



## FROM THE DIRECTOR OF CAPRICE AND VERMIN

ERIC BLINMAN, PH.D.  
OAS DIRECTOR

Scott (OAS graphic artist) has invested in a garden at CNMA for the past few years. Isaac (OAS archaeologist and GIS tech) has joined Scott this year, but on the other side of the building. Both have experiences in common with farmers everywhere, including the ancient Southwest.

Scott has gardening down to a successful ritual of preparation and execution, but this year wasn't kind. An intense hailstorm shredded and flattened his young transplants. Literally, in less than two minutes, weeks of careful preparation and effort were cancelled by an accident (incident) of nature. The insult was anonymous and without personal malice, but the consequence was intensely personal. Not only was the vision of fall cuisine of green chile and beans destroyed in an instant, but he also lost the potential of cementing positive social relationships through gifts to his friends.

Isaac was slower to start his garden. He fenced his plot against the ever-present threat of rabbits, and his late start meant that the hailstorm wasn't an issue for him. Birds plucked some emerging shoots, but he re-planted and his little enclosure is now lush with maize, beans, and squash. His fence kept the rabbits at bay, and if those had been his only worries, a fall harvest would have been his reward. But we have another threat at CNMA – ground

See **Director**, on Page 5.

## BACK IN THE FIELD



Isaac Coan teaches a lesson on weaponry at a summer camp event in Santa Fe.

## OAS EDUCATION OUTREACH INSTRUCTORS MAKE A RETURN TO IN-PERSON TEACHING

With the lifting of pandemic restrictions this summer, four educators from the OAS Education Outreach Program had the wonderful opportunity to interact with students again.

Educators participated in four days of programming during the monthlong

Native American Student Services summer camp here in Santa Fe. Students between fourth and seventh grades participated in the event, with several high school age student mentors joining in as well.

See **Field**, on Page 7.

# BROWN BAG TALK SET FOR SATURDAY, SEPT. 11, 2021

## **CHACO TRADITION WHITE WARE POTTERY TYPES AND INFLUENCES AND THE SURROUNDING PUEBLO WORLD**

Offered by C. Dean Wilson, research associate and former director of the OAS Ceramics Analysis Laboratory

Much of our understanding about the long sequence of pottery produced by Ancestral Pueblo groups across much of the Colorado Plateau and even beyond are based on studies of ceramics from the San Juan Basin. Particularly, many of the current classification systems of and ideas about these ceramics are based on examinations of examples recovered during investigations of sites in Chaco Canyon or those connected closely to Chaco. Recent characterizations of pottery assigned to Cibola or Chaco painted white ware pottery types during the examination of vessels in the Center for New Mexico Archaeology collections provide the basis for this discussion of pottery produced in the Cibola region from the Basketmaker III to Late Pueblo III periods. These discussions will include observations about the similarities, differences, and connections between Cibola pottery types and those associated with surrounding regions, as well as thoughts about the significance of and probable connections indicated by comparisons of pottery from different Pueblo regions.

Join us for this event Saturday, September 11, 2021, at 12:00 p.m., on Zoom at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82518942040?pwd=THBJNC9UZNXNUYkRnNDhkVWgyWUU1dz09>  
Meeting ID: 825 1894 2040  
Passcode: 481441

It will also be broadcast on Facebook Live at @FriendsofArchaeology. ❖



## **ONLINE LECTURE**

# ARCHAEOLOGIST DISCUSSES FIVE MILLENNIA OF LIVING IN THE JORNADA REGION

Archaeologist Myles Miller is offering a new talk on Five Millennia of Living on the Landscapes of the Jornada Mogollon Region of Southern New Mexico and West Texas.

Four decades of archaeological research in the Jornada Mogollon region of southern New Mexico and far west Texas has revealed a rich record of past lifeways. Due to its marginal location and misperception that the archaeology of the region consists mainly of non-architectural hunter-gatherer sites, the prehistory of the region is often viewed as peripheral to developments in better-known and more archaeologically visible culture areas of the U.S. Southwest and Mexican Northwest (SW/NW). Recent research has negated such outdated views, and the Jornada region can now be considered an important part of the greater SW/NW. Archaeological sites ranging in age from the Archaic to Historic period are well-represented, and among these periods are site types including shrine

caves, pithouse villages, pueblos, and Spanish missions. Evidence of ritual behavior and past beliefs has been identified through symbols and motifs inscribed or painted on rock art panels, in ritual features in pueblo rooms, in the construction of shrines, and even large agave baking pits. Studies of Archaic and Jornada-style rock art have provided insights into complex and sophisticated beliefs and how past inhabitants engaged with sacred landscapes and landscape features. For much of the prehistoric sequence of the past 5,000 years, we can now link broad patterns of prehistoric settlement adaptations and social change to the iconography inscribed and painted on rock faces, ceramics, and other items. Recent discoveries in southeastern New Mexico at the eastern margins of the Jornada region will also be presented.

Sponsored by the Arizona Archaeological Society, the talk went live on July 19, 2021, and is currently available at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DT1yWwvSjis>. ❖

### Office of Archaeological Studies

The Office of Archaeological Studies (OAS) was the first museum program of its kind in the nation. OAS staff conducts international field and laboratory research, offers educational opportunities for school groups and civic organizations, and works to preserve, protect, and interpret prehistoric and historic sites throughout New Mexico.

### Friends of Archaeology

The Friends of Archaeology is an interest group within the Museum of New Mexico Foundation that supports the OAS. To join the FOA, you need only become a member of the Museum of New Mexico Foundation and sign up. Visit [www.nmarchaeology.org](http://www.nmarchaeology.org) for information. We're also on Facebook; just search for "@FriendsofArchaeology."

### Mission Statement

The mission of FOA is to support the OAS in the achievement of its archaeological services mandate from the State of New Mexico through participation in and funding of research and education projects.

### Friends of Archaeology Board

**Chair:**  
Jerry Cooke

**Treasurer:**  
Linda Mowbray

**Board Members:**  
Joyce Blalock  
Jerry Cooke  
Pamela K. Misener  
Jerry Sabloff  
Richard Schmeal  
Sherill Spaar  
David Young  
Eric Blinman (OAS Director)  
Jennifer Kilbourn (Coordinator)

## THANKS, LINDA MOWBRAY FOR OVER A DECADE OF SERVICE

Linda Mowbray has been a stalwart FOA volunteer, FOA Activities Committee member and FOA Board member for over a decade, most recently serving as FOA treasurer. We applaud her tenacity, her vision and are forever grateful for her commitment to assist in the support of education outreach and research development activities.

Linda's dedicated and tireless efforts include, but were not limited to, organizing day-long and multi-day FOA events, leadership help with the holiday auction set up and break down and of course, Chiles and Sherds. Linda's astute experience and wisdom to help nonprofit organizations succeed has served to better many of Santa Fe's beloved educational, cultural and environmental resources, in addition to the Friends of Archaeology.

Whenever a new FOA member would arrive she would often say, "I know the least about archaeology of anyone at this table, so if I can find a place to help, so can you!" We wish Linda the absolute best as she moves away from New Mexico. Thank you and Godspeed, Linda! ❖



Linda Mowbray

## HELP BUILD THE FUTURE OF FOA

### Friends of Archaeology (FOA) Board

FOA is always looking for dedicated board members to help guide Friends of Archaeology activities and support the mission of the Office of Archaeological Studies, which includes archaeological research, education and community outreach. Meetings are held every other month at Center for New Mexico Archaeology.

### Friends of Archaeology (FOA) Activities Committee

FOA needs your help to plan and implement archaeological field trips and lectures. Volunteers who participate join a group interested in exploring New Mexico's past and the places, and research, that make our history and prehistory come alive. They have the opportunity to visit historic and prehistoric locations and are exposed to subject matter and sites they would not otherwise have experienced. Volunteer time commitments vary and can be as simple as supporting the FOA reservations hotline, or as involved as trip planning, coordination and support. Trip coordinators can attend the events they coordinate for free!

Please contact Jennifer Kilbourn, FOA Coordinator, at (505) 490-9119 or e-mail [friendsofarchaeologynm@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofarchaeologynm@gmail.com). ❖

# ARCHAEOLOGY DAY OCTOBER 16, 2021 EVENT WILL BE HELD ONLINE ONLY

ERIC BLINMAN  
OAS DIRECTOR

I try to reserve more personal expressions for the From the Director contribution to the newsletter, but the decision to "go virtual" with our Archaeology Day open house has been wrenching. As recently as June, we were looking forward to seeing all of you again, experiencing the joy of spontaneous discussions, and sharing the value of experiential learning through all our senses. Unfortunately, we have witnessed a resurgence of virus infections given a more contagious variant, the slowing of the vaccination rate, and equivocal adherence to mask guidance.

Of specific concern is that some vaccinated individuals will become asymptomatic spreaders of the virus if they become infected. The best advice of the moment is that we should continue to behave as if each of us is a risk to those around us, regardless of vaccination status, while relying on the vaccines to reduce our own risk of mortality, should we contract the virus. The people we care about will be best protected by a combination of self-interest (being vaccinated) and altruism (doing what we can to avoid spreading the virus within our supportive community).

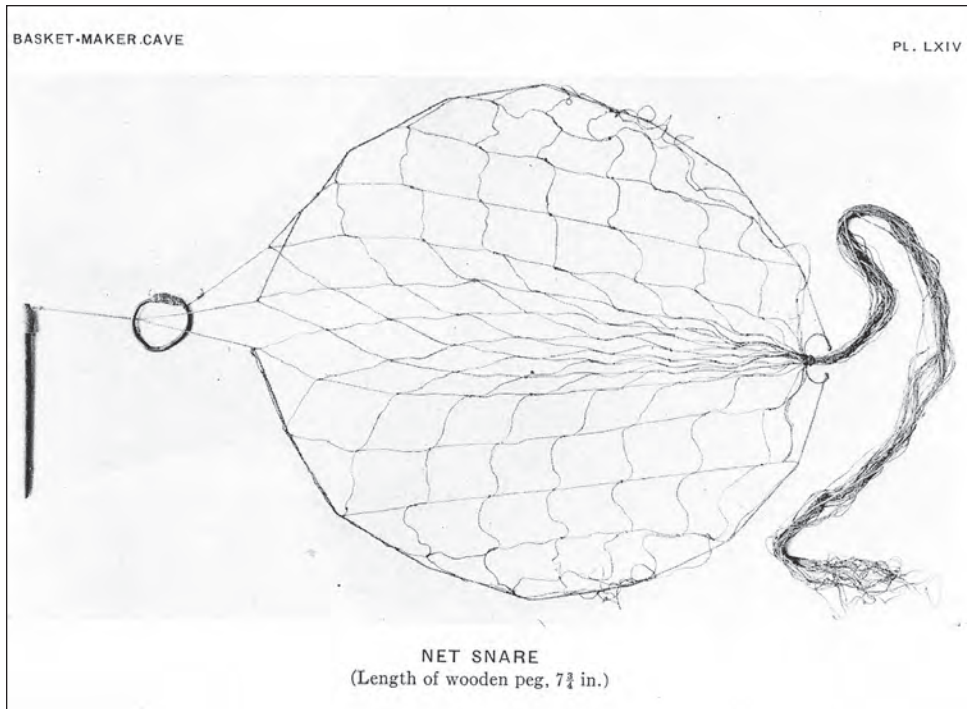
Toward those ends, we need to be virtual again in 2021. We will work over the next two months to create and edit a series of videos that will highlight some of the activities that we usually offer during Archaeology Day. Jennifer Kilbourn, our incredibly versatile FOA administrator, will be spearheading the effort, assembling



## SUMMER GARDEN

Isaac Coan, of the New Mexico Office of Archaeological Studies, takes a moment to check in on his garden in the back lot of the CNMA building. The garden was planted using Zuni waffle techniques in the style of the Three Sisters. Isaac has planted yellow, green, and winter squash as well as Taos blue corn, sweet corn, and rainbow corn. Also sprouting at this time, Anasazi beans and pinto beans.





Archaeologist Jesse L. Nusbaum included this image of an early snare trap in his book *A Basket-Maker Cave in Kane County, Utah*.

## DIRECTOR

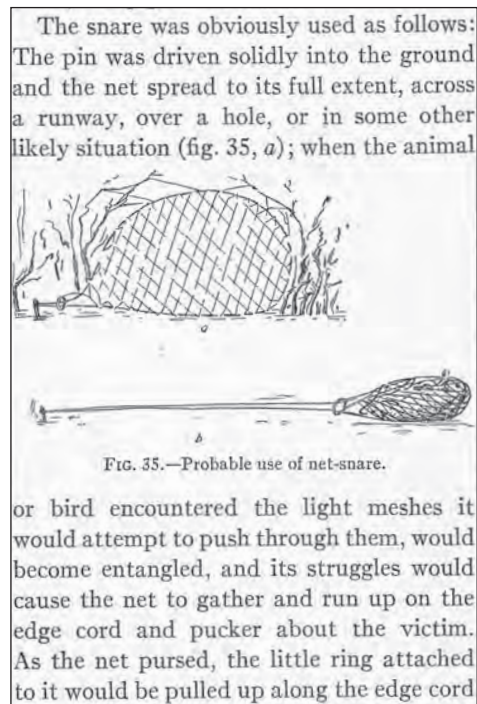
Continued from Page 1.

squirrels. Fences are meaningless to the agile predators. They went straight for the tender tips of the ears of corn, crippling if not destroying the crop. They have left the squash and beans alone, but for how long?

There are no solutions for Scott's dilemma, other than to draw on a reservoir of faith and try again next year. For Isaac, there are immediate solutions, but they are culturally constrained. In ancient times, active hunting of rabbits and squirrels would have been an integral part of gardening, turning predators into prey and a meal. The rabbit stick and snare would have replaced the fence, and individual threats could have been dealt with directly and immediately.

In 1922, archaeologist Jesse L. Nusbaum included text and images of an early snare trap in his book *A Basket-Maker Cave in Kane County, Utah*. Those images, and the text, have been included here.

Today, social rules see bunnies and squirrels as cute, and live-trapping is acceptable while killing is less so, and eating the kill is literally "off the



Text from Nusbaum's book explains how this type of snare trap was likely used.

table." An irony is that it's likely that our squirrels are probably descendants of someone else's live-trapping and relocation effort. If Isaac is able to capture his nemesis, he will have to decide what neighborhood to inflict with the next generation of these very pesky vermin. ❖

# OUTREACH INSPIRES OAS EDUCATOR

OAS archaeologist Mary Weahkee hosted a special presentation July 17 and 18 at Pecos National Historical



Mary Weahkee

Park. During the event, she demonstrated the technique used to wind turkey feathers and yucca twine into a recently completed blanket. She also spoke of gathering the feathers and of

the turkeys who provided them.

"It felt so good to be out and doing education outreach," she said. "From the number of people visiting the monument, I was not the only one who was glad to be out."

"I arrived at the park and unloaded the outreach items I was going to use," Mary continued. "As I looked at the trailhead to the Pecos Pueblo site, I could only imagine the old ones wondering who I was and what I was going to do that morning. I prayed that my words would be strong and that the ears of the visitors would take my words with open minds."

Mary said the visitors' curiosity, and their many questions, kept her busy.

"This is what educators live for, the captivity of an audience and the slew of questions," she said. "You know you have aroused curiosity in their hearts."

Mary said her main goal is to reach out to as many people as possible, with a special emphasis on children.

"I often feel I am planting seeds in the minds of children," she said.

"I have nothing but pride when I say I am an archaeologist for the Museum of New Mexico and a steward for my people's knowledge," Mary said. "This is a good path. I hope to encourage more young Native Americans to become good stewards of their own valuable treasures." ❖



## DCA PUBLISHES ACTIVITY BOOK FOR NM KIDS

Educators throughout the Department of Cultural Affairs, including the Office of Archaeological Studies Education Outreach Program, partnered together to create a beautiful, first-of-its-kind, children's activity book, *Tails and Tales*.

Designed with accessibility in mind, the activity book has been printed in both English and Spanish, ensuring that all New Mexican children have the opportunity to join in on the fun.

Thematically paralleled with the State Library's summer reading program, the book highlights each of the 14 divisions of DCA in a fun and educational way bridging art, science, and even cooking.

OAS's contribution introduces children to archaeology and the story of a piece of pottery discovered at an archaeological site.

At least 9,500 printed activity books will be freely distributed across the state by libraries and the traveling bookmobiles. A copy of the activity book is also available for download at <https://dcaeducates.nmculture.org/dca-activity-book-tails-and-tales/>

DCA hopes the book contributes to a fun, learning-filled summer and inspires children and families to learn even more about what makes our state special. ❖

# LEARNING KITS

## NEW EDUCATION KIT FOCUSES ON THE IMPORTANCE OF FOOD, LAND IN THE PAST



Two hundred new education outreach kits, each containing several lessons on the importance of food and land, have been sent to children throughout New Mexico. The kits represent a collaboration between the U.S. Bureau of Land Management's Project Archaeology, the New Mexico Department of Cultural Affairs, and the Office of Archaeological Studies.

Kits have already been sent to towns throughout New Mexico, including Moriarty, Santa Rosa, Fort Sumner, and Reserve, in late July. Another batch was handed over to State Library personnel, who distributed the kits, via bookmobiles and state vehicles, to other communities earlier this month.

"DCA educators in their weekly meeting looked at the map of where kits went last year," said Education Outreach Coordinator Mollie Toll, "so this is what we came up with in an attempt to get more kits out to communities that might not have received them last time."

Kits have been made available to

children in the Gallup and Quemado area; the Navajo and Apache reservations; the Wagon Mound, Springer, and Raton area; Carrizozo; and the Alamo Navajo Reservation.

Each box contains a pack of colored pencils, graph paper, a ruler, small plastic food shapes, and a small bag of colored clay. Children will learn about modern-day food production across the United States and in northern Mexico by keeping track of daily meals and learning where each ingredient may have originated.

In the second lesson, kids are asked to draw maps of their own kitchens, concentrating on where food is stored and where and how food is prepared in their own homes. They will then compare their kitchens to food remains and food processing tools found at an archaeological site in Nevada. The site was occupied by Great Basin foragers for 7,000 years.

In the final lesson, kids create their own menus using ingredients found in the New Mexico area prior to the arrival of the Spanish and Anglo people. ❖



Children of all ages participated in the summer camp event hosted by Native American Student Services. Lessons on survival, weaponry, textiles, and food and nutrition were taught by OAS staff and facilitators of the OAS Education Outreach Program.



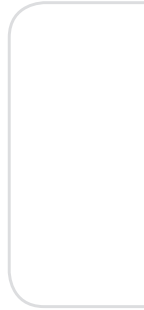
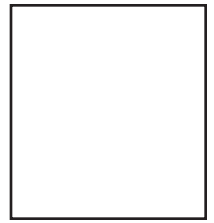
## FIELD

Continued from Page 1.

Students participated in a variety of activities, from skills of survival taught by Eric Blinman and OAS staff to ancient weaponry with Isaac Coan and food and nutrition with Mollie Toll. The session ended with a lesson in textiles and yucca weaving. Students said the highlight of the session was learning to make fire and created their own arrows.

The students said they especially enjoyed learning about ancestral skill sets and sharing their experiences with family members. This inspired memories and stories from years ago. The stories were often shared in class the next day.

The program was made possible by donors to the OAS Education Outreach Program who help provide similar experiences to students of all ages all year round. This is the third year that OAS has participated in this event. ❖



## ONLINE

Continued from Page 4.

and editing footage of our various laboratory and analytic specialists. Also, we will promote pre-existing and new video introductions and explanations of the education kits that Mollie Toll, Caitlin Ainsworth, and Shelby Jones and a host of volunteers have created that are currently being distributed throughout the State. The goal will be to invest in video products that will be useful both in October and in the future as support for OAS community education initiatives. Those videos will be available online leading up to Archaeology Day, and announcements and links about upcoming talks will be provided via FOA e-blast and on the OAS website ([nmarchaeology.org](http://nmarchaeology.org)).

In an effort to maintain the personal connections, spontaneity, and interactions that are important parts of Archaeology Day, OAS archaeologists, scientists, and educators will be scheduled for

live Question and Answer sessions about their videos and their specialties throughout the day. We will use the Zoom platform, and questions can be e-mailed to [friendsofarchaeologynm@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofarchaeologynm@gmail.com) in advance of the day; on the day audience members can use the chat function during each Zoom session. The schedule of the Q&A sessions will be distributed via FOA e-blast and will also be posted on the OAS website. All talks offered Saturday will also be broadcast on Facebook Live at @FriendsofArchaeology.

Finally, as OAS Director, I will provide a "People's Choice" live lecture on the Zoom platform on Saturday afternoon. Topic suggestions are welcome. Please address suggestions to Eric, via e-mail, at the [friendsofarchaeologynm@gmail.com](mailto:friendsofarchaeologynm@gmail.com) address. Suggestions must be received by Monday, Oct. 11, and I will weave as many of the topics as possible into my presentation.

We hope to see all of you, shake hands, and hug at some point in the future, but until then, please be safe! ❖

## MAKE YOUR MARK ON NM ARCHAEOLOGY!

Please consider supporting the Office of Archaeological Studies by making a gift to education or research by check, credit, stock, IRA rollover, or planned gift this year.

Your tax-deductible donation through the Museum of New Mexico Foundation will have a lasting impact throughout the state. One hundred percent of your donation will be directed to the Office of Archaeological Studies. No administrative fees are charged.

Give online:  
[www.museumfoundation.org/support-archaeology](http://www.museumfoundation.org/support-archaeology).

For questions about giving, or to donate, contact Lauren Paige, at (505) 982-2282, or via e-mail at [lauren@museumfoundation.org](mailto:lauren@museumfoundation.org).