

# HPSfAA Newsletter

## HPSfAA

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## HPSfAA Member News...

**Howard Stein** received the Omer C. Stewart award at this year's annual meeting in Estes Park, Colorado in April.

The Omer C. Stewart award is presented to a member "in recognition for exemplary achievement." Last years winner was **Gottfried "Friedl" Lang**.

**Peter Van Arsdale** received an Outstanding Teaching Award at graduation ceremonies at the University of Denver's Graduate School of International Studies on June 8, 2001. Van Arsdale has taught on the campus for 25 years, the first five in anthropology and the last 20 in International Studies. In addition to his work in mental health for the state of Colorado, he also serves part-time as Faculty Director of D.U.'s Center on Rights Development. Van Arsdale has also been recently appointed to two editorial boards, the *American Anthropologist* (AA) and *Human Rights and Human Welfare* (HRHW).

**Larry Van Horn**, an anthropologist with the National Park Service in Denver, Colorado and a former editor of the *High Plains Applied Anthropologist*, is the author of the "Exploration and Explorers" entry in *The Encyclopedia of the United States in the Nineteenth Century*, Volume 1, pages 451-456, published by Charles Scribner's Sons, New York.

**Arthur Campa** and **Adriann Wycoff** were recently awarded a major grant from the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Migrant Education. The grant is aimed at helping fund the College Assistance Migrant Program (CAMP) at Metropolitan State College of Denver in assisting an estimated 150 students from migrant and seasonal farmer backgrounds through academic, financial, counseling, and affective support. For further information contact the CAMP office at 303.556.6231 or 303.556.2142. E-mail CAMP at [campaa@mscd.edu](mailto:campaa@mscd.edu) or [wycoffa@mscd.edu](mailto:wycoffa@mscd.edu)

**Please remember to pay your dues!! Contact Merun Nasser at [merun@worldnet.att.net](mailto:merun@worldnet.att.net) if you have not paid yet.**

## 2001 Annual Ghost Ranch Retreat

Please join us for our annual retreat at beautiful Ghost Ranch, located just outside of Abiquiu, New Mexico. This year's retreat promises to be a good one. The theme for Saturday morning sessions, organized by Ed Knopp, is "Northern New Mexico: Environment, Traditions, and Challenges of Change." Masters Post-Internship Presentations by Northern Arizona University Applied Anthropology students will be presented Friday evening. Presentations include:

- Lyle J. Balenquah "Caught Between a Rock and a Hard Place: An Internship with the Hopi Cultural Preservation Office and the National Park Service," Flagstaff Area National Monument and the Hopi Cultural Preservation Office.
- Amanda E. Johnson "Ethnological Research: An Internship with the Center for Sustainable Environments," Flagstaff, Arizona.
- Tracy L. Meerwarth "GM Research and Development Project: Understanding Organizational Management and Partnerships from an Anthropological Perspective," Warren, Michigan.
- Michelle Walsh "Strengthening Nursing and Midwifery Practices: An Internship with the World Health Organization Regional Office for Africa," Harare, Zimbabwe.
- Emily E. Brelsford "Socialization, Risk Perceptions, and Drug Use in Virgin Island Youth: An Internship Opportunity in Qualitative Analysis," University of Virgin Islands, St. Thomas, USVI.
- Diane R. Bushley "Pathfinder International and the PAC Consortium: Post-abortion Care in the Developing World," Waterton, Massachusetts.
- Marissa M. Dominquez "Integrating the Public and Archaeology through Museum Exhibit Design," Anasazi Heritage Center, Dolores, Colorado.
- Brendon H. Clark "Population Implications and Policy Formation: The Active Link," Population Reference Bureau, Washington, DC.

If you have not already reserved your space, do so soon. Please contact Howard F. Stein at [howard-stein@ouhsc.edu](mailto:howard-stein@ouhsc.edu) or send your reservation fees to Merun Nasser at 2636 Grapewood Ln., Boulder, Co. 80304.

We look forward to seeing you at Ghost Ranch!

**Santa Rita B Archaeological Project and Cultural, Ecological, and Sustainable Management of  
a Local Community in the Middle Chao Valley of Perú**  
**Ellen J. Campa**

### **What is Eco-Sustainable Development?**

Cultural, ecological, and sustainable development and management is a cooperative effort consisting of community participation and anthropological methods that assist the community in becoming self-sufficient and economically empowered within the boundaries of what is locally available and environmentally sound. This system creates social and economic development in such a way that its impact does not deprive future generations of local resources.

### **History of the Project**

This unique partnership of archaeology and applied anthropology is using technology developed by ancient peoples occupying the Santa Rita B site for application towards better living conditions for the contemporary people living in the village of Santa Rita, Peru. The Santa Rita B Archaeological Project involves the investigation of an urban complex showing continuous occupation for 3,000 years (from 1,000 BC through to AD 1500). Now in its third year, the Project has begun to discern a pattern of resource management that demonstrates considerable stability over this period of time. It is our belief that the 3,000 years of experience that the pre-Hispanic occupants of this area were able to draw upon contains important lessons that are of great value to contemporary small landowners who now occupy this valley.

The contemporary community of Santa Rita is adjacent to the archaeological complex and unfortunately is experiencing critical levels of poverty and resource depletion. Our goal is to establish a working relationship with the members of this community that includes: identification of the reasons for the current negative situation, and to use a combination of modern applied anthropological methods and archaeological insights. We endeavor to develop a plan, in cooperation with the community, for long term, eco-sustainable development and economic growth. Through field schools educating future archaeologists and by employing a team of volunteer professionals, we hope to create a model for other projects in Peru to empower contemporary communities to better their living conditions by employing revived and proven ancient systems of agriculture and resource management.

### **Eco-Sustainability in Santa Rita, Peru**

During the first field season in Santa Rita, in July and August 2000, the applied anthropology team conducted a rapid needs assessment. However, before even approaching Santa Rita, there was a need to develop a working relationship with their cohorts from the Universidad Nacional de Trujillo, (UNT) Perú. These individuals included Licenciado (Lic.) Eduardo Achútegui Giraldo, Lic. Teresa Rosales Tham, and Lic. Victor Vásquez Sánchez. From the onset, the UNT team was eager to assist in any way possible, since they had authored the original request for this eco-sustainable community development study. This was in response to requests from the community of Santa Rita. In addition

to the relationships with the UNT team, a relationship of trust and mutual interest in working together had to be developed with the community of Santa Rita. Julio Hilario Mendoza Huaman, the elected Lieutenant Governor of the village understood the press for time and eased the team into the community, quickly making them feel welcome.

Initially the team was confronted with the fact that the village of Santa Rita (population 260) had experienced a devastating tragedy in 1998. The entire village and their agricultural fields had been virtually wiped out by the mudslides caused by torrential El Nino rains. It became clear that the community needed more than help with farming techniques.

The rapid needs assessment consisted of in-depth interviews with various community members, focus group meetings of special interest groups (i.e., Mother's Club, irrigation commission, service providers, etc.), participant observation, and collection of demographic information. In addition, maps were drafted of the village, copies drawn of the agricultural areas, and ownership or working of agricultural fields adjacent to the village noted. Contacts were made with various political entities as well. Likewise, meetings with the school teachers, clinic nurses, and other community groups (potable water board, transportation provider, etc.) were held as well as friendly visiting with the community as a whole. Pat Cockerill and Arthur Campa were honored to become godparents to infant Yolanda, and the team performed an ear-piercing ceremony for village resident Julio's daughters Naomi and Doris. Ellen Campa did a weaving demonstration, and consequently discovered an untapped resource in the community of a couple of elder women who, originally from the highlands, knew how to weave.

From this rapid needs assessment, it was concluded that the needs of the community consisted of: electricity; school supplied and school building repairs; medical clinic supplied and building repairs; a retaining wall that mimics the wall that protects the archaeological site, Santa Rita B, from future El Niño devastation; better nutrition (80 percent childhood malnutrition); and a lucrative economic base other than strict dependence on agriculture.

Programs and projects that the community can develop for themselves with some guidance to satisfy some of these needs include: a protective wall; a community garden; a camelid reintroduction program of llamas and alpacas; a weaving/textile cooperative; agricultural seed banks; and improvement of the potable water system.

### **Field Season 2001**

Goals this season are to introduce the community of Santa Rita to the proposed programs listed above, to address the nutritional needs of the community, to prepare for the actual introduction of the camelids by 2002, and to have the weaving cooperative producing goods by 2002 as well. Team members have been assigned to particular programs and will be conducting meetings with community members to organize groups to handle particulars within each project.

The goal is to see Santa Rita become a self-sustaining community within the next five years- the dream is to see Santa Rita become a model for other communities in Peru.

## **The HPSfAA Annual Conference in Estes Park, Colorado 2001**

**By Clare L. Boulanger**

The HPSfAA Spring 2001 conference was held April 20-22 at the YMCA Camp of the Rockies in Estes Park, Colorado. This year's theme was "Checking Our Ethics: The Times They are A-Changing." While ethical considerations are prominent in any anthropological endeavor, they are all the more so when anthropology is applied, as the work of practicing anthropologists is carefully designed precisely to have an impact on human lives. It is essential that we constantly monitor our work to ensure that this impact is positive. It is essential as well that we occasionally convene to discuss in-depth how we monitor ourselves and how we determine what is positive, especially at this historical moment when once-standard courses of action in anthropology are being challenged not only by anthropologists but by the people we had intended to help. While ethical issues should never be taken lightly, there is a danger that if we become too caught up in self-evaluation, we might abandon the practice of anthropology altogether. With this tightrope in mind, the conference co-chairs invited potential participants to organize panels that not only exposed ethical pitfalls, but also would hash out ways of overcoming them. We encouraged panels over the more standard method of formal presentations or papers because this allowed us to enhance the interaction between the various panelists and the audience.

Finally, Dr. Andrew Gulliford, Director of the Center for Southwest Studies at Fort Lewis College in Durango, Colorado was our guest speaker. Dr. Gulliford, a historian, recently published a book, "Sacred Objects and Sacred Places: Preserving Tribal Traditions," that was well received. Since Dr. Gulliford hails from a different academic discipline, his perspective added lucid insights to our otherwise anthropological debates.

## **Ethnography and Web Content Development**

**By Eliot Lee**

How do you provide content, including testimonials or "day in the life of" somebody in web sites? The traditional communication or marketing approach would be to simply interview people about issues or send out surveys to a sample of a population. Yet to really provide a deep description of the issues, it makes better sense to employ anthropological methods, including in-depth interviewing and participant observation.

Over the next few months I will be conducting a short-term ethnographic analysis of student populations at my current job. I will be interviewing participants and also observing their daily lives to provide content in some of the new sections, including "Day in the Life of a Student" and "Testimonials of Students," of our newly designed college web site, which are being developed for the recruitment of students and faculty members. Contrary to popular belief, ethnography does have its place in developing content for electronic and multi-media communications, particularly the Web. Researching social, environmental, economic, political, and in this case, academic systems is key to fully understanding the context of issues as well as being able to display them in a meaningful manner. The key to success is holistically evaluating these systems, which is an important paradigm of anthropology. Not only is ethnography a useful tool in developing web content, but it is fun and

exciting.