



THE MOKI MESSENGER

NEWSLETTER OF THE SAN JUAN BASIN ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Chapter of Colorado Archaeological Society

April, 2010

White Speaks On Pasargadae & Persepolis

The SJBAS April Meeting will be at the Lyceum, Southwest Center at Fort Lewis College at 7:00 p.m. on April 8, 2010. Merilee Jantzer White, who has spoken to SJBAS on two previous occasions, will discuss Iran: Pasargadae and Persepolis.

Marilee has a PhD in Art History with a history minor. She has published in scholarly journals on the art and history of Native Americans, and has been a professor of art history and history at Ft. Lewis for ten years, where she taught World art history, Art History and history of the Southwest, Art History of Native America, mesoAmerican Art History and Art History of women.

Again, SJBAS has a conflict with the Life-long Learning Program. We will be able to hear George Richardson's Easter Island talk on February 10, 2011 at our regular meeting.

Anazasi Heritage Center Tour

Reported to Beverly Dittmer From Diane Skinner

On Sunday, March 14, twenty five participants left Durango to Journey to the Anazasi Heritage Center near Delores. The weather for this trip was "not ideal"; it was snowing heavily. However, our club members followed their leader, Diane Skinner, and made the difficult drive even though their windshield wipers became iced.

The speakers at the Anazasi Center were Carolyn Landes and Fred Blackburn. Carolyn is a Colorado native and has lived in Montezuma County full time since 1989. She has been involved in management of cultural resources for the Department of the Interior (Bureau of Land Management and National Park Service) since 1985. During her Federal

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Cochise County, Arizona Trip

By Gail Schulz

March 4 through March 8, 2010, eleven SJBAS members escaped deep Durango snows to visit Cochise County to learn a bit about this fascinating corner of Arizona. Gail and Marlo Schulz led this trip which began in Sierra Vista AZ near the Mexican border.

Friday, March 5 the first stop was the Murray Springs Clovis Site in the San Pedro river valley where the mammoth Big Eloise was found along with Clovis points and tools used to process this kill. This valley contains the largest number of documented Clovis sites in North America. Next the group visited the San Pedro House to view reproductions of some of the Clovis artifacts and to learn about the rich bird and animal life along the river. Here we saw a very, very large cotton wood tree that took nine adults with arms spread wide to reach around the trunk. Out in the middle of the desert, these giant trees are a home for

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career she has worked at Mesa Verde National Park, Death Valley National Monument, the Anasazi Heritage Center and Canyons of the Ancients National Monument. She is currently Supervisory Museum Curator for the BLM Anasazi Heritage Center. Carolyn holds degrees in Anthropology and Education from Fort Lewis College (1986)

Fred is a fourth generation Colorado Native. Born in the miners' hospital in Telluride he remains attached to the Colorado Plateau. He is also a FLC graduate with a degree in Natural History. Fred worked in Utah as a ranger at Natural Bridges and then was in the Grand Gulch Ranger Program. He helped to establish the Crow Canyon Archaeological Center and then returned to Utah to help establish the White Mesa Institute for the College of Eastern Utah. This venture spawned the Wetherill/Grand Gulch Project. Fred has enriched his experiences by having been an independent guide, historian, author, and farmer/rancher in Montezuma County.

Fred spoke to our group for over an hour on the collection of items that are in the museum. It was a fascinating talk. There are 15,000 items in residence there. This collection stays at the Anasazi Heritage Center (AHC). Mesa Verde has the right to have copies of the items. The Wetherill family wants this to be an open collection. Ken Burns used some of the Wetherill photos for a PBS program on the national parks. The Wetherill family has a website – Wetherillfamily.com – which is informative. The Wetherill's were Quakers and didn't view people with prejudice. Even though they made their living from ranching, they were well educated.

After this interesting background talk the participants broke into two smaller groups and went downstairs to see the research room, the conservation room, and the map room. They saw the sunflower bowl from the Chappell collection and the Wetherill genealogy that Lynn Robertson, who is a volunteer at the center, had worked out. The last room that they toured had a table set up with selected items from the collection on display. A list of some of the items they saw follows: a quiver from the Pueblo pe-

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countless birds and animals as well as a beautiful sight for our eyes.

The next visit that first day took us to the Coronado National Memorial to learn about Coronado's 1540 - 1542 trip from Mexico City into the north as far as the Kansas plains. Coronado's expedition followed the San Pedro river which flows just east of the Memorial. Most of the group ascended Coronado Peak from the Montezuma Pass Overlook to view the beginning point of the Arizona Trail on the border and to enjoy views over long distances into Sonora, MX. We learned a bit about the border fence and Border Patrol surveillance as well. Then it was on to Bisbee to briefly view the Lavender Pit left from a large scale open pit copper mining. The last thing that busy day the group drove on to Whitewater Draw in the Sulphur Springs valley to view some of the estimated 44,499 sandhill cranes, the largest number ever recorded, wintering there. It was magnificent viewing thousands of these birds as they descended in groups onto this nightly resting area. It was also interesting seeing the huge cameras of some of the photographers who were there to capture this most alluring sight.

Sat. March 6 the group hiked to the Presidio Santa Cruz de Terrenate on the San Pedro river. The fort was begun in 1775 by the Spanish to stake their claim to the land and establish settlements in the area. The fort was abandoned in 1778 because of heavy losses to the Apaches who were able to freely raid the soldiers and civilians whenever they left the safety of the large, high-walled adobe fort. We also learned a bit about the Sobaipuri who occupied the area before, and for a time after the Spanish occupation, before they were driven to the Santa Cruz valley by the Apaches. The group visited Fairbank, a ghost town a couple of miles south of the fort, to learn the history of this town with crucial rail connections, and the seven stamp mills along the river that processed the silver ore from Tombstone.

Focus shifted to the Apache culture when the group drove into the Dragoon Mountains to the West Cochise Stronghold where the Apaches were easily able to elude the Army

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riod, Frederick Chapin's album of photos, the guest book for Alamo Ranch which included Alice Eastwood's signature (a famous botanist of the period), paper napkins with guest's names penciled on them, a mummified bird, a very old camera, Nordenskjold's book "The Cliff Dwellers" that he had sent back to the Wetherills, and many other items.

It was an exciting morning all the way around. The trip was most worthwhile, and I am sorry that I didn't get to take the trip. I hope that Diane will offer the trip again. Despite a bad weather day, the trip sounds like it was very worthwhile and fascinating.



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and watch their every move. This is also the Council Rocks area where peace talks were supposedly held with Cochise. This area contains pictographs approximately 1000 years old possibly attributed to the Mogollon culture.

Sun. Mar 7 some of the group toured the Big Room of Kartchner Caverns and the wonderful Amerind Museum. Some of the group that day went a separate way and toured the Tombstone Courthouse Museum, which is an Arizona State Park slated to close along with many other AZ. state parks on March 29 due to lack of funding. This group also toured the Bird Cage Theatre in Tombstone, a theatre, bar, brothel, and gambling den preserved in close to original condition from the 1880s. They then toured the Buffalo Soldier Museum and the Intelligence Museum on historic Fort Huachuca.

Mon. Mar 8 several members toured the Bisbee Mining Museum and the public areas of the Copper Queen Hotel. The trip was busy and full.

This trip offered a little of something special for all participants. We all went on the trip thinking that in the southern desert of Arizona in March that we would enjoy warm weather, but it actually rained on us on Sunday. It was cool enough all week to keep the hiking really nice.

SJBAS Trips

Dinetah Area, April 10. Day trip to Largo Canyon (NM), with Trust Land Archaeologist David Eck, to visit several Navajo pueblitos, not often seen by our group. Wear good walking shoes, a hat, and bring plenty of water and a sack lunch. A high-clearance 4WD vehicle is required. Limit of 20. Leaders: Marion and Andy Simon; 749-2927; msimon183@aol.com.

Chaco Culture National Historical Park, April 12-14. Three-day, two-night car camping trip to Park. If enough participants sign up, we will try for a group campsite. We will have an expert guide for Pueblo Bonito, and there are many hikes available -- short distances and up to several miles. The Park Service is amending the Park management plan. Future visits may require permits and visitor restrictions, as at Mesa Verde. This may be our last chance for less restricted exploration. Leave Santa Rita Park at 8:00 a.m.. Trip Leader: Richard Robinson, Robinson@frontier.net.

Near Dove Creek, April 17. Day trip to mesa in the Dove Creek area, occupied over a long period. The amount of walking has not been determined, but even if long (several miles) nothing will be difficult. Wear good walking shoes, bring hat, water, sack lunch, and weather appropriate attire. High clearance 4WD vehicle is recommended. Limit of 10. Leader: Mary Ann Hiller; 259-5170; johnhilldurco@durango.net.

Acoma Pueblo and Chaco Outliers, April 30 to May 2. 3-day, 2-night Grants motel trip to visit several Chacoan Outliers, the Acoma Pueblo, and take a guided tour. Short (<1 mi) easy hikes to several ruins. Bring good walking shoes, lots of cold water. High-clearance 4WD vehicle is recommended. Limit of 20. Leader: Richard Robinson; Robinson@frontier.net.

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Beef Basin Area, Utah, May 6-8. 3-day car camping trip to Beef Basin, Utah sites. Bring good walking shoes, lots of water, three sack lunches, sand and weather-appropriate camping gear and attire. There is a permit mandated limit of six persons, unless one of us can bring a porta-potty. A 4WD vehicle required. Trip Leader: Richard Robinson; Robinson@frontier.net.

Indian History Battlefield Walk - the Fighting Cheyennes of Colorado, May 18-20. Three Front Range battlefield sites. Three-day, 2-night motel trip with an additional day option. We will visit the 1864 Sand Creek, the 1868 Beecher Island, and Summit Springs battlefields. A hat, comfortable walking shoes, appropriate attire. Trip Leaders: Beverly and Paul Dittmer, 375-9568, beverlydittmer@frontier.net.

Dove Creek Area, May 28. One day trip to three Mesa Verde Anasazi ruins near Goodman Point. A guide will be traveling over 200 miles to show us the sites, which have approximately 100, 150 and 400 rooms, each with a great kiva, built between 1000 and 1225 AD, and occupied from between 1250 and 1300 AD. One site has 65 kivas and two towers. Bring a sack lunch, hiking boots. A 4WD vehicle is required, and there is a trip limit of 20. Trip Leader: Mary Ann Hiller, 259-5170.



Meetings & Lectures

Eric Blinman Lecture on Southwest Perishables

On **Thursday, April 15**, at 7:00 pm, Aztec Ruins will host Eric Blinman, Director of the Museum of New Mexico's Office of Archaeological Studies. The topic of his lecture will be Yucca, Bulrush, and Other Perishables of the Northern Southwest. His presentation will include both an illustrated lecture on ancient Southwestern textiles and a demonstration of yucca fiber extraction and spinning.

Plants that we tend to ignore today were valued raw materials in the past, especially yucca, bulrush, and sumac. This presentation will include pictures of a wide range of these rare artifacts from dry caves and rock shelters from throughout the Southwest, and Blinman will demonstrate how to prepare yucca fiber for thread, string, and rope along with how turkey feather blankets were made.

The lecture will be in the Visitor Center at Aztec Ruins, 84 County Road 2900. Admission is free. Call 334-6174 for more information.

Hisatsinom Chapter On April 6, Fred Blackburn will speak on Al Wetherill and T. Mitchell Prudden in Escalante. On May 4, Rebecca Hammond will speak on Ute history. The Chapter meets at the Cortez Cultural Center.

Friends of Crow Canyon 2010 Distinguished Lecturer Series. Fridays at 7:00 p.m. **April 23, 2010**; Dr. Maelee Thomson Foster, Prof. Emerita, School of Architecture, U of Fla; *The Megalithic Temples of Malta: Their Astronomical Significance Compared to Sites in the American Southwest*;

May 14, 2010; Gates, CCC - Dr. Peter Decker, Rancher/Author, Dir of Nat Western Stock Show and Rodeo, past member of CO Comm on Higher Ed, former CO Comm of Ag; *The Utes Must Go!: American Expansion and the Removal of a People*. Seating is limited.

The series costs \$135 for one, \$250 for two. Cost per lecture is \$30.00. Call 970-564-4341 for reservations.

Life-Long Learning Lecture Series; 7:00 p.m., 130 Noble Hall, Fort Lewis College.

Thursday, April 8; *Easter Island: An Environmental Tragedy*, George Richardson. The forlorn stares of disbelief chiseled into the faces of Moai (statues) surrounding Easter Island remind us of the tiny island's disastrous history and the collapse of its culture, a classic example of environmental unsustainability. As a geologist, Richardson worked in minerals and petroleum as exploration manager, general manager or chief representative in various countries around the world.

Thursday, April 29; *Living and Dying in the Bronze Age*, Brad Bartel, Ph.D. The Bronze Age of Europe and West Africa was a time of great changes in social organization, technology, and ethnic movement. The arrival of Indo-European speaking peoples totally restructured the fabric of Europe and gave us modern language groups, and a new middle class developed through the popularity of bronze technology. He is the eighth President of Fort Lewis College.

Others Trips

Friends of Archaeology ("FOA"), Museum of NM Foundation Support Group, Office of Archaeological Studies Lecture Series; New Mexico Film Museum Theater, 418 Montezuma Street, Santa Fe. June 5-7, *Mimbres Ceramics--Gila Region of NM.* Study Mimbres Pottery, including stylized imagery of animals and human related to Mimbres life and religion. Visit ceramics collection at the Museum of Western NM Univ, Silver City, with the Director, Dr. Cynthia Bettison; sites of the Mogollon/Mimbres in the Mimbres Valley, Lake Roberts, and the Gila Cliff Dwellings and TJ ruin. Enjoy side trip to the Woodrow site in the Gila-Cliff area, west of Silver City. Base will be in a Silver City hotel.

September 18, *Gallina Sites Field Trip*, Saturday trip to sites between Coyote and Cuba, NM. September 26, *Chiles and Sherds*, a celebration of the archaeology and cuisine of NM, at Piedras Marcadas, in a bosque along the Rio Grande at the Open Space Center, near Albuquerque. Explores the archaeology of conflict in New Mexico. Piedras Marcadas is located in a bosque along the Rio Grande at the Open Space Center in Albuquerque. Investigations of the site confirm its historic association with NM. Coronado's forces attacked and overwhelmed the pueblo, leaving behind cross bow bolts and obsidian blades, which belonged to the Mexican Indians who arrived as part of Coronado's army. Small group tours of the site throughout the day, displays and demonstrations of 16th century archery and pottery, lunch and walks through the Center gardens;

October 8-10, *Coronado Contact Sites and Zuni Field Trip*. October 30-31, *Conflict in Modern Times - Trinity Site*, with Alamogordo option. See <http://www.museumfoundation.org/foa.html> for more details.

Exhibits

New Mexico History Museum, Santa Fe. "Santa Fe Found: Fragments of Time" explores the archaeological and historical roots of America's oldest capital city and early Hispanic life in North America. From the first Spanish colony in San Gabriel del Yungue, to the founding of Santa Fe and its first 100 years as New Mexico's capital, the exhibition shows how the founders lived, the hardships they faced, and tells the story of cultural encounters between early colonists and the Native Americans. A monthly lecture series runs through May; www.nmhistorymuseum.org.

The Field Museum, Chicago, Illinois; "Travels of the Crow: Journey of an Indian Nation," portrays the lives of hunters, warriors and nomads of the American Northern Plains. The exhibit includes a woman's superbly beaded horse regalia, a headdress of bison fleece and eagle feathers, and shields with powerful symbols. The Crow people tell the story of a search for the sacred tobacco plant that eventually led them to the Bighorn Mountains of Montana. (through July 2010).

New exhibit "Mammoths and Mastodons: Titans of the Ice Age" (Summary, *American Archaeology*, Spring 2010). These animals were of the time when huge mammals roamed Europe, Asia and North America, including "Lyuba," the best-preserved baby mammoth in the world. Large video installations allow visitors to roam among saber-toothed cats and giant bears, and view some of the oldest human artifacts in existence. 312-922-9410, www.fieldmuseum.org. (Through September 6).

Museum of West Exhibit "Distant Cities in the Mist: The Search for Lost Kingdoms", Focuses on Explorers of Grand Valley. (Summary, *Daily Sentinel*, January 10, 2010) What lured Aztecs, as early as the 1400s, and Spaniards in successive waves to the Grand Valley is this exhibit's subject. The exhibit shows how "myth and legend fit together." Escalante was looking for Spaniards who lived north of the Colorado River, also called el Rio del Tizon, to prevent any attack upon the kingdom and, if they were foreigners, to incorporate them. The exhibit includes excerpts of Escalante's letters to his church and royal superiors. One of the displays is a 1587 hand-drawn and colored map of the New World by cartographer Juan Martines showing Cibola in what is now western Colorado at 39 degrees north latitude, the Grand Valley and Grand Mesa. In 1765, Juan Rivera led an expedition through Utah and western Colorado, passing through regions held by the Ute Tribe. As early as the 1400s, the Aztecs sent a party north in search of the Aztec home. Where they ended up isn't known. The exhibit points out similarities between Aztec and Ute mythology.

Dinosaur Journey. (Summary, *Daily Sentinel*, January 30, 2010) After paleontologists found a series of bones from *Fruitadens* in the Fruita Paleontological Area in 1976, the L.A. Natural History Museum served as the reposi-

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Exhibits - Cont.

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tory for bones from a leg, foot, back, neck, pelvis and tail, as well as the upper and lower jaw. Dinosaur Journey traded with the Museum, giving it casts of other dinosaur fossils in exchange for a cast of *Fruitadens*' lower jaw and a three-dimensional, reconstructed model of *Fruitadens*. The exhibit features the model, photographs taken at the time *Fruitadens* was found and several placards explaining more about the dinosaur and the discovery.

Heard Museum, Phoenix, AZ. (Summary, *American Archaeology*, Spring 2010) Traveling exhibit "Arctic Spirit: Inuit Art from the Albrecht Collection" highlights the artistic history of Canadian Inuits, a native society which lives mainly in Siberia, Alaska, Greenland, and the Canadian Arctic. The exhibition's 150 sculptures, textiles, and graphics review more than 2,000 years of Canadian Inuit artwork crafted from stone, antlers, tusks, whale-bone, paint, wood, pencil, and pen. 602-252-8848, www.heard.org. (Through January 20, 2011).

University of Nebraska State Museum, Lincoln, NE. (Summary, *American Archaeology*, Spring 2010) New exhibit "Weapons Throughout Time" explores weapons from the museum's extensive collection that span 9,000 years, from prehistoric stone arrow points to World War I firearms. 402-472-3779, www.museum.unl.edu. (Through mid-September)

New History Colorado Center. (Summary, *Denver Post*, January 31, 2010) The \$110 million History Colorado Center will be a cornerstone of the new Denver Civic Center Cultural Complex, consisting of the Denver Public Library and Denver Art Museum, as well as the new Colorado Historical Society. The old museum will be demolished later this year. The four-story limestone structure will have a 100-foot-long lobby and four-story atrium, a place to celebrate Colorado's history in Colorado today and in the past.

Utah's Renovated State Capitol is a Piece of Living History. (Summary, *Daily Times*, March 11, 2010) For the next seven months, visitors can glimpse rare artifacts of state history that pre-date the domed statehouse completed in 1916. The Capitol Preservation Board is hosting a once-in-a-generation exhibit of priceless state treasures ranging from the constitution adopted by Utah's 1895 Constitutional Convention to the state's first flag, sewn in 1903 with all-white embroidery. Pieces will be in glass display cases throughout the Capitol. The \$227 million renovation of the Capitol, which lasted from 2004 to 2008, made such an exhibit possible. Before that, there would not have been sufficient security or appropriate lighting. Utah became the nation's 45th state in 1896. But first, Congress had to pass The Enabling Act of 1893, allowing residents of the Utah territory to hold a convention and draft the documents of statehood.

Conferences

Society for American Archaeology (SAA) Annual Meeting, April 14-18, Renaissance St. Louis Grand, St. Louis, MO; features numerous presentations, forums, symposia, and posters. Other events include the Ethics Bowl, the Cultural Resource Management Expo, film festival and field trips.

Pecos Conference, The conference will be held in Silverton from August 12th to 15th.

Colorado Rock Art Association Chapter of CAS Annual Symposium, May 14-16, Trinidad, CO.

Alliance for Historic Landscape Preservation 2010 Annual Meeting, April 21-24, Hotel Albuquerque, NM. Theme is "Enchanted Landscapes: Exploring Cultural Traditions and Values." The meeting will focus on regional landscapes and will feature presentations from local landscape experts, as well as students and faculty from the Univ. of NM School of Architecture and Planning.

Archaeological Society of New Mexico 2010 Conference. April 30-May 2, Courtyard by Marriott, Santa Fe, NM. Highlights dual themes of continuity and tradition and honors Glenna Dean, associate Director of the Northern Rio Grande National Heritage Area, Inc. and former New Mexico State Archaeologist, who championed efforts to protect and preserve New Mexico's unique cultural heritage throughout her career.



Volunteering

Cortez Cultural Center. To help with Cortez Cultural Center renovation, call Deb Avery (970) 565-1151; deb.avery@cortezculturalcenter.org; or visit www.cortezculturalcenter.org.

Chimney Rock Interpretive Association (CRIA). Email Helen Richardson at 1218HL1944@century.net.

Colorado Historical Society (CHS). Volunteers are needed to pack CHS archaeological collection, in preparation for the move to new facilities, through April 18. Hours: 8am-4pm, Mon-Fri., week-nights and weekends. Contact: Angela Caudill at angela.caudill@chs.state.co.us. Include your name, contact info, particular collection interest, availability and background/interest.

Office of Archeology and History Preservation (OAHP). Collections at this office need processing, cataloging and analyzing at the CHS's Support Center in east Denver (MSCD). Contact Kevin Black at Kevin.Black@chs.state.co.us.

Pecos Conference, August 12—15. Volunteers are needed with all kinds of skills for this important conference as follows: Venue and Facilities – Dr. Charles Riggs, FLC, and helper; Program – Riggs; Budget – Riggs; Volunteer organizer; Book Vendors; Field Trips; Food and entertainment – Morning/Lunch concessions (may be unnecessary given venue); Saturday night Dinner (Serious Texas BBQ?); beer; band for the dance; T-shirts and tote bags; Advertising/ mailing list – Brian Kenney; Pecos 2010 Conference logo – student designs – this is a big priority; Friday Night Speak – someone doing historical archaeology; Thursday Opening Reception locations – looking for ideas; General assistance and logistical support during conference. Dr. Riggs is working on a conference Web page, but in the meantime has set up a Twitter feed for updates:

<http://twitter.com/2010Pecos>. To help out, please email Andy Gulliford at gulliford_a@fortlewis.edu or phone him at 970-375-9417.

Colorado Archeological Society (CAS), offers a program on Indian Rock Art for elementary classrooms or other groups at the 3rd-4th grade level, including a slide show about archaeology and the need for preservation. The children are able to make their own rock art to take home. Volunteers are needed to reach as many children as possible,. It takes no training or special skills. Contact Betsy Weitkamp at 303-722-1656 or ELAW@q.com.

PAAC CLASSES: No PAAC courses will be offered through June 30, 2010.

Archeology In the Southwest

Ute Mountain Ute Tribe will Receive over \$22.5 Million for New Tourism Facility, Part of \$1 Billion in Stimulus Tribal Economic Development Bonds. (Summary, *Cortez Journal*, September 19, 2009) These project will build a center that will be like a family fun center, an appealing place for tourists. The tribal bonds were awarded for economic revitalization projects that will create jobs and strengthen infrastructure.

Utah Man, Artifact Case Source, Dies by Gunshot. (Summary, *Durango Herald*, March 3, 2010) The Utah businessman who worked a two-year sting operation for federal officials investigating looting of American Indian relics across the Southwest, died, apparently of a self-inflicted gunshot. It appears to be the third suicide connected to the case.

Federal Judge Temporarily Delays Trial of Local Man Facing Charges in a Multistate, Artifacts-theft Case as Prosecutors Decide How to Move Forward After the Apparent Suicide of a Government Informant. (Summary, *Daily Sentinel*, March 4, 2010) The government has asked for the additional time to analyze its case in total. The U.S. Attorney for Colorado is reviewing ways to use videotape evidence without the live testimony of Ted Gardiner, who secretly recorded hundreds of hours of sales during the investigation.

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THE EDITORS' CORNER

From Janice Sheftel (If no source is referenced, the summary is written by Janice)



Should we Clone Neanderthals? The Scientific, Legal, and Ethical Obstacles; from Archaeology Volume 63 Number 2, March/April 2010.

(Summary, *Hisatsinom Newsletter*, March 2010) If Neanderthals ever live again, they will come from an emulsion of oil, water and DNA capture beads engineered in the laboratory of 454 Life Sciences in Branford, CT. Over the past four years, those beads have been gathering tiny fragments of DNA from samples of dissolved organic materials, including pieces of Neanderthal bone. Genetic sequences have given paleoanthropologists a new line of evidence for testing ideas about the biology of our closest extinct relative. The first studies of Neanderthal DNA focused on the genetic sequences of mitochondria, the microscopic organelles that convert food to energy within cells. In 2005, however, 454 began a collaborative project with the Max Planck Institute in Leipzig, Germany, to sequence the full genetic code of a Neanderthal woman who died in Croatia's Vindija cave 30,000 years ago. As the Neanderthal genome is painstakingly sequenced, the archaeologists and biologists who study it will be able to look at the genetic blueprint of humankind's nearest relative and understand its biology as intimately as our own. www.archaeology.org/1003/etc/neanderthals.html.

National Geographic, March 2010. The Nasca Line. Discusses the uses of the lines, especially their importance regarding water in the arid highlands. "The glyphs provide a reminder to Nasca people that their fate was tied to the environment. Since 1997, a Peruvian-German research collaboration has been underway. Despite the arid climate, the Nasca flourished from 200 BC to 600 AD."

American Archaeology, Spring Issue 2010, Contents: *Can Archaeology Save the Environment?*: Archaeologists believe their voices should be heard in the environmental conversation. *Working to Reveal the Working Class*: Several investigations examine the lives of workers during the rise of American industry. *Extremely Remote Sensing*: Researchers can detect evidence of archaeological sites from satellite images that cannot be seen at ground level. *Excavating Hazardous Sites*: Definitely not business as usual when archaeologists excavate these dangerous sites. **New Acquisitions:** *Saving an Important Stockade*: Fort Gibson played an important role in 19th-century Oklahoma. *Ancient Pennsylvania Site*: Ebbert Springs has been a source of water for thousands of years. *A Glimpse of Ancient Life on the Northwest Coast*: An unusual wet site in Washington State could yield valuable information.

Archeology In the Southwest - Cont.

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Artifact Cases to Proceed Despite Death of Source. (Summary, *Daily Sentinel*, March 9, 2010) Federal prosecutors in Utah said that despite the death of an undercover informant they will move ahead with cases against more than 20 people charged after a long-running artifacts looting investigation. The operative's death may prompt prosecutors to change their strategy at trial, but the setback isn't enough for them to scrap the cases. Defense attorneys will ask federal judges to limit what kind of evidence can be presented at trial when it comes to Ted Gardiner, a Utah businessman who worked with the FBI and the BLM for two years. He secretly recorded deals for American Indian artifacts in the Four Corners area. Gardiner provided hundreds of hours of footage for investigators that are central to prosecutors' cases.

Energy Companies, Ranchers Want Drilling Rights to Canyons of the Ancients National Monument ("CANM"). (Summary, *Cortez Journal*, December 3, 2009) Montezuma and Dolores counties, as well as a number of community groups, are waiting for an official response to attempts to protect multiple-use allowances in

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Archeology In the Southwest - Cont.

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CANM. The BLM has proposed a resource management plan for CANM that many believe ignores mandates included in the monument's proclamation, specifically those regarding valid existing rights. Kinder Morgan, Bill Barrett Corp. and Questar have filed official protests against the proposed plan. All the existing rights were supposed to be honored -- grazing, oil and gas. The economic development committee and Montezuma County schools are concerned. Roughly 50 percent of Montezuma County's annual tax revenue is collected from oil and gas production, most of which is derived from carbon dioxide.

Montezuma County believes the proposed resource management plan gives the BLM authority to grant or deny natural resources exploration and/or development based upon the threat to cultural resources. There is also fear that the federal government is slowly moving to close off historical grazing rights on the monument. In recent years, vacated grazing allotments have been turned into grass banks rather than being reissued. Al Heaton, a member of the county's Rangeland Stewardship Committee wants vacated allotments to be reissued to qualified operators.

The proposed resource management plan includes a drastic adjustment in the way historical sites are viewed. The Washington office is preparing an official response. Once the BLM's response is given, the final resource management plan will be released, along with a record of decision. The next step may be litigation.

Pack String Team Keeps Mules Trucking. (Summary, *Cortez Journal*, June 27, 2009) A pack string was once about the only way to get to these parts, but nowadays using mules to haul cargo through the backcountry is a dying art. Glen Ryan is keeping the mule pack string tradition alive. He teaches a weeklong course about the hitches and handling pack stock at Vallecito Reservoir and leads the Rocky Mountain Specialty Pack String, one of two regional teams kept by the USFS for work projects in areas where machines are prohibited. Ryan says proficiency in pack-string transport and other backcountry techniques were once mandatory for Forest Service rangers.

The saddle includes a carrier strap, back strap, rigging strap, breast-collar strap, quarter strap, side board and cargo rope. An hour can be spent to learn a single hitch, the box hitch used on a Sawbuck pack saddle to secure boxes held in panniers to the mule's midsection.

Mules have the reputation for being stubborn, but Ryan says this is only because they are smarter and have more personality than horses. Their loyalty, once earned, is unailing. The Forest Service's two regional pack strings can be dispatched anywhere over a large geographical area. Ryan said he once transported nearly 130 tons of gravel with mules, and has worked frequently with the group Colorado Fourteeners Initiative to maintain heavily traversed trails to the popular peaks.

Excavation of George Crawford's 283 Acre, Once Remote Ranch Provides Glimpse of Crawford's Life.

(Summary, *Daily Sentinel*, August 11, 2008) An exploration of the ranch above the mouth of the Grand Valley on Rapid Creek northeast of Palisade, at the base of Bailey Point, turned up shattered bits of ceramic porcelain traceable to an English maker, as well as a silver spoon, blackened from years of exposure. The Museum of the West research team also found the site of Crawford's town company office in downtown Grand Junction. Beneath a parking lot along Colorado Avenue, the team found slate used on the office roof, an old cistern underneath the floor and a deer jawbone left over after a meal. Historians had believed Crawford had spent his days in a Grand Junction hotel while awaiting the construction of his house, but he died before he could move into the house. A rock wall was built along the ranch boundary by Ute Indians from rock dug out of the ranchland as it was cleared. The ranch contained orchards, livestock and mining and manufacturing operations. Today, the Cameo power plant sits in view of the ranch, far below, along the Colorado River. The survey and global-positioning satellite readings taken during the survey will preserve the ranch history.

Albert and Francis Bailey purchased the ranch in 1897. Francis Bailey sold the ranch in 1908 for \$15,000 and set up a plan to fraudulently obtain \$200,000 in all the goods needed to start a colony. He and Albert announced plans to travel to Australia, but instead went to Honduras on a ship later dubbed "the pirate ship Goldsboro." The Baileys were captured after a run-in with a Honduran gunboat and were held in custody, but they were aided by a prominent attorney in exchange for their guns, Model 1899 Savage rifles. An investigation later revealed the attorney hoped to use the weapons in a revolution.

Ute Legacy: Scars from Pines Peeled for Food. (Summary, *Durango Herald*, July 12, 2009) While lightning strikes

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on ponderosa pines also leave scars, they are generally longer, demonstrate evidence of fire, and are narrow. Ute medicine trees have much wider scars and show evidence of ax cuts horizontally along the bottom of the tree. On tall ponderosas, the scars can be centuries old, six feet high, and represent a unique cultural and archaeological resource that proves Native American use of forested land from the 19th century and earlier. When the trees were young, Ute bands on horseback would visit forests and cut into the pines in early spring as an emergency food source to extract the protein-rich cambium layer underneath the bark. During times of dietary stress, often in early spring when game was scarce, Ute women and children used a special debarking stick, axes or knives to peel the trees and reach the cambium layer, which tastes like soft cookie dough. The cambium layer of living cells between the inner tree and outer bark help with tree growth and contain sugars, starch and minerals, depending on the soil. One pound of cambium is the equivalent of 600 calories and is high in fiber, calcium, protein, carbohydrates, magnesium, iron, zinc, vitamin C and equal in food value to nine glasses of milk. Now that's a health food!

Fragments of animal horn and metal, including baking powder can lids, which were peeling tools used by Native American women, have been found at the base of peeled trees. Peeled ponderosas also acted as medicine trees. The material was used for poultices for deep cuts and scrapes, which allowed human skin to heal without infection or scars, and as a drink for disorders such as TB, colds, heart trouble and rheumatism.

Old Spanish Trail Association Keeps Tales of Trail Alive. (Summary, *Durango Herald*, August 17, 2008) In late 1843, 12-year-old Serafin Chacon tagged along for an unapproved trip from New Mexico to California. Told he couldn't accompany his father on the journey to trade woven goods for horses and mules, Serafin followed anyway. A day into the trip, Santiago Chacon spotted his son trailing the party and escorted him at least part way home. The father then continued to Los Angeles and never returned. Details of Santiago Chacon's demise were mostly lost along the trail. Serafin grew up an orphan in what is now Northern New Mexico, living to the age of 102 and working as a blacksmith. The Chacon family's oral history preserved only the barest notion of what happened, according to Claudio P. Chacon, great-great-great grandson of Serafin. The Old Spanish Trail on which his ancestor died covered 2,700 miles through six Western states.

An annual gathering of the Old Spanish Trail Association, founded in 1994, is held annually at the new convention center north of Espanola, to preserve the history of three branches of the 19th-century trade route. Today, Claudio Chacon, his three children and his three grandchildren believe they know where and how their ancestor died, apparently at the hands of Paiute Indians, bringing closure to an uncertain episode in his family's past.

A book about Kit Carson provided the first clue that that eventually led Claudio Chacon to the spot where he thinks his great-great-great grandfather died in the Mojave Desert on Resting Springs Ranch, about 60 miles west of Las Vegas, NV. Carson learned of the attack on the New Mexico traders from two survivors who had been herding horses at the time and escaped. The survivors' tale made it into the records of a US Army outfit that was scouting the trail in anticipation of the US war with Mexico. When Claudio Chacon contacted the Association, after learning Carson had visited the scene in Nevada and buried the dead, members helped him fill in missing details and he was able to tell his father how his great-great-grandfather had been killed. He had tried to take cover inside the little shelter they had made, and had several arrows in him.

Aztec National Monument General Management Plan Available for Public Comment. (Summary, Editorial, *Daily Times*, March 8, 2010) The document sets a course for management of the monument for the foreseeable future, updating the 1989 Plan. Options for updating the park range from taking no action to expanding the role of the national monument within the community. One proposal would encourage outreach to other sites within the community as well as developing partnerships with organizations such as Aztec Trails and Open Space to connect downtown Aztec to Aztec Ruins. Comments on the alternatives may be provided until April 10, 2010, online or via mail to the superintendent. Online comments should be entered on the National Park Service Planning, Environment and Public Comment Web site, <http://parkplanning.nps.gov/azru>. Once on this web page, click on "General Management Plan"; then in the left column, click on "Open for Public Comment." Follow the directions for entering comments. Written comments may be mailed to the superintendent: Dennis L. Carruth, Superintendent; Aztec Ruins National Monument; 84 County Road 2900; Aztec, NM 87410-9715. To comment by telephone, call (505) 334-6174, ext. 222.

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Crow Canyon Archaeological Center Offers Two Professional Development Programs.

(Summary, Durango Herald, February 17, 2010) Educators are urged to submit applications for the two programs. The deadline for applications is March 2, and spots for the program, a one-week workshop and a three-week institute, are filling. Both programs offer kindergarten through 12th-grade educators the opportunity to immerse themselves in the field of Southwest archaeology. The workshop, "Seeking the Center Place: The Mesa Verde Cultural Landscape and Pueblo Indian Homeland," will be offered Aug. 1 through 7 and Aug. 8 through 14. The institute, "Peoples of the Mesa Verde Region: Connecting the Past with the Present through Humanities Research," will be held June 27 through July 17. For more information, visit www.crowcanyon.org/NEHsummer2010 or call (800) 422-8975, ext. 146.

DNA Analysis of Ancient Southwestern Turkeys Reveals Surprising Subspecies Designation.

(Summary, Hisatsinom Newsletter, March 2010) Modern turkeys are descended from birds first domesticated 2,700 years ago in Mesoamerica and bred by the Aztecs. Aztecs weren't the only turkey tamers. Indigenous inhabitants of what became the southwestern United States had their own breeds, now lost to posterity. It was previously assumed that all domesticated turkeys could be traced to the Aztec-bred lineage. A genetic analysis of bones and droppings at 28 archaeological sites in the southwestern U.S. shows that the birds there belonged to a distinctly different subspecies. www.wired.com/wiredscience/2010/02/lost-turkeys.



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

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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 Saint 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.

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