:30 a.m.

The December field trip will include in-depth tours of the Barrio de Tubac Archaeological Preserve and the Tumacacori Mission. There will be a \$4 per person charge for the Tubac tour and a \$3 per person charge for the Mission tour (free if you have a golden age passport card). We will meet first at the Tubac Presidio State Park at 9:30 a.m. After the Mission tour, scheduled for 11:00 a.m., we will have an optional lunch in the area. The lunch location is to be determined; let me know if you are interested, and I will keep you posted. Group size will be limited to 20. To sign up, contact David McLean at <mcleand43@gmail.com>.

2007 AAHS ANNUAL RAFFLE

The Society will hold its annual raffle at the December 17 general meeting. Proceeds from the raffle are the sole source for a scholarship fund for archaeology students. Our members put a great deal of effort into the raffle and delivering the prizes. We appreciate your support.

Please send any raffle prizes you would like to donate to: Mel Copeland, 4165 North Avenida del Cazador, Tucson, Arizona 85718. If you prefer, you can bring the prizes to the any meeting.

Raffle tickets were bound into the September issue of *Glyphs*. Note that the suggested donation for tickets is \$2 each or 6 for \$10. A list of prizes will be published before the drawing. We expect a great list of prizes. You could be a winner! For more information, call 520.577.6079.

AAHS HAPPENINGS

TOPIC OF THE NOVEMBER 19 GENERAL MEETING

Recent Investigations of the Hohokam Colonial Period in the Tucson Basin

by Eric Klucas

Recent investigations have been conducted by Tierra Right-of-Way Services personnel at two large habitation sites in the Tucson Basin. The first phase of work at the Richter site, AZ AA:12:252 (ASM), located east of the Santa Cruz River in Marana, resulted in the complete or partial excavation of 50 pit structures, 73 extramural features, and 48 burials. Preliminary analyses date the occupation of the excavated portion of the site to the Pioneer and early Colonial periods. The features were identified in two mechanically stripped areas, covering a total of 3,120 m².

Excavations at the Silverbell Coachline site, AZ AA:12:321 (ASM), located west of the Richter site near Los Morteros, resulted in the identification of 40 architectural features, six of which were excavated in their entirety. The remaining structures were sampled, providing chronological data for all the identified houses. The structures were arranged in an arc approximately 80-100 m across. The entry of most of the structures opened into the interior space defined by the arc.

Perhaps the most intriguing find of the work at the Silverbell Coachline site was the identification of 140 cre-

mation and four inhumation burials located in a cemetery area within the arc of houses. Five of the cremation burials contained a large and diverse assortment of grave goods, including ceramic vessels, shell ornaments, stone figures, palettes, and projectile points. An additional 31 burials were identified and excavated by Desert Archaeology, Inc., prior to Tierra's investigations, including one cremation with an exceptional number of burial artifacts. The formality of this apparent cemetery is further attested by the complete absence of other cultural features among the burials.

Although the analysis of the materials recovered from both excavations are incomplete as of yet, a number of interesting patterns are beginning to emerge. Preliminary excavation of the ceramics recovered from house floors indicate the investigated portions of the sites were occupied from the late Pioneer period (circa A.D. 700-750) through the Colonial period (circa A.D. 750-950), suggesting a long-term, but low intensity occupation. The ceramic data from the Silverbell Coachline site also indicate the cemetery area was in operation throughout the occupation of the site.

The relatively broad areal exposures at both sites have provided an excellent opportunity to address questions pertaining to mortuary practices, site structure and domestic organization, and craft production during a period of important cultural change in the Tucson Basin. Further, the artifact collections ap-

pear to have good potential for addressing questions of craft production, reflected in numerous fragments of worked and unworked turquoise and several unfinished stone artifacts, including the roughed-out form of a bighorn sheep effigy recovered from a house at the Silverbell Coachline site.

Speaker Eric Eugene Klucas received degrees in Anthropology from Hamline University (B.A.), the University of Missouri-Columbia (M.A.), and the University of Arizona (Ph.D.). He has over 25 years of international experience in southwest Asia, western Europe, and western North America. Dr. Klucas has supervised a wide range of archaeological undertakings, from small surveys to large, multi-site data recovery projects. For the past 15 years, Dr. Klucas's research has focused on the study of domestic organization and the use of space in Formative period villages in the American Southwest. He has directed several large data recovery projects in the Tucson Basin, the Tonto Basin, and the northeastern Phoenix Basin. He is currently a Principal Investigator at Tierra Right-of-Way Services in Tucson, Arizona.

JULIAN D. HAYDEN STUDENT PAPER COMPETITION

The AAHS is pleased to announce the 10th annual Julian D. Hayden Student Paper Competition, named in honor of long-time AAHS luminary, Julian Dodge Hayden. The winning entry will receive a cash prize of \$500 and publication of the paper in *Kiva*, *The Journal of Southwestern Anthropology and History*. The competition is open to any bona fide undergraduate or graduate student at any recognized college or university. Co-authored papers will be accepted if all authors are students. Subject matter may include the anthropology, archaeology, history, linguistics, or ethnology of the American Southwest and northern Mexico, or any other topic appropriate for publication in *Kiva*.

Paper should not exceed 30 double-spaced, typewritten pages, including figures, tables, and references, and should conform to *Kiva* format. See <<http://www.altamirapress.com/RLA/journals/Kiva/Authors.shtml>>.

If the paper involves living human subjects, author must verify, in the paper or cover letter, that necessary permissions to publish have been obtained. Previous entries will not be considered; all decisions of the judges are final.

Deadline for receipt of submissions is **January 15, 2008**. Send four copies of the paper and proof of student status to: Julian D. Hayden Student Paper Competition, AAHS, Arizona State Museum, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ 85721-0026.

For more information, contact Dale Brenneman at <daleb@email.arizona.edu>.

Baskets and Small Seeds: Understanding the Development of Coiled Basketry through AMS Dating

by Edward A. Jolie, University of New Mexico

Stimuli behind technological change and dramatic shifts in subsistence economy are central questions in archaeology, whose explanations often appear linked. One example, the shift away from more specialized subsistence economies to those exploiting more diverse food resources – the so-called “broad spectrum revolution” – has been identified through changes in floral and faunal assemblages and increases in the number of storage facilities and ground stone tools around 8,000-10,000 years ago.

Basketry provides a complementary avenue from which to explore subsistence change in the Americas because of its considerable antiquity, susceptibility to direct AMS dating, and widespread importance to foraging societies. However, imperfect preservation in the archaeological record typically prevents us from understanding the role that perishable technologies such as baskets and textiles played in these major cultural developments. Fortunately, dry caves and rockshelters of the western United States have afforded us rare opportunities to examine perishable artifacts in excess of 10,000 years old.

Coiling, in which a horizontal element or set of elements (the foundation) is sewn with continuous vertical elements (the stitches), was the last of the three major types of basketweaving techniques to be in-

vented. In contrast with twining and plaiting techniques, which appear to be at least 28,000 years old in Europe, previous research suggests coiling does not predate 10,000 cal. B.P.

Of the earliest coiled baskets known, nearly all appear to be fragments of shallow, concave-based parching trays. Based on this observation and his considerable body of research on prehistoric American basketry, James Adovasio has suggested that coiling was innovated expressly for parching nutritious but costly small seeds during the onset of a harsher climatic regime at the close of the Early Holocene.

Several recent developments shed light on the question of coiled basketry’s invention and its role in the adoption of intensive small seed processing. First, ongoing reanalysis of early coiled basketry’s form and technology indicates a dearth of direct radiocarbon determinations and underscores the complexity of the technology’s spatial and temporal distribution.

Second, a recent paper by David Rhode, David Madsen, and Kevin Jones refines the timing of intensive small seed exploitation at Danger Cave, Utah. By acquiring new radiometric age determinations and reexamining seed processing residue, ground stone, and paleofeces, Rhode and colleagues demonstrate that small seed use did not become a di-

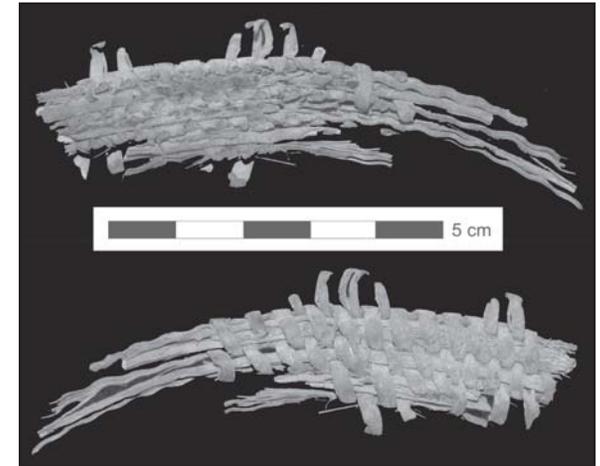
etary staple until after 8700 radiocarbon years before present, some 500-2,000 calibrated years later than had been previously assumed.

Thirdly, the chance discovery in early 2006 of a complete bowl-shaped basket from Cowboy Cave, Utah, on the northern edge of the Colorado Plateau, calls into question the observation that all the earliest coiling was used to parch small seeds. This small, cup-like bowl, clearly not used to process small seeds, produced an AMS radiocarbon age of 7960±50 B.P.

(9010-8620 cal. B.P.), making it currently the oldest directly dated coiled basket from the Americas, and perhaps the world. (For more information about this basket, see the upcoming article by Phil Geib and Edward Jolie cited below.)

Over the last few years, my research has focused on why coiled basketry was invented and what role, if any, the technology played in the adoption of intensive small seed utilization. Reevaluation and revision of the existing radiocarbon chronology for coiling has been integral to this research and understanding the technology’s spatial and temporal distribution. In an effort to refine the chronology of early coiling and to evaluate its role in the shift to intensive small seed use, I have initiated a

direct AMS radiocarbon dating program. New AMS dates may clarify



Concave (top) and convex (bottom) views of an Early Archaic parching tray fragment from Cowboy Cave, Utah. (Photograph by Edward Jolie, courtesy of the Utah Museum of Natural History.)

the extent to which the adoption of small seed processing adoption and the invention of coiling overlap temporally.

Thus far, a total of eight individual basket samples have been submitted from stratigraphically early specimens excavated from Cowboy and Hogup caves in Utah. The three AMS assays that have been received so far indicate the stratigraphically earliest specimens from both sites all appear to be several hundred radiocarbon years *younger* than the complete Cowboy Cave basket, spanning a range of about 7600-7450 radiocarbon years B.P. (6250-6600 cal. B.P.). Soon, I will sample additional early specimens from Sand Dune and Dust Devil

(continued on page 10)

THE CORNERSTONE

Watch Movies through "Native Eyes"

Arizona State Museum and the Hanson Film Institute, in collaboration with the Film and Video Center of the National Museum of the American Indian, Smithsonian Institution, bring to Tucson the fourth installment of the collaborative project, **Native Eyes Film Showcase**. Native Eyes celebrates the creative work of Native American directors, producers, writers, and actors by presenting their high quality work. This year's showcase includes three short films and two feature length documentaries, including the award-winning *Mohawk Girls* and *Miss Navajo* (2007 Sundance Film Festival).

"Each of the featured filmmakers has used the cinema as a tool for discovery," says Vicky Westover, program director for the UA Hanson Film Institute. "The showcase provides an exciting opportunity for Tucsonans to meet the filmmakers, watch their work, and to share in their journeys."

This year's films look at experiences within the Navajo and Mohawk nations, and deal with issues such as the impact of Christian missionaries and life on the reservation for young women. Special guests include directors Nanobah Becker (Navajo), Tracey Deer (Mohawk), and William Luther (Navajo/Hopi/Laguna Pueblo). Speakers include University of Arizona alumna Sierra Ornelas (Navajo) of the Film and Video Center at the Smithsonian's

National Museum of the American Indian.

Native Eyes also features a media literacy workshop for Native teens. Presenters are offering this in collaboration with the Tohono O'odham Nation Cultural Center and Museum for reservation high school students. The workshop includes film clips and discussion with Tracey Deer and Sierra Ornelas.

The Native Eyes Film Showcase begins on November 7, at 7:00 p.m., with screenings of the short films *Memory in Bones* (directed by Gail Maurice [Metis]) and *By the Rapids* (directed by Joseph Lazare [Mohawk]), following by *Mohawk Girls* (directed by Tracey Deer).

On November 8 at 7:00 p.m., you can see the short film *Conversion* (directed by Nanobah Becker) and the feature documentary *Miss Navajo* (directed by William Luther).

All screenings are free at the Grand Cinemas Crossroads, 4811 E. Grant Rd. (Grant and Swan), Tucson. See <<http://www.statemuseum.arizona.edu/public/index.shtml>> for a complete list of showings and other details.

The Cornerstone is presented by:
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UPCOMING ARIZONA STATE MUSEUM EVENTS

Fourth Annual Native Eyes Film Showcase November 7-8, 2007

See <<http://www.statemuseum.arizona.edu/public/index.shtml>> and facing page for a description, other details, and a complete list of showings.

Speaking Volumes (A series in honor of the ASM Library's 50th anniversary) November 16, 2007; 3:30-5:30 p.m.

Join us for coffee and conversation! Guest speakers include Ray Thompson, ASM director emeritus, and John Olsen, head, UA Anthropology Department. Your generous donations will help fund the library's future upgrades. See other related events on January 31, March 6, and April 10, 2008. [Free and open to the public]

The Enigmatic Mystery of Chacoan Cylinder Jars November 13, 2007; 7:00 p.m.

There are only 210 known ceramic cylinder jars in the prehispanic American Southwest; 192 of those come from Pueblo Bonito in Chaco Canyon. Patricia Crown, professor of anthropology at the University of New Mexico, explores the production of unusual vessels and reveals new insights into their use at Chaco. Lecture will be held at the Center for English as a Second Language, Room 102 (one building east of ASM north). Reception follows at Arizona State Museum. This is a 2007 Southwest Land, Culture and Society Annual Distinguished Lecture. [Free and open to the public]

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.
- 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*

ARTICLE SUBMISSIONS FOR GLYPHS: If you have research or a field project that would be interesting to *Glyphs* readers, please consider contributing an article. Requirements are a maximum of 1,000 words, or 750 words and one illustration, or 500 words and two illustrations. Please send electronic submissions to <jadams@desert.com>, or by mail to Jenny Adams, Desert Archaeology, Inc., 3975 N. Tucson Blvd., Tucson, Arizona 85716.

(continued from page 7)

caves in Utah, and may further expand sampling to the remaining early examples of coiling reported from Hinds Cave, Texas, and Frightful and Fat Burro caves in Coahuila, Mexico.

Acknowledgments. I am grateful to AAHS for a grant that funded one of the dates. The remaining dates were generously supplied by A. J. Timothy Jull and the NSF-AZ AMS Laboratory. Kathy Kankainen and Duncan Metcalfe of the Utah Museum of Natural History facilitated my reexamination and sampling of the Cowboy and Hogup caves basketry assemblages. The figure was created by Phil R. Geib. This research has benefited immeasurably from conversations with Phil R. Geib, Eugene M. Hattori, and W.

H. Wills. I may be contacted at <edjolie@unm.edu>.

Adovasio, J. M.

1980 Prehistoric Basketry of Western North America and Mexico. In *Early Native Americans: Prehistoric Demography, Economy and Technology*, edited by D. Browman, pp. 341-362. Mouton, The Hague.

Geib, Phil R., and Edward A. Jolie

n.d. The Role of Basketry in Early Holocene Small Seed Exploitation: Implications of a ca. 9,000 Year-Old Basket from Cowboy Cave, Utah. (Accepted for publication in *American Antiquity*.)

Rhode, David, David B. Madsen, and Kevin T. Jones

2006 Antiquity of Early Holocene Small-seed Consumption and Processing at Danger Cave. *Antiquity* 80(308): 328-339.

OLD PUEBLO ARCHAEOLOGY

5100 W. Ina Rd., Tucson, AZ 85743
520.798.1201, <info@oldpueblo.org>

"Third Thursdays" Lecture Program, 7:30 p.m., Old Pueblo Auditorium
November 15: Dr. James S. "Big Jim" Griffith, *The "Kino Missions" of Arizona and Sonora*

Ancient Southern Arizona Native American Arts

November 2, 9, and 16: 2:00-4:00 p.m.

OASIS Center, Macy's Department Store, El Con Mall

Archaeologist Allen Dart teaches this noncredit class on the material culture of southern Arizona's ancient Hohokam Indians, including their pottery, artifacts made from stone, seashell, bone, textiles, and rock art. Archaeological interpretations are provided of what these materials indicate about Hohokam religious practices and social organization. Session 1 focuses on pottery, session 2 on other arts and interpretation, and session 3 will be a field trip to look at the Hohokam artifact collections housed at the Arizona State Museum, University of Arizona. [\$20 per person; advanced registration required]

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Monthly meetings are free and open to the public.

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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, and 12 issues of the monthly newsletter *Glyphs*.

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

Doug Gann, VP Membership
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<dgann@cdarc.org>

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