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The Monthly Newsletter of the
Arizona Archaeological and Historical Society

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Box Canyon

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Next General Meeting: October 20, 2014
7:30 p.m., DuVal Auditorium,
University Medical Center
www.az-arch-and-hist.org

President's Message

by Jesse Ballenger

On Wednesday, September 10, the AAHS Board of Directors met at the Tucson Racquet and Fitness Club to renew our regularly scheduled meetings and to participate in a social hour for new and returning board members. Board members reviewed the what, why, how, and who of our routine business, also known as the Operations Manual. We also received reports from Sarah Herr, Jeff Clark, and various officers of the board. I am happy to say that our publications, investments, membership, and programs are sparkly. We had a wonderful time reinvigorating our ambitions and renewing out responsibilities to the Society.

By the way, did you know that AAHS is dedicated to connecting school children to the Arizona State Museum (ASM)? For the past several years, the Society has provided financial support to public schools who otherwise could not afford to bus children to their museum – the ASM – an asset that we consider a birthright to Arizonans. This is a wonderful program, one that I recently appointed Dr. Mary Prasciunas to manage for us in cooperation with ASM. We are indebted to Frank R. Orrell, Jr. for his bequest that supports this noble endeavor.



I am excited to report that AAHS is undertaking a new project this year. In the coming month we will complete archaeological excavations aimed at identifying and characterizing the age and paleoenvironmental context of the so-called Chiricahua Stage, as defined by Ted Sayles and Ernst Antevs in their 1941 report. The Chiricahua Stage of the “Cochise Culture” is critically important because it defines a vast portion of pre-ceramic human achievements

in the American Southwest. It is archaeological parlance. AAHS, in cooperation with several other entities, has returned to the location that led Sayles and Antevs to define what now represents the Middle Archaic period of the American Southwest. **If you are interested in the origins and antiquity of archaeological knowledge, humans, or agriculture in the Southwest, I encourage you to visit our website to read about the project, and hopefully to donate money toward the analysis of radiocarbon, macrobotanical, and stable isotope samples from the site.** Please see the Open House announcement on page 14 of this issue.



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.

- Oct. 20, 2014: Christian E. Downum, *Homes of Stone, Place of Dreams: The Ancient People of Flagstaff*
- Nov. 17, 2014: Barnet Pavao-Zuckerman and J. Homer Thiel, *Recent Work at the Guevavi Mission Site*
- Dec. 15, 2014: Archaeological Research Slam: Holiday Party, sponsored by AAHS
Location: Petroglyphs, 228 S. Park Avenue
As a celebration of AAHS' Grant and Research Program, the holiday party will feature an Archaeology Research Slam. Ten researchers will be chosen to give 3-minute presentations of their current projects. There will be prizes for the top three presentations. Voting will be done by your donations. Funds generated will support the AAHS Research Fund. Presentations will be followed by potluck hors d'oeuvres and libations.
- Jan. 19, 2015: William K. Hartmann, *Searching for Golden Empires: Epic Cultural Collisions in 16th Century America*

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October 20: Topic of the General Meeting

Homes of Stone, Place of Dreams: The Ancient People of Flagstaff

by Christian E. Downum

In this presentation, I will talk about how ancient hunters first came to the Flagstaff area toward the end of the last Ice Age. I will subsequently describe a much later time, when descendants of these hunters began to farm and live in pithouse and pueblo villages. My discussion focuses on the unique nature of the Flagstaff environment and why this area is considered by the modern Hopi to be *Pasiwovi* ("The Place of Deliberations"). It is here, at the foot of the San Francisco Peaks, that the outlines of a more modern Hopi way of life began to take shape. Some Hopis believe the modern Hopi ethos was first proposed and debated in kivas associated with pueblo communities here. Some pinpoint Elden Pueblo as the exact place where these things happened, others see events unfolding in multiple communities over time. In any case, the Flagstaff area is essentially a Hopi "holy land" – a place filled with sacred meaning and deep history.

In the Flagstaff area, two very different kind of mountains dominate the contemporary landscape and its human history: Sunset Crater and the San Francisco Peaks.

The San Francisco Peaks are a transcendent earthly feature and the sacred spiritual home of the Hopi Katsinam, spiritual guides and helpers of vital importance to the world. The Peaks have been significant to local native people for hundreds of years, if not thousands. The Peaks are at the heart of the Hopi cultural landscape, and it seems no accident that Hopis would consider this beautiful and awe-inspiring mountain to lie at the heart of their cultural history.

Sunset Crater, the other vitally important landform in the area, is very different from the San Francisco Peaks. A low and rounded pile of volcanic cinders, Sunset Crater would seem to be indistinguishable

from several hundred other volcanos in the area. But like the peaks, Sunset Crater is considerably more than just another physical landform. Sunset Crater dramatically changed the world of ancient Flagstaff residents, erupting sometime in the late A.D. 1000s, and leaving behind about two billion tons of lava, scoria, and cinders. When its eruption was complete, the landscape was permanently altered, destroying much of the local area, but bringing new possibilities in the form of a cinder mulch that enhanced farming.

Much of the late prehistory of the Flagstaff area is uniquely fascinating – and still rather confusing. Here, the great cultural spheres of Chaco and Hohokam overlapped. Local residents seem to have borrowed from both of those traditions, incorporating elements such as ballcourts, great-house like pueblos, and possibly even great kivas into the fabric of their existence. People also established elaborate long-distance exchange networks, leading many to consider the ancient people of the Flagstaff area as among the most accomplished traders in the entire Southwest. Residents here built large communities with impressive architectural constructions, and sustained a regional farming population that is astounding in such an austere and unpredictable environment. Yet, for all the successes that unfolded over a period of several centuries, it ultimately did not last. Beginning in the early 1200s, and unfolding over the next century or so, people left behind their homes in the land of the Peaks, and enacted their history in other places, including the Verde Valley and the Hopi Mesas.



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For many centuries, the pueblo people of Flagstaff had their feet planted firmly in the earth they farmed, but their social connections reached far across the real world and their ideas soared well into the cosmos. Flagstaff was, and is, a place of harsh physical realities, but also a place of great beauty and meaning, especially to the Hopi. Few other places in the Southwest have such an enduring connection between remarkable places of the past, and resilient, enduring native people who never strayed far from their original homeland.

Speaker Christian E. Downum is a Professor of Anthropology and former director of the Anthropology Laboratories at Northern Arizona University (NAU) in Flagstaff. He also holds the title of Research Associate at the Museum of Northern Arizona. He earned his M.A. (1981) and Ph.D. (1988) degrees in Anthropology from the University of Arizona.

Dr. Downum's research focus is the archaeology of the American Southwest. He has more than 30 years of field experience in archaeology, and has headed more than 140 field and laboratory projects in the deserts, mountains, and Colorado Plateau regions of Arizona. Downum's archaeological research interests include questions of ethnicity and conflict, Southwestern ceramics, the role of archaeology in public policy, and analysis of cultural landscapes. He is considered an expert on the ancient ceramics of northern Arizona and the prehistoric archaeology of the area surrounding Flagstaff. Recent research projects include an archaeological survey of Sunset Crater National Monument and collaborating on a synthesis of Grand Canyon archaeology.

Dr. Downum has authored or co-authored more than 130 archaeological books, monographs, chapters, articles, and papers in a wide variety of venues, including the journals American Anthropologist, American Antiquity, World Archaeology, and Kiva. He has led seven summer archaeological field schools, surveying archaeological sites on the Coconino National Forest, the CO-Bar Ranch, and excavating ancient pithouse and pueblo ruins at Wupatki and Walnut Canyon National Monuments and Grand Canyon National Park. He has been especially involved with building connections between archaeology and Native Americans.

Currently, Dr. Downum is developing a Virtual Museum for National Park units in the American Southwest. This project, a joint effort between NAU, NPS, and the Museum of Northern Arizona, is designed to change how visitors experience cultural resources in the national park units of the American Southwest. The website for the Virtual Museum (svirtualmuseum.nau.edu) currently features virtual museums for three U.S. National Monuments, and will add three more in the coming year.

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.

Stories from Aravaipa Canyon

October 11-12, 2014

Please see the website or last month's *Glyphs* for details of this weekend trip to explore the history of this beautiful canyon. www.az-arch-and-hist.org/programs-2/field-trips/.

The Village of Cerrmo Prieto

November 8, 2014

Cerro Prieto, meaning "Black Hill," is a large Hohokam village site that was occupied sometime between A.D. 1150 and 1300. The site is located on the side of a volcanic hill, which is rare for Hohokam sites, but more common in northern Sonora. Due to its unique location, there are many more archaeological features visible on the surface, including house foundations, terrace walls, and an elaborate trail system. Petroglyphs are also present at both Cerro Prieto and other nearby sites that we may also visit, time permitting. Because the site is located on a hill and in an undeveloped area, some amount of walking over uneven terrain will be necessary.

Please register for the tour by emailing trip leader Matt Pailes at mpailes@email.arizona.edu, or Cannon Daughtrey at cannondaughtrey@email.arizona.edu. For more information on Cerro Prieto, please see the recent publication: Pailes, Matthew. 2014. Social Network Analysis of Early Classic Hohokam Group Inequality. *American Antiquity* 79:465-486.

Tumamoc Hill

December 13, 2014

Tumamoc Hill, just west of the Santa Cruz River in downtown Tucson, is a trincheras site with occupations going back to 500

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2015 Arizona Archaeology and Heritage Awareness Month

Update from Kris Dobschuetz , RPA

Compliance Specialist / Archaeology, State Historic Preservation Office

It is that time again to start planning for the 2015 Arizona Archaeology and Heritage Awareness Month (AAHAM). At the Kick-off Meeting, the theme for the month, *Confluence of Travel, Trade, and Culture Through Time*, was chosen. The 2015 Archaeology Expo, the highlighted event, will be in Yuma at the Quartermaster Depot State Historic Park on Saturday, March 7, 2015. All are invited to participate in the planning. There will be a meeting each month until March. Most of the meetings will be at the Arizona State Parks building in downtown Phoenix. For additional information, or to be added to the e-mail distribution list, please contact Kris Dobschuetz at kd2@azstateparks.gov or 602.542.7141.

In the past, SHPO has received the majority of our funding for AAHAM and the Archaeology Expo through the Arizona Heritage Fund. As you may be aware, Arizona State Park's portion of the Arizona Heritage Fund has been reallocated in recent years. So, despite the fact that we have worked diligently to stretch our existing monies, without the Heritage monies replacing those funds, we are at a loss. While we understand that the financial situation today is not as good as it has been in years past, we are asking for donations to support the upcoming 2015 AAHAM and Archaeology Expo. Any amount would be most welcome. If you are willing and able to make a donation, please provide either a check or money order to the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and make a note on the donation section/line "AAHAM Donation Fund." Checks can be dropped off or mailed to 1300 W. Washington Street, Phoenix, AZ 85008. Thank you for your consideration.

glyphs: Information and articles to be included in *glyphs* must be received by the first of each month for inclusion in the next month's issue. Contact me, Emilee Mead, at emilee@desert.com, or 520.881.2244.

2014 Cordell Prize

The first annual competition for the Cordell Prize was held at the Pecos Conference in Blanding, Utah, on August 8-9, 2014. Twelve contestants vied to present the best extemporaneous talk by an archaeologist 35 years of age or younger.

This year's winners are:

First Prize (\$500): Nicole Lohman (Northern Arizona University), *New Methods for Rock Art Recording at Petrified Forest National Park*

Second Prize (\$250): Erina Gruner (Binghamton University), *Curating Ancestry: The Afterlives of People and Things at Chacoan and post-Chacoan Centers*

Third Prize (\$100): Elizabeth Hora-Cook (Utah State University), *Laying the Foundation for Understanding the Paleoclimatic Impacts on the Horticultural Potential of Jones Hole Canyon, Utah*

Third Prize (\$100): Kellam Throgmorton (Woods Canyon Archaeological Consultants), *A Preliminary Look at Late Basketmaker III and early Pueblo I on the McElmo Dome*

Hora-Cook and Throgmorton tied for third, so both were awarded. In addition to \$500, Lohman took home the St. Linda, Patron Saint of Southwestern Archaeologists *retablo*, made for the competition by New Mexico *santero* Charlie Carrillo. The St. Linda *retablo* is a circulating prize that will stay with each year's winner until the following Pecos Conference, when it will be handed on to the new winner.



2014 Cordell Prize winners (left to right): Kellam Throgmorton (3rd prize), Elizabeth HoraCook (3rd prize), Erina Gruner (2nd prize), and Nicole Lohman (1st prize) (photograph by Willow Powers).

Cornerstone

Darlene Lizarraga, Director of Marketing
Arizona State Museum

Research Highlights Rock Art Ranch Field School ~ 2014 Update

by Chuck Adams

The Rock Art Ranch (RAR) field school completed its fourth year of survey on the privately owned Rock Art Ranch and second year of excavations on the Multi-Kiva (MK) site, which is located south of the ranch.

In addition to support from the University of Arizona School of Anthropology and the Arizona State Museum (ASM), 10 of the 17 students at the field school were supported by the National Science Foundation (NSF) Research Enrichment for Undergraduates (REU) program (NSF grant 1262184). The 17 students represented 15 schools from across the United States. Two of the students took the field school for graduate credit.

We were fortunate to have the same staff now for the third year in a row, including Richard Lange, excavation director and senior research archaeologist at ASM; Claire Barker, laboratory director and survey crew chief, and Samantha Fladd, survey director, both Ph.D. students in the School of Anthropology; Kre Britt, excavation crew chief and Ph.D. student, University of Illinois, Chicago; Byron Estes, excavation crew chief and project ceramic analyst; and Darlene Brinkerhoff, excavation crew chief and rock art expert.

In addition to five weeks in the field, REU students spent two weeks completing workshops on bioarchaeology, zooarchaeology, and conservation at ASM. Each student or pair of students completed and presented a research project of their choosing. Students taking the field school for credit presented their projects to fellow students and staff. School of Anthropology faculty and ASM faculty and staff were invited to hear presentations by REU students.

Excavations at MK focused on uncovering as many wall

segments as possible for the circa 20-room pueblo, as well as additional testing in the midden, excavation of one vandalized room, and testing in three associated depressions of 4 m, 12 m, and 20 m in diameter. The pueblo dates to A.D. 1150–1225, and is

the largest and most complex among numerous small pueblos of the same ceramic age in the surrounding area. All the pueblo walls are two courses wide and in some places reach two stories. Rooms on the north, east, and west sides are complemented by a wall on the east side, which encloses a small plaza.

Pueblo rooms are large, with the excavated two-story structure measuring 4.2 m by 3.2 m. The largest depression contains only a small circle constructed of massive sandstone blocks, the mid-sized depression is shallow and filled with ash, while the smallest depression is a subterranean structure of unknown use.

Wall tracing discovered in several of the rooms have burned roofs. A third field season may be necessary to fully investigate the extent and causes of the burning.

The survey in 2014 covered only 232 acres, due to extremely high density of sites and loci. For the summer, 20 sites and an additional 26 loci were recorded, with 2,400 artifacts (1,300 on sites and 1,100 isolates) plotted geospatially using GPS and GIS.

Nearly all the sites/loci are pre-ceramic (pre-500 CE), with several having later uses by ceramic period groups. The sites are strongly associated with Bell Cow Canyon, which not only has a high diversity of riparian plants, but also large reservoirs of shallow groundwater suitable for watering small garden plots.

Of particular interest is the high number of sites having yellow ware pottery, some associated with obsidian, suggesting Hopi visitation to the area between 1325 and perhaps as late as 1700. Yellow ware density has spiked as our survey has come closer to the extensive petroglyph site in Chevelon Canyon after which the ranch is named.



The 2014 Rock Art Ranch team (photograph by Chuck Adams).

AAHS OPEN HOUSE & BBQ

Desperation Ranch Revisit Excavation

October 19, 2014; 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

999 Portal Rd, Portal, Arizona

AAHS members and guests are invited to attend a site tour and BBQ at Desperation Ranch located in Portal, Arizona. Food and beverages will be provided. Come one, come all!

Directions: Follow Interstate 10 east to NM 80 south in Hidalgo County; take exit 5 and continue on NM 80 south. Turn right onto NM 533 east (aka Portal Rd). Travel west to 999 Portal Rd. Desperation Ranch is about 172 miles from Tucson, just under 3 hours.

AAHS appreciates the generous support of Jaye Smith for underwriting this event.

Reservations for overnight accommodations, if desired, should be made ASAP. Accommodations may be available at:

Cave Creek Ranch, 1396 W. Piedra Blanca Lane, Portal, AZ 85632; 520.558.2334

Portal Peak Lodge, 2358 S. Rock House Road, Portal, AZ 85632; 520.558.2223



Archaeology Café

Welcome to Archaeology Café, an informal forum where adults 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 and its second season in Phoenix.

At Archaeology Café, we break down the static, jargon-laden dynamic of traditional lectures, and have an expert share some ideas with the group in ways that facilitate discussion. (Food and drink make things a little livelier, too.)

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.

For meeting times, dates, locations, and topics, visit www.archaeologysouthwest.org/what-we-do/events/arch-cafe.

AAHS Membership Application

Membership is open to anyone interested in the prehistory and history of Arizona and the Southwest and who support the aims of the Society. Membership runs for a full year from the date of receipt, and covers all individuals living in the same household.

Monthly meetings are free and open to the public. Society field trips require membership. Members may purchase an annual JSTOR subscription to *Kiva* back issues for \$20 through the AAHS website.

Membership Categories

- \$50 **Kiva members** receive four issues of the Society's quarterly journal *Kiva* and 12 issues of *Glyphs*
- \$40 **Glyphs members** receive *Glyphs*
- \$35 **Student Kiva members** receive both *Kiva* and *Glyphs*
- \$75 **Contributing members** receive *Kiva*, *Glyphs*, and all current benefits
- \$120 **Supporting members** receive *Kiva*, *Glyphs*, and all current benefits
- \$300 **Sponsoring members** receive *Kiva*, *Glyphs*, and all current benefits
- \$1,000 **Lifetime members** receive *Kiva*, *Glyphs*, and all current benefits

Note: For memberships outside the U.S., please add \$20. AAHS does not release membership information to other organizations.

Institutional Subscriptions

For institutional subscriptions to *Kiva*, contact Maney Publishing at subscriptions@maneypublishing.com or <http://maneypublishing.com/index.php/journals/kiv>. For institutional subscriptions to *Glyphs* (\$100), contact AAHS VP for Membership at the address below.

You can join online at www.az-arch-and-hist.org, or by mailing the form below to:
Michael Diehl, VP Membership
Arizona Archaeological and Historical Society
Arizona State Museum, The University of Arizona
Tucson, AZ 85721-0026

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Vice President for Activities: Katherine Cerino | kcerino@gmail.com | 520.907.0884
Vice President for Membership: Michael Diehl | mdiehl@desert.com | 520.881.2244
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2014-2015

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Arizona Archaeological and Historical Society
Arizona State Museum
University of Arizona
Tucson, Arizona 85721-0026
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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.