



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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Raymond Thompson

Next General Meeting: September 20, 2010
<www.az-arch-and-hist.org>

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

At the AAHS September general meeting three appreciation awards will be given. They are as follows.

Peter Boyle brought leadership and vision along with his many professional skills to AAHS as Vice President and President. Peter's efforts have helped move the AAHS board to be more organized, efficient, and forward thinking. He continues to volunteer his time to our organization.

From the beginning of the Arizona Archaeological and Historical Society in 1916, a part of our Society's mission has been "to aid in the functions and programs of the Arizona State Museum." In helping to strengthen that relationship, Darlene Lizarraga, Marketing Coordinator at ASM, has worked above and beyond the call of duty on behalf of ASM to "aid in the functions and programs"

of AAHS. Darlene's latest significant contribution was in the ASM and AAHS "75 Years After Snaketown" commemoration.

Anna Neuzil has served as Student Representative, Recording Secretary, a member of the Publications committee, and most recently, as Book Reviews Editor for the society. Efficiently and energetically, Anna worked with editors and authors to strengthen the *Kiva* book reviews. Anna recognized that reviews are a great service to AAHS members and the profession.

A year ago, Jim Griffith was unable to attend the Pecos Conference to receive the AAHS Stoner Award. We are going to present the award to Jim at the September meeting. No one has done more over the years to share the folk lore of southern Arizona with the public than Jim Griffith.

—Don Burgess, President

AAHS LECTURE SERIES

All meetings are held at the University Medical Center, Duval Auditorium
Third Monday of the month, 7:30–9:00 p.m.

- Sept. 20, 2010: Raymond H. Thompson, *The Real Dirt of Southwestern Archaeology: Tall Tales from the Good Old Days*
- Oct. 18, 2010: Matt Pailes, *Cerros de Trincheras in the Hohokam World: A Case Study of the Cerro Prieto Site*
- Nov. 15, 2010: Henry Wallace, *New Clues, New Research, and New Photos of the Oldest Art in Western North America*
- Dec. 20, 2010: T. J. Ferguson, *Two Views on Zuni Migration: Traditional History and Archaeology*

UPCOMING AAHS FIELD TRIPS

AAHS membership is required to participate in field trips. Prospective members may attend one AAHS field trip prior to joining.

September 24, 2010

A Taste of the ASM Basket Collection

Ethnography curators Diane Dittmore and Andrew Higgins will share baskets from the extensive Arizona State Museum collection. Since the museum presently does not have display space for these items, this is a rare chance to view some of these objects. Materials and technology of the craft will be the focus of the talk. The tour will be held in the Pottery Gallery area from 10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. and does not involve walking. To register, contact Katherine Cerino at <kcerino@gmail.com>.



October 16, 2010

Ft. Bowie National Monument: The Apache Wars and Butterfield Trail

Ranger-lead tour of historic Fort Bowie, a nineteenth century U.S. Army outpost located near Apache Pass east of Tucson, and an introduction to the Butterfield Stage route. Three-mile round-trip, moderate hike, with interpretive stops along the way. Wear good hiking shoes; bring lunch and water. Carpool from the northwest corner of Houghton Road at I-10 at 8:00 a.m. Limit 20. To reserve a space, contact Ken Fleshman at 520.648.5473 or <kfleshman@juno.com>.



AAHS HAPPENINGS
TOPIC OF THE SEPTEMBER 20 GENERAL MEETING

***The Real Dirt of Southwestern Archaeology:
 Tall Tales from the Good Old Days***
by Raymond Thompson

The history of Southwestern archaeology is generally well known. Our understanding of the life of the prehistoric people of the Southwest is enriched daily. However, much less is known about the archaeologists themselves – their activities, their embarrassments and triumphs, their adventures and misadventures, their somber moments and their silly ones. This presentation of some of the anecdotes and tall tales will attempt to fill this unfortunate gap in our historical record.



Speaker Raymond Thompson, a “Downeaster” from Maine, educated at Tufts and Harvard, began his long association with the University of Arizona in 1947, at the Archaeological Field School at Point of Pines, where he met and married rancher’s daughter Molly Kendall. He joined the faculty of the Department of Anthropology in 1956, was Head of the Department from 1964–1980, was the first Riecker Distinguished Professor of Anthropology, and was Director of the Arizona State Museum from 1964–1997. Now both grandfather and great-grandfather, Dr. Thompson is working on the completion of a long-standing Arizona State Museum project to publish the letters written by a Swiss Jesuit missionary in the Sonoran Desert in the eighteenth century.

ARTICLE SUBMISSIONS FOR GLYPHS: If you have research or a field project that would be interesting to *Glyphs* readers, please consider contributing an article. Requirements are a maximum of 1,000 words, or 750 words and one illustration, or 500 words and two illustrations. Please send electronic submissions to <jadams@desert.com>, or by mail to Jenny Adams, Desert Archaeology, Inc., 3975 N. Tucson Blvd., Tucson, Arizona 85716.

**CENTER FOR DESERT ARCHAEOLOGY’S
 ARCHAEOLOGY CAFÉ**

The Center for Desert Archaeology and Casa Vincente invite you to the Archaeology Café, a casual discussion forum dedicated to promoting community engagement with cultural and scientific research. Meetings are the first Tuesday of each month from September to May, at 6:00 p.m.; presentations begin at 6:15 p.m. Casa Vincente is located at 375 S. Stone Avenue. The café is free and open to the community.

The 2010–2011 season includes the following presentations:

- Sept. 7: Panel led by Michael J. Boley, *2,500 Years in the Marsh: The Marsh Station Road Site*
- Oct. 5: Paul Reed, *The Complexity and Diversity of Chaco Canyon*
- Nov. 2: R. Brooks Jeffery, *Sustainability and Sense of Place: Defining a New Vernacular Architecture*
- Dec. 7: Patrick Lyons, *The Role of Pottery in Understanding the Ancient Southwest*
- Jan. 4: Todd Surovell, *What Happened to the Mammoths? Pleistocene Extinctions in North America*
- Feb. 1: Panel led by Dale Brenneman, *Telling the O’Odham Side of History in the Pimería Alta*
- Mar. 1: M. Steven Shackley, *What Obsidian Studies Hath Wrought in the Southwest*
- April 5: Douglas Gann, *Paso por Aquí with Lasers: Lidar Documentation of Inscriptions at El Morro*



GLYPHS: Information and articles to be included in *Glyphs* must be received by the 10th of each month for inclusion in the next month’s issue. Contact me, Emilee Mead, at <emilee@desert.com> or 520.881.2244 (phone), 520.909.3662 (cell), 520.881.0325 (FAX).

AAHS WEBSITE: *Glyphs* is posted each month and can be found on the AAHS website at: <www.az-arch-and-hist.org>.

THE CORNERSTONE

Tooth Decay Among the Mummies

In the summer of 2009, Dr. James Watson, assistant curator of bioarchaeology at Arizona State Museum and assistant professor in the University of Arizona's School of Anthropology, travelled to Chile on a Fulbright grant to conduct research and teach at the University of Tarapaca at Arica.

Dr. Watson, with colleagues Bernardo Arriaza and Iván Muñoz Ovalle, set out to explore the oral health of the prehistoric Chinchorro people and their descendants by conducting dental exams on mummies and skeletons.

The Atacama Desert of northern Chile and southern Peru is the driest desert in the world and yet it was able to support one of the earliest known permanent cultures. The Chinchorro, the earliest known practitioners of mummification, were expert fishers who settled along the Andean Coast circa 8,000 BCE, 6,000 years before farming became common practice there. Once plants and animals, such as corn, potatoes, and llamas, were domesticated in what is called the Formative period (1500 BCE-500 CE), people began to settle further into the valleys where farmland was available.

The team postulated that coastal groups would consume more foraged marine foods than the valley groups who would rely more on domesticated foods.

"If this shift opened the door to significant changes in diet and lifestyle, health patterns would also be affected and this shift would surely show in the teeth," said Watson. "We would expect that the farmers, consuming more processed carbohydrates such as corn and potatoes, would show more tooth decay."

In order to determine if patterns in oral health were different between the coastal fishers and the valley farmers, the team recorded tooth decay and tooth loss in 200 Formative period skeletons and mummified individuals from the lower Azapa Valley (along the northern Chilean coast).

The team found that, although the valley dwellers had four-times the cavities, tooth loss was similar when compared to the coastal residents. While tooth loss was likely due to tooth decay among the valley groups, it was common on the coast as a result of tooth damage from the hard marine diet. This pattern was maintained for the 2,000-year duration of the Formative period, indicating that once the diet changed it remained relatively stable for a long time.

"We see clear links between coastal and valley groups, with little distinction, throughout the Formative Period," said Watson. "Most importantly, we see that the introduction of agriculture only created new

dimensions and new resources available to the long-time fishers rather than supplanting fishing altogether."

While the adoption of agriculture caused profound changes in lifestyle and health patterns throughout South America (indeed throughout the world), there does not seem to be much change in this small corner of the Atacama Desert. Rather, there appears to be an entrenchment of traditional resource exploitation.

"This is an example of how human decision-making affects the course of evolution," concluded

Watson. "Bottom line—the more things change, the more some people want them to stay the same."

The full report on this research will be published in the December 2010 issue of *Latin American Antiquity*.

The Cornerstone is presented by:
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UPCOMING ARIZONA STATE MUSEUM EVENTS

Coffee with the Curators

September 8, 2010; 3:00–3:45 p.m.

Join us for a cup of coffee and an informal conversation with one of our curators! Dr. Dale Brenneman, assistant curator of documentary history, talks about the challenges—and the fun—of working with Spanish colonial documents to research the history of Native peoples. Additional upcoming conversations on October 6, November 3, and December 1. [Free admission; ASM lobby]

Very Nearly Annual Benefit Book Sale

September 17–18, 2010; 10:00 a.m.–4:00 p.m.

Save 40-70 percent on University of Arizona Press remainders and first-quality NEW books: visual arts, humanities, poetry, ethnology, Southwest studies, world archaeology, anthropology, cooking, lifestyle, architecture, and children's books. [Free admission]

Smithsonian Magazine's 6th Annual Museum Day

September 25, 2010

Free admission today! Museum Day is an annual event hosted by Smithsonian Media in which participating museums across the country open their doors for free. Enjoy free docent-led tours through the Paths of Life exhibit at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m.

OLD PUEBLO ARCHAEOLOGY

TUSD Ajo Service Center, 2201 W. 44th Street, Tucson, AZ
520.798.1201, <info@oldpueblo.org>

Southwestern Rock Calendars and Ancient Time Pieces September 22, 2010; 5:30–7:00 p.m.

Pima County Public Library, Geasa-Marana Branch

Native Americans in the Southwest developed sophisticated skills in astronomy and predicting the seasons, centuries before Old World peoples first entered the region. In this presentation archaeologist Allen Dart discusses historically known sky-watching practices of various southwestern peoples, and how their ancestors' observations of the heavens may have been commemorated in ancient architecture and rock symbols. The program illustrates cardinal, solstice, and equinox alignments and possible calendrical reckoning features at such places as Arizona's Casa Grande Ruins and Picture Rocks petroglyph sites, New Mexico's Chaco Canyon archaeological district, the Hovenweep area of Utah, and the Mesa Verde and Chimney Rock regions of Colorado. No reservations needed.

Arrowhead-making and Flintknapping Workshop September 25, 2010; 9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.

Old Pueblo Archaeology Center

Learn how to make arrowheads, spear points, and other flaked stone artifacts just like ancient peoples did. In this workshop, flintknapping expert Allen Denoyer provides participants with hands-on experience and learning on how prehistoric people made and used projectile points and other tools created from obsidian and other stone. The class is designed to help modern people understand how prehistoric Native Americans made traditional crafts, and is not intended to train students how to make artwork for sale. Minimum enrollment 6, maximum 8. Reservations required: 520-798-1201 or info@oldpueblo.org. Registration required.

On-going through the School Year

Reservations are now being taken for school classes and other children's groups to experience the OPEN3 simulated archaeological dig education program, have archaeologists come to your classrooms to provide OPENOUT archaeology outreach presentations, and take tours guided tours of local archaeological sites. Old Pueblo offers a hands-on simulated archaeological excavation program field trip in which students apply social studies, science, and math skills in a practical, real-life situation, as well as in-classroom archaeology outreach presentations. For more information visit the following web page: OPEN3 Simulated Excavation for Classrooms at <http://www.oldpueblo.org/open3.html>.

AAHS MEMBERSHIP/SUBSCRIPTION APPLICATION

(A membership subscription makes a great gift for your loved ones!)

All members receive discounts on Society workshops and classes. Monthly meetings are held the third Monday of each month except August, and are free and open to the public. Participation in field trips requires membership.

Categories of Membership

- \$50 **Kiva** members receive 4 issues of *Kiva*, 12 issues of *Glyphs*, and all current benefits
- \$40 **Glyphs** members receive *Glyphs*
- \$35 **Student Kiva** members receive both *Glyphs* and *Kiva*
- \$75 **Contributors** receive *Glyphs*, *Kiva*, and all current benefits
- \$120 **Supporters** receive *Glyphs*, *Kiva*, and all current benefits
- \$300 **Sponsors** receive *Glyphs*, *Kiva*, and all current benefits
- \$1,000 **Lifetime** members receive *Glyphs*, *Kiva*, and all current benefits

For memberships outside the U.S., please add \$20.00.

For institutional membership, contact AltaMira Press at <www.altamirapress.com> or 800.273.2223.

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AAHS does not release membership information to other organizations

MEMBERSHIP AND SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION

Memberships and subscriptions run for one year beginning on July 1 and ending June 30. Membership provides one volume (four issues) of *Kiva*, the Journal of Southwestern Anthropology and History, and 12 issues of the monthly newsletter *Glyphs*.

Membership applications should be sent to:

Donna Yoder, VP Membership
Arizona Archaeological and Historical Society
Arizona State Museum, University of Arizona
Tucson, AZ 85721-0026 USA
<donnayoder@cox.net>

Libraries and other institutions interested in institutional subscriptions to *Kiva* should contact the publisher, AltaMira Press, at 800.273.2233 or <www.altamirapress.com>.

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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.