GLYPHS

The Monthly Newsletter of the
Arizona Archaeological and Historical Society
An Affiliate of the Arizona State Museum, University of Arizona
Founded in 1916

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The 2002 Pecos Conference presents
“The Road to Ruins — 75 Years of Southwestern Archaeology.”
A.V. Kidder's car, "Old Blue," that he used at Pecos Pueblo
with Alfred Vincent Kidder II at the wheel.

Photo courtesy of Pecos National Historical Park

Next AAHS Meeting: 7:30 p.m., September 16, 2002
Duval Auditorium, University Medical Center
It seems like only yesterday (since 1998, just under 5 years) that George Gumerman stepped into some very big shoes as Director of the Arizona State Museum. Since then, he has pushed to expand the public awareness and outreach activities of this institution, long respected as a world class leader in southwestern archaeological research. Certainly, these shoes have become somewhat binding with the drastic budgetary cuts thrust upon ASM’s operations lately. However, George has worn them well. Now we hear that he is moving on to other challenges. We're sorry to see him leave, although he promises to continue as an advisor, so we'll not be entirely without his future contributions. Our good fortune is that he has continued to provide the outstanding leadership which has long been the tradition at ASM. As an affiliate, AAHS has a primary objective "to aid in the functions and programs of the Arizona State Museum, University of Arizona." We believe we've done this in the past, and our promise to George is that we'll continue to do so in the future. ASM, and its new director, whoever that may be, will have our full support. Best wishes in your new endeavors, George, and come see us often.

AAHS has completed its 2001-2002 fiscal year and embarked on a new year (how time flies when you're having fun!). The July lecture, titled "Long-Term Socioecology in the Western Mediterranean," by C. Michael Barton, Ph.D., was brought very close to home. His revelation of comparative studies of areas of southeastern Spain, having long term land usage, with nearby Chevalon Canyon along the Mogollon Rim, as the Spanish landscape may have once looked, was fascinating.

This spring the Scholarship & Research Committee, chaired by Art Vokes, recommended grants to eight applicants: two for travel and six for research, totaling $2610. All were approved. These monies are derived primarily from our annual raffle, which didn't happen last year. Betsy Marshall, Raffle & Fundraising Chair, is hard at work on this years' raffle. She needs all our help to donate raffle prizes, to buy tickets and to sell tickets. Let's all dig deep to make this the best raffle ever.

Your Board of Directors will share the program duties for the coming year in absence of a VP of Activities. Some excellent ideas have come forth and we look forward to an exciting year ahead. Co-chairs Laurie Webster and Jeff Clark of the Education Committee have announced two outstanding classes starting in September: Rock Art of the Southwest with Sharon Urban and the Mimbres Culture with multiple instructors.

Meanwhile, the Pecos Conference is upon us. We'll be represented to sell memberships, Kivas, raffle tickets and anything else allowed. Those of you who will be attending, PLEASE offer your services to assist. We're a team and need to work together. Disraeli once said, "Action may not always bring happiness; but there is no happiness without action." So, let's all take a chance on happiness and get with the action. Renew your AAHS membership or join anew (join ASM, too, at discounted rates if you are an AAHS member—Smithsonian discounts, also.) Volunteer to help—there are lots of needs and opportunities. Contact any board member or officer with your interest/willingness to participate. Thank you in advance.

Bill Hallett, President
HAIL — BUT NOT FAREWELL

ASM is a rare institution that occupies a special place in my heart. In my long — some may say too long — career in southwestern archaeology, ASM has represented the standard for what is right about archaeology. And AAHS has been an able and willing partner in the long and storied tradition of ASM. "Arch and His" symbolizes what I think ASM needs to do in the current environment — involve professional and avocational archaeologists in the understanding and protecting the past of what we now call Arizona.

Last week, I accepted the position of Interim Vice President for Academic Affairs and Research at the Santa Fe Institute. SFI is a multidisciplinary think tank that explores how biological, physical, and cultural systems become complex and evolve. This is an opportunity for me to help set the agenda for multidisciplinary studies, and I cannot afford to pass up this opportunity.

I shall not, however, bid farewell to ASM. I shall be on the ASM Advisory Board and I shall continue efforts to support the ASM mission. I thank you for your concern about ASM.

George J. Gumerman, ASM Director

AAHS’S SEPTEMBER LECTURE AND FIELD TRIP PREVIEW

On September 16, at the AAHS general meeting, Linda M. Gregonis will present Whiptail, Found and Lost. On September 22, there will be a field trip to Hohokam sites in and around the Tucson Basin. (See September’s Glyphs for more information.)

ROCK ART OF THE AMERICAN SOUTHWEST

This “Shurban” course offers a broad introduction to the study of rock art in the American Southwest.

Sharon Urban has been involved with the study of rock art since 1962, and authored the rock art tract for the Arizona Archaeological Society’s Department of Certification, and currently serves as secretary for the American Rock Art Research Association. The cost is $30 for AAHS members and $40 for non-members; $10 discount available for students and K-12 teachers. Preregistration is required.

To register, please call Laurie Webster at 520/325-5435.

AAHS’S WEB SITES

Glyphs can be found now at The University of Arizona new website address on the Internet in PDF format at <http://w3.arizona.edu/~aahs/>.

And, as usual, you can find Glyphs also on the SWA website at: <http://www.swanet.org/zarchives/aahs/>.

GLYPHS DEADLINE DATE!

The deadline for the receipt of information and articles to be included in Glyphs is the 15th of each month for the next month’s issue. New material is urged, needed, and always appreciated. Contact: AAHS, ASM, University of Arizona, Tucson, Arizona 85737; 262/338-6938; <LTAGlyphs@aol.com>.
Another New Season Begins

Congratulations on the re-election of Bill Hallett as AAHS president. A successful and popular president always deserves a second term! Bill has reaffirmed his belief that a stronger relationship and more mutually beneficial collaborations between AAHS and ASM are much needed. We agree. So we at ASM go into a new year with high hopes, a renewed enthusiasm, and invigorated aspirations to strengthen our affiliation with AAHS in all ways appropriate and mutually beneficial. We look forward to it!

In addition, and upon reflecting on this past year, we wish to express our thankfulness. All of us at ASM extend our deepest gratitude for AAHS’s ongoing interest and support. 2001-02 was a difficult year for the museum for several reasons. September 11, of course, hampered our winter visitor season while state budget rescissions severely limited our ability to provide public programming. Ongoing cuts will continue to affect the number and variety of our future programs and services. Through it all our number one supporters have always been there — the members of AAHS. Thanks to each and every one of you for all your loyalty and support over the last year. From book sales to countless hours of volunteering to simply attending our events as guests, your efforts on our behalf are recognized and appreciated. Thank You!

For more information on these or other ASM programs, contact Darlene F. Lizarraga, marketing coordinator, at 520-626-8381, or <darlene@al.arizona.edu> or log on to www.statemuseum.arizona.edu.

September 2002 Events at ASM

Friday and Saturday, September 13 and 14

Very Nearly Annual Benefit Book Sale

Tuesdays in September 3, 10, 17, 24

Rare Glimpses

In honor of Hispanic Heritage Month, Arizona State Museum dedicates its fall series of Rare Glimpses to exploring the popular culture of Mexico. Join us for four new workshops that feature ASM’s collections, research and scholars. Registration fees apply, discounts for museum members.

September 21-28, 2002

Sw Four Corners Learning Expedition

Sunday, September 29

Gran Tardeada

ASM culminates its month-long celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month with its second Gran Tardeada.

2-5 p.m. - This Sunday afternoon family-oriented program features music, entertainment and creative, hands-on activities for the entire family showcasing Tucson's Hispanic roots.

5-7 p.m. - Special celebration in partnership with Los Descendientes de Presidio de Tucson to honor the Donas - women who have made significant contributions to the community. A fashion show of Mexican costumes from the museum's collection will cap the evening. Music with Tucson’s Official Trubador Ted Ramirez.

The event will be MC’d by Arizona Daily Star columnist Ernesto Portillo, Jr.
OUT OF PECOS

Seventy-five years ago this month, astronomer Andrew Ellicott Douglass of the University of Arizona attended the first Pecos Conference, at which he presented a progress report on his efforts to develop a technique for tree-ring dating Southwestern archaeological sites. Douglass was yet two years away from publicly announcing reliable dates for Southwestern sites, yet there is evidence that Douglass had already "bridged the gap" between his prehistoric and historic chronologies with a wooden beam specimen from Oraibi Pueblo. Nevertheless, over the next two years, Douglass engaged in an intense collaboration with archaeologists in the search for specimens that would reinforce the gap period sequence. That search took him to east-central Arizona, in and near areas recently burned by the horrific Rodeo-Chediski fire.

During these two years, Lyndon Hargrave did most of the tree-ring related archaeological fieldwork. As a result, he was able to analyze and seriate the ceramics and architecture to infer that gap-bridging specimens would most likely be found in east-central Arizona. Therefore, in 1928, Hargrave conducted test excavations at Pinedale and Forestdale Ruins west and south of Show Low, where he found that wood specimens were too badly preserved to be used in tree-ring analysis. In a simple demonstration of the utility of collaborative, multidisciplinary research, Douglass discovered in 1928 that he could tree-ring date charcoal samples. This opened up a new range of analytical possibilities, and east-central Arizona once again factored into the dating program.

Hargrave and Douglass gathered samples at the Whipple Ruin in Show Low during in March 1929. Though they did not consider it promising because the site was already so disturbed, Douglass left Whipple a self-addressed envelope in which to send samples to Tucson in case good charcoal specimens were subsequently found. Whipple complied, and Douglass' initial examination of the specimens indicated that they also filled the gap in his sequence, but he was still not confident enough in the results to go public. These behind-the-scenes efforts were productive enough to secure funding from the National Geographic Society for a third Beam Expedition, which began excavations at Whipple Ruin on June 11, 1929.

The discovery of specimen HH-39 at Whipple Ruin on June 22, 1929, has achieved legendary status. Though it is not entirely clear who actually pulled the specimen from the ground during the late morning hours, circumstantial evidence indicates that it was probably Neil Judd. That night, the group gathered around a kerosene lamp to watch Douglass work. After what seemed an eternity, Douglass announced that he finally felt confident in the gap-period dating. He then listed, from memory and for the first time, Christian calendar dates for nearly 40 prehistoric sites in the Southwest, which were published in the December 1929 issue of National Geographic.

Though the Rodeo-Chediski fire burned near many of these important sites, it appears that only Pinedale Ruin was impacted, and the impact was minor because whatever fuel had been present was removed during recent excavations. The biggest threat to most of these sites is now erosion. In the absence of significant plant cover to retain surface soils, each new storm poses the threat of wreaking havoc on these irreplaceable resources.

(Thanks to Barbara Mills, Scott Van Keuren, and John Welch for comments and suggestions).

REFERENCES CITED


AFTER WE'RE GONE

There comes that time when each and every one of us has to give thought to "What will happen after we're gone?" In many instances, we are concerned about our loved ones. Also, private possessions usually fill our thoughts as we plan for the disbursement of these most cherished items. As AAHS and ASM members, we must give thought to our private archaeological, ethnographic, and contemporary pieces, as well as our personal papers, libraries and photographic collections that have already impacted or possibly can impact the state of the artifactual and historical record. Many of us have one or more precious items acquired by inheritance or other means. As with archaeology itself, each artifact collection is a small piece of a far greater puzzle. It is important to the understanding of our past. What will happen to those particular pieces?

Without specific instructions to the contrary, these collections may be distributed as gifts to family members or friends. Items might be sold piecemeal to auction houses or gift shops or, even worse, at garage sales! While our heirs may want to have something tangible by which to remember us, it does a disservice to the history we have so painstakingly and lovingly studied during our lives if these collections do not stay anthropologically significant. Do we want our "missing links" to remain missing? If not, perhaps it is time to express our ideas regarding the future placement of our artifacts.

Usually, our Wills do not contain instructions for specific artifactual pieces or collections. It is important to make a definitive plan for those collections and individual artifacts we leave behind. Otherwise, our prized possessions may end up in the wrong hands or on the wrong shelves! This is the only way we can be certain that these objects will be appreciated for their true historical value, that the benefits of learning and beauty provided by these pieces will affect future generations as they have affected us.

Since each of us desires that our wishes be fulfilled, instructing our beneficiaries plays an important role in this procedure. However, not to take this step may be an injustice to our loved ones who are left sometimes without a clue of how to disseminate our valuable collections.

There are a number of avenues to select. Items can be directed to certain auctions, churches, libraries, museums, universities, or specific societies and organizations. We may even want to leave a particular item or collection to an heir with further instructions after their demise. But whatever we desire, it is time to put it in writing, time to include it in a Will or in a codicil to that Will. Remember to be specific and concise: What is the item? Where did it come from? What is the history of the specific piece? Is there a photo of it?

Whether archeologist, historian, or avocationalist, legal advice is always a good idea. A call to the State Bar Association will typically provide approximately three names of attorneys who can direct us in safeguarding our intentions. Those who need no direction in this regard can simply take the time to put specific instructions in writing, attach it to their Will and keep it in a safe place. Also, we may want some advice from an archaeologist, historian or museum staff. Call a university or museum (ASM’s Suzanne Grist 520/621-6276) and request a meeting to seek an opinion. All this is yet another bequest left behind by a caring, beloved departed. Our endowment, in addition to how we lived our lives, is our legacy. Let's do right by ourselves, family, friends, and community.
AAHS MEMBERSHIP/SUBSCRIPTION APPLICATION

CATEGORIES OF MEMBERSHIP – All members receive discounts on Society field trips and classes. Monthly meetings are free and open to the public.

$30 Glyphs membership receives the Society’s monthly newsletter, Glyphs

$30 Student Kiva membership receives both Glyphs and Kiva; $15 receives Glyphs

$40 Kiva membership receives all current benefits, including four issues of Kiva, 12 issues of Glyphs

$50 Institutional membership (primarily libraries) receives Kiva and Glyphs

$75 Contributing, $100 Supporting, $250 Sponsoring, and $1,000 Lifetime memberships all receive Glyphs and Kiva, and all current benefits.

Outside U.S. add $10.00

Enclosed is U.S. $________ for one __________________________________________________________

[Enter membership/subscription category]

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Membership/Subscription Information

Visitors are welcome at all of the Society’s regular monthly meetings but are encouraged to become members in order to receive the Society’s publications and participate in its activities at discount rates.

Memberships and subscriptions run for one year beginning July 1 and ending June 30. Membership provides one volume (four numbered issues) of Kiva, the Journal of Southwestern Anthropology and History; 12 issues of the monthly newsletter Glyphs; member rates for Society field trips and other activities.

For a brochure with more information and a membership/subscription application form, write to:

Keith Knoblock
Vice President for Membership
Arizona Archaeological and Historical Society
Arizona State Museum, University of Arizona
Tucson AZ 85721 USA

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