



New Mexico Archaeology

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE FRIENDS OF ARCHAEOLOGY

May 2011

FROM THE DIRECTOR

All dressed up ... The tragedy of the past legislative session was the 11th hour failure of the 2011 Capital Outlay bill.

The Center for New Mexico Archaeology was included in the bill for our connection to the Santa Fe County water system, and the lack of those funds has created delay and uncertainty. We are still working with the architects, engineers, and the contractor to bring the building to completion with a temporary water supply, but without a clear schedule for a permanent water connection, we may not be able to get a certificate of occupancy as we had expected. As of this moment, we might be able to start moving at least some staff into the building as early as mid-June, but in the worst case scenario we might not be able to move anyone in until next year. There are a bewildering number of intermediate scenarios, and we are receiving incredible support from the Legislative Finance Committee staff, so I have to be optimistic about the future without being dependent on any particular scenario. Given the uncertainties, I'm afraid that we have to postpone what I hoped would be an open house celebration in June, but let's hope we can announce a new date in the August newsletter.

On a more positive note, OAS education programs are strong and healthy. Chuck and the education outreach program are active, and we are closing in on the milestone of 100,000 outreach participants in the life of the program. Janie Miller (School for Advanced Research), and Bob Mizerak (FOA) and I have teamed up to offer a Citizen Schools Apprenticeship at DeVargas Middle School with the title: Surviving Santa Fe – AD 1000. A number of staff and volunteers have dropped in to help with individual lessons. You are invited to see the culmination of the apprenticeship, the WOW!, at the Farmers Market space on May 13, 6:00-8:00. Chuck and I are also collaborating with Santa Ana Pueblo's language and culture program in what we see as a great model for future tribal collaborations.

Research activity is also buzzing. Robert Dello-Russo continues to receive dating and analysis results from the Water Canyon Paleo-indian Site investigations (much of it supported by the FOA). Wolky Toll, Nancy Akins, Dean Wilson, Steve Lakatos, and others have been turning in manuscripts for book chapters or articles or have been delivering papers and poster sessions at archaeological meetings. OAS crews are out in the field or preparing for field projects, and we can look forward to more surprises and research reports.

--Eric

MARVIN W. ROWE

AWARDS RECIPIENT

Penny Gómez, FOA Board Member

The FOA board is pleased to announce that FOA member Marvin Rowe, PhD, has been recognized for his accomplishments in the field of dating rock art. Dr. Rowe's technique for nondestructive radiocarbon dating (also used to date rock paintings) was named as one of the "Top Ten Discoveries of 2010" in the January 2011 issue of *Archaeology Magazine*. He was also granted the Frank and A.J. Bock Award of the American Rock Art Research Association for excellence in rock art research.

Professor Emeritus of Chemistry at Texas A&M University, Marvin and his wife Kate divide their time, commuting from their home in Santa Fe to Qatar, where Marvin currently teaches as a visiting professor at the Texas A&M University branch there. Marvin was honored twice as winner of the Ninninger Meteorite Award for research excellence. He found evidence of the presence of the transuranium element, plutonium-244, that was present in the solar system when the earth, planets and meteorites were formed. He also found the presence of cosmic ray-produced xenon isotopes in meteorites.

Presently Marvin volunteers for the Museum of New Mexico Conservation Laboratory, where he hopes to set up a nondestructive radiocarbon dating laboratory in which artifacts from around the world can be dated. Kate, who earned her Ph.D. in Nursing in 2004, serves as an FOA Reservation Hotline volunteer when their travel schedule allows.

For more about Dr. Rowe's research see:
www.arara.org/Radiocarbon_Dating.htm

Marvin and Kate, FOA says Saaalute! ❖

ANALYSIS OF SOIL AND RADIOCARBON SAMPLES FROM THE CAJA DEL RIO &

by Robert Dello-Russo, PhD, OAS Deputy Director

CAJA DEL RIO SITE (LA112527)

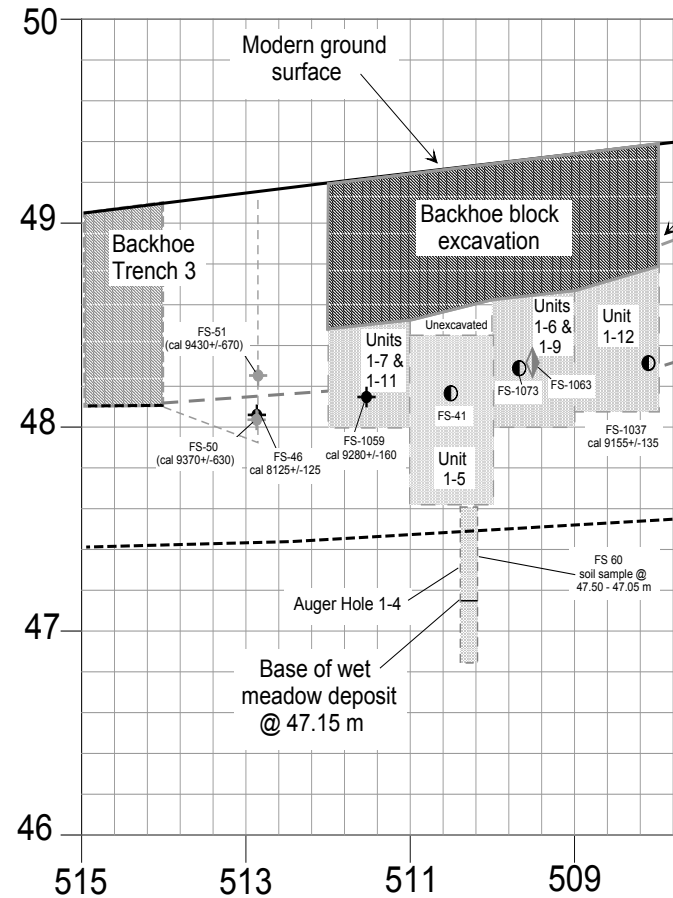
Over the course of seven days in September 2009, volunteers and OAS staff completed the archaeological testing program at the Caja del Rio Paleoindian site near Santa Fe, NM. Work included in-field artifact analysis, test pits and hand auger tests as well as recording over a dozen surface features, including some possible hearths, some rock cairns, one or two possible hunting blinds and various rock alignments.

Three sediment samples were recovered and were dated using the OSL (Optically Stimulated Luminescence) technique. This dating technique is advantageous because it does not require carbon. Rather, the date is derived from the amount of ambient radiation the target sediment accumulated while covered by later deposits. The sediments --from top to bottom-- returned final OSL dates of $2,780 \pm 250$ calibrated years before present (calyBP) from 8 cm below surface; $4,570 \pm 380$ calyBP (15 cm below) and $6,350 \pm 510$ calyBP (18 cm below). These results suggest that no sediments from the Paleoindian era (which would have been at least 8,000 years old) exist on the site. Below the deepest sediment sample is volcanic bedrock, indicating that all of the sediments were deposited by the wind during the Holocene geologic epic. If Paleoindian age sediments exist at the site, they will be found only in small pockets in the bedrock.

Seven associated sediment samples were also collected and the results of their analyses are reported here. The particle size analyses indicate that all the sediment samples are dominated by very small particles (silt & clay). The dominance of small particles suggests that most, if not all, of the sediments on the site were delivered by the wind. Carbonate (CaCO_3) percentages in the sediment samples were very low in upper level samples and increased with depth. A significant spike (16-21%) in CaCO_3 was reported from approximately 15 cm below the surface (39.57 m grid elevation) to 20 cm below the surface. This carbonate spike in the lowest sediments is much greater than would be present from soil development alone and suggests a period of significant eolian deposition of carbonate-laden sediments (dust) during the mid-Holocene (between 4570 and 6350 calyBP). The source of these carbonates is currently unknown, but geological evidence indicates that between 7000 and 5400 years ago there was a period of drying, lake basin deflation, and local dune creation at prehistoric Lake Estancia, suggesting that drying lake basins (such as Lake Estancia) may have provided the sediments.

Funding for the sediment chemistry analyses was graciously provided by a 2010 Friends of Archaeology (FOA) Mini-Grant, while funding for the 3 OSL dates was provided by a grant from the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Taos District.

Water Canyon South Arroyo Wall



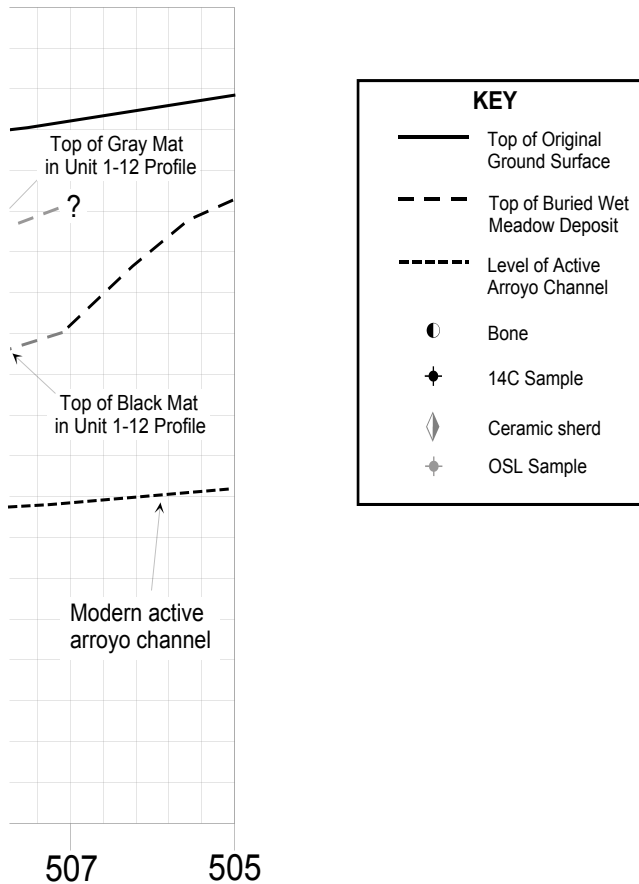
WATER CANYON SITE (LA134764)

The Water Canyon Paleoindian site is in a portion of the La Jencia Basin between the Magdalena and Socorro Mountains. At the time of discovery in 2001 the site was estimated to date to the Early Holocene geological epoch. Subsequent archaeological investigations have expanded the site's dates and have focused on defining the nature and extent of both the buried wet meadow deposit and associated human activity. For a full description of the site Google: Office of Archaeological Studies and choose "fieldwork", or for a direct link: <http://www.nmarchaeology.org/water-canyon.html>.

A bulk sediment sample (FS 46) was taken in Trench 3 in November, 2009 at the Water Canyon Paleoindian site from a point 1.27 m below the current ground surface. The organic material in the sample was radiocarbon dated and it provided a calibrated date of 8275 ± 30 calyBP. This sample was taken at a position near the upper limit of the "black mat" (buried wet meadow deposit), and its age is not consistent with other dates obtained from two OSL samples from similar positions in the same deposit. For example, one sediment sample recovered

WATER CANYON PALEOINDIAN SITES

(2009 - 2010)



from a position immediately adjacent to FS 46 (FS 50) dated to 9580 ± 640 calyBP. Another about 30 cm above the bulk sediment sample (F 51) dated to 9770 ± 630 calyBP. Even considering their large errors and their stratigraphic inversion, these optical dates suggest that the wet meadow was at least 9000 years old.

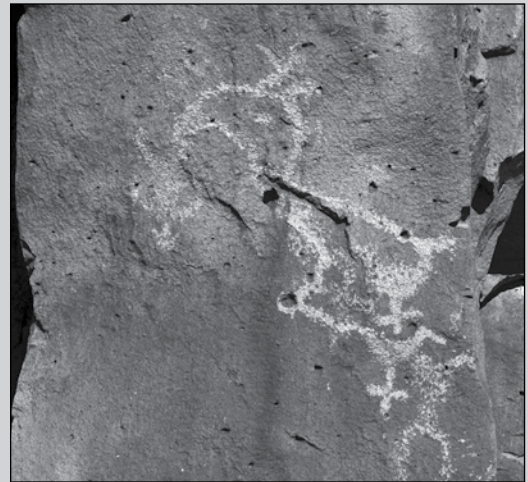
A bison long bone fragment (FS1037) came from the upper portion of the “black mat” and dated to about 9155 ± 135 calyBP, while a fragment of oak charcoal (FS1059) provided a date of 9280 ± 160 calyBP. The materials dated in these last two cases are considered to be culturally derived, and thus suggest that the Late Paleoindian period occupation of the site ended around 9200 years ago, perhaps in concert with the slow desiccation of the wet meadow habitat.

Funding for the radiocarbon date on the bulk sediment was graciously provided through a 2010 Friends of Archaeology (FOA) Mini-Grant, while underwriting for the two OSL dates was graciously provided by a gift from Roland and Martha Mace. ❖

ROCK ART RECORDING PROJECTS

Gary Hein

The Santa Fe Rock Art Recording Project continues to record along the Santa Fe River in the area that Bruce Dickson surveyed for his Arroyo Hondo research. By the end of last season, we had completed most of the area we started the previous season. We invested many weeks in walking transects to ensure we have full coverage of the area. The return was small compared to what we found on the escarpment. We did find sherds and lithic material, a number of historical inscriptions and three distinct clusters of rock art in unexpected places. A few of the images we recorded in these areas appear to be archaic.



The area consists of an escarpment, tumble zone of various widths, slope, new escarpment, new tumble zone and new slope. We have also noted a number of features that seem to be part of the historic occupation of the area.

To date, we have surveyed approximately 80 acres and recorded 630 panels consisting of 1,800 design elements. We have also noted the location of 10 downed telephone poles and 10 survey boundary markers. Typically we have two teams in the field each week and occasionally just one.

Last Spring we worked with the Carlos Gilbert Elementary School. Gary gave a 45-minute presentation in the classroom to the third grade class. The presentation was followed by a class visit to the La Cieneguilla site. We used rock art recording as way to teach the students about preservation and protection of cultural resources. Paul Anderson, Kathy Fiero, Pat Rouch, Ed Lewis, and Gary Hein appreciated the thank you cards the students sent us.

We are looking for a few hardy individuals to assist us in our efforts. We usually work one day a week, weather permitting. In the winter we meet to review paper work, photos, and prepare data for final reporting. If you are interested please contact Gary Hein at glhein@me.com.

All the people working on this effort are grateful for the moral and technical support of OAS and the financial support of the FOA. ❖

CHILES AND SHERDS IX - PUEBLO LARGO AT SAN CRISTÓBAL RANCH

SUNDAY JUNE 5TH, 2011

Yes, you heard right!!!

The Friends of Archaeology is thrilled to announce that the ninth Chiles and Sherds will be held June 5th at the beautiful San Cristóbal Ranch. Thanks to the landowner's generosity, we will enjoy the dramatic landscape and wide-open spaces of the eastern Galisteo Basin while touring Pueblo Largo, one of its premier Ancestral Puebloan sites. Take a beautiful hike, enjoy a catered lunch, and learn more about New Mexico's fascinating cultural heritage from OAS archaeologists and invited experts.

Pueblo Largo is poised on an escarpment offering fantastic views of the surrounding landscape. It is the smallest and probably earliest of the famous Galisteo Basin pueblos. Small is relative, though, since Nels Nelson estimated 489 rooms in six roomblocks. There are up to four kivas, (two excavated by Bertha Dutton), as well as at least four clearly defined plazas of varying sizes, several of which would have been dramatic public spaces. Solid masonry walls are exposed in a few unbackfilled excavations. Tree rings and pottery place initial occupation of Pueblo Largo in the late 1200s and early 1300s and it was one of the first large Galisteo Basin Pueblos to be "abandoned" during the 1400s. Several burned rooms suggest to scholar James Snead that the conflict he sees in the Galisteo Basin during its 14th century settlement also took place at Pueblo Largo. Unlike the pueblos at Galisteo and San Cristóbal not far to the north but on permanent water sources, the Spanish did not find inhabitants at Largo and did not establish a mission at the site. Due to the height of the landform and the openness of the countryside, the site offers great vistas of the southern and eastern Galisteo Basin, framed by the Sangre de Cristo Mountains.



MENU

A catered lunch provided by Santa Fe's Cowgirl BBQ & Western Grill.

Texas-style mesquite-smoked BBQ brisket and chicken
butternut squash casserole,
mixed greens salad,
BBQ beans,
cole-slaw
cornbread and tortillas
fruit cobbler.

Lunch will be served between 11:30 am and 1:30 pm.



Purchase your tickets now; the event is limited to 150 guests. Pueblo Largo tours will leave the event tent at intervals between 9 am to 2:30 pm. We will call you back in the order of your purchase to confirm a specific tour time. Directions, waivers, and more detailed information will be provided to participants by mail or e-mail closer to the event date.

To purchase tickets for the event, call the Lensic Box Office, 988-1234. The cost per person is \$90 (\$70 is tax deductible); youth tickets (11-17 years) are \$45 (\$25 is tax deductible). This ticket price reflects a \$5 reduction from previous years. If you have questions about the event, please call 982-6366, ext. 112.

TOURS

Tours will begin at the event tent, where you will meet your guide and fellow hikers. From there you will walk about a half mile to the site across mostly level, but occasionally rocky, grass-covered ground (wear comfortable but sturdy shoes). At Pueblo Largo you will learn about its history, layout, major features, and place in the Galisteo Basin cultural landscape of the fourteenth-century. Bertha Dutton and her girl scout “Dirty Diggers” conducted excavations at the site for six years. Gordon Wilson, Leslie Cohen, Carole Gardner, and Stu Patterson have spent the past several years at the Laboratory of Anthropology working with the notes and collections from the excavation in an effort to complete a report on this important site. They will share their insights and knowledge. The walking tour will take at least 1.5 hours, so make sure you are well-watered and sunscreened (bring a hat). Shade, facilities, and first-aid will be available at the site.



PRESENTATIONS

During the event you can visit with Lucy Lippard, author of *Down Country: The Tano of Galisteo Basin, 1250-1782*. Lucy will be signing copies of her book about the fascinating history of life and landscape in the Galisteo Basin. Lucy’s book has just been awarded the Fray Francisco Atanasio Dominguez Award, by the New Mexico Historical Society. Some of Bertha Dutton’s “Dirty Diggers” will share reminiscences of what were pivotally formative experiences in their lives. OAS Director Eric Blinman and pottery expert Dean Wilson will share the latest about the relationship between climate change, ceramics, and evidence for ancestral Puebloan migrations. ❖

FORTS AND BATTLEFIELDS: A LOOK AT THE CIVIL WAR IN NEW MEXICO

THIS SPRING, THE FOA INVITES YOU TO EXPERIENCE THE CIVIL WAR IN NEW MEXICO WITH THREE FANTASTIC EVENTS:

MAY 7

Guided archaeological tour of Pecos National Monument. This tour includes interpretative walks through Pecos Pueblo, Forked Lightning Ruin and the Glorieta Battlefield.

Attendance limited to 20 people, FOA Members \$45, Non-Members \$5
To make reservations please call 982-7799 ext 5.

MAY 13 RESCHEDULED

“The Civil War in New Mexico” an informal presentation on the history and legacy of the Civil War in New Mexico by author James McBride. This lecture will discuss the events leading up to the invasion of New Mexico, goals of the opposing forces and the after effects of the conflict on New Mexico and the United States as a whole.

6:30 pm, New Mexico History Museum classroom. Enter on Lincoln Ave.
*Attendance limited to 35 people, FOA Members \$10, Non-Members \$15.**

MAY 21

Guided archaeological tour of the Socorro area. This tour includes an interpretative walk through Fort Craig, a discussion of the Valverde Battle and a visit to an otherwise inaccessible Piro village. Lunch will be provided.

Attendance limited to 20 people, FOA Members \$85, Non-Members \$95.
To make reservations please call 982-7799 ext 5.

Trips

A JOURNEY TO JEMEZ PROVINCE

OCTOBER 8, 2011

By the beginning of the Rio Grande Classic Period, or about AD 1350, a distinctive cultural adaptation began to develop in the area north of present Jemez Pueblo. This area has been termed the Jemez Province, and this cultural florescence resulted in the construction of at least forty large pueblo sites, several thousand small habitation sites known as fieldhouses, and an expansion of the agriculture in the drainage bottoms onto the mesa tops.

Large pueblo sites in Jemez Province occur at elevations as high as 8,000 feet with smaller fieldhouse sites occurring at elevations as high as 8,400 feet. The nine largest pueblo sites in the area possess more than 1,000 estimated rooms and a great, or large kiva. Michael Elliot has termed this high-altitude adaptation the “Jemez Phenomenon”, and characterized it as exhibiting large populations living at high elevation, rainwater farming, large pueblo-small structure architecture, and Jemez Black-on-white pottery.

Early Spanish explorers found the people they referred to as the “Hemes” clustered in these large mesa top villages and some smaller ones in Jemez Canyon. The earliest Spanish contact was a Captain Francisco de Barrionuevo, of Coronado's expedition. He visited the area in 1541 to acquire (demand) food and other supplies for the expedition. He reported that the natives of the area came out peacefully and furnished provisions. The Rodriguez-Chamuscado and the Espejo-Beltran Expeditions of the 1580s also contacted the Jemez.

These early contacts appear not to have greatly affected the Jemez. However, this was soon to change. In 1598, Don Juan de Oñate established the first permanent Spanish colony in what is now New

Mexico, near San Juan Pueblo. Oñate assigned a Franciscan missionary, Fray Alonzo de Lugo, to the Jemez in 1598. Lugo did not remain for long, but apparently built a mission at Giusewa (now Jemez State Monument). The process of missionization and reducción (the policy of combining the native residents of several smaller villages into large ones to make them easier to control) had begun in the Jemez area.

On October 8, the Friends of Archaeology invite you to come explore Jemez Province as it existed during the Classic and Early Colonial Periods with a full-day guided tour of Jemez affiliated archaeological sites located on land administered by the Santa Fe National Forest. Tour guides will include Jemez Archaeologist, Chris Toya, and Assistant Forest Archaeologist Jeremy Kulisheck. *This tour is limited to 20 people, \$80 per person. More information will be provided at www.museumfoundation.org/friends-archaeology or in the August edition of *New Mexico Archaeology* the *Friends of Archaeology Newsletter*. ❖*

LA BAJADA ONE-DAY FIELD TRIP

OCTOBER 29, 2011

The FOA is planning a one-day field trip to local geological landmark, La Bajada, on October 29, 2011. This will provide a wonderful opportunity to explore the formation up close and in the company of experts. People from the Archaic periods to those of the automobile age have used this landscape and we will examine as much of what they left behind as time allows.

Please watch the MNM Foundation website and/or see the August Newsletter for details. ❖

TRIP REPORT: SOUTHERN ARIZONA

MARCH 2011

Ron Sullivan Tucson, FOA

The Friends of Archaeology hosted a three day trip to Southern Arizona. Our trip began with a journey by van to the San Pedro Valley migrant enclave of Reeve Ruin. After a steep but short walk we were treated to a panoramic view of the lower San Pedro Valley. The site, which had been occupied by Kayenta/Tusayan peoples was excavated by the Amerind Foundation in the 1950s and was distinguished for producing pottery with unique perforations. During our visit to the research laboratory of Amerind, we were shown a perforated plate and other ceramics from the region in a back room tour by Director John Ware.

Situated on the northeastern side of Tucson is the University Indian Ruin, a prominent central Hohokam place on the eastern Tucson Basin. Our guide was Dr. Paul Fish from the University of Arizona. One of the prominent features of the area is an excavated platform mound, probably used for public and ceremonial events.

Next we drove to the western edge of the Tucson Basin ascending almost 800 feet up Tumamoc Hill, known as the Acropo-

lis of Tucson. It appears to be an early agricultural and ceramic village, and artifacts from all of the many surrounding villages in the valley have been found at the site. A few miles north of Tucson lies the Marana Group Area and the Los Morteros site. We stopped several times on desert roads that from first glance seemed like typical desert topography. After a few steps onto the desert floor with Paul, we began to see an agricultural desert enterprise that once produced massive quantities of agave plants and other food resources.

On our final day, we drove to the Tohono O’odham Nation, where our hosts, Bernard Siquieros, Education Curator, and colleague Joseph Joaquin, shared knowledge of their Hohokam ancestors and spoke about complex issues that are current in today’s O’odham society. We lunched at the Desert Rain Café and Gallery on the Tohono O’odham Nation, which featured culinary delights containing flavors of the Sonoran Desert, from traditional product such as cholla buds, tepary beans or saguaro fruit syrup.

During our journey we thought of Paula Dransfield, a true friend of archaeology, who passed away just two weeks before the trip. She was one of the chief planning architects for the trip, as well as for many other FOA events. ❖

REMEMBERING PAULA DRANSFIELD

Penny Gómez, FOA Board Member

Paula Dransfield knew she had cancer when she whole heartedly accepted an invitation to join the FOA board in the winter of 2009. Making it understood that she might have to miss some board meetings as she juggled medical treatments and family commitments, Paula dove into the FOA world with a resounding splash.



In the last two years of her very full life, Paula took on the jobs of FOA Membership Coordinator and Reservation Hotline Coordinator. She helped revise and redesign the FOA Trip Planning Packet. Tireless, perhaps to her own detriment, Paula planned and facilitated the Santa Fe Community College Planetarium talk, “Echoes of the Night Sky,” the “Meet the Archaeologists” potluck and OAS panel talk at the home of Dave and Sally Brewer and the “Downtown Chaco” trip — all happening within the month of September 2009 — with her supportive husband Geoff at her side.

The daughter of Los Alamos scientist Dr. Raemer Schreiber and mother Marguerite, Paula grew up “on the hill,” pursuing a career in personnel and security at Los Alamos National Laboratory. Later she worked with childhood friend Ellen Bradbury Reid, organizing and managing trips for Recursos de Santa Fe. The October 2010 FOA trip to the Trinity Site benefited from the leadership and personal stories of the Dransfield-Bradbury Reid duo.

Paula’s death on March 11, 2011, left a deep void in the FOA board. Her creativity, enthusiasm, bulldog determination and contagious smile are without equal. We miss her and grieve her passing. ❖

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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UPCOMING FRIENDS OF ARCHAEOLOGY EVENTS

2011

MAY 7TH. GLORIETA FIELD TRIP

MAY 13TH. CIVIL WAR LECTURE; 6:30 PM, NEW MEXICO HISTORY MUSEUM

MAY 21ST. FORT CRAIG FIELD TRIP

JUNE 5TH. CHILES & SHERDS IX – PUEBLO LARGO

JULY 15TH. MEET THE ARCHAEOLOGISTS POT LUCK (DETAILS ON THE MNM FOUNDATION WEBSITE)

OCTOBER 8TH. JEMEZ SITES DAY TRIP

OCTOBER 29TH. BAJADA TRIP

NOV 6TH. FOA ANNUAL HOLIDAY PARTY

FOA NEEDS VOLUNTEERS

to work our two Reservation Hotlines. These Hotlines and the volunteers who answer them are essential for FOA trips and other event reservations. Checking recorded messages and responding to them by returning calls is a relatively painless task that you as a Hotline volunteer can do from your own home on your own schedule. Please contact Jessica Badner at jessica.badner@state.nm.us. Training will be provided!

*Photo: Pueblo Largo/
H. Wolcott Toll, PhD*

