

# Looking Back, Looking Ahead

Annual Report 2016

Friends of Coronado Historic Site

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*Kiva mural, Kuaua Pueblo*

submitted by

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# MISSION STATEMENT

*The mission of the Friends of Coronado Historic site (FCHS) is to support the conservation and restoration of historical assets and museum exhibits at the Site; and to promote, through community outreach, the historical and cultural significance of the Coronado Historic Site and the ancestral pueblo of Kuaua.*

revised April 2016

## ABOUT THE CORONADO STATE HISTORIC SITE

In 1540 a force of Spanish soldiers and Indian allies from New Spain, led by Francisco Vásquez de Coronado, entered the middle Rio Grande Valley of New Mexico in search of the fabled Seven Cities of Gold. This area, which the Spanish would call the Tiguex Province, was home to thousands of individuals living in a dozen or more adobe villages, or pueblos. The remnants of the northernmost pueblo, known today as Kuaua, are preserved at the Coronado State Historic Site located in the city of Bernalillo, just north of Albuquerque. The Historic Site is a nationally recognized treasure and home to one of the greatest archaeological discoveries in the American Southwest.

In the mid-1930s, in preparation for the reconstruction of the ancestral pueblo, archeologists made a discovery that would become one of the great treasures of New Mexico and the pride of the Coronado Historic Site. While excavating a kiva (underground chamber) that had been buried for centuries, the archeologists found its walls were adorned with many layers of colorful paintings, or murals. These murals, estimated to be between 500 and 600 years old, are among the oldest indigenous art on display in the United States. The Painted Kiva was reconstructed, and one of the mural layers was recreated inside it by Native artist Ma-Pe-Wi.

Today the Coronado Historic Site is the only museum in the world with original kiva art on display. Visitors may take a guided tour of the Painted Kiva and view the original murals in the site's museum. The museum also exhibits prehistoric and historic Puebloan and Spanish colonial artifacts and offers interactive learning for all ages via the "Sim Pueblo", an archaeology game, and an iPhone™ application.

# Letter from the President

## Looking back on a successful year . . .

This past year has been an interesting time for the Friends of Coronado and the Coronado Historic Site. Both have faced new challenges. The year 2016 saw severe cuts in State funding and a major reorganization within the New Mexico Department of Cultural Affairs, which oversees historic sites. This reorganization resulted in the loss of our Site Manager, Scott Smith; the consolidation of the Jemez and Coronado Historic Sites into a new regional organization; and the coming of a new manager, Matthew Barbour.

These changes brought new challenges to the Historic Site. But the support of Friends' members enabled us to fund new exhibits, provide items for educational outreach, and donate thousands of volunteer hours in support of the Historic Site and its staff. The 2016 Fiesta of Cultures was our most successful to date with over 860 visitors. Volunteers working with Ranger Ethan Ortega photographed, analyzed, and inventoried over 62,000 artifacts and digitized over 4,000 pages of field notes from early excavations of Kuaua Pueblo. The Friends were able to continue our education program with eight lectures. And for those wanting something a little different, the Friends sponsored ten field trips and three hikes.

## . . . and ahead to 2017

Thanks to member donations and sales in Sun Father's Gift Shop, the Friends finished 2016 in a strong financial position. This is fortunate because we think State funding for the Historic Site will be just as tight in 2017 as last year. Our goals for 2017 are to fund new exhibits, the final phase of Painted Kiva restoration, and docent and outreach programs; to support ongoing research; and to create a scholarship for research projects pertaining to the Historic Site.

*— Brian Gilmore, President  
Friends of Coronado Historic Site*

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# Looking Back, Looking Ahead

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## Overview

During 2016, the Friends of Coronado Historic Site strove to foster a deep appreciation for the Pueblo, Hispanic, and Anglo cultures of New Mexico through docent-led site tours, lectures, field trips, workshops, and events for both Friends members and the general public. Friends activities contributed to a steady increase in visitation to the Historic Site. Members also provided much-needed advocacy to the New Mexico Department of Cultural Affairs and State legislators.

A particularly exciting development involved research activities conducted by Friends volunteers. Their reexamination of Kuaua artifacts excavated over 75 years ago promises a more nuanced understanding of the origins and development of this ancestral pueblo and the daily life of its inhabitants. It also offers a tantalizing glimpse into other cultures who used the site before and after the pueblo's heyday.

As always, Friends members also had fun — enjoying the good fellowship that comes from sharing knowledge, participating in activities that stretch the mind and body, and working towards the common goal of discovering and preserving the past.

## 2016 Programs

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### Lectures

As part of public outreach and educational efforts, the Friends of Coronado sponsored eight educational lectures with over 450 people attending. The lectures provided the opportunity to increase the understanding of New Mexico's varied cultures and complex history. Our lecture series has continued to be popular and serves as an effective tool to recruit new Friends members and inspire existing members.

Month	Speaker	Lecture Topic
January	Ethan Ortega, CHS Ranger	New and Exciting Discoveries at Coronado State Historic Site
February	Dr. Bruce Bernstein	Native American Easel Art (lecture accompanied Friends-funded art exhibit)
March	Jacque Kocer, doctoral candidate	The Vanishing Tribes of Gallina (followed by hike to ancestral Gallina sites in September)
April	Ethan Ortega, CHS Ranger	Blackwater Draw and the Clovis Culture
May	Ed Wallace, Chautauqua presenter	Esteban the Black: Journey into the Unknown
June	Dr. Mark Thompson	Indians, Armor, and Allies: Who Came to the Pass (Juan de Oñate expedition)
September	Matt Barbour, Historic Sites Manager	Religion and Rebellion in 17th Century New Mexico
November	Matt Barbour, Historic Sites Manager	Fort Marcy: "That Sink of Vice and Extravagance"

## Field Trips

Participation in members-only field trips is one of the best benefits of Friends of Coronado membership. These outings generally include a “special perk”—perhaps a guided tour that follows up on a lecture, a behind-the-curtain look at museum collections, or hike to an archaeological site not generally open to the public. In 2016, five field trips were enjoyed by 144 Friends members.

Month	Destination	Details	Attendance
May	Puye Cliff Dwellings	Hike to ancestral Santa Clara Pueblo	19
June	Very Large Array Radio Telescope (VLA), Socorro	Visit led by facility education coordinator	40

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Month	Destination	Details	Attendance
July	National Museum of Nuclear Science and History, Albuquerque	Docent-led tour	37
August	Museum of Indian Arts and Culture, Santa Fe	Docent-led tour of vault, including artifacts from Kuaua Pueblo	21
September	Nogales Cliff House and Rattlesnake Ridge (Gallina cultural sites), near Cuba, NM	Hike led by experts Dr. Connie Constan, Cal Joiner, John Hayden, and Jacque Koser	27

## Kuaua Trekkers

The Kuaua Trekkers group offers Friends members the opportunity to stretch their legs in more active hikes to some of northern New Mexico's most scenic and archaeologically interesting destinations.

Month	Destination	Details	Attendance
February	Placitas area	Led by Norma Ruptier	10
March	Ojito Wilderness	Hike among bizarre, spectacular geological formations	9
September	Guadalupe Mesa, Jemez Mountains	Tour of ancestral Jemez sites Patokwa (11 people) and Astialakwa (7), led by Manager Matt Barbour	11

## Workshops

A coloring workshop was held in August, with 12 participants enjoying this fun, popular way to relax. Workshops are an excellent way to exercise a bit of creativity while getting to know the Coronado Historic Site and the Friends group.

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## Gallery Hoppers

New for 2016 were the Kuaua Gallery Hoppers. The Hoppers are Friends members who are interested in visiting museums, galleries, and historic sites. The year 2016 saw 83 people participate in four such activities. Below is a list of their outings.

Month	Destination	Details	Attendance
February	American International Rattlesnake Museum	Museum visit and lecture by Bob Myers, Director	21
February	Museum of Indian Arts and Culture, Santa Fe	Docent-led tour of exhibit: "Oblique Views: Archaeology, Photography and Time"	17
May	Blackwater Draw National Historic Site, near Portales, New Mexico	Overnight trip to Clovis culture site/museum; side trips to Fort Sumter Historic Site/Bosque Redondo Memorial, Buddy Holly Museum, Billy the Kid grave	27
July	Albuquerque Museum	Docent-led tour of Route 66 exhibit	18

## Major 2016 Events

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### Fiesta of Cultures

The Friends of Coronado's eleventh annual Fiesta of Cultures was held on October 15, 2016, and was enjoyed by over 860 attendees. The Fiesta featured traditional Pueblo, Anglo, and Spanish crafts — including demonstrations of Pueblo pottery making, fiber arts, and blacksmithing — as well as 36 multicultural craft and food vendors, a Spanish settlers' encampment, a llama exhibit, an exhibit by Hawks Aloft, and children's activities. Live entertainment was provided by the Five Sandoval Indian Pueblos-Head Start children's dancers and the Harvier Family Dancers from Santa Clara Pueblo. Docent-led and self-

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guided tours of the Historic Site were also available. This event not only paid for itself, but netted a small profit, a rare achievement for events at any New Mexico Historic Site.

*Special Recognition:*

**Friends of Coronado Volunteers Win  
2016 Bice Award**

The Archaeological Society of New Mexico awarded the 2016 Richard A. Bice Award for Archaeological Achievement to Friends volunteers Carolyn Gilmore and Deborah Ellis in recognition of their significant improvements to archaeological collections at the Maxwell Museum of Anthropology at the University of New Mexico.

Carolyn and Deborah, together with teams they recruited and led, reorganized artifacts from the ancestral pueblos of Kuaua and Santiago (Puaray) by cataloguing, labelling, and photographing thousands of ceramics and developing reference materials for use by Museum staff and University students. The volunteers also created archival support rings for the ceramics and placed the vessels in archival storage containers.

The Friends of Coronado are proud to have donated \$300 to purchase the support rings, reducing the potential for damage to these priceless artifacts.

## **Lights of Kuaua**

More than 1,000 traditional luminarias lined pathways and illuminated the structures of the Coronado Historic Site during this evening event on December 4, 2016. Over 780 visitors heard nineteenth century holiday favorites performed by the New Mexico Territorial Brass Band and watched traditional Native American dances around a raging bonfire on the south plaza of the pueblo. The Friends of Coronado provided volunteer staffing and \$1,300 in funding for this event.



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## Communications and Outreach

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During 2016 the Friends of Coronado was active in communications and outreach to members, other non-profit groups, the New Mexico State Legislature, the surrounding communities, and the general public. These efforts included:

- ❖ Actively participated in the Rio Rancho Regional Chamber of Commerce
- ❖ Joined Chamber-sponsored Non-Profit Alliance Committee
- ❖ Maintained membership in the Historical Society of New Mexico
- ❖ Maintained membership in the Albuquerque Archaeological Society
- ❖ Became an affiliated member of the Archaeological Society of New Mexico
- ❖ Informed Friends members via monthly email announcements and quarterly newsletters
- ❖ Publicized events, programs, and lectures via paid advertising and calendar listings in the *Sandoval Signpost*, *Corrales Comment*, *Rio Rancho Observer*, and *Albuquerque Journal*; radio public service announcements; and fliers delivered to senior centers, retirement homes, and public libraries
- ❖ Funded Coronado Historic Site ads in the *Sandoval County Connection* and *Traditions* magazines, as well as an ad for Jemez and Coronado Historic Sites in the 2016 Jemez Valley Vacation Guide
- ❖ Frequently updated organization web site and blog
- ❖ Won second place in the *New Mexico True* online photo contests
- ❖ Staffed information tables at events such as *Shout Out to Heroes* at Vista Grande Elementary School in Rio Rancho
- ❖ Assisted Historic Site staff with school presentations
- ❖ Advocated for Historic Site funding before the New Mexico Legislature.

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## Direct Benefits Provided to the Coronado State Historic Site in 2016

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Each year the Coronado Historic Site receives extensive financial and volunteer contributions from the Friends of Coronado. The Friends group is widely viewed as the most successful organization of its kind within the Department of Cultural Affairs, Historic Sites Division.

### Direct Benefits to Coronado Historic Site in 2016

**Volunteerism:** More than *10,000 volunteer labor hours* donated during 2016.

**Total financial support:** Donated *over \$21,600* to support major events, programs, educational activities, exhibit upgrades, research, and site enhancement

**Sun Father's Gift Shop:** Sales exceeded \$35,700 in 2016, netting *more than \$25,600* after expenses.

**Docent program:**

- ❖ Conducted hundreds of guided tours of the Historic Site and Painted Kiva in 2016
- ❖ Recruited and trained five new docents; purchased training materials
- ❖ All docents are Friends member volunteers.

**Major events support:**

- ❖ Presented the Fiesta of Cultures (over 860 attendees)
- ❖ Donated \$1,300, provided volunteers for the Lights of Kuaua (over 780 attendees).

**Summer programs:** Donated \$775 for summer educational programs at the Historic Site, including wildlife demonstrations, speakers, and traditional crafts such as pottery making, flint knapping, and textile arts.

**Site enhancement:** Purchased seeds for Native Garden, books for Site Library, and paint for damaged black band in the Painted Kiva, among many other items.

**Communications and outreach:** See activities list on page nine of this report.

**Research:** Friends volunteers devoted hundreds of hours cataloguing, labelling, and photographing ceramics from Kuaua and Santiago (Puaray) pueblos in the collections of the Maxwell Museum of Anthropology, earning the 2016 Bice Award for archaeological achievement in New Mexico.

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## Direct Benefits to Coronado Historic Site in 2016 (cont.)

### Exhibit upgrades:

- ❖ Donated over \$2,470 to purchase new Museum exhibit materials
- ❖ \$800 for a new 55-inch TV in the Gallery/Video Room
- ❖ \$450 for upgraded floor treatments in the Museum
- ❖ \$150 for Americans With Disabilities Act-compliant display table.

### Educational outreach:

Donated over \$650 for materials and provided volunteers to support school outreach by the Historic Site's instructional coordinator.

**Friends scholarship:** Donated \$2,500 to fund research by AmeriCorps intern.

**Conferences:** Supported staff attendance at select conferences.

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## Friends of Coronado Organization

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### About the Friends

The Friends of Coronado Historic Site is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization officially formed on May 7, 2003. This Report summarizes the thirteenth year of operations since incorporation. There were 349 Friends members as of December 31, 2016. The By-Laws of the organization were last amended in May 2016. The Friends Mission Statement (see page two of this report) was updated in April 2016.

### Board of Directors

Jim Conder (President), Pat Harris (Corresponding Secretary/Email Announcements), Marty Kuehn (Membership Chairman), and Billy Lawrence (Treasurer) were elected to the Board at the Annual Meeting on January 17, 2016.

At its February 24, 2016, meeting, the Board elected: Brian Gilmore (President), Ron Overley (Vice President/Trips Chairman), and Billy Lawrence (Treasurer). Jim Conder continued on the Board as President Emeritus/Member-at-Large. Other positions: Patt Cain (Secretary), Carolyn Gilmore (Gift Shop Manager), Marty Kuehn (Membership Chairman),

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Charron McFadden (Publicity Chairman), Glenn Taylor (Lectures Chairman), and Barbara Williams (Newsletter Editor). Secretary Patt Cain, Treasurer Billy Lawrence, and Lectures Chairman Glenn Taylor resigned during the year. They were replaced on an acting basis by Kate Hora, Tom Harris, and George Swenson, respectively.

Board members serve three-year terms. Regular Board meetings are held at the Coronado State Historic Site at 9:30 a.m., usually on the fourth Thursday of each month, and are open to all members.

## **Finances and Fundraising**

The Friends of Coronado enjoyed another financially successful year in 2016. The group raised over \$49,000 to support the Historic Site; expenditures for the year totaled over \$21,600. Primary revenue sources for 2016 were, in descending order: Gift Shop, membership dues, programs and events, and donations. Primary expenditure categories were, in descending order: Cost of goods sold in the Gift Shop, events and programs, historic site enhancement, and administration (includes insurance). The bank balance was \$29,967 as of December 31, 2016. A detailed financial report is available upon request.

Sun Father's Gift Shop continued to provide selected Native American-made and Southwestern-themed merchandise for visitors. Managed and staffed entirely by Friends volunteers, the Gift Shop is the largest revenue source for the Friends of Coronado, grossing over \$38,900 and generating a net profit of more than \$25,600 in 2016.

## **Contact Information**

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