

**2013 Rock Art Council Annual Meeting Minutes**  
**May 3, 2013**  
**Indian Pueblo Cultural Center**  
**Albuquerque, NM**

**Attendees**

|                   |               |
|-------------------|---------------|
| Carol Chamberland | ABQ-AAS       |
| Milford Fletcher  | ABQ-AAS       |
| John Guth         | ABQ-AAS, ARMS |
| Dick Harris       | ABQ-AAS       |
| Gary Hein         | Santa Fe      |
| Amalio Madueño    | Mesa Prieta   |
| Gretchen Obenauf  | ABQ BLM       |

**Election of Officers**

Gretchen Obenauf announced results of the recent vote for Rock Art Council officers: Carol Chamberland was elected Chair, Amalio Madueño Vice Chair, and John Guth Secretary. Gary Hein received a standing ovation for his years of important contributions as Chair of the Council. He will continue on as web master for the ASNM site and an active member of the Council.

Major discussion topics included:

• **Financial Report**

From the ASNM Trustees Meeting, Gary reported that the Rock Art Council fund contains \$3603.73.

• **Design Elements**

Amalio informed the Council that the Mesa Prieta Project will be proposing 5 to 7 new design elements in the near future for possible inclusion in the element inventory. Evaluation and possible adoption of these new elements by the Council will be considered via email.

• **Archiving at ARMS** (Archaeological Records Management Section)

Most final rock art reports go to ARMS at the Lab of Anthropology in Santa Fe, where they may wait for years before being processed and becoming available for research. John Guth and Anna Naruta-Moya, the new ARMS archivist, are developing a draft report standard that will enable prompt processing of rock art data without the need for reformatting at ARMS. The proposed report standard will soon be available to Council members for comment via email.

• **ARMS Volunteers**

ARMS manager Derek Pierce is very receptive to additional rock art volunteers who will tackle the backlog of roughly 100 reports and collections dating back to the 1980s. John will write a description of qualifications and tasks, which can be used by affiliate societies to solicit new volunteers. Existing reports with digital photographs can be reformatted by the originating recorders at their home base, minimizing the need for on-site work in Santa Fe. Potential volunteers will be vetted by their peers.

• **Outreach**

Carol is seeking to engage more (and younger) people with New Mexico rock art recording. She led a discussion of several actions and ideas.

1. John Hayden and the Torrance County Archaeological Society have established plans to start a new recording team. Their training session is scheduled for June 2013.

2. Placing a sample report (minus location data) on the ASNM web site to help teams prepare their data. Milford Fletcher will identify an appropriate sample report and edit it for possible posting.
3. Methods to capture the interest of young people were brainstormed. Ideas included outreach through Community College courses, Continuing Education, and university classes. Amalio described how the Mesa Prieta Project has gotten students involved. He agreed to write up their youth outreach methods for the Council. Various members noted that field trips and hands-on field work are essential aspects of outreach.
4. The concept of reinstating field schools was discussed. This would be a major undertaking and no action is planned at this time.

• **Member Participation**

Gary noted that the Council bylaws require member attendance at least once in every three annual meetings. It was agreed that members should at least participate in the voting process to retain active status. A failure to vote and/or attend meetings could result in being dropped from the RAC listserv.

• **Site Boundaries**

Dick discussed the difficulties in defining ARMS LA sites for large, complex recording projects. Fewer LA numbers reduce the data entry burden, while more can aid field work with location specificity. ARMS has generic LA boundary guidance, and John will ensure that more specific rock art guidelines will be included in the proposed report standard.

**Action Item Summary**

1. Amalio will provide the President with new design elements from the Mesa Prieta Project for Council review and potential inclusion in the inventory
2. John will draft an ARMS rock art report standard and provide it to Carol for review by the Council
3. John will draft ARMS volunteer qualification and task descriptions for potential solicitation of new volunteers from Council affiliates
4. Carol will train the newly formed Torrance County Archaeological Society recording team
5. Fletch will select and edit a sample report for possible posting on the ASNM web site to help teams prepare their reports
6. Amalio will draft a description of the Mesa Prieta youth outreach model for potential use by the Council
7. John will include a description of LA site selection criteria in the draft report standard for review by the Council