This Stoneware Tile is an effective way to mark the limits of excavations.

Photograph courtesy of Richard W. Lord, Prescott Valley

Next AAHS Meeting: 7:30 p.m., September 15, 2003
Duval Auditorium, University Medical Center
The Aspen Fire in the Santa Catalina Mountains north of Tucson has been fully contained and is no longer a threat. The same is true of the Helen II Fire in the Rincons east of Tucson. The monsoon rains have begun to fall and ease our drought and summer heat somewhat.

These are favorable signs for the beginning of the Society’s New Year of 2003-2004 and appropriate for the first meeting of your newly elected Board of Directors.

With due respect to the past Board members who did an outstanding job, I'm very optimistic about the coming year under guidance from your new Directors. Returning Board members Keith Knoblock (V.P. Membership), Anna Neuzil (Recording Secretary), Jim Shea (Treasurer), Jane Delaney, Jeff Clark and Don Burgess have proven their capabilities. New Board members are Sharon F. Urban (Corresponding Secretary), Kathryn Pollock (Assistant Treasurer), Ryan Howell (Student Representative), Roger Anyon and Robbie Heckman. Darlene Lizarraga is ASM Representative. Don Kucera was unanimously approved to rejoin the Board as VP of Activities. This is an All Star team which will serve AAHS’s membership and objectives well.

The coming year is going to be one of many changes and challenges. We'll be initiating our new arrangement for Kiva with Altamira Press. ASM will begin extensive rearrangement to prepare for the long awaited (and badly needed) climate-controlled pottery storage vault and the new conservation laboratory.

Space currently in use by AAHS for its Kiva office and Board meetings will be included in these changes. Although we don't presently know where we'll be roosting, we will be someplace, I'm sure.

The important thing is where you, our membership, will be for the coming programs. You are the essential ingredient. Without you, our lectures, field trips, classes and many other programs will fall flat on their face. Your attendance and participation are much needed.

There is no lecture meeting in August because of the Pecos Conference, but Prof. Vance Holliday will kick off the Fall on September 15 with Paleo-Indian Archaeology and the Environment in the Greater Southern Plains. Be There, and bring your family and friends!! Get them to join AAHS (and ASM, too — 16 new names were added to ASM’s roles through the special $15 rate with AAHS renewal.) Everybody's help is needed to grow our membership numbers.

New AAHS Student Representative Ryan Howell has aggressive plans to increase student membership/participation. We need similar help from all of our members. Our goal is to provide programs that will make people want to be partners with us. I'm optimistic that we can do that. Remember, "When an optimist finds a worm in an apple he goes fishing " (Unknown.) Anyone for fishing? Let's have a great year!

Bill Hallett, President
THE CORNERSTONE

STATE MUSEUM LIBRARY’S COLLECTION GOES WORLDWIDE

Newly installed web-based system improves patron access, relevance searching.

Arizona State Museum’s library and archives has installed a new information management system that will make its highly prized collection accessible world-wide. Created by Endeavor Information Systems of Des Plaines, IL, the Voyager automated system is designed specifically for the needs of academic and research libraries like ASM’s. Voyager provides relevance-ranked keyword searching, parallel searching across other libraries’ databases, access to electronic journals, and URL links.

At ASM, the system has been dubbed LARC (Library, Archives, Archaeological Records Collections), and replaces a card catalog system from the 1950s. "Yes, that's right, we were still operating with an old fashioned, cards-in-a-drawer, card catalog. Now, after years of data input and conversion, our extensive collection and other data resources from other areas of the museum will be accessible for searching on a worldwide basis via the Internet. Before, you had to be physically in the building to conduct a search," says Head Librarian Mary Graham. "Having this collection more readily accessible is particularly relevant for students in the field of Southwest anthropology. Ours is the premier collection for that discipline. Every year, researchers, scholars, and students visit from all over the world just to conduct research here because it can be conducted nowhere else."

The non-circulating research library specializes in the ethnological and archaeological histories and cultures of the American Southwest and northern Mexico. Its comprehensive collection consists of more than 30,000 volumes, more than 1,500 periodical titles, and hundreds of specialized files of ephemera. The library also holds book collections bequeathed by the illustrious archaeologist and former ASM director Emil W. Haury and renowned Spanish Colonial art historian Pál Kelemen, to name only a few. Also included in the LARC catalog are other ASM resources such as archaeological surveys, site reports, and archaeological citations from throughout the state.

"Even though the actual books and materials will remain non-circulating, their contents will be more accessible," says Graham. "If someone from New York, for example, is searching on the system and sees that we have the one and only copy of a needed book (which is quite often the case), we will be happy to research the request and get the information to him." The resources will be accessible at <www.larc.asmua.arizona.edu> by late August.

This project was supported with funds granted by the Arizona State Library, Archives and Public Records Agency under the Library Services and Technology Act, which is administered by the Institute of Museum and Library Services.

UPCOMING EVENTS AT ASM

ALL OF SEPTEMBER — Our featured exhibition in the Native Goods Gallery will celebrate Hispanic culture, in honor of Hispanic Heritage Month.

VERY NEARLY ANNUAL BENEFIT BOOK SALE
Fri. and Sat., Sept. 19 & 20, 10-4 p.m.

Our annual benefit book sale features deep discounts on new books from a variety of publishers. Ever-expanding selections are in art, architecture, archaeology, anthropology, ethnic cooking, music, Native American culture, poetry, fiction, non-fiction, and more. Members-only preview sale, 8-10 a.m. on Friday! (Book lovers: look for our annual used book sale at Open House in October!)

MONTHLY FAMILY PROGRAM
Sat., Sept. 20, 1-4 p.m. Enjoy family fun each month at ASM! Inspired by our current exhibitions, hands-on activities include working with professional artists in a variety of creative expressions. September’s program
How can you tell if the archaeological feature you're excavating has been excavated before? The soft fill containing soda and beer bottles and cans, plastic containers and bags, chicken humeri with extra crispy crust, and hamburger wrappers, are good clues that your feature has been examined in the not-too-distant past by the casual or professional pothunter. What about the square and rectangular units with a curiously low artifact count? Is this the recorded or unrecorded work of a previous archaeological investigation? Sure would be nice to know for certain, and when it happened. Maybe you could figure out what in the world is going on in your excavation besides the sewer pipeline and the gopher holes.

Ah, you're in luck. On the floor of the room is a huge sheet of tattered 4-mil-thick black plastic that has trapped moisture and plant roots below it for a couple decades; the roots look like an alien life form. Or a big piece of galvanized, corrugated sheet metal. Or a pair of rotted work gloves carefully laid out palms up, with a 1972 penny in each. Or a pickle jar with a 1954 newspaper wadded up inside it. Yeah, goofy archaeologists have been here. But you'd think they could have come up with a better way to mark where they had been, and when? Well, General Augustus Pitt Rivers, the nineteenth-century epitome of English archaeology and museum work, and Fellow of the Royal Society of London, did just that. (See illustration above.) He designed and had fabricated circular brass medals that, on one face, showed a pottery jar, a theodolite on a tripod, a railroad pick, a human skull, a stone battle-ax head and a bronze halberd blade. On the reverse was lettered "Opened by A. Pitt Rivers F.R.S." Below that was space to stamp a date with a metal punch. Jenny Peck, Curatorial Assistant at the Pitt Rivers Museum, reports that the Museum still has 23 of these medals in a wooden box custom made to hold them (cat. no. 1971.30.5); presumably more are to be found buried in the back-filled excavations Pitt Rivers made in the Neolithic, Bronze Age, and Roman sites on his estate.

In the January 2001 issue of the New Mexico Archaeological Council Newsletter I was intrigued to read a notice by Carol J. Condie about Jim Walker, of the Archaeological Conservancy, searching for an effective way to mark the limits of excavations done at Conservancy sites. He had concluded that metal markers were not the answer. They look nice, but metals corrode. Walker turned to Tione Joseph and Mike Blos-
som, potters, and owners of Sleeping Dog Designs. What is portable, permanent, and easy to write on? A cuneiform tablet, of course. From the twenty-first century. Sleeping Dog Designs did a little experimenting and has now produced stoneware tiles for several customers, including the Conservancy, the Quivira Research Center/Associates, and the San Diego Archaeological Center. Square or rectangular in shape, about 8 cm on a side, and a half cm thick, these are high-grog clay tiles impressed with the customer's logo, and a year. Then they are fired. Really fired. 2200 degrees Fahrenheit to fuse the clay particles into a vitrified, essentially weather-proof tile that might break, but won't noticeably deteriorate under any conditions one is likely to encounter in the Southwest, except for the occasional meteorite landfall, or bombing range direct hit, in which case the feature you marked with the tile won't be around either. Sounds like an idea whose time has come. Or come again; they're just another kind of sherd with a tighter-than-usual date range. And when someone finds one in the bottom of the roasting pit you dug this year, they'll know who was doing the work, and when it was done.

If you're interested, please contact Mike or Tione, and they will be happy to answer your questions. (No, I don't have stock in Sleeping Dog Designs - I just think the idea is a good one.) There is a one-time tooling charge of around $50 per design. Individual tiles then cost about $2 each for 1 to 99 tiles, and $1.50 each for 100 or more. Changing the date every year is included in the per-tile cost for most designs.

For more information or to order tiles, contact:

Mike Blossom and Tione Joseph
Sleeping Dog Designs
1305 Wellesley Drive NE
Albuquerque NM 87106
505/250-1605

Courtesy of Richard W. Lord, Prescott Valley
THE 2003 PECOS CONFERENCE
CHIHUAHUA, MEXICO

This year's Pecos Conference is being held in Chihuahua, Mexico at the Casas Grandes Ruins on August 14, 15, 16 and 17th and will cover a hot topic, Cannibalism in the Southwest. For more information, visit online: <http://www.swanet.org/zarchives/pecos/2003/index.html>

For those who still don’t have travel plans, consider the following Pecos Bus Trip. The bus originates in Phoenix with a stop in Tucson and a stop in Deming.

PECOS CONFERENCE TRANSPORTATION — AUGUST 14, 15, 16, 17, AND 18, 2003

THE BARE BONES BUS TRANSPORTATION trip is, for your comfort, by air conditioned motor coach. It includes: pick-up and drop-off at a designated point in Phoenix with a stop in Tucson at designated points, transportation to Nuevo Casas Grandes, and to all Pecos Conference functions (except field trips), 4 nights lodging at the Hacienda Hotel in Nuevo Casas Grandes, and one field trip to Cuarenta Casas. Not included: meals, visa entry fees, tips to driver, bell boys, or chambermaids, conference fees, entry fees to Paquime ruins or other sites. The motor coaches are not allowed to operate on dirt roads, so any other field trips are not included (the one trip to Cuarenta Casas is included). Please note that the return date is Monday, August 18. There must be a minimum of 30 people confirmed for the trip to go.

SCHEDULE:

Thurs., Aug. 14: 6:30 AM departure from Phoenix. 8:30 depart Tucson. 10:30 cross the border. 12:00 break for lunch (bring a box lunch)  3:00 arrive in Nuevo Casas Grandes
Fri., Aug. 15 and Sat., Aug. 16 - transportation back and forth to Pecos Conference meetings, luncheons, dinners, etc.
Sun., Aug. 17 - 7:00 departure from Nuevo Casas Grandes for Cuarenta Casas (approximately a three hour drive each way) We suggest you arrange with the hotel for a box lunch as there is no place to eat out there. The park closes at 4 p.m., so we will leave at that time unless there is agreement to leave earlier.  Arrive back at NCG by 7:00 p.m.
Mon., Aug. 18 - 7:30 a.m. departure from the hotel
Tues., Aug. 19 - 8:30 a.m. departure from Nuevo Casas Grandes

For transportation costs and further information, call Cathy or Marshall at Fiesta Tours International 520/398-9705 or <fti@starband.net>.
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

$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

For Institutional membership, contact AltaMira Press at www.altamirapress.com or 800/273-2223

Enclosed is U.S. $________ for one __________________________________________________________ [Enter membership/subscription category]

My Name and Address: __________________________________________________________ Phone _______/_______

Send Gift Subscription to: _____________________________________________________________

* [Please enter preferred title: Miss, Mrs., Ms., Mr. & Mrs., Mr. & Ms., etc.]*

Address _______________________________________________________________________________

City ___________________________________________ State ________________ Zip ________________

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, information or membership/subscription application forms, write to:

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

Subscriptions to Kiva for libraries and other institutions are now being handled by AltaMira Press. To obtain information on an institutional subscription to the journal, contact the publisher at altamirapress.com or 800/273-2223.

Members of the Board of Directors

--2003-2004--

Officers
President: Bill Hallett (520/722-9298) <billhalay@aol.com>
Vice President for Activities: Don Kucera
Vice President for Membership: Keith Knoblock <aahsmem@msn.com>
Recording Secretary: Anna Neuzil <aneuzil@email.arizona.edu>
Corresponding Secretary: Sharon Urban
Treasurer: Jim Shea
Assistant Treasurer: Katherine Pollock
Student Representative: Ryan Howell

Directors
Don Burgess (520/299-4099), <dbkuat@aol.com>; Jeff Clark <jclark@desert.com>, Jane Delaney (520/296-1361); Don Kucera (520/792-0554); Roger Anyon; Robbie Heckman; and Darlene Lizarra as ASM Representative.

Editors of Society Publications
Kiva: Nancy Bannister, Production Editor
Ron Towner, Acquisitions Editor
Glyphs: Lynne Attardi <ltaglyphs@aol.com>

Members of the Board of Directors
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.