



UPAC NEWS

NEWSLETTER FOR THE UTAH PROFESSIONAL ARCHAEOLOGICAL COUNCIL

James R. Allison, President

Kenny Wintch, Editor

Winter 2011

Message from the UPAC President

James R. Allison

I am excited by the opportunity I have to serve as president of UPAC. UPAC has been blessed with strong leadership in recent years, and I hope to be able to live up to the standards set by my predecessors in this position. This is an exciting time for Utah archaeology, full of both opportunities and challenges. One challenge is maintaining communication among the rapidly growing number of archaeologists working in the state; a few years ago I knew most of the archaeologists who worked in the state, but that is no longer true. Since many current UPAC members do not know me either, let me introduce myself.

I first became interested in archaeology in the early 1980s, when, on a whim, I took an archaeology class at San Jose State University. That course dealt primarily with the archaeology of California and the western Great Basin, and I was surprised to discover that the archaeology of relatively simple Native American societies fascinated me. The next semester I transferred to BYU thinking I would probably go into either Near Eastern or Mesoamerican archaeology, but I soon became involved in excavation projects at Nancy Patterson Village and Five-Finger Ridge. I have been involved in Utah archaeology ever since. I now have degrees in anthropology from BYU and Arizona State University, and since 2004 I have taught archaeology at BYU. Prior to taking the academic job I worked in cultural resource management for twelve years, first doing university-based contract work in Arizona, then working for a private contracting firm in Utah. Much of my academic research has been around the edges of Utah, focusing on the ancestral Puebloan farmers who lived in southern Utah and adjacent parts of Arizona, Colorado, and Nevada, but I have also excavated Archaic, Fremont, and Late Prehistoric sites in northern Utah and completed innumerable surveys in various parts of the Great Basin.

The UPAC bylaws list a number of goals concerning the archaeology of Utah. Among these are promoting communication within the archaeological community; providing advice to land management agencies; promoting public education; and encouraging the publication of archaeological research. These are all areas where UPAC, and individual UPAC members, can make a difference.

In Utah archaeology, we have had some notable successes in preserving archaeological sites and learning from them, but there are things we could do better. The land management agencies still struggle to fully and appropriately incorporate

cultural resources into their long-term planning; the routine of CRM too often leads to projects that don't increase archaeological knowledge as much as they should; all of us struggle to find the time and money to report our findings as thoroughly, and disseminate them as widely, as we should. These are persistent problems that won't be solved overnight, but there are ways we can improve the chances of good outcomes. One is to increase collaborations among academic archaeologists, archaeologists working for government agencies, and in the private sector. I have recently been involved (from the academic side) in several such collaborations, and in my experience, they have been productive in both promoting preservation and in allowing CRM projects to better realize their research potential.

Probably the most important, the most basic, thing that UPAC can do is to facilitate communication among the professional archaeologists working in Utah. As the professional community grows, it becomes increasingly difficult to know who is who, and who is doing what. But keeping track of the archaeology being done and the people doing it is essential if we want to do good work. All the other goals of UPAC depend on maximizing communication among the practitioners of archaeology in Utah (and beyond). So please come to the UPAC meetings to renew acquaintances, meet new people, tell others what you have been doing, and hear what else is going on.

2011 Winter Meeting

Please plan on attending and participating in the UPAC 2011 Winter Meeting on February 25-26, in Provo, Utah. President Allison has reserved a room in the stately old Provo Library at Academy Square, located on the east side of University Avenue between 500 and 600 North. Following the format established during the last five years, there will be research papers presented Friday and Saturday mornings, with the UPAC Business Meeting taking place Friday afternoon. The BYU Museum of Peoples and Cultures will host a reception for UPAC members and attendees Friday evening, beginning right after the business meeting ends. Please watch the UPAC Yahoo! list-serve for additional details as the meeting time nears. Please contact President Allison if you have an item you would like added to the business meeting agenda, and Vice President Jody Patterson if you would like to offer a paper at either Friday or Saturday's research presentations. This is UPAC's lone formal meeting each year, please come support UPAC and learn about what's going on in Utah archaeology.

Webmaster's Report

Rachel Quist

UPAC Joins Web 2.0

The UPAC website (www.upaconline.org) has been redesigned. New features include a news blog, a calendar section, and forums; all of which can be subscribed to via RSS feed.

As with the previous site, UPAC members can pay their membership dues online by credit card or paypal, find contact information about the UPAC Executive Committee, and find information about upcoming meetings.

In addition, UPAC now has a presence on some well-known social media sites such as Facebook and LinkedIn. Visit UPAC's webpage for links and more information.

Other News and Notes

Fowler Award

In 2009 the University of Utah Press announced the creation of a more-or-less annual prize for new book-length, single-author manuscripts in anthropology submitted for publication to that press. Importantly, the prize is named in honor of Don D. and Catherine S. Fowler, Professors Emeritus of Anthropology at the University of Nevada-Reno and renowned scholars of western North American anthropology (not to mention native Utahns and University of Utah graduates).

The first edition of the Fowler Prize was awarded to Phil R. Geib, long-time Southwestern and southern Utah researcher for his manuscript titled *Foragers and Farmers of the Northern Kayenta Region: Excavations along the Navajo Mountain Road* (scheduled for publication by the U. of U. Press for April 2011). The second edition of the Fowler Prize was awarded to Scott G. Ortman (Crow Canyon Archaeological Center) for his May 2010 doctoral dissertation titled *Genes, Language and Culture in Tewa Ethnogenesis, A.D. 1150-1400*. Congratulations to Phil and Scott for receiving the Fowler Prize, and thanks to Don and Kay Fowler for inspiring and mentoring generations of students and scholars.

2010 GBAC Held on the Wasatch Front

The 32nd Great Basin Anthropological Conference (GBAC) was held this last October (20-23rd) at the Davis Conference Center in Layton, Utah. Conference Chair Lori Hunsaker, with the help of a small but diligent cast of supporting characters, put on a great event. UPAC Fellow Joel Janetski, Professor Emeritus at Brigham Young University, is the 2010 recipient of the GBAC Founders Award. This award is presented to one or two individuals at each GBAC in recognition of a lifetime of achievement through either research and publications or distinguished service in Great Basin anthropology. Dr. Janetski is only the second recipient of the GBAC Founders Award; in 2008 it was presented to Catherine S. and Don D. Fowler at the Portland, Oregon meeting.

Utah Archaeology Week 2011

Assistant State Archaeologist and UPAC Curriculum Director Ron Rood has announced that Utah Archaeology Week will take place May 1st-7th, 2011. Importantly, the name of the event has returned to its roots (yes!). A number of great entries have been received for this year's poster. Poster and event sponsors are being welcomed. Be thinking about how you want to participate and support Utah Archaeology Week 2011!

2011 UPAC dues Are Now Due!!

Finally, please consider this plea to support *your* UPAC through payment of your annual dues. (You may also find some nifty items for purchase to show your support for UPAC in the "Swag Shop" at the UPAC website!) Please be sure to either pay your dues with Paypal on the UPAC website (www.upaconline.org) or send a check to UPAC Treasurer Andy Yentsch (or his designated representative at the upcoming Winter Meeting).

UPAC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President: Jim Allison (801) 422-3059 jallison@byu.edu

Vice-President, Membership/Ethics: Arie Leeflang (801) 533-3528 aleeflang@utah.gov

Vice-President, Government Affairs/Research: Jody Patterson (435) 259-5764 jpatterson@montarch.com

Secretary: Joel Boomgarden (801) 618-5062 joelb53@hotmail.com

Treasurer: Andy Yentsch (801) 520-2382 a.yentsch@yahoo.com

Newsletter Editor: Kenny Wintch (801) 209-5824 kennywintch@utah.gov

Utah Archaeology Editors: David Yoder and Chris Watkins davidtyoder@gmail.com and Watkins.chris@gmail.com (801) 721-6543

Curriculum Director: Ron Rood (801) 533-3564 rrood@utah.gov

Webmaster: Rachel Quist (435) 831-3587 rachel.quist@us.army.mil

SUBMISSIONS

The *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. Please contact the newsletter editor if you would like to submit something for inclusion in the next newsletter. The *UPAC News* is presented quarterly.