Election Results

Congratulations to our new Trustees Charlie Barnes and Doris Morgan and returning Trustees Karen Armstrong and Hayward Franklin, all of whom were elected at the May meeting to fill four open positions on the Board of Trustees. Charlie Barnes served as Alternate Trustee for the past year. Doris Morgan has previously served on the Board as a Trustee and has also been a member of the Certification Council. At the Trustees meeting on May 1, Doris was elected President of ASNM, succeeding John Hayden, who, along with Nancy Woodworth, retired from the Board at the end of their current terms.

A Message from ASNM’s New President

The ASNM Board of Trustees invites each of the affiliate societies which is not currently represented on the Board by a Trustee or Advisor to appoint a liaison to attend Board meetings. These are normally held in Socorro in September, Tijeras (near Albuquerque) in February, and on Friday afternoon and Saturday noon of the Annual Meeting, wherever it is held. The affiliate liaison need not be the same person each time, but someone who could provide relevant input and carry back information to share with your society.

We encourage more members to attend the Annual Meetings and to see first-hand what is being accomplished in New Mexico by archaeologists and laypersons alike. We also encourage participation in the SiteWatch Program, which creates opportunities for volunteers to acquire certification in a number of categories, enabling avocational archaeologists to not only utilize their skills, but to make a difference.

Individual membership also has its rewards, which include a copy of the Annual Volume and knowing you are contributing to a worthy cause, such as the awarding of scholarships to dedicated archaeology/anthropology students.

Expanding the knowledge, understanding and involvement of its members is certain to keep ASNM at the forefront of preserving New Mexico’s cultural heritage.

---- Doris Morgan

ASNM Scholarship Awards for the 2010-2011 Academic Year

Thanks to a generous $1000 donation from the Taos Archaeological Society, ASNM was able to grant an additional $1000 scholarship for the 2010-2011 academic year, making a total of four $1000 scholarships and one for $300. Scholarship Chair Greg Sagemiller’s remarks from last year are worth repeating: “With interest and market-oriented investment rates as low as they currently are, the lion’s share of funding for scholarship awards must come from donations by members and the affiliated societies. Many members have donated funds for several years; others have begun to do so when renewing their dues each January. We are deeply grateful for their generosity.”
ASNM Scholarship Awards (continued)

Greg continues, “One of the first recipients of an ASNM scholarship award was Ted Frisbie. For over a decade, Dr. Frisbie has offered a challenge grant of $1,000 annually, so long as that sum or more is given by other donors combined. We’re pleased to report that for ten-plus years that contribution level has been achieved, and with it, Dr. Frisbie’s generous $1,000 donation. Readers interested in viewing a list of scholarships awarded since the Program was jump-started again in late 1994 can do so on our website <www.newmexico-archaeology.org>.” A summary of the qualifications and goals of this year’s five scholarship recipients follows.

Matthew Griffin ($1,000) is an undergraduate student at Eastern New Mexico University and will attend ENMU’s summer field school at Blackwater Draw Archaeological Site. Funds will also be spent on travel, interviews and film equipment to complete his Senior's Thesis/Project relative to visual archaeology in creating a 45-minute documentary film on the history of excavations at Blackwater Draw, the Clovis type-site. Content of the film documentary will include past excavations, history of the site and interviews with people who shaped its past, current research, and what’s in store for the Blackwater Draw site's future.

Brian Halstead ($1,000) is a second-year graduate student at New Mexico State University. Funds will enable Mr. Halstead to continue his graduate-level studies at NMSU. They will be spent solely on tuition and book costs, which is one of the core purposes for the ASNM Scholarship Program. He expects to earn an MA in Anthropology in Fall, 2011. Brian also spends a portion of his time working with private archaeological contractors and on university-sponsored fieldwork projects.

Stephanie Hawkins ($1,000) is a second year graduate student at New Mexico State University. Funds will be used to attend NMSU's summer field school and toward her graduate internship project relative to her specialization: Southwest Archaeology and Museum Studies. Her internship project will result in a major exhibit at the University Museum at NMSU focusing on prehistoric archaeology. Stephanie expects to earn her MA degree in Spring 2011.

Harlan McCaffery ($1,000) is a second year graduate student at Eastern New Mexico University. Funds will be used to defray costs associated with his thesis, “Turkey Talk: Stable Isotope Analysis of Fauna from Ancestral Puebloan Sites in the Middle San Juan.” Harlan will travel to San Juan College, in Farmington, NM; University of Wyoming, Laramie; Salmon Ruin and the Tommy Site in the greater Farmington region of the San Juan Basin as part of this effort. He intends to earn his MA in Anthropology and Applied Archaeology in May 2011.

Reagyn Slocum ($300) is a graduate student at New Mexico State University who will be conferred an MA in Anthropology in May, 2010. Funds will be used to travel to Santa Fe, NM present the nomination of Apollo 11 Tranquility Base artifacts to the Cultural Properties Review Committee of the New Mexico Register of Cultural Properties. Her studies at NMSU specialized in soil micromorphology and southwest geoarchaeology. Reagyn has also performed research on artifacts curated at White Sands Test Facility, Apache Point Observatory, and Spaceport America. Coincident with her long-term goal of opening a Cultural Resource Management firm of her own someday, she has been accepted at NMSU’s School of Business to seek an MBA.

Doña Ana Society to Host 2011 Annual Meeting

Next year’s Annual Meeting will be hosted by the Doña Ana Society in Las Cruces. More details will be announced in the next issue of La Jornada.
Editor’s Notes from the Santa Fe Annual Meeting

Despite some late season snow flurries that made travel between rooms and meeting places a bit chilly and forced rescheduling of one of the field trips, the Annual Meeting went very well, with a comfortable accommodations and an excellent program. It drew near-record attendance, with 137 registered participants. Many thanks to Phil Essig, who chaired the event and made the arrangements for the motel, the printing of the program, and the Bandelier Lecturer—and to his committee. Many thanks, too, to Matthew Barbour, who drew unusually strong response to his call for papers and organized and smoothly managed the lengthy program, imperceptibly keeping the speakers on time.

Included in the program this year was a session consisting of papers presented by students of Warren Lail, Professor of Anthropology at New Mexico Highlands University. The students were obviously well prepared and sounded fully professional as they presented their papers on various aspects of the skeletal remains and possessions of Urraca Man, a historic skeleton found on Philmont Scout Ranch and curated for 40 years at the Philmont Museum but due for burial soon.

The Honoree for 2010 is Glenna Dean, former New Mexico Archaeologist and now Assistant Director of the Rio Grande National Heritage Area, who gave a gracious and predictably entertaining response to her introduction at the Awards banquet. Richard A. Bice Archaeological Achievement Awards went to Linda McConkey “In recognition of high standards of excellence as an educator emphasizing site preservation and archaeological principles, and as a founding member of the Torrance County Archaeological Society and her continued service to that organization.” and to Dolores Sundt “In recognition of her outstanding service as Executive Secretary of the Archaeological Society of New Mexico, her handling of the distribution of the Society’s annual volume, her excellent promotion of the Society at state and local meetings and conferences, and her years of service to the Albuquerque Archaeological Society.” A special new Lifetime Achievement Award was announced for Dudley and Mari King “In recognition of their long-standing contributions to the furtherance of knowledge of archaeology of the Southwest, and their many decades of service to the Archaeological Society of New Mexico and the Albuquerque Archaeological Society. With special recognition to Mr. King for his photographic images of Rio Grande petroglyphs, preserved for public usage at the Maxwell Museum of Anthropology at the University of New Mexico, and Mrs. King’s development of a broad-based collection of archaeological references, available at the Friends of Tijeras Pueblo Interpretive Center.” Because the Kings were not in attendance at the Annual Meeting, the plaque embodying the award was presented to them at the June Meeting of the Albuquerque Archaeological Society. The banquet concluded with a light-hearted but thought-provoking Bandelier Lecture “Miracles of Preservation: Tales of Archaeological Survival in the Face of ‘Progress’” by Wolky Toll.

A sobering postscript to the evening was a car crash on Highway 14 suffered by Trustee and Archaeological Achievement Awards Chair Bradley Bowman on his way home to Cedar Crest. Near the Galisteo turn-off, he was hit by a drunk driver who was leaving the Blues Fest in Madrid and headed home to Santa Fe. She ran off the road initially, re-entered the highway, and hit him head-on. Bradley’s chest was crushed, resulting in a fractured sternum but fortunately no serious internal injuries. The other driver was treated for minor injuries and later jailed. In a recent conversation, Bradley reported that he is regaining his health ahead of schedule despite some setbacks. He credits his sturdy Toyota pickup with saving his life and is very grateful to be alive and expected to make a full recovery, although it will take time.

--- Helen Crotty

Highlights from the Meetings of the Trustees April 30 and May 1

Membership: Dolores Sundt, Executive Secretary, announced 241 memberships current as of April.
Publications: Dave Kirkpatrick, Special Publications Chair, reported that work is proceeding on three volumes: a report on the Casamero site, which is nearly ready; Marjorie Lambert’s memoirs, “Bits and Pieces from the Past;” and a reissue of the Laboratory of Anthropology Bulletins by H. P. Mera with updates and an introductory biography. Carol Condie reported for Emily Brown, Annual Volume Chair, that 26 papers have been volunteered for the 2011 volume honoring David Kirkpatrick and Meliha Duran. The volume will be larger than usual, and authors have been asked to keep their papers as short as possible.

Vidal Site Report: Joan Mathien reported that photos and field notes from the excavations were gathered by Betty Kelley and Sheila Brewer for transfer to temporary storage at the Hibben Center. [Ed’s Update: Joan and Phyllis Davis picked up the boxes in Gallup and brought them to Albuquerque. Joan has since repacked this material in archival boxes. More archival boxes have been supplied to Sheila Brewer for reboxing of the artifact collection. Joan is currently working with the files from Dick Bice’s computer to identify chapters that were well underway before he died and can be used in the final report. A generous bequest from Dick Bice provides for funding of the writing of the Vidal Site report and permanent storage of the archives and artifacts at the Museum of Indian Art and Culture in Santa Fe.]

Sitewatch: Rebecca Porter, New Mexico State Parks Archaeologist, reported on three formal training sessions conducted during the preceding eight months. More than 300 people are currently in the program. The handbook and guidebook for chapter coordinators are being revised. Due to funding cuts, there is no full-time State SiteWatch Coordinator, the position being “filled” by an allocation of 10% of a Historic Preservation Division archaeologist’s time.

Certification Council: Roger Moore reported that the Certification Council has two open positions to fill. Council members are devising three seminars and have a form for people who want to teach them.

Rock Art Council: Gary Hein announced that the Rock Art Council now has 33 members. Sheila Brewer will represent the Rock Art Council on the Certification Council. The Board approved the Council’s election of its officers: Gary Hein, Chair; Carol Chamberland, Vice-chair; and Margaret Berrier, Secretary. The Board also approved proposed changes to the Council’s by-laws. All voting members of the Council will be members of ASNM or one of its affiliates; the chair, vice-chair, and secretary will be voting members and will be elected by voting Council members; and new members will be approved by the Council’s voting members.

Trustee Nominations: Nancy Woodworth, outgoing Nominations Chair, reported that in recent years she has been unable to find two candidates willing to serve for each of the open Trustee positions. There was discussion on whether it is necessary to have more than one person run for the open positions. A new chair will be needed for this committee.

Honoree and Achievement Award Nominations: Karen Armstrong, Honoree Chair, and Bradley Bowman, Achievement Award Chair both reported little or no response from Affiliate Society Presidents when, in accordance with the ASNM Standard Operating Procedures, they have sent letters requesting nominations for these honors. There was discussion of other ways to solicit nominations and to generally encourage a closer working relationship between ASNM and its affiliates.

Election of Officers: Doris Morgan was elected President for a one-year term replacing John Hayden, whose term is expiring. Remaining in their current positions are John Roney, Vice-president; Arlette Miller, Secretary; and Anna Walters, Treasurer.

By-laws and SOP Revisions: An amendment eliminating term limits for Trustees was approved by the membership at the 2009 business meeting, but has not yet been formally entered. John Hayden suggested that to improve communications and working relationships between ASNM and the affiliate
Trustees Meetings Highlights (continued)

societies, each Affiliate Society not already represented on the Board by a Trustee or Adviser be invited to designate a representative to have a non-voting position on the Board and serve as a liaison. Joan Mathien proposed that it need not be the same person each time, just that each society is represented as each Board meeting. Work will continue on the revisions, and the committee, which currently consists of Emily Brown, John Hayden, and Helen Crotty, invites members to send suggestions.

Budget and Finance Committee: ASNM financial records for 2009 were reviewed on April 30, 2010 by John Roney and Phyllis Davis. The records were found to be accurate and complete.

The next meeting of the Board will be held in at the library of New Mexico Tech in Socorro on Saturday, September 18 at 1:00 p.m. It is open to the membership.

In Memoriam

E. Gene Riggs February 20, 1921 – June 14, 2010

Elvis Gene Riggs, 89, died as he had wished, at home with family at his bedside. He had been in failing health for several years but continued to attend meetings of the Arizona Archaeological Society and the American Rock Art Association. He was a World War II veteran of the Army Air Corps and held Master’s degrees in chemistry and natural science from Oklahoma State University. After teaching chemistry in Kansas and New Mexico, he moved with his family to Douglas, Arizona in 1966 and taught chemistry at Cochise College until his retirement in 1983. After his retirement, he returned full time to his interests in Southwestern archaeology and rock art. He was active in a number of archaeological associations and volunteered for a great many archaeological projects in Arizona, New Mexico, Sonora, and Chihuahua. In 1992 he was named the first Archaeology Volunteer of the Year by the Arizona Archaeological Commission.

Gene, with his wife Sandi, was a current member of ASNM, and he had been a participant in the ASNM Rock Art Field School in Chaco Canyon in 1979, at Sierra Blanca in 1986, and at Three Rivers in 1987. His cheerful smile and helpful attitude will be much missed by those of us who knew him.

Calendar Check: Upcoming Conferences


Mogollon Archaeology Conference (16th Biennial): October 14-16, NMSU Las Cruces. See lonjul.net/mog2010/Conference.


As a New Mexico non-profit corporation, ASNM is one of the oldest of its kind in the United States. The Society has a number of affiliated local societies listed below. ASNM encourages and assists others to unite to preserve, study, protect, and promote appreciation of the prehistoric and historic cultural resources of New Mexico.

Membership: Individual, Family, Institution $25, Contributing $35 or more

Privileges: Enrolling in ASNM Incremental Certification Program and Seminars, ASNM newsletter, and annual volume of Papers of the Archaeological Society of New Mexico.

ASNM Newsletter: Helen Crotty, editor

Papers of the ASNM (Honoree volumes): Emily Brown, editor, Carol Condie, and Helen Crotty

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Anna Walters, Treasurer
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