

glyphs

The Monthly Newsletter of the
Arizona Archaeological and Historical Society

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April 2021



Blue corn from the University of Michigan Museum of Anthropological Archaeology collections.

Next General Meeting:
April 19, 2021
7:00 pm

AAHS@Home (Zoom webinar)
www.az-arch-and-hist.org

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President's Message

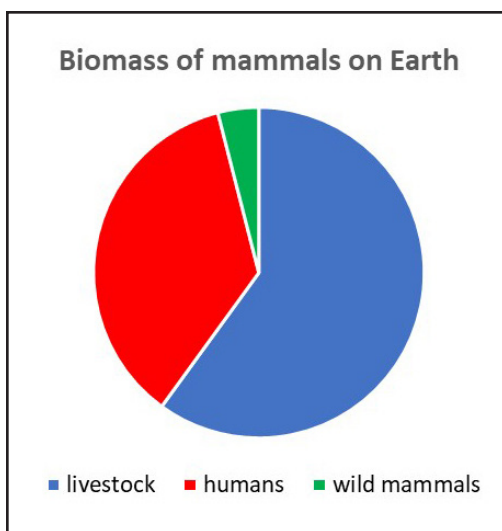
by John D. Hall

The great paradox of anthropology is the endeavor to study ourselves. This paradox exists in psychology too. How can we (scientists) be objective while using our brains to study our brains? Perhaps objectivity is not always necessary? Human brains may be one of the most significant biological evolutions in Earth's history. Humans have used their brains over the last 100,000 years to transform our environment more than any other species. As archaeologists, we are uniquely aware of this human-environmental interaction.

When I have the pleasure of training new archaeologists in the field, I always talk about identifying what doesn't belong. For example, during an archaeological survey, the important first step is to understand the natural terrain and geology. As archaeologists walk transects across the land, they must recognize those little details that don't belong. Sometimes it's small pieces of stone or ceramic that stand out, small mounds or depressions, an arrangement of rocks, discolored soil, or areas of unusual vegetation growth. These small clues may be illuminating human-caused changes to (or uses of) the environment, and thus, potential archaeological sites. The same is true for archaeological excavations. Deciphering subtle changes in soil coloration, compactness, or the presence of charcoal are sometimes the only clues distinguishing natural sediments from cultural deposits. More obvious archaeological signatures include historic-age sites, with standing walls, structures, trash dumps, or large earthworks.

Human's significant impact on the environment is at odds with our relative abundance. In other words, the current human population accounts for only 0.01 percent of living organisms on the planet, even though our population is close to 8 billion. In terms of biomass, plants contribute about 450 gigatons of carbon (Gt C) to the planet, or roughly 82 percent of the life on Earth. Surprisingly, the next most abundant life in terms of biomass is bacteria, contributing

about 70 Gt C, or 13 percent of life on Earth. The biomass of bacteria has a high uncertainty value, however, as much of this biomass exists subsurface in aquifers or below the sea floor. Mammals contribute about 2 Gt C, or 0.3 percent of life on Earth. Of all mammals, approximately 36 percent are humans, 60 percent are human-raised livestock, and 4 percent are wild animals (Bar-On et al. 2018).



Adapted from Bar-on et al. 2018.

This stunning revelation indicates that humans and our livestock represent 96 percent of mammals on Earth! Similarly, the total biomass of domesticated birds (mostly chickens) is about three times higher than the number of wild birds on Earth (Bar-On et al. 2018). Livestock has emerged as “one of the top two or three most significant contributors to the most serious environmental problems, at every scale from local to global” (Steinfeld et al. 2006). As it turns out, “Humankind is revealed as simultaneously insignificant and utterly dominant in the grand scheme of life on Earth” (Carrington 2018).

What can we do? There are several catch phrases that originated from the environmental movement in the 1970s that are still very relevant today, such as: Reduce-Reuse-Recycle and Think Globally-Act Locally. Surprisingly, it’s not too difficult to reduce our carbon footprint at an individual level. Some recommended steps from the Natural Resource Defense Council (NRDC) include: avoid wasting food, eat fewer animal products, increase the energy efficiency of our appliances and homes, drive fuel efficient vehicles, lower water

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Domestic Swiss Braunvieh cow, Engadin, Switzerland (photograph by Daniel Schwen).

consumption/reduce waste water, recycle, plant trees, compost, and become active in local politics or volunteer your time to help clean up the environment in your community (Denchak 2017). Most of these actions can be adjusted in our daily routines, can save you money, and can help relieve the burden on our precious environment.

References:

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2018 The Biomass Distribution on Earth. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* 115(25):6506–6511. Electronic document, <https://www.pnas.org/content/pnas/115/25/6506.full.pdf>, accessed February 2021.
- Carrington, Damian
2018 Humans Just 0.01% of All Life but Have Destroyed 83% of Wild Mammals—Study. *The Guardian*, May 21, 2018. Electronic document, <https://www.theguardian.com/environment/2018/may/21/human-race-just-001-of-all-life-but-has-destroyed-over-80-of-wild-mammals-study>, accessed February 2021.
- Denchak, Melissa
2017 *How You Can Stop Global Warming: Healing the Planet Starts in Your Garage, in Your Kitchen, and at Your Dining Room Table*. Natural Resource Defense Council, July 17, 2017. Electronic document, <https://www.nrdc.org/stories/how-you-can-stop-global-warming>, accessed February 2021.

Steinfeld, Henning, Pierre Gerber, Tom Wassenaar, Vincent Castel, Mauricio Rosales, and Cees de Haan
2006 *Livestock's Long Shadow: Environmental Issues and Options*. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. Electronic document, <http://www.fao.org/3/a0701e/a0701e.pdf>, accessed February 2021.



AAHS Lecture Series

*Brought to you by AAHS@Home through Zoom
until we can meet again in person*

- Apr. 19, 2021: Lisa Young, *Sharing an Ear of Corn: An Archaeologist's Perspective on the Role of Food in Community Collaborations*
- May 17, 2021: Evan Giomi, *Eastern and Western Pueblo Divergence: A Study of Network Structure and Social Transformations*
- June 21, 2021: Ben Bellarado and Chuck Larue, TBA
- July 19, 2021: Myles Miller, *Five Millennia of Living on the Landscapes of the Jornada Mogollon Region of Southern New Mexico and West Texas*



KIVA BOOK REVIEWS EDITOR NEEDED

The Arizona Archaeological and Historical Society is seeking a volunteer with a background in anthropology, archaeology, history, or related fields to serve as Book Reviews Editor for *KIVA: The Journal of Southwestern Anthropology and History*. The position entails soliciting books for review from presses, finding reviewers and ensuring they write the reviews, light editing for content and grammar, and coordinating with the Acquisitions Editor(s). Estimated time commitment is four hours or more per month. Please send a letter of interest to Sarah Herr at sherr@desert.com by **April 16, 2021**.

April 19: Topic of the General Meeting

Sharing an Ear of Corn: An Archaeologist's Perspective on the Role of Food in Community Collaborations

Lisa C. Young

Collaborative collaborations, especially with descendent communities, have become an important and vibrant component of archaeological projects. Engagement with community members commonly occurs during the fieldwork and analysis components of a project. What happens when the project is completed? How can archaeologists maintain connections with their community partners, especially in contexts where substantial distances separate them? In this talk, I share my perspective on the importance of food in nourishing collaborations that began more than 15 years ago at the Homolovi State Park, near Winslow, Arizona. A conversation about the importance of sharing an ear of roasted corn kindled these long-term relationships and have led to my deeper understanding of the connections among corn, heritage, and ancestors for the Hopi community, as well as for the Anishinaabe communities in the Great Lakes region.



Speaker Lisa C. Young is currently a Lecturer IV in the Department of Anthropology and Research Affiliate in the Museum of Anthropological Archaeology at the University of Michigan. She received her B.A. from Michigan and her M.A. and Ph.D. from the University of Arizona. Her research focuses on community organization among arid land farming groups, the potential for museum research, the archaeology of contemporary communities, and sustainability. Dr. Young has conducted many years of research at Homol'ovi and its environs, and she has engaged diverse groups in her projects.

Suggested Readings:

Young, Lisa C.

- 2012 Suvoyuki Means Joint Effort: Archaeologists, the Hopi Tribe, and the Public at Homol'ovi. In *Archaeological Field Schools: Constructing Knowledge and Experience*, edited by H. Mytum, pp. 229–240. Spring, New York.
- 2015 Reconnecting the University of Michigan Seed Collections with Hopi Farmers: The Museum Anthropology Course Project. Poster presented at the Association of Tribal Archives, Libraries, and Museums, Washington, D.C. [with Susan Sekaquaptewa].

Both readings are available at <https://umich.academia.edu/LisaCYoung>

Registration for this lecture is open to the public, but you must pre-register at <https://bit.ly/YoungA-pr21REG>

AAHS LOGO T-SHIRTS AVAILABLE ONLINE!

Need something to lounge around the house in? AAHS T-shirts are available in our online store: <https://www.az-arch-and-hist.org/shop/>. Regular cut in gray with black logo or beige with brown logo. Also available in a women's cut in red with white logo. The shirts are \$20 each, including postage.



Follow AAHS on Facebook at
www.facebook.com/archandhist



CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

The Arizona Archaeological and Historical Society welcomes nominations for three annual awards (see descriptions).

Nomination letters and Curriculum Vitae (if appropriate) should be emailed to Ron Towner (rht@email.arizona.edu) no later than May 1, 2021. Awardees will be selected by the Awards Committee and approved by the AAHS Board of Directors. Awards will be presented at the Pecos Conference in August.

Byron Cummings Award

The Byron Cummings Award is given in honor of Byron Cummings, the principal professional founder of AAHS, the first chair of the University of Arizona's Department of Archaeology (later Anthropology), and the first Director of the Arizona State Museum. The Byron Cummings Award is given annually for outstanding research and contributions to knowledge in anthropology, history, or a related field of study or research pertaining to the southwestern United States or northwest Mexico.

Victor R. Stoner Award

The Victor R. Stoner Award is given in honor of Reverend Stoner, a strong avocational historian, supporter of AAHS, and one of the founders of *Kiva*. The Victor R. Stoner Award is given annually for outstanding contributions in leadership or participation in the Society, fostering historic preservation, or bringing anthropology, history, or a related discipline to the public.

Alexander J. Lindsay, Jr. Unsung Heroes Award

The Alexander J. Lindsay, Jr. Award is given in honor of Dr. Lindsay, a long-time southwestern archaeologist, AAHS member, and AAHS Officer. This award is given annually as a lifetime service award to those individuals whose tireless work behind the scenes has often gone unrecognized, but that is often critical to the success of others' research, projects, and publications. These may be field personnel, lab managers, archivists, cooks, analysts, and others.

ARCHAEOLOGY CAFÉ 2020–2021

PRESERVATION ARCHAEOLOGY

The 14th season of Archaeology Café celebrates and shares Archaeology Southwest's current Preservation Archaeology projects with you. Preservation archaeology is holistic, conservation-based, and collaborative. It is an approach to learning about places and heritage through dynamic new tools and low- to no-impact methods to achieve high-impact insights and protections. Our staff members will bring you in on what we're doing right now to learn more about the past and to help protect special places.

We meet just before 6:00 p.m. MST on the first Tuesday of each month from October through May. All of our meetings are via Zoom Webinar. Preregistration is required before each event, but is free.

Presenters speak for 30 minutes, followed by 30 minutes for questions. During the presentation, you can use the question-and-answer tool within Zoom Webinar to ask questions as they come to mind. We monitor the question-and-answer feed during the program and tag questions for the presenter to answer.

For more information, visit <https://www.archaeologysouthwest.org/things-to-do/cafe/>.

Topics include:

April 6, 2021: *Just What is cyberSW? The Potential of Massive Databases for Future Preservation Archaeology Research*, Joshua Watts

May 4, 2021: *Was Sells Red Pottery a Marker of Tohono O'odham Identity in Late Precontact Times? Archaeological and Ethnographic Perspectives*, Bill Doelle and Samuel Fayuant

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.

Cornerstone

*Darlene Lizarraga, Director of Marketing
Arizona State Museum*

JOIN US FOR AN ALL NEW ASM MASTER CLASS



Animals and Human Society in World History

May 10, 12, 14, 17, and 19, 2021
9:30 a.m. Arizona time via Zoom

Taught by Dr. Martin Welker, asst. curator of
zooarchaeology and Dr. Michael M. Brescia,
curator of ethnohistory

\$100 ASM members, \$150 non members

Animals and humans have lived together for millennia, at times competing for food, water, and territory, but also sustaining one another. Environments and ecologies unique to each region of the world have shaped the interaction between human and animal communities, and a series of complex relationships have evolved over time that reveal an uneasy symbiosis between the nutritional, economic, and cultural needs of humans and the multiple features of the animal kingdom. Martin Welker will examine the archaeological and ecological record of human and animal co-evolution and interaction to demonstrate how human and animal communities have impacted and shaped one another. Michael Brescia will explore how the intersection of political economy, technologies, and culture--starting in the sixteenth century and rapidly accelerating in the early nineteenth century--radically transformed the animal-human continuum in an increasingly globalized world seeking material progress at every turn.

Full details and registration at:

<https://statemuseum.arizona.edu/events/program/asm-master-class-animals-human-world-history>

Questions can be addressed to
Darlene Lizarraga at dlf@email.arizona.edu or 520-626-8381

Check out more digital programs, online exhibits,
and on-demand content at
<https://statemuseum.arizona.edu>



THE UNIVERSITY OF ARIZONA

**ARIZONA
STATE MUSEUM**

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. If you are joining as a household, please list all members of the household. Monthly meetings are free and open to the public. Society field trips require membership.

Membership Categories

- ☐ \$60 **Kiva members** receive four issues of the Society's quarterly journal *Kiva* and 12 issues of *Glyphs*
- ☐ \$45 **Glyphs members** receive *Glyphs*
- ☐ \$35 **Student Kiva members** receive both *Kiva* and *Glyphs*
- ☐ \$100 **Contributing members** receive *Kiva*, *Glyphs*, and all current benefits
- ☐ \$150 **Supporting members** receive *Kiva*, *Glyphs*, and all current benefits
- ☐ \$300 **Sponsoring members** receive *Kiva*, *Glyphs*, and all current benefits
- ☐ \$1,500 **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.

I wish to receive *Glyphs* by (circle your choice): Email Mail Both

I am interested in volunteering in AAHS activities: Yes Not at this time

Institutional Subscriptions

University libraries, public libraries, museums, and other institutions that wish to subscribe to *Kiva* must do so through the publisher, Taylor & Francis at tandfonline.com. 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:

Rebecca Renteria, VP Membership
Arizona Archaeological and Historical Society
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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