



THE NEWSLETTER OF THE AMERIND FOUNDATION

FALL 2009 (VOL. 6, NO. 4)

NEW PERSPECTIVES ON THE 16TH CENTURY SPANISH ENTRADAS

by Dr. Clay Mathers of the Coronado Institute, Albuquerque, NM

On October 24th through 28th the Amerind Foundation hosted an important seminar entitled: *Native and Imperial Morphogenesis: Comparing Sixteenth-Century Entradas in the American Southwest and Southeast*. The seminar involved a distinguished group of scholars from across the country who met in Dragoon to address some of the most complex and challenging questions about initial contacts between the New and Old worlds in what is now the southern United States. These discussions focused on major factors such as disease, climate, political organization and conflict, and how they shaped Native and European interaction during the first century of contact. Contributors to the seminar offered a variety of perspectives on how these variables affected the transformation of communities in both regions during the sixteenth century.

Until recently, our knowledge of these early expeditions and contacts was largely dependent on historical documents, rather than archaeological evidence on, or in, the ground. As traces of sixteenth-century expeditions (or *entradas*) have begun to emerge in the last few years in areas from New Mexico and Texas, to North Carolina and Georgia, we are beginning to see a resurgence of interest in early Contact Period archaeology. Although the earliest interactions between Native and European communities in the U.S. have been something of an enigma for many years, new research is beginning to clarify our understanding of these major historical events.

During our discussion, it became clear that traditional views of disease, climatic fluctuations, settlement mobility, subsistence and conflict were often at odds with recent scholarship. Although European-introduced diseases were once thought to have had a devastating effect on Native populations, it now appears to have been a less virulent and pervasive factor in the Southwestern and Southeastern U.S. during the sixteenth century. Detailed forensic and demographic studies, as well as broader scale analyses (e.g., studies of regional settlement patterns), point to a general

lack of disease in Native communities in both areas, and to a surprising amount of mobility in settlement location and choice in subsistence strategies.

Although we are increasingly aware of major climatic fluctuations during the sixteenth century, including mega-droughts and other oscillations in temperature and precipitation, these variations do not appear to have caused any large-scale, detectable collapses in Native communities - even in the Desert Southwest. We are also beginning to understand the organization of sixteenth century Native communities in significantly different ways. While the architecture associated with many Native settlements suggested to Spanish explorers—and to latter day archaeologists and historians—a significant level of permanence and intensive food production, evidence has begun to emerge of widespread mobility in the settlement and subsistence strategies of sixteenth century Native groups. Periodic movement of segments of the population, together with the use of a wide variety of intensive and extensive food production strategies, created considerably more fluidity and movement across the landscape than has been accounted for traditionally. Finally, there is emerging archaeological and documentary evidence of major conflict between Spanish-led *entradas* and Native populations, particularly in the Southwest. In the case of the Vázquez de Coronado expedition, for example, this involved sustained combat, prolonged sieges and the use of large numbers of Native allies. The reasons for conflict varied widely, but frequently they were the result of demands for food and other resources by poorly provisioned groups unable to sustain themselves without placing significant demands on local Native communities.

Our seminar was an extremely enjoyable and productive opportunity, greatly enhanced by the hard work, dedication and good humor of the Amerind staff, the spectacular setting, and the marvelous hospitality afforded to all of us. The proceedings of this seminar are due to be published in the Amerind Seminar Series by the University of Arizona Press.

AN AMERIND TOUR

SKY ISLAND JOURNEYS:

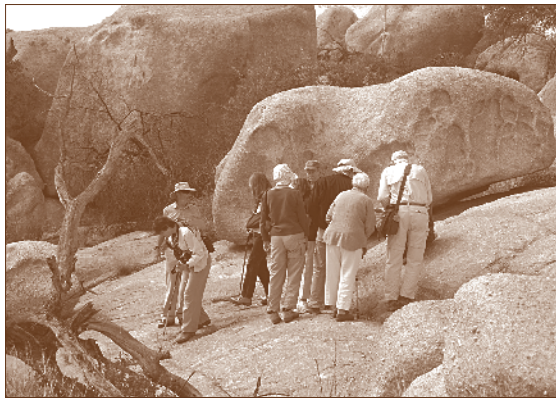
PEOPLE AND NATURE IN SOUTHEAST ARIZONA

by Barbara Hanson

Sky islands and *desert seas* are the poetic words used to describe the topography of southeastern Arizona. Unique mountain ranges separated by broad desert valleys create a region of such extraordinary biodiversity that nature writer Ken Lamberton said of it, “there’s no place like it on the planet.” (From his book, *Chiricahua Mountains, Bridging the Borders of Wildness*)

In October Amerind hosted its first tour based out of the Fulton Seminar House, bringing twelve Amerind members together to learn what makes this region so special. We explored the surrounding mountain ranges and valleys with experts in geology, ecology and biology, prehistoric archaeology, and Apache history and culture, to learn how the combination of local topography, geography, and geology have made this place what it is today.

Biological diversity creates rich cultural diversity. The San Pedro River valley has been continuously occupied by various cultures for over 13,000 years. We got a view into prehistoric cultures of the area at sites excavated by the Amerind on the lower San Pedro.



The geological stories that shaped the landscape were evident everywhere we went.



Flora of the Rocky Mountains reaches the southernmost extension of its range in the sky islands, intermingling with the northernmost range of the Sierra Madrean flora and fauna of Mexico to create a unique biological crossroads.

Art and Rhonda Wilson of the Tohono O’odham Nation taught us about the uses of local plants in their basket-making traditions.



Re-creation of the type of wikiup used by the Chiricahua Apaches who occupied all of southeastern Arizona until the U.S. government removed them in 1886.



The top of 10,000’ Mt. Graham provided an overview of the uplifted mountain ranges and sunken basins that were our “classroom” for the week.



*Global climate changes in the last 30 million years combined with the great elevational range between low valleys and high mountains have created a rich mosaic of plant communities unique to this area. Some plants and animals that became isolated on certain mountain ranges as the last glacials ended have evolved into endemic species or varieties like this *Agave parryi huachuensis* from the Huachuca Mountains.*

—photos by Leslie and Steve Skelton

AMERIND'S NEW ROOF



The Amerind Museum and Art Gallery are about to receive a long-overdue face lift. By the time you receive this issue of the Amerind Quarterly, a roofing contractor will be hard at work removing, repairing, and replacing around 60,000 ceramic tiles that cover 20,000 square feet of the Amerind museum and art gallery roof. Each tile will be taken up, roofing felt replaced and wood underlayment repaired as necessary, rigid insulation panels laid down, broken tiles replaced, and then tiles will be placed back on the roof and securely fastened.

The museum building was constructed in stages through the 1930s and 40s and the art gallery was added in the late 1950s. Since then, the roof has only been patched here and there but never replaced. This is why on rainy days in the museum, we often have buckets and towels spread out on the floor under the worst of the leaks. Needless to say, water and priceless collections don't mix, and so museum "best practices" demand that we fix the roofs before we attack the many other deferred maintenance problems.

In addition to correcting the leaks, our upcoming roof replacement project will add insulation to the roofs so that, someday, when we install a new heating and cooling system in the museum, the heated and cooled air will stay in the building rather than escape out through the roof. Once the roof is repaired, we'll move on to our next facility renovation project: rehabilitating Amerind's collections storage repository.

DR. JOSEPH H. SUINA IS ELECTED TO THE AMERIND BOARD

Long-time Amerind friend and visiting scholar Dr. Joseph H. Suina was elected to the Amerind Board of Directors at its annual meeting in November 2009. Many of our members know Joe from Amerind's Pueblo World Tours, which he has led since their inception in 2005. Amerind staff and volunteers also know Joe from his frequent visits to the Foundation to conduct research and participate in advanced seminars.

Dr. Suina brings to the Amerind Board many years of experience as a distinguished teacher, scholar, and Pueblo Indian leader. He is professor emeritus in the College of Education at the University of New Mexico, where he taught from 1982-2006. A native of Cochiti Pueblo, Dr. Suina has served terms as Lt. Governor and Governor of Cochiti, and he currently serves on the Cochiti Pueblo Tribal Council. From 2003 to 2006 Dr. Suina was director of the Institute for American Indian Education at the University of New Mexico, and next fall Dr. Suina will be a visiting Professor of Native American Studies at Colgate University in New York. He is the author of numerous articles and book chapters on Native American education, and is currently at work on a memoir of growing up at Cochiti in the post-war years when a century of cultural and technological change was compressed into a just a few years.

Dr. Suina is the recipient of numerous awards for scholarship and service to his state and community. He was a presidential lecturer at the University of New Mexico from 1988-90 and received the Outstanding Service as Governor Award from the New Mexico State Senate in 1999. Joe and his wife Lorraine were Parents of the Year in New Mexico in 2001, and in 2004 Joe received the Joanne Krueger Leadership Award from the University of New Mexico. On the occasion of his retirement from UNM in 2006, Joe received the Board of Regent's Meritorious Service Award. A Marine Corps combat veteran in Vietnam in 1965-66, Joe was awarded the Purple Heart, Bronze Star, and Vietnam Gallantry Cross.

For the Amerind Foundation, Joseph Suina is a landmark appointment—the first Native American to join the Amerind's governing board. We are honored by Joe's willingness to serve, and we look forward to the wisdom and experience he will bring to Amerind's Board of Directors. Welcome, Joe!



—See the *Amerind Quarterly*, Fall 2007 (vol.4, no. 4), available on Amerind's website: www.amerind.org, for autobiographical excerpts from Dr. Suina's up-coming book.

MICHAEL KABOTIE REMEMBERED (1942-2009)

I first met Michael Kabotie (Lomawyewa) over thirty-five years ago when I was a college senior studying art; my senior project involved a study of Hopi graphics and I decided I needed to see them in their own environment. Over the winter break I boarded a Greyhound bus and



*Michael in the Watch-tower in the Grand Canyon.
—photos (merged) by Steve Skelton*

traveled across the country from Richmond, Virginia to Albuquerque, New Mexico. In New Mexico I picked up a rental VW bug and drove the last eight hours across the Navajo and Hopi reservations to the Hopi Cultural Center on Second Mesa. The next afternoon I was sent over to a small studio at the Cultural Center to meet Mike Kabotie, Hopi painter and poet. He immediately had me laughing with his teasing Hopi humor about Anglo tricksters who traveled across the country, riding in bugs.

For his many friends, Mike had a magic about him, the ability to listen, and to give honest feedback. He thoughtfully looked at the world, leaving out the many filters we tend to employ to push it toward our own perspective. As an artist and a philosopher Mike worked hard to look beyond the obvious, always struggling to get to the soul of things.

One sees this in his paintings, which dance with pleasing energy and march with coordinated rhythm, reflecting the diverse music he loved to have blasting from his studio while he worked. His early paintings deconstructed Hopi iconography and rebuilt it, flirting with Western styles and iconography while retaining its Hopi essence. Art historians have seen Picasso and Kandinsky in his paintings, and while Mike admired these artists, he and I frequently contemplated the reverse—the Hopi influence on modern painters.



*Michael's painting at Sunset Crater Volcano National Monument.
—photos (merged) by Steve Skelton*



Michael's Kiva mural at the Museum of Northern Arizona.



Jessica Welton, with Amerind, Spring 2006, doctoral candidate at Pennsylvania State University.

One sees his same concepts in the jewelry and sculpture he created, in which he endeavored to peel back layer after layer, exposing what he loved to talk about—the dark and the light sides—a concept of duality that Kabotie discussed endlessly, along with the ideas of his favorite philosopher Jung. He frequently compared jewelry-making with life, the hammering and shaping, oxidizing and annealing, cold and hot, soft and hard, and especially the mistakes one turns into innovative and philosophical breakthroughs.



Arizona.

invited to give about the works currently exhibited of Otis Polelonema and Fred Kabotie (Mike's father, who was one of the first Native American easel painters). Mike, generous as always, agreed to drive down and we had a great few days exploring the museum and grounds, meeting with Director John Ware and the staff and being shown the collections. As was always the case when Mike could join me, my presentation was much better for his participation, with the two of us presenting our thoughts—mine academic, his more personal —on the works of his father and Otis. As members and staff got to

enjoy his unique brand of Hopi humor, Mike created friendships that would last his lifetime—albeit one much too short. Months later Mike spoke fondly of his subsequent trips with the museum, and how much he enjoyed getting to know John Ware and everyone there, while looking forward eagerly to more excursions with the group in upcoming years, an experience we will sorely miss.

Mike Kabotie was born on September 3, 1942 on the Hopi reservation in northeastern Arizona and died this year on Thursday, October 23 in Flagstaff from H1N1 virus, but his work remains in museums and homes around the world, from Arizona to Europe. He first studied the arts with his father and clan relatives, with later formal education through the Southwest Indian Art Project at the University of Arizona. He was a master jeweler, a painter and a poet, an Arizona Living Treasure and the signature artist for the 2010 Heard Museum Guild Indian Fair and

Market. But perhaps more than any of these things, Mike was a great friend and philosopher, who always had encouragement for and time to share with his vast coterie of friends—artists, academicians, and just plain everyday folks.

While a Visiting Scholar at Amerind last Spring, I was surprised when Mike told me he had never been to the Foundation. Immediately I invited him to come down, and in my second breath asked him to join me in a short brown-bag luncheon talk I had been



Michael in front of his father's mural in the Watch-tower in the Grand Canyon.

—photos (merged) by Steve Skelton



Michael at the 08. Jessica is a at Virginia Com-ty.



—photo by Jessica Welton

VIEW FROM COATI CANYON...

NATURE SIGHTINGS AT THE AMERIND

by Barbara Hanson



One of my favorite times at Amerind is summer sunset when the bats pour out of the roof tiles of the museum buildings. If I stand close enough to the buildings I can even hear them before they fly—soft, muffled squeakings of what sounds to me like, “get ready, here we go!” Then they shoot out in bursts of dozens or even hundreds at a time. No matter how often I see this, it always fills me with wonder, as they swirl over my head and disappear into the evening.

So when John told me this fall that the roofs were scheduled to be repaired and the old tiles replaced, my first concern (after being happy for the museum buildings) was the disruption to the bats. They arrive each year in March from their winter grounds in the Mexican states of Sonora and Sinaloa and give birth to their young here in June. After five weeks the pups are able to fly and by late October or early November they must be strong enough to make the six hundred mile journey south.

More than half a dozen species of bat have been identified at the Amerind. The ones that roost in the museum roofs are mostly Mexican free-tailed bats, also called Brazilian free-tailed (Latin name *Tadarida brasiliensis*). This species is famous for its huge colonies (up to 2 million) in places like Carlsbad Caverns, but they also roost in mines, bridges, and buildings. Unlike some of the other species of bats, they do not hibernate, but migrate to warmer places where they remain active, feeding on insects all winter.

The roof work can be done in the winter when the bats are gone, but it will be impossible for them to re-enter the new tiles when they return in the spring. On the one hand this will be good for the museum's delicate collections. Our chief curator, Eric Kaldahl says, “Bats and

birds, rodents and insects can all pose potential hazards to the Amerind's priceless collection. Some of these animals can consume parts of our collection directly, or their droppings and urine can cause chemical damage to objects. Some of these animals do not directly threaten our collection, but their guano, urine, ticks, and fleas create possible food sources for other insects, bacteria, and fungi that can cause great harm.”

On the other hand, these bats are insect-eating wonders, capable of consuming up to a third of their body weight each night in insects, many of which are damaging insect pests. This translates into a half a ton of insects eaten each night by a colony of 250,000 bats—a relatively small colony for this species. Though many people are afraid of bats, it's even scarier to think of a world without them. One of the benefits of this particular species is their consumption of moths, whose larvae would feed on the grain fields of the American bread-basket to our northeast if not preyed upon by bats here.

I try to imagine what it will be like for the bats when they return here next spring and find the openings into the tiles closed to them. Will they be able to find a new location quickly enough to settle before their young are born? Since Mexican free-taileds are one of the bat species that will use bat houses provided by humans, we are now researching the details of installing bat houses somewhere on the property away from the museum buildings.

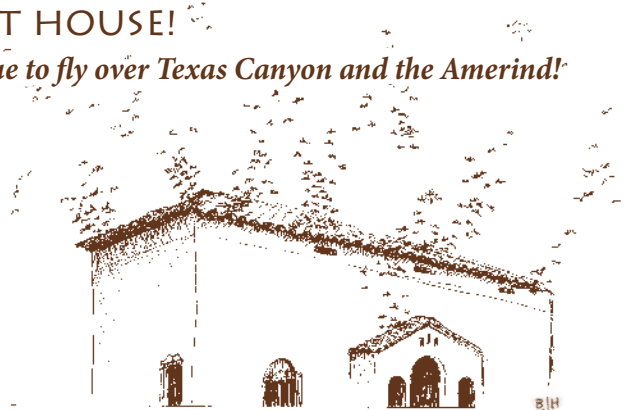
Mexican free-tailed bats are not a threatened species (yet) but their numbers have been declining precipitously. Some colonies studied in Mexico have lost 50 – 90% of their population. The more we can do to help protect this beneficial species, while at the same time protecting Amerind's collections, the better off they both will be.

SPONSOR A BAT HOUSE!

Help us ensure that this important species will continue to fly over Texas Canyon and the Amerind!

You can help in one of 2 ways: Build a bat house with detailed plans we will provide for you, or donate the cost of a purchased bat house (\$55). Each house can hold 300 roosting bats. Either way, you will receive a tax deductible donation letter from Amerind and know you have done your part to protect the bats.

Please contact Barbara Hanson at 520.586.3960 or batsamerind@gmail.com. Thank you for your help!



PLANS FOR DIGGING OUT FROM THE RECESSION

Every year, about half of Amerind's operating budget comes from its endowment. The stock market crash of 2008 hurt everyone, and the Amerind was no exception. At the end of last year, Amerind's endowment had lost about a quarter of its value. In 2009, with belt tightening efforts and judicious investment decisions, we've managed to gain back more than a third of that loss. However, since we take a fixed percent each year of the market value of our investments based on a five year "trailing average," it will take us several years of endowment growth to get income levels back to where they were before the recession began. Consequently, we'll need to either scale back operations or raise income from other sources to make up the difference.

Belt tightening and efficiency efforts will continue at the Amerind but we are also exploring ways to increase Amerind's revenues through more aggressive earned income and fund raising programs. Currently, the Amerind derives about 47 percent of its operating budget from its endowment, 37 percent from earned income (museum admissions, store sales, cultural tours, seminar and conference fees, and facility rentals), and the remaining 16 percent comes from annual gifts and grants. In 2010 we plan to increase earned income by 20 percent to help make up for significant declines in investment and gift income (yes, everyone is hurting these days, so individual donations are down as well).

We plan to increase adult museum admission from \$5 to \$8 on January 1st, which should result in a 38 percent increase in earned income at the door. We realize

that this will be a hardship for some of our neighbors—and may result in fewer visitors to the museum—so to counteract the impact we have decided to make the first Sunday of every month free admission for all Arizona residents. We are also expanding our seminar program in 2010 and charging fees for use of the Amerind seminar house and conference facility. And we are actively marketing Amerind's conference and seminar facility for private retreats, weddings, and other social gatherings. Amerind cultural tours will continue to grow in 2010 and participants will see an increase in their tax-deductible contribution rates to go on Amerind tours.

We hope that these measures will more than offset the loss of investment income in 2010 and future years, and we will work hard to continue to offer high quality programs at reasonable prices to our members and other stakeholders. Amerind's Education Program, which served nearly a thousand southern Arizona school children in 2009, will continue to be offered free of charge, and our cultural tours—which are the best in the business—will continue to be offered at competitive prices. Our members can help, of course, by contributing generously to Amerind's annual fund drive, which directly supports our operating expenses, and by considering a planned gift to the Amerind (see our website at www.amerind.org and click on "Support Amerind" for more information).

Thank you for your support of Amerind's mission. With your help, the Amerind will weather the current economic crisis and continue to flourish as one of the finest private museums and research centers in the country.

—John Ware, Executive Director

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

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Yes, I want to become a member!

- | | |
|---|------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual | \$30 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family | \$40 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cochise Club | \$100-\$499 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> San Pedro Club | \$500-\$999 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Casas Grandes Club | \$1,000 or above |

Please enroll me at the level checked.

Check enclosed \$ _____ (Please make payable to Amerind Foundation)

I prefer to charge my ☐ VISA ☐ Master Card

Credit Card Number _____

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Signature _____



This is a **GIFT** membership at the _____ Level

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The Amerind Quarterly is produced seasonally by staff and volunteers of the Amerind. John Ware and Eric Kaldahl content; Barbara Hanson, content, editor, and drawings; C. Charnley, design and layout; photography by Amerind staff (except where noted).

CALENDAR OF EVENTS AT THE AMERIND

February 1, 2010, 1:00 P.M.

VOLUNTEER SOCIAL with presentation on the Fulton family by Willie Adams

February 6, 2010, 10:00 - 4:00

CELEBRATION OF YAQUI CULTURE with speakers, demonstrations, arts and crafts, ceremonial performances of the Pascua Yaqui Tribe. Native food vendor on site.

February 9-10, 2010

LOCAL, AND NOT SO FAR AWAY, NATIVE ARTS TOUR with Mark Bahti. (Tour is full.)

February 17, 2010, 11:00 A.M.

BOTANY STROLL with Barbara Hanson for newcomers and those who want easy walking. Meet at the museum entrance.

February 20, 2010, 2:00 P.M.

BOOK SIGNING. *The Sweet Smell Of Home: The Life and Art of Leonard F. Chana*. Join authors Susan Lobo and Barbara Chana as they talk about this talented and unique Tohono O'odham artist and about the collaboration involved in writing the book.

February 22, 2010, 10:00 A.M.

BOTANY WALK with Barbara Hanson off-road at Amerind. Wear sturdy shoes or boots. Meet at the museum entrance. In case of questionable weather, call Barbara before 9 A.M. at 520.586.3960.

March 1, 2010, Noon.

BROWN BAG PRESENTATION, by participant(s) in Amerind's seminar on the Crow Kinship System.

March 8-15, 2010

EXPLORING THE ANCIENT MAYA TOUR. A tour of monumental religious sites and once vibrant commercial centers in Belize and Guatemala. (Tour is full.)

March 27, 2010

BOTANY HIKE with Barbara Hanson at Cochise Stronghold. Limited to 12 people, call Barbara at 520.586.3960 for details and to reserve a place.

March 29, 2010, 2:00 P.M.

VOLUNTEER RECOGNITION EVENT

April 17, 2010

EARTH DAY CELEBRATION WITH NATIVE ARTS AND MUSIC

APRIL 19, 2010, 10:00 A.M.

BOTANY WALK with Barbara Hanson. Meet at museum entrance.

May 11-16, 2010

NAVAJO WORLD TOUR

October, 2010

SKY ISLAND JOURNEYS II

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL US AT 520.586.3666 OR VISIT US ON THE WEB: WWW.AMERIND.ORG