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Newsletter

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HORSES AND HUMANS IN THE NORTH AMERICAN WEST

Emily Lena Jones

7:30 PM, Tuesday, February 20, 2024
Albuquerque Museum of Art and History
2000 Mountain Road NW
(Also available online)

In the centuries following Spanish colonization of the Americas, domestic horses revolutionized the North American West, giving rise to the great horse cultures of the plains and deserts and forming the backbone of Indigenous empires that were economically, politically, and militarily dominant during the seventeenth, eighteenth, and nineteenth centuries. How this process unfolded, however, remains contested, with academics and Indigenous researchers often holding very different perspectives. This talk presents recent results from the Horses and Human Societies in the North American West project, a collaborative initiative that integrates data from archaeological horse remains (radiocarbon dating, ancient DNA, stable isotopes, and ZooMS) with historical narratives and Indigenous knowledge to develop an interpretative framework for the dispersal of domestic horses across North America.

Emily Lena Jones is Professor of Anthropology and Regents' Lecturer at the University of New Mexico. She studies the connections between the human-animal relationship and environmental change across time and space, particularly during times of accelerated environmental change. A former Fulbright Scholar and the recipient of multiple grants and awards, she is the co-editor of the volume *Questioning Rebound: People and Environmental Change in the Protohistoric and Early Historic Americas* (University of Utah Press, 2023) and the author of the book *In Search of the Broad Spectrum Revolution in Paleolithic Southwest Europe* (Springer, 2016) as well as many other publications.

This program will be presented in real time at the regular members meeting in the Albuquerque Museum Auditorium as well as available on Zoom. Prior to the meeting, an email message with the Zoom link will be sent to members.

REMINDER: AAS dues for 2024 are now payable, and the grace period ends March 31. Members who have not renewed by that date will be dropped from the membership and mailing lists. A membership form is attached.

MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 20, 2024 MEETING OF THE ALBUQUERQUE ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

President Evan Kay called the meeting to order at 7:31 p.m. He welcomed new members and guests.

MINUTES: Minutes for the January 2024 meeting were approved as published in the Newsletter.

TREASURER'S REPORT

Income for the past month was \$815 from memberships. Operating expenses were \$885 to the Albuquerque Museum for use of the auditorium January through June 2024, \$16.77 for the Zoom license fee, \$70.63 for newsletter photocopying, and \$39 for newsletter mailing. The checking account balance is \$6,195.95.

VICE PRESIDENTS' REPORT

Bob Hitchcock: Emily Lena Jones will be the presenter at the March meeting.

Gretchen Obenauf: There are homemade biscochitos on the refreshments table for after the meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Membership – Mary Raje: There was a good response to the email reminder for people to renew their membership for 2024. Thanks to the folks who have sent in theirs.

Newsletter – Helen Crotty: She is retiring this year and is looking for her replacement. President Kay thanked her for her years of service.

Field Trips – Pat Harris: This coming Sunday will be a tour of the Coast to Coast to Coast (Arctic, West Coast, and East Coast) exhibit, led by docent Carol Chamberland. The \$10 field trip fee will be collected at the museum.

A tour of Allan Houser's sculpture garden in Santa Fe is scheduled on April 27, from 1 to 3 pm. There are 70 sculptures. A vehicle that seats six is available to transport people who have difficulty walking. Cost is \$26.72 per person. Payment is needed early so that Tom can write a check to cover all participants' attendance. An email will be sent to the membership at large regarding the April trip. Note that anyone who has not renewed their membership by March 31 will not be eligible to attend.

Other trips are being developed and will be announced at subsequent meetings.

Maxwell Collections (Lab) – Jo Lynne for Karen Armstrong: With the recent revisions to the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) regulations, there is a pause in the lab work for consulting with Tribes to see if it is acceptable to continue to repackaging artifacts from the Maxwell Collection excavations.

Rock Art – Carol Chamberland: Rock art activities are on hold until access to the site that they are planning to record is arranged.

Seminars – Carol Chamberland: The first seminar, on NAGPRA, was held February 17. An excellent presentation was given by Ashlee Boydston-Schmidt, NAGPRA Coordinator at the Maxwell Museum, regarding the new NAGPRA regulations.

Pottery Southwest – Hayward Franklin: They are working on the current issue.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Thursday night at 7:30, Dr. Sherry Nelson will give a lecture at the Maxwell Museum in the Ancestors Series: "Becoming Human: The Early Stages from Ape to Hominin."

ADJOURNMENT

President Kay adjourned the business meeting at 7:47 p.m.

Submitted by Susan King, Secretary

SPEAKER

Vice President Gretchen Obenauf introduced Shelby Tisdale, retired Director of the Center of Southwest Studies at Fort Lewis College in Durango, Colorado, a Research Associate in the School of Anthropology at the University of Arizona, and author of *No Place for a Lady: The Life Story of Archaeologist Marjorie F. Lambert*. Dr. Tisdale spoke via Zoom about her friendship with Lambert and the interviews that led to her biography of this mid-twentieth-century woman archaeologist and protégé of Edgar Hewett. Although Lambert helped to excavate numerous sites, including Kuaua, and successfully supervised the second season of the Paa-ko excavation when the male supervisor was transferred, had to settle for a career in museum work with the Museum of New Mexico because of the prejudices of the time.

MEMBERSHIP TO VOTE ON PROPOSED 2024 BUDGET AT THE MARCH MEETING

The bylaws provide that the membership vote at the March meeting to approve the budget prepared by the Treasurer and previously approved by the Board. Attached is the Proposed Budget for 2024 prepared by Treasurer Tom Obenauf and, for comparison, the End of the Year report for 2024.

EARLY SIGNUPS REQUESTED FOR APRIL 27 FIELD TRIP TO ALLAN HOUSER SCULPTURE GARDEN

Pat Harris, AAS Field Trip Coordinator, is requesting early commitments to the Saturday, April 27, 10 am to noon tour of the Allan Houser Sculpture Garden near Santa Fe. There is an entrance fee of \$35 per person as individuals or \$25 each (plus tax) for a group of 15 to 20 people. The site is a little over 60 miles from Albuquerque in southern Santa Fe County, slightly over an hour's drive. Pat is investigating nearby restaurants if participants want to stop for lunch after the tour ends. Carpooling is encouraged.

For right now Pat needs to know how many are interested in taking the tour so the entrance fee can be determined (there will be **no** additional \$10 AAS field trip fee), and the money must be collected in advance so Treasurer Tom Obenauf can send a single AAS check to the Houser organization. There are no refunds if someone must cancel.

For those who may not recognize his name, Allan Houser (1914-1994) was a world-renowned Native American painter and sculptor whose works are displayed in museums and public spaces in the United States, Europe, and Japan. You may have seen his sculptures at the Museum of Indian Arts and Culture, where his monumental Apache dancer dominates the plaza. Houser (originally Haozous) was a Chiricahua Apache who grew up in Oklahoma and was at first a painter and one of Dorothy Dunn's top students at the Santa Fe Indian School, but he found her program too constricting. He began his professional career in 1939, showing works at both the New York and the San Francisco World Fairs and won a commission to paint murals in the Main Interior Building in Washington, D.C. In 1940 he was encouraged to take up sculpture and began with wood carvings. During World War II he worked by day in a Los Angeles shipyard while continuing to paint and sculpt at night. During those years, he was introduced to modernist sculpture at the Pasadena Art Institute.

After a two-year Guggenheim fellowship in 1949, he taught art at the Intermountain Indian School in Brigham City, Utah from 1952 until 1965, when he was invited to head the sculpture department of the Institute of American Indian Arts in Santa Fe. He retired in 1975 to devote his time to his own art work, producing numerous sculptural works in both modernist and figurative styles.

On view in the garden are over 70 monumental works, and in the indoor gallery and gift shop, small/medium sculptures as well as paintings and drawings. This is a truly wonderful opportunity to view so many works by a justly famous artist whose pieces you would otherwise have to travel to dozens of museums to see. There is no shade in the garden, which should not be a problem before noon in April, and a Club car with driver is available for visitors with mobility issues (two of the five seats are already taken).

Please respond soon to Pat Harris, AAS Field Trip Coordinator, at patparhar@comcast.net or 505-401-2453. Actual costs with tax are \$37.41 for individuals or \$26.72 if we have a minimum of 15. Pat will supply instructions about payment when the amounts are known.

BOOK REVIEW

Research, Education, and American Indian Partnerships at the Crow Canyon Archaeological Center, edited by Susan C. Ryan. Louisville: University Press of Colorado. 2023. xvi+378 pp., 49 figures, 23 tables, bibliography, index, contributor list. \$104.00 hardcover (ISBN 9781646424580), free eBook (ISBN 9781646424597).

Reviewed by Thatcher A. Seltzer-Rogers

Crow Canyon Archaeological Center is an institution in southwest Colorado with over forty years of contributions to the local Four Corners area archaeology, education, tribal engagement and collaborative initiatives, and training of students. Key research programs enacted over the years at Crow Canyon include the excavations at the Duckfoot site, the Sand Canyon Archaeological Project, the Village Ecodynamics Project (I and II), and the ongoing Northern Chaco Outliers project, among many others. These programs resulted in hundreds of publications, providing significant revisions to the understanding of the ancient Four Corners region, and offered key anthropological studies in migration, conflict, sociopolitical organization, and sedentism. In addition, Crow Canyon has a storied record of deep, meaningful tribal engagement and collaboration and an expertise in educational programming. This volume, edited by Susan Ryan (Executive Vice President, Research Institute at Crow Canyon Archaeological Center), celebrates the past forty years of outstanding, multifaceted archaeological engagement at the Center and also demonstrates pathways forward.

The volume is divided into an introduction and five parts that collectively include twenty-three chapters written by various Crow Canyon-affiliated and emeriti archaeologists, educators, and tribal officials. The introduction lays out the vision of the Crow Canyon Archaeological Center and the content of the volume. The first part (“History of the Crow Canyon Archaeological Center”) is composed of two chapters that discuss the origins of Crow Canyon and its programming as well as major research and compliance archaeological project offshoots that originated at the Center, such as the role of the Dolores Archaeological Project in its beginnings and the Village Ecodynamics Project as a natural expansion of it.

The second part (“Indigenous Archaeology”) centers on Indigenous perspectives and authors, as well as the contributions and collaborations that have come out of Crow Canyon, with four chapters, three being written wholly or in part by Indigenous authors. Two key chapters in this section focus on the Pueblo Farming Project, an experimental program developed in collaboration with the Hopi Tribe, and on a historical perspective that Pueblo societies need to protect components of their culture from Western, unauthorized dissemination and how, simultaneously, archaeologists and Native partners can also form meaningful relationships. The third part (“Archaeology and Public Education”) describes the educational programming of the Center and its focus on children and developing measurable outcomes.

The fourth part (“Community and Regional Studies”) is the volume’s largest with ten chapters discussing research projects initiated at the Center or by archaeologists connected to it. Chapters cover the sixth through late thirteenth centuries in the central Mesa Verde region and offer insights into several topics. Standout chapters summarize a long-term research project in the central Mesa Verde region, the recent investigation of Basketmaker III communities, and the causes and impacts of mass late thirteenth century migration from Mesa Verde to the northern Rio Grande Valley. The variety of topics and scales of analysis addressed in this part attest to the intellectual strength of Crow Canyon’s research program and the archaeologists affiliated with it. The final part (“Human-Environment Relationship Research”) includes three chapters that investigate archaeological fauna and macrobotanical assemblages over the same interval as the prior part and a fourth looking at the future of Crow Canyon.

This volume properly honors the trailblazing legacy of the Crow Canyon Archaeological Center by demonstrating its significant impacts on Southwestern archaeology and anthropology. It is a delightful, albeit highly variable, assemblage of papers. It is especially directed at several audiences, from past interns, employees, and associates of the Center to educators to archaeologists and anthropologists striving to develop meaningful partnerships with Native descendant communities.

AAS NEEDS A NEW NEWSLETTER EDITOR

No one has yet responded to the call for a new editor for the AAS Newsletter. Helen Crotty, who has edited the Newsletter since sometime in 2008, wants to retire by this summer to make time for other writing projects. She is willing to train a replacement, and Carol Toffaleti, who had served as proof reader in recent years, is willing to continue her excellent work. Anyone taking on the responsibility will have plenty of time to learn the ropes. For more information, contact Helen at jhcrotty947@gmail.com or at info@abqarchaeology.org.

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.

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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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