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## Nebraska Anthropologist Volume 12: 1995-1996 Table of Contents

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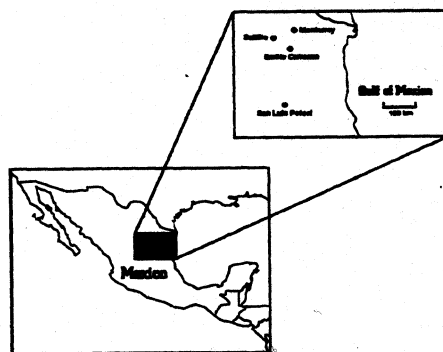
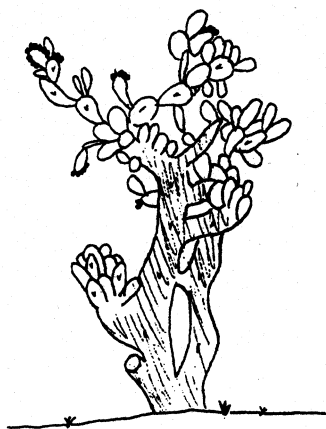
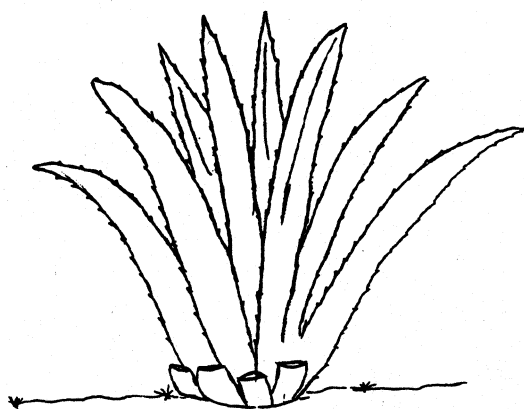
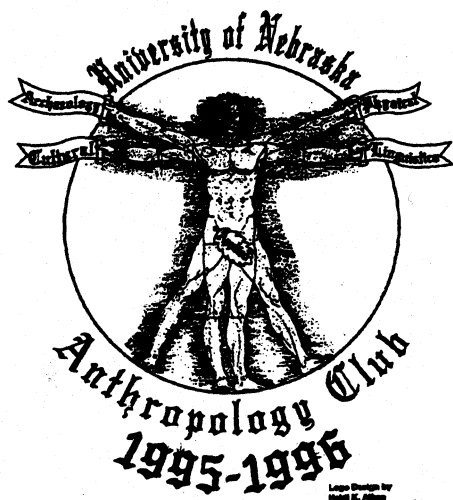
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# The Nebraska Anthropologist

JOURNAL OF THE UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA-LINCOLN ANTHROPOLOGY GROUP



VOLUME 12, NUMBER 1, 1995-1996

## **UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA-LINCOLN ANTHROPOLOGY GROUP**

The **UNL Anthro Group** is a non-profit student organization that brings together all persons interested in the field of anthropology.

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On the cover: In clockwise order from upper left, UNL Anthro Group 1995-1996 T-shirt logo [design by H. Athan], Maguey (*Agave americana*) [illustration by C. Pereira], Location map of 1995 ethnographic field school [map by D. Boellstorff], Nopal (*Opuntia* spp.) [illustration by C. Pereira].

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## EDITOR'S NOTE

The American Anthropological Association's May 1992 *Anthropology Newsletter* invited readers to express their views about the "Four Fields: Myth or Reality." Editors Givens and Skomal's (1992) historical account of the Triple A noted that the four fields [sociocultural, linguistics, archaeology, and bio/physical] had been represented since the organization's 1902 founding. A 1946 reorganization reaffirmed the Triple A's holistic, four field attitude, and 1983 changes in the bylaws specifically reserved a majority of the Executive Committee's nine seats for the "traditional" four fields, plus one (applied anthropology).

The four field approach is embraced by the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Department of Anthropology, and by the UNL Anthro Group. The Department's position is reinforced in the graduate student handbook with the proclamation that:

our program is designed to provide students with comprehensive coverage in all of the major sub-disciplines of Anthropology while also preparing them specifically for entrance into a Ph.D. program or a professional career in Anthropology. (Department of Anthropology n.d.)

The program calendar of guest speakers and activities hosted by the 1995-1996 UNL Anthro Group embodies the four field (plus one) approach in action. Whether the topic is Little Big Horn Battlefield archaeology, applied anthropology projects in the Kalahari Desert, language and culture relations in Burundi, mummies of Chile, or textiles in India, the UNL Anthro Group has striven

to bring the diverse sub-disciplines of anthropology into a common forum.

*The Nebraska Anthropologist*, as the official journal of the UNL Anthro Group, endeavors to duplicate the organization's attitude. The articles gathered into this volume represent a range of topics growing out of several distinct anthropological specializations. All have been contributed by UN-L students. Some of the articles are "newly born" work, coming to a written format for the first time. Others are the products of previous class assignments and research projects. As with all such scholarly efforts, these ruminations and proposals will continue to undergo innumerable revisions in the future.

The production of *The Nebraska Anthropologist* is a learning process for both contributors and editors. The authors are given, perhaps for the first time, an exposure to the world of peer review publication. They have climbed onto an emotional roller coaster. The ride begins when their original manuscript is returned shrouded by a layer of editorial red ink. The agony of repeated revisions is followed by the elation of the final galley proof or published copy. Meanwhile, the student editorial staff experiences the delight of well written papers, or the torment of poorly presented ideas. They are pushed beyond the comfortable limits of their own personal backgrounds by reading and commenting on challenging, sometimes unfamiliar topics. Most contributors and editors will develop the habit of reading their own (and other's) work with a more critical eye. The result is a better scholar.

Bringing such a journal together is a group effort. Funding for the production of *The Nebraska Anthropologist* was provided in part by the John L. Champe Fund, administered by the University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Department of Anthropology. Computer services were provided by the Humanities Research Facility in the College of Arts and Sciences. I wish to acknowledge the contributors for sharing their research efforts and scholarly ponderings in this arena. Thanks go to the editorial assistants for their hours of reading, reflection, and suggestions that have helped to shape this journal. The responsibility for the final appearance of this volume remains with the Editor, and I apologize for any oversights or mistakes.

Mark J. Awakuni-Swetland  
Editor, 1995-1996

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# ***The Nebraska Anthropologist***

**Journal of the UNL Anthro Group**

**Volume 12 - Number 1 1995-1996**

## **AN HONORING**

- 03 Dorothy M. McEwen: An Appreciation  
*Peter Bleed*

## **1995 ETHNOGRAPHIC FIELD SCHOOL**

- 05 Summer 1995 Field School: An Overview  
*Emilia Clements-Gonzalez*
- 07 The Effects of a Long-Term Drought on the Economic Roles of Hacendado and Ejidatario Women in a Mexican Ejido  
*Jodi L. Biskup and Darcy L. Boellstorff*
- 15 The Ethnobotany of a Mestizo Village  
*Christina A. Pereira*

## **ARTICLES**

- 31 Environmental Resources and Range Size: A Study of Modern and Ancient Hunter Gathers  
*George H. MacDonell*
- 47 Women in Development: The Need for a Grassroots Gender Planning Approach  
*Darcy L. Boellstorff*
- 57 Geophagy: Adaptive or Aberrant Behavior?  
*David E. Engberg*
- 69 Postmodernism and Anthropology  
*Elisabeth R. Gaines*
- 75 Paleoecological Implications of Plant/Animal Grazing Relations on the Mammoth Steppe of Eastern Beringia  
*Andre Antinori*
- 89 The Native American Grave Protection and Repatriation Act: A Necessary but Costly Measure  
*Tina F. Brown*



**Dorothy M. McEwen**

Photograph by David T. Bentz

The UNL Anthro Group wishes to dedicate this issue of  
*The Nebraska Anthropologist* to Dorothy,  
in recognition of her many years of unwavering support  
to the department of Anthropology,  
its faculty,  
and students.