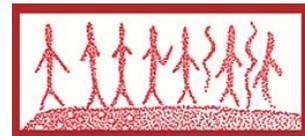


Verde Valley Archaeology Quarterly



Protecting the Ancient Cultural Heritage of the Verde Valley

Autumn 2013

Center Celebrates Its Third Anniversary

It is hard to believe that the Center has reached another anniversary. The Verde Valley Archaeology Center was developed in the summer of 2010. Eight past and present officers of the Verde Valley Chapter of the Arizona Archaeological Society (AAS), who were concerned about the removal of artifacts from the Sedona/Verde Valley area, came together and developed the concept of the Center. It was learned that the bylaws of the AAS would not permit the Chapter to move into this area. It was necessary to create a new nonprofit organization with this as its mission. Our Articles of Incorporation were approved by the Arizona Corporate Commission in September 2010. Our application with the Internal Revenue Service for nonprofit status was approved in November of that year.

In May 2011 the Center moved into a 650 sq. ft. space in the Ft. Verde Shopping Plaza. This gave us a physical presents for the first time. We began with a few display cases and donated tables for a cramped research area.



May 2011

Soon the Town of Camp Verde saw the potential visitor impact of the Center and offered us the use of a town-owned building on Main Street. We moved into this 3,300 sq. ft. space in June 2011 and began building improvements that would eventually exceed \$10,000, mostly through member donations. The new Center opened on November 2, 2012.

The Research Lab was completed in June 2013 and work continues today on our Children's Discovery Area.

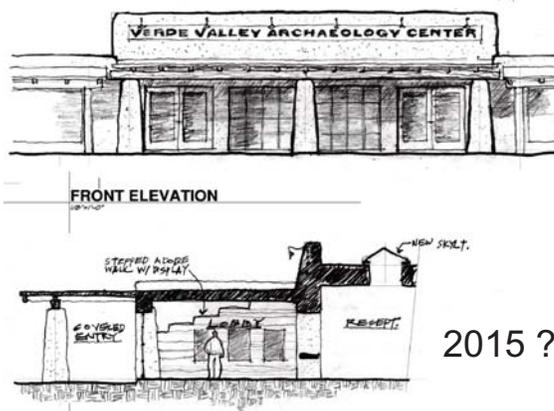


November 2012

During this time the Center expanded its programs, classes and school outreach. A milestone in the professional creditability of the Center was the successful 2012 Conference on Verde Valley Archaeology, which drew over 150 attendees from throughout the Southwest.

Membership has grown from the initial eight charter members to **315 members** in October 2013. This includes 50 Life Members (\$350) and 10 Patron Members (\$500) who do not receive annual dues renewals. We are very grateful to all of our members, regardless of level, as you are the lifeblood of support.

So what is next? As you will see in the *2014 Event Planning Calendar* on page 4, there will be expanded monthly lectures and special events. There are also a number of classes that will be announced soon, two of which are described on page 5. But, as we move forward with our certification efforts it has become clear that we will soon run out of space. As a result, we have begun to look to our long-range needs and the possibility of buying or building a permanent home for the Center. You will hear more about this in the coming months.



2015 ??

Anniversary Party Set for December 6

The Center will mark its Third Anniversary with a Members-Only Reception in the Center on Friday, December 6, from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm. Refreshments will be served. All members are cordially invited to attend to help us mark this special day.



If you have not been in the new Research Lab or reviewed our expanding Library, this would be a great opportunity to do so. The first phase of the Children's Discovery Area should be completed by then as well.

See you all there!!



President's Report

Dr. James Graceffa

As summer comes to an end and our members return from vacation or back to the Verde Valley to spend the winters with us, the Center is gearing up for more activities.

I would like to address a very serious question that has been haunting the Center since its inception. After three years of the Verde Valley Archaeology Center being in existence, I am still hearing questions about “why should I join the Center and not the Society? After all I live in Sedona or the Village and isn't the Center for Camp Verde and Cottonwood residents and the Archaeology Society for people in the Sedona area who are interested in archaeology?” The answer is an emphatic NO. The Center is for anyone and everyone who is interested in archaeology. The Center can do many things that the Society cannot, and all your dues stays in the Verde Valley to go for things “archaeology” that interest you and protects land and artifacts. For example, the Center is able to display and house artifacts for research purposes. Also we can conduct excavations and own property. The Center can bring archaeology film festivals and Native American art shows to the Verde Valley. Our outreach programs to schools and children is ever expanding and one to be envied. We also have classes offered to our members. Volunteer opportunities abound in a variety of interests.

Yes, both entities have lectures and field trips. I would say if you can afford to be a member of both than by all means do so, even if just for the lectures and field trips. But if you can only afford to be a member of one organization, I would suggest you choose the Center, where all your money stays in the Verde Valley and goes to aid the preservation of sites and collections and to foster a deeper understanding of prehistory in the Verde Valley. I hope this clears up some misunderstandings. Please relate this information to your friends and encourage them to become members of the Center and support this most worthy endeavor.

Back to the business at hand. Our Research Lab has been completed and you can find members working there most Thursdays and Fridays. We invite members to come by and visit. If you would like to get involved with our activities please feel free to stop in and let us know. As the Center participates in more archaeological field activities, there will be more lab work to be done.

We have just completed our most comprehensive field school to date in Colorado. The site continues to amaze. It is one of the only large late Pueblo I, early Pueblo II sites in the southwest with 250 rooms and 50 Kivas. With the amount of large animal bone found (deer and elk) we know that they were well fed. A Kiva with 3 vaults or foot drums was found and is only the second one known in the southwest. And then there is the room where many turquoise nuggets were found. It is always a mystery what will be found next. It can be hard work but very rewarding. I hope many of you will join us next year, when we try to discover more mysteries. The Principal Investigator, Dave Dove, will update Center members next February.

Maybe not as exciting but just as important was the excavation in the Verde Valley this June on Archaeological Conservancy property. It was co-sponsored by APS, as it was a power pole relocation project. Dr. Bostwick, headed up the project. It was the first by the Center in the Verde Valley. Analysis of the artifacts found was done at the Center Lab by members. Dr. Bostwick, published his findings in the fall issue of the *Archaeology* magazine. Thanks Todd.

The Center is excited to have Wayne Ranney, M.A., geologist, as an instructor for a class to be held in December explaining the geology of the Verde Valley. Thanks goes to Mary Kearney, for arranging this class. Mary has other great instructors ready to present classes.

Once more I thank all of you for your support.



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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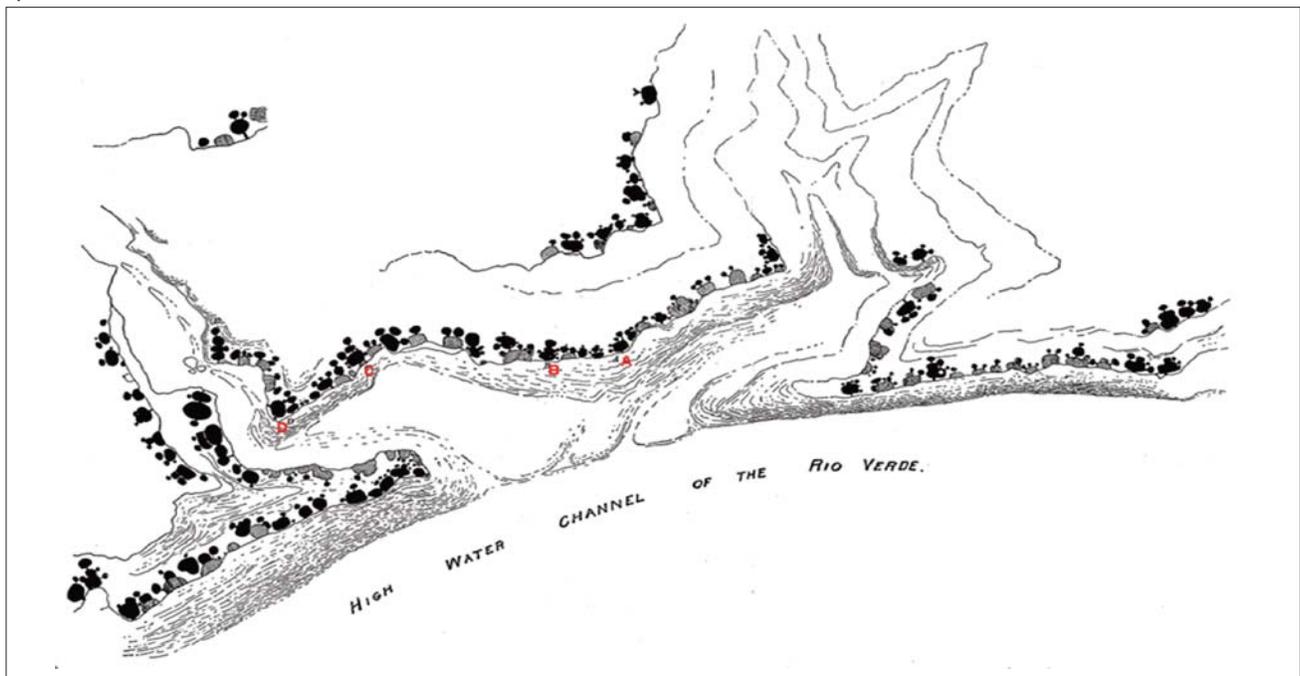
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Cosmos Mindeleff (1863-1938) started his career as assistant to his brother, Victor Mindeleff, who was employed by the Bureau of American Ethnology in the 1880s to conduct studies of Pueblo architecture. In 1890, he came to Arizona to help with the stabilization of Casa Grande ruin. But a year later funding dried up so he and his wife set out to examine and inventory ruins in the Verde Valley. This area is now known to archaeologists as the Mindeleff Cavate Lodge Group. Cavate is a term used to describe artificial cave-like rooms carved out of soft rock. There are numerous cavate sites in the American Southwest and several strewn along the Verde River and its tributaries, but few comparable in size and extent to the Mindeleff Cavates. In 1896, Cosmos Mindeleff published *Aboriginal Remains in Verde Valley, Arizona*, in the 13th Annual Report of the Bureau of American Ethnology.

The following is a summary of Mindeleff's findings compiled by our Director of Archaeology, Dr. Todd Bostwick:

- There are two levels of cavates dug into a bluff 180 to 200 ft (55 to 61 m) high; one level is 75 ft (23 m) above the Verde River and the other level is 30 to 40 ft (9.1 to 13.7 m) above the lower level of cavates; most of the cavates are at the lower level.
- The cavate lodges are generally circular in shape, sometime oblong, but never rectangular; they range from 5 to 30 ft (1.2 to 9.1 m) in diameter.
- There are 200 rooms on the main level, divided into 74 distinct and separate sets, each with 1 to 14 rooms; on the upper level there are 56 rooms, divided into 24 sets = 150 to 200 people lived in the total of 256 rooms.
- Each cluster of rooms consists of a large apartment, entered by a narrow passageway from the bluff, and a number of smaller rooms connected by narrow doorways or short passages, and sometimes still smaller rooms are attached to them.
- Typically there is a series of three or four rooms extending in a row back into the bedrock.
- Attached to a main apartment or to back rooms are storage cists or cubby-holes 1 to 5 ft (0.3 to 1.2 m) in dia. and nearly always on the level of the floor but sometime extended below it; sometimes these cists are excavated in the exterior walls of the cliffs, and occasionally they are partly excavated and partly enclosed by a rough, semi-circular wall. Ceilings are circa 3 to 7.5 ft (0.91 to 2.3 m) in height.
- Some cavates have no connecting passageways, but open out to the air by a cove or nook in the bluff with occasionally a wall in front of rough masonry. At least one cavate has a wall that covers the entire opening with a doorway in the wall. One cavate interior room has a window-like opening about 3 ft (91 cm) above the floor that would have required a ladder to enter.
- The interior of the cavates are never plastered, but some floors are plastered to level them, and some have low ridges of clay that divide them into sections; some rooms are smoke-blackened; one room contained small pockets and a low mud wall which may have contained water, holding up to 15 to 20 gallons. Some rooms contain low benches.
- Some interior floors of back rooms are lower or higher than rooms in front; some floors have pits dug into them which range from very small (mortars?) to 18 inches (46 cm) in dia., with this larger pit an inverted conical shape about 10 inches (25 cm) in depth and plaster inside with clay inlaid with fragments of pottery placed closely together (firepit?).
- Ceramic jars and bowls, basketry, pieces of arrowshafts, grinding stone frags, bundles of fibers, woven yucca sandals, and pieces of pottery were found inside one room.



Map of Verde River Cavates by Cosmos Mindeleff (1896)

Verde Valley Archaeology Center 2014 Planning Calendar of Events

January	<p>8-15-22 Class: <i>Yavapai People of the Verde Valley</i></p> <p>14 Annual Membership Meeting and Elections Lecture: <i>The Prehistoric Verde Salt Mine in Camp Verde</i>, Dr. Todd Bostwick, PhD, Director of Archaeology 7:00 pm, Camp Verde Community Center Rooms 206/207</p> <p>DTBA (Date to be announced) Member Hike to Big Cornville Ruin and Oak Creek Ruin</p> <p>25 Class: <i>Pottery Analysis of the Verde Valley</i></p>
February	<p>1-15-22 Class: <i>Pottery Analysis of the Verde Valley</i> continues</p> <p>16 Archaeology Sunday Lecture: <i>Recent Research on Basketmaker Textiles from Southern Utah</i> Laurie Webster, PhD, University of Arizona 2:00 PM, Sedona, Location to be determined</p> <p>DTBA Member Hike to Clear Creek Ruins</p>
March	<p style="text-align: center;">Arizona Archaeology and Heritage Awareness Month</p> <p>9 Archaeology Month Benefit - Wine and hors'doerves with special attraction 3:00 PM, Sedona location to be announced</p> <p>14 International Archaeology Film Festival Films to be announced 7:00 PM, Location to be announced</p> <p>15 Films to be announced 3:00 PM and 7:00 PM, Location to be announced</p> <p>18 Lecture: <i>Hawaiian archaeology with a comparison to the Southwest</i> Don Keller, Museum of Northern Arizona Archaeologist 7:00 PM, Sedona, Location to be determined</p> <p>29 Third Annual Verde Valley Archaeology Fair</p> <p>30 Demonstrations, Exhibits, Classes, Lectures Camp Verde Community Center, 10:00 am to 4:00 pm</p> <p>DTBA Member Hike to Doren's Castle</p>
April	<p>15 Lecture: <i>Wetherills and Rainbow Bridge</i> Harvey Leake 7:00 PM, Camp Verde Community Center Rooms 206/207</p> <p>DTBA Member Hike to Red Tank Draw</p>
May	<p>3 Picnic: Food, Entertainment, Games Noon - 4:00, Toad Acres on the Verde River, Camp Verde</p> <p>20 Lecture: <i>Geomorphology and Paleoforests as Evidence of Past Landscape Use and Change</i> Kirk Anderson, PhD 7:00 PM, Camp Verde Community Center Room 206/207</p>
July	18-21 Excavation Field School Session 1, Dove Creek, Colorado
August	<p>1 - 4 Excavation Field School Session 2, Dove Creek, Colorado</p> <p>15-18 Excavation Field School Session 3, Dove Creek, Colorado</p>
September	<p>16 Lecture: Topic to be announced Byl Bryce, Project Director and Lithic Analyst - EcoPlan Associates 7:00 PM, Camp Verde Community Center Room 206/207</p> <p>DTBA Member Hike to Honanki and Loy Canyon Pictographs</p>
October	<p>18 International Archaeology Day 10:00 am to 4:00 pm – Lectures and Films: Archaeology Center , Camp Verde</p> <p>18 Archaeology Day Gala Dinner and Distinguished Speaker 6:00 PM Poco Diablo Resort, Sedona</p> <p>21 Lecture: <i>Navajo Archaeology</i>, Kerry Thompson, PhD, 7:00 PM, Sedona, Location to be determined</p>
November	<p>16 Archaeology Sunday Lecture: <i>Use of Isotope Analysis in Archaeology</i>, Kate Compton-Gore, M.A. Verde Valley Archaeology Center Archaeologist 2:00 PM, Camp Verde Community Center Rooms 206/207</p> <p>DTBA Member Hike to Nature Conservancy's Hartwell Canyon</p>

Sponsor a Lecture

Bringing in distinguished speakers to present their topic often requires the Center to pay travel expenses and sometimes an honorarium. You can sponsor a lecture for \$500. In addition to being acknowledged at the lecture and in the *Quarterly*, a sponsorship includes dinner for two with the speaker either before or after the presentation. For more information, call Ken Zoll at 928-593-0364.



Upcoming Classes at the Center

Yavapai People of the Verde Valley



The Center is honored to host a class by Frieda Eswonja, a full-blooded Yavapai. Frieda was honored in 2007 as an Arizona Indian Living Treasure. The class will be held over three sessions on January 8, 15 and 22 from 6:30 to 8:30 pm in our Learning Center. Member cost is \$40. Class size is limited to 36. Member registration is available now online. Registration to the general public for any available spaces will be available on January 1. Nonmember cost will be \$50. Frieda's class will cover:



1. History and Legendary Origin of the Yavapai;
2. Massacre at Skeleton Cave and others in the Area;
3. Maps and Diagrams of the Yavapai Land areas;
4. Stories of Inspirational Members of the Yavapai;
5. The story of our "Exodus";
6. Current tribal government of the Yavapai-Apache Nation;
7. Tragedy of Conquest and the Survival of the Yavapai; and,
8. Present and Future Aspirations, Goals, Downfalls and Roadblocks that the Yavapai face.

Pottery Analysis of the Verde Valley



Learn to identify the types of prehistoric pottery found in the Verde Valley. Jim Graceffa will conduct this four-session class that includes lecture and lab work. Classes will be at the Center and will start at 9am to Noon on the following Saturdays, Jan. 25, Feb. 1, Feb. 15, and Feb. 22. There will be a field trip sometime after the last class. This class is only for members. The cost for the class is \$40 plus \$15 for the book. Only one book per family is necessary. Those of you who expressed an interest in this class by signing the register in the Center will be contacted by Jim. If you did not but are interested, contact Jim at dr.jvg@hotmail.com.

How to Leverage Your Gift -- Anyone Can Be a Philanthropist

Leveraging your gift is a savvy way to maximize your donation's impact on the Center. Below are two such ways of leveraging to consider as you plan your giving.

1. Make an End-of-Year Tax-wise Gift - The easiest way to leverage your gift to the Center is to maximize the tax benefits which will allow you to give more than you would be able to give otherwise. Consider, for example, giving shares of appreciated stock that you have held for longer than one year. As a qualified charitable organization, the Center can sell the shares and utilize the full amount to further our mission. You, in turn receive credit for the full amount of the gift and can apply it as an income tax charitable deduction on your annual itemized tax return.

2. Contribute to Our Endowment Fund - The Verde Valley Archaeology Center Endowment Fund is a protected fund set aside to provide a regular flow of income. The principal of this fund remains in perpetuity. Only a portion of the net earnings are used to meet the purposes of the fund, whether Museum operations, special projects, program enhancements or whatever the funder chooses to designate.

For additional guidance, you may want to first contact your attorney or financial planner. We would also be happy to speak with you, we can provide basic information, as well as relate various ways others have included the Center in their estate plans. You can reach us by calling our Executive Director Ken Zoll at 928-593-0364 or director@verdevalleyarchaeology.org. The information above is not intended as legal or tax advice, for legal or tax advice please consult an attorney or financial professional.

Wish List



In addition to the ongoing need for general donations, the Verde Valley Archaeology Center often needs specialty items. We have several items listed on Amazon. To find our list go to Amazon.com and click on the Wish List on the top right and select "Find a Wish List." Then type our name in the space provided. Here are some of the items on the list:

1. Administration: Desktop Computer
2. Reception: Sign-in podium
3. Learning Center: Wall-mounted pull-down screen
4. Learning Center: Projector
5. Learning Center: Secure storage cabinet for electronic equipment





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Memberships (except Student) cover all in your household	Student \$10	Supporting \$35	Contributing \$50	Sustaining \$100	Benefactor \$250	Life \$350	Patron \$500
Access to Laboratory Facility	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>						
15% Gift Shop Discount	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>						
Archaeology Quarterly newsletter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>						
Group Hiking Opportunities	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>						
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Discounted Specialty Classes		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>					
VVAC-logo Aluminum Water Bottle			<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>				
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Free Tickets To Film Festivals					2	4	4
Archaeology Quarterly Acknowledgement						<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
No Annual Renewals						<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Private Center Tour On Request							<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

