Discover the Road to Ruins!
March 1998 is Arizona Archaeology Awareness Month

Arizona Archaeology Month is upon us in March 1998, with a theme of “Discover the Road to Ruins!” A more than-month-long series of events around the state this year will focus on efforts to help everyone appreciate and preserve Arizona’s past by learning about and helping protect our cultural resources.

For the entire month of March the State Historic Preservation Office, a division of Arizona State Parks, is coordinating activities for the fifteenth annual Arizona Archaeology Awareness Month. Old Pueblo Archaeology Center, as well as museums and historical societies, tribes and government agencies, and many other archaeology organizations, will host events all across the state.

Continued on page 6

Artifacts from a Previous Volunteer Archaeological Dig

The summer 1996 excavations at the Tack Room site in Tucson recovered the two Rincon Redon-brown painted bowls in this photo. The plainware bowl with drips of red paint on its interior (left) is from Otis’s site. Both sites were excavated by archaeologists and volunteer members of Old Pueblo Archaeology Center during the “Vactor Ranch” project, sponsored by ContraVest Properties Inc. See pages 4 and 5 for more photos and a story about the project. All Vactor Ranch artifact photos in this issue were taken by Ken Matesich.
Archaeology for All!

Discount Rates Offered for OPEN1 Kids’ Dig Sessions in March 1998
More Sabino Canyon Ruin Digs & Flintknapping Workshops Coming

The OPEN1 Mock Archaeological Dig

Kids and grownups can dig to discover pottery and other artifacts buried in OPEN1, a realistic full-size model of a prehistoric Indian pit-house village ruin. Saturday sessions include archaeological excavations and Native American craft activities for ages 5 to adult.

A recent donation from Agnese Haury, one of our generous supporters, has enabled Old Pueblo Archaeology Center to reduce the OPEN1 program fees to $5 per session or $18 for four consecutive sessions for March 1998. (The usual fees are $10 per session, $35 for four sessions.)

TIME TO RENEW?

If you received this issue in one of our mailings, the 8-digit number on the top line of your address label indicates the year, month, and day your Old Pueblo Archaeology subscription will expire. If your label month is the same as the month of this bulletin issue you need to renew your subscription or membership (see back page) in order to receive more issues.

CREDIT CARDS AND CHECKS OK
Old Pueblo Archaeology Center accepts Visa and MasterCard, checks, and cash as payment for course fees and publications.

Sabino Canyon Ruin Excavations

One-, two-, or three-day archaeological field school sessions are offered at Tucson’s Sabino Canyon Ruin, the site of a prehistoric Hohokam Indian village that was inhabited between A.D. 1000 and 1350. With guidance from archaeologists, participants learn to identify Pre-Columbian artifacts, architectural features, and other evidence of prehistoric occupations. Introductory one-day (5-hour) basic dig sessions are open for registration on Saturdays. Non-weekend sessions can be arranged for groups of three or more.

Advance reservations are required for all dig sessions and group rates are available for all programs. Call (520) 798-1201 for reservations or more information.

More Flintknapping Workshops!

Archaeologist and master flintknapper Allen Denoyer will offer three more workshops in one of the most ancient of arts -- flintknapping (flaked stone toolmaking) -- to beginners as well as advanced flintknappers. As he teaches you how to make an arrowhead out of obsidian stone just like prehistoric peoples did, Allen helps you understand more about the ancient ones by studying how they made and used stone artifacts.

Class dates are on Saturday March 7, Sunday March 8, and Saturday April 11. Each class runs from 9 until noon, and Allen can stay later in the afternoon to provide additional tips and supervision for those who want more practice. All needed materials are provided.

Classes meet at Old Pueblo Archaeology Center, 1000 E. Fort Lowell Rd. Fee is $16 per person (Archaeology Opportunities members get 20% discount). For reservations call 798-1201.

Archaeology Opportunities:
Old Pueblo Archaeology Center’s membership and volunteer program is for people who wish to participate in archaeological excavations and other aspects of scientific cultural research, or for those who simply wish to support archaeology education programs. By taking part in field research, members get to discover ancient artifacts and cultural features, learn proper archaeological record-keeping and sketching methods, and participate in postfieldwork analyses, artifact processing and cataloging, and database utilization.

Membership benefits include opportunities to participate in Old Pueblo Archaeology Center’s excavations, field surveys, and other research programs; 20% discounts on Old Pueblo’s publications, other items, and course offerings; subscription to the Old Pueblo Archaeology quarterly bulletin; and invitations and discounts for field trips and other archaeology events.

Persons who complete a basic three-day Sabino Canyon Ruin field school program automatically become Archaeology Opportunities members for a full year. A yearly fee option for enrollment and membership renewal is also available as indicated here. The back cover of this issue includes an enrollment form.

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<thead>
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<th>Category</th>
<th>Annual</th>
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<td>Dues</td>
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## Coming Events

Old Pueblo Archaeology Center’s Upcoming Public Programs on Hohokam Arts And Culture

For more information call the person listed for the individual event or call Allen Dart at Old Pueblo Archaeology Center, 798-1201

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>Mar 7</td>
<td>Sat 9 a.m. to noon</td>
<td>Guided tour, public archaeological field school, and <em>Archaeology Opportunities</em> volunteer dig at the Sabino Canyon Ruin. Call 798-1201 for directions and information on fees.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar 7</td>
<td>Sat 10:30 a.m.</td>
<td>Archaeologist Allen Denoyer teaches flintknapping workshop open to beginners as well as advanced knappers. 1000 E. Fort Lowell Road, Tucson. Call 798-1201 for information on fees.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar 8</td>
<td>Sun 9 a.m. to noon</td>
<td>Archaeologist Allen Denoyer teaches flintknapping workshop open to beginners as well as advanced knappers. 1000 E. Fort Lowell Road, Tucson. Call 798-1201 for information on fees.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar 7</td>
<td>Sat 8:30-10:00 &amp; 10:30-noon</td>
<td>OPEN1 children’s hands-on archaeological program for ages 5 and up, including Indian craft activities, at Old Pueblo Archaeology Center, 1000 E. Fort Lowell Road, Tucson. Call 798-1201 for information on fees.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar 10</td>
<td>Tues 6:30 pm</td>
<td>&quot;Arts and Culture of the Prehistoric Hohokam Indians&quot; slide-illustrated presentation by archaeologist Allen Dart, with artifact display, at Arizona Archaeological Society-Santa Cruz Valley Chapter meeting, Villages Recreation Center, 400 W. San Ignacio, Green Valley, AZ. Nancy Hough, 578-9093.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar 12</td>
<td>Th 2:00-3:30 pm</td>
<td>&quot;Prehistoric Pottery of the Hohokam Indians in Tucson &amp; Green Valley Area&quot; slide-illustrated presentation by archaeologist Allen Dart, with artifact display, at Conrad Joyner/Green Valley Branch Library, 601 N. La Canada Dr., Green Valley AZ. Jim Trimbell, 648-1526.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar 13</td>
<td>Fri 1:30 pm</td>
<td>&quot;Arts and culture of the Prehistoric Hohokam Indians&quot; slide-illustrated presentation by archaeologist Allen Dart, with artifact display, at Old Pueblo Archaeology Center, 1000 E. Fort Lowell Road, Tucson.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar 14 &amp; 15</td>
<td>Sat &amp; Sun 10-11 am</td>
<td>Statewide &quot;Archaeology Expo&quot; at Deer Valley Rock Art Center, 3711 W. Deer Valley Road, Phoenix AZ: Displays and hands-on exhibits by many archaeology organizations from throughout Arizona. Old Pueblo’s archaeologists will demonstrate how Arizona’s ancient peoples made pottery in a hands-on exhibit in which participants can make their own pots out of fast-drying clay to take home. Old Pueblo Archaeology Center will also display artifacts from some of its excavations in southern Arizona and hand out literature about programs in which the public can participate directly in archaeological research. Ms. Kim Huber, Deer Valley Rock Art Center, (602) 582-8007.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar 14</td>
<td>Sat 8:30-10:00 &amp; 10:30-noon</td>
<td>OPEN1 children’s hands-on archaeological program for ages 5 and up, including Indian craft activities, at Old Pueblo Archaeology Center, 1000 E. Fort Lowell Road, Tucson. Call 798-1201 for information on fees.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar 18</td>
<td>Wed 10 am</td>
<td>&quot;Prehistoric Pottery of the Hohokam Indians in Tucson&quot; slide-illustrated presentation by archaeologist Allen Dart, with artifact display, at Old Pueblo Archaeology Center, 1000 E. Fort Lowell Road, Tucson.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar 21</td>
<td>Sat 8:30-10:00 &amp; 10:30-noon</td>
<td>OPEN1 children’s hands-on archaeological program for ages 5 and up, including a demonstration of prehistoric textile-fiber spinning and take-home spinning craft project, at Old Pueblo Archaeology Center, 1000 E. Fort Lowell Road, Tucson. Call 798-1201 for information on fees.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar 21</td>
<td>Sat 4-5 pm</td>
<td>&quot;Hohokam Rock Art &amp; Religion&quot; slide-illustrated presentation by archaeologist Todd Bostwick, at Old Pueblo Archaeology Center, 1000 E. Fort Lowell Road, Tucson.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mar 22</td>
<td>Sun 5 pm</td>
<td>&quot;Arts and culture of the Prehistoric Hohokam Indians&quot; slide-illustrated presentation by archaeologist Allen Dart, with artifact display, for Old Fort Lowell Neighborhood Association at the historic San Pedro Chapel, 5230 E. Fort Lowell Rd., Tucson. Jeanne Turner, 326-6042.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar 28</td>
<td>Sat 8:30-10:00 &amp; 10:30-noon</td>
<td>OPEN1 children’s hands-on archaeological program for ages 5 and up, including Indian craft activities, at Old Pueblo Archaeology Center, 1000 E. Fort Lowell Road, Tucson. Call 798-1201 for information on fees.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Apr 2</td>
<td>Th 7 pm</td>
<td>&quot;Arts and culture of the Prehistoric Hohokam Indians&quot; slide-illustrated presentation by archaeologist Allen Dart, with artifact display, at Arizona Archaeological Society-Cochise Chapter meeting, Sierra Vista, Arizona. Ellen Bolduc, (520) 459-4692.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Apr 8</td>
<td>Wed 6:30 pm</td>
<td>&quot;Arts and Culture of the Prehistoric Hohokam Indians&quot; at Fredonia Media Center (school library) for Arizona Archaeological Society Kaiva Plateau Chapter. Wayne Grosz, 435-644-5979, 1157 S. Kane Drive, Kanab UT 84741.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr 13</td>
<td>Mon 8:00 p.m.</td>
<td>&quot;Arts and Culture of the Prehistoric Hohokam Indians&quot; slide-illustrated presentation by archaeologist Allen Dart, with artifact display, at Arizona Archaeological Society-Ajo Chapter meeting, 320 E. 1st Ave., Ajo AZ. Shelby Ballard, (520) 387-6063.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr 16</td>
<td>Th 7:30 pm</td>
<td>&quot;Arts and culture of the Prehistoric Hohokam Indians&quot; slide-illustrated presentation by archaeologist Allen Dart, with artifact display, at Arizona Archaeological Society-Yavapai Chapter meeting, Prescott, AZ. Reed Schonfeld, (520) 717-1658.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apr 18</td>
<td>Sat [Call for times]</td>
<td><em>Archaeology Opportunities</em> volunteer dig and public archaeological field school at the Sabino Canyon Ruin. Call 798-1201 for directions and information on nonmembers.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 2</td>
<td>Sat [Call for times]</td>
<td><em>Archaeology Opportunities</em> volunteer dig and public archaeological field school at the Sabino Canyon Ruin. Call 798-1201 for directions and information on nonmembers.</td>
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The Sabino Canyon Ruin public guided tours on March 7 are fund raisers for Old Pueblo Archaeology Center’s nonprofit education program. Archaeologists direct the tours and the dig that same day show and describe examples of artifacts that have been recovered as well as several excavated Hohokam pithouses and above-ground adobe structures, and offer interpretations of ancient Hohokam life in the Sabino Canyon area.

Old Pueblo Archaeology Center members can go on the tours free with advance reservations. A $10 per adult and $2 per 12-and-under child donation is requested from nonmembers.

Call Old Pueblo Archaeology Center at 798-1201 for reservations & directions.
Wrap-Up of the Vactor Ranch Archaeological Project

A monograph entitled *Archaeological Test Excavations and Data Recovery at the Tack Room Site, Otis’s Site, and the G. R. McGregor Site on the Vactor Ranch in Tucson, Arizona* (Archaeology Report No. 15), by archaeologist Jeffrey T. Jones, will be published by Old Pueblo Archaeology Center in March or April 1998. This new book will present the results of the “Vactor Ranch mitigation” project at archaeological sites AZ BB:9:303 (the Tack Rook site), AZ BB:9:304 (Otis’s site), and AZ BB:9:305 (the G. R. McGregor site), three prehistoric Hohokam Indian sites that were excavated by Old Pueblo near Tanque Verde and Sabino Canyon roads in August and September 1996. The photos on page 1 and these two pages show some of the items that were recovered during the Vactor Ranch mitigation project.

Old Pueblo Archaeology Center conducted the Vactor Ranch project archaeological excavations for ContraVest Properties Inc. to help that Tucson property development company preserve information about the people who had occupied Tucson’s Vactor Ranch area in ancient times, before a new housing development was to be constructed on the property. The archaeological data recovery mitigation program was designed by Old Pueblo and implemented for ContraVest in August 1996, and fieldwork was completed in the following month with assistance from numerous *Archaeology Opportunities* volunteers.

*The clay pinch-pot at left and the scoop (bottom) are from a pithouse floor at Otis’s site. The pinch-pot at right is from a Tack Room site subfloor pit.*

During the data recovery excavations for this project, 17 Rincon phase Hohokam pithouses and 45 associated outdoor pits were investigated. Six of the pithouses and most of the outdoor pits were at the Tack Room site whereas 11 pithouses but fewer outdoor pits were identified at Otis’s site. Only two outdoor pits were found at the G. R. McGregor site.

The Tack Room site and Otis’s site were both small agricultural settlements. The Tack Room site was apparently occupied only during portions of the year during the middle Rincon phase between A.D. 1000 and 1100; it may have been reoccupied during the Tanque Verde phase between A.D. 1150 and 1350. Otis’s site was apparently occupied year-round during the Middle to Late Rincon phase, A.D. 1000-1150, and may have seen less intensive use for processing wild resources during the Tanque Verde phase.

The G.R. McGregor site appears to have never been more than a wild resource collecting and processing area. It was probably utilized by residents of the Tack Room or Otis’s site, or one of several other Hohokam sites nearby.

*The Rincon Red-on-brown platter (rear) and Tanque Verde Red-on-brown bowl (foreground) were both found in one pithouse at the Tack Room site. The Rincon Red-on-brown bowl (center) is from another house at the Tack Room site.*
Rincon and Tanque Verde Red-on-brown sherds and a narrow pottery polishing stone surround a carved stone palette fragment, seashell bracelet fragments, restrung turquoise and sea-snail shell beads, and a whole shell bead, all recovered from the Tack Room site in 1996.

This complete Hohokam plainware pottery jar was found in a subfloor pit in one of the Tack Room site pithouses.

The rectangular pottery sherd with smoothed edges (top) is from Otis’s site. The worked sherd spindle whorl (lower left) and sherd disk (lower right) are from the Tack Room site.
Discover the Road to Ruins! (Continued from page 1)

Proclaimed by the Governor, this year's Arizona Archaeology Awareness Month features over ten dozen tours to prehistoric and historical sites, exhibits, open houses, lectures, demonstrations, and other activities throughout Arizona.

* A listing of Arizona Archaeology Awareness Month events statewide was included as an insert in copies of this issue of Old Pueblo Archaeology that were mailed in late February 1998.

Additional copies of the events listing brochure can be obtained from Arizona State Parks by calling Ann Howard in Phoenix at (602) 542-4174.

One of the highlights of Archaeology Awareness Month is the Archaeology Expo, which will be hosted at the Deer Valley Rock Art Center (DVRA) in Phoenix from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. each day on Saturday and Sunday, March 14-15, 1998.

The Archaeology Expo features free admission and many attractions for archaeology and history buffs. Guided tours of prehistoric rock art located along a wheelchair accessible trail will be offered as well as over 50 special displays and booths by Old Pueblo Archaeology Center, other archaeological organizations, museums, Native American tribes, and others.

Many of the Expo's exhibits will include hands-on archaeology activities for kids and adults, including Old Pueblo's! Demonstrations of prehistoric and modern Native American crafts -- stone tool manufacture, petroglyph production, basketry, pottery, and more -- are planned each day, along with Native American entertainers and living history re-enactments.

The Archaeology Expo activities will give Deer Valley Rock Art Center's March 14 and 15 visitors new insights into Arizona's many prehistoric and historic cultures. Free raffles featuring prizes of educational archaeology-related items will be held throughout both days, and tasty Native American foods will be available.

The Expo is a partnership between the State Historic Preservation Office, Deer Valley Rock Art Center, Motorola Corporation, Old Pueblo Archaeology Center, the Arizona Archaeological Society, the Southwest Archaeology Team, and numerous other organizations who have joined together to offer two days of public archaeology programs.

For more information about Arizona Archaeology Awareness Month or the Archaeology Expo call Ms. Ann Howard at the State Historic Preservation Office, (602) 542-4174; or for more info on the Expo call Ms. Kim Huber at Deer Valley Rock Art Center, (602) 582-8007.

Arizona Humanities Council Programs

The Arizona Humanities Council, our state's branch of the National Endowment for the Humanities, has a Resource Center offering high quality educational and cultural activity programs free to Arizona nonprofit organizations. These programs include public speakers, organized book discussions, and national issues forums. The AHC's Speakers Bureau can provide speakers for presentations about Arizona's cultures, archaeology, history, religion, arts, and music. Speakers are available to any Arizona nonprofit group likely to attract 15 or more people to meetings that are free and open to the general public.

Old Pueblo Archaeology Center's Allen Dart offers two AHC presentations: "Arts and Culture of the Prehistoric Hohokam Indians" and "Prehistoric Pottery of the Hohokam Indians in Tucson." He will present both programs in several communities in March and April and would be happy to present them to other groups in Arizona. To set up a speaking engagement call him in Tucson at (520) 798-1201 weekdays or 327-3509 on evenings or weekends to arrange a date.

Thanks to Our Recent Supporters


Volunteers recorded 116 hours of service to Old Pueblo Archaeology Center from Jan. 1-Feb. 21! Thanks this month to the Torres Blancas Village dig volunteers named on page 9; and to Charlie Emerson, Cleta Hutchinson, Mary Lu Moore, Gail Roper, Steve Stacey, Jim Streeter, Tom Todd, Jim Trimbell, and Cindy Zokrouf for help at the Sabino Canyon Ruin and at Old Pueblo's office. (Our apologies if we've overlooked anyone!)

"Gourmet Archaeology" at Q-Ranch

On April 24, 25, & 26, 1998, the Arizona Archaeological Society and Old Pueblo Archaeology Center will offer a 3-day-weekend dig led by Tucson archaeologist Allen Dart at Q-Ranch Pueblo, an ancient Mogollon Indian ruin in the White Mountains. The program includes nine delicious meals prepared by renowned chef Jonathan Rogers and accommodations at Q Ranch Lodge, a comfortable two-story ranch house located next to the ruin. Q Ranch is 150 miles northeast of Phoenix and is accessible to passenger cars and via White Mountain Passenger Lines coaches running between Phoenix and Show Low.

Besides experiencing some of the finest southwestern cuisine, participants can relax in the warmth of the lodge's great fireplace in the evenings to reminisce about the day's discoveries and learn about the region's prehistory and history.

The program fee of $465 covers all lodging, meals beginning Thursday evening, dig equipment, and Arizona Archaeological Society membership. Single-occupancy rooms are available. For details and a map call Allen Dart at (520) 798-1201.
Old Pueblo Archaeology Center Raffle
Features Mimbres Designs Quilt, Rare Hopi “Shell Game” Kachina Dolls

Several of Old Pueblo Archaeology Center’s supporters have recently donated unique art items to Old Pueblo to help us raise funds for our nonprofit educational and research programs. Acting on the generosity of these donors, Old Pueblo Archaeology Center’s Board of Directors has decided to hold a fundraising raffle in which their donations — described below in the sequence in which they were received by Old Pueblo — will be given away as prizes.

The donated gift that inspired the idea of holding a raffle is a unique 84” X 94” quilt that was pieced, sewn, and donated by skilled quilters Carolyn O’Bagy Davis (one of Old Pueblo’s founders), Barbara O’Bagy, and Carole Collins. Featuring 30 quilt blocks in 24 different images from ancient black-on-white pottery bowls that were found in Mimbres Culture archaeological sites in southwestern New Mexico, the quilt would retail for about $1,000 if it were to be sold.

Ceramic artists Laurel and Paul Thornburg of Sonoita, Arizona, donated a 5-inch diameter Mimbres Black-on-white-style pottery bowl that they made especially for Old Pueblo Archaeology Center. Their beautiful bowl (for which Old Pueblo Archaeology has already received an offer of $100) is a precise replica of an 800-year-old original artifact now housed at the Geronimo Museum in Truth or Consequences, New Mexico. It features an unusual quadruped with goggle-eyes in an ET (the Extra Terrestrial)-like head, the entire creature depicted in negative against a black background, within ten ultrafine encircling lines.

Metal sculptor Mike Chumbley’s donation is a plate-steel sculpture that he made in his commercial metal shop in Prescott Valley, Arizona. It depicts a Pueblo Indian Sun figure with eyes, mouth, and geometric facial features in a buffed steel overlay, attached to a blued steel base plate with 16 stepped sunrays radiating outward from the face.

Nathalie and Richard Woodbury’s donations include ethnographic artworks of the Southwestern Navajo and Hopi Indians. One is a 40 X 19” Navajo rug that the Woodburys obtained in Ramah, New Mexico, in 1954. It features a series of seven fringed-line bars in all-natural gray and brownish-black-dyed yarns on a natural color wool yarn background.

The Woodburys’ other donation is a so-so-tok-pi game set made by Edmund Nequatewa of Hotevilla, Arizona, which was awarded First Prize in the Museum of Northern Arizona’s Hopi Craftsman Exhibition of July 1961. Consisting of four stylized kachina dolls with deep holes drilled into their bottoms, the set was made to play a Hide and Seek game in which one player places a corn kernel under one of the figures and challenges an opponent to find the hidden corn. The winner of this raffle prize will receive the MNA First Prize ribbon, the original Museum exhibition card, and the artist’s typewritten description of the so-so-tok-pi game along with the kachina doll set.

This first annual Old Pueblo Archaeology Center Fundraising Raffle will be held on September 10, 1998, and tickets are available now. They cost only $2 each or 6 for $10.

All Southwestern art lovers and supporters of Old Pueblo Archaeology Center’s archaeological education programs are asked to support Old Pueblo Archaeology Center by buying as many tickets as you can.

To obtain tickets, call Old Pueblo at (520) 798-1201. Or, write to Old Pueblo Archaeology Center at PO Box 40577, Tucson AZ 85717-0577.
The December 1997 Excavations at the Torres Blancas Village Site: An Archaeology Opportunities Volunteer-Assisted Project

Old Pueblo Archaeology Center conducted archaeological data recovery excavations from December 6 through December 20, 1997, in the northern portion of the Torres Blancas Village archaeological site, AZ EE:1.194 (ASM), in Green Valley, Arizona. Old Pueblo's archaeologists Jeff Jones and Victoria Evans were assisted on this project by Old Pueblo Archaeology Center volunteers Charlie Emerson, Berne Green, Clea Hutchison, Chuck McAninch, Florence Moss, Karen Rathjen, Gail Roper, Robin Rutherford, Scotty Scott, Jim Streeter, Tom Todd, Jim Trimbell, Earl Wilson, and Cindy Zokhrourf. The excavations were sponsored by the Netwest Development Corporation as part of its planning for the construction of its new Silver Springs Assisted Living Facility.

Test excavations conducted by Old Pueblo prior to the December project revealed 12 buried archaeological features in the portion of the site where the December 1997 work focused. To begin data recovery, excavation machinery was used to strip the topsoil off each pithouse or possible pithouse and from above some of the outdoor pits to expose their outlines and any other features nearby that were missed by the test trenches. This machine stripping resulted in discovery of six additional outdoor pits.

Excavation of controlled test excavation units in each of the features first thought to be pithouses confirmed only two of them as prehistoric structures. Disappointingly, the topsoil stripping above one of the others showed that it was merely a burned tree root, and stripping above four others revealed only mottled areas of artifacts and ashy soil about 15 to 20 cm thick, with no distinct outlines, no floors, and no other architectural elements that could positively identify them as pithouses.

Topsoil was also stripped off to expose a large outdoor pit found in one of the trenches, then it and seven other outdoor pits found during topsoil-stripping were excavated entirely. Six of these other pits turned out to be rock-lined or rock-filled roasting pits, and the other was an unburned outdoor pit that was probably used as a basket or olla support, or perhaps as a cholla cactus flowerbud roasting pit with no heating stones.

The information recovered during the December excavations is being used to define the age of the cultural features discovered, to identify specific functions of this northern portion of a large Hohokam habitation site, and to interpret the site’s relationships with contemporaneous settlements in surrounding areas.

Surprisingly, only 485 pottery sherds were recovered during the project and, intriguingly, they include barely more than a dozen decorated, redware, or otherwise slipped pieces. The only pottery type identified among the painted sherds was Tanque Verde Red-on-brown, which was made in the Santa Cruz Valley between A.D. 1150 and 1450. The low numbers of decorated and redware sherds, a high number of well polished pieces, one sherd with a folded rim, the small size of many of the vessels, and sherds with bits of organic matter in their paste has led ceramicist Linda Gregonis to suggest that this northern portion of Torres Blancas Village may postdate 1300. We are still waiting for results of radiocarbon dating studies to confirm this conjectured age.

Old Pueblo Archaeology Center thanks Netwest Development for sponsoring this project and allowing Archaeology Opportunities members to participate in the research.

Old Pueblo Archaeology Center members Cindy Zokhrourf (left) and Earl Wilson (right) helped archaeologist Victoria Evans excavate one of the two Hohokam pithouses found during the Torres Blancas Village archaeology project. Photo by Jeffrey T. Jones.

Jeffrey T. Jones
Allen Dart
Tucson Developer Don Diamond to Receive Award in Public Archaeology
An Old Pueblo Archaeology Exclusive

Among the nominees selected for the Arizona Archaeology Advisory Commission's twelfth annual Awards in Public Archaeology is Tucson property developer Donald R. Diamond. Mr. Diamond will be presented with this prestigious award for donating portions of two significant Green Valley-area archaeological sites to the Archaeological Conservancy in 1994, to preserve them in place rather than subjecting them to potential destruction by either complete archaeological excavation or by construction of new homes and infrastructure in one of the newer Green Valley property development areas.

Mr. Diamond was nominated for this prestigious award by James B. Walker, the Southwest Regional Director of the Archaeological Conservancy. Old Pueblo Archaeology Center's Allen Dart submitted a letter supporting the nomination.

Mr. Diamond's development company, Diamond Management, Inc., (now known as DRD Associates), funded archaeological test excavations at five sites on the Madera Reserve property by Old Pueblo Archaeology Center in 1994. The tests revealed that two of the sites were eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. One contains at least two Hohokam pithouses, rock-filled pits, a cremation burial, and agricultural rock piles constructed and used between A.D. 950 and 1100, plus an early twentieth century house foundation associated with a trash midden dating from 1915 to 1925.

The other significant site that was ultimately donated to the Conservancy contains numerous Hohokam pithouses, outdoor pits, middens, and cremation burials dating between 850 and 1300.

The Arizona Archaeology Advisory Commission generally presents the Awards in Public Archaeology to an avocational archaeologist, a professional archaeologist, and an Arizona Site Steward each year, and occasionally to another person or organization outside those three categories.

This year's Awards in Public Archaeology will be presented to Mr. Diamond and others at the Archaeology Expo at 9 a.m. Saturday, March 14, at the Deer Valley Rock Art Center in Phoenix. (See "Discover the Road to Ruins" on page 1).

Publications Available from Old Pueblo Archaeology Center

Archaeology Opportunities members get a 20% discount on these paperback publications from Old Pueblo Archaeology Center -- the member discount price is shown in parentheses. The books are available for pick-up at 1000 E. Fort Lowell Road in Tucson. Shipping fees are charged for mail orders -- call (520) 798-1201 for details and ordering.

Books by Other Publishers

- The Hohokam, Ancient People of the Desert, ed. by David Grant Noble. Leading southwestern scholars present the best summary available about the ancient desert-dwelling Hohokam: their environment, crafts, rock art, religion, and the history of archaeological studies $12.95 ($10.36)
- The Archaeology of Ancient Arizona by Jeffereon Reid and Stephanie Whittlesey. The most current summary of Arizona prehistory, easily readable $17.95 ($14.36)
- Field Methods in Archaeology, 7th edition by Thomas Hester, Harry Shafer, and Kenneth Feder. A current, comprehensive field methods manual for professionals and serious avocational archaeologists $41.95 ($33.56)
- Hopi Quilting: Stitched Traditions from an Ancient Community, by Carolyn Davis. Quilting has been woven into all facets of Hopi life in the past century $27.95 ($22.36)
- Treasured Earth: Hattie Cosgrove's Mimbres Archaeology in the American Southwest, by Carolyn Davis. This book is a treasure in itself for its 421 reproductions of Cosgrove's hand inked Mimbres bowl drawings $24.95 ($19.96)

Recent Old Pueblo Archaeology Center Reports

- Archaeological Excavations at the Silverbell Coachline SW Site, AZ AA:12-321 (ASM), in Marana, Arizona, by Gayle Harrison Hartmann $6.00 ($4.80)
- Archaeological Excavations at the Continental Site in Green Valley, Pima County, Arizona, in 1995, by Jeffrey T. Jones $25.00 ($20.00)
- Archaeological Test Excavations and Data Recovery at the Tack Room Site, Oma's Site, and the G. R. McGregor Site, by Jeffrey T. Jones. Available soon

Still in Print:

- Archaeological Data Recovery at the Rock Hard Site $6.50 ($5.20)
- Archaeological Excavations at the Whispering Pits Site $9.00 ($7.20)
- Archaeological Investigations at the Summit at Alvernon Site $8.50 ($6.80)
- Prehistoric & Historical Sites on the Community of Cívano Development Property $6.50 ($5.20)
- Purposes and Plan for the Archaeological Program at the Sabino Canyon Ruin $5.50 ($4.40)
Jim Trimbell, Gail Roper, Tom Todd, and Steve Stacey (left to right in this photo) helped Old Pueblo Archaeology Center's Allen Dart with test excavations at archaeological site AZ B8:9:117 (ASM), a Preclassic Hohokam habitation site near the Sabino Canyon Ruin, on December 27. No archaeological features and very few artifacts were found in two 2 x 2 meter test excavation units, suggesting that a dirt road through the site is not affecting any of the site's significant archaeological materials. Photo by Allen Dart.

Free Arizona Archaeology Awareness Month events listing included in this issue!

OLD PUEBLO ARCHAEOLOGY

Bulletin of Old Pueblo Archaeology Center, Tucson, Arizona

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