



# glyphs

The Monthly Newsletter of the  
Arizona Archaeological and Historical Society

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*Close-up of clay  
figurine from  
Ironwood Village pit  
structure that dates  
to the late Cañada  
del Oro phase.*

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**Next General Meeting: March 16, 2015**  
7:30 p.m., DuVal Auditorium,  
University Medical Center  
[www.az-arch-and-hist.org](http://www.az-arch-and-hist.org)

## President's Message

by Jesse Ballenger

Archaeology and Heritage Awareness Month is underway. For most people, it is a month dedicated to the appreciation and preservation of historic and prehistoric sites. For archaeologists, it is a time to stop dwelling on the past and reach out to the living present. The Society's involvement focuses on the *Archaeology Expo*, where volunteers traditionally operate an information and activity booth. This year's expo will take place in Yuma, a place where vast portions of the surrounding desert are entirely devoid of human occupations. The lesson provided by millennia of indigenous exploration and adaptation stresses travel and avoidance as much as anything else, which makes the exceptions really interesting.

Organizers scheduled the event in the final days before the mass migration of the region's most spectacular winter visitor, the common snowbird. Dwelling in large mobile nests organized into colonies, male snowbirds spend their time competing for status on and around local meadows. The activity of females is highly variable, but they are responsible for most food and information gathering. Both sexes exhibit a strong interest in geography and origin stories, based on prolonged evening conversation amid adjacent dwellings, as well as a keen desire to explore and forage beyond the colony. An Archaeology Expo is an effective and humane way to encounter and interact with snowbirds before they begin the ancient journey to more mild summer climates.

All kidding aside, the RV lifestyle is as American as it gets. Based on a summary in *Smithsonian Magazine*, the industry commenced in 1910, with the introduction of the Pierce-Arrow's Touring Landau, which featured a folding bed, a chamber pot and sink, and telephone

communication with the driver. The industry was spurred by the creation of national



parks. The modern RV park/ golf course was in place by 1920s – the so-called Tin Can Tourists, named for their use of canned food prepared on gasoline stoves, had an official song, an initiation ritual, and a secret handshake. The antiquity of motorizing tourism

is traced back to Edison, Firestone, and Burroughs. The industry suffered through the Depression, but survived World War II with the production of mobile hospitals, prisons, and morgues.

RVing was an elite recreation until the 1960s, when Winnebago launched a line of affordable units that middle class families used to access places like Route 66. Historic preservation is closely linked to RVing in this way. Although intimately connected with the absurdity of eight-mile-per-gallon gasoline consumption, RV families use fewer expendable sources than the average fixed home dwelling family.

Contrary to the behavior of snowbirds, times are not always bad in the lower Colorado River Basin, and people have not always had a place to escape. Adventurous times have always been good when and where water can be found. There is plenty of water now, accompanied by air conditioning and other modern marvels. But there is also good archaeological evidence for extremely hardy but well-organized Patayan occupations around shallow pans that supported summer plants, and the river valleys and tinajas witnessed intensive use by Hia C'ed O'odham and Yuman populations. The history of European exploration, water control, military power, and nation-building is surprisingly rich in Yuma. If you have never explored Yuma County, please support the organizers and sponsors by visiting the expo and the local attractions.

In other news, the Nominations Committee is at work assembling the 2015 ballot for new and returning board members and officers. I think it would be great if our elections became a little more competitive, but volunteers are sometimes elusive, and the committee has had their work cut out for them. The slate of candidates will be announced at the March general meeting.

## March 16: Topic of the General Meeting

### *Life and Death at a Hohokam Ballcourt Village in the Northern Tucson Basin*

by Todd W. Bostwick

Nearly 25 years ago, William Doelle and Henry Wallace (Doelle and Wallace 1991:290) noted that the early Colonial period was inadequately documented in the Tucson Basin. Although more data are now available, the Cañada del Oro phase still remains one of the least investigated Hohokam phases. Recent excavations by PaleoWest Archaeology in southern Marana at the Ironwood Village site, AZ AA:12:226 (ASM), will add new data on the Colonial period occupation of the Tucson Basin.

Ironwood Village was first recorded as part of the Northern Tucson Basin Survey and was identified at that time as a Pioneer and Colonial period habitation site. Recent excavations by PaleoWest have confirmed that assessment, but have also revealed a previously unknown ballcourt that was not visible on the surface of the site. Additionally, the site is considerably larger than anticipated, with 113 pit structures and 264 burials recorded during excavation of a 7-acre area. A previously investigated Pioneer-Colonial period village, the Redtail-Lonetree site (Bernard-Shaw 1989, 1990), is located on the west side of the Santa Cruz River, and the presence of a ballcourt village on the east side of river forces us to re-examine settlement dynamics for this part of the Tucson Basin.

The Ironwood Village ballcourt was excavated in its entirety. In the middle of the ballcourt was a high-status cremation burial that



Tall Sweetwater Red-on-gray beaker with patterned incising from Ironwood Village pit structure that dates to the late Tortolita-Snaketown phase. This vessel probably originated in the Middle Gila Valley.

may represent the closing of the ballcourt related to the abandonment of the village during the late Rillito phase. Where did the Ironwood Village inhabitants move? The best candidate is Los Morteros (Wallace 1995), located only 3 km to west. This and other research questions will be examined with data from the Ironwood Village excavations.

#### Suggested Readings:

Bernard-Shaw, Mary

1989 *Archaeological Investigations at the Redtail Site, AZ AA:12:149 (ASM), in the Northern Tucson Basin*. Technical Report No. 89-8. Center for Desert Archaeology, Tucson.

1990 *Archaeological Investigations at the Lonetree Site, AZ AA:12:120 (ASM), in the Northern Tucson Basin*. Technical Report No. 90-1. Center for Desert Archaeology, Tucson.

Doelle, William H., and Henry D. Wallace

1991 The Changing Role of the Tucson Basin in the Hohokam Region System In *Exploring the Hohokam: Prehistoric Desert Peoples of the American Southwest*, edited by G. J. Gumerman, pp. 278–346. New World Studies No. 1. Amerind Foundation, Santa Fe, and University of New Mexico Press, Albuquerque.

Thiel, J. Homer, and Mark D. Elson (editors)

2011 *Archaeological Investigations of Selected Mortuary Contexts at AZ AA:12:321 (ASM), Marana, Pima County, Arizona*. Technical Report No. 2006-12. Desert Archaeology, Inc., Tucson.

Wallace, Henry D.

1995 *Archaeological Investigations at Los Morteros, A Prehistoric Settlement in the Northern Tucson Basin*. Anthropological Papers No. 17. Center for Desert Archaeology, Tucson.

**Speaker Todd W. Bostwick** has been conducting archaeological research in the Southwest for 36 years. He was the Phoenix City Archaeologist for 21 years at Pueblo Grande Museum and is currently Senior Research Archaeologist for PaleoWest Archaeology and Director of Archaeology at the Verde Valley Archaeology Center. Dr. Bostwick has an M.A. in Anthropology and a Ph.D. in History from Arizona State University (ASU), and taught classes at both ASU and Northern Arizona University for seven years. He has published numerous books and articles on Southwest archaeology and history, and has received awards from the National Park Service and the Governor's Archaeology Advisory Commission.



## AAHS Lecture Series

All meetings are held at the Duval Auditorium, University Medical Center  
Third Monday of the month, 7:30-9:00 p.m.

- March 16, 2015: Todd W. Bostwick, *Archaeological Excavations at Ironwood Village: A Hohokam Ballcourt Site in Marana*
- April 20, 2015: Deni Seymour, *The Great Battle of 1698 on the San Pedro River*
- May 18, 2015: Aaron Wright, *The Ritual Practice of Hohokam Rock Art in the Phoenix Basin*
- June 15, 2015: Jesse A. M. Ballenger, Jonathan Mabry, and others, *Cochise Culture Re-revisited: 2014–2015 Excavations at Desperation Ranch*

**2015 Archaeology Expo**  
**Yuma Quartermaster Depot State Historic Park**  
**Saturday, March 7**  
**9 am-4 pm**

This year's Arch Expo is building up to be a great one. In addition to exhibits and activities for children, a number of tours and presentations have been arranged. Tours will include the Quartermaster Depot, the Territorial Prison, the Sanguinetti House Museum, and a walking tour of downtown Yuma. While not a guided tour, we are encouraging our visitors to check out the Plank Road just over the border in California, since it has recently celebrated its 100 anniversary with new signage.

Presentations will include a lecture on the Butterfield Stage Road from author Gerald Ahnert, a discussion on the use of camels in Arizona by Bill Heidner, curator of the Heritage Center at YPG, and Petroglyphs of Southwestern Arizona by Bureau of Land Management Archaeologist Tom Jones. Lectures will be at 10:00 a.m., noon, and 3:00 p.m.

Come join in the fun!

## March is Arizona Archaeology and Heritage Awareness Month



SATURDAY, MARCH 7, 2015  
YUMA QUARTERMASTER DEPOT STATE HISTORIC PARK  
9 AM — 4 PM

**AZStateParks.com/Archy**

## ATTENTION ARCHAEOLOGY & HISTORY BUFFS

**Join us and experience educational attractions! Kids can test their skills with fun activities including tossing rabbit sticks & throwing spears using an Atlatl.**

**Sponsored by the State Historic Preservation Office  
& Hosted by the Quartermaster Depot SHP**



**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](mailto:jadams@desert.com).

## Upcoming AAHS Field Trips

*Participation in field trips is limited to members of AAHS.  
There is generally a 20-person limit on field trips, so sign up early.*

### Visit to the U of A Field School at Guevavi Mission March 21, 2015

As a follow-up to the November AAHS lecture, Homer Thiel will lead a tour to the Guevavi Mission south of Tumacacori where University of Arizona field school excavations will be in progress. Details of the trip are being developed. To register for the trip, contact Leslie Aragon at [leslie@desert.com](mailto:leslie@desert.com).

### Tour the Architecture of Downtown Tucson April 25, 2015; 9:00 a.m.

Tour guide Dr. R. Brooks Jeffery, Director of the Drachman Institute at the University of Arizona, will lead us on a walking tour of downtown Tucson's varied and distinctive architectural landscapes. Understand the history of the Old Barrio as we explore its many storied streetscapes. Details concerning tour stops are being developed, but the route will be focused on late nineteenth and early to mid-twentieth century architecture. Following the trip, enjoy lunch at one of the many new downtown restaurants that operate in these historic spaces (Penca, Pizzeria Bianco, Diablo Burger, Proper, The Hub, or Reilly Craft Pizza, among others). For additional information about Tucson architecture, its evolution, and much more, check out *A Guide to Tucson Architecture* (Nequette and Jeffery 2002). To register for the trip, contact trip leader Cannon Daughtrey at [cannondaughtrey@email.arizona.edu](mailto:cannondaughtrey@email.arizona.edu).



## Archaeology Café

Welcome to Archaeology Café, an informal forum where you can learn more about the Southwest's deep history and speak directly to experts. Archaeology Southwest's popular program is beginning its sixth season in Tucson (on the patio of Casa Vicente, 375 S. Stone Avenue) and its second season in Phoenix (in the Aztec Room at Macayo's Central, 4001 N. Central Avenue). Presentations begin after 6:00 p.m., although it is best to arrive by about 5:30 p.m. to get settled, as seating is open and unreserved, but limited.

The program is free, but participants are encouraged to order their own refreshments. Although kids may attend with adult supervision, Archaeology Cafés are best for adults and young adults.

### Tucson Schedule:

Mar. 3, 2015: *When Is a Village?*, Lisa C. Young and Sarah Herr

April 7, 2015: *Recent Work at Southern Arizona Guivavi Mission*, Barnet Pavao-Zuckerman and J. Homer Thiel

May 5, 2015: *Agave Farmers*, Wendy Hodgson and Andrew Salywon

### Phoenix Schedule:

Mar. 17, 2015: *Back and Forth*, Will Russell

April 28, 2015: *The Hilltop Survey, West-central Arizona, 1988–Present*, David R. Wilcox



## Kiva to Transition to Calendar Year

The recent by-laws vote to allow *Kiva: The Journal of Southwestern Anthropology and History* to transition from a fiscal to a calendar year publication schedule passed with no opposition. This transition will begin in 2015, and be completed at the start of 2016. The transition will not affect the number of issues of *Kiva* you receive with your annual membership. Thanks to all of you who returned your ballots. We appreciate your engagement.

## Cornerstone

Darlene Lizarraga, Director of Marketing  
Arizona State Museum

### Archaeology Awareness — ASM Has It In Spades

*The 122-year-old museum is curator of all things archaeology in the state, including a database of more than 100,000 sites*

**M**arch is Archaeology Awareness Month in the state of Arizona. But for the curators and staff at the Arizona State Museum (ASM), every month for the past 122 years has been full of

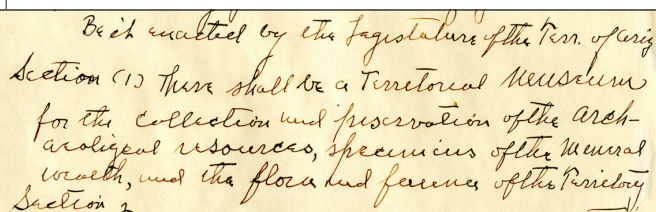
archaeology awareness. It is the reason the museum was created. It is why the museum exists.

ASM is the largest

and busiest state-run archaeological intake facility in the nation. ASM administers the Arizona Antiquities Act (AAA), making it the permitting authority for all archaeological activity conducted on more than 9.5 million acres of state land in Arizona. Objects and associated documentation produced as a result of that archaeological activity fall under ASM's curatorial responsibilities.

Under AAA, ASM assists other state agencies in the investigation and prosecution of crimes that result in damage to the archaeological record. Similar help is often extended to federal authorities.

ASM administers the state statutes that protect human burials on both state and private lands, and is a national leader in working with tribes to implement the federal Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA).



Be it enacted by the Legislature of the Terr. of Ariz.  
Section (1) There shall be a Territorial Museum  
for the collection and preservation of the arch-  
aeological resources, specimens of the natural  
world, and the flora and fauna of the Territory  
Section 2

In 1893, House Bill 42 established that, "There shall be a Territorial Museum for the collection and preservation of the archaeological resources...of the Territory."

And finally, AZSITE, Arizona's official inventory of more than 100,000 archaeological and historical sites and historic standing structures, is housed at ASM. This internet-based geographic information system (GIS) is a nationally recognized model of best practices in cultural resource data management.

### AZSITE is AmAZing

Executive Order 2006-3 designates AZSITE as the official GIS for cultural resources in the state, mandating all new data collected under AAA permits be submitted to it.

Under the supervision of Rick Karl since the late 1990s, AZSITE currently curates more than 87,000 plottable cultural resources and 25,000 survey boundaries linked to each other and both linked to references when available. "There is a plethora of supporting spatial data layers—for instance, land jurisdiction, historic structures, transportation routes, and hydrology," Karl explained. "Users can log in to the secured system, and using simple tools, can define their research area and immediately get a return of all the resources within their area, which are linked to attribute information such as cultural affiliation, types of features and artifacts recorded, field archaeologist's description of the site, and recommended national register status."

All contract archaeology firms holding AAA permits, as well as federal, state, tribal, and educational agencies, subscribe to AZSITE. "Many of the land-managing agencies within the state voluntarily supply the system with newly recorded data as well. Hard copies of the originally submitted site cards, project registration forms, and final survey reports are scanned and available online. What isn't already scanned can be within 24 hours," said Karl.

### A Model of Collaboration and Cooperation

Karl is quick to point out that without the collaboration and hard work of several agencies around the state, AZSITE would be just another website that nobody visits. The main database is maintained by ASM at the University of Arizona in Tucson. The online webpage is maintained by the Institute of Social Science Research at Arizona

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State University in Tempe. The State Historic Preservation Office in Phoenix ensures that people requesting access are vetted and responsible. The Museum of Northern Arizona in Flagstaff processed all their data for inclusion into the system. "From original vision to constant improvement and everything in between, AZSITE works because of a statewide spirit of collaboration and cooperation," he said.

### How is AZSITE Funded

State cooperation is one thing. State funding is another. Amazingly, AZSITE was conceived, launched, honed, and exists today without state-allocated funding. Land-managing agencies pay AZSITE to manage the data on their lands so they do not have to maintain a separate system. Private contract archaeology firms pay to access the system so they do not have to drive all over the state to get all the info about a given geographic area. Researchers pay to get electronic versions of hard copy documents made available to them so they do not have to drive anywhere to find a copy.

### Customer Service: AZSITE's Secret to Success

How has AZSITE gained the support of Arizona archaeologists and land managers, and become the envy of many other states? Karl believes it has to do with the administrative team understanding what its clients wanted the system to do. "In today's world of high-tech



*AZSITE Administrator Rick Karl at work. Officed in the museum's south building on the University of Arizona campus, Karl and his amazing team of staff and students work their database management magic on behalf of the people of the state of Arizona.*

software and delivery systems with unlimited programming options, you can make a database do almost anything and put it securely on the web for people to view," he explained. "The trick is to produce what the clients, the people ultimately paying for the system's development and management, need the system to provide them, and what is provided must be accurate. The development team listened to its potential users."

Another reason for AZSITE's success is a hard-working core group of staff and students processing the data and building the website. AZSITE incorporates the help of university grad students, undergraduates and high school students from the San Miguel Corporate Internship Program.

### The Sweeping History of AZSITE

In the mid-1990s, as the first truly scalable version of ESRI's Spatial Data Base Engine (SDE), version 3.0, gained momentum within the ranks of the spatial data geeks, Arizona's major land and cultural resource data managers were convening, once again, to discuss how to manage the exponential growth in cultural resource data and ultimately protect those resources from destruction. A decade before several had met to deal with the issue, but could come to no consensus on how to consolidate the data or, more importantly, who would control the distribution of the various agencies' data. Additionally, at that time, ESRI's spatial software didn't exist in any form usable by a group of dirt shoveling archaeologists for what was then a monumental undertaking. So, the group faded into the sunset.

As the 1990s progressed, the number of survey reports grew from a couple dozen annually to 100s annually and continued to increase to over a 1,000 as the 1890s came to a close. There was no real central hub for the data. Multiple agencies recorded the same resource data using differing numbering systems and incompatible media formats, and regularly with differing locations for the same site. There existed some 50 different agencies collecting data documentation. The 1990s brought more regulations which required specific documentation be submitted to specific agencies, much of which, by law, had to be made available to the public. This influx of data and the data availability

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requirements necessitated a better system of managing the data and its distribution.

The revival of AZSITE meetings in the mid-1990s was coordinated by the Arizona State Museum, the State Historic Preservation Office, Arizona State University, and the Museum of Northern Arizona with a ‘one-stop shop’ mission: everyone’s data in one place with secured, easier access. These meetings made progress, thanks to some technically savvy archaeologists, in the methodology to consolidate and, thanks to greater collaboration of participating agency heads and directors, in the management and distribution of the data. The first live iteration of AZSITE in 2000 produced clunky search methods of an incomplete and often error ridden database. But, it was online. Researchers, land managers and private archaeology firms quickly saw the advantage to having the data available, all the data, on their desktop, via the web.

Fast forward to today and AZSITE is an award-winning system, the envy of many other states. In 2009, AZSITE received a commendation from the Federal Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, and in 2008, it was awarded the ESRI Special Achievement Award.

## Learn More and Check It Out

AZSITE has now gone mainstream. While the new, publically accessible portal does require users to register and generate a username and password, there are no restrictions on who can register. See [www.statemuseum.arizona.edu/crservices/azsite/](http://www.statemuseum.arizona.edu/crservices/azsite/).



*AAHS is pleased to offer a new benefit of membership!* All members can now access current digital versions of *Kiva* for free with an AAHS username and password. If you renew your membership online, you have already created these passwords. Visit the AAHS home page, or Publications menu to log in and enjoy *Kiva* articles, even before they show up in your mailbox.

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    | <b>Kiva members</b> receive four issues of the Society's quarterly journal <i>Kiva</i> and 12 issues of <i>Glyphs</i> |
| ☐ \$40    | <b>Glyphs members</b> receive <i>Glyphs</i>   |
| ☐ \$35    | <b>Student Kiva members</b> receive both <i>Kiva</i> and <i>Glyphs</i>  |
| ☐ \$75    | <b>Contributing members</b> receive <i>Kiva</i> , <i>Glyphs</i> , and all current benefits                            |
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*Note: For memberships outside the U.S., please add \$20. AAHS does not release membership information to other organizations.*

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For institutional subscriptions to *Glyphs* (\$100), contact AAHS VP for Membership at the address below.

You can join online at [www.az-arch-and-hist.org](http://www.az-arch-and-hist.org), or by mailing the form below to:

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

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## RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

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.

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