



December 9, 2015 • Maya Ceremonial Era Long Count: 0.0.3.0.3 • 8 Ak'bal 11 Mak • G3

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The Temple of the Cactus Drums at Cihuatán, El Salvador

by **Karen Olsen Bruhns**
Co-director, Proyecto Arqueológico “La Antigua Ciudad de Cihuatán”.
Fundación Nacional de Arqueología de El Salvador (FUNDAR)

At left and right: Two complete drum effigies (in the form of Biznaga cactus) from Structure Q-40.

The Early Postclassic city of Cihuatán is remarkable in a number of aspects. It is the farthest southeast

urban Maya site known and it was El Salvador's first city. Despite the large amount of monumental construction, it has been deemed a “single-period” occupation site; founded sometime between 950-1000 CE and destroyed by fire and abandoned not more than 150 years later.



Ceramic drums were quite common among the ancient Maya, although the cactus effigy form is unique.

The site center includes a walled Ceremonial Center with two ballcourts, a main pyramid and a host of other structures; it also has a built-up Acropolis with a royal palace and adjacent residential and ceremonial structures. One of these is the prosaically named Q-40, a low platform which, unexcavated, presented itself as a formless mound, approximately

1.5 m in height, just off the northwest corner of the Acropolis.

In February of 2012, a site worker, Santos Raúl García, was standing on the mound watching a television interview being given on the nearby Acropolis. He bent down when he saw a peculiar sherd sticking out of the ground. He pulled it and it didn't come loose, so he told the site manager who told us and we went out to do a preliminary excavation around it. This “preliminary excavation” was shortly expanded into a major excavation of the entire mound, as it turned out to be a T-shaped temple on a low platform. The strange sherd was the first artifact we encountered of the remains of more than twenty ceramic drums – all of their sound



The west side of Q-40 during excavation. All photos submitted by Karen Olsen Bruhns.

December 9, 8 pm
IMS Annual Business Meeting and December Birthday Party
at Habana Vieja Restaurant, Miami
Be there!

chambers were portrayed in the form of Biznaga cactus (see above).

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Jim Reed,
Editor



In Memoriam: Patricia Rieff Anawalt

Patricia Rieff Anawalt, a UCLA anthropologist who later became chairman of her family-owned lumber company, passed October 2, 2015, at her Brentwood, CA, home after a short illness, her family said. She was 91.

Anawalt was the founding director of the Center for the Study of Regional Dress at UCLA's Fowler Museum. An authority on Mesoamerican ritual and attire, she wrote several books, including "The Worldwide History of Dress" (2007), which examined the costumes of a wide range of peoples, including Neolithic plant-fiber skirts, ancient Egyptian linen shifts and Mongolian shamanic robes.

A graduate of UCLA, where she received a PhD in anthropology in 1975, she began her career as an Aztec specialist. Once described as "an ethnological Sherlock Holmes" in *Archaeology* magazine, she analyzed Precolumbian sources and systematic studies conducted by Spanish missionaries to find out what local people wore and why.

Her studies provided clues about what happened when the Spanish and Aztec cultures collided in the 1500s in what is now Mexico. She found some changes resulted from the Spaniards' introduction of technology such as the treadle loom, which produced wider pieces of fabric that could be cut and shaped to fit the body and was operated by men instead of women.

Before founding the center, Anawalt was curator of costumes and textiles at UCLA's Museum of Cultural History. She was married for 55 years to Richard Anawalt. When he died in 2000, she succeeded him as chairman of the Anawalt Lumber Company, that was originally founded in Los Angeles in 1923.



Patricia Rieff Anawalt, a UCLA anthropologist, was the founding director of the Center for the Study of Regional Dress at UCLA's Fowler Museum (Fowler Museum, UCLA).

"As an anthropologist, I've always been interested in this thing that happens when two different cultures come together and something new comes out of that."

– Patricia Rieff Anawalt

(as she told *The LA Times* in 1993, when the Center for the Study of Regional Dress opened)

Anawalt was born in Ripon, CA, on March 10, 1924. Her survivors include a daughter, Katie; two sons, David and Fred; and four grandchildren.

The Center for the Study of Regional Dress is an endowed research facility composed of offices and a laboratory located within the Fowler Museum – opened on June 6, 1993.

The aim of the Center's program is to advance the study of cloth and clothing traditions, past and present, through teaching and research. Students, working with the Fowler Museum's outstanding textile collections, investigate all facets of worldwide indigenous dress: the varying aesthetics of regional clothing, the range of technological solutions to cloth production and decoration, and the role of dress in defining social, religious and political identities.



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Sources: Obituary from an unnamed *LA Times* writer on: news.obits@latimes.com; and www.fowler.ucla.edu/research

Earlier this year, by way of postings to the Atzlan Listserve and the IMS Facebook page, Mike Ruggeri shared a link to an online article by National Geographic News about the amazing discoveries and insights made by Dr. Lisa Lucero and her teams:

Underwater Maya Temple Complex Discovered at Cara Blanca, Belize

From Mike's synopsis:

Archaeologists have been working at the Maya site of Cara Blanca in Belize. They have discovered an underwater temple complex. It appears that the Maya at this site were making hurried sacrifices to the rain god Chaak to

stave off a continuing drought. Pots and bowls were thrown in by pilgrims coming here to pray for rain. Lisa Lucero is the lead archaeologist at the site, and has been investigating there for four years. Repeated droughts in the Maya realm eventually helped to



Lisa and diver Chip Petersen, by Anthony Tedeschi, and posted on Lisa's Facebook page.

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The Temple of the Cactus Drums at Cihuatán, El Salvador

by **Karen Olsen Bruhns** Co-director, Proyecto Arqueológico “La Antigua Ciudad de Cihuatán”. Fundación Nacional de Arqueología de El Salvador (FUNDAR) *continued from page 1*

The mound faced west and was T-shaped. It had a wattle and daub temple on top which was reached by a short hall from an open air adobe walled atrium.

The temple, apparently with a now-destroyed bench-like altar on the east wall, is of a form fairly common at Cihuatán. We have no idea to whom this temple was dedicated; artifacts associated include a lot of ceramics, both domestic and decorated, many of them in forms associated with eating and drinking.

The most interesting aspect of the temple however are the 20+ drums found at its side and rear exterior. Although they are the same size and shape as Maya drums from other Maya sites in Mexico and Guatemala, the Biznaga form with prominent thorns and ribs, is unusual. More unusual is that Biznaga cactuses do not grow in El Salvador, in fact, they are not known south of Oaxaca.

It seems evident that the drums were placed where they could be retrieved and used during ceremonies, but were out of the way the rest of the time. We have little idea of what actually went on in Maya temples, but Q-40 seems to conform with 16th century descriptions of Yucatecan rituals: there is a plaza in front of the temple for the worshippers

to dance and sing, there are drums for music, and the remains of dishes for offerings of food and drink (doubtless consumed by the priests later, in private). As to why the drums are cactus shaped? We don't know. Despite some 80 years of investigations at the site, Cihuatán remains enigmatic. 🏰



Q-40 during excavation, looking south.
All images submitted by Karen Olsen Bruhns.



Location of the excavated drums and bases around the periphery of the Q-40 temple structure. The drums most likely were positioned along the wall (coffee color), and there are probably more remains of drums and bases outside the area recently excavated.

Drone photos:

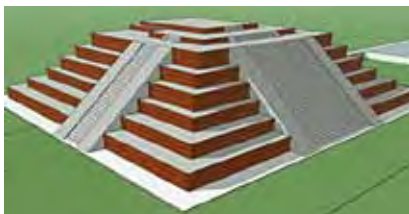


The drone in front of the main pyramid, P-7; the north ballcourt; the T-shaped temple atop P-7; restored stairways on P-7; and looking down on P-9.

Direct from www.cihuatan.org: Cihuatán Gets a Drone!

The most recent news is that since February 2015, we have a drone. We hope to use our drone not just at Cihuatán, but to help other projects as well. Drones give you beautiful vertical photographs, something we all need and which, previously, we got with all sorts of jerry-rigged devices. But one can also map with the drone and, because it has built-in GPS and

Here we have a 3-D



reconstruction of P-7 using drone-taken points.

time and date notation, footage from drones is admissible testimony when one is trying to curtail the activities of looters and people with bulldozers and no respect for their history.



A view from the drone of Q-40 as it is now. A short drone video of Q-40 can be seen at: www.cihuatan.org 🏰 ●●●

Underwater Maya Temple Complex Discovered at Cara Blanca, Belize

continued from page 2

bring the Maya kings down by 800 CE. The floors of the water temple were sprinkled with sacrificed potsherds and fossil teeth and claws. People also pulled out rocks and fossils from the bottom of the pools and cenotes to incorporate into above ground temples. Human sacrifices also took place in these pools.

At the Cara Blanca site, archaeologists report the discovery of a water temple complex: a small plaza holding the collapsed remnants of a lodge and two smaller structures. The main structure rests beside a deep pool where pilgrims offered sacrifices to the Maya rain god Chaak. They also have a drone at Cara Blanca! The screen capture above was made by the editor from one of two videos. This one posted at the link mentioned below.



The most recent NatGeo article (by Dan Vergano) that Mike Ruggeri makes reference to, and the video above, are posted at: <http://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/2015/01/150127-maya-water-temple-drought-archaeology-science/>



L) University of Illinois archaeologist Lisa Lucero, who led the team that explored the site, photographed on site by Timothy R. Pauketatmay (image posted on Lisa's Facebook page). C) Lisa Lucero and R) Patricia Beddows; other screen captures made by the editor from the second video.

Excerpts from a second NatGeo video – one that documents the initial explorations at the site:

See this video at: <http://news.nationalgeographic.com/news/2010/06/100630-belize-maya-pools-vin-video/>

Diving into natural pools in Belize in the quest for offerings from the ancient Maya, explorers found what's believed to be the country's earliest recorded fossilized remains. In the course of the expedition, one diver "disappeared" into the pool's floor.

Why is this diver burrowing into the bottom of this mini-lake? She's part of a project, largely funded by National Geographic, to dive into the sacred pools of the ancient Maya in Belize.

The dives were made in several cenotes in central Belize earlier this year in an area known as Cara Blanca. The researchers found evidence that the eight pools of the 25 they studied are likely connected through underground passages.

The dives revealed clues to past life here, and a first for the country of Belize.



Two views of Hydrologist and Geochemist Patricia Beddows of Northwestern University, diving deep in the Cara Blanca cenote. Both images were captured by the editor from the same video.

Scientists discovered several fossil beds around 60-to-90 feet below the surface, including femur bones the size of a bowling ball. They also found tusks and pelvic bones.

Video soundbite: Lisa Lucero, archaeologist and project leader, of the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign: "We left those in place. We only removed a few small fossils so we can determine, are they fossilized? Or bone? They are definitely fossilized, so we know they have to be of a certain age. But were they here, were these megafauna present during occupation

by humans 20,000, 15,000 years ago? Or are they much older?

"The major goal is to look for archaeological remains underwater, because the Maya considered openings in the earth – caves, water bodies – as portals to the underworld of Xibalba. And because the thousands of caves that have been found have offerings, ancient Maya offerings, we just knew there'd be some offerings at the bottom of the pool.

"It looks as if Cara Blanca was a pilgrimage site, with Maya traveling here from hundreds of miles away." 🏰



LiDAR Data Allows El Pilar Researchers to Reveal Hidden Secrets of Maya Civilization

by **Anabel Ford, Ph.D.**

Director of the Mesoamerican Research Center at the University of California – Santa Barbara and president of Exploring Solutions Past

LiDAR – Light Detection And Ranging – has been in the news as an accurate and detailed image-generating technology that can reveal long-lost archaeological sites. LiDAR data has allowed researchers to locate immense sites hidden in the lush forest, among them terraces at Caracol, major temples in Honduras, and now a city of grand proportions in Cambodia.

These discoveries are important, but the continuing challenge with LiDAR data is to understand the subtlety and the nuances of the landscape.

At El Pilar, which bridges Belize and Guatemala, most of the major architecture has been mapped by traditional archaeological survey methods. It is here where we are using LiDAR to understand the land-use patterns of the Maya houses and forest gardens that were so important to the city's prosperity.

With a generous donation of LiDAR data from the Mayaniquel Anfield Nickel Project that covered the 8 square miles of the binational El Pilar Archaeological Reserve for Maya Flora and Fauna, we used raster elevation models to scrutinize the imagery of the areas surrounding major monuments. This is the perfect project in which to develop the field strategies for this novel technology. We can highlight targets on the LiDAR image and use the Global Positioning System (GPS) to validate the location in the field.

Using our survey maps of the residential zones and LiDAR models, we were able to identify areas for survey with coordinates that we plugged into our GPS units. Crews specializing in terrain and vegetation led by Hugo Bihir of the elite school ESGT in Le Mans, France, were followed by crews focused on archaeology with

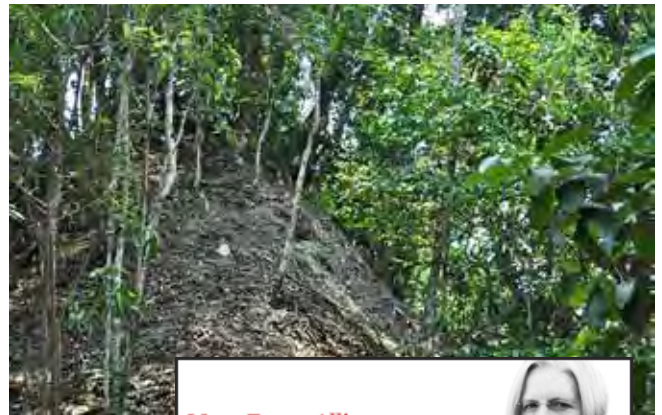
A screen capture of LiDAR data from El Pilar is providing a treasure trove of information to researchers. Image courtesy of UC Santa Barbara's Mesoamerican Research Center.



At El Pilar, conservation is foremost, and the concept, known as "Archaeology Under the Canopy" says that the monuments are best protected beneath the forest foliage. The objective is thus to selectively and partially expose only strategic areas, features that would visually demonstrate essential knowledge about the site.

In addition, in keeping with the focus at El Pilar on researching Maya lifeways (as opposed to the lives and

remains of rulers and elites), the site is both an open-air laboratory and showcase for learning about and demonstrating the traditional Maya agricultural practice of forest gardening, a methodology for sustainability thought to be a key to the prosperity and florescence of the Maya civilization. Courtesy BRASS/El Pilar Program



Maya Forest Alliance
ANABEL FORD



Guatemalan specialist Paulino Morales. Centering on these targeted areas, we worked to refine our methods and interpretations of the imagery.

Our international team combed 140 hectares around the monuments to determine the nature of cultural and ecological features and clarify characteristics that came from the image processing. As we initially reviewed our spatial models, the large structures were obvious. We discovered a magnificent citadel in the east, accurately located mapped temples that were on the peripheries, and detected the configuration of the offset causeway that links both monumental complexes and both countries. The remarkable accuracy of the LiDAR data allowed us to update our mapping records to reflect the precise locations of each architectural monument.

A particularly interesting discovery was the intricacy of water management features. We found a number of rock alignments directing water and terraces that would slow

water across slight slopes. The water features used the natural topography to accentuate water movements, taking advantage of water flow.

We also identified a sunken plaza construction that links the major causeway. There is a small ballcourt-like plaza elevated in the midst of this sunken feature. These revealed structures are unique features of the El Pilar site and raise questions as to their use and meaning within the ancient Maya culture.

At each location we itemized the local trees, recorded the nature of the terrain, and listed the nature of the canopy and understory to compare with the LiDAR data itself. 🌳

Source: Condensed from an article by Anabel Ford published at: www.noozhawk.com

Program note:

Anabel Ford will be at the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History on January 4, 2016, discussing her new book *The Maya Forest Garden: Eight Millennia of Sustainable Cultivation of the Tropical Woodlands*. 🌳

Institute of Maya Studies Program and Speaker Recap for 2015
Offering educative public programs on Mesoamerican studies with a focus on the Maya



- January 14:
Cracking the Maya Code, A NOVA film based on the book of the same name by Michael Coe
- January 21:
Origins of Maya Civilization Viewed from Ceibal, Guatemala, with Takeshi Inomata, University of Arizona
- February 11:
San Gervasio and the Cult of Ixchel, with Ray Stewart
- February 18:
She Gives Birth: Reproductive Strategizing in Precolumbian Maya Culture, with Pamela Geller, University of Miami
- March 11:
Jade: Mineral of the Earth Gods, with Joaquín J. Rodríguez III, PE, Administrative Vice President and Director of Research of the IMS
- March 18:
The Myth of Clovis First: the Peopling of the Americas, with D. Clarke Wernecke, The Gault School of Archaeological Research (GSAR), and Texas State University
- April 8:
Of Maize and Men, with Marta Barber, IMS Executive Vice President and Programming Chair
- April 15:
The Maya Sky: A Voyage Through the Seasons, with Claudia Hernandez, Planetarium Assistant Manager and A/V Technician
- May 13:
Gods of the Maya, with Janet Meiss, IMS Secretary and Library Chair
- May 20:
The Mesoamerican Ballgame and Its Architectural Settings: A Three Millennia Tradition, with Dr. Éric Taladoire, Prof. of Precolumbian Archaeology at the University of Paris I
- June 10:
Coba: Maya City of Extremes, with Dr. Anne Stewart, IMS Education Chair
- June 17:
Kennewick Man: The Debate Over the Oldest Human Remains in the Americas, with Janet Meiss, IMS Secretary and Library Chair
- July 8:
Defining the Religion of Prehispanic Mesoamerica, IMS Executive Vice President and Programming Chair Marta Barber, shares a video on the same subject by Dr. Ed Barnhart
- July 15:
New Evidence of Links Between the Venus Table in the Dresden Codex and the Central Mexican Codices, with Harvey M. and Victoria R. Bricker
- August 12:
Sacred Geometry in Maya Art and Architecture, IMS Executive Vice President and Programming Chair Marta Barber, shares a video on the same subject by Dr. Ed Barnhart
- August 19:
Maximón: Maya Cultural Hero in the Navel of the World, with *IMS Explorer* Newsletter Editor Jim Reed
- September 9:
Sacred Mountains and Monster Masks: Portals to the Underworld, with IMS President Rick Slazyk, AIA, NCARB, LEED AP BD+C (program was postponed in preparation for new venue and rescheduled to November 25)
- September 16:
Southern Belize in the Ancient Maya World: Recent Research at the Classic Sites of Nim li Punit, Lubaantun and Pusilha, with Geoffrey E. Braswell, of the University of California, San Diego
- October 14:
Skulls, Skeletons and Sweets, with IMS Executive Vice President and Programming Chair Marta Barber
- October 21:
Cotton and Mesoamerica, with IMS Webmaster Keith Merwin
- November 18:
Venus and Deities of the Hunt: Perspectives from the Postclassic Maya Codices and Zuni Narratives of Creation, with Dr. Gabrielle Vail, New College of Florida, Maya Codices Database Project I
- November 25:
Sacred Mountains and Monster Masks: Portals to the Underworld, with IMS President Rick Slazyk, AIA, NCARB, LEED AP BD+C
- December 9:
IMS Annual Business Meeting and Anniversary Party

Inspiring Achievements of Visual Communicators

Editor's note: As a graphic artist by trade, project manager (RR Donnelley), technical illustrator (American Welding Society), as well as editor of the IMS Explorer (each for decades), I continuously encounter inspiring images and texts by other visual communicators. Whether its a university student striving to complete their peer-reviewed thesis, a modern Maya attending a glyph workshop, or a Maya enthusiast creating colorful and educational artwork of Maya stela while passing the time working late night at a Canadian gas station; I'd like to share their achievements and bring their wonderful accomplishments to light for our IMS Explorer readers in this new series.



Maya Women Hairstyles and Headwear in the Classic Period (ca. 600-900 CE)

Based on primary sources: vase paintings, murals, ceramics, figurines, bone carvings, stela, etc.

Hello! I'm Caitlin and I'm a graduate student at the University of Leiden in the Netherlands! I am currently pursuing a Master's in American Archaeology/Indigenous Heritage and at some point will probably get my PhD in Mesoamerican Archaeology, become a professor at some distinguished institution somewhere, receive multiple Nobel Peace Prizes for my contributions to scientific knowledge, etc., etc. But for now I'm just trying to make sure I can properly defend my thesis and not fail at the field I've committed my entire life to. I love archaeology sooooo much and consider myself so lucky to be able to study it. I usually post about whatever I'm researching or taking



classes on at the moment, which is mostly Mesoamerican/Andean archaeology as well as indigenous community involvement in general. I hope that I inspire you in some way to think about our collective past and that you come to realize that archaeology is more than just taking seemingly endless measurements, but

actually concerns the fact that we, as humans, are part of a long, beautiful, crazy, terrifying, mesmerizing tradition of which we know almost nothing about, and that you decide to do what I have done – to discover it. 🏹

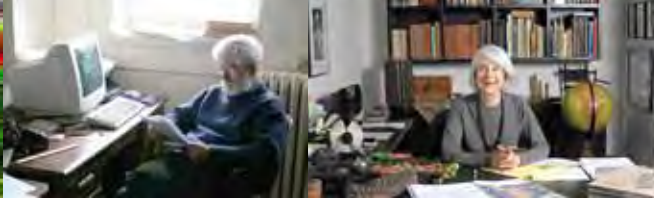
Posted by Caitlin at: <http://archaeologicalperiodical.tumblr.com/page/2>,
reblogged from Taushiri.



Dedicated to IMS members and cherished Mayanists who have entered on the road to Xibalba this year...



Susan Hangge



Christopher Jones

Patricia Rieff Anawalt

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Of the Same Stuff as Gods: Musical Instruments Among the Classic Maya, by Anna Stacy, Anthropology student at Brown University; The Maya 260-Day Creation Ceremony, by V. Garth Norman; *Interesting and Unusual Ancient Artifacts: Let's Explore Xantiles!* by Mark F. Cheney; New Inka Road to Machu Picchu Discovered

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Vol 44, Issue 11: November

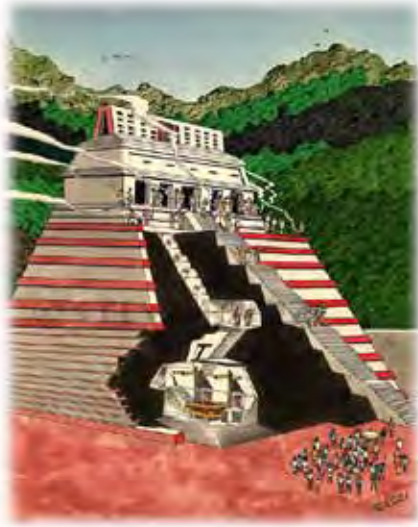
Pericón, another Marigold species for Day of the Dead in November, by Dr. Nicholas Hellmuth, FLAAR Mesoamerica; *In Memoriam: Christopher Jones*; What Are Howler Monkeys Howling About? by Mark F. Cheney; *Interesting and Unusual Ancient Artifacts: Sculpture Found in the Peten Reflects the Veneration of the Jaguar in Ancient Maya Culture*, with all photos by Jorge Pérez de Lara for *La Ruta Maya*; Getting to Our New Location for IMS Programs: Miami Dade College – Kendall Campus

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IMS Annual Business Meeting and Anniversary Party – December 9



Temple of the Inscriptions, Palenque, Mexico;
original illustration by Steve Radzi. Visit www.mayavision.com

Officially dubbed the Annual Members Meeting, members seldom think of it as that.

Think fellowship, food and fun!

Think bargain books and other desirable items.

Think “Happy Birthday” to the IMS.

The IMS has now been together for 45 years!

As established in the bylaws, the event takes place on the second Wednesday of December, in this case December 9.

We combine our anniversary party with a short business meeting, a few short committee reports and the announcement of the new board members elected that evening to the 2016 Board of Directors.

If you haven't e-mailed or snail-mailed your ballot in yet, you can even hand-deliver it at the event.

**Also, support
our Book Sale!
Bring some, buy some**



The IMS Annual Affair 8 pm, Wednesday, December 9

This year at the **Habana Vieja Restaurant**
Straight-up Cuban fare stars at this hacienda-style mainstay
with a fountain in the dining room.

2475 SW 37 Avenue, Miami, FL 33145 • Phone: (305) 448-6660

Institute of Maya Studies
Now affiliated with Miami Dade College • **Maya Hotline: 305-279-8110**

Jaguar border courtesy of Steve Radzi

New Membership and Renewal Application

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

E-mail: _____

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INAH Experts Find Passageway That May Lead to Aztec Ruler's Remains

An INAH archaeologist said his team has found a tunnel-like passageway that he believes could lead to two sealed chambers, the latest chapter in the search for the as-yet undiscovered tomb of an Aztec ruler.

The Aztecs are believed to have cremated the remains of their leaders during their 1325-1521 CE rule, but the final resting place of the cremains has never been found. Outside experts noted a find like that at Mexico City's Templo Mayor ruin complex would be significant.

INAH said that a team led by archaeologist Leonardo López Luján had discovered an 8.4-meter (27-foot) long tunnel leading into the center of a circular platform where dead rulers were believed to have been cremated. The mouth of the tunnel was sealed

One researcher detected signs that a passageway appeared to lead deeper into the ceremonial platform, known as the Cuauhxiccalco (kwow-she-KAL-koh), where written accounts from after the 1521 Spanish conquest indicated that rulers' remains were burned. Photo: Proyecto Templo Mayor – INAH.

by a 3-ton slab of rock. When experts lifted it in 2013, they found a hollow space marked by offerings both rich and grisly.

Gold ornaments and the bones of eagles and infants were found in an offering box. Two skulls of children between 5 and 7 years old were found with the first three vertebrae, suggesting they might have been decapitated. The kind of stone knives used in human sacrifices were also found, as well as a hand and bones from two feet.

"Once the rocks and dirt were dug out, we saw that it led directly



into the heart of the Cuauhxiccalco," López Luján said. "At the end (of the passageway), there are what appear to be two old entrances that had been sealed up with masonry." Excavations will continue in 2016. ▲

Source: From an article by AP writer Mark Stevenson released 12/1/2015 at: www.usnews.com. Submitted by Mike Ruggeri.

Upcoming Events at the IMS:

December 9, 8 pm: *IMS Annual Affair*
IMS Annual Business Meeting and Anniversary Get-Together – Join with us as we celebrate 45 years together! We're planning food, fun and fellowship. We mix a short business meeting with a few annual committee reports and add in a bunch of celebrating. This year at the Habana Vieja Restaurant! Straight-up Cuban fare stars at this hacienda-style mainstay with a fountain in the dining room. 2475 SW 37 Avenue, Miami, FL 33145. Phone: (305) 448-6660

January 13 • 8 pm: *Miami Dade College*
Kinship, Kingship and the Ancestors in the Maya World – with our good friend **George Fery** (Fellow member of the IMS).

January 20 • 8 pm: *Miami Dade College Building 6, Room 6-120, McCarthy Auditorium*
Living, Eating, and Dying in 6-120 in the Formative Period in Northern Chile – with **Dr. William (Willie) Pestle** of the Univ. of Miami.

Upcoming Events and Announcements:

December 2: *UofM Book Talk*
Social Identities in the Classic Maya Northern Lowlands: Gender, Age, Memory, and Place – with Traci Ardren, Professor and Chair of Anthropology, University of Miami, Miami, FL. Presenting her new book of the same name published by the University of Texas Press. More info at: <http://humanities.miami.edu/humanities/publicprograms/booktalks/>

December 8-13: *EMC Annual Conference*
The Maya in a Digital World – theme of the 20th European Maya Conference, to be hosted by the Department of Anthropology at the University of Bonn, Germany. The conference combines three and a half days of workshops (Dec. 8-11) and a two-day symposium (Dec. 12-13). Speakers include Barbara Fash and Alexandre Tokovinine (Harvard University), Nikolai Grube (University of Bonn), Harri Kettunen (University of Helsinki) and Peter Mathews (La Trobe University) More info at: www.wayeb.org/conferencesevents/emc_nowsymposium.php

January 8-9, 2016:
IAS Annual Meeting
Institute of Andean Studies 56th Annual Meeting – to be University of California, Berkeley, CA. Get additional info at: www.instituteofandeanstudies.org/meetings.html

January 12-16, 2016: *2016 Maya Meetings*
The Archaeology and History of the Lower Río Pasión Region – Theme of the 2016 Maya Meetings, focusing on the sites of Seibal, Dos Pilas, Aguateca, and others. At the University of Texas at Austin Campus. Register online in advance. Get the symposium program at: <http://utmesoamerica.org/maya/symposium-information>

Editor's Tip: *Online all the time*
Mesoamerica and Ancient America Lectures, Conferences and Exhibits – Check out Mike Ruggeri's comprehensive list of upcoming events at: <http://bit.ly/11aKJzE>



IMS EXPLORER

Join the **Explorer-ation!** Scholar or not, we welcome submissions from IMS members. Share what interests you with others. All articles and news items for the **IMS Explorer** should be forwarded to the newsletter editor at: mayaman@bellsouth.net