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The Monthly Newsletter of the
Arizona Archaeological and Historical Society

Vol. 74, No. 9

March 2024



AAHS Traditional Technologies Navajo Weaving Seminar group discussing a sandpainting rug at the National Museum of Natural History, Washington, D.C.

Next General Meeting:

March 18, 2024

7:00 pm (MST)

University of Arizona
Environmental and Natural
Resources Building 2, Room 107
Agnes Nelms Haury Lecture Hall
1064 E. Lowell Street
Tucson, Arizona

and

AAHS@Home (Zoom webinar)

www.az-arch-and-hist.org

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President's Message

by Rich Lange, President

Hello everyone! Welcome to March 2024! First a big thank you to Emily and Danny for promoting and organizing a wonderful Winter Party at Ft. Lowell Park in January! We had a day of good weather before the big storms hit and had some great tours in the morning, good food for lunch, and an interesting panel discussion and lecture in the afternoon. Thanks to the tour leaders, Linda Gregonis, Homer Thiel, and staff and volunteers from the Ft. Lowell Museum, to the several professional cultural resources management companies who sponsored this event and who came to share their needs and interests, to the panelists, Ian Milliken, Margaret Hangan, Danny Montoya, Mary Prasciunas, and Myles Gallagher, and to keynote speaker Jeff Altschul! Finally, thanks to all the members who attended and to the many students we hope will become members! We believed the content of the panel discussion and the keynote talk would be of interest to those unable to attend and to others in the future, so the AAHS Oral History Project, directed by Fran Maiuri and Pat Gilman, coordinated documentation of the afternoon sessions. The video from those sessions have been posted to the AAHS website. Take a look!

March used to be Arizona Archaeology and Heritage Awareness Month, coordinated through the Arizona State Historic Preservation Office. I confess I have not been as involved in recent years as I once was, so I don't have a good inside scoop, but something that began in 1982 (Archaeology Week) seems to be no more, at least at the scale it once was. I think you can still find many special programs, lectures, tours, and activities in your local area if you look around or use this as an excuse to take a short (or long!) trip to go somewhere you've never been before!

As this reflects and was reinforced at the Winter Party by the panel and the featured speaker, things are changing rapidly in the archaeology, history, and preservation landscapes. What was and is clear is that we need to understand and learn from the past, but we also need to look to the future and plan wisely for the future. The



Winter Party focused on opportunities for the membership and for students and young professionals we hope will become more involved. You are the

ones who support and enhance preservation and policies and who will continue to do that into the future.

AAHS is committed to working alone as an entity or in collaboration with others to enhance appreciation and respect for the past and in creating opportunities for the new and young researchers to make their own contributions in the decades ahead. Our Winter Party panelists and speakers, as well as the companies and institutions present, indicated that, for many reasons, there are and will not be shortages of jobs in the worlds of compliance and contract archaeology for the foreseeable future. This is exciting to me for several reasons: the recognition of and knowledge about places, artifacts, and stories that will be shared and preserved and the chance to learn about new places and things at greater scales than have been done before.

In the early decades of anthropology, archaeology, and history in the Southwestern U.S., there were a few researchers and observers, working mostly alone in a few places for a few institutions. After World War II, there was a large increase in interest and focus on the region. Dozens of academic departments produced hundreds of students, with the need for all of these researchers driven, in part, by new state and federal legislation. Instead of a single site investigated by a field school, entire drainages needed to be considered and examined in light of extensive flood pools from new reservoir projects, or a long transect across a region had to be examined for highway, pipeline, and powerline projects. All of these seem like they will occur and define needs for researchers for decades to come! Your interests and contributions as members, students, and young professionals can only enhance current understandings of the past and ensure the preservation of our collective histories for appreciation and learning in future generations.

AAHS Lecture Series

Lectures are offered in a hybrid format, presented in-person at the University of Arizona in Tucson, Building ENR2, Agnese Nelms Haury Lecture Hall, Room 107, and simultaneously through Zoom.

Mar. 18, 2024: Laurie Webster, *AAHS Traditional Technologies Program*

Apr. 15, 2024: Linda Gregonis, *TBD*

May 20, 2024: Maren Hopkins and Kelsey Hanson, *Los Barros de Juan Quezada (The Clays of Juan Quezada): Ethnographic and Compositional Analyses of Juan Quezada's Clay Sources in and near Juan Mata Ortiz, Chihuahua, Mexico*

June 17, 2024: Suzanne Eckert, *TBD*

COME CHECK OUT OUR SPRING USED BOOK SALE

March 9, 2024: 10 am to 4 pm

March 10, 2024: 10 am to 2 pm

As part of the Tucson Festival of Books, AAHS will be holding a Used Book Sale to support the Arizona State Museum library. Look for the blue tent on the lawn in front of the museum. All books will be half price from 12 pm to 2 pm on Sunday.

We have newly donated archaeology and anthropology books, as well as a large selection of general non-fiction. Prices can't be beat!

As always, we can use help. If you are able to help either set up Saturday morning or tear down on Sunday, please contact Katherine Cerino at kcerino@gmail.com.



March 18: Topic of the General Meeting

Learning from the Grandmothers: The 2023 Traditional Technologies Navajo Weaving Seminar to Washington, D.C.

*Barbara Teller Ornelas, Lynda Teller Pete, Kevin Aspaas,
Calandra Cook, Elisio Curley, and TahNibaa Naataanii*

In October 2023, six Diné weavers traveled to Washington, D.C. for a week to study historic and contemporary Navajo textiles at the National Museum of the American Indian, the National Museum of Natural History, and The Textile Museum. Led and organized by master weavers and educators Barbara Teller Ornelas and Lynda Teller Pete, the seminar group also included emerging artists Kevin Aspaas, Calandra Cook, Elisio Curley, and TahNibaa Naataanii. Sponsored by the AAHS Traditional Technologies Program, the seminar's goals were to learn more



AAHS Traditional Technologies Navajo Weaving Seminar group outside the National Museum of the American Indian. Front row: Lynda Teller Pete and Barbara Teller Ornelas; back row: TahNibaa Naataanii, Kevin Aspaas, Elisio Curley, and Calandra Cook.

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This lecture is free and open to the public, but for Zoom attendance, you must pre-register at: https://bit.ly/2024MarOrnelas_REG

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about the yarns, dyes, and techniques used to create the older weavings, experience the artistry and resiliency of their weaving ancestors, create opportunities for artistic growth, and expand Diné perspectives in Navajo weaving education, interpretation, and scholarship.

In this in-person presentation, the participants will share their experiences from the seminar with the AAHS membership. They will also share examples of their own weavings inspired by the research.



AAHS Traditional Technologies Navajo Weaving Seminar group studying a fourth-phase chief blanket at the National Museum of the American Indian.

About the Presenters:

Barbara Teller Ornelas is a fifth-generation master Navajo/Diné tapestry weaver. Raised in the Two Grey Hills Trading Post on the Navajo Nation, her highly sought after work can be found in numerous museums. She and her sister, Lynda, have authored two books on Navajo weaving. Barbara resides in Tucson, Arizona.

Lynda Teller Pete is an artist, weaver, teacher, educator, writer, activist, and culture bearer. Originally from the Two Grey Hills-Newcomb area, she collaborates with fiber art centers, museums, universities, and other venues to educate the public about Navajo history and weaving. She lives in Denver, Colorado.

Kevin Aspaas is a young Diné weaver and fiber artist from Shiprock, New Mexico. Best known for producing the old-style Navajo wedge-weave technique, he also weaves other Navajo traditional and contemporary styles.

Calandra Cook is a Navajo textile artist and architect who lives and works in Mesa, Arizona. She is renowned for her masterful use of dyes and her rendering of birds in pictorial weavings.

Elisio Curley is a Diné sheep rancher, weaver, moccasin maker, traditional farmer, and educator from Shiprock, New Mexico. He raises his own Navajo-Churro sheep.

TahNibaa Naataanii is an award-winning Navajo weaver, Churro sheep rancher, educator, and consultant from the Shiprock, New Mexico area. She weaves both traditional and innovative styles. In 2022, she received the prestigious National Endowment for the Arts National Heritage Fellowship Award.



UPCOMING AAHS FIELD TRIPS

Field trips are only available to current AAHS members and are limited to 20 people unless otherwise noted. For more information or to sign up, email aahs1916@gmail.com.

**Sutherland Wash Rock Art District
March 2, 2024**

Bill Gillespie, retired U.S. Forest Service archaeologist, and Stan Ponczek, both AAHS board members, will lead a tour to the Sutherland Wash site. This is a half-day trip within the Tucson Area, which will involve about



5 miles of moderate hiking on undeveloped trails. The visit requires negotiating rocky sections and crossing small drainages.

**Paquimé (Casas Grandes), Chihuahua, Mexico
April 5-8, 2024**

Paul Minnis, a leading archeologist in the archaeology of the region, will be our guide on a 4-day trip to Paquimé, also known as Casas Grandes, in Chihuahua Mexico. We will also visit Cueva de la Olla



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and Mata Ortiz potters. This trip is limited to seven vehicles and will require a passport or passport card. Mexican auto insurance is highly recommended.

Mogollon Rim
May 2024

A trip to the Mogollon Rim is currently being planned.

Anderson Mesa and Flagstaff, Arizona
June 8–9, 2024



Peter Pillis, forest archeologist for the Coconino National Forest, will provide a two-day tour of sites east of Flagstaff and at Anderson Mesa south of Flagstaff. Day 2 will require a high clearance vehicle.



CALL FOR NOMINATIONS

The Arizona Archaeological and Historical Society welcomes nominations for the annual awards described below. Nomination letters, and Curriculum Vitae (if appropriate), should be emailed to Edward Jolie (ejolie@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.

Katherine Cerino Award

The AAHS Board of Directors annually may present one or more Katherine Cerino Award. This award is named in honor of Katherine

Cerino, an extraordinary volunteer who has given innumerable hours to the Society over many years in a variety of roles. Volunteers like Katherine are a rarity, and this award is given to others in honor in recognition of their hard work supporting the Society. The award recognizes people who have volunteered their services to AAHS or made other contributions on behalf of the Society and its programs for at least the previous two years.

Byron Cummings Award

The Byron Cummings Award is given in honor of Byron Cummings, the principal professional founder of the Society, the first head 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.

Alexander J. Lindsay, Jr. Unsung Heroes Award

The Alexander J. Lindsay, Jr. Unsung Heroes Award is given in honor of Dr. Lindsay, a long-time southwestern archaeologist, AAHS member, and 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 which is often critical to the success of others' research, projects, and publications. These may be field personnel, laboratory managers, archivists, cooks, analysts, and others.

Victor R. Stoner Award

The Victor R. Stoner Award is given in honor of Reverend Stoner, a strong avocational historian, supporter of the Society, 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.

Cornerstone

*Darlene Lizarraga, Director of Marketing
Arizona State Museum*

Chaco, Mimbres and Paquime: A New Synthesis



An in-person, slide-illustrated presentation by Dr. Steven LeBlanc,
retired director of collections, Peabody Museum/Harvard University

Wednesday, March 6, 2024

3:00 - 4:00 p.m. | FREE and Open to All

Environmental & Natural Resources 2 Building (ENR2), Rm S107 (1064 E Lowell St.)

Parking (for a small fee) at the 6th St Garage (1201 E 6th St.)

Chaco Canyon and Paquime (Casas Grandes) are both world heritage sites. Between them lies the unique Mimbres culture. For over 50 years the relationships between them have produced many theories, but little consensus. Recent information strongly suggests that the terminal dates for Chaco and Mimbres ca. AD1130 are very near the initial date for the founding of Paquime, thus changing how they might have been related. A new synthesis provides insights into the links among these three cultures.

LeBlanc's upcoming coauthored book, *Ancient Communities in the Mimbres Valley*, will be available in April from the UA Press. Preorder your copy with promo code AZFLR for 30% off: <https://uapress.arizona.edu/book/ancient-communities-in-the-mimbres-valley>

Contact: Darlene Lizarraga at dfl@arizona.edu or 520-626-8381

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): Digital Only Print and Digital

I wish to receive *Kiva* by (circle your choice): Digital Only Print and Digital

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 VP for Membership.

You can join online at www.az-arch-and-hist.org, or by mailing the form below to:

Deil Lundin, Acting Vice-President for Membership
Arizona Archaeological and Historical Society
Arizona State Museum, The University of Arizona
Tucson, AZ 85721-0026

Name: _____ Phone : _____

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City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

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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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