



UPAC NEWS

NEWSLETTER FOR THE UTAH PROFESSIONAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL COUNCIL

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Stan McDonald, President
Jerry D. Spangler, Editor

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FALL UPAC MEETINGS

The semiannual UPAC meeting will be held November 8 and 9 at the Division of State History offices, Rio Grande Depot, Salt Lake City. Sessions will begin at noon Friday and continue through Saturday morning. Social events are being planned. More detailed information will be provided in the October newsletter. Comments, concerns and suggestions should be directed to UPAC president Stan McDonald at 801-637-2817, or Nancy Coulam, vice-president of membership and ethics at 801-259-3911 ext-2134.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE:

It is truly an honor to serve you as UPAC president for the next two years. First, I'd like to thank the outgoing officers of UPAC -- President Bill Davis, Vice-President of Membership and Ethics Charmaine Thompson, Treasurer Nancy Shearin and Newsletter Editor Bill Fawcett -- for their outstanding service to UPAC in the past two years. On behalf of UPAC, I thank all of the candidates who accepted nominations for office and graciously offered to serve UPAC. I also offer my congratulations to Nancy Coulam, Kenny Wintch and Jerry Spangler on their election as UPAC officers.

I look forward to working with my fellow officers over the next two years as we serve you, the members of UPAC. UPAC can take great pride in its long record of accomplishments to promote professional archaeology, publish research results, foster dialogue on difficult issues, shape and affect the passage of legislation to protect Utah's archaeological heritage, and promote public education efforts. It is my goal to continue this tradition for UPAC.

In the coming months, I look forward to discussing with you my thoughts on how we can best continue this tradition of service, cultivate a healthy membership and promote effective communications within the Utah archaeological community. Please don't hesitate to contact me or any of your UPAC officers when you have concerns or issues that you'd like to discuss or have UPAC address.

Stan McDonald
Manti-LaSal National Forest

CONFERENCES AND SYMPOSIA

Society for American Archaeology: The 62nd annual meeting of the Society for American Archaeology will be held April 2-6, 1997, in Nashville, Tennessee. All submissions, both session and individual, must be made on appropriate forms and must reach SAA offices no later than Sept. 7, 1996. For more information, contact the SAA at 202-789-8200, or through email at meetings@saa.org.

"Sacred Images" Rock Art Symposium: Through a grant from the Utah Humanities Council, the Brigham Young University Department of Anthropology and the College of Family, Home and Social Sciences are sponsoring a rock art symposium Sept. 19 and 20 at the Museum of Art. The symposium will celebrate the Utah Centennial and the BYU Department of Anthropology's 50th anniversary. The symposium is also part of the rock art display "Sacred Images," a four-month exhibit at the museum. Scheduled participants include Sally Cole, Larry Loendorf, Mary Jane Young and Ray T. Matheny, among others. Symposium papers are being considered as Publication Number 4 of the newly instituted publications of the Museum of Art.

Archaic Conference: A conference on Archaic cultures of the Southwest is scheduled for Oct. 24 to 26 in Albuquerque, New Mexico. For more information, contact W.H. Wills, Department of Anthropology, University of New Mexico. To register, send your \$25 registration fee to Archaic Conference, New Mexico Archaeological Council, Box 1023, Albuquerque, New Mexico, 87103.

Great Basin Anthropological Conference: The biennial Great Basin Anthropological Conference will be held Oct. 10 to 12 at the North Tahoe Conference Center, 8318 N. Lake Boulevard, Kings Beach, California.

Governor's Conference: The Governor's Conference on History and Heritage will be held Sept. 19 to 21 at This Is The Place State Park (formerly Pioneer Trails State Park) in Salt Lake City. Call 533-3545 for more information.

COMMENTS PLEASE:

Pamela Miller of the Prehistoric Museum, College of Eastern Utah, is seeking comments from UPAC members on the proposed wording of a mission statement for the state certification program. Miller was selected by UPAC/USAS Certification Committee to develop a mission statement for the USAS Certification Program with the intent that it provide future direction for the program. Those interested in reviewing the mission statement should contact Miller at the CEU Prehistoric Museum, 801-637-5060.

EXTRANEOUS NEWS

ARPA: On March 12, 1996, Department of Interior special agents from Utah and Colorado conducted two simultaneous search warrants in Grand Junction, Colorado, resulting from an Archaeological Resources Protection Act investigation in the Dolores Triangle of east-central Utah. The case was initiated by a Colorado wildlife officer who contacted a BLM ranger about possible vandalism of an alcove. BLM special agents later stopped a pickup truck, which was seized under warrant. An investigation of the vandalized site revealed that the suspects had abandoned their digging tools and other personal items. Interviews with the suspects during the serving of the search warrants resulted in confessions by both suspects. For more information, contact BLM enforcement agent Marty Phillips at 539-4084.

KANE GULCH: Written comments are being accepted by the BLM concerning a proposal to replace the existing Kane Gulch Ranger Station (currently a small trailer house) with a permanent building designed to accommodate the 50,000 annual visitors to the Grand Gulch Primitive Area. "It is critically important for those interested in this project to realize that we're not proposing a new visitor center designed to promote use of the area. We are booked up at Grand Gulch and we know that," said San Juan Field Office Manager Kent Walter. "Rather, this proposal will enable us to eliminate the health and safety problems associated with the present outmoded facility, as well as help us deal more effectively with the information needs of existing customers who come to hike the backcountry." Additional improvements that are planned include the addition of 18 parking spaces and moving the entrance to the ranger station 120 feet to the south. To receive a copy of the Cedar Mesa/Grand Gulch Visitor Contact Station Environmental Assessment, write or call the BLM San Juan Field Office, P.O. Box 7, Monticello, Utah, 84535, 801-587-2141. The Grand Gulch Primitive Area remains among Utah's most heavily impacted archaeological districts.

IN THE NEWS: Vandalism of archaeological sites in the Southwest, and Utah in particular, was the subject of a recent in-depth feature by the New York Times News Service. The article focused on the ARPA indictments of Earl Shumway, and included perspectives by Utah BLM special agent Bart Fitzgerald, assistant U.S. Attorney Wayne Dance, Anasazi State Park Manager Larry Davis and Utah Geological Survey archaeologist David Madsen. The article had international distribution. Copies of the article are available by contacting the newsletter editor at 582-2900.

OBITUARY: Ric Thompson, 1921-1995

Dr. Richard A. (Ric) Thompson, passed away on June 27, 1995, at the age of 74. Ric, known to recent field school students as "Doc," introduced many of us to archaeology at field schools in southern Utah and northern Arizona beginning in the 1970's. A fixture in Utah archaeology for more than 30 years, Ric was a UPAC member since the inception of the organization. He served UPAC in several capacities, including UPAC President in 1983-1984.

Ric was a dedicated archaeologist, conducting research, curating archaeological collections and doing CRM work, and he poured his heart and soul into teaching, training, and encouraging students and colleagues. Through the field school, as well as teaching at Southern Utah University, he reached hundreds of students from Utah and around the nation. He believed strongly in providing educational opportunities to students of all backgrounds, and he provided scholarships to many Native American and other local students to attend field schools over the years. He has left a rich legacy through his dedication to teaching archaeology, particularly in the residential field school setting.

Ric invested a tremendous amount of his time, energy and personal funds into archaeology, and it was his dream to see SUU archaeology and the field school continue after his retirement. Although he was not able to see the formal academic year archaeology program continue after he retired in June 1986, he made sure that the field school continued. The Museum of Southern Utah also continues to exist as an archaeological repository with important federal, state and other collections curated there. Ric and his wife Georgia Beth set up an archaeology curation endowment at SUU in April 1986, and this fund continues to support curation of archaeological collections at the Museum. To contribute to the archaeology curation fund, contact the Development Office at SUU (801-586-7775).

Ric hoped, and many of us still hope, to see the academic year archaeology program return to SUU, an institution that has been associated with the teaching and training of many of us. In the meantime, Ric's legacy will live on during the 21st field school season, which will be taught on Little Creek Mesa in 1996 by Barb Walling.

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PUBLICATION OF LOCAL INTEREST:

Formal Process of the Archaeological Record, by Michael B. Schiffer, University of Utah Press, Salt Lake City. 428 pages. Publication date: July 1996. \$19.95

Publication synthesizes the most important principles of cultural and environmental formation processes, and is intended as both an introduction and a guide in method and theory, fieldwork and analysis. It is based on the premise that "the cultural past is knowable, but only when the nature of the evidence is thoroughly understood. It shows how one can make the past accessible in practice by identifying the variability introduced by the diverse processes of people and nature that form the archaeological record."

The Archaeology of Navajo Origins, edited by Ronald H. Towner, University of Utah Press, Salt Lake City. 322 pages. Publication date: July 1996. \$45.00

Publication is a collection of 12 articles that address a variety of topics related to the protohistoric and historic Navajo. Among the topics addressed are radiocarbon and tree-ring dates from early Navajo sites, new perspectives on the "pueblito phenomenon," Navajo lithics and ceramics technologies, ceremonial imagery and early Navajo occupations of the San Juan drainage, Chuska Mountains and Grand Canyon region.

BLUEGRASS:

Abajo Archaeology's Bill Davis and his Bluff compatriots have organized the seventh annual Bluff Acoustical Music Jubilee September 20 to 22 at the Sand Island Recreation Area three miles west of Bluff. Established camp sites are available with picnic tables, fire grills, toilets and trash barrels. There is no cost to attend, and all are invited to bring their musical instruments and participate. For more information, contact Bill Davis at 672-2272.

TRUST LANDS:

The Office of School Trust Lands Administration has moved to 675 E. 500 South, Suite 500, Salt Lake City, Utah 84102 (801-538-5100). Trust lands archaeologist Kenny Wintch can be called directly at 538-5168 (please do not send UPAC dues to this government address).

PEOPLE ON THE MOVE:

Dr. Patricia Lambert will join the Utah State University faculty as an assistant professor of anthropology. She comes to USU after working as a visiting research instructor at the University of North Carolina, Chapel Hill. She received her Ph.D. from the University of California at Santa Barbara in 1994. Her research interests including subsistence patterns, health and violent conflict in prehistoric societies. She brings technical skills in the analysis of human skeletal remains and zooarchaeology. In the spring of 1997, she will begin post-doctoral fellowship at the Smithsonian Institution.

Dr. Bill Fawcett has been promoted to assistant professor of anthropology at Utah State University, a tenure-track position. Fawcett has been working as a contract archaeologist at USU since 1991. He will now spend half of his time teaching and the other half pursuing contract archaeology as it relates to the anthropology/archaeology undergraduate program at USU.

Assistant state archaeologist Dave Schmitt has resigned his position with the State Historical Preservation Office effective July 26. Schmitt has moved to Texas where his wife, Karen Lupo, has accepted a teaching position at the University of North Texas in Denton. Lupo had been teaching special-topic anthropology courses at the University of Utah.

Barbara Blackshear has been hired by the Manti-LaSal National Forest as the district archaeologist for the Sanpete, Ferron and Price Ranger Districts. Blackshear just completed her MA at the University of Northern Arizona. She has been working as a seasonal archaeologist for the Manti-LaSal National Forest since 1993 under a cooperative employment-education program.

Major organizational changes have occurred at the Utah Department of Transportation. Don Southworth has left the agency for a position with Sagebrush Consultants (Ogden) where he will oversee the NEPA consulting part of the business. UDOT has subsequently hired three new archaeologists: Chris Lizotte, who recently completed his MA at the University of Northern Arizona, has been assigned to UDOT's Region 1 office (northern Utah); Ron Rood, a former adjunct professor and Forest Service archaeologist from southern Colorado, has been assigned to the Region 2 office (Salt Lake and Davis Counties); and Reed Soper, who recently completed his MA at Brigham Young University, has been assigned to the Region 3 office (Utah and Juab Counties, and the Uinta Basin). Susan Miller continues as the Region 4 archaeologist responsible for most of southern Utah.

UPAC RENEWALS:

UPAC membership rolls contain the names of more than 90 individuals whose membership has expired (in some cases many years ago). UPAC activities, which includes quarterly issues of UPAC News and the annual Utah Archaeology, are funded entirely from membership dues. In the past, those whose memberships have expired have continued to receive the UPAC News and notices of UPAC meetings and activities. In effect, members who have regularly paid their dues have subsidized those who have allowed their memberships to lapse. The current UPAC officers have decided to discontinue mailings to those who have made no attempt to maintain current membership. If you need to renew your membership, please send \$25 and updated address information to Kenny Wintch, 5280 S. 2150 West, Salt Lake City, Utah, 84118 (801-538-5168). Students and associate members can renew for \$12.50.

NINE MILE CANYON:

The Nine Mile Canyon Coalition has scheduled a "Centennial Homecoming" September 6 to 8 to raise funds for archaeological and historical preservation efforts there. Activities include a silent auction, tours a steak dinner, historical demonstrations and campfire discussions with former and current canyon residents. Several prominent Utah artists have donated items that will be auctioned. Planned developments in the canyon (located northeast of Price) include the construction of hiking trails, restrooms, interpretive signs and a picnic area. It is estimated that \$100,000 is needed to implement the management plan. Tickets for the Centennial Homecoming dinner are \$10 for adults and \$5 for children. For more information, contact the Nine Mile Canyon Coalition at P.O. Box 402, Price, Utah, 84501, or call the CEU Prehistoric Museum at 801-637-5060.

SPECIAL THANKS:

UPAC officers would like to thank several folks for the assistance with the spring meeting. The Office of Institutional Trust Lands authorized use of state lands for a camp site. Kenny Wintch secured state lands' approval for the campsite, put together maps and local accommodation information, and got essential facilities to the site. Bob Leonard hauled water to the site. Lee Kreutzer and Kenny Wintch hosted field tours to local sites. PIII Associations generously provided a large tent, which Dave Schmitt lugged down in his pickup and which we thankfully did not have to set up (the weather was clear). Dutch Oven Delight of Price provided us with two tasty meals of generous proportions. Thanks to all of you who made it happen. Stan McDonald

COMMENTARY, COMPLAINTS & LETTERS

Editor's Note: In an effort to generate discussion among UPAC members on pertinent issue affecting the archaeological community, the UPAC Newsletter will print all letters (30,000-word Unibomber manifestos will be edited). Letters, preferably on computer disk using Word Perfect 5.1, should be sent to UPAC editor Jerry D. Spangler, 6400 E. Emigration Canyon Road, Salt Lake City, Utah 84108. The deadline for the fall newsletter is Oct. 1, 1996.

----- Commentary, Bluegrass, Bar-B-Que, Beer and UPAC ...

UPAC members are dedicated to archaeology, the expression of which takes many forms and, in part, reflects the diverse constituencies comprising UPAC. The following opinion about two issues raised at the 1996 spring meeting serve as the basis for a suggestion that UPAC may be most useful as a medium of interaction for our diverse constituents.

A member proposed at the spring meeting that UPAC allocate perhaps \$500 (with additional amounts in the future) to the reward fund for the prosecution of ARPA violators. This would send the message that UPAC is serious about enforcement of antiquities laws. I think this is a bad idea, not because I am opposed to the antiquities laws, but because UPAC has more than one message to send. This proposal would bring our multiple messages into conflict.

UPAC works with avocational societies and while we oppose the destruction of cultural resources, the criminalization approach is only one expression of this concern. Not only may the appearance of a hard-line approach hold implications for our relationships with the public, but UPAC members themselves hold a variety of political views. Perhaps some UPAC members oppose an authoritarian, government-backed approach to some classes of crime. If there is concern with the excesses and misguided nature of the "war on drugs," for instance, then similar reservations might be held toward a "lock 'em up and throw away the key" approach to cultural resource crimes, despite one's love of archaeology.

UPAC's limited funds would be better spent on positive approaches -- such as per diems to operate a UPAC speakers bureau to create a greater incentive for our members to participate outside of UPAC. My point, however, is not to propose a specific program, but to suggest that we should not be spending what could amount to significant funds on a basically negative approach over which UPAC members may hold larger philosophical reservations, and which narrowly

expresses what we are about.

The second issue is about Native American relations. I raised this issue because in the past year, UPAC has formed a committee to take on this thorny task. If UPAC really wants to do this, we need more than a couple of dedicated UPAC members to form a committee. We would need a representative or two from each of at least six different parts of the state to regularly interact with local Native American groups in their respective areas. Their interaction would have to consciously represent UPAC, not just the individual archaeologists or agencies seeking an agreement with Native Americans to solve some problem of the moment. It was suggested that, should we want to be serious about this, UPAC should fund per diem, travel and perhaps an honorarium for the representatives as an incentive for regular, face-to-face contact on behalf of professional archaeologists. These members would then be responsible to UPAC to show their progress.

I did not raise this issue to advocate that we do more. Rather it is an issue that may benefit from a recognition that unless we are willing to put much more into this, any perception that UPAC has "Native American relations" will be illusory. I don't think the task is achievable with the human and financial resources available, and I do not write this as a challenge to try to stimulate action on this issue. My suggestion is for a more modest UPAC focused on something we need more of: face-to-face contact with each other.

UPAC members have diverse perspectives, even conflicts of interest, on issues in cultural resource management, the future of archaeology, archaeology education and the function of UPAC. They vary in their commitment to action, and in their social, religious and political backgrounds. Perhaps the best thing UPAC offers is something we have glimpsed over the years: the gathering of UPAC members in a non-threatening, primarily social gathering with little urgency that we "do" something. Upon doing so, a lot of bridges are built and people are better understood. Sure, arguments ensue, and there may even be a bit of yelling, but the differences are typically soothed, rather than heightened, by a context that might generically be referred to as "bluegrass, bar-b-que and beer."

I do not argue for dismantling UPAC. We do some valuable things with our dues, such as Utah Archaeology, and we have had some modest political success over the years. However, underneath it all, the diversity within UPAC has grown with the increasing complexity of the environmental, social, political and legal context in which we work. The potential for conflict of interest among people who otherwise have in common a "love of archaeology" has always been

