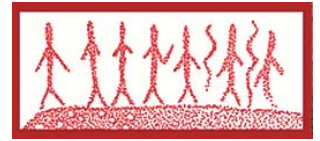


Verde Valley Archaeology Quarterly



Protecting the Ancient Cultural Heritage of the Verde Valley

Autumn/Winter 2012

Center Opens New Facility on Main Street



On November 2, 2012, the Verde Valley Archaeology Center officially opened its new and expanded facility on Main Street in Camp Verde with a members-only preview. The Center opened to the public on November 3.

Our gift shop is operated by the Arizona Natural History Association. The Center is open Wednesday through Monday

(closed Tuesdays) from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm.

The Learning Center space is available for rent. A calendar is maintained on our website to check on available dates and to see the terms for rental. The Yavapai College Osher Life Long Learning Institute will periodically hold classes in this space.

Conservancy Acquires McDonald Property

A 1.3 acre triangle of land, six miles east of Camp Verde on Highway 260, was recently donated to the Archaeological Conservancy by the McDonald family for permanent preservation. Even though privately owned, this small parcel has served as the trailhead for access to the Clear Creek Ruin Complex which is owned by the U.S. Forest Service.

Clear Creek is the largest Tuzigoot-phase Sinagua settlement (A.D. 1250 to 1450) in the region. It's located on a limestone

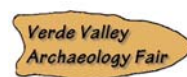


mesa with commanding views of the Verde Valley and the West Clear Creek drainage, and it consists of one main pueblo, a series of cavates, and a handful of other contemporaneous structures spread across three levels of the mesa. The

ground floor of the settlement had at least 48 rooms and may have stood several stories high.

Working with the Center, the Conservancy will create a long-term management plan for the preserve, build a fence around a trail leading to the ruin complex, and erect a sign acknowledging the Mc Donald family donation.

2013 Verde Valley Archaeology Fair Taking Shape



The Fair is composed of two events, the Archaeology Fair on March 30-31, with exhibits, demonstrations and lectures. The Fair events will be in the Camp Verde Community Center and the Archaeology Center. The second event is the *International Archaeology Film Festival* which will feature a film on the first four Saturdays of March starting at 7:00 pm. The final film selections and location will be announced in January. Visit the Center's event website at www.nafestival.com for details.

Honanki Heritage Site Exhibit to Open

The Coconino National Forest archaeologist Peter Pilles has developed an exhibit of textiles for our display case dedicated to the Honanki Heritage Site. The exhibit will open to the public on January 19 but a closed Members-Only preview will take place on Friday, January 18, beginning at 6:00 pm. Peter will be onsite to provide a talk on the exhibit and to answer questions.

Honanki is one of the most significant sites in the Verde Valley. It is listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the *honor role* of sites that have national importance to the prehistoric and historic heritage of the United States. The preservation of perishable artifacts, as seen in this exhibit, is outstanding.

2013 Field School Dates Announced



The Center will again hold a series of excavation field schools near Dove Creek, Colorado at the Champaign Springs Ruins. The dates of the sessions will be May 31- June 3, July 12-15, July 19-22 and August 16-19. The cost to attend one session is \$180 (\$130 members). If attending two sessions, the cost is \$170 (\$120 members) for each session. If attending three sessions, the cost is \$155 (\$105 members) for each sessions. If you want to attend all four sessions the cost is \$140 (\$90 members) for each session. To sign up or for more information, contact Jim



Graceffa at president@verdevalleyarchaeology.org. Spaces are limited and filling up fast.



President's Report

Dr. James Graceffa

Great Strides

As 2012 comes to an end The Verde Valley Archaeology Center is ramping up for many new programs, projects and advantages for current members and would be members. We plan on hitting the ground running in 2013.

A short review of what we were able to get done will demonstrate how your efforts have paid off, whether it was in a donation of time, materials, money or membership. Our two major accomplishments were the *1st Biennial Verde Valley Archaeology Symposium*, which brought archaeologists from all over Arizona to Camp Verde to discuss the "Sinagua" culture for the first time. I would like to give credit to Dr. Todd Bostwick, Stewart Diets and Travis Bone for making this event a success. Our second major accomplishment was the opening of the new facility on Main Street, Camp Verde. It is a dream come true. This was only achieved because of the efforts of the Town Manager, the Mayor, the Town Council and the numerous Center members who worked tirelessly to improve the facility and prepare it for our grand opening. Our members donated numerous hours, materials and funds to make this happen. The list is too long for me to mention everyone by name here, but please know that your contributions will be enjoyed by many in the days to come and is appreciated by all.

Some of our other major accomplishments included student programs for local schools, an archaeology fair and art show, Native American Film Festival, lectures, classes, an archaeology trip to Ecuador and various local field trips. Our partnership with the Archaeological Conservancy remains strong as evidenced by the acquisition of the McDonald property. Add to that, we were able to exhibit artifacts for the first time from the Godard family collection and the Simonton collection at our Grand Opening, which was a great success.

In 2013 more exciting things are in store for Center members. Our goals are to continue with what we have offered in the past, and add more classes, more field trips and a Children's Discovery area at our facility to be enjoyed by the children visiting the Center. All our members now will be entitled to a 15% discount at the Center Store on most items. By the end of 2013, we hope to have easier access to our library. Also we will be making available a list of meetings and lectures for the coming year for everyone to mark on their calendars. Our meetings with speakers will alternate between an evening and Sunday afternoon to give everyone an opportunity to attend. I hope you will take advantage of these.

Our annual meeting will take place on January 23rd in Camp Verde. We continue to update our website and will institute an e-mail program to keep you updated. For those who do not have e-mail you can stop by and pick up an updated calendar of events. Your participation is so greatly appreciated and adds much to our efforts. We will soon institute a Docent training program; this will be fun way to learn about the archaeology of the Southwest, particularly the Verde Valley, and share your knowledge with visitors to the Center.

I will close with a final Thank You and a plea for your continued support in membership, donations and volunteering. Please take time to visit the Center and bring your friends. Your questions and suggestions are welcome. Feel free to contact me anytime at president@verdevalleyarchaeology.org or call the Center and leave a message.



The mission of the Verde Valley Archaeology Center is to preserve archaeological sites and collections, to curate the collections locally, and to make them available for research and education; to develop partnerships with American Indians, cultural groups and the communities it serves; and to foster a deeper understanding of prehistory and American Indian history in the Verde Valley through the science of archaeology.

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It has been a while since anyone was actually caught digging in an Indian ruin. That was over 12 years ago when John Price and Tony Mascher, two prolific pot hunters were caught red-handed looting burials at the Kinninnick ruin southeast of Flagstaff. But just because no one has been nabbed in recent years doesn't mean it has stopped happening.

Case in point is the recent discovery by two members of the Verde Valley Archaeology Center (VVAC) at the Ottens Pueblo on Sugarloaf Mountain outside of Cornville. Overlooking Oak Creek, this 54-room pueblo is one of the largest in the Verde Valley. Bud Henderson and Jim Graceffa had come to the site above Oak Creek on Monday, November 19 with a surveyor to layout some new fence lines. When they arrived a neighbor told them that he had spotted what looked like some pot hunting implements inside the walls of the ruin.



“We started walking around and found a couple places where the ground had been scrapped away. It was like someone had been doing some testing. Then we found two larger excavations one of which had a bucket, a kitchen colander and container that once held drywall mud lying beside it,” said Henderson. Henderson said the two measured the damage then contacted the Yavapai County Sheriff's Office, along with the Archaeological Conservancy, owner of the site. The VVAC monitors and maintains the site through an agreement between the two organizations. It is fenced and marked with no trespassing signs.

According to Ned Greeneltch, coordinator for the valley's Site Steward Program of the Arizona State Historic Preservation Office, this is not the first time the site has been the target of pot hunters this year. Greeneltch said that evidence was found about six months ago of someone digging in a room on the northeast side of the pueblo, along with evidence of some digging on the south side. He notes that what he has seen does not lead him to believe the digging is being done by professional pot hunters. “It looks to someone from the area who just decided to try their luck. Professionals would never leave their tools lying around,” said Greeneltch.

Greeneltch said there have also been reports lately of trespassers at Hata'lacva, another Archaeological Conservancy owned site near Clarkdale. According to Peter Pilles, archaeologist for the Coconino National Forest, in addition to the digging at Ottens Pueblo there has been a rash of graffiti and vandalism recently reported at petroglyph sites on public lands in the Beaver Creek watershed. In early December he was called to a site downstream of V Bar V where a group of boy Scouts camped nearby had etched their names into a soft sandstone wall containing a panel of petroglyphs. The extent of the damage is unknown but the fact the rock has been chipped away would indicate it is seriously damaged.



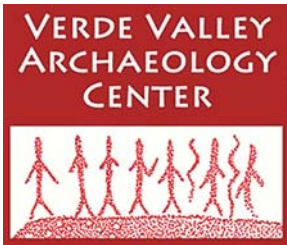
In another incident in Red Tank Draw, someone had made a red tinted hand print on a petroglyph panel. Someone also smeared charcoal on a site along the Bell Trail, just outside of the Beaver Creek Ranger Station. Even in a more remote area of Red Tank Draw someone had scratched an image of an iPad in the sandstone. “Graffiti and senseless vandalism have become the new scourges at valley sites,” said Pilles, “It makes no sense. It's just stupid.” Pilles said that if anyone is apprehended they could be held liable for the damages. The fine for defacing public property can be determined anyone of three ways—either by calculating the cost of restoration, the cost to have an archaeologist professionally excavate the site, or in the instance where items are removed, by the value of those items. If any of those methods add up to more than \$300, the perpetrator can be charged with a felony.

The Verde Valley Archaeology Center strongly supports the Site Steward Program. A Site Steward's primary role is to monitor archaeological, historical, and paleontological sites and report any looting/vandalism. Site Stewards make an important contribution to preserving our cultural heritage. Volunteer training involves 10 hours of classroom instruction and fieldwork. The training sessions include antiquity laws, crime scene management, site and feature identification, and map reading. The program seeks volunteers with strong interests in cultural resource conservation who like the outdoors. Many Center members are site stewards as part of their regular hiking routine. If you would like more information about becoming a site steward, email Ned Greeneltch at racerd37@msn.com.



Steve Ayers, Board of Directors





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Become a member to help protect the ancient cultural heritage of the Verde Valley. Visit us at www.verdevalleyarchaeology.org to join online or download an application, or stop by the Center.

Coming Events

January 18 - Members-Only Preview - 6:00 pm

The new Honanki Heritage Site exhibit will open with a special members-only preview. Coconino National Forest archaeologist Peter Pilles will talk about the artifacts and their significance to the Verde Valley

January 22 - Annual Meeting - 6:30 pm

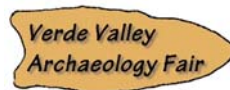
Speaker archaeologist Fred Kraps: "Wari Empire site of Pikallacta" in Peru
Location: Camp Verde Community Center Rooms 206-207

February 17 - Archaeology Sunday - 2:00 pm

Speaker Dave Dove: "Update on Champagne springs and early Anasazi Pueblo 1 sites." Location: Verde Valley Archaeology Center

March 19 - Quarterly Meeting and Presentation - 7:00 pm

Speaker Andy Seagle who will talk about the discoveries in Tim's Cave.
Location: Sedona location TBA.



2nd Annual

Verde Valley Archaeology Fair

www.nafestival.org

The *International Archaeology Film Festival* will present films on **March 2, 9, 16 and 23** at 7:00 pm. Tickets will be \$7 (\$5 members); children under 13 free.

March 30-31 - Archaeology Fair - 10:00 am to 4:00 pm
Camp Verde Community Center and Archaeology Center Exhibits, demonstrations, lectures, Native American Art Show and entertainment. Free admission.

April 21 - Archaeology Sunday - 2:00 pm

Dr. Ron Krug will talk on "Before the Sinagua: Paleo- and Archaic-Indian Occupation of the Verde Valley."
Location: Camp Verde Community Rooms 206-207

