



New Mexico Archaeology

The Newsletter of the Friends of Archaeology
November, 2009

From the Director

View from the New Center

The Center for New Mexico Archaeology is rising from the ground. Mike Sanchez of Lockwood Construction Company is supervising the process like an experienced orchestra conductor, managing tasks and subcontractors as individual construction stages are started and finished. By the time you read this, the sub-slab utilities will be in place, the floors will have been poured and finished, a substantial portion of the walls should be erected and preparations for raising the roof should be underway. We'll have a visual update at the Holiday Party.

I've been asked if I'm excited by the process, and I have to give myself a couple of seconds before I answer. Construction management itself is challenging, like trying to juggle too many balls at a time. Small inconsistencies are constantly coming to light that need to be addressed, some urgently, and unforeseen opportunities come up that need to be evaluated for feasibility. Maintaining clear communication on a project like this is the biggest challenge, and much of my energy is spent making sure discussions are completed and decisions are conveyed to the right people. The stress and time demands of the process are more than I had anticipated, so my initial response is more one of anxiety than excitement.

After a pause, I can separate myself from the crises and begin to savor the moment. I took a few minutes to walk over the site after the last construction meeting. I found the future location of the OAS director's office, and I looked up to the view across the Caja del Rio to Tetilla Peak. Down the hallway, Mollie Toll and the botanists will enjoy an enviable view of the Jemez Mountains, while the editors and graphic artists around the corner will take in an excellent view of the Sangre de Cristo Mountains and the turning aspen. Those few minutes weren't so much exciting as calming, with a sense that this is a very good thing, well worth the effort it requires.

Thanks to everyone, Legislature, Governor, DCA staff and Friends, for making this happen. And Happy Holidays for all!

Eric Blinman, Ph.D.
OAS Director

FOA Holiday Party

Sunday, November 15, 2009

The silent auction is back!

Help raise funds for the FOA to support ongoing and future OAS projects, and get a great deal while you're at it.



WPA Art by Mary Cheney

Some of our most unique and desirable items this year are a **1950's Hopi pot** from artist, Joy Navasi (Frog Woman), and **WPA art** by Mary Cheney and James Wilson Rayen. There will also be a return of replica pottery vessels by OAS director Eric Blinman, who, we think, has become skilled and prolific enough to start his own small gallery. As always, there will be wonderful books and jewelry and many more treasures to discover.

We are still looking for additional auction items, so if you would like to donate skills or irresistible items such as folk art, textiles, furniture, sculpture, jewelry or anything you think is great, please call Ann Noble at 471-2351 or 660-1593.

The evening will feature presentations by six OAS archaeologists. Deputy Director Dr. Robert Dello-Russo will talk about Water Canyon, one of only three Clovis era sites known in New Mexico. Dr. Dello-Russo will also talk about Caja del Rio site, a Paleoindian tool processing area near Santa Fe. Archaeologists Karen Wening and Guadalupe Martinez will discuss upcoming excavation at the old St. Vincent Hospital location on Palace Avenue. Jessica Badner will be showcasing the new Center for New Mexico Archaeology, now under construction, and the site discovered before construction. Archaeologists Chuck Hannaford and Mary Weahkee will show off the OAS education exhibit that travels with them throughout New Mexico to help educate people about the importance and wonders of our incredible past.

Sunday, November 15, 3:00 - 6:00 PM, Hotel Santa Fe, located on the corner of Paseo de Peralta and Cerrillos Road. Admission, \$20.00, includes one drink, a light buffet and no-host bar.

Ann Noble

OAS Report Production and FOA Party Coordinator

From the Field and Lab

Tres Piedras Testing

Between July 13 and September 25, 2009, testing and data recovery was performed by the Office of Archaeological Studies on five archaeological sites located along US 285 south of Tres Piedras on the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Carson National Forest (CNF). The sites represented a broad range of temporal and ethnic affiliations including mobile hunter and gatherer groups during the Middle and Late Archaic Periods (ca 1800 BC-AD 600), Jicarilla Apaches during the Mexican or American Territorial Periods (1821-1912) and Native/Hispanic/Anglo utilization of the CNF during the New Mexico Statehood Period (1912-present).

Research associated with flaked stone artifacts recovered and analyzed from the archaeological sites is currently ongoing and seeks to contribute to our understanding of hunter-gatherer organizational and

resource acquisition systems in northern New Mexico during both the prehistoric and historic periods. Lithic types commonly used include semi-exotic materials such as Polvadera obsidian and Pedernal chert from the Jemez Mountains and local materials such as fine-grained basalt and No Agua obsidian collected from the immediate area surrounding Tres Piedras.

Euroamerican artifact analysis has already been completed and provides a compelling picture of life west of the Rio Grande in the 1800 and 1900s. Among the most interesting of these artifacts is a soldered can perforated with an object similar in shape to a square nail. Ethnographic accounts discussed by Rogge et al. (1995), regarding construction of the Theodore Roosevelt Dam, suggest objects comparable to the perforated can were used by Apache laborers for brewing *tiswin*, better known as corn beer, in the early twentieth century. While this artifact cannot definitively be tied to this function, it is certainly an intriguing possibility.

Matthew Barbour

OAS Project Director

Research at Caja del Rio Site

Over the course of seven days in September, volunteers and OAS staff completed the archaeological testing program at the Caja del Rio Paleoindian site near Santa Fe, NM.

Volunteers included Joyce Krause, James Smart, Beth Parisi, Penny Gomez, Ann Beckett, Vince Spero and Julee Fleming. Dr. Steve Hall volunteered his soil science skills to help us collect several Optically Stimulated Luminescence (OSL) dating samples. Near the conclusion of our field work, we had a visit from Paul Williams, the Taos District BLM archaeologist.

Each day we carried equipment, paperwork, supplies and personal gear 200 feet up to the site over a narrow, rocky trail about one half mile long, which took 20-30 minutes to traverse from bottom to top.

We completed the in-field artifact analysis and mapping that we started last year, excavating six different test units and 19 hand auger test excavations to evaluate the depth of sediments across the service. It turns out that the sediments are relatively shallow, bottoming out about 20 to 25 cm at pumice thickly coated with calcium carbonate.

Artifact recovery in the test units was relatively high in the upper five centimeters, over 60 artifacts in some cases, and dropped off quickly in the deeper

levels. The artifacts consisted almost exclusively of small, sharpening flakes, but no larger tools. No subsurface cultural features were encountered and only one very tiny charcoal fragment was recovered.

We also mapped and photographed over a dozen surface features, including some possible hearths, some rock cairns, one or two possible hunting blinds and various rock alignments.

We successfully achieved our testing goals for the Caja del Rio site (mapping, in-field analysis, subsurface excavation, feature documentation, collection of dateable samples) and are awaiting the results of the OSL dating before coming to any conclusions about the remaining data potential at the site.

In all, OAS was the fortunate recipient of 216 volunteer hours for the Caja del Rio project, so I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the volunteers that participated. It would not have been a success without each of you.

Robert Dello-Russo, PhD
OAS Deputy Director

Brown Bag Talks

OAS Brown Bag lunch time talks will be suspended during the months of November and December in 2009. They will start anew in January 2010. Again we are fortunate that the New Mexico Film Museum will continue to sponsor the venue at its theater located at 418 Montezuma. Doors will open at 11:45 AM, and the talks will start at 12:00 PM. Mark these first 2010 dates on your calendar, and we will see you then.

January 26. Stephen Post. “Santa Fe Found: Fragments of Time.” A collaborative exhibit presented by NMHM/POG and OAS opens at the Palace of the Governors on November 20, 2009. The exhibit commemorates Santa Fe’s 400th anniversary. This talk will elaborate on the exhibit themes of the founding and settlement of Santa Fe from archaeological and historical perspectives. The underlying concepts behind and development of the exhibit will also be presented.

February 23. Robert Dello-Russo, PhD. “Recent Discoveries at the Water Canyon Paleoindian Site in Socorro County, New Mexico.” Several short field seasons of archaeological testing at

the Water Canyon Paleoindian site (LA134764) have given us a tantalizing picture of the site’s potential to inform us about Paleoindian groups in New Mexico and the ecological setting in which they lived. With intact Clovis and Cody Complex components, the site contains distinct artifact scatters, bison bones, a buried marsh deposit and a wealth of paleoclimatic proxy data. Dr. Dello-Russo will discuss the current research directions and place the Water Canyon site within the larger context of Paleoindian research in western North America.

FOA Funded Projects

Exhibition

Santa Fe Found: Fragments of Time

On Friday, November 20, the long awaited exhibit titled, “Santa Fe Found: Fragments of Time” will open at the Palace of the Governors. Co-curated by Joseph Diaz, Curator of Southwest Collections, New Mexico History Museum/Palace of the Governors and Stephen Post, Deputy Director, Office of Archaeological Studies, the exhibit combines archaeological data, artifacts and interpretation with historical maps, paintings, documents and objects in examining and honoring the 400th anniversary of Santa Fe’s founding.

Through archaeological and historical filters the exhibit briefly looks at the first Native American and Puebloan residents of northern New Mexico. Then it moves to the first colony settled by Don Juan de Oñate at San Juan de Bautista and San Gabriel del Yungue near present day Ohkay Owingeh in 1598. Twelve years later Don Juan de Peralta de Alogue is authorized to establish a *villa* at Santa Fe, where some years earlier a plaza settlement was established by a spin-off contingent from San Gabriel. Once in Santa Fe, the exhibit takes the visitor through the lifeways of and relationships between colonists and Native Americans in a colonial context. Moving up in time to and through the Pueblo Revolt, the exhibit ends in the 18th century.

Featured archaeological sites include the Palace and the New Mexico History Museum site and the Baca-Garvisu site, both excavated by the OAS, and the Sánchez Site, which was excavated by Colorado College in the 1980s and 1990s. Many objects have never been exhibited before, and many of the photographs used in the exhibit are pulled from their

archival resting places to introduce the modern viewer to the hard work of archaeologists of the past.

Funding for the Santa Fe Found exhibition and lecture series was made possible by the Friends of Archaeology and the Palace Guard, both support groups of the Museum of New Mexico Foundation, the Gala Opening Committee, the Santa Fe 400th Anniversary Committee, and the Museum of New Mexico Foundation. The opening is scheduled for 5 to 7 PM. So put this great event on your calendar and join in the excitement.

Stephen Post
OAS Deputy Director

Bockman Project Report

The Bockman research project is complete. The FOA funded analysis headed by Dr. Dello-Russo was undertaken in response to a donation to the Museum of New Mexico by Mr. Neal Bockman in 2007. The donated assemblage of flaked stone artifacts includes drills, scrapers, bifaces and projectile points, the latter of which provide evidence of prehistoric occupations ranging from the Clovis and Folsom Paleoindian Periods (ca. 12,000-10,000 years ago), through the Formative and possibly Proto-Historic Periods (ca. 500 years ago).

Artifacts were collected primarily by Mr. Bockman from the uplands of the Rio Chama Valley between Española and Ghost Ranch, NM. Mr. Bockman took pains to complete note cards for almost all of his donated collection and to place the location of each find on a 7.5 minute USGS topographic quadrangle map. Of the 336 actual objects in his donated collection, one consists of a cache of 7 obsidian bifaces, and a second, unnumbered, is a sub-assemblage of 11 projectile points.

The Bockman Collection contains a good sample (n = 23) of Paleoindian, Late Paleoindian and Early Archaic projectile points and point fragments. Since a large database of similar age points, collected from portions of northern New Mexico and the San Luis Valley of southern Colorado, had been analyzed recently by M. Jodry, Smithsonian Institution, and B. Vierra, formerly of Los Alamos National Laboratory, we sought to perform a similar, but abbreviated, analysis on the early points from the Bockman Collection and compare our findings to the Smithsonian – Los Alamos database. A condensed report, *Photographic and Metric Documentation of*

Early Diagnostic Artifacts from the Bockman Collection, by Robert Dello-Russo, Ph.D., James Moore and Gavin Bird is published as a .pdf on the Office of Archaeological Studies website under the Newsletter heading.

We would like to thank the following FOA volunteers for their assistance in organizing the Bockman Collection: Arlen Westbrook and Mary Anne Sanborn, who completed the inspection and preliminary cataloguing of 296 artifacts, tagging and bagging them for curation; and Ann Beckett, who created a superb digital database of all the items.

Robert Dello-Russo, PhD
OAS Deputy Director

From the Board

What an exciting time to be a member of FOA! Our activities calendar for the remainder of 2009, plus lectures, trips and other events for 2010, will give us all writer's cramp as we fill in our personal schedules with just OAS and FOA do-not-miss happenings. In September our Meet the Archaeologists event at Dave and Sallie Brewer's home provided attendees with great food, fascinating informal presentations by OAS staff people, a viewing of the arrow making project DVD produced by Denise Lynch and an all round, fun filled evening.

As your new FOA board chair, I look forward to becoming acquainted with more of our 800 plus members, perhaps at our annual holiday party on November 15. A special visual presentation recognizing our past and present volunteers will include fabulous photos taken on previous FOA journeys by FOA trip participants and OAS staff.

Penny Gómez
FOA Chair

Special Thanks

The FOA and staff at OAS would like to extend a **special thanks to Fran Barkmann**, who has stepped down as mailing coordinator after orchestrating Newsletter mailings for over 17 years. Her capability to work behind the scenes, dealing with the headaches connected with the U.S. Post Office, has been invaluable.

FOA's Winter Lectures

Contact and Conflict in the American Southwest

Contact between different ethnic groups is often peaceful, but historically, armed conflicts have also erupted. A case in point is the American Southwest, where Native, Hispanic and Anglo ambitions have periodically collided over the past 400 years to develop New Mexico's unique culture and history.

This winter the Friends of Archaeology Lecture Series explores the darker side of culture change coming as a result of contact and conflict between different ethnic groups within the American Southwest. This lecture series will consist of five parts, focusing on archaeological, ethnohistorical and military historical research regarding contact and conflict.

January 15 Archaeologists J. Michael Bremer and Tony Largespada will discuss change brought on by Native on Native aggression with the tragedy that befell the prehistoric populations of the Largo-Gallina. J. Michael Bremer, Forest Archaeologist for Santa Fe National Forest (SFNF), has worked for the USDA Forest Service for over 20 years. As its head archaeologist, Bremer has overseen and guided all archaeological investigations on the SFNF for over a decade and has focused much of his own private academic research on the Gallina region of northern New Mexico. Tony Largespada is the Cuba and Jemez District Archaeologist for the Santa Fe National Forest. With a background in osteology, Tony has recently been engaged in the documentation and excavation of human remains on Gallina sites within the Cuba Ranger District.

On January 22 the series moves on to the Coronado Expedition and the archaeological evidence and impacts Coronado's journey may have had on the indigenous populations of central and northern New Mexico with **speakers Charles Haecker and Clay Mathers**. Charles Haecker is an archaeologist with the National Park Service in Santa Fe and author of numerous publications. In 2009 Charles Haecker co-edited *Fields of Conflict: Battlefield Archaeology from the Roman Empire to the Korean War*. He is one of the most well known battlefield archaeologists in the country. Clay Mathers, PhD, is an archaeologist with Statistical Research Inc. in Albuquerque. Recently Dr. Mathers has been researching

archaeological evidence of the Coronado Expedition within New Mexico, including Piedras Marcadas, the location of Chiles and Sherds 2010!

On January 29, to provide a counterpoint, the lecture series will turn towards examining continuity during the early Colonial Period through current research at San Marcos Pueblo with **Dr. Ann Ramenofsky**. A professor of anthropology at the University of New Mexico, Dr. Ramenofsky is the author of numerous publications, including her book, *Vectors of Death* (1987), describing catastrophic population decline in North America related to the onset of European infectious diseases. Her work within New Mexico has been focused largely on demography and metallurgy at San Marcos Pueblo.

On February 5 Distinguished Professor Paul Hutton of the University of New Mexico will present a lecture focusing on Kit Carson and the 1849 kidnapping of Mrs. White and her child on the Santa Fe Trail. Dr. Hutton, who has written, appeared in or narrated over 150 television documentaries, has also served as the Executive Director of both the Western History Association and Western Writers of America. Select publications include *Phil Sheridan and His Army* (1985), *Soldiers West: Biographies from the Military Frontier* (1987), *The Custer Reader* (1992), *Eyewitness to the Civil War*, a ten volume series (1991-1993) and *Frontier and Region: Essay in Honor of Martin Ridge* (1997).

Lastly, on February 12 the series will take us on a trip back to the 1940s with an archaeological perspective on nuclear proliferation and historical preservation at the Trinity Site. **David T. Kirkpatrick, PhD**, is the Associate Director of Human Systems Research, Inc. (HSRI). Located in Las Cruces, HSRI is a nonprofit, scientific and educational institution that has pursued basic and applied research in archaeology and related scientific and historic fields since 1972. With a focus on southern New Mexico, Dr. Kirkpatrick is a prolific publisher of articles on the archaeology of the region.

Lectures will be held on Friday evenings at 7 PM, January 15 through February 12, 2010, at the New Mexico Film Museum Theater (formerly the Jean Cocteau) located at 418 Montezuma in Santa Fe. FOA members: \$12 per lecture, \$50 for the series. Non-FOA members: \$15 per lecture, \$60 for the series. See you there!

*Matthew Barbour,
OAS Project Director and Conference Organizer*

Trip Announcements

Save the Dates!

This fall and over the blustery winter the FOA Activities Committee is hard at work developing two great trips outlined in the brochure insert.

The first sign up date is January 15th, so keep a look out for the January FOA Program or check the MNM Foundation website under "Friends Groups" for up to the moment details. Dream of basking in the sun as you make your plans by the fire.

Southern Arizona Field Trip March 20-22, 2010

In far southeastern Arizona, an on-again, off-again stream called the San Pedro cuts through a valley pockmarked with ruins ranging from 11,000 B.C. to the late 19th century. Multiple tribes, including the Hopi, Zuni, Tohono O'odham and Apache, know this area was part of their migration history through the Southwest.

Our tour will include a full day in the San Pedro Valley led by an archaeologist who helped excavate the many sites. Also in the planning are visits to the Amerind Foundation, to Arizona State Museum for a behind the scenes view of its collections of related pottery and artifacts, and lastly, to several Hohokm ruins within the city limits of Tucson. We're in process of picking a central motel from which vans will take us to the different sites. The trip is planned to start Saturday morning and end at noon on Monday. We'll make tentative reservations for those who want to visit the Kartchner Caverns State Park on Monday afternoon. Registration begins January 15. Please watch for final details in our January issue and call (505) 982-7799, ext.5, for reservations.

Paula Dransfield
FOA Member

Mimbres Ceramics Field Trip to the Gila Region, New Mexico June 4-6, 2010

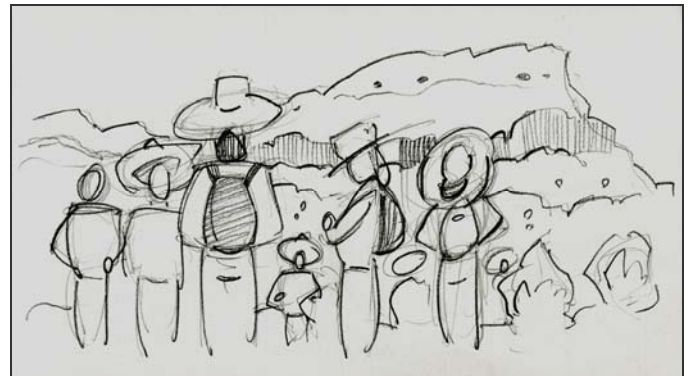
The distinctive pottery of the Mimbres culture of the Gila region is famous throughout the Southwest. The motifs depicted by these ancient potters relate directly to Mimbres life and religion.

We will view the magnificent collection of ceramics at the Museum of Western New Mexico University in Silver City, NM, with the Director, Dr. Cynthia Bettison. Next we will tour the Mogollon/Mimbres archaeological sites from the Mimbres Valley to Lake Roberts and north to the Gila Cliff Dwellings and TJ ruin. There will also be a side trip to the Woodrow site in the Gila Cliff area to the west of Silver City. We plan to have a base in a hotel in Silver City for the trip. For more information, please see the FOA 2010 Program.

Trip Reports

A Visit to Pueblo Canyon

Bryan and Clarice Montoya from San Ildefonso Pueblo, Chuck Hannaford, Steve Lakatos, Dean Wilson, Pam McBride and Scott Jaquith from the OAS, FOA Trip Coordinator Kathy McRee and some 20 other Friends of Archaeology went to Pueblo Canyon on the Pajarito Plateau to tour Otowi (Potsuwi'i) Pueblo on 18 July 2009.



"Little Otowi and Group"

by Scott Jaquith, OAS Graphic Artist

We first stopped at the Clinton Anderson overlook to survey the sites we were to visit and get a brief history of the geology and culture of the region. After a short drive to the bottom of the canyon, we left the vehicles and began to hike west along a ridge loaded with small family and field house pueblo sites, mostly from the Coalition and Classic periods. OAS and the San Ildefonso folks generously answered questions along the way, pointing out features and items of significance. Along this ridge were a few other larger sites, including an enclosed plaza pueblo site known as Little Otowi. Almost all of these sites visited were contemporaneous with Otowi Pueblo, with a few probably pre-dating it.

Edgar L. Hewett excavated parts of the so-called "old pueblo," just to the southwest of the large site, and the ash heaps. In the nineteen teens an amateur with connections, Lucy Wilson of the Philadelphia Commercial Museum, basically looted the place. Thankfully, she was stopped, perhaps by Jesse Nusbaum, before the pueblo was completely excavated, though few of the excavated materials or field notes have survived. Few sanctioned excavations have taken place since, but Steve Lakatos, one of our guides, actually mapped the site and several adjacent sites for Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) in the late 1990s.

The site, as well as others nearby, is now protected by fences. For its relative ease of access and excavation history, Otowi Pueblo is amazingly rich in terms of abundant large pottery sherds and chert and obsidian surface debris. Dean Wilson informed us that this site is the type site for a late, incised, buff colored, unslipped pottery known as Potsuwi'i Incised, dating as late as 1525 AD. Chuck Hannaford, who grew up on the Pajarito Plateau, and Bryan and Clarice Montoya, who knew site details and shrine locations, served us well as authorities. Several years ago the site's ownership changed from LANL to Los Alamos County. It is currently being transferred to San Ildefonso Pueblo. Bryan Montoya, the San Ildefonso Cultural Resource Manager, who helped facilitate our visit, hopes this transfer will be completed by the end of 2009. This Friends of Archaeology trip may be the last to visit the site for some time.

*By Jim Faris
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 would like 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.

Friends of Archaeology Board

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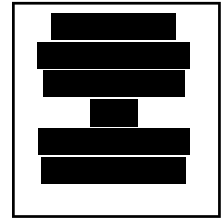
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2009-2010 Programs

2009

- Nov 15 FOA Holiday Party & Auction, Hotel Santa Fe, 3-6 PM
 Nov 20 Exhibit Opening, *Santa Fe Found Fragments of Time*, New Mexico History Museum. 5PM

2010

- Jan 15 Friday Lecture Series, *Tragedies of Largo-Gallina*, J. Michael Bremer and Tony Largespada, NM Film Museum Theater, 7 PM.
 Jan 22 Friday Lecture Series, *Coronado Expedition and Impacts on Indigenous Populations*, Charles Haecker and Clay Mathers, NM Film Museum Theater, 7 PM.
 Jan 26 OAS Brown Bag Talk, *Santa Fe Found: Fragments of Time*, Stephen Post, NM Film Museum Theater, 11:45 AM.
 Jan 29 Friday Lecture Series, *Pueblo Revolt Through Research at San Marcos Pueblo*, Dr. Ann Ramenofsky, NM Film Museum Theater, 7 PM.
 February 5 Friday Lecture Series, *Kit Carson and Kidnapping on the Santa Fe Trail*, Dr. Paul Hutton, NM Film Museum Theater, 7 PM.
 Feb 12 Friday Lecture Series, *Archaeological Perspective of Nuclear Proliferation—the Trinity Site*, David T. Kirkpatrick, PhD, NM Film Museum Theater, 7 PM.
 Feb 23 OAS Brown Bag Talk, *Recent Discoveries at the Water Canyon Paleoindian Site*, Robert Dello-Russo, PhD, NM Film Museum Theater, 11:45 AM.
 Mar 20-22 Hohokam and Southern Arizona Field Trip. See page 6.