

Preservation Archaeology NEWS

Preserving the Places of Our Shared Past

Summer 2010

Tribute

Remembering Friends

Dwight Riggs

The life of long-time Center friend Dwight Riggs was celebrated by his friends and family on May 2, 2010. After joining the Center for Desert Archaeology in 1995, Dwight could be found at every Center event at which books were sold. His infectious enthusiasm, unique sense of humor, dedication to the Arizona Site Steward program, and willingness to lend immediate assistance in many forms are well-remembered by many. One site steward fondly recalls, "He carried a backpack that none of us could pick up! It was full of 'things,' just in case someone got hurt, was hungry, or needed something to read."

Image courtesy of Mike Gleeson



Top: Dwight Riggs at the Cerro Prieto site, Arizona. Right: Dave Gregory (left) and Emil ("Doc") Haury.

Dwight's brother Douglas Riggs writes that Dwight grew up in Rhode Island, studied library science, took a degree at Colby College in Maine, and served as an officer in the U.S. Coast Guard. Friend and fellow site steward Mike Gleeson notes that Dwight's involvement in archaeology began while he was volunteering with the National Forest Service in the Seattle area.

One of the first members of our **Legacy Circle**—the Center's planned giving program—Dwight designated a generous bequest that included his archaeological library and two vehicles. The lovingly collected volumes signifi-

cantly expand our research library, to the benefit of staff and members alike. Books that are not added to our library will be sold at a special sale later this year. Proceeds will benefit the Center.

For more information on planned giving, contact Linda Pierce at lpierce@cdarc.org or (520) 882-6946, ext. 23.

David A. Gregory

Archaeologist David A. Gregory passed away in Show Low, Arizona, on the evening of June 13, 2010. Dave had been working from his home in Pinetop for the Center for Desert Archaeology and Desert Archaeology, Inc.

Dave's remarkable skills as a field archaeologist, his intelligence, and his broad mastery of the archaeological literature were applied with his signature intensity throughout his career. Arizona State Museum Curator Mike Jacobs comments: "I have admired immensely his work, not only at Las Colinas, but espe-

cially his more recent work on Archaic and Early Agricultural period sites here in Tucson and on the *Zuni Origins* book with Dave Wilcox. His collected body of work includes some really significant contributions that will stand as a tribute to him for years to come." Archaeologist Douglas Craig of Northland Research, Inc., sums things up in a grand, straightforward way: "I consider Dave to have been one of the great southwestern archaeologists of our generation."

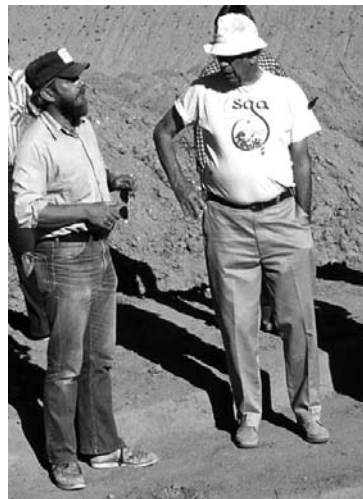
In order to further Dave's already considerable legacy, the Center for Desert Archaeology has established

the **David A. Gregory Research Fund**, a permanent, endowed fund. Plans for a memorial service and celebration of Dave's remarkable life are underway. They will be announced when they are final.

Contributions to the David A. Gregory Research Fund are tax-deductible. Donations may be mailed to the Center for Desert Archaeology at 300 N. Ash Alley, Tucson, Arizona, 85701, or made online through the Donate Now link at

www.cdarc.org/how-to-help/ensure-our-success/.

Image courtesy of Patricia Crown



Support Our Mission

Not yet a member of the Center for Desert Archaeology? Join today! Annual memberships begin at \$25.00. Benefits include our quarterly magazine, *Archaeology Southwest*. Current members, why not give a gift membership to someone who shares your interest in the past? More information is available at www.cdarc.org/how-to-help/become-a-member/.





CENTER FOR DESERT ARCHAEOLOGY

a nonprofit corporation

Center for Desert Archaeology
300 N. Ash Alley
Tucson, AZ 85701
(520) 882-6946
(520) 882-6948 (fax)

center@cdarc.org
www.cdarc.org

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Become Acquainted

Jeff Dean

Jeffrey S. Dean is Professor Emeritus in the Laboratory of Tree-Ring Research at the University of Arizona. His research interests include dendrochronology, the archaeology of the southern Colorado Plateau, Navajo ethnoarchaeology, paleoenvironmental reconstruction, and human-environment interaction. Dr. Dean joined the Center's board as a member-at-large this past spring.

How did you come to be a Southwestern archaeologist? How were you introduced to dendrochronology?

One semester in the mechanical engineering program at the University of Idaho persuaded me that I was not cut out for a career in engineering. Guided by a long-standing interest in past cultures, stimulated by books on the classical Mediterranean civilizations, my quest for a more congenial course of study inevitably led to archaeology.

Regrettably, the University of Idaho at that time did not offer a suitable degree program. A search for the cheapest university in the western U.S. that taught archaeology identified the University of Arizona (UA), where I enrolled as a sophomore. Interaction with the outstanding faculty (including Pat Culbert, Ed Dozier, Harry Getty, Emil Haury, Fred Hulse, Bill Longacre, Ned Spicer, Clara Lee Tanner, and Ray Thompson) and students of the Anthropology Department, a summer at the UA archaeological field school at Points of Pines, and my subsequent introduction to the Colorado Plateau turned me into a Southwestern archaeologist.

In the second semester of my senior year, I took Bryant Bannister's course, "Tree-Ring Dating for Archaeologists." I discovered an aptitude for tree-ring dating and acquired an appreciation for the incredible potential of dendrochronology for addressing important archaeological and anthropological questions. Bannister's contacts with the National Park Service led directly to my dendroarchaeological research at Betatakin and Kiet Siel (Navajo National Monument) in which I attempted to exploit some of this potential.



Jeff Dean

As a board member and an academic professional, what are some new directions you'd like the Center to explore? What are some of the most successful programs we should continue or strengthen?

The Center is justly celebrated for its extensive research activities, which range across the Southwest. Included in this work are archival efforts such as the coalescent communities digital database and the completion of reports on the Davis Ranch site, which was excavated a half century ago by the Amerind Foundation. Equally laudable is the Center's commitment to conservation and preservation, as exemplified by work in the San Pedro Valley and at Salmon Ruin. Finally, the Center's public outreach efforts benefit both the archaeological profession and non-professionals. The interested public gains an excellent

appreciation for cutting-edge archaeology in the Southwest. Clearly, efforts such as these should be continued and expanded whenever possible.

Funding remains a perennial issue, however, and the development of novel fund-raising activities should be a priority. As a new board member, I agree that we should continue to devise ways of offering the public additional opportunities to contribute to the Center, and continue vigorous pursuit of external funding in cooperation with other institutions.

Everyone associated with the Center has favorite places in the Southwest—what are yours? What is your connection to them?

Coming to UA and subsequent work with the Museum of Northern Arizona and the National Park Service introduced me to a profound influence on my professional life—the Colorado Plateau. The vast majority of my work in archaeology and dendrochronology has taken place in this region of awe-inspiring beauty, mind-boggling environmental diversity, and unmatched anthropological and archaeological riches. I find the Plateau as a whole endlessly fascinating, but a few favorite places, in no particular order, are Tsegi Canyon, Black Mesa, Long House Valley, Navajo Mountain and the Rainbow Plateau, Largo and Gobernador Canyons, Canyon de Chelly, Mesa Verde, and Chaco Canyon.

To read more about Dr. Dean's work, check out his page at the Laboratory of Tree-Ring Research: www.ltrr.arizona.edu/people/3.

Participate

Events and Opportunities

■ Be sure to stop by the Center's booth and say hello at this year's **Pecos Conference**, August 12–15. www.swanet.org/2010_pecos_conference/

■ The third season of **Archaeology Café** kicks off at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, **September 7**, with a presentation by archaeologists from William Self Associates, Inc. The panel will discuss *2,500 Years in the Marsh: The Prehistory of the Marsh Station Road Site, Cienega Creek, Southeastern Arizona*. We meet on the first Tuesdays of each month from September–May at Casa Vicente restaurant, 375 S. Stone Avenue, Tucson. Visit www.cdarc.org for more information.

■ You'll also want to stay tuned to our website for information on our **very special holiday book sale**. Scheduled for December, this year's sale promises savings and surprises. We'll post details as they become available.

■ Distinctive, thoughtfully renovated office suites are now available in the **Bates Mansion** portion of our historic building complex in downtown Tucson. For information, contact manager

Susan French of Prudent Preservation Partners, LLC, at (520) 907-7325.



Douglas Craig of Northland Research, Inc., shared an overview of the Casa Grande Ruins National Monument and related archaeology with Tea and Archaeology guests on June 27, 2010. From left to right: Judy Olson, Treasurer of the newly formed Friends of Casa Grande Ruins; Bill Doelle; Doug Craig; and Jerry Wilson, Secretary of the Friends of Casa Grande Ruins.

Celebrate!

News We're Proud to Share

■ Congratulations to our Board Secretary, **Bernard Siqueiros**, who was awarded the Alene Dunlap Smith and Paul Smith Award—Tucson-Pima County Historical Commission's highest honor—at a ceremony on May 23, 2010. Bernard was recognized for his many accomplishments on the Tohono O'odham Nation and his work across the U.S., educating people about O'odham heritage.

■ **Linda Pierce is now Deputy Director of the Center**. Linda has managed the Center's programs since 1999.

■ The **Arizona Humanities Council** recently awarded the Center a grant in support of our **Archaeology Café** programming. See *Participate* for more on our next meeting.

■ Field Representative **Andy Laurenzi** has been joined by summer employees **Saul Hedquist** and **Leigh Anne Ellison**.



Deb Huntley's report on another successful field season in Mule Creek, New Mexico, will be featured in our next issue. The 2010 team, from left to right: Katherine Dungan (Assistant Project Director), Deborah Huntley (Project Director), Meaghan Trowbridge (University of Arizona), Jane Carmack (Hendrix College), Lindsey Romaniello (Hendrix College), Suzanne Eckert (Assistant Professor, Texas A&M University). Not pictured: Rob Jones.

Saul and Leigh Anne are conducting site condition assessments on the **Tonto National Forest**. Their work will generate information that enables the Center and its partners—which include the **National Trust for Historic Preservation**—to more effectively participate in National Forest

planning and decision-making in the future.

■ Cornell University student and Center intern **Anne Jones** is assisting *Archaeology Southwest* content editor **Tobi Taylor** this summer. Special thanks to Anne for authoring this issue's *Bookshelf*.

■ A pat on the back to **Aaron Wright**, who recently finished a draft of his dissertation. In addition, Aaron's question to **PBS' History Detectives** regarding the authenticity of an inscription in the South Mountains attributed to Fray Marcos de Niza will air this season. Check the show's page at www.pbs.org for information.

■ **The Center family expands!** Kate and Doug Gann welcomed **Eleanor Frances Gann** on March 31, 2010. **Amy Gail Jones** joined Rob Jones and Elizabeth May on June 22, 2010. Everyone is doing well!



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Save the Date

September 7

Archaeology Café

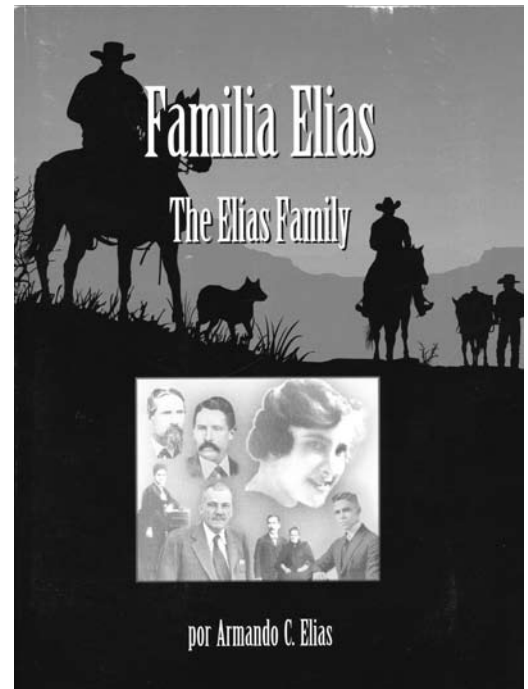
Bookshelf

Familia Elias

The Elias name is one of Tucson's oldest, tracing its roots back to the founding of the original presidio by the Spaniards. In his self-published book, Armando C. Elias compiles, in both Spanish and English, the most up-to-date history of the Elias family. *Familia Elias* includes background information on the Elias family name and origin, a detailed discussion of Capitan Francisco Elías González and his brothers and descendants, as well as an extensive biography of the descendants of González's second and third sons. It also reveals a previously unrecognized confusion in the historic record: that Francisco Elías González de Zayas and Captain Francisco Elías González were in fact two different people, and the latter, not the former, was the ancestor of the Elias family.

Armando C. Elias has made several previous contributions to uncovering the genealogy of the Elias family. Speaking of his research, he writes, "I became aware that many individuals have thrown away or burned family records, newspaper clippings, and other items they considered unimportant. What a pity! It is my hope that younger people and the upcoming generations will learn to appreciate these things." *Familia Elias* is not only a useful compilation of information on one of Tucson's oldest families, but also a reminder that every family's history is important.

Familia Elias may be purchased from Mr. Elias for \$45.00, plus the cost of postage.



Contact Kate Sarther Gann at kate@cdarc.org or (520) 882-6946, ext. 16, to be put in touch with Mr. Elias.