



THE
Albuquerque Archaeological Society
Newsletter

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May 2021

SOUTHWESTERN ROCK CALENDARS AND ANCIENT TIME PIECES

Allen Dart

7:30 pm Tuesday, May 18, 2021

At Your Computer, Tablet, or Smart Phone

Native Americans in the U.S. Southwest developed sophisticated skills in astronomy and predicting the seasons, centuries before non-Indian peoples entered the region. In this presentation Al Dart will discuss archaeological settlement layouts, architecture, and petroglyphs that provide evidence of ancient Southwestern astronomy and calendrical reckoning.

Registered Professional Archaeologist Allen Dart – who encourages people to call him “Al” – has worked in New Mexico and Arizona since 1975 for federal and state governments, private companies, and nonprofit organizations. After graduating from UNM in 1973 he worked for the Laboratory of Anthropology at the Museum of New Mexico (now the Museum of Indian Arts and Culture) and the Albuquerque office of the Bureau of Indian Affairs before he moved to Arizona to pursue his Master’s degree. He is now the executive director of Tucson’s nonprofit Old Pueblo Archaeology Center, which he founded in 1993 to provide educational and scientific programs in archaeology, history, and cultures. Al has received awards and honors from the National Park Service and other organizations for his efforts to bring archaeology and history to the public.

A day or so prior to the meeting, an email message will be sent to members with the link for the Zoom meeting. If you haven’t joined us before – or even if you have – plan to join the meeting 10–15 minutes before the 7:30 start time to get familiar with Zoom (some procedures may have changed or differ from other Zoom productions) and say “Hi” to friends already in the meeting. All the participants except the speaker will be muted by the host when the presentation begins and until the question-and-answer session following the program.

MINUTES OF THE APRIL 20, 2021 VIRTUAL MEETING OF THE ALBUQUERQUE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

The meeting was called to order at 7:35 pm by President Evan Kay.

The minutes of the March 16 meeting were approved as published in the Newsletter.

REPORTS

Treasurer's Report – Tom Obenauf: Income last month was \$685 in membership dues and \$50 in donations, for a total of \$735. Expenses for the month were the monthly Zoom fee of \$16.17, our website's registration fee of \$50, the March speaker's dinner of \$50, and \$10 for the annual AAS filing fee with the New Mexico Secretary of State, for total expenses of \$126.17. The checking account balance at the end of the month was \$6,252.31.

All the appropriate tax forms have been submitted for 2020.

Kyle Meredith of the Grant County Archaeological Society sent a thank-you letter for the \$500 donation that AAS made to their project of transforming the Wood House at the Mimbres Cultural Heritage Site into the Mimbres Archaeological Research and Education Center.

Vice Presidents – Gretchen Obenauf: The May speaker will be Al Dart, who will present on Southwestern rock calendars and ancient timepieces. The June speaker will be Lewis Borck of New Mexico Highlands University.

Membership Report – Mary Raje: As of this meeting, there are 123 members who have renewed. Seven of the 123 are students. Some people reported to Mary that they would re-join if there were field trips again. Mary thanked Tom for his support and John Guth for his mentorship in the membership work this year. She'll be starting on the Membership Directory soon.

Field Trips – Pat Harris: There will be a field trip on May 1. This will be a hike to the Ojito dinosaur dig site. COVID restrictions are that member attendees must be fully vaccinated and masked. Gretchen and Tom Obenauf are leading the trip. The \$10 trip fee will be collected at the meeting place. To sign up contact trips@abqarchaeology.org listed on the back page of the newsletter.

Lab – Karen Armstrong reported the donation of a Hoopa baby cradle.

Pottery Southwest – Gretchen Obenauf: A new issue will be out this week.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Archaeological Society of New Mexico will hold a free mini Annual Meeting via Zoom from 7 to 9 pm on May 8. The Zoom link will be emailed to members. After an awards session recognizing the annual volume honorees, the recipients of the Richard A. Bice Archaeological Achievement Awards, and the ASNM Scholarship winners for 2020 and 2021, Dr. Bruce Huckell will deliver the Bandelier Lecture at 8 pm, speaking about Paleoindians in New Mexico.

SPEAKER

Vice President Ann Braswell introduced Severin Fowles, Associate Professor of Anthropology and Chair of the American Studies Department at Barnard College, Columbia University, whose subject was "Borderland Images of Athapaskan New Mexico." No synopsis of the presentation was available at press time.

Respectfully submitted by Susan King.

NEWS AND NOTES FROM HERE AND THERE

Former AAS member Milford Fletcher. Word has been received of the death of Milford Fletcher, an active member of AAS until about 2020. Little additional information was available at press time. A more formal obituary will be published in the June Newsletter. "Fletch," who held a PhD in Biology, was a chief scientist with

Region 10 of the National Park Service. After his retirement, he was involved, along with other AAS members, in the recording of Petroglyph National Monument and the Diamond Tail Ranch in the years before the AAS/BLM team was organized.

STOP Act Introduced in Congress. Congresswoman Teresa Leger Fernández (D-NM), Chair of the Subcommittee for Indigenous Peoples, and Congressman Don Young (R-AK), Republican Leader of the subcommittee, have introduced the STOP Act, bipartisan legislation to prohibit the exporting of sacred Native American items and increase penalties for stealing and illegally trafficking Tribal cultural patrimony. Upon introduction, Leger Fernández and Young were joined by Congressman Tom Cole (R-OK) and Congresswoman Sharice Davids (D-KS). The STOP Act has received the support of various tribes and Native organizations. [Adapted from *Alaska Native News* article reported by *Southwest Archaeology Today*, a service of Archaeology Southwest.]

CALENDAR CHECK

Crow Canyon's weekly webinars have ended for the season, but past lectures can be found on their YouTube page. Many other sites also offer past webinars or Zoom lectures on YouTube.

Maxwell Museum's special department for home viewers (maxwellmuseum.unm.edu/maxwell-at-home) 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.

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 be found on YouTube.

ALBUQUERQUE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY
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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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