

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE AMERIND FOUNDATION

SUMMER 2004 (VOL 1, NO.3)

MISSION

Established in 1937, the Amerind Foundation and Museum seeks to foster and promote knowledge and understanding of the Native Peoples of the Americas through research, education, and conservation.

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Letters to the director and the board members can be sent care of the Amerind, Box 400, Dragoon, AZ 85609.

The Amerind Quarterly is produced seasonally by staff and volunteers of the Amerind. Maureen O'Neill, technical editor; C. Charnley, design and layout; Barbara Hanson, art.

Summers at the Amerind Museum are a time of below average visitation and abbreviated museum hours, which gives staff some breathing room between our busy spring and fall schedules when we can concentrate on long-term projects such as exhibition design and installation. Amerind staff is working this summer putting the final touches on our Apache

exhibit before its public opening in October. We are also sprucing up our *Images in Time* exhibition, in the main gallery, and planning some major changes to our ongoing archaeology exhibits.

The Apache exhibit tells the story of Apachean migrations to the Southwest from western Canada, the diversification of Apachean tribal groups in the Southwest, and the impacts of Spanish and American conquest of Apacheria in the historic period. The centerpiece of the exhibit is the story of the Chiricahua Apaches who occupied much of Cochise County and adjacent regions of New Mexico, Chihuahua, and Sonora. Included in the Chiricahua section are superb examples of 19th Century clothing, horse regalia, and other artifacts, including a bow and arrow set made by famed war leader Geronimo. Photographs and text describe the final years of the Chiricahua's war against American encroachment, their deportation to Florida, Alabama, and then Oklahoma in the late 19th Century, and their eventual release from prisoner of war status in

1913. We think you will find it a moving narrative of an incredibly resilient people whose story needs to be told in this, their traditional homeland.

Amerind's permanent* exhibit, *Images in Time*, requires a facelift, and the operation is scheduled for this summer and early fall. With minimal interpretive text and virtually no discussion of context,

Images in Time is more art than anthropology, and our curatorial staff will be redoing interpretive labels, adding contextual images, such as maps and historic photographs, and moving objects around, into, and out of the exhibition in order to enhance

the content, scope, and clarity of the presentation. Down the hall from *Images* in Time, exhibitions in the Archaeology Hall are also in need of renovation. The archaeology exhibits tell the story of the Amerind's excavations in the Southwest and northern Mexico, including W.S. Fulton's early excavations in southeastern Arizona and on the Navajo Reservation, and Charlie Di Peso's work at Terrenate, Paloparado, and Casas Grandes. Important excavations need to be added to this story and the storyline needs to be enhanced with maps and other graphics. We also want to say more about the archaeologists behind the excavations—especially Drs. Fulton and Di Peso, who guided the Amerind during its first fifty years.

* In the museum world, permanent usually means five to ten years, which coincides approximately with the tenure of most museum directors!

www.amerind.org

VIEW FROM COATI CANYON...

... NATURE SIGHTINGS AT THE AMERIND

Summer has arrived at the Amerind and my education in the ways of the local flora and fauna continues. Recently I picked up my walking stick made from a saguaro rib to go view the landscape from my favorite rock perch. My main reason for using the walking stick is to avoid being surprised by snakes, as I was last summer when a well-camouflaged Sonoran Mountain whipsnake shot its head out from the grass and warningly slapped my foot with its head. So as I came to each patch of tall grass I tapped ahead with the stick. Every time I did this I heard a loud buzzing. Puzzled, I stopped and tapped the stick several times in a row and realized that the buzzing was coming from my stick! Examining the stick I saw several perfectly round holes, 3/8" in diameter, and quickly removed my hand from covering one of them. Out stumbled a large black bee that I recognized as a "carpenter" bee. Suddenly all the mysterious piles of sawdust on my back porch made sense! Several more bees tumbled out and followed me as I returned the stick to its "home" on the

porch. I watched in fascination as they each located their own "doorway" and climbed back in. Without knowing it I had been carrying around their whole apartment building!

Getting out my reference books I learned that the female bee is the one who burrows into the wood, buzzing as she works. Inside, she will lay eggs in separate cells, each supplied with pollen and nectar. The young will emerge from the wood the following spring. My stick must be unusual because typically only one female will nest in each site, with a male bee guarding it.

I'm happy to use a different walking stick for the summer but I better plug up the holes in the agave stalk I use for my Christmas tree before I bring it into the house, or I may have young carpenter bees as ornaments next December.

by Barbara Hanson

APACHEI APACHEI - THE ATHAPASKAN EXHIBIT

"They hurl themselves at danger like a people who know no God nor that there is any hell" (Spanish missionary, ca. 1660). "The most rascally Indian on the continent. Treacherous, bloodthirsty, brutal with an irresistible propensity to steal" (Indian Agent George Bailey, 1858).

The reputation of the Apaches as fierce and determined warriors was justified, but the negative stereotypes of bloodthirsty killers gradually moderated after 1886, when all the Apaches were either imprisoned or confined to reservations. As memories of the Apache wars faded and as fears subsided, it was no longer necessary for the military—and the people who made money supplying them—to keep emotions stirred up

over the "Apache problem." Today, over a century since the last armed conflict with the Apaches, stereotypes persist, but they are just as likely to adopt a positive spin. A popular t-shirt design shows Geronimo and three other warriors

from the 1880s under the caption: "Homeland Security...Fighting Terrorism since 1492."

Here at the Amerind we are trying to present our visitors with a view of Apache life

and culture that avoids both old and new stereotypes. If there is a bias in our representation, it is a bias of seeing things from the Apache perspective, a side not usually represented in popular histories of the Southwest. Informed by 20th Century scholarship on the Apaches by Grenville Goodwin, Morris Opler, and Eve Ball, we are hopeful that some of the Chiricahuas, now at Mescalaro, New Mexico and Fort Sill, Oklahoma, will respond to our invitation to visit with us and provide feedback and suggestions from their side. The exhibit will include objects from all of the southern Athapaskan groups; the Navajo as well as the people we call Apache. Looking outside the Amerind's windows to Texas Canyon and beyond, it is easy to imagine the Chiricahua moving silently across the landscape of their homeland. The Amerind's location, in the heart of Chiricahua Apache country, provides us with extra incentive to tell the Apache story from the inside out; to represent Apache history and culture with the accuracy and dignity it deserves.

THE BACK PAGE

Amerind started its first membership program last August and as we approach the first anniversary of that program our membership rolls have swelled to over 430 people! The membership program has not only brought many people into the Amerind family, giving old and new friends of the Amerind an opportunity to support our mission, but there have also been some unanticipated outcomes of membership that have fundamentally changed the way we go about our work at the foundation.

In the past year we've learned that creating a family of members instills a new sense of pride and responsibility in our mission that didn't exist before. By attaching names to faces, membership programs provide incredible motivation for staff to develop high quality exhibits and programs, because now we're doing that work not for strangers, but for friends and family. We've learned that the greatest benefit of membership comes from seeing the same faces at many of our programs, and those smiles of recognition and appreciation are the strongest motivators for putting all of our energies into quality public programs and exhibitions.

During our first membership year at the Amerind we sponsored five Native Arts events, two exhibition openings, two used book sales, two Native Arts workshops, and numerous lectures, behind-thescenes tours, and various other programs. In the coming membership year we hope to offer even more quality and variety of programming. We will open our new Apache exhibition, and, depending on member interest, will sponsor membership tours to Paquimé (Casas Grandes),

Mata Ortiz, the Mimbres area, Chaco, and possibly Copper Canyon, and hold a membership banquet and art auction for members of our higher giving categories. We will be starting a lecture series on Southwestern Archaeology that will go through next spring and move around neighboring communities in Cochise and Pima Counties. In October we'll begin our second round of Native Arts events that will bring Native artists, scholars, and interpreters to the Amerind to tell their own stories and present the products of their own artistic traditions. In short, next year promises to be busier than ever.

Just before your membership anniversary date you will be receiving a renewal form in the mail, and we hope you take a moment to renew your support and commitment to Amerind's mission. On the back of your renewal form are a few lines that I invite you to use to record your comments about your membership experience and your suggestions about how to enhance that experience in the future. Let us know how we did and how we might do better in the future. And thank you for all you've done to make Amerind's first membership year a huge success!



A petroglyph in Texas Canyon—a legacy from the prehistoric past.

If you are not already a member, we invite you to join us!

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Yes, I want to become a member!

Please enroll me at the level checked.

☐ Individual	\$30	Check enclosed \$ (Please make payable to Amerind Foundati	on)
☐ Family	\$40	I prefer to charge my VISA Master Card	
□ Cochise Club□ San Pedro Club	\$100-\$499 \$500-\$999	Credit Card NumberExpiration DateSignature	
☐ Casas Grandes Club	\$1,000 or above	This is a GIFT membership at the Lev	vel
Member Name(s)		My name	
Address		My address	
City	State Zip	City State Zip	
Phone	E-mail	Phone E-mail	

AMERIND ADVENTURES - JOIN US!

Planning for Amerind's coming season is underway. We will start early with a pottery workshop with Tohono O'odham potter Rueben Naranjo in August. We have begun to contact various artists, speakers, and food vendors for our 2004-2005 Native Arts days, starting this fall and running through the spring. Dates, times, and details of cultural events will go out in the fall newsletter.

This fall and coming spring will inaugurate Amerind's cultural tour program, with trips being planned to Paquimé (Casas Grandes), Mata Ortiz, (possibly Copper Canyon), the Mimbres region of southwestern New Mexico, and the Four Corners. Tours will be led by active scholars to ensure accurate and lively interpretation. If you are interested in Amerind membership tours, please contact us and express your interest and we'll put you on our participant lists. By the end of the summer we will have tour dates, destinations, itineraries, and cost schedules.



CALENDAR OF EVENTS AT THE AMERIND

August 14 & 21, 2004

Pottery Making Workshop with Tohono O'odham potter, Reuben Naranjo.

October 17-22, 2004

Advanced Seminar: Warfare in Cultural Context

October 30, 2004

Apache exhibit opening. Apache Arts Day.

November 6, 2004

Volunteer Open House

November 20, 2004

Native Arts Day

December 2004

Board Meeting

Annual Banquet & Art Auction for Cochise and Casas Grandes members

Volunteer and Staff Holiday Party

January 2005

Native Arts Day

February 12, 2005

Gallery Opening Native Arts Day

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL US AT 520-586-3666 OR VISIT US ON THE WEB: WWW.AMERIND.ORG