



THE UPAC NEWS

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Joel Janetski, President
Georgia Thompson, Editor

UPAC Meeting Set for July 18-19

UPAC summer meetings will be held at Anasazi State Park, Boulder, Utah on July 18 and 19.

Beginning at 1 p.m. on July 18, some sessions will be a joint meeting between UPAC members and members of the Utah State Archeological Survey.

The agenda will be as follows:

Thursday, July 18

1 to 4:30 p.m. -- Joint Session with UPAC/USAS at the Anasazi State Park Museum Grounds. Topics: Greetings and Research Report/discussion session

4:30 - 6:30 Dinner Hour

Camp ground at the ASP has some barbeque areas/picnic facilities. Stay here for dinner. UPAC will furnish soft drinks and moderately "hard" drinks.

6:30 - ? More Research Discussion/Relaxation

Friday, July 19

9 to noon -- Business Meeting.

Agenda not totally set, but issues related to rampant vandalism to be discussed. --others as raised.

Larry Davis, Curator, Anasazi State Park Museum, is the "physical facilities" host for this summer meeting. Larry shares the following information about camping in the Boulder area. There are no camping facilities directly in town or at the Museum.

Camping areas are as follows: Calf Creek Recre. Area (12 miles south of Boulder) (no fee) likely tapped water, some camping facilities. Oak Creek and Pleasant Creek (18-19 miles from Boulder with \$2.50 fee per day) tapped water, some camping aids. Deer Creek (no fee) but more primitive camp. Likely no tapped water. Fire wood at any site may be tentative. If there are other questions or needs, Larry can be reached from 8 a.m. - 7 p.m. at the Museum, 335-7308.

The summer meetings are more informal, there is time to get better acquainted and to share ideas; but it can also be a time to plan and prepare for addressing concerns of UPAC members.

Louthan, Thompson, Forsyth Elected UPAC Officers

Three new officers have been elected to serve UPAC beginning at the summer meeting.

Elected during the spring were: Bruce Louthan, Vice President for Research; Charmaine Thompson, Secretary and Don Forsyth, Editor.

Bruce is a BLM archeologist serving in the Moab District. He was appointed to the Vice President's position to fill a vacancy. Charmaine Thompson is a BYU graduate student, and Don Forsyth is a professor at BYU.

They will serve along with Joel Janetski, President; Lorraine Dobra, Treasurer, and Bill Davis, Vice President, Membership/Ethics.

President's Comment

Letter from the President

During the fall and winter of 1984-85 former governor Matheson, in response to a general hue and cry by outraged citizens and archaeologists, appointed a Task Force to consider the problem of the increasing vandalism of archaeological sites in the state. The Task Force, headed by Mel Smith of the Division of State History, and composed of archaeologists, museum people, federal attorneys and law enforcement persons as well as the public, composed a set of recommendations which they felt would help curb the destruction of our past. The recommendations were then submitted to our new Governor, Norman Bangertter. A summary of these recommendations were published in the February UPAC News. Despite numerous letters from our state amateur society members, UPAC members and others, there has, as yet, been no response to those recommendations. As we all know, the destruction of sites continues. Some important arrests and perhaps some convictions are being made, but the effort is not enough. More priority needs to be given this issue by state and federal agencies. I urge UPAC members and all archaeologists, amateur, professional, state, federal, private, university affiliated, to use their letter writing powers to keep the issue before those who make priority decisions. Governor Bangertter is a good first choice and check with Dave Madsen, Rich Fike and Jerry Wiley for direction on who to write to at the state, BLM and Forest Service levels.

Joel

Member Responds to Proposed Federal Permittee Qualifications

Dear UPAC NEWS:

A set of permittee qualifications being considered by the Bureau of Land Management and Forest Service appeared in the February, 1985 UPAC newsletter. Since the standards are under development, it seems appropriate for non-federal members of the archaeological community to respond. After many years of vagary, and by some peoples' judgement, capriciousness in the application of standards, the presentation of draft permittee qualifications is welcome. However, the proposed standards raise several issues.

Do the standards proposed for "permittees" apply to the hiring/promotion of agency archaeologists who do agency archaeology and/or review and judge the permittee? This is especially pertinent to agency positions such as BLM Resource Area and District archaeologists and to Forest Service, Forest archaeologists. If people in these positions perform duties on the level of "project director", for example, should they meet the same standards required of non-agency project directors and of people whose work they will be reviewing? This is an issue that may affect future hiring/promotion within agencies more than existing positions because most of those already in place can probably meet the criteria by virtue of having occupied the position long enough to have become "experienced". (cont. p. 3)

(Cont. from p. 2)

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The above issue is exacerbated by the perception of a double standard applied to agency vs. non-agency archaeologists. Everyone who does contract work has some realization of what various levels of agency archaeologists do. It is imperative for the health of the profession that the same standards being developed for permittees be applied to agency archaeologists as well. If the constraints of the present civil service system are an obstacle, then the permittee standards should be changed. The solution is simple, either adjust standards within the government, or adjust standards applied to everyone else. To have it any other way flies in the face of everyone's sense of honesty and fair play.

What can be done? Perhaps the most troubling part of the standards are the geographical/area criteria. While some kind of uniformly applied standard is desirable, the proposed standard is too narrow, makes it difficult to move between areas, and tends to further provincialize a discipline already well along the path of parochialization. Would it be possible to provide additional mechanisms for archaeologists to move between the rather narrowly defined geographical areas (interesting that these closely match BLM districts)? For example, if a crew chief who is not fully qualified for a certain area because they have only one month of experience in the area is to be in the field with a project director who is qualified, the crew chief should be judged differently than if they were to be in the field with a crew by themselves (Also, I assume that one month of field experience is not the same as occupying a federal position for one month with the majority of the month being spent pushing paper in the office).

Another area that should be emphasized is post-hoc evaluation of product quality, judged in terms of the written contract. If first-time, or experienced permittees do not perform to contract specifications, it is the work that is judged rather than the background of a specific personality. Many other professions work on the principle of performance and doing this in archaeology would lessen the degree to which agency archaeologists have to be policemen. This may make the oft-mentioned goal of "everyone working together" achievable. Of course, for such a system to work, it is imperative that the federal archaeologists making the judgements meet the standards they have devised for everyone else.

Finally, I feel this letter is necessary because I have repeatedly encountered an unwillingness on the part of a major federal figure to constructively discuss the standards problem, despite the fact that they were printed in the UPAC newsletter for the sake of communication between federal and non-federal archaeologists. If the problems cannot be solved within the professional community, I urge UPAC members to write to others in the BLM, the Department of Interior, and importantly, to our congressional delegation. COPA representatives should make the SAA and SOPA aware of the matter as well. As the situation stands now, the profession is suffering, the image of the federal government is suffering, and archaeology done through private enterprise, whether this be private business, or university archaeology, is being harmed.

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BLM Director States Collection Policy

With the issue of vandalism being so current and serious, Rich Fike, State BLM archeologist, shares the following memo circulated to all state BLM employees by state director Roland Robinson.

"As you should be aware, there has been a recent flurry of attention paid to vandalism of archeological sites in Utah, especially southeast Utah. Some of the publicity has been very negative. For example, there have been allegations that the Federal Government, BLM in particular, has not been protecting ancient Indian sites. Some of the claims have distorted the facts in order to show the Bureau in a bad light. Allegations of BLM Employees collecting and marketing in artifacts have been made as a part of these claims.

"BLM Utah is, in fact, doing everything it can to prevent unlawful digging of archeological sites. As a part of this effort, we need your help and that of the public.

"Federal law states that no individual will collect, destroy, deface, excavate, or otherwise disturb any object of antiquity or any historic or prehistoric property on public lands. State laws applying to state lands are equally stringent. The obvious exception to both being that duly-authorized professional cultural resource specialists may collect such properties when needed to meet scientific resource management responsibilities. Accordingly, it is the policy of the Bureau in Utah to take immediate disciplinary and/or criminal action, as appropriate, where it is demonstrated that the law has been violated by either employees of BLM, or the public at large.

"Further, we feel that collection of and/or trafficking in artifacts by Bureau employees, even from privately-owned lands, may be perceived by the general public to be unethical, and a conflict of interest. While they may not be unlawful, such activities can imply a sense of wrong-doing, at best, or a sense of poor judgment. In

today's arena of public and private concern regarding vandalism, destruction, and theft of artifacts, the Bureau is obligated to maintain a posture of like concern, and to vigorously implement management actions to perpetuate that posture. Bureau employees are under intense scrutiny regarding their personal activities, and are expected to conduct themselves in a manner that will withstand such scrutiny. BLMers are somewhat like policemen; in that personal conduct is expected to be "a cut above" the average man on the street because of their high profile in the area of public resource management. Accordingly, should situations involving employees collecting or trafficking in artifacts develop that adversely affect Bureau programs, management action will be taken to neutralize those situations.

"Specific laws and regulations pertaining to this policy are:

- Antiquities Act of 1906 (PL 59 - 209)
- Archeological Resources Protection Act (PL 96-95)
- Executive Order 11222
- BLM Employee Code of Conduct
- WO Instruction Memorandum # 79-709

"Discoveries of cultural resources should be reported to the appropriate Bureau Cultural Resource Specialist, as soon as possible after discovery so that trained archeologists can record and document the site. The allegations that have been made have criticized BLM Utah for not documenting significant sites, and for not even knowing of the existence of major sites. Cultural resources range from ancient Indian ruins to historic ghost towns, and from small scatters of arrowheads or stone tools to abandoned cross country wagon trails.

"We hope to do everything we can to preserve prehistoric and historic cultural resources important to the scientific community and to the public at large as well."

Rich suggests that UPAC members may want to also examine how they "measure up" on this issue.

Visit A Field School . . .

Summer field schools are being sponsored by Brigham Young U., Southern Utah State C., and Weber State C. this year.

BYU returns to the Nancy Patterson Village site in Montezuma Canyon. Under the direction of Joel Janetski, the field school starts June 24 and runs until Aug. 16. Winston Hurst, formerly co-director, has taken a curator position at the Edge of the Cedars Museum, but will still work with the project.

This year excavation plans include completion of the excavation of a Pueblo III household unit at the lower ruin, the excavation of a P II household unit and sampling the deep midden on the upper ruin.

There will be an active public program as over the past two years. This program consists of three, 2-week sessions and participants are coming from throughout the United States to work at the site. It is expected that the Job Service in Blanding will also provide some labor support for the project.

Visitors are welcome at the site. It is located about three miles north of Hatch Trading Post in Montezuma Canyon. Advance notice would be appreciated, however.

SUSC's eight week field school has been underway since June 10 and will end on August 3. It is located on Little Creek Mesa, about 15 miles out of Hurricane, Utah on the road to Fredonia, Arizona.

Ric Thompson, director, and Barbara Walling, assistant director, are cooperating for a second year and have returned to the same site of the 1984 field season. This site which appeared on the surface to be mainly late, is revealing greater longevity than initially supposed. Several features,

including a kiva, which were partially excavated last year, should be complete by the end of the season.

As an undergraduate field school, the enrollment includes about 12 students from several states in addition to Utah. The work week is Wednesday through Sunday, with Monday and Tuesday being the days off or the "weekend." Visitors are welcome and the road is in good shape. Passenger cars should have no difficulty reaching the site or encampment area.

At Weber State, Steve Sims will begin a summer field techniques program on July 8. The seven week course will include a week or orientation at WSC followed by six weeks of field work with three ten day sessions, separated by four day breaks.

Students will learn about map reading, map making, archeological photography, recording techniques, reconnaissance, excavation and preservation options. For details of location on the south slopes of the Abajo Mts. in southeast Utah, get in touch with Steve at Weber State.

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Summer Meeting July 18-19

Editor's Thanks . . .

As my time as UPAC News editor ends with this issue, I would like to say that as a whole it has been a fun experience and I have appreciated the interest and support of the membership. A special thanks goes, however, to all three UPAC Presidents, Rick Holmer, Ric Thompson, and Joel Janetski. Their efforts and interests and contact with members and others have generated the articles and ideas shared in the UPAC News.

---Georgia Thompson