



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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*Our skeletons silently record
much of our individual life
histories. Ceramic figure from
Tlatilco, Mexico, 1300–1700
A.D.*

Next General Meeting: June 20, 2011
7:30 p.m., Duval Auditorium, University Medical Center
www.az-arch-and-hist.org

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



This is my 24th and last letter as President of the Arizona Archaeological and Historical Society. I would like to thank all of the AAHS members for their support, and especially the board, the committees, and all of you who volunteered your time in helping to keep your society a strong and viable organization.

Next year's budget is going to be a very tight one and your Society

needs you to not only renew your membership but to increase your level of support.

You have elected a very strong board, and your new President, Scott O'Mack, will do an excellent job. Please give the board your support so AAHS can continue the mission that began in 1916.

—Don Burgess, 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.

- June 20, 2011: Bruce Anderson, *The Interplay Between Forensic Anthropology and Bioarchaeology in Interpreting Human Skeletal Variability*
- July 18, 2011: Ronald Towner, *Tree-rings, Documents, and Oral Histories in Cebolla Creek, New Mexico*
- Aug. 2011: No Lecture [Pecos Conference]
- Sept. 2011: E. Charles Adams, *Homol'ovi and Beyond*
- Oct. 2011: Janet Lever-Wood and Laurie Webster, *What's in the Bag? A New Look at Ancient Bags through Museum Collections and Rock Art*
- Nov. 2011: James Snead, *TBA*
- Dec. 2011: Joshua Reuther and Ben Potter, *Upward Sun River Site: Climate Change, Geoarchaeology, and Human Land Use in Ice Age Alaska*

Follow AAHS on Facebook at: www.facebook.com/pages/Tucson-AZ/Arizona-Archaeological-and-Historical-Society

FIELD TRIP COMMITTEE SEEKING INPUT

Volunteers have formed a Field Trip Committee to plan next season's events. We strive to provide a variety of trips, including local half-day, weekend, and museum-based trips, as well as a selection of both historic and prehistoric sites. If you have suggestions for places you would like to go, or if you would like to join the committee, please let one of us know. The Committee members are: Bill Gillespie, Janine Hernbrode, Chris Lange, David McLean, Lynn Ratener, and Katherine Cerino (kcerino@gmail.com).

2011 PECOS CONFERENCE REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

The 2011 Pecos Conference of Southwestern Archaeology will be held in the Kaibab National Forest on the "Arizona Strip," north and west of the Colorado River, August 11–14. Early registration and vendor registration is now open. Registration forms, souvenir order forms, and other information about the conference are available online at www.swanet.org/2011_pecos_conference. The website includes information about the conference location, amenities, and the presentation submission form, for those participants who intend to present a poster or paper. If you are not planning to camp at the conference, please visit the Notes and Accommodations sections soon to plan your hotel stay.

The 2011 Pecos Conference is sponsored by the Kaibab Vermilion Cliffs Heritage Alliance, DMG Four Corners Research, Inc., and Past Peoples Consulting LLC; individuals and organizations interested in joining with these organizations as sponsors may contact organizer David Purcell at davidepurcell@gmail.com. Volunteers, field trip organizers, and vendors please consult the Contact section for the appropriate event coordinator information.

The website is updated frequently; please make sure to check periodically for new information.

This year will feature special sessions on the archaeology and history of the Arizona Strip, southwestern Utah, and southern Nevada, including a workshop on Arizona Strip ceramic traditions. Please join us for a special event!

ANNUAL PLAINS ANTHROPOLOGICAL CONFERENCE

The 69th Annual Plains Anthropological Conference will be held in Tucson, Arizona, at the Marriott University Hotel on October 26–29. For additional information, contact María Nieves Zedeño at mzedeno2email.arizona.edu, or visit the conference website at www.pac69.com.

AAHS HAPPENINGS
TOPIC OF THE JUNE 20 GENERAL MEETING

***The Interplay Between Forensic Anthropology and
 Bioarchaeology in Interpreting Human Skeletal Variability***

by Bruce E. Anderson

Forensic anthropology and bioarchaeology are fundamentally different in scope yet inextricably linked. While skeletal analyses performed during routine forensic anthropological casework are nearly always done on unrelated individuals, skeletal analyses performed during bioarchaeological investigations are typically done on related groups of people.

Thus, bioarchaeological research has the advantage of utilizing skeletal series of related individuals who likely lived in a similar environment. This combination of being genetically related and being exposed to similar environmental factors is essential in arriving at an appreciation of human skeletal variability.

Most practicing forensic anthropologists today learned human skeletal variability while examining and performing research on these groups of related individuals. The skeletal analyses performed on the individual are made possible because of the results derived on the skeletal analyses on these different groups. However, the advantage that foren-

sic anthropology casework provides is in the potential of identifying the individual as a specific person and then examining antemortem records to learn the specific life history of that person. By comparing the postmortem skeletal profile to the antemortem records of a specific person, forensic anthropologists continually test the hypotheses generated from bioarchaeological research.

This feedback loop between bioarchaeological research and forensic anthropological testing serves to provide all of us with better methods and techniques for performing human skeletal analyses. An example of forensic anthropological casework in which a large group of individuals, related to one another at varying levels, can be encountered is the nearly 2,000 migrants who have died in southern Arizona over the past decade. This group of people will be highlighted in terms of what their skeletons have taught us, and continue to teach us, about what it means to be a foreign-born Southwest Hispanic.



Suggested Reading:

Buikstra, Jane, and Lane Beck (editors)
 2006 *Bioarchaeology: The Contextual Study of Human Remains*. Elsevier, Amsterdam.

Rhine, Stanley

1988 *Bone Voyage: A Journey in Forensic Anthropology*. University of New Mexico Press, Albuquerque.

Speaker Bruce E. Anderson is the Forensic Anthropologist for the Pima County Office of the Medical Examiner (PCOME), in Tucson, Arizona. Since 2000, the majority of Dr. Anderson's duties have involved the identification of undocumented migrants who have died in Arizona while attempting to cross through the Sonoran Desert. Dr. Anderson received his Ph.D. degree in 1998, from the University of Arizona, where he currently is an Adjunct Assistant Professor of Anthropology. Prior to his position with the PCOME, he served as Senior Anthropologist for the U.S. Army's Central Identification Laboratory in Hawaii, where his principal duties were the field recovery and laboratory analyses leading toward identification of human remains associated with past U.S. military conflicts. Dr. Anderson currently mentors anthropology students in the Forensic Anthropology Internship Program at the PCOME and works with Forensic Anthropology predoctoral and postdoctoral fellows on the large number of migrant cases the office currently has. He is certified as a Diplomate by the American Board of Forensic Anthropology, is a Fellow in the American Academy of Forensic Sciences, is a founding member of the Scientific Working Group in Forensic Anthropology, and serves as the western U.S. Forensic Anthropologist for the National Institute of Justice's National Missing and Unidentified Persons System (NamUs) project.

REDTAIL SITE: STAGE ONE COMPLETED!

For the past two years, a group of AAHS volunteers have been working with Arthur Vokes and graduate student Katie McFarland to rebag, count, and data entry the approximately 100 boxes of artifacts collected from the Redtail site during an AAHS excavation, 1984–1987. The Redtail site is part of a large Hohokam settlement complex known as the Los Morteros Community. It contained the largest collection of turquoise found, to date, in the Tucson Basin.

We are ready to begin the next step of data analysis and eventual write-up about the site. A planning meeting to scope and define the project will be held soon. We are looking for local archaeologists and students who would be interested in participating in this project. There will, of course, be a role for those avocational archaeologists who have spent so many hours counting, bagging, and typing in this next stage.

If you are interested in learning more about this project as it develops and contributing your talents, contact Katherine Cerino at kcerino@gmail.com.

THE CORNERSTONE

Excavations at University Indian Ruin

by Paul Fish

Spring 2011 fieldwork at University Indian Ruin came to a close in April. Under the direction of Drs. Paul and Suzanne Fish, both Arizona State Museum curators and University of Arizona professors of anthropology, with the capable assistance of graduate assistants Matthew Pailles and Maren Hopkins, the project involved 14 undergraduate and graduate students.

This second semester of University Indian Ruin investigation was



The late prehispanic room that contained the bison bones.
(Photo by Henry D. Wallace, Desert Archaeology, Inc.)

an undertaking of the University of Arizona's School of Anthropology and Arizona State Museum, with the significant assistance of Desert Archaeology, Inc.

Archaeologists Mark Elson (Desert Archaeology, Inc.) and Dou-

glas Craig (Northland Research, Inc.) contributed extensively to research design and implementation. In keeping with the commitment to use low-impact exploratory methods to ensure the site's long-term preservation, Laurence Conyer from the University of Denver instructed students in ground-penetrating radar.

The University Indian Ruin site preserves 13 acres in the heart of an extensive Classic period Hohokam settlement (circa 1150-1450 C.E.). At the center of the property is a large earthen platform mound that supported the civic and ritual buildings of the Classic period. Investigations this spring revealed an additional, much smaller platform mound to the east. The small mound was constructed with a thick adobe retaining wall to give a straight-sided shape to the earthen mass. The platform has sufficient space for only

a single large room. Ceramics suggest that both mounds were used simultaneously.

Excavation of two adobe structures offered the opportunity to investigate intentional, ritualized room closure.

One, immediately adjacent to the large platform mound, was almost certainly part of the associated room complex. A wide array of core and ground stone artifacts, large amounts of obsidian, and different body parts of a bison were strewn across the structure as if thrown from the doorway as walls were pushed over and the interior filled with dirt. Zuni glaze wares suggest a late occupation.

The second is part of a burned room complex east of the main mound. The fire's intense heat reddened walls and baked roofing materials. Large amounts of burned trash and useful tools, including numerous reconstructible bowls, were found throughout the fill. Cobbles were intentionally placed in and over the burned room to effectively mask the presence of architecture on the gravel ridge. More than 1,200 liters were in one-half of the excavated room alone.

The site of University Indian Ruin is located in Tucson's Indian Ridge Estates neighborhood (near Grant and Tanque Verde roads), a National Historic District about seven miles from downtown Tucson near the confluence of Rillito Creek and Pantano Wash. In 1930, an archaeol-

ogy student donated the land to the University of Arizona's then department of archaeology for the purpose of student training. Eminent archaeologists Byron Cummings, Emil Haury, and Julian Hayden conducted extensive excavations there throughout the 1930s. A joint effort to turn the site into an archaeological park by the University of Arizona, Pima County, the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), and the National Park Service was halted by World War II.

By the time the war interrupted, CCC had constructed a caretaker's home, an archaeological laboratory, and other facilities, which still stand today. The Salus Mundi Foundation recently supported the School of Anthropology's restoration of the historic properties, now used to house visiting scholars and a field school laboratory.

The Cornerstone is presented by:
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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 (phone), 520.909.3662 (cell), 520.881.0325 (FAX).

AAHS WEBSITE: *Glyphs* is posted each month and can be found on the AAHS website at: www.az-arch-and-hist.org.

OLD PUEBLO ARCHAEOLOGY

TUSD Ajo Service Center, 2201 W. 44th Street, Tucson, AZ
520.798.1201, info@oldpueblo.org

Set in Stone by Not in Meaning: Southwestern Indian Rock Art
June 7; 1:30-3:00 p.m.

Murphy-Wilmot Branch Library [530 N. Wilmot Rd.]

Archaeologist Allen Dart illustrates pictographs (rock paintings) and petroglyphs (symbols carved or pecked on rocks), and discusses how even the same rock art symbol may be interpreted differently from popular, scientific, and modern Native American perspectives. Sponsored by the Pima County Public Library. [Free].

Biennial Conference on Archaeoastronomy of the American Southwest
June 16-18

Hibben Center, Maxwell Museum of Anthropology, Albuquerque

The purpose of CAASW is to advance the study and practice of archaeoastronomy of the American Southwest by recognizing significant contributions to knowledge and the importance of research, professional standards and excellence in the study of archaeoastronomy, effective dissemination and presentation of archaeoastronomical knowledge, and innovation and originality of approach. For more information, visit www.caasw.org/2011Conference.html. [\$75 per person for 3 days; make check or money order payable to CAASW 2011 Conference and mail to: NMAC, P.O. Box 25691, Albuquerque, NM 87125]

Southwestern Rock Calendars and Ancient Time Pieces

June 18; 10:00-11:30 a.m.

Rim Country Chapter, Arizona Archaeological Society [Church of the Holy Nativity, 1414 Easy St., Payson]

Native Americans in the Southwest developed sophisticated skills in astronomy and predicting the seasons, centuries before Old World people first entered the region. In this presentation, archaeologist Allen Dart discusses the petroglyphs at Picture Rocks, the architecture of the "Great House" at Arizona's Casa Grande Ruins, and other archaeological evidence of ancient astronomy and calendrical reckoning. [No reservations needed.]

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.

AAHS MEMBERSHIP/SUBSCRIPTION APPLICATION

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

All members receive discounts on Society workshops and classes. Monthly meetings are held the third Monday of each month except August, and are free and open to the public. Participation in field trips requires membership.

Categories of Membership

- \$50 **Kiva** members receive 4 issues of *Kiva*, 12 issues of *Glyphs*, and all current benefits
- \$40 **Glyphs** members receive *Glyphs*
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AAHS does not release membership information to other organizations

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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*.

Membership applications should be sent to:

Donna Yoder, VP Membership
Arizona Archaeological and Historical Society
Arizona State Museum, University of Arizona
Tucson, AZ 85721-0026 USA
<donnayoder@cox.net>

Libraries and other institutions interested in institutional subscriptions to *Kiva* should contact the publisher, AltaMira Press, at 800.273.2233 or <www.altamirapress.com>.

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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.