



THE
Albuquerque Archaeological Society
Newsletter

VOLUME 56 No. 2

US ISSN 0002 4953

February 2022

**ICE AGE EXPLORERS – THE ARCHAEOLOGICAL AND GENETIC
EVIDENCE FOR THE INITIAL PEOPLING OF THE AMERICAS**

Michael Waters

7:30 pm Tuesday, February 15, 2022

At Your Computer, Tablet, or Smart Phone

New archaeological and genetic evidence is rewriting our understanding of the first humans to explore and settle the Americas at the end of the last Ice Age. Archaeological sites in North and South America provide evidence that people occupied the Americas by 15,000 years ago. Studies of modern and ancient genomes confirm this age estimate and tell us who these people were and where they came from.

Michael Waters is Distinguished Professor of Anthropology and Director of the Center for the Study of the First Americans at Texas A&M University. His BS, MS and PhD degrees in geosciences are from the University of Arizona. A field-oriented scientist who conducts fieldwork every summer, he has worked on archaeological field projects in the United States, Mexico, Russia, Jamaica, and Yemen. He also is interested in the application of geological concepts and methods in the investigation of archaeological sites. Current research projects include, among others, the investigations of the Debra L. Friedkin Site and Hall's Cave, both in Texas, and the Page-Ladsen site in Florida. Waters has authored or co-authored numerous journal articles and book chapters and is the author of *Principles of Geoarchaeology: A North American Perspective*.

The mission of the Center for the Study of the First Americans is to pursue research, train students, promote scientific dialogue, and stimulate public interest in the first people to enter and settle the Americas at the end of the last Ice Age.

A day or so prior to the meeting, an email message will be sent to members with the link for the Zoom meeting, which will open around 7 to allow for greetings among friends. Please keep your microphone muted during the presentation until the question-and-answer session.

AAS DUES FOR 2022 ARE NOW PAYABLE

If you have not already done so, please fill out the attached membership renewal form and mail it with your check to Treasurer, Albuquerque Archaeological Society, PO Box 4029, Albuquerque NM 87196. Don't be shy about showing interest in working with a committee or serving on the Board. In 2022, the current president, a vice president, and a director at large will be term-limited. It's time for new people to step up to keep AAS the great organization it has become!

MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 18, 2022 VIRTUAL MEETING OF THE ALBUQUERQUE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

The meeting was called to order at 7:37 by President Evan Kay.

MINUTES: As there were no corrections or additions to the December minutes, they stand approved as published in the January 2022 Newsletter.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Tom Obenauf reported that income for the month was \$745 from membership renewals and a \$500 donation, for a total income of \$1,245. Expenses for the month were \$33.65 for newsletter copying, \$25.52 for postage and \$16.17 for the monthly Zoom fee. The checking account balance is \$7,392.67.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Membership – Mary Raje is happy to report that membership dues continue to come in.

Lab/Archives – Karen Armstrong: Lab work will recommence at the Hibben Center in February.

Field Trips – Pat Harris: Hayward Franklin will again lead a group to visit Jaral Pueblo and Jaral Ranger Station in the Sandia Foothills on February 19. There is still room for additional members to sign up.

Rock Art – Carol Chamberland: Rock art field recording is continuing, and the group will be going out to record on the morning after this meeting.

Pottery Southwest – Hayward Franklin: Online availability of the Fall/Winter issue is imminent. It has some excellent articles on sourcing.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Evan Kay welcomed Jo Lynne Fenger to the AAS Board as Director-at- Large and thanked Cindy Carlson for her four years of service in the position. Evan noted that most board members will reach their four-year term limits this year and invited members to volunteer to serve on the Board.

Membership Renewals were due at the end of December. There is a grace period until the end of March.

SPEAKER

Vice President Ann Braswell introduced the evening's speaker, E. Charles Adams, Curator Emeritus of the Arizona State Museum, whose presentation was entitled "Coming and Going: 13,000 Years of Migration on the Southern Colorado Plateau (Middle Little Colorado River)." The talk was followed by a question-and-answer period. No synopsis of the presentation was available at press time.

Respectfully submitted by Susan King, Secretary

PROPOSED 2022 BUDGET TO BE VOTED AT FEBRUARY MEETING

Treasurer Tom Obenauf has prepared a Year-End Financial Report for 2021 and a Proposed Budget for 2022. Both are attached. Members will be asked to vote their approval of the proposed budget at the meeting.

FIELD TRIP NEWS

Pat Harris, Field Trip Chair, reports that the February 19 trip to Jaral Pueblo and Jaral Ranger Station in the Sandia Foothills is full, but she is happy to take names for the wait list at trips@abqarchaeology.org. She is working on a trip for March.

BOOK REVIEW

The Mimbres Twins and The Rabbit in the Moon, by Marc Thompson with illustrations by Mark Willis. Albuquerque: Secord Books. 2021. iii+53 pp., 28 figures, contributor biography, bibliography. \$14.99 paperback (ISBN 9798781432363), \$2.99 eBook (available through Amazon Kindle).

Reviewed by Thatcher A. Seltzer-Rogers

Since Fewkes's early publication (1914) of Mimbres figurative designs, both archaeologists and the public have become enthralled by their stunning beauty, their mysterious representation of not only daily life but also supernatural entities, and their seemingly unique occurrence in the ancient Southwest. Unfortunately, this attraction, along with social factors, has resulted in widespread looting and destruction of Mimbres sites throughout southwestern New Mexico by people in pursuit of such vessels. As a result, archaeologists investigating the Mimbres culture oftentimes rely upon images of looted vessels to discern patterns in how the Mimbres people lived and what they believed.

In 1999, Marc Thompson (PhD, 1999, University of Calgary and previous Director of the El Paso Museum of Archaeology) became an early pioneer in conducting comprehensive investigations into iconography patterning found across Mimbres vessels, as opposed to the far more common biased and selective practices employed by other scholars. His dissertation, later refined by himself and colleagues in a series of publications (such as Thompson 2017; Thompson et al. 2014), boldly proposed one pattern across a series of Mimbres vessels—the occurrence of the Hero Twins. This brief work entitled *The Mimbres Twins and The Rabbit in the Moon* aims to convey his interpretation to the public, meaning it is lean, filled with gorgeous artistic renderings of Mimbres vessels by Mark Willis, and written in a manner appealing to a wide audience, including children. Although many archaeologists may be familiar with the Hero Twins à la Popol Vuh of the Maya, Thompson argues they are a Pan-American phenomenon. He presents imagery from Mimbres vessels in support of his argument with accompanying interpretive text telling the story of the Hero Twins and their mythic saga and some brief introductory and concluding words.

Regardless of whether the reader comes away convinced of Thompson's iconographic reading of Mimbres vessels, I strongly commend him for undertaking a task few archaeologists dare attempt—making their interpretations and the archaeological record interesting to a wide swath of the public, especially children. Thompson also adds a depth to Mimbres imagery beyond their attractive appeal by demonstrating the insights archaeologists can gain from applying a framework that strives to understand images from individual bowls as components of a larger epic work. I greatly applaud him for that sizable contribution to Mimbres and Southwest archaeology. I may have lingering doubts about the somewhat conjectural premise that underlies Thompson's interpretation; however, I gladly place this volume on my shelf.

References Cited

Fewkes, Jesse Walter

1914 *Archaeology of the lower mimbres valley, New Mexico*. Smithsonian Miscellaneous Collections Vol. 63(10). Smithsonian Institution, Washington, D.C.

Thompson, Marc

1999 *Mimbres Iconology: Analysis and Interpretation of Figurative Motifs*. PhD dissertation, Department of Archaeology, University of Calgary, Alberta, Canada.

2017 *Divine Duality: The Mimbres Twins*. *Archaeology Southwest* 31(1):21.

Thompson, Marc, Patricia A. Gilman, and Kristina C. Wyckoff

2014 *The Hero Twins in the Mimbres Region*. *American Archaeology* 18(2):38-43.

[Ed. Note: Marc Thompson was a member of AAS after he retired from the El Paso Museum of Archaeology and moved to Albuquerque. He served as AAS President from 2012 to 2016, but has since left New Mexico for Florida.]

IN MEMORIAM

AAS lost two long-time members in January, both of them women who gave generously of their time and energy to the organizations they supported, one as an avocational volunteer who worked mostly behind the scenes at administrative tasks and the other, a professional archaeologist, at the forefront. Both appeared regularly at AAS meetings, publications in hand, to recruit members for their respective institutions, and both were presented Lifetime Achievement awards at AAS meetings because illness had prevented their attendance at the ceremonies of the entities that honored their contributions. They are missed.

DOLORES SUNDT 1929–2022



Dolores Sundt died January 4, 2022 at the age of 92. She was born in Albuquerque and raised by her widowed mother in Roswell and Raton, NM. She attended UNM on a full ride Pepsicola scholarship, earning her BA in Spanish in 1951; she earned an MA in secondary education in 1969. While attending UNM, Dolores met her husband, Bill. Although it was by no means the only interest they shared, Dolores joined Bill in his interest and commitment to archaeology, and they were long-time members of the Albuquerque Archaeological Society, of which Bill was the second President 1968–1970 and later co-founder and editor of *Pottery Southwest* from 1972, with Dolores handling the bookkeeping and other office details. Dolores contributed her services as well, as Editor of the Newsletter for 10 years, from 1985 to 1995. They were also very active in the Archaeological Society of New Mexico, with Bill serving as President (1979–1987) and then as Executive Secretary until his death in 1990.

Dolores took over the myriad responsibilities of ASNM Executive Secretary after Bill's death and served in that capacity for 25 years. The Sundts' remarkable dedication was recognized by the ASNM Trustees in 2017 with the William and Dolores Sundt Award for Extraordinary Lifetime Service to the Archaeological Society of New Mexico, which was presented to Dolores at the October 2017 meeting of AAS by ASNM President Matthew Barbour.



Dolores is survived by five of her six children and seven grandchildren. Donations in her memory may be made to New Beginnings Program, c/o Navajo United Methodist Center, 1200 W. Apache Bldg. 17, Farmington NM 87401, or to The Friends of the Albuquerque Library.

CAROL CONDIE (STOUT) 1932–2022

Carol Condie died January 22, 2022 at the age of 90. She was born in Provo, Utah and grew up in Salt Lake City and in southern Utah. She attended the University of Utah where she met Kent Stout. They were married in 1954 and remained good friends until his death in 2012. Carol earned her BA at the University of Utah when she discovered her passion for anthropology and archaeology and made life-long friends through the Glen Canyon Project, documenting and analyzing archaeological sites prior to their inundation by Lake Powell. She was the editor for the project's reports under the exacting standards of Dr. Jesse Jennings and was the director of the project's laboratory. She later completed her Master's in Education at Cornell University, and her PhD in Anthropology from the University of New Mexico, where she explored the linguistic intricacies of the Zuni language as well as Navajo and Apache. She was the Education Coordinator and the Director of the Division of Interpretation for the Maxwell Museum of Anthropology at UNM in the 1970s.

In 1978, Carol launched her own consulting archaeology company, Quivira Research Center, which conducted archaeological surveys of lands that were slated to be impacted by construction. She issued more than 500 reports,

affecting New Mexico archaeology for generations to come. Carol was fiercely committed to preservation of archaeological sites and resources. She was instrumental in filing the NM-based lawsuit that compelled the US Forest Service to use professional archaeologists throughout the United States to ensure no damage was done to sites through ground-disturbing activities conducted on forest lands. She compiled a thorough catalogue of all the cemeteries in Albuquerque to ensure their protection, and she was instrumental in the adoption of Albuquerque's archaeological preservation ordinance. She also served on numerous archaeological boards and professional societies, including as a Vice President of the Albuquerque Archaeological Society, a Trustee of the Archaeological Society of New Mexico, and President of the New Mexico Archaeological Council. Closest to her heart was serving nearly 20 years on the Board of Directors of The Archaeological Conservancy, an organization dedicated to the preservation of archaeological sites throughout the United States that are critical to the understanding of the nation's history and prehistory.



Carol's contributions to the field of archaeology and the preservation of archaeological sites were recognized by many organizations. The New Mexico Archeological Council's 2016 Lifetime Achievement Award for Archaeology was presented to her by Brad Vierra at the February 2017 meeting of AAS.

Carol is survived by her three children and several grandchildren. There will be no formal service. Donations honoring her may be made to The Archaeological Conservancy at www.archaeologicalconservancy.org or 1717 Girard Blvd. NE, Albuquerque, NM 87016.

.....

ALBUQUERQUE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
PO Box 4029, Albuquerque, NM 87196
www.abqarchaeology.org and www.facebook.com/abqarchsoc

Annual Dues: For emailed newsletter: Student, no charge (provide copy of current ID); Basic Individual \$25; Basic Family \$30. Print newsletter by First Class mail: Basic Individual \$30; Basic Family \$35; Institutions/Libraries: \$10 for print newsletter by First Class Mail, emailed newsletter at no charge.

2022 OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS

To contact officers or committee chairs, or to change mailing or email address, email info@abqarchaeology.org or consult Membership Directory. Current members can sign up for field trips at meetings or by emailing trips@abqarchaeology.org.

Officers

- President:**
Evan Kay
- Vice Presidents:**
Gretchen Obenauf
Ann Braswell
- Secretary:**
Susan King
- Treasurer:**
Tom Obenauf
- Directors-at-Large:**
Jo Lynne Fenger
John Guth

Standing Committee Chairs

- Membership:**
Mary Raje
- Newsletter:**
Helen Crotty
Mailer: Ann Braswell
- Museum Lab/Archiving:**
Karen Armstrong
- Rock Art Recording:**
Carol Chamberland
- Greeter:**
Sally McLaughlin

Committee Chairs (continued)

- Field Trips:**
Pat Harris
Steve Rospopo
- Refreshments:**
Ann Carson
- Publicity:**
Evan Kay
- Pottery Southwest**
Editors: Hayward Franklin, Peter McKenna, Gretchen Obenauf
- Webmaster:**
Evan Kay
Asst: Thatcher Seltzer-Rogers