



UPAC NEWS

NEWSLETTER FOR THE UTAH PROFESSIONAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL COUNCIL

Kelly Beck, President

Kenny Wintch, Editor

Autumn 2008

President's Message

Kelly Beck

Greetings UPAC! It is an honor to have been elected as your President and is a responsibility that I do not take lightly. Utah is home to some of the most spectacular places with the most intriguing archaeological record and the most dedicated archaeological professionals around. I am proud to be associated with such a great group.

For the last few years, our organization has experienced considerable movement toward wider and more inclusive discussions of current and ongoing research. This is a good trend, and one that I plan to encourage. Participation in the UPAC Winter meetings, both in attendance and in the number of quality research presentations given, has been on the increase. Let's keep this up. Start thinking about the interesting projects you've been working on recently, and please consider sharing these thoughts during our upcoming meeting.

Finally, I must take this opportunity to appeal to all of us to better integrate local communities and the public in our projects. We work because of intense and continued interest by the public at large in our shared cultural experiences and the reflection of those experiences in the archaeological record. The public supports the preservation of the archaeological record and supports the conduct of archaeological research. But the public at large expects something in return. In 2007, Garfield County passed a county resolution that requires a County-issued permit prior to excavation at sites in the county. A primary impetus for this resolution is a perception that the county has been disenfranchised from their own cultural heritage by not being involved in the conduct of archaeological research. We as a discipline clearly need to do a better job of integrating local communities in our work.

Thanks again everyone for choosing me as your president. I am humbled by your confidence and I will work hard to further the goals of this great organization.

Election Results

The summer's ballots are in and Kelly Beck won as President, Andy Yentsch as VP for Membership/Ethics and Marty Thomas as Treasurer. David Yoder and Chris Watkins were affirmed as journal co-editors. Congratulations to all these new officers and thanks to all who assented to nomination.

Bylaws Changes Pass

Importantly, all of the proposed bylaws changes were affirmed as well. The specific changes proposed, along with the rationale for their being offered, were presented in detail in the last edition of the newsletter (which is now available online at UPAC's website). Below is a quick summary of the practical effect of the bylaws changes that were made:

1. UPAC's winter meeting will continue to consist of a business component and professional presentations (including posters). UPAC will continue to have its summer meeting in conjunction with the annual USAS summer convention, but UPAC will no longer try to have a business meeting at the convention. The VP for Gov't Affairs and Research will co-organize a research symposium (with the relevant USAS officer) to be held at the summer meeting/convention.
2. The Treasurer will now be officially responsible for distributing the journal, and the perpetually ignored requirement to have one's dues paid by April 1st of each year is deleted. A member's reception of the journal for a given year will be tied to whether he or she has paid his or her dues for that calendar year.
3. The membership assented to moving all voting from paper ballots to online voting. (Stay tuned for more details about this.)
4. The membership assented to the executive committee's proposal to make the Webmaster an official office of UPAC (note in box at right).
5. Finally, the membership agreed to make online availability (via UPAC's website) the primary distribution method for the *UPAC News*, and assented to changing the newsletter editor's term of office from one to two years (to match the terms of most of the other offices) with the ability for one person to serve no more than five terms.

Thanks to all who voted in this important election. The executive committee wishes to thank the membership for assenting to all of the proposed bylaws changes.

2009 Dues Payable Now!

Marty Thomas wishes to remind everyone that they can pre-pay their 2009 dues now – do it while it's fresh on your mind! Also, if you have any question about the status of previous year's dues, please inquire. UPAC is only as solvent as we keep it by paying our membership dues.

Personnel Changes in State Government

There have been some changes in archaeo personnel within state government. As the *UPAC News* reported last summer, Matt Seddon resigned as Deputy SHPO, returning to SWCA. Jim Dykmann came out of retirement to ably fill in during Matt's absence. A competitive search resulted in Lori Hunsaker's hire as the new Deputy SHPO for Archaeology. SHPO Wilson Martin has agreed to provide Lori with some help, allowing Jim to continue assisting Lori with case review. An additional case review position is reportedly also in the works. Congratulations to Lori, thanks and kudos to Jim, and a special note of gratitude goes out to Wilson Martin for making room in his budget for a somewhat expanded staff.

However, this caused a vacancy in Lori's former position as Archaeological Permit Analyst in the Public Lands Policy Coordination Office (PLPCO). Accordingly, PLPCO Coordinator John Harja undertook a brief search and hired Kelly Beck to fill that position. Kelly, as many of you already know, had been one of the archaeologists in the School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration's (SITLA's) cultural resource management program. One final note here regarding Kelly, as it is both relevant and salient: Kelly's article "Transport Distance and Debitage Assemblage Diversity: An Application of the Field Processing Model To Southern Utah Toolstone Procurement Sites" is being published in *American Antiquity* this month. Congrats and Kudos to Kelly!

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SUBMISSIONS

UPAC News welcomes all submissions by Utah archaeologists and others working in Utah in archaeology or related fields. Issues of relevance to UPAC News readers include ongoing research, education and preservation efforts, ARPA investigations, biographies, new hires, conferences and symposia, etc.

Join the UPAC Yahoo! Group!

All UPAC members and interested parties are invited to join the UPAC group available on Yahoo! This group requires a Yahoo! Account, which is free. Then visit <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/UPAC/> to join.

Postings to this site include UPAC business, announcements, and other bits of archaeological interest.

You can access the UPAC website, complete with UPAC contacts and membership application at:

<http://www.upaconline.org>.

Check out cool links, contents of past Utah Archaeology journals, UPAC News, and event updates!