



THE
Albuquerque Archaeological Society
Newsletter

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**EXPLORING THE PAINTED WORLD OF THE ANCIENT SAN BUSHMEN OF
ZIMBABWE: FROM ANTBEARS TO KUDUS AND BEYOND**

Anne Q. Stoll

7:30 pm Tuesday, February 16, 2021

At Your Computer, Tablet, or Smart Phone

Beginning at least 13,000 years ago, prehistoric hunter-foragers we now call San Bushmen occupied the lush landscape of southern Africa. The painted walls of their shelters in the granite *kopjes* of Zimbabwe clearly represent an important expression of their beliefs. Well-documented works by David Lewis-Williams and others have convincingly asserted that these cave paintings were connected to ancient healing rituals. Many figures assuming postures associated with the ritual trance dance can be seen in San rock art. However, as no ethnography exists for the most ancient people of Zimbabwe, the interpretation of these prehistoric images remains open and ongoing. Most San Bushman rock art is strikingly representational. The wild animals that once lived in vast herds on the highveld plateau were depicted with such accuracy and vividness that species and sex can usually be identified. In the shelters of eastern Zimbabwe, frequencies of animal depictions and human-animal interactions suggest relationships of ritual significance, as will be explored in this presentation.

Anne Q. Stoll, MA anthropology, enjoyed a professional career as a field archaeologist, writer, editor, instructor, and lecturer in archaeology and anthropology beginning in 1984. In 1999 she joined the cultural resources staff at Statistical Research Inc., Redlands, California, and she remains a Research Associate with this organization. Since retirement, she has maintained an active interest in prehistoric rock art research, presenting and publishing papers on African, Mexican, and Brazilian sites and speaking for a wide spectrum of audiences.

The photographer for the work is George Stoll, PhD, emeritus professor of Chemical and Materials Engineering at California State Polytechnic University, Pomona. He has pursued an avid interest in outdoor photography for over 45 years. Together the Stolls forged connections with the Shona people of Zimbabwe and, with their help, the pair visited many major sites in the Matopos and around the capital, Harare, where they photo-documented the ancient paintings. After a brief hiatus, the Stolls returned to Zimbabwe in July 2019 to continue their explorations. At that time, they were granted access to photograph and meet the tribal owners of a number of traditional sites near Chibi towns and Rusape. They are working now as part of the collaborative effort to gain assistance for the Museum of Human Sciences in Harare and all endangered cultural heritage throughout the country of Zimbabwe.

AAS DUES FOR 2021 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. Wider membership participation is needed and encouraged.

NOTES FROM THE JANUARY 19, 2021 MEETING OF THE AAS BOARD

President Evan Kay called the meeting, held via Zoom, to order at 7:35. He relayed the following reports.

Treasurer Tom Obenauf: The society ended 2020 with a surplus of \$30.13; the surplus is due largely to the fact that the Albuquerque Museum refunded nine months' worth of rental and security fees and the replacement Zoom monthly fees were much less. The checking account balance at the end of the year was \$5,311.71. Since the start of the new year, we have had income of \$465 from membership renewals and \$7.75 from a Pottery Southwest order; our expenses have been the monthly Zoom fee of \$16.17, postage for the Pottery Southwest CD mailing of \$7.75, and renewal of our membership to Archaeology Southwest of \$100.00.

Membership Chair Mary Raje: As of 1/17/21 we have 64 renewals, counting each member of a couple separately, but 68 members from 2020 have not renewed yet. We have 18 students on our roster and two have renewed. Mary plans to send reminder letters starting in mid-February, and will reach out to our student members to clean up the membership list and find out which of them are still students and still interested in being members.

Field Trip Chair Pat Harris: We accomplished one trip in 2020, to the Hibben House. Future trips will depend on the immunity offered by widespread vaccinations, physical fitness, and availability of tour leaders. Evan added that our liability insurance will continue.

Vice Presidents Gretchen Obenauf and Ann Braswell are exploring the possibility of inviting speakers from the Crow Canyon's lecture series and possibly also UNM graduate students.

Hayward Franklin – Pottery Southwest Report: The current issue has an article by Joan Mathien and Tom Windes – both active AAS members – on ceramics from the Talus Unit in Chaco Canyon. We are always glad to get new articles for *PSW*, and have had good response from authors this past year.

SPEAKER

Ann Braswell introduced Frances Hayashida, professor of anthropology and the director of the Latin American and Iberian Institute at the University of New Mexico. Dr Hayashida spoke about Water, Copper, Wak'as, and Empire in the High-Altitude Atacama of northern Peru. A synopsis was not available at press time, but one is promised for the March Newsletter.

APPROVAL OF PROPOSED BUDGET FOR 2021 TO BE VOTED AT FEBRUARY ZOOM MEETING

Attached to this Newsletter is the 2020 Financial Statement. Also attached is a Budget Proposal for 2021, membership approval of which will be voted at the February meeting. As noted in the Minutes of the Board meeting of January 18, the Board voted to donate \$500 each to Albuquerque Museum of Art and History, the Archaeological Society of New Mexico's Scholarship Fund, and to the Grant County Archaeological Society for its project of transforming the Wood House at the Mimbres Culture Heritage Site into the Mimbres Archaeological Research and Education Center. Funds for the donations will come from the AAS Money Market account, to which funds formerly in Certificates of Deposit have been transferred.

BOOK REVIEW

A Marriage Out West: Theresa & Frank Russell's Explorations in Arizona, 1900-1903, by Theresa Russell, Nancy J. Parezo, and Don D. Fowler. Tucson: University of Arizona Press, 2020. xii+284 pp., 7 tables, 64 figures, 4 maps, appendices, bibliography, index. \$100.00 hardcover (ISBN 9780816542093), \$35.00 paperback (ISBN 9780816540716), \$35.00 eBook (ISBN 9780816542086).

Reviewed by Thatcher A. Rogers

Theresa Russell, listed as lead author, is also one of the subjects of the book, as explained below.

The late nineteenth through early twentieth century anthropological expeditions in the American Southwest retain a legendary status for their vast distances and enormous collections, the majority of which are curated at the Peabody Museum, the Smithsonian Institution, and the Field Museum. This volume follows in a similar vein as have several others, notably those by co-author Don Fowler (professor emeritus of Anthropology and Historic Preservation at the University of Nevada, Reno), that describe these expeditions and their immense impacts on the initial stages of Southwestern archaeology (Fowler 2010). It is the first volume to focus on the woefully underexplored archaeological contributions of Frank Russell, who is widely known for his substantial contribution to Southwestern ethnography with his 1908 study of the Akimel O’odham (Pima). Additionally, it focuses on the experiences of Theresa Russell, his wife, who traveled with Frank on his Southwestern expeditions. The emphasis on Theresa’s contributions, perspectives, and daily adventures fit in with the outstanding research that has been published by Nancy J. Parezo (professor emerita of American Indian Studies at the University of Arizona), who has repeatedly demonstrated the sizable contributions of women to early Southwestern archaeology (Parezo 1993).

The first half of the book covers four topics: the lives of Frank Russell and Theresa Peet up to their marriage in 1900 (Chapter 1), the 1900–1901 Arizona expedition of the Russells (Chapters 2-4), the 1901-1903 ethnographic study of the Akimel O’odham (Chapter 5), and the experiences of Theresa Russell between 1903 and 1906 after Frank’s untimely death in November 1903 (Chapter 6-7). Chapter 1 establishes the early record of Frank Russell as a highly regarded scientist-explorer, based on his work in the Arctic. Unfortunately, Frank’s rapid ascendancy in anthropology was suddenly threatened because of a severe case of tuberculosis, which necessitated a move to the dry, warm climate of the American Southwest for field research. Theresa’s training in the Classics and experiences as a teacher during those same years were to serve as preparation for the task of writing up their anthropological explorations.

The succeeding three chapters follow the Russells as they performed unauthorized archaeological reconnaissance in the Tusayan area of northeastern Arizona before traversing southern and central Arizona documenting and testing numerous archaeological sites. While some of these data have been incorporated into reports by other archaeologists – such as Jesse Fewkes’s report on excavations at the Buena Vista site in the Safford valley – most of the site documentation and testing done by the Russells remains unpublished. The Russells also provide strong insight into the looting and the haphazard excavations that led to the Antiquities Act of 1906. Underlying constants found throughout these chapters include: the political aspect of archaeological expeditions; the absence of enforced, formal permitting organizations that enabled institutional fiefdoms; and the struggle of Frank Russell to gain permanent federal employment with the Bureau of American Ethnology during a time of increasing scrutiny into existing corruption, poor documentation, and nepotism at the Bureau.

The fifth chapter describes the ethnographic endeavors of the Russells among the Akimel O’odham. Several important details emerge from this chapter as well as from other works revisiting Frank Russell’s investigation (Roffler 2006). First, the posthumous 1908 volume failed to properly acknowledge the substantial contributions of Theresa Russell and José Lewis, a Tohono O’odham tribal member, in the collection of Akimel O’odham ethnohistoric data and ethnographic material culture. Second, Frank’s focus on what he considered more authentic Akimel O’odham culture from the 1830s to the 1840s resulted in an ethnography that was already dated and presented an Indigenous culture as static. Third, during the process of collecting material culture and documenting oral traditions, Frank Russell grew cognizant that some objects should not be collected and belonged to the community, and he returned a calendar stick that he found along the Salt River. The return represents strong departure from his earlier behavior collecting artifacts and animal specimens in the Arctic. Unfortunately, Frank died prior to the submission of his ethnographic manuscript and the task fell to Theresa. This endeavor, and Theresa’s leaving behind archaeology to become a teaching assistant and eventual professor of English literature and philosophy at Stanford University, comprise the sixth and seventh chapters.

The second half of the book (Chapters 8-20) includes Theresa Russell’s “In Pursuit of a Graveyard: Being the Trail of an Archaeological Wedding Journey” as serialized in twelve parts in the magazine *Out West*. This work, published in full with only introductory remarks by Parezo and Fowler, is an autobiographical account of Theresa’s explorations that provides the reader with a participant’s view of daily life in an early archaeological expedition and substantially contributes to understanding the loneliness, intellectual curiosity, and personal transformation experienced by a bride who had never before spent much time away from the city life of her

upbringing. These chapters flow well into the final chapter that discusses Theresa's career as a professor. The volume ends with retrospective final words by Frank and Theresa.

A Marriage Out West provides a detailed insight into the intrigue of the early scramble by federal, state, and private organizations for access to Indigenous archaeological sites (almost universally lacking tribal input or consent) as well an exceptional woman's personal account of her experiences as a neophyte frontiersperson. I found the book interesting in its multifaceted representation of early Southwestern archaeology, honest in its portrayal of attitudes of anthropologists of the time toward Indigenous beliefs and the treatment of human remains, and outstanding in its inclusion and discussion of Theresa Russell's contributions and thoughts. *A Marriage Out West* is an important work dealing with a period of significant growth in Southwestern anthropology. This book is highly recommended for its discussion of some key topics in early professional American anthropology, not to mention its appeal to a wide variety of readers and its availability in an affordable paperback format.

References Cited

Fowler, Don D. 2010. *A Laboratory for Anthropology: Science and Romanticism in the American Southwest, 1846 to 1930*. University of Utah Press, Salt Lake City.

Parezo, Nancy J. (editor) 1993. *Hidden Scholars: Women Anthropologists and the Native American Southwest*. University of New Mexico Press, Albuquerque.

Roffler, Joshua 2006. Frank Russell at Gila River: Constructing an Ethnographic Description. *Kiva* 71(4):373-395.

MEETING OF AAS BOARD OF DIRECTORS JANUARY 18, 2021

The meeting, held via Zoom, was called to order by President Evan Kay at 9:05 a.m.

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

Budget. Tom Obenauf went over the proposed 2021 budget. Regarding income, it is assumed that no field trips will occur, given the uncertainty with COVID-19 and the timing of vaccines. Gretchen moved and Ann seconded a motion to donate \$500 to the Albuquerque Museum. AAS pays \$115 monthly for use of the facilities each month, and that money was refunded by the Museum for the months that COVID-19 kept AAS from meeting. The motion passed.

Speakers. Gretchen Obenauf has speakers for this month and next. Another speaker was approached but wanted to speak in person rather than via Zoom. Susan asked if the group was familiar with the Crow Canyon Archaeological Center's weekly webinars, as there may be good ideas for speakers there.

Charitable Donations. Ann moved and Cindy seconded a motion for AAS to donate \$500 this year to the Grant County Archaeological Society for their project of transforming the Wood House at the Mimbres Culture Heritage Site into the Mimbres Archaeological Research and Education Center. The motion passed.

Budget proposal approved. A motion to include the donations discussed today in the proposed budget to be presented to the membership was made, seconded and passed. The revised version will go into next month's newsletter to be voted on by membership in the February meeting.

Adding functionality to make on-line dues payments. The Board agreed that Evan, Tom, and Assistant Webmaster Thatcher Rogers would meet to discuss next steps for providing for online payment of membership dues and report back to the Board.

Membership. Mary reported that about half of last year's membership has renewed. She will send out reminders in February to those who have still not paid by then. She will contact Tom's list of student members since 2017 to see if they are still in school and want to be AAS members.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:02 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by Susan King, Secretary

AT-HOME VIEWING OPPORTUNITIES

Ever more lectures and exhibits are available online. To join the Crow Canyon weekly webinars mentioned in the minutes, go to their website (crowcanyon.org) and look in the masthead for webinar arrows. Past lectures are uploaded to their YouTube page (many other sites also offer past lectures on YouTube).

The Maxwell Museum (maxwellmuseun@unm.edu) has a special department for home viewers (maxwell@home@maxwell@unm.edu) that offers brief glimpses into their collections, educational resources, ongoing research, online exhibitions, and Maxwell Museum history and an option to “Ask the Maxwell” questions about the Museum, anthropology, museum careers, etc.

Most museums offer free viewing of exhibitions and/or collections on their websites.

As mentioned in previous Newsletters, Ruggeri’s Ancient America’s Events (mikeruggerisevents.tumblr.com) presents a useful and constantly updated compendium of live online events for each month. Also on the site is a list of links to previous Zoom lectures that can now to be found on YouTube.

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.

2021 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.

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2021

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I/We would be interested in working with the following committees:

- ☐ Greeters (name tags & guest signup at meetings);
☐ Membership (keep track of membership lists and send renewal notices);
☐ Assist Membership chair with display and signups at archaeological events;
☐ Field Trips (arrange for trip or assist chair with signups and follow up);
☐ Laboratory (assist with Hibben Center archival work);
☐ AAS Newsletter editorial assistant/trainee;
☐ AAS 50th Anniversary Volume Editor, assistant, researcher;
☐ Board of Directors (and position desired);
☐ Other (describe on back).

Mail the completed form and your membership dues check (payable to Albuquerque Archaeological Society or AAS) to:
Treasurer, Albuquerque Archaeological Society, P.O. Box 4029, Albuquerque, NM 87196-4029

Questions about membership? (address or email changes, current dues verification, etc.): email info@abqarchaeology.org.

AAS is a 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation and your Sustaining contributions are tax deductible

COVID-19 notice: During the pandemic we must limit print copies of the Newsletter to institutions and members who do not have Internet access at home. Please check here to confirm you do not have internet access at home: ☐