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*Newsletter*

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**“PLAINLY READ, LIKE A BOOK”: SITUATING THE HENDRICKS-  
HODGE ARCHAEOLOGICAL EXPEDITION TO  
HAWIKKU PUEBLO, 1915–1923**

**Klinton Burgio-Ericson, PhD**

**7:30 PM, Tuesday, June 25, 2019  
Albuquerque Museum of Art and History  
2000 Mountain Road NW**

The Hendricks-Hodge excavations at the Zuni ancestral pueblo of Hawikku in western New Mexico were among the largest of early American archaeology, producing copious artifacts and documentation over seven years (1917–1923). Under the direction of Frederick Webb Hodge, this work has been described as “pioneering” and “sophisticated” for its time. Based on three years of research at the Smithsonian Institution’s National Museum of the American Indian, this talk seeks to assess the methodology of the Hendricks-Hodge Expedition and resituate its place in the history of American archaeology. Drawing on previously unpublished primary sources, it also offers a critical new reading of Hodge’s place in the political and social history of Zuni Pueblo.

Klinton Burgio-Ericson is an artist, art historian, and educator. Currently a Post-Doctoral Fellow in Southwestern Archaeology and Museum Studies at the University of New Mexico, he completed his PhD in Art History at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. His dissertation explores the significance of Spanish mission architecture in seventeenth century New Mexico, focusing on the Purísima Concepción Mission of Hawikku Pueblo as a case study in cultural encounter and architectural meaning. Dr. Burgio-Ericson is also an official Research Collaborator with the National Museum of Natural History’s Department of Anthropology, developing collaborative projects and ethnohistorical research alongside Curator of North American Anthropology, Gwyneira Isaac. His work has been honored with support from diverse sources such as the Smithsonian Institution, Henry Luce Foundation, American Council of Learned Societies, Newberry Library, Crystal Bridges Museum of American Art, Society of Architectural Historians, Academy of American Franciscan History, and the New Mexico Office of the State Historian.

[Ed. Note: This talk was originally scheduled for the February 2019 meeting that was canceled because of snow.]

**Note: The June AAS meeting will be held Tuesday, June 25, one week later than usual.**

# MINUTES OF THE ALBUQUERQUE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

May 21, 2019

President Evan Kay began the meeting at 7:30 pm. There were no new members, and one visitor. Joanne Magalis brought the evening's treats.

**Minutes:** As there were no corrections to the minutes of the April meeting, they stand as published.

## REPORTS

**Treasurer** – No report.

**Vice President Gretchen Obenauf** announced that she may have a speaker for July.

**Newsletter** – No report.

**Laboratory – Karen Armstrong:** The laboratory crew is currently working with artifacts from the Cameron Creek site, which was dug in July 1946. The crew will be on a hiatus from May 22 through July 4, because Karen Price, the Maxwell Museum's Archaeology Collections Manager, will be out during that time.

**Membership – Mary Raje:** She and Treasurer Tom Obenauf have reconciled the membership list with the list of paid members. Her next task will be to update the Membership Directory.

**Rock Art – Carol Chamberland:** Lots of progress has been made, since we have been blessed by a cool May. As of June the crew will begin to move to two or three more northerly sites to escape the summer heat.

**Field Trips – Pat Harris:** As is typical for AAS, there will be no summer field trips, due to the heat. But there's a tentative trip for September, a definite for October, and a possibility for November.

**Seminars – Carol Chamberland:** A seminar led by ethnobotanist Molly Toll will be held at the Hibben Center Saturday, June 22, from 9 am to noon. It is open to current AAS members; there will be a signup sheet in the lobby following the meeting.

**Pottery Southwest – Gretchen Obenauf:** The editors are working on the next issue; people are invited to submit items for this next publication.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

Evan Kay reminded the group that the next meeting will be held on June 25, not June 18, because of a museum scheduling conflict. The speaker, Klinton Burgio-Ericson, was originally scheduled for the February meeting that was canceled due to weather.

## SPEAKER

Gretchen introduced Cassandra Smith, who spoke about her work at Pottery Mound. No synopsis of her presentation was available at press time.

Respectfully submitted by Susan King, Secretary.

# MINUTES OF THE ALBUQUERQUE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

## BOARD MEETING

May 22, 2019, at the UNM Office of Contract Archaeology

The meeting was called to order at 6:03 pm by President Evan Kay.

Present were Gretchen Obenauf, Ann Braswell, Susan King, Tom Obenauf, John Guth, Mary Raje, and Helen Crotty. Absent, Cindy Carson, Pat Harris, and Dick Harris.

## VICE PRESIDENTS' REPORT

The group discussed potential speakers for the July meeting.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Membership – Mary Raje** is working on the Membership Directory; currently there are approximately 150 members.

**Field Trips:** No report.

**Newsletter – Helen Crotty:** The newsletter will continue to be printed in the Times New Roman font.

**Rock Art:** The crew will finish work in its current location next Tuesday, May 28, when landowner permission expires.

## TREASURER’S REPORT

**Tom Obenauf** distributed copies of the AAS 2019 financial statement as of May 22, 2019. He reported to the Board on the initial results of his checking into different financial institutions to see if it would be possible to get a better interest rate for the two Certificates of Deposit expiring in June. The Board encouraged him to continue looking for alternatives to the present bank.

## OTHER TOPICS

**Publicity Flyer:** Mary Raje asked the group what they thought about developing a flyer to have available as a handout to encourage interest in AAS. As the Board agreed that this would be a good idea, she volunteered to investigate this further and report on what she had learned at the next Board meeting.

**Rock Art Records in the Archaeological Resource Management System:** This project is in a holding pattern. The next steps will be to get an inventory of the ARMS rock art reports, review the data, and develop a scope of work for the intern, who will likely not be hired by ARMS before the summer of 2020.

**Online Payments:** Evan Kay reported on his exploration of different companies to handle online payments, and the Board agreed that he should pursue PayPal.

**Tonque Pueblo -** With Karen Price, the Maxwell Museum Archaeology Collections Manager out until July, nothing further can be done about this issue until she returns to discuss the future of the artifact collection.

Respectfully submitted by Susan King, Secretary

## BOOK REVIEW

Kenneth L. Feder, *Archaeological Oddities: A Field Guide to Forty Claims of Lost Civilizations, Ancient Visitors, and Other Strange Sites in North America*, Rowman & Littlefield, 2019, 270 pages, 245 illustrations, hardcover \$35.49, Kindle \$30.59

Reviewed by Dorothy E. Noe

If ever there was an archaeology book written for a general audience, this is it. In fact, it is a perfect high school library book for the lazy kid who’s been assigned a non-fiction book report. The format is repetitive which means you don’t have to read the entire book to whip up a report. There are copious photos and stabs at humor. Where else could you get a translation from Klingon (page 84) or have half a page devoted to the author’s basement terrors (page 90)? The English is contemporary colloquial (think “fake news,” “hot mess,” “alternative facts,” “snark”). And, because the narrative can border on the edge of silliness at times, it might just spur a young mind to look more closely into the field of archaeology – especially if he or she has seen any Indiana Jones flics.

Another plus for an adolescent mind, aside from constantly repeating the need for “material culture” as corroborating evidence for the validity of the “oddities,” is that the book is relatively free of archaeological jargon. To give credit where it’s due, Feder does an admirable job of giving background information as to why archaeology is important, skeptical, and scientific. And his definitions of provenience and context are outstanding.

It is his repetitive format, however, that allows the book to be easily digested in chunks. He has divided the forty “ancient oddities” into the following chapters: “Written Messages,” “Aliens,” “Stone Monuments,” “Villages,” “Lost Civilizations,” “Biblical Proof,” “New Age Antiquity,” “Unexpected Critter Depictions,” and “Follies.”

Each oddity is addressed in a similar manner: “Archaeological perspectives,” “Here’s what we know,” “Why are archaeologists skeptical?”, “Why?” (meaning the motivation for creating the fake, which is usually money, politics, religion, or fame), “Fake-o-Meter” (a rating from 1-5 with 5 being surely fake; hint: most are rated 4 or 5), and “Getting there” (directions to the site). Fake or not, Feder encourages folks to visit these sites.

While all of the above can be endured in small doses, the author’s continuous plugging of his other books is annoying. It begs the question of whether this book was written to advance knowledge or for fun and profit.

Many of the sites highlighted are in the Northeast and Midwest with others sprinkled throughout the West. This may be because the mythology of many of these oddities – supposedly built or left behind before Columbus set foot in the New World – featured Irish monks, wandering Israelites, Vikings, Celts, Romans, or Phoenicians. At any rate, the Oddity backstories all indicate a strong bent toward the Euro-centric viewpoint of nineteenth century Americans.

As to be expected, New Mexico made the cut of archaeological oddities – not once but twice. Feder references the Los Lunas Decalogue Stone in the “Written Messages” chapter and the Roswell Flying Saucer Crash site in the “Aliens” chapter. Needless to say, both earned a 5 on the “Fake-o-Meter.”

Would I have read this book had I not been assigned to review it? Confession: probably not. I did make a valiant effort to read the whole book, and much of it was fun. However, I couldn’t handle the last two chapters: “Unexpected Critter Depictions” devoted a section to Bigfoot, and the “Follies” chapter featured a buried movie set and Carhenge. Both chapters seemed a stretch to fill pages.

Is this book’s information consequential or fascinating? You decide.

## **NEWS AND NOTES FROM HERE AND THERE**

**New Research: Fingerprints Show Chaco Potters Were Both Male and Female.** In the Pueblo communities of New Mexico and Arizona, pottery is a skill that is traditionally passed down from grandmothers and mothers to younger women of the community. This custom was thought to have ancient origins, and archaeologists believed about a thousand years’ worth of ceramics were crafted primarily by women in what is now the southwestern United States. But a new study of pottery at Chaco Canyon in northwestern New Mexico shows men and women were getting their hands dirty at almost equal rates.

Michelle Z. Donohue at *National Geographic* reports that the revelation comes from fingerprints left on corrugated pottery, the dominant style of pottery at Chaco, which involves pinching layers of coiled clay together using the thumb and forefinger and leaving ancient fingerprints behind. Several years ago, David McKinney was working at a police station where he was surrounded by fingerprints. He suggested to his then-advisor John Kantner at the University of North Florida that modern fingerprint forensics might be able to reveal something about the people pinching all those pots together.

Kantner found recent research showing that it is possible to distinguish between male and female fingerprints. The breadth of men’s fingerprint ridges are nine percent wider than those of women. Using this information, Kantner and McKinney examined 985 pieces of broken corrugated ware from Blue J, an archaeological site at Chaco Canyon dating to the tenth and eleventh centuries A.D.

According to the new study in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, about 47 percent of the fragments had fingerprints corresponding to males and 40 percent came from women or juveniles. Another 12 percent were not conclusive. What’s more, the percentages had changed over time. Among the oldest pottery fragments, male fingerprints appeared on 66 percent. However, by the end of the time period represented, men and women made pots about equally.

According to a press release, the gender shifts in pottery making happened during a period when Chaco was becoming an important regional political and religious center. Increased demand for ceramic goods may have caused traditional gender roles to shift. “The results challenge previous assumptions about gendered divisions of labor in ancient societies and suggest a complex approach to gender roles throughout time,” Kantner says. Ceramics expert Barbara Mills from the University of Arizona tells Donahue that the findings agree with what researchers know about specialization. Men tend to move into activities like making pots when the product is in demand, and often their whole family will become involved in the production.

It’s not clear what factors drove more men to start pinching clay pots around Chaco, but Kantner says large amounts of goods were flowing into Chaco Canyon during this period. Kantner says in the news release that understanding the gender of people who made the pots has something to say about ancient societies beyond Chaco as well. He adds, “An understanding of the division of labor in different societies, and especially how it evolved in the human species, is fundamental to most analyses of social, political and economic systems.” [Adapted from *Smithsonian* <http://bit.ly/2MrmmMk> referenced in *Southwest Archaeology Today*, a service of Archaeology Southwest.]

## CALENDAR CHECK

### *Conferences*

**Pecos Conference** August 8–11 in Cloudcroft, New Mexico. Registration and more information available on the conference website, [pecosconference.org](http://pecosconference.org), and updates will be posted as soon as they are available.

**Southwest Kiln Conference** October 4-6 at the Gila Pueblo, Besh Ba Gowah, and the Timber Camp Recreation Area of the Tonto National Forest, Globe, Arizona. Further information and registration at the website [swkiln.com](http://swkiln.com).

**21st Biennial Jornada Mogollon Conference** October 11–12 at the El Paso Museum of Archaeology in El Paso, Texas. Abstracts are due by August 31. Contact George Maloof at [MaloofGO@elpasotexas.gov](mailto:MaloofGO@elpasotexas.gov).

## ALBUQUERQUE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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**[www.abqarchaeology.org](http://www.abqarchaeology.org)**

**[www.facebook.com/abqarchsoc](https://www.facebook.com/abqarchsoc)**

**Annual Dues:** For emailed Newsletter: Student, no charge (provide copy of current ID); Basic \$25; Sustaining \$35+. Print Newsletter by First Class Mail: Basic \$30; Sustaining \$40. Institutions/Libraries: \$10 for print Newsletter by First Class Mail, emailed Newsletter at no charge.

### 2019 OFFICERS, DIRECTORS, AND COMMITTEE CHAIRS

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

<b>Officers</b>	<b>Standing Committee Chairs</b>	<b>Committee Chairs (continued)</b>
<p><b>President:</b> Evan Kay</p> <p><b>Vice Presidents:</b> Gretchen Obenauf Ann Braswell</p> <p><b>Secretary:</b> Susan King</p> <p><b>Treasurer:</b> Tom Obenauf</p> <p><b>Directors-at-Large:</b> Cindy Carson John Guth</p>	<p><b>Membership:</b> Mary Raje</p> <p><b>Newsletter:</b> Helen Crotty Mailer: Lou Schuyler</p> <p><b>Museum Archiving:</b> Karen Armstrong</p> <p><b>Rock Art Recording:</b> Dick Harris Carol Chamberland</p> <p><b>Greeter:</b> Sally McLaughlin</p>	<p><b>Field Trips:</b> Pat Harris Steve Rospopo</p> <p><b>Refreshments:</b> Ann Carson</p> <p><b>Publicity:</b> Evan Kay</p> <p><b>Pottery Southwest</b> Editors: Gretchen Obenauf, Peter McKenna, Hayward Franklin</p> <p><b>Webmaster:</b> Evan Kay Asst.: Thatcher Rogers</p>

