



THE MOKI MESSENGER

NEWSLETTER OF THE SAN JUAN BASIN ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Chapter of Colorado Archaeological Society

April 2009

SJBAS April Meeting

At the next SJBAS meeting scheduled for April 9, Linda Wheelbarger, of San Juan College, will discuss the "Archaeology in the B-Square Ranch". The meeting will be held at 7:00 p.m. in the Lyceum in the Center of Southwest Studies at Fort Lewis College.

The American Experience

The PBS program "American Experience: We Shall Remain" covers five episodes regarding the American Indian experience, beginning with the Wampanoag tribe of New England, Tecumseh, the Trail of Tears, Geronimo and Wounded Knee in 1984, to be shown on April 13, 20, and 27 and May 4 and 11. Each will be 1.5 hours long. The web link is: <http://www.pbs.org/wgbh/amex/weshallremain/>.

SJBAS MARCH MEETING, 2009

By Jeff B. Davis

A picture of a very tall, slender **David Kill** – overwhelmed by an even taller cornfield behind him – opened the SJBAS program for March, 2009. He was our society's guest speaker, and his wife remarked, "This is the first time you are outstanding in the field."

Now a member of the Anasazi Heritage Center staff, Kill - whose employment with national monuments and parks is considerable - spoke to us concerning his experiences with "Central and Northern Arizona Archaeology including Walnut Canyon." Illustrating his talk with numerous scenes, he opened at Walnut Canyon National Monument (where unusual double Kokopelli rock art may be seen). Both old and new headquarters explain the pithouses, canyon dwellings, and fortress-like boulder walls. Assigned there when there was deep winter snow, David wondered who shoveled all the 200 steps leading down into the canyon. (There was a picture of him wielding the scoop on these stairs.)

At one point, Kill's group came upon three native park caretakers who had obviously been sampling datura (jimson weed). One lay flat asleep, dead to the world, but the other two men fled! Kill's lesson: "Stay away from the sacred weed."

Kill showed scene after scene: Tuzigoot Nat'l Monument with over 100 rooms; Sycamore Canyon Nat'l Monument along the Mogollon Rim; Tonto Monument and adjacent Roosevelt hydroelectric dam and lake; Montezuma Castle with 20 rooms built into its cliff ; nearby Montezuma Well; and many examples of rock art.

His most interesting lecture was concluded by David with scenes of archaeological sites and awesome views of the Grand Canyon where he worked for a time.



Spring Is Here!

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Trips



B-Square Ranch

There will be a one day trip on May 16th, Saturday, to the B-Square Ranch which is located south of Farmington on the San Juan River. Linda Wheelbarger, archeologist from San Juan College who is working on the Totah Arch Project, will give us a 6 hour tour of Anasazi sites, early 1900 Navajo site(s), and rock art.

For further information, and to sign up, please contact trip leader, Mary Ann Hiller at 259-5170.

Navajo Rug Auction and More

May 8 through 11, 2009, Gail Schulz and Linda Robinson will lead a trip to the monthly Navajo Rug Auction in Crownpoint NM, the Hubbell Trading Post in Ganado AZ and to Canyon de Chelly AZ. We will leave from Santa Rita Park in Durango on Friday May 8 at 9:00 AM. We'll travel to the Quality Inn, Window Rock, AZ. and check into our rooms before driving to Crownpoint in the late afternoon for the auction. The next morning we will tour the Hubbell Trading Post in Ganado. This post was established in 1876 and is the oldest continuously operating trading post serving the Navajo reservation. We will be visiting the visitor center, trading post, and the Hubbell family home and homestead. We will then drive to Canyon de Chelly where we will be staying at the Thunderbird Lodge for two nights. Saturday the 10th we will go on an all day guided tour of Canyon de Chelly and Canyon del Muerto. We'll see Spider Rock and Mummy Cave. We will drive home the next day.

The trip is full but if you would like to be on the waiting list please call Linda Robinson at 970-259-1943.

San Juan River Trip

A reminder for those of you who are going on the San Juan River Trip to Mexican Hat scheduled for May 22 – May 24th. Your checks are due by the end of March. The cost is \$140 per person and checks are to be made out to Jill Ward and sent to her at 480 Cottonwood Creek Road, Durango 81301.

CAS Member 3-Day Colorado River Canoe Trip

This trip will be June 12-14, 2009. Cost: \$335, \$280 kids 6 to 12, which includes \$50 donation to CAS Alice Hamilton Scholarship Fund). Level: Beginner/Intermediate. This trip begins in Fruita traveling 30 gentle miles with occasional small Class I+ rapids to Westwater, Utah, and then through the Colorado Plateau canyon country, which includes Ruby and Horsethief Canyons. Participants will camp along the river and hike into box canyons to view rock art.

To register, contact Centennial Canoe Outfitters at www.centennialcanoe.com, or at 1-877-353-1850. This company will provide safety equipment, river guides, canoes and food. The trip is limited to 24 participants, who need to bring a sleeping bag, tent, and basic personal supplies. A deposit of \$100 per person must accompany a reservation request (Visa and MasterCard accepted), with the balance due by May 12. **(Report you heard about the trip from CAS.)** CAS Hosts are Tom and Terri Hoff, thhoff@hotmail.com, 1-970-882-2191.

Denver Chapter Field Trips

April 23-25. Ute Mountain Tribal Park

June 20-21. Rock Art: Hanksville, Utah Area.

Contact Ken Andresen (303) 278-0855; gandresen@earthlink.net if you are interested in these.



UPCOMING AND ONGOING EVENTS

Hisatsinom Chapter Meeting

The next meeting of the Hisatsinom Chapter will be at the Cortez Cultural Center on Tuesday, April 7. Bob and Diane McBride, Larry and Sandy Tradlener and/or other Hisatsinom members who recently visited Egypt will discuss their trip.

2009 Pecos Conference, August 6-9, McPhee Campground: Volunteer Opportunities: Success of this event will depend on the efforts of volunteers, which Patricia Lacy, President, Hisatsinom Chapter, is helping to coordinate. For their good work, volunteers will receive a free Conference Volunteer t-shirt and free Conference registration. If you can help with any of the following committees, please let Patricia know by phone at 565-0634 or by email at patricia@fone.net.

- **WEB SITE:** help with developing the Conference Web site; updating the Conference Web site; developing the Conference registration form; and routing internet registrations;
- **REGISTRATION:** help with mailing the Conference announcement, tracking mail-in registration, sale items/merchandise, registration tables and conference packets;
- **PROGRAM:** help with reception program, conference program, Friday night presentation and business meeting;
- **BOOK SALES:** help with sales layout;
- **FIELD TRIP:** help with trip options; trip sign-ups and trip departure locations;
- **KIDS ACTIVITIES:** help with supervised activities;
- **FACILITES:** help with physical layout, toilets location, camping, parking and signage;
- **FOOD SERVICE:** help with daily food service, Saturday night dinner, and beer/wine sales;
- **ENTERTAINMENT:** help with Thursday and Saturday night events.

Preliminary Schedule for Hisatsinom Field Trips. Open notations indicate that more work needs to be done before the trip is confirmed. Overnight trips include car camping. Call Larry Tradlener, 565-7804; insitu@fone.net. Hisatsinom Chapter members have first preference for trips.

<u>Place</u>	<u>Leader</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Type</u>
Fortified Spur	Larry & Sandy	May 9	Day Trip
San Juan River rock art	Tom Hoff	June	Day Trip
Parott City Mining Town	Open	July	Day Trip
Elk Ridge	Open	August	Day/Overnight
Hammond Canyon	Larry Tradlener	August	Back Packing/Overnight
Lancaster House	Tom Hoff	September	Day Trip
Cedar Mesa	Larry & Sandy	September	Day/Overnight
Range Creek	Open	?	Overnight
Dinetah sites/Gobernador	Larry & Sandy	October	Overnight
Gallina sites	Open	?	Overnight

Upcoming PAAC Courses

"Basic Site Surveying Techniques" - Montrose, April 17-20;

"Field and Laboratory Photograph" - Alamosa, April 25-26;

"Perishable Materials" - Grand Junction, May 15-17.

College Credit for PAAC Classes may be obtained from Adams State College's Extended Studies Program (http://www2.adams.edu/extended_studies/). The school now offers credit for PAAC classes for those registering with the College in addition to enrolling through SJBAS's PAAC coordinator, Peggy Morris, 382-8688, or sipapu@ecentral.com re: PAAC courses.

The Summer PAAC Survey, led by Kevin Black, will again be in Antelope Gulch near Salida, June 16-23.

Moki By Mail

Most of us are connected to the Internet and communicate by e-mail regularly. **In an effort to further reduce our costs, we will be sending the Moki Messenger by e-mail to every member who provided us with his/her/their e-mail address.** If you have not provided us with that address, please do so now by contacting our treasurer, Mark Gebhardt, at mark@virtbiz.com or 970/382-0518.

However, if you prefer to get the Moki by snail mail (USPS), please let Mark know; and we'll make that happen. It is our intent to ensure that every member receives the Moki when it is published. Any member can also access the latest edition of the Moki through our website: www.sjbas.org.

Don't Forget Your Dues

Don't forget to send in your membership dues for 2009 to Mark Gebhardt. The membership application and fees are attached on the last page of the Moki.

Please remember that we are no longer offering the option of a \$15 newsletter only. You can also access the membership application on our website:

www.sjbas.org.

Spring is Here,

The Warm, Lazy Days of Summer cannot be far behind.



Other Meetings of Interest

Colorado Council of Professional Archaeologists
Annual Meeting, April 2-5, Alamosa

Society for American Archaeology Annual Meeting,
April 22-26, Atlanta, Georgia
(www.saa.org)

Colorado Rock Art Association Annual Symposium,
May 15-17 in Cortez

Pecos Conference, August 6-9, Cortez

Rocky Mountain Anthropology Conference, October 24, Gunnison

Exhibits

- (1) **Pueblo Grande Museum and Archaeological Park, Phoenix.** The new, long term exhibit "Pieces of the Puzzle: New Perspectives on the Hohokam" focuses on the latest methods for dating and analyzing existing archaeological material; provides new perspectives on the Hohokam and cultural changes in the 15th century; shows how GIS can help determine population changes; and provides new viewpoints on what happened to this culture prior to European settlement. For information call (602) 495-0901 or www.pueblogrande.com.
- (2) **Anasazi Heritage Center,** through October 31. The new exhibit "The Old Spanish Trail: A Conduit for Change", traces the history of this Southwest trade route, which ran 1200 miles from northern New Mexico to the Pacific Coast, through mountains, desert, and canyons based on an ancient network of Native American paths. It was the first successful Euro-American effort to connect the Mexican frontier provinces of New Mexico and California and became a National Historic Trail in 2002. Through historic Spanish and Mexican artifacts, maps and pictures, the exhibition tells the story of the trail. For information call (970) 882-5600, or www.co.blm.gov/ahc.

ARCHAEOLOGY NEWS: NEAR AND FAR



Geronimo's Remains (Summary of Article by David Montgomery, Washington Post, 2/19/09 and Albuquerque Journal article, February 28, 2009)

On the 100th anniversary of Geronimo's death, Geronimo's great-grandson, Harlyn Geronimo, together with other relatives, hopes a lawsuit filed by Ramsey Clark against President Obama, the Secretaries of Defense, the Army, Yale University, and the Order of Skull and Bones, a secret Yale student society, will recover his ancestor's remains. Harlyn Geronimo plans to have the remains reburied in the Gila Wilderness of New Mexico, where Geronimo was born in 1829 and where he wanted to be buried according to his autobiography. His remains may now lie under a monument in the Apache Prisoner of War Cemetery at Fort Sill or his skull may have been taken to Yale where it could be featured in Skull and Bones rituals. A June 1918 letter - uncovered two years ago from a Bonesman states that: "The skull of the worthy Geronimo the Terrible, exhumed from its tomb at Fort Sill by your club . . . is now safe inside (the clubhouse) together with his well worn femurs, bit, and saddle horn."

Geronimo was one of the last to lead Indians into battle against the Army and white settlers. He was said to have magical powers because he so constantly outfoxed the Army. 5,000 soldiers hunted for him and his last band of three dozen warriors. Chiricahua Apaches were treated as prisoners of war for 27 years, starting in 1886 when the U.S. government shipped Geronimo and nearly 500 others by rail car to Fort Pickens in Florida. They were later moved to Fort Sill and were released from POW status in 1913, when nearly three-fourths of them moved to the Mescalero Apache reservation in southern New Mexico.

Geronimo died of pneumonia at age 79, on February 17, 1909. at Fort Sill, Oklahoma. After 1886, Geronimo appeared in Wild West shows. Teddy Roosevelt invited him to ride a horse in the 1905 inaugural parade. Towana Spivey, a Geronimo expert, a Chickasaw, and the director of the Fort Sill National Historic Landmark Museum, believes Geronimo is still buried in his original grave because the Apaches deliberately misled outsiders as to the location of the grave. A description of the tomb the Yalies supposedly found doesn't match Geronimo's. Mr. Spivey has said that the Army is not keeping Geronimo's remains captive. Fort Sill Apaches, not the Army, decide who stays in the cemetery.

Mining and Gas Wells Planned for Aztec Ruins National Monument ("Aztec" and Petrified Forest National Park ("PFPNP") in Arizona)

Drilling and mining may affect Aztec and PFPNP, according to an internal Interior Department document released by Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility ("PEER"). Declining commodity prices have delayed groundbreaking for new natural gas wells and potash mining in or adjacent to the Parks. http://www.peer.org/news/news_id.php?row_id=1146.

Puye Cliffs to be Reopened to Public:

Santa Clara Pueblo, which owns and operates the Puye Cliffs esite, reopened the ruins for group tours last fall and will open guided tours to the general public in late May. There will no longer be any self-guided tours, partially because of the theft of artifacts and vandalism that occurred when the site was unmonitored. <http://www.santafenewmexican.com/Local%20News/Ruins-revisited>

Crow Canyon Archaeological Center ("Center") Receives a \$25,000 Grant from the Quest Foundation (Summary from Cortez Journal, January 31, 2009)

This grant will support the Center's education programming, including production of the Center's monthly eNews, delivered to more than 5,000 subscribers monthly, and enhancements to its Web site pages dedicated to Native American activities. In the past several years, the Center has reached an increasing number of students and educators through an expanded Web presence, which provides support for pre-K-12 public schools through online student and teacher resources. Based on archaeological R&D in consultation with Native Americans, this education content allows students and teachers to explore the lifeways of the Ancestral Pueblo people and the connections between Indians of today and those who previously lived in the Mesa Verde region. The Center will use a portion of the grant to revise and expand areas devoted to Native American activities.



(Continued on page 6)

ARCHAEOLOGY NEWS: NEAR AND FAR—Continued

Vandals Hit Canyons of the Ancients (Summary, [The Durango Herald](#), January 31, 2009.)

Vandals damaged signs, dumped about 700 pounds of animal carcasses into the Monument, and destroyed several signs and trailhead facilities in the Sand Canyon Pueblo area. Seven hundred pounds of animal carcass parts also were illegally dumped in the Goodman Point area near the mouth of Rock Creek Canyon. If the dumpers are caught, BLM would request the offenders be forced to clean up the area. Signs will be replaced at taxpayer expense, but if the vandals are caught any fines would be used to cover the cost of replacement.

Egyptian Tomb with 24 Mummies Unearthed (Summary, [Denver Post](#), February 10, 2009)

A room housing about two dozen Egyptian mummies has been discovered inside a 2,600-year-old tomb at the Saqqara necropolis south of Cairo. The tomb was found at the bottom of a 36-foot-deep shaft. Twenty-two mummies were found in niches along the tomb's walls. Eight sarcophagi were also found. Most of the mummies are poorly preserved, and archaeologists have yet to determine their identities.

BLM Returns Stolen Ancient Clay Jar to Acoma Pueblo (Summary, [Farmington Daily Times](#), January 29, 2009)

The jar, made sometime between 900 and 1250 A.D., originally may have served as a vessel for food left for travelers along the Zuni-Acoma trail. The thieves were charged with violating the Archaeological Resources Protection Act. The earthen colored olla, about the diameter of a basketball but taller, is covered with a simple woven design.

Ancient Snake Could Eat Cow (Summary, [Cortez Journal](#), February 5, 2009)

As reported in [Nature](#), fossils from northeastern Colombia reveal the biggest snake ever discovered: 42 to 45 feet long, reaching more than 2,500 pounds. The snake could easily eat something the size of a cow and probably ate the ancient relatives of crocodiles in its rainforest home 58 million to 60 million years ago. The snake was named *Titanoboa cerrejonensis*, "titanic boa from Cerrejon," the region where it was found. While related to modern boa constrictors, it behaved more like an anaconda and spent almost all its time in the water, but could also slither on land. The snake was revealed in early 2007 at the University of Florida's Florida Museum when bones collected at a huge open-pit coal mine in Colombia were being unpacked. *Titanoboa* surpasses in length a creature that lived about 40 million years ago in Egypt.

Mexico City Mass Grave May be Aztec Fighters (Summary, [Farmington Daily Times](#), February 11, 2009)

Archaeologists digging in a ruined pyramid in downtown Mexico City said they found a mass grave that may hold the skeletal remains of the Aztec holdouts who fought Hernan Cortes. The carefully arrayed skeletons of at least 49 adults were buried in the remains of a pyramid razed by the Spaniards during the 1521 conquest of the Aztec capital. The pyramid complex in Tlatelolco square was the site of the last Indian resistance against the Spaniards during the months-long battle for the city.

During Construction of Aztec Wastewater Treatment Plan, Workers Discover Centuries-old Bones ([The Daily Times](#), March 3, 2009)

Archaeologists are excavating ancient human remains of at least seven people, which judging from the pottery and other artifacts found near the graves, are estimated to be at least 700 years old. Further research likely will confirm the genders and ages of the dead and potentially a cause of death for some. Following this assessment, the remains and artifacts will be returned to a descendant tribe for reburial. The remains were found while crews were grading and removing dirt, although a preconstruction archaeological assessment of the site showed no indication of a burial ground. The site was turned over to the New Mexico Historic Preservation Office, which works with developers to ensure the burial ground is properly excavated. The remains date back to between 1200 and 1350, the same period the Aztec Ruins settlement was inhabited.



San Juan Basin Archaeological Society – Annual Membership Form

Name(s) _____ and _____

Mailing address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip code: _____

Preferred phone number: _____ E-mail address: _____

Membership Category (check one) "with SWL" means the CAS Southwestern Lore journal will be mailed to you.

- | | |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual (with SWL) | SJBAS \$15.00 & CAS \$16.00 = \$31.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual (no SWL) | SJBAS \$15.00 & CAS \$ 8.00 = \$23.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family (with SWL) | SJBAS \$20.00 & CAS \$20.00 = \$40.00 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family (no SWL) | SJBAS \$20.00 & CAS \$10.00 = \$30.00 |

If you pay CAS dues directly or via another chapter, check here: _____.

Dues are due by January 30th each year. Make your check payable to 'SJBAS' and mail with this form to our chapter treasurer: **Mark Gebhardt, 107 St. Andrews Circle, Durango, CO 81301.**

SJBAS is a totally volunteer-run organization. All members are expected to participate in keeping the society going. Please indicate below all the activities with which you will help.

Name: _____ Name: _____

- | | | |
|-------|----------------------|-------|
| _____ | Speakers/programs | _____ |
| _____ | Social events | _____ |
| _____ | Planning trips | _____ |
| _____ | Leading trips | _____ |
| _____ | Outreach/service | _____ |
| _____ | Speakers/programs | _____ |
| _____ | Chairing a committee | _____ |
| _____ | Mailing newsletters | _____ |
| _____ | Other | _____ |

What special skills/education What special experience do you have that applies to SJBAS goals?

Education: _____ Special skills: _____
 Experience (i.e. teaching): _____ Archaeological training (college or PAAC courses): _____

Acknowledgment of Personal Responsibility and Waiver of Liability

- Read and sign this statement, and complete emergency contact information.
- For couples, each person must sign.

I agree to observe the by-laws and Code of Ethics of both the Colorado Archaeological Society (CAS) and the San Juan Basin Archaeological Society (SJBAS) and to conduct myself in an ethical manner when participating in the activities of these groups. I understand that both groups are dedicated to the preservation of our cultural heritage and do not engage in activities such as unauthorized collection of potsherds, arrowheads, or other prehistoric or early historic artifacts, or the desecration of burial sites. I also understand and acknowledge that there may be inherently dangerous conditions when pursuing the activities of CAS or SJBAS that may result in property damage or loss, personal injury, or death and I, my successors and any other representatives I may have do hereby release and hold harmless SJBAS and its members and CAS from any and all liability that I or we may incur.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Please list a person who could be contacted in case of any emergency. (This should not be your spouse or partner if you attend trips together.)

Name: _____ Relationship: _____ Phone: _____

San Juan Basin Archaeological Society
107 St. Andrews Circle
Durango, Colorado 81301

FIRST CLASS

San Juan Basin Archaeological Society

A Chapter of the Colorado Archaeological Society

If you're not a member of our group and would like to receive our newsletter, attend our monthly meetings, join us on our outings, and participate in our many other activities and those of the Colorado Archaeological Society (CAS), call our President Andy Gulliford (970-375-9417) and ask for information about our organization. Annual dues, including those for membership in the Colorado Archaeological Society, are listed below and are payable by checks made out to SJBAS and mailed to our Treasurer Mark Gebhardt, 107 St. Andrews Circle, Durango, CO 81301. Dues cover membership for the calendar year. With SWL means that the membership includes a subscription to CAS's quarterly journal "Southwestern Lore" (SWL). No SWL means that the journal is not included with your membership, hence the difference in the dues.

Individual (includes "Southwestern Lore")	SJBAS \$15.00 + CAS \$16.00 = \$31.00
Individual (no SWL)	SJBAS \$15.00 + CAS \$ 8.00 = \$23.00
Family (with SWL)	SJBAS \$20.00 + CAS \$20.00 = \$40.00
Family (no SWL)	SJBAS \$20.00 + CAS \$10.00 = \$30.00



www.sjbas.org