



# glyphs

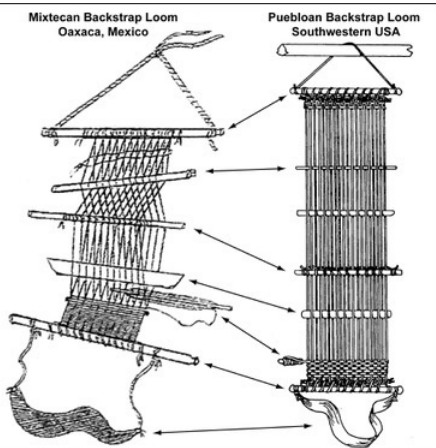
The Monthly Newsletter of the  
Arizona Archaeological and Historical Society

Vol. 71, No. 12

June 2021



Trique Weaver  
Oaxaca, Mexico



Mixtec Backstrap Loom  
Oaxaca, Mexico

Puebloan Backstrap Loom  
Southwestern USA

**Next General Meeting:**  
**June 21, 2021**  
**7:00 pm (MST)**

**AAHS@Home (Zoom webinar)**  
[www.az-arch-and-hist.org](http://www.az-arch-and-hist.org)

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## President's Message

by John D. Hall

I recently completed an archaeological survey near Bryan, Texas. For those of you who don't know, Bryan is a small town about halfway between Austin and Houston. Over the years, Bryan has essentially merged with another town, College Station, which is well-known as the home of Texas A&M University. During this recent survey near Bryan, I was accompanied by a fine, upstanding young fellow named Ruben (Ben) Castillo. On one of our many transects, Ben inexplicably yelled out. We were only a couple hundred feet apart, but I immediately heard the urgency in his voice, so I stopped. Just then my cell phone rang. It was Ben. When I answered, Ben calmly told me that a family of feral pigs was right in front of him, and he was slowly backing up! According to Ben, one of the pigs was enormous, quite agitated, and surrounded by several piglets. I restrained myself and did not approach. This drove of pigs eventually ran off into the brush, and we continued our survey unscathed.

It is estimated that between 6 and 9 million feral pigs exist throughout the United States, from Florida to Washington. Pigs (hogs) are very adaptable omnivores, and many researchers consider them the most destructive invasive species on the planet. Feral pigs destroy crops, damage roads and infrastructure, spread disease, and outcompete native species in fragile ecosystems such as marshes, riparian areas, grasslands, and forests. This unparalleled ecological toll has earned invasive pigs the moniker "ecological zombies" (Miller 2021).

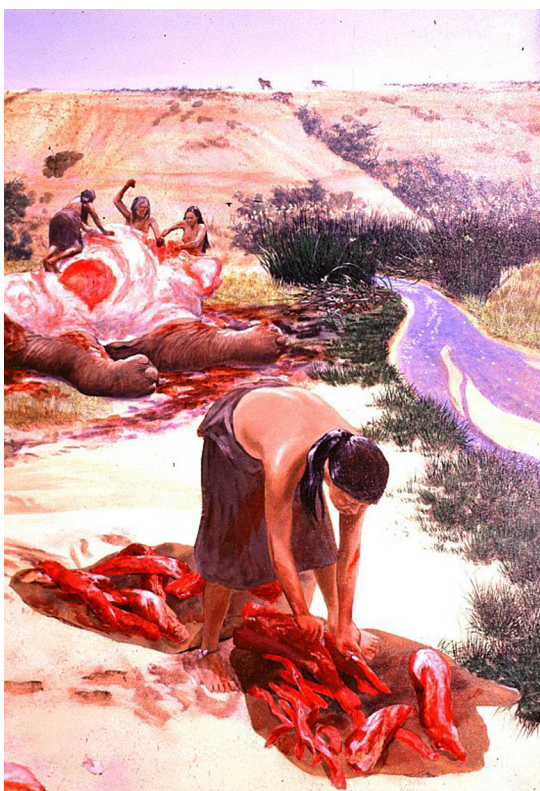
The experience with feral pigs near Bryan, Texas made me think of other animal encounters. One of the many pleasures of being an archaeologist is working in the field and seeing animals in the wild. As I mentioned in the April 2021 issue of *Glyphs*, it is estimated that only 4 percent of mammals on Earth are wild. So, the frequency of animal encounters is much less than in antiquity. I have been lucky over the years and have rarely been in compromising situations with wild animals. Rattlesnakes seem to be the most consistent

threatening animal I've encountered in Arizona. Although not threatening, once near Phoenix I saw a coyote chasing a roadrunner (à la Looney Tunes). No Acme rockets were involved, and no surprise, the roadrunner got away!

As part of our Oral History Project, AAHS recently uploaded a video to our YouTube page of Dr. C. Vance Haynes narrating a 16 mm film of the Murry Springs Mammoth Excavations from 1967-1968. See the announcement below, and here is a link to the video:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CM4PWJVSVBI&list=PLLDdb4c3yNqVFjglFXpg5vy2VGrq5-SQe>.

Former AAHS President Dr. Jesse Ballenger interviews Dr. Haynes as they watch the old film, and Dr. Haynes describes, in detail, the discovery and excavation of the Clovis-aged mammoth kill from the Murray Springs site (Haynes and Huckell 2007), one of the more significant sites in Arizona! Not only does this interview paint a fascinating picture of the Murray Springs excavations, but one gets the sense of what life would have been like for the Clovis people



Depiction of a mammoth kill site, similar to Murray Springs (painting by Nola Davis, courtesy Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, Lubbock Lake Landmark).

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who hunted, killed, and butchered a mammoth some 13,000 years ago. This is an animal encounter that is beyond comprehension for most people! Clovis sites along the San Pedro River and elsewhere in southern Arizona indicate the importance of large game hunting to the Clovis people (Ballenger 2010; Haury 1953; Haury et al. 1959).

Over time, humans have proceeded through the Neolithic age (introduction of agriculture and pastoralism), the Industrial Revolution, and now the Computer Age. As human populations and urbanization increases, our interaction with wild animals has decreased, or at least, it has changed significantly. Most of the animal products we currently consume are from domestic animal sources, although hunting (and fishing) wild animals persists as an important activity in our society. In antiquity, or for pre-Neolithic societies, hunting and fishing would have been a primary activity, perhaps roughly equal to the effort expended foraging for plants (depending on when and where in history you look).

Today, animal encounters are exciting or sensationalized. In the past, animal encounters likely were dangerous but ironically essential for survival. As you go through your daily routine, think about what and how many animals you see in the wild. Are these animals life threatening? Would they be suitable for subsistence if necessary? How have wild animals adapted to urban environments or the pressures from humans? Think about how wild animals shape our perception of the outdoors, or how we interact (or don't interact) with wild animals on a daily basis.

## References:

Ballenger, Jesse A. M.

2020 Late Quaternary Paleoenvironments and Archaeology in the San Pedro Basin, Southeastern, Arizona, U.S.A. Unpublished Ph.D. dissertation, Department of Anthropology, University of Arizona, Tucson.

Haury, Emil W.

1953 Artifacts with Mammoth Remains, Naco, Arizona, I: Discovery of the Naco Mammoth and the Associated Projectile Points. *American Antiquity* 19:1-14.



## June 21: Topic of the General Meeting

### ***Cotton Weaving in Mesoamerica and the Northern U.S. Southwest: A Study of Loom Parts and Weaving Tools Across 1,000 Years and Two Continents***

*Ben Bellorado and Chuck LaRue*

Cotton weaving traditions have tied the U.S. Southwest with Mesoamerica for more than a millennium. Archaeologists have traced the spread of cotton weaving and backstrap loom technologies from Mesoamerica, through the greater Southwest, and onto the northern Colorado Plateau in a journey that took centuries. The earliest evidence of backstrap loom-woven, cotton textiles in the northern Southwest appears in Ancestral Pueblo sites at about AD 900 and shows that backstrap loom technology changed little during its spread northward, although it remained a rare practice until around AD 1100. During the Cedar Mesa Perishables Project and Cedar Mesa Building Murals Project, we analyzed perishable collections of weaving tools and loom parts from ancient pueblos and cliff dwellings in the greater Cedar Mesa area. Our data show that the cotton textile industry burgeoned across northeastern Arizona and southeastern Utah between AD 1150 and 1300.

In March of 2019, we participated in the first Traditional Technologies seminar in Oaxaca, Mexico. This program was sponsored by the Arizona Archaeological and Historical Society and brought Pueblo weavers, archaeologists, anthropologists, and a biologist to communities of indigenous backstrap loom weavers throughout rural Oaxaca. Our experiences with both Puebloan and Oaxacan weavers helped provide an important interpretative

***Registration for this lecture is open to the public, but you must pre-register at <https://bit.ly/BelloradoJune21REG>***



framework for our analyses of the archaeological remains of weaving tools from the Southwest. In this presentation, we discuss our experiences in Oaxaca and how the insights we gained from working with indigenous Puebloan and Oaxacan weavers enriched our interpretations of developments in weaving technology in the ancient northern U.S. Southwest.

### **Suggested Readings:**

Crabtree, Stefani A., and Benjamin A. Bellorado

2016 Using Cross-Media Approaches to Understand an Invisible Industry: How Cotton Production Influenced Pottery Designs and Kiva Murals in Cedar Mesa. *Kiva* 82:174–200.

Curtis, Wayne

2017 Reexcavating the Collections. *American Archaeology* 21:12–19.

Kent, Kate Peck

1983 *Prehistoric Textiles of the Southwest*. 1st ed. Southwest Indian Arts Series. School of American Research, Santa Fe.



**Speaker Ben Bellorado, Ph.D.,** is a recent graduate of the University of Arizona's School of Anthropology and has been a professional archaeologist and anthropologist in the Greater Southwest for more than 20 years. His research has focused on Ancestral Pueblo cultural landscapes in southeastern Utah and the greater Four Corners area. Dr. Bellorado has conducted extensive fieldwork, laboratory studies, and collections analysis. His specialties include dendrochronology, building murals, rock art, pottery analysis, prehispanic clothing practices, and ancient agricultural strategies. Dr. Bellorado has also conducted extensive collections research at many of the nation's premier museums and curation facilities where he has documented Ancestral Pueblo woven sandals and weaving tools. He is the Laboratory Manager at Crow Canyon Archaeological Center.

**Speaker Chuck LaRue** is a wildlife biologist and naturalist who has studied birds on the Colorado Plateau and other areas of the Southwest for 35 years. He has conducted

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bird inventories and surveys for Glen Canyon National Recreation Area, Grand Canyon National Park, Canyon de Chelly National Monument, Hubbell Trading Post National Historic Site, and northern Black Mesa. Mr. LaRue also assisted in a prey habits study that identified bird feather remains from Peregrine Falcon nest sites throughout Arizona. He has recently developed an interest in Ancestral Puebloan technologies and lifeways on the Colorado Plateau. Mr. LaRue is a crew member of the Cedar Mesa Perishables Project, where he is working with archaeologists and Native American weavers to

identify and document plant and animal remains in ancient, perishable materials in museum collections.



## VIDEO NOW AVAILABLE

### 1967–1968 MURRAY SPRINGS EXCAVATIONS AND MAMMOTH EXPLORATION IN ARIZONA

During his 1967–1968 summer seasons, C. Vance Haynes Jr. took 16 mm film while he explored mammoth sites in Cochise County, Arizona. The reels were loaned to Marie Wormington (Arizona State University [ASU]), where she lectured between 1968–1969, and they were returned to Vance where they sat in his office for many years until around 2013 when graduate student Jesse Ballenger had the reels converted to DVD.

Don Burgess, AAHS President at the time, was former General Manager for KUAT-TV. Don and the newly established Oral History Project (OHP) committee members, including Alex Cook, Tom Euler, Sarah Herr, and Madelyn Cook, realized the importance of Haynes' footage and included it as part of the OHP with financial support from the Southwestern Foundation for Education and Historical Preservation.



The most difficult part of this project was reorganizing the scenes into chronological order. While loaned to ASU, the film was spliced into themes and not recognizable to Haynes' exacting



memory. After multiple views and edits, the resulting presentation represents a best effort to re-enact the 1967–1968 footage.

Thanks to the OHP, footage of Haynes sitting with Ballenger in 2013 while describing the Murray Springs, Schaldack, and Escapule mammoth sites is now available. The video is available on YouTube at <http://bit.ly/VanceHaynesVideo>.

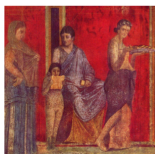
AAHS especially thanks Alex Cook (videographer and editor), Jesse Ballenger (interviewer), and Don Burgess for recognizing the importance of the historic film and for volunteering their time to access the tapes, complete the transfer to a modern format, and conduct the interviews to provide a well-edited final. AAHS is proud to be archiving stories from the Roots of Southwestern Archaeology through the Oral History Project.

Subscribe to our YouTube channel @ <https://bit.ly/aahsyoutube> to get immediate notice of newly posted videos. Links to new offerings are also included on the AAHS webpage and announced in *Glyphs* and often through email blasts to members. Stay tuned for future offerings currently being filmed and edited through the Roots of Southwestern Archaeology Oral History Project. These videos are located under the “Playlists” tabs on the YouTube Page, and organized in the “Roots of Southwestern Archaeology – Oral History Project” Playlist.

Darlene Lizarraga, Director of Marketing  
Arizona State Museum

# THREE NEW ASM MASTER CLASSES COMING YOUR WAY

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## Archaeological Evidence for Daily Life in the Ancient Greek and Roman Worlds

July 5, 7, 9, 12, 14, 2021

10:00-11:00 a.m. (Arizona time), via Zoom

taught by Dr. Irene Bald Romano, curator of Mediterranean archaeology

\$100 ASM members, \$150 non members

Full details and registration:

<https://statemuseum.arizona.edu/events/asm-master-class-daily-life-greece-rome>



## Clovis to Kino: Archaeology of the Southwest Borderlands

September 8, 15, 22, 29, 2021

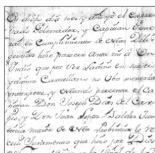
10:00-11:00 a.m. (Arizona time), via Zoom

taught by Dr. James T. Watson, associate director and associate curator of bioarchaeology

\$80 ASM members, \$130 non members

Full details and registration:

<https://statemuseum.arizona.edu/events/asm-master-class-clovis-kino>



## Many Voices, Many Truths: Records from the Pima Revolt of 1751-1752

November 2021

Dates, times, and details TBA

taught by Dr. Dale S. Brenneman, associate curator of documentary history

Direct questions to Darlene Lizarraga, [dlf@arizona.edu](mailto:dlf@arizona.edu) or (520) 626-8381

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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](http://www.az-arch-and-hist.org), or by mailing the form below to:

Rebecca Renteria, VP Membership  
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Arizona State Museum, The University of Arizona  
Tucson, AZ 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.

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