



New Mexico Archaeology

The Newsletter of the Friends of Archaeology
August, 2009

From the Director Milestones & Changes

We are coming off of the groundbreaking for the Center for New Mexico Archaeology – a truly remarkable milestone.

The need for a repository for New Mexico's artifacts has been a theme since well before I joined the Museum of New Mexico (MNM) in 1988. Helmuth Naumer, the late Cultural Affairs Officer, and Tom Livesay, the MNM director then, were aware of the need in the mid 1980s. Tim Maxwell, Pat Nietfeld, then of MIAC and now of the Smithsonian, and I toured Southwestern repositories doing research as part of a false start in the early 1990s, and the Museum got as far as a schematic design for an expansion for the Laboratory of Anthropology in 1997. Tim Maxwell and Duane Anderson initiated the current effort. Along with our support staffs, Shelby Tisdale and I have ridden on their coattails. The most important element has been the administrative and political support for the project in the legislative and executive branches of state government. That political support wouldn't have been there without the public support of archaeologists throughout the state and especially the support of FOA and the Foundation.

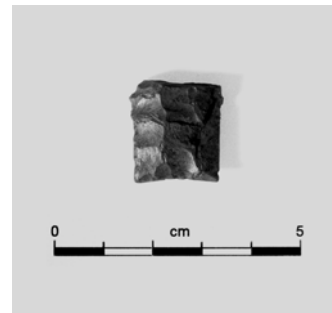
FOA is changing leadership. Dick Schmeal's term as FOA Chair has expired, and we welcome Penny Gomez's election. Every one of the past FOA Chairs has brought a distinctive contribution to the position, beginning with Doc Weaver, our founder. Larry Sitney, Roland Mace, George Price and Dick have moved the organization forward, tightening our efficiency and broadening our mission to serve the FOA membership and to support the educational and research goals of the OAS. Dick's terms as Chair have been marked by taking on new and larger challenges, and we are pleased that he is staying on as an organizing force of the Activities Committee. Penny has brought energy and new ideas to the Board since she became a member, and I look forward to the surprises she has in store for us and the future of FOA.

On an economic note, the positive effects of the recession that have allowed us to build the Center are offset by negative impacts both at OAS and within the Museum of New Mexico Foundation. At OAS we are working to broaden our client base so that we can assure the staff of continued employment opportunities. Many stimulus projects require archaeology, so our downturn will probably be less marked than other parts of the economy. The Foundation is coping with declines in endowment investments, charitable giving, membership and shop sales. As support from the MNMF as a whole decreases, the support from FOA becomes even more important. We will always try to give the highest possible value for your support, and we don't take it for granted at all.

Eric Blinman, PhD
OAS Director

Research: Bones & Stones Recent Discoveries at Water Canyon, Socorro County

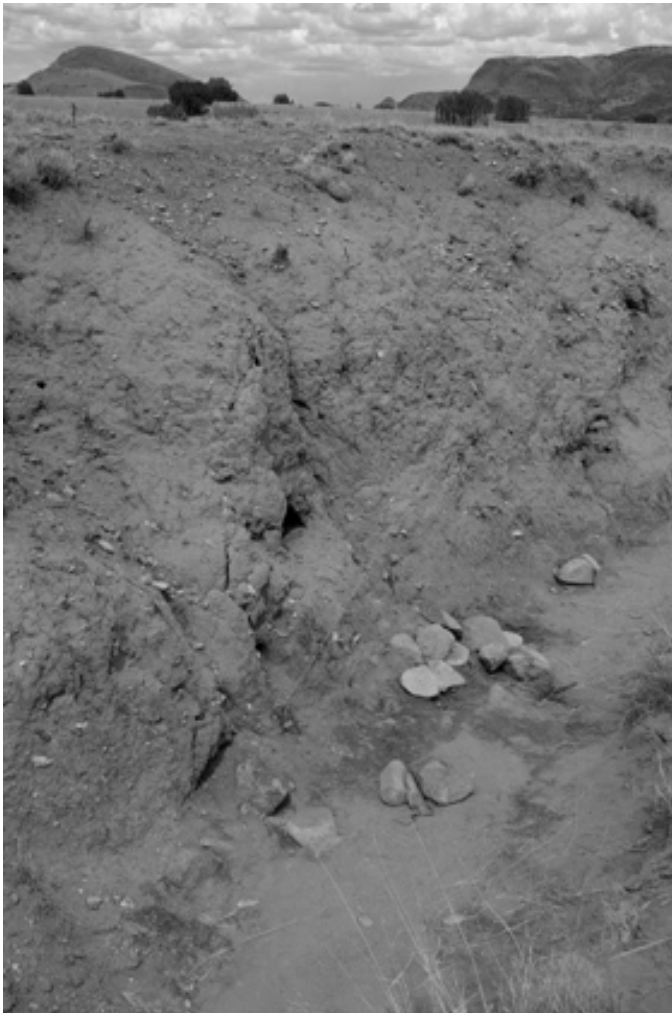
What began a decade ago as a routine archaeological assessment has led to the exciting discovery and documentation of an ancient group of people who lived west of present Socorro. As Principal



Investigator for Escondida Research Group, I originally recorded the Water Canyon site, LA 134764, during an archaeological inventory for a proposed astronomical facility in Socorro County, NM. Located in a basin

between the Magdalena and the Socorro Mountains, the site presented an open lithic artifact scatter, about 3,250 square meters in size, created 10,000 to 8,000 years ago. The temporal assignment was based on the

presence of a Scottsbluff projectile point fragment (pictured above), which is part of the Cody Complex of Late Paleoindian tools. An incised arroyo to the northeast of the site contained an extensive layer of blackened sediments about two meters below the surface.



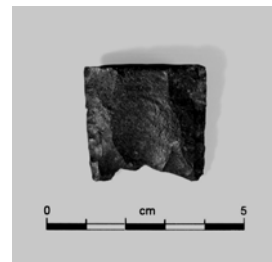
*Buried cienega deposit at Water Canyon
Photo by Robert Dello-Russo*

I interpreted these sediments as a highly organic stratum that most likely represented the remains of an old cienega or marsh. Its stratigraphic position indicated that the cienega was extant at the end of the Pleistocene and the start of the Holocene geological epochs, from 13,000 to 8,000 BP (Before Present).

As an OAS employee in the summer of 2008, I returned to the site with Patrice Walker of the Escondida Research Group, Vance Holliday and Bill Rietze from the University of Arizona and Bruce Huckell from the University of New Mexico. We retrieved four dateable samples from the buried

cienega deposit and documented a possible bison bone fragment extending from the deposit. By the spring of 2009 we had received dating results which confirmed that the cienega existed between the Late Paleoindian period and the Clovis (Early Paleoindian) period (ca. 13,325-12,975 BP), and that the bone fell squarely into the Late Paleoindian period.

In June 2009, P. Walker, V. Holliday, B. Rietze, Anna Martin from the University of Arizona and I completed a full week of testing at the Water Canyon Site. We succeeded in fully mapping and field analyzing the surface artifact distribution of the site, which covered an area six times larger than the original site. We excavated test units in the cienega deposit, recovering additional dateable samples and several bones and pieces of tooth enamel that support our previous bison identification.



Using a Giddings soil coring rig, we further characterized the buried cienega deposit as fairly extensive and intact. We also discovered fragments of a probable Eden projectile point and a Clovis point (left).

The site currently represents only the third intact Clovis site known in New Mexico. Given the results of our testing efforts, the potential for the site to provide high resolution, paleo-environmental, chronometric, faunal and cultural data for both the Early and Late Paleoindian periods seems immense. Pending the acquisition of sufficient funding, plans are now afoot to return to the site and continue research efforts sometime in the fall of 2009 and/or the summer of 2010.

*Robert Dello-Russo, PhD
OAS Deputy Director*

From the Field and Lab

Carrizozo/NM 54 Testing & Data Recovery

Initial testing field work is underway along NM Highway 54, south of Carrizozo, NM. The testing phase, directed by Yvonne Oakes with assistance of Dorothy Zamora and Don Tatum, includes the mapping and excavation of test units and backhoe trenches along a narrow highway right of way at four sites. These sites, located just north of the well known

Three Rivers petroglyphs, include the historic Oscura railroad siding and several artifact scatters thought to represent the remains of Puebloan period occupations.

Tres Piedras/US 285 Testing & Data Recovery

Chuck Hannaford and Matt Barbour are currently directing testing and data recovery work on five small archaeological sites along US 285 between Ojo Caliente and Tres Piedras, NM. The sites, all open artifact scatters, are thought to represent the remains of short term activities, such as piñon nut gathering. We believe that these sites may have been utilized during the Early, Middle and Late Archaic periods, as well as during later Pueblo and Historic times. The field work phase of the project is scheduled to take about five weeks.

Robert Dello-Russo, PhD
OAS Deputy Director

Upcoming Publications

The OAS Production Department, with Rob Turner at the helm, has been diligently working to publish several long awaited project volumes. Included among its recent accomplishments are **“High Rolls Cave: Archaic Subsistence in Southern New Mexico,”** by Steven Lentz, **“Living on the Northern Rio Grande Frontier: Data Recovery at Eleven Classic Period Pueblo Sites and an Early Twentieth-Century Spanish Site in the Ojo Caliente Valley,”** by James Moore and the **“Historic Artifact Handbook,”** by Grochowski et al. Soon to be released are final reports for the Seven Rivers data recovery by Regge Wiseman, the Twin Lakes data recovery by Steven Lakatos, the Lobo Canyon testing by Chuck Hannaford, the Peña Blanca data recovery by Steven Post and Richard Chapman, Volume I of the US 285 Santa Fe – Pojoaque data recovery by Jeff Boyer, James Moore and Steven Lakatos and the NM 599/SF West By-Pass data recovery by Steven Post.

Education Outreach

WOW. As part of the celebration of the 100th anniversary of the Museum of New Mexico, OAS challenged itself to complete two Herculean level “labors” during Fiscal Year 2009: to deliver at least 100 archaeological talks and activities and to present

at least one of these education outreach activities in every New Mexico county. I am proud to announce that we accomplished both “labors.”

First, we delivered 104 education outreach activities to a grand audience of 14,425 New Mexicans, including 9,014 adults and 5,411 children. Secondly, we achieved our goal of delivering at least one program in all of New Mexico’s 33 counties. Our efforts resulted in the best year ever for the OAS Education Outreach Programs’ 18 years of existence. Many, many archaeological seeds were sown across New Mexico, and I like to think that Edgar Hewett, the Museum’s educator/archaeologist founder, would be proud.

Chuck Hannaford
OAS Education Outreach Coordinator

Our Annual Holiday Party FOA’s 2009 Annual Holiday Party and Silent Auction on November 15th!

This year’s party promises to be one you won’t want to miss! Five fascinating OAS projects, presented in interactive fashion, will offer you the opportunity to learn first hand from OAS archaeologists about their current research and field work. A special bonus for the party will be a presentation that highlights and honors the work of our many volunteers who have donated their valuable time and experience through the years.

The first project presentation will be the Drury Hotel Excavation at the old St. Vincent Hospital site in downtown Santa Fe. Until 2007 the OAS was housed in the La Villa Rivera Building, formerly St. Vincent Hospital, which was the last in a series of structures built by the Sisters of Charity to the northeast of St. Francis Cathedral. Arriving in Santa Fe in 1865, the Sisters of Charity purchased Bishop Lamy’s rectory and transformed it into a combination hospital, orphanage, convent and school. Through the years several related buildings were constructed on the property. Testing detected the foundations of several of these buildings, which included both cobble and dressed limestone. In addition, a seventeenth-century midden, underlain by a cobble pavement thought to represent the former location of a stable or paddock, was encountered.

Data recovery from the Drury Hotel site, tentatively scheduled to begin this fall, may offer a

limited number of volunteers the opportunity to participate. If you are interested, please contact either Jim Moore at (505) 827- 6387 or Susan Moga at (505) 982-1375.

The second OAS project featured will be the Water Canyon Paleoindian mapping and testing led by Dr. Robert Dello-Russo, discussed above. This site holds immense scientific research potential, and efforts to secure research funding are underway.

The third exhibit will feature construction plans for the Center for New Mexico Archaeology and initial archaeological work done at the site.

The fourth display will represent field efforts of both OAS staff and FOA volunteers at the Caja del Rio Paleoindian site (LA112527), including the resultant topographic and artifact distribution maps and in-field artifact analysis. OAS anticipates that additional field work will be completed in September, 2009. Results of testing should inform us about the nature and integrity of subsurface deposits, the age of those deposits and the presence or absence of buried cultural materials.

Finally, our Education Outreach Program will be showing presentations that tour the state. If you have ever wanted to know how archaeology is used to learn about ancient indigenous cultures, the Spanish Entrada, historic mines, American homesteaders and others who came before us, then come and find out!

Along with the party, we will also hold a small silent auction to help raise funds for these ongoing and new research projects. We are looking for marketable, irresistible auction items including folk art, sculpture, jewelry and framed art that will entice party attendees to bid. Do you have a special skill or a business with services to donate? If so, we'd love to auction them.

Please take items for the auction to Barbara Ventrello at the Museum of New Mexico Foundation Office, 116 Lincoln Ave., (505) 982-6366, ext. 112, or call Ann Noble at (505) 471-2351 or (505) 660-1593 for pickup.

Mark your calendar now for Sunday, November 15, 3 to 6 PM at the Hotel Santa Fe, located at the corner of Cerrillos Road and Paseo de Peralta. The event, which costs \$20.00, includes one beverage and a light, tasty buffet. Invitations and more information will be mailed in late September. And please bring your friends!

*Anne Noble
OAS Graphics*

Join the Friends of Archaeology

Membership is free for Museum of New Mexico Foundation members. Dial 505-982-6366, ext.106.

Volunteer Appreciation!

Calling all OAS and FOA volunteers, past and present!

Whether you have assisted with surveys or excavations in the field, washed artifacts, reassembled pot sherds, prepared artifacts for curation, helped with analysis, organized trips or served on the FOA board of directors, OAS archaeologists are extremely appreciative of your individual efforts. As an acknowledgement of the years of commitment and thousands of hours that you, the Friends of Archaeology, have donated in support of the Office of Archaeological Studies, the staff of OAS wishes to pay special tribute to our loyal volunteers at this year's annual winter holiday event on Sunday, November 15, at the Hotel Santa Fe. Your contributions of time, expertise and energy will be honored in a surprise way that summarizes your work.

Amidst the hubbub that accompanies cultural resource management, however, our volunteer records are spotty. So that we may provide accurate information and prevent an inadvertent omission, we're asking that each of you send us your name, years of service, project(s), specific tasks, and one photo representing your work. Following is an example:

Name: Dave Brewer

Years of Service: 2008-09

Project(s): Arrow construction for NM History Museum Pueblo Revolt exhibit

Task(s): Construction of arrows, providing site for project

Project: FOA Board of Directors, May 2009 to present

Please use the example cited above as a format to send your information and .jpg photo to new FOA board member Missy Head, jhead@prevco.com, noting "FOA Publication" in the subject line. You may also send your information and photo print via the U.S. Postal Service to John Head, 11 Plaza La Prensa, Suite 1, Santa Fe, NM, 87507. Photos, labeled

on the back with your name, date and location for the photo, and project, will become part of the OAS archives. If you have questions, you may leave a message on the FOA Reservation Hotline, (505) 982-7799, ext. 5. A volunteer will return your call to assist you. The deadline for submitting your information is Saturday, October 10, 2009.

If you know of someone who no longer participates in FOA but whose work should be acknowledged, please submit his/her data as well as your own. The sooner, the better!

Penny Gómez
FOA Chair

OAS Brown Bag Talks

We're fortunate that the New Mexico Film Museum will continue to sponsor the OAS Brown Bag lunch time talks this summer and fall at its theater located at 418 Montezuma. Doors open at 11:45 AM, and talks start at 12:00 PM. Mark these dates on your calendar, and we'll see you then.

August 25. Robert Dello-Russo, PhD. "The Caja del Rio Site and Late Paleoindians in Northern New Mexico." Recent archaeological research in northern New Mexico points to a significant presence of Late Paleoindian groups in the valleys of the Rio Grande and the Rio Chama. Using X-ray fluorescence technology, probable routes of movement, scales of mobility and tool stone sources at that time are examined for Late Paleoindian groups in the region. The results of recent test excavations at the Caja del Rio Site near Santa Fe are also evaluated in terms of potential for intact, Late Paleoindian deposits.

September 29. James L. Moore, OAS Project Director. "Finding the Center Place: Indigenous Development, Population Movement, and Migration into the Northern Rio Grande." A hotly debated issue in Southwestern archaeology has long been the fate of the Pueblo inhabitants of the Mesa Verde region as they abandoned their homes near the end of the thirteenth century, never to return. Many archaeologists believe that most of these people moved directly to the Northern Rio Grande, becoming ancestral to many of the modern pueblo villages. However, other archaeologists believe that the picture is not quite as clear. This talk will reexamine this issue from a Northern Rio Grande perspective to suggest that the process of migration from the Mesa Verde

region to the Northern Rio Grande is neither clear cut nor certain, and it will offer a different perspective on this phenomenon.

October 27. Mollie S. Toll, OAS Archaeobotany Lab Director. "Evolution of a Cuisine Con Ganas." New Mexico's distinctive and enthusiastic cuisine is a reflection of botanical and cultural immigrations and adoptions over many centuries. Archaeobotanical recoveries from recent excavations in downtown Santa Fe and surrounding communities contribute some revealing insights.

Stephen Post
OAS Deputy Director

From the Board

New Chair

The time has come for me to pass the FOA chairmanship to the next generation of leaders. Our new chairman will be Penny Gómez, a go-getter who has recently been our membership coordinator and newsletter copy editor. Penny, who worked as an educator for the Museum of International Folk Art and the Palace of the Governors, also wrote visitor information material for Coronado and Jemez State Monuments.

The rest of the slate of officers remains unchanged: Joyce Blalock, vice-chair; John Karon, treasurer; and Tim Maxwell, secretary. Paula Dransfield, who has been knocking herself out, organizing the September Chaco Canyon trip and the southern/central Arizona trip planned for next spring, is also the new coordinator for both membership and the FOA Reservation Hotline. I will continue to chair the activities committee (see article below).

W. Richard Schmeal
FOA Activities Committee Chair

FOA/SAR Symposium

Beneath the City Different: The Archaeology of Santa Fe

As the Museum of New Mexico celebrates its 100th anniversary, the two institutions founded by Edgar L. Hewett are organizing a look at what is currently known about Santa Fe's past. The Friends of Archaeology, representing the Museum of New

Mexico, and the School for Advanced Research are bringing together archaeologists who have spent many years studying the archaeology of the city for a public symposium.

Through recent archaeological excavations in the downtown area these researchers have given us new information about a recently discovered past—a past not yet covered in history books. Seven archaeologists will give presentations on different periods of Santa Fe's history, from ancient to modern times, during an afternoon series of talks titled "Beneath the City Different: The Archaeology of Santa Fe." The speakers will begin with a look at Santa Fe's first seasonal residents, nomadic hunters and gatherers who came to pick wild plants and piñon nuts. Then they will talk about the later Pueblo people who built several large villages and survived by farming. The severity and luxury of Spanish Colonial life will also be discussed, as well as the economic and social changes brought by the Santa Fe Trail. Finally, the archaeologists will examine the agricultural and later industrial use of the recently developed Santa Fe Railyard area.

Many recent archaeological studies in Santa Fe are a result of Santa Fe's archaeological protection ordinance, passed in 1987 and co-authored by former OAS director Tim Maxwell. Passage of the ordinance has led to many new interpretations of Santa Fe's past as more discoveries are made. The largest archaeological projects, such as those at the Palace of the Governors, the Santa Fe Convention Center and the Santa Fe Railyard, were required by state historic preservation laws. One goal of the presentation is to illustrate how these laws have enhanced our knowledge of the past.

Stephen S. Post, deputy director of the Office of Archaeological Studies, who has worked in archaeology for more than thirty years, has focused in the last fifteen years on the Santa Fe and Northern Rio Grande region. His talk is titled "6,500 Years of Living Light on the Landscape: Archaic Hunter-Gatherers and the Dawn of Agriculture in the Santa Fe Area."

Cherie Scheick, program director and owner of Southwest Archaeological Consultants and president of the not for profit Rio Grande Foundation for Communities and Cultural Landscapes, will speak on "The City Different: Variety and Change in the Twelfth and Thirteenth Centuries."

Former SAR president Douglas W. Schwartz, who was an excavator of Arroyo Hondo Pueblo, will discuss the development and nature of Arroyo Hondo

Pueblo and how a reexamination of work there has shed new light on Pueblo culture history before and after its settlement.

Jason Shapiro teaches a variety of anthropology and archaeology courses. For the past six years he has been a member, and currently is chair, of the Archaeological Review Committee for the City of Santa Fe. His talk is titled "Chain of Cultural Custody: The Identifiers, Promoters and Keepers of Santa Fe Archaeology."

Cordelia Thomas Snow, of the state Historic Preservation Division, is a historic sites archaeologist and historian. She will cover what's been found, what's been learned and what has yet to be excavated in her talk, "The Archaeology of Early Colonial Santa Fe."

As an independent contract archaeologist, Ron Winters has worked on numerous conservation and reburial projects for the National Park Service, delving into the history of Santa Fe and developing a better understanding of his topic, the Santa Fe Trail.

Jessica Badner, with the Office of Archaeological Studies, will present information on archaeological excavations at the Santa Fe Railyard that exposed foundations to railroad infrastructure built by the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railway in the early 1880s.

Beneath the City Different: The Archaeology of Santa Fe

Saturday, November 7, 2009, 1 – 5 PM. *Please note that the date has changed from Nov. 14.*

The New Mexico History Museum
\$10 admission (partially underwritten by the Old Santa Fe Association)

To purchase advance tickets, please call (505) 954-7200 or mail payment to:

Beneath the City Different
School for Advanced Research
P.O. Box 2188
Santa Fe, NM 87504

FOA Grants

Dendrochronology

Archaeology has developed a wonderful array of techniques with which to date objects and structures,

but there is still none that rivals tree ring dating or dendrochronology. Although people of scientific bent had long known that trees registered their ages with annual rings, it was the Arizona astronomer A.E. Douglass who pushed that principle to its current state of enormous relevance to archaeology, especially in the Southwest.

The program started by Douglass in the 1920s and aided by excavations by Judd and Hawley in Chaco Canyon, Morris in many areas, and other workers, now resides beneath the west stands of the University of Arizona football stadium. This facility, having assembled the samples from discontinued programs, contains all of the “dendro” samples collected in the Southwest. It is to the stadium that we send our precious samples for processing. The University has a number of courses based on the expertise of its staff in the fields of both dendrochronology and dendroclimatology, the science of reconstructing past climates from tree ring records. Between semesters the department offers two three-week classes, one in each subject. With the generous assistance of an FOA grant, I attended this year’s dendroarchaeology class.

The first week of class included lectures on the background, principles and findings of the science and labs that introduced students to the mechanics of studying and recording ring patterns. The second week we traveled to the BLM portion of El Malpais south of Grants. There we collected both cores and sections from one of the abandoned homesteads in the area and from a Navajo sweat lodge. After El Malpais we moved to the Forest Service sheep testing station at Wingate, where we sampled some “culturally modified” trees from which the cambium had been collected either for emergency food or for medicinal purposes. The final week, back in Tucson, we processed and analyzed the homestead samples we collected, learning the vicissitudes and intricacies inherent in actually dating samples.

The opportunity to work with and learn from the eminent faculty of the Laboratory of Tree Ring Research, especially Jeffrey Dean and Ron Towner, was an enviable, enjoyable and highly educational experience. I hope that my deeper understanding of the process — its limitations, potentials and intricacies — will be of use to my colleagues as well as myself. Many thanks for the support!

*Wolky Toll, PhD
OAS Archaeologist*

Zia Pottery Poster

The FOA grant for which I applied involved the production of a poster presentation documenting the results of the reanalysis of ceramics recovered from a trench excavation at Zia Pueblo conducted by Florence Hawley Ellis during the early 1960s. The poster is complete and will be presented during this year’s Pecos Conference and the NMAC Rio Grande conference. Thanks to the hard work and good spatial sense of George and Carol Price, the poster, in my opinion, looks pretty darn good. Within the information presented is evidence for the very long occupation of Zia Pueblo and the nature of the development and differentiation of the distinct pottery still made at Zia Pueblo. This will be the first of several presentations concerned with the origin and development of pottery at various Rio Grande Pueblos. Digital copies of various presentations will be included in the OAS ceramic web page and may ultimately form the basis for a single document.

*Dean Wilson
OAS Ceramics Lab Director*

Wanted! Trip Planners Planned Events & Lectures

The Friends of Archaeology events you enjoy are the product of a group effort.

Our planning teams, members of the FOA activities committee, are comprised of OAS archaeologists, FOA board members and FOA members who are interested in helping us choose, design and/or execute our events. For our trips we strive to provide added value to participants by designing itineraries inclusive of sites that are not generally accessible to the public. We staff trips with expert OAS archaeologists or outside experts. Each trip is planned 6-15 months in advance to allow time to plan it and to arrange publicity via this newsletter and other media. Rather than employ travel agents, we manage trips with FOA volunteer coordinators.

Friends of Archaeology trips create revenue to support the research and education programs of the Office of Archaeological Studies. A tax deductible contribution to OAS programs, included in the cost of multi-day trips, benefits both OAS staff and the public by providing much needed research and education

outreach funding (see “Education Outreach” article). During Fiscal Year 2009 FOA trips supported research for the Galisteo Basin Initiative, rock art recording, an early ceramics conference, the Caja del Rio project and tree ring sampling of early Hispanic villages of the upper Pecos River. Small grants have also been given to OAS staff for continuing education and research presentations. Trip fees also pay for professional archaeologists’ time, which would otherwise be uncompensated.

Listed below is a draft of FOA’s 2010 events schedule. The activities committee met in March of this year to develop a list of candidate events and a strategy. After pondering the possibilities, we met again in July to create the following plan.

Winter Lecture series - “Conflicts of Great Southwestern Cultures”

Multi-day or Long Weekend Field Trips:

- The Hohokam of Southern Arizona
- Ceramics of the Mimbres of Southern New Mexico
- El Morro and Zuni Pueblo Region: Traces of Coronado

Overnight Trips:

- The Gallina Site: Warfare and Abandonment of the Colorado Plateau
- The Trinity Site and the Story of Nuclear Conflict

Day Trip from Santa Fe and Albuquerque

- Fort Union, Behind the Scenes

We can provide only as many interesting trips as there are capable and enthusiastic volunteer coordinators willing to manage them. We are fortunate to have a team of experienced FOA coordinators already, but we need your help. Quite frankly, we are somewhat thinly stretched. The current trip planners are more than willing to provide guidance, such as how to derive the cost and price of a trip, where to obtain funds for making reservations, whether or not to hire a bus, and help with making the appropriate contacts.

Working with a partner as a co-coordinator is also a possibility. You will receive help from the archaeologist leading the trip. Coordinating a trip is a great way to learn more about archaeology, and we encourage anyone interested to contact Paula

Dransfield at (505) 438-9461 or psdrans@cybermesa.com.

W. Richard Schmeal, FOA Activities Committee and Paula Dransfield, FOA Membership Committee

Upcoming Trips

Downtown Chaco

The Last Big Trip of ‘09

September 25-27, 2009

In 1902 Edgar Lee Hewett made his first visit to Chaco Canyon. Hewett, after experiencing the majestic ruins, knew they had to be saved. With his urging, the Federal Antiquities Act of 1906, which led to the creation of national parks and the preservation of Chaco, was enacted.

Now is your chance to experience the mystery, history and beauty of Chaco Canyon in a three day, two night camping trip. Feel the magic of the canyon and its people as the sun turns the sandstone cliffs orange and pink, and dusk turns to dark. One can imagine the ceremonies, the tinkling of copper bells and the headdresses made of brilliant macaw feathers brought north from the tropics of Mexico. Pottery, turquoise, shells, bells, macaws and food were all brought into downtown Chaco from distant and diverse locations. How was this bounty distributed? Where was it stored? Pueblo Alto, perched high above the canyon, was a nexus of roads, raising more questions. How were the roads connected to commerce, to ceremony, to communication, to politics?

Wolky Toll, OAS archaeologist who worked with the NPS Chaco Project on Pueblo Alto, leads this magical tour that includes visits to canyon pueblos and the great kiva Casa Rinconada. An ascent to Pueblo Alto on Saturday and a 7-mile roundtrip hike to the great house Peñasco Blanco on Sunday, which will go past petroglyph panels and the super nova pictograph, will require moderate to strenuous hiking. For details of this wonderful trip, please see the May, 2009 newsletter or log on to the Museum of New Mexico Foundation site at <http://www.museumfoundation.org/foa.html>. You may call the FOA Reservation Hotline, (505) 992-2715, ext. 8, beginning August 1, to sign up.

*Paula Dransfield
FOA Trip Coordinator*

Stories & Constellations

Echoes of the Night Sky

September 11, 2009

Do you know the story of Coyote and the night sky? Do you know the constellations' Native American names and interpretations? Do you love story telling?

If so, please join in the Friends of Archaeology fundraiser at the Santa Fe Community College (SFCC), where Stephen Fadden will tell wonderful stories of Native American lore, including how the stars were configured and why. The night sky will be over your head in the dome of the planetarium, revealing the location of ancient constellations.

The presentation will be at the SFCC Planetarium at 7 PM on Friday, September 11. Each \$20 ticket includes a \$10 tax deductible contribution. Seating is limited, so make your reservation on or after August 1 by calling (505) 992-2715, ext. 8.

Paula Dransfield
FOA Membership Committee

Meet the Archaeologists

September 19, 2009, 4 to 7 PM

Do you wonder what the Friends of Archaeology actually do? Have you wanted to participate more fully in FOA activities but haven't been sure how to go about it? Have you thought that FOA trips were for a special group but not you? Most untrue! Do you have a friend who might like FOA's trips and other events?

To provide a comfortable, get acquainted venue whereby your questions may be answered, Dave and Sallie Brewer have graciously offered their beautiful home and grounds for our next Meet the Archaeologists dinner. FOA board members and other FOA volunteers will supply a sumptuous potluck dinner, complete with wine and beer.

The highlight of the occasion will be your opportunity to talk with archaeologists from the Office of Archeological Studies and learn about their projects. You'll also hear about current volunteer opportunities, like excavating a site or sorting through piles of rusty metal to find that one rare can type.

We invite all of you to join us on Saturday, September 19 from 4 to 7 PM and encourage you to make your reservations by calling the FOA Reservation Hotline, (505) 982-7799, ext. 5, now.

2009 Chiles & Sherds

In Retrospect

Fun Was Had by All.

This year's Chiles & Sherds took place at Los Luceros, a venue nicely reflective of OAS's recent flurry of historic archaeological projects centered in northern New Mexico. Los Luceros Ranch, a recent acquisition of the Division of Cultural Affairs, is spread out over 140 acres, including riverfront bosque, agricultural fields and orchards and a variety of buildings with considerable historic, architectural significance.

Artisans stationed at the Luceros ranch house focused largely on traditional Spanish Colonial arts (Miguel Chavez, furniture maker; Julia Gomez, colcha embroiderer; Theresa Montoya, retablo maker; Cleo Romero, tinsmith and reverse glass painter). Down at the River House, Camilla Trujillo provided a bridge between Pueblo pottery techniques and Spanish Colonial functional forms. San Juan potters Johnny Cruz and Marvin and Frances Martinez conducted a pottery firing. OAS staff provided several information booths. Colonial and Territorial period cuisine was illustrated by faunal and botany specialists Nancy Akins, Pam McBride and Mollie Toll. Ceramics were presented by Dean Wilson, and the Los Luceros historic artifacts, including a conquistador helmet, sword and cannon, by Matt Barbour and conservator Mark MacKenzie. Vecinos del Rio manned a display describing their efforts to preserve petroglyphs across the river from Los Luceros. Birders Bruce Panowski and Lyndi Hubbell were stationed in the bosque, pointing out ravens, mallard ducks and 16 other species. Dave Brewer and crew provided guests the opportunity to try their marksmanship with replica bows and arrows.

Two illustrated lectures presented research that helped bring Los Luceros alive. Lea Armstrong, Asst. Director of the Wheelwright Museum, shared biographical perspectives on Mary Cabot Wheelwright, proprietress of Los Luceros from 1923 to 1958, and her connections with the remarkable Maria Chabot. Beverley Spears, lead architect for the most recent architectural rescue of the Casa Grande, provided fascinating details explaining the difficulty of keeping this beautiful, unique building with massive adobe walls standing. The building as we see it today owes its shape and form to extensive additions done to the original, humble, 18th-century structure by

Maria Lucero and her husband Elias Clark, who added considerable horizontal dimensions as well as a second story between 1850 and 1853.

When Mary Cabot Wheelwright bought the house in 1923, it was crumbling into ruin, needing extensive and costly repairs. Eighty years later it was again literally and spectacularly falling down. Beverly explained that the three foot thick walls have no footings and sit on a gelatinous platform of waterlogged floodplain sediments that shift dramatically in moisture content over an annual cycle. Giant helicoils screwed into the ground to serve as wall foundations for two rebuilt corners, along with nylon straps of auto seatbelt material encircling the building at two levels to hold the walls together, keep the house in one piece.

Producing the lunch menu involved assembling faunal and botanical data from our own recent historic excavations and consulting with Archaeological Records Management Section (ARMS) Dedie Snow about archival records of how and when food items were brought into northern New Mexico and used. Working out the details at the Cowgirl with owner Barry Secular and Chief Chef Patrick was educational, delicious and rather hysterical.

Despite the high ratio of 70 volunteers to 200 paying guests, we managed to net \$7,800 for the day. We extend our most sincere thanks to the formidable array of volunteers, which included 27 OAS staff members, 8 FOA members and about 35 people from the museum system and the greater community. We need to remember that we would probably run things differently if our #1 goal was simply to raise money. We can be proud that Chiles & Sherds is developing a reputation for being a generous spirited educational outing that is part celebration, part company picnic, part circus, in a splendid setting with good food.

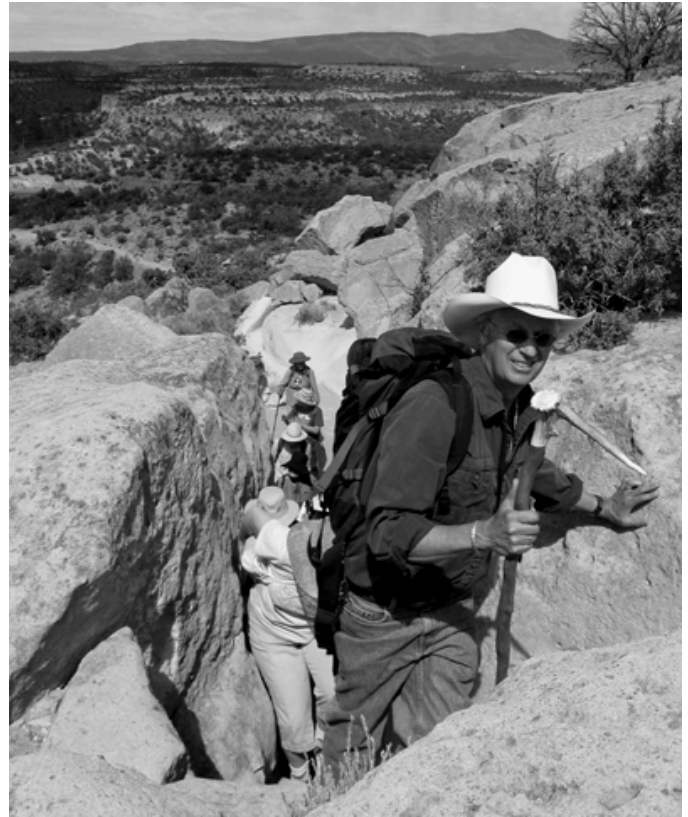
*Mollie S. Toll,
OAS Archaeobotany Lab Director*

Trip Report

Tsankawi

On June 13 ten hikers, led by archaeologist Chuck Hannaford and ceramicist Dean Wilson, toured the trails and settlement spaces of Tsankawi. This day trip was one of three envisioned by the Friends of Archaeology and the OAS for the summer of 2009 to commemorate the founding of the Museum of New Mexico 100 years earlier. Edgar Lee Hewett, an

ardent explorer and champion of the Pajarito Plateau area, of which Tsankawi forms a part, would go on to serve for 40 years as Museum Director from 1909 to 1949. This hike also echoed the anniversary of a 1909 National Geographic article describing the beautiful remote location, with its trails and cavates, man-made caves in the soft volcanic rock.



*Tour on the trail to Tsankawi with Chuck Hannaford.
Photo by Kathleen Yount*

Tsankawi (saikewikwaje onwikege) means “village between two canyons at the clump of sharp, round cacti” in Tewa, the language of the San Ildefonso Pueblo inhabitants whose ancestors lived here hundreds of years ago. Settlers had first come to the plateau during the “Coalition Period” in about 1150 A.D. and lived in small family structures of 1 to 20 rooms. By 1250 or so, there was a pueblo with a big plaza and by about 1325, big villages. The area was abandoned in the middle of the 16th century, about the time of first contact by the Spanish, with its residents moving towards Cochiti and San Ildefonso. Today Tsankawi is a detached part of Bandelier National Monument.

Archaeologist Hannaford noted three big influences on the area. First, years of volcanic eruption formed the beautiful, eerie landscape.

Secondly, the Ancestral Pueblo people, who lived there for 400 years, modified the land to their purposes: climbing, cultivating, building pueblos, cutting cavates and carving petroglyphs on public viewing surfaces. Finally, the coming of the scientists to Los Alamos saw further change happen. Hannaford remarked on the two vastly different experiences, the deer dance and the splitting of the atom!

We walked up trails cut deep into the volcanic rock by years of footprints, down ladders, in and out of cavates and through the settlement areas, where room block wall bases, water capture pond outlines and numerous pottery sherds were clearly visible. We tried to imagine that the Ancestral Pueblo people were still there to watch us.

A highlight of the day featured ceramicist Wilson on his knees among the plentiful pottery sherds, pointing out the differences between the biscuit and glazed wares and the likelihood of particular pieces of pottery being made locally or imported from other areas. He observed that some were finished with a temper made of anthill sand, actually bits of quartz "mined" by the ants.

*Catherine Hurst
FOA member*

Gerry's Corner



Office of Archaeological Studies

The Office of Archaeological Studies (OAS) was the first museum program of its kind in the United States. Its staff conducts international field and laboratory research, offers educational opportunities for school groups and civic organizations, and works to preserve, protect, and interpret New Mexico's prehistoric and historic sites.

If you want to know more about OAS, please see our **Weblink:** www.nmarchaeology.org

Friends of Archaeology

The Friends of Archaeology is a Support Group of the Museum of New Mexico Foundation for the Museum of New Mexico, Office of Archaeological Studies.

Mission Statement

The mission of the Friends of Archaeology is to support the Office of Archaeological Studies in the achievement of its archaeological services mandate from the state of New Mexico by participation in and funding of research and education.

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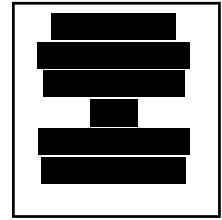
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2009-2010 Programs

- 2009**
- August 25** OAS Brown Bag Talk, “The Caja del Rio Site and Late Paleoindians in Northern New Mexico.” Robert Dello-Russo. See page 5.
- Sept 11** FOA Sponsored Talk, “Echoes of the Night Sky.” Santa Fe Community College Planetarium. See page 9.
- Sept 19** Meet the Archaeologists. See page 9.
- Sept 29** OAS Brown Bag Talk, “Finding the Center Place: Indigenous Development, Population Movement, and Migration into the Northern Rio Grande.” James L. Moore, OAS Project Director. See page 5 .
- Sept 25-27** Downtown Chaco Field Trip. See page 8.
- Oct 27** OAS Brown Bag Talk, “Evolution of a Cuisine Con Ganas.” Mollie S. Toll, OAS Archaeobotany Lab Director. See page 5.
- Nov 7** FOA/SAR Joint Symposium, “400 Year History of Santa Fe.” See pages 5-6 .
- Nov 15** FOA Holiday Party and Silent Auction. See pages 3-4.
- Nov 20** Santa Fe Found: Fragments in Time. A collaborative exhibit by OAS and New Mexico History Museum, Palace of the Governors. (Save the date!)
- 2010**
- Jan 15-Feb 12** Friday Winter Lecture Series, “Conflicts of Great Southwestern Cultures”