



THE MOKI MESSENGER

NEWSLETTER OF THE SAN JUAN BASIN ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Chapter of Colorado Archaeological Society

August, 2010

Scott Ortman—Crow Canyon To Speak

On August 12 SJBAS regular meeting will be held at 7:00 PM at the Center for Southwest Studies Lyceum. Scott Ortman, Director of Research and Education, Crow Canyon Archaeological Center, will speak. Despite a century of research there is still no consensus among researchers on how, or even whether, the depopulation of the Mesa Verde region and the formation of the Rio Grande pueblos were related. Scott will present a summary of his Ph.D. dissertation, which takes a fresh look at this issue by examining biological, linguistic, and cultural connections between the Mesa Verde region and the northern Rio Grande. Based on these studies, he has a new theory to explain the relationship between the Mesa Verde depopulation and the origins of the Rio Grande pueblos.

Scott's primary areas of interest include migration studies, cognitive and historical anthropology, and the integration of archaeology with linguistics, biology, and oral tradition. Scott is a past fellow of the National Science Foundation, the American Council of Learned Societies and the Andrew W. Mellon Foundation. He completed his doctoral dissertation at Arizona State University in 2009.

SJBAS Field Trip to Old Fort Lewis

By Beverly Danielson

SJBAS members who visited Old Fort Lewis on June 17th were treated to a remarkable, multiple-faceted view of the site. Dr. Mona Charles who has studied it with her Fort Lewis College students for four years gave us a generous day packed with information.

This site was defined by the US Army outpost that functioned from 1881-1891 for the purpose of protecting US citizens from Indians as the area was opened for settlement. Since then the site has had several occupants - an Indian Boarding School, the junior college which became Fort Lewis College and, most recently, Colorado State University Agricultural Station, a Hot Shot base, an elk farm and an off campus site for several FLC classes. At present the future of the property is in question. Publicized options include being purchased by FLC.

Dr Charles outlined this history, pointed out landmarks left by the various oc-

(Continued on page 2)

Editors' Request

Please send in your trip reports. We all want to hear how your super trips went. You can write your reports and send them to Beverly at mokibev@frontier.net. Don't worry that you cannot spell or do not feel that you can write. Put down the facts in whatever form you want. Beverly will "fix" your document. You don't even have to write your report. You can call Beverly (375-9584) and in 15 minutes she can interview you and write your trip report for you.

The Moki needs your news. Our trips are news. We have a very active club. Let's show it in our newsletter with lots of interesting reports.

What's Inside

SJBAS Field Trips.....	2
Nearby Activities of Interest.....	3
Others' Trips.....	4
PAAC Is Back.....	4
Exhibitions.....	4
Volunteer Opportunities.....	5
Editor's Corner.....	5
Archeological News from the SW.....	6
Archeological News from Afar.....	9

(SJBAS Field Trip to Old Fort Lewis Continued from page 1)

cupants and answered many questions clarifying past, present and future of the site. Her study is its military history. Little surface evidence of that period remains and her challenge is to locate evidence of buildings and usage that is imprecisely documented and mostly buried.

She described exploration with imaging devices such as magnetometers and metal detectors. A student demonstrated a computer program that analyzed and visualized the data produced. The class will explore with test excavations a small complex of buildings they discovered with this technology. Other discoveries with these instruments are bullet remnants that indicate use of firearms and metallic objects that reveal life at the fort.

Dr Charles walked us around the cemetery that she has studied extensively from the surface and involved us in interpreting features not documented. She then took us to a bench of the LaPlata River where her students have uncovered prehistoric lithics. Watching their disciplined and precise excavation in the hot sun gave us renewed respect for the hard work behind the archaeology sites we visit or hear about at meetings.

To conclude the day she took a handful of sturdy members on a more challenging hike to see an example of peeled ponderosa pines that date to Indian usage. One member studied the river bottom quite unexpectedly - but emerged without any archaeological discoveries.

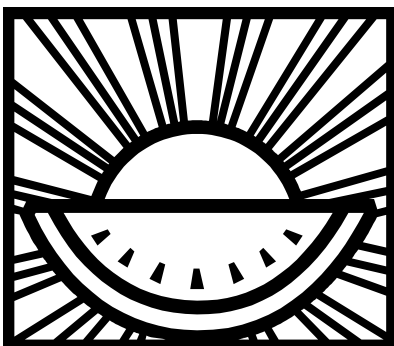
The weather was perfect; just being at this beautiful rural site was wonderful. We appreciate very much the quality of time and information Dr. Charles gave us. Her professionalism is matched by her enthusiasm and that made for a very enjoyable and interesting field trip. She says we can do it again next year!

SJBAS Field Trips

Tomboy Mine, near Telluride, Aug 3. Day trip with Rudy Davison as guide. Bring a sack lunch. High clearance 4WD vehicles (no Subarus) are required, but there will be carpooling. Participants need sturdy boots, water, sunscreen, hats and rain gear for short hikes. Limit to 15. Leave Santa Rita Park at 7:00 a.m., return to Durango by continuing over Imogene Pass into Ouray or retrace route back to Telluride. Two excellent background books, Tomboy Bride, by Harriet Backus and Father Struck It Rich, by Evalyn Walsh McLean; Information or RSVP to Richard Robinson, 970-259-1943 or Robinson@frontier.net;

Historic Mining Districts, Aug 21-22, Car camping for high country mining camp tour; visit historic mills and mining sites in the Silverton area. Based on his many years of mining experience, leader Dave McCrillis will interpret the mechanics and processes of mills. Need two sack lunches. Weather conditions will determine appropriate attire. High clearance 4WD vehicle required. Limit to 20. Leader's number is 259-9698;

Jemez Mountains, Sept 6-8, 3-day, 2-night car camping trip to visit sites east of the Jemez River. Walking shoes, hat, lots of cold water, three sack lunches, appropriate camping gear and weather-appropriate attire. Hikes are of unknown lengths, depending on road conditions. High clearance 4WD vehicle required. Leader: Richard Robinson, Robinson@frontier.net.



Enjoy the Lazy Dazy Days of Summer

Nearby Activities of Interest

HISATSINOM CHAPTER

There won't be an August meeting.

FOUR CORNERS LECTURE SERIES

The Natural World of Ancestral Puebloans,
Jon Callender, August 5, 7:00 p.m., Crow Canyon;

Ancestral Puebloan Landscapes,
James Snead, August 13, 7:00 p.m., Far View Lodge, Mesa Verde National Park;

Forestry Discussion,
Dewayne Findley & Marilyn Colyer, August 29, 1:00 p.m., Anasazi Heritage Center;

The Unique Cultural Landscape of Historic Fort Lewis,

Mona Charles, September 9, 7:00 p.m., Ft. Lewis College;

The Story of Corn: From Teosinte to Ethanol,
Paul Ermigiotti, September 9, 7:00 p.m., Crow Canyon;

Santa Clara Pottery Demonstration, Firing and Sale,

Jane Baca and Starr Tofoya, September 18, 3:00 p.m., Capin Mesa Amphitheater, Mesa Verde National Park;

Dramatic Shifts in Landscape Use Associated with Ancestral Pueblo Depopulation of the Mesa Verde Region,

Kristin Kuckelman, October 7, 7:00 p.m., Crow Canyon;

Learning from Looking: Revisiting Peirce Lewis and the Four Corners Landscape,

Pete McCormick, October 7, 7:00 p.m., Fort Lewis;

The Archaeology of Range Creek,
Renee Barlow, October 15, 7:00 p.m., Cortez Culture Center.

Cortez Cultural Center

Native American Dancers, the Roach Family.

(Summary, Cortez Journal, July 15, 2010)

This family will be performing at the Cortez Cultural Center on Wed and Thurs for the rest of the summer. Norman Roach, a Lakota, who has been dancing all his life; and his wife, Ramona, a Navajo, who has been dancing about 30 years, will be joined in dancing by their grandson Blue Star Boy. Norman and Ramona teach middle

school in Gallup, NM. They have won numerous awards at powwows across the US and Canada. They were involved with the American Indian Dance Theatre; the Takini Dance troupe; The Tribe and several other smaller dance groups. They will perform the Women's Traditional dance, the oldest women's dance introduced to the powwow world; the Men's Grass dance, honoring nature and the grass; the Hoop dance, which demonstrates how the world connects with mother earth and nature; the Women's Fancy Shawl dance, the youngest dance introduced into the powwow world and the Jingle dance, from the Ojibway Tribe.

CAS Annual Meeting

This meeting will be held in Gunnison; October 1-3;

32nd Great Basin Anthropological Conference

This conference will be held in Layton, UT, October 2-3.

2010 Pecos Conference, August 12-15, Silverton, CO. 2010 Pecos Conference Archaeological Field Trip Locations may be found at http://www.swanet.org/2010_pecos_conference/day4.html;

Conference Chairperson -- Dr. Chuck Riggs <riggs_c@fortlewis.edu;

Conference Primary Organizing Institution -- Department of Anthropology Fort Lewis College <http://www.fortlewis.edu>;

Conference Organizing Partners -- The Mountain Studies Institute <http://3.ly/mtnstud> & the Town of Silverton CO <http://3.ly/Ag2240>;

2010 Pecos Conference -- 2nd week of August (August 12-15), Silverton Colorado;

Conference Website -- http://www.swanet.org/2010_pecos_conference/index.html;

Conference Facebook -- <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Silverton-Colorado/2010-Pecos-conference/313361426955>;

Conference Twitter -- <https://twitter.com/2010Pecos>.

Other's Trips

Friends of Archaeology ("FOA"), Museum of NM Foundation, Office of Archaeological Studies

September 18, *Gallina Sites Field Trip*, to sites between Coyote and Cuba, NM.

September 26, *Chiles and Sherds*, celebration of the archaeology and cuisine of NM, at Piedras Marcadas, in a bosque along the Rio Grande, Open Space Center, near Albuquerque. Explore archaeology of conflict in New Mexico. 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.

Museum of Western Colorado Trips:

See www.museumofwesternco.com/programs_and_events/trip_and_tours/.

PAAC Is Back

"Prehistoric Ceramics Description & Analysis," October 29-31, SW Center at FLC, register by contacting Elaine Viner at 970-382-2594, or J_e_viner@frontier.net, 220 Valley View Circle Durango, CO 81031. A check made out for \$12.00, payable to Colorado Historical Society, must be received, prior to class time to secure enrollment.

"Perishable Materials Class" To attend this class in Cortez, Nov. 23-26, contact Terry Woodrow at 970-382-3099.

All fall classes are listed at www.coloradohistory-oahp.org/programareas/paac.

Exhibitions

Heard Museum, Phoenix, AZ.

(Summary, *Am Arch*, Spring 2010)

Traveling exhibit "Arctic Spirit: Inuit Art from the Albrecht Collection," Artistic history of Canadian Inuits. 602-252-8848, www.heard.org. (Through January 20, 2011).

University of Nebraska State Museum,

Lincoln, NE.

(Summ, *Am Arch*, Spring 2010)

9,000 years of weapons from museum's collection from prehistoric stone arrow points to World War I firearms. 402-472-3779, www.museum.unl.edu. (Through mid-Sept);

Utah's Renovated State Capitol.

(Summ, *Daily Times*, March 11, 2010)

A once-in-a-generation exhibit of rare artifacts of Utah history that pre-date the statehouse completed in 1916, ranging from the 1895 constitution to the state's 1903 flag. Until October.

Arizona State Museum, U of Ariz, Tucson.

(Summary, *Am Arch*, Sum 1010)

The remains of the Columbian mammoth, still with Clovis spearheads, excavated in 1951, are featured in "Ice Age Arizona: Preserving the Naco Mammoth." A 3-by-3-foot block provides the best evidence for the interaction of people with mammoths. First evidence of Clovis people uncovered in Arizona.

The bears are out!



Volunteer Opportunities

Cortez Cultural Center.

Call Deb Avery (970) 565-1151;
deb.avery@cortezculturalcenter.org; (or
visit www.cortezculturalcenter.org;

Chimney Rock Interpretive Association

Email Helen Richardson,
1218HL1944@century.net or go to
www.chimneyrockco.org;

Colorado Historical Society .

Collections at the Office of Arch. and Hist.
Preservation (OAHF). Contact Kevin Black
at Kevin.Black@chs.state.co.us;

Center of Southwest Studies.

Gallery sitting hours are M-F, 1-4 p.m., Sat.
12-4 p.m. Contact Julie Tapley-Booth at
247-7456 for information or to volunteer;

Pecos Conference

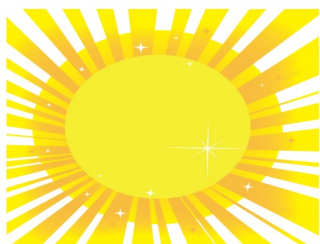
All kinds of help needed. To get on 2010
Pecos Conference Mail List, send name,
snail mail address, email address & phone
number to
2010.pecos.conference@gmail.com;

Mesa Verde

Volunteers partner with the Park's staff in a
variety of activities. Visit
www.mesaverdevolunteers.org, email
Cheryl and Chuck Carson, volunteer coordi-
nators, at cccarson@aol.com, or phone
at 259-2699;

Aztec Ruins National Monument

Assist rangers in providing visitor informa-
tion services. Call Tracy Bodnar, 505-334-
6174, ext. 232, or tracy_bodnar@nps.gov.



THE EDITORS' CORNER

Clovis, Technology

(International Monographs in Prehistory, Archaeologi- cal Series 17),

(Summary, *Hisatsinom Newsletter*,
July 2010)

This is a new book on stone and bone tool technologies of Clovis culture 13,500 years ago, published by Texas State University faculty and is the first complete examination of the tools themselves and how the Clovis culture used them and transmitted their production. The book covers the Clovis culture's making and use of stone blades, bi-faces and small tools as well as artifacts such as projectile points, rods, daggers, awls, needles, handles, hooks and ornaments made from bone, ivory, antler and teeth. <http://tinyurl.com/clovis-tech> - San Marcos Daily Record.

Land of Wonder and Fear, The Mitchell- Hedges Crystal Skull: Fact, Fiction and the

Creation of Myth, by Jane MacLaren Walsh) *Archaeology Magazine*, May 27, 2010, "The Skull of Doom." (Summary, *Hisatsinom Newsletter*, July 2010)

Crystal skulls have long had a fringe following, and the most famous of them is one named for the explorer-author Frederick A. Mitchell-Hedges (see Legend of the Crystal Skulls). Mitchell-Hedges claimed to have found the skull somewhere in Central America in the 1930s, but later his adopted daughter Anna said she found it under a fallen altar or inside a pyramid at the Maya site of Lubaantun in British Honduras (now Belize) some time in the 1920s. Like all the other crystal skulls thus far examined, however, it is really a modern creation, despite its nearly mythical place in the minds of devotees.



Archeological News from the Southwest

Friends of Cedar Mesa Launch New Web site: www.cedarmesafriends.org.

(Summary, Hisatsinom Newsletter, July 2010)

The Web site provides information about Cedar Mesa and other public lands in San Juan County, Utah, including Cedar Mesa archaeology, and information about Sen. Bob Bennett's initiative to develop legislation establishing new land use designations and policies for San Juan County public lands and to promote stewardship of Cedar Mesa's natural and cultural resources. The Web site will provide updates on topics that relate to the preservation of the Cedar Mesa/Grand Gulch region, including position statements from groups such as the Grand Canyons Trust, Great Old Broads for Wilderness ("GOBW"), National Trust for Historic Preservations, Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance ("SUWA") and various local business interests.

Did the Clovis People Cause the Earth's Climate to Cool through Megafaunal Extinction?

(Summary, Hisatsinom Newsletter, July 2010)

The rapid decline of mammoths and other megafauna after humans spread across the New World may explain a plunge in global temperatures 12,800 years ago. The 100-odd species of grass-eating giants that once crowded North America released huge quantities of methane -- from both ends of their digestive tracks. <http://news.discovery.com/animals/mammoths-megafauna-global-freeze.html>.

Arguing for a Much Earlier New World Colonization.

(Summary, Hisatsinom Newsletter, April 2010.)

Two U.S. scientists have a new theory about when, where and how humans migrated to the New World, arguing that the peopling of the Americas may have begun via Canada's High Arctic islands and the Northwest Passage -- much farther north and at least 10,000 years earlier than generally believed. The hypothesis, described as "speculative" but "plausible", appears in the latest issue of the journal Current Biology, which features a special series of new studies tracing humanity's proliferation out of Africa and around the world beginning about 70,000 years ago.

Vancouver Sun. Recent Studies of Skull Morphology Suggest the New World was Settled in Two Migratory Waves, Not One, as Suggested by Genetic Studies.

(Summary, Hisatsinom Newsletter, July 2010)

Paleoanthropologists from Brazil, Chile and Germany concluded this by comparing the shape of the skulls of an older group of remains, dating back 11,000 years ago with a more recent group of Amerindian skulls. The scientists believe that two groups began settling the New World via Beringia; the now-submerged land bridge connecting present-day Russia with Alaska. <http://tinyurl.com/297sjmt>.

Ancient Petroglyphs Often Targeted for Vandalism.

(Summary, Hisatsinom Newsletter, June 2010)

The only security system that protects the petroglyphs is secrecy and a harsh landscape. With people accessing these remote areas with off-road vehicles, vandalism and theft has increased. www.vvdaily.com.

Maintaining the Culture of the Past.

(Summary, Editorial, Daily Times, July 14, 2010)

The ancient Indian dwellings, relics and art left behind by the earliest residents of eastern and southern Utah will not outlast an invasion of vandals riding all-terrain vehicles. The SUWA is asking the BLM to take another look at its Bush-era decision to allow ATVs to roam through unique archaeological sites and ecologically sensitive lands. Other groups opposed to BLM's opening up of 20,000 miles of ATV trails through public lands without first locating and taking steps to protect irreplaceable cultural sites include Indian tribes. Six plans were rushed to approval during the final months of 2008, as Bush was leaving office. Indian ruins, artifacts and pictographs are being destroyed or hauled off by people who find them while exploring on their ATVs. Some of the trails approved in the BLM plans take riders directly through the homes and villages of ancient peoples. Irresponsible ATVer's make a habit of leaving approved trails

(Continued on page 7)

Archeological News from the Southwest - Cont.

(Continued from page 6)

and riding over fragile land, important wildlife habitat, and ruins. BLM should undertake more thorough assessments of the regions addressed in the plans.

Chaco Culture National Historical Park Conundrum: Why They Were There.

(Summary, Durango Herald, May 17, 2010)

Chaco interpreter G.B. Cornucopia has lived with Chaco culture for 22 years, starting as campground host. Archaeoastronomy is a hot Chaco topic. Cornucopia talked about the 1054 supernova and why it might have been depicted on the underside of a sandstone formation about three miles west of Pueblo Bonito, and how the Chacoans marked the change of the seasons and how valuable that information was to the Chacoans. Ancestral Puebloans, with primitive tools, did such a remarkable job of marking the movements of the sun, moon and planets because they spent all their time outside observing. They survived by understanding nature's ways. Cornucopia has six different lectures for Pueblo Bonito and chooses one based on the questions he gets early in a tour. He is intrigued by the different ways people interpret Chaco's purpose. Writer Jared Diamond recently used Chaco to bolster his theory of how civilizations come to ruin in his book *Collapse*.

Hobbs, NM Teens Find They Dig Archaeology Camp.

(Summary, Daily Times, July 5, 2010)

Calvin Smith, director of the Western Heritage Museum, has held junior archaeology camps for more than 40 years at universities and communities across the country. He conducted a first in Lea County: a homestead site dating to around 1918 that was recently discovered west of Hobbs. It provided an opportunity for youth interested in archeology to learn excavation techniques during two days of classroom training and excavation of portions of the site. Students who dug in a grid square abandoned by fellow students were thrilled to find, several inches below the surface, a cow bone and piece of a tin can.

Mesa Verde Collaboration.

(Summary, *WWE/WEI Currents*)

Ken Wright, Wayne Lorenz and Nicole Chancey worked with Dr. Stephen Nash, Chairperson and Curator of the Department of Anthropology, Denver Museum of Nature & Science ("Denver Museum"), on Dr. Nash's Colorado Historical Society grant for work on tree-ring dating at Mesa Verde, to determine when prehistoric events occurred. There will be a live broadcast through the Denver Museum Website on October 7 to answer questions on Mesa Verde tree ring samples.

Peter Decker -- Historian, Educator, Rancher and Statesman -- Discusses Removal of Ute People at Crow Canyon: *The Utes Must Go! American Expansion and the Removal of a People.*

(Summary, Cortez Journal, May 8 and 18, 2010)

The "Massacre" opened the door to the removal of the Utes from their Colorado homeland of more than seven centuries. What really happened on September 29, 1879, at Milk Creek and the nearby White River Indian Agency? Peter Decker reviewed the events leading to the Utes' removal. He wondered why the Utes would leave an area full of game, fish, and elk. Decker detailed the Utes' history in the Four Corners. Seven bands with hunting grounds in some of Utah and almost all of Colorado were forced from their homeland by the 19th-century tide of pioneer settlement, racism and greed. The US entered the picture in 1803, when President Jefferson made the Louisiana Purchase. The aim had always been to move the Native Americans out of the way so agriculturists could expand their endeavors.

Nathan Meeker's mission as agent of the Indian Agency of the White River Indian Reserve in northwestern Colorado was to turn Ute hunters into farmers. When Meeker threatened to kill their prized horses and then invited the military to enter restricted Ute reservation land, the usually peaceful Utes revolted, killing Meeker and ten other men at the Indian Agency and 14 at Milk Creek on the reservation border. The standard policy on Native Americans, offered up by General Sherman, was to kill the Natives -- using rifles, spreading new diseases, and especially by exterminating the buffalo they survived on. Be-

(Continued on page 8)

Archeological News from the Southwest - Cont.

(Continued from page 7)

tween 1870 and 1880, 10 to 20 million buffalo were estimated to have been killed. Decker discussed the individuals who shaped the Ute's history with the U.S., like Chief Ouray, the half Ute, half Jicarilla Apache leader of the Uncompahgre band of the Ute Tribe. When Chief Ouray gave up part of the San Luis Valley where the Southern band of Utes lived, they didn't follow his orders. Chief Ouray was a hero, advising the Utes if they went to war against the U.S. they would be eradicated. Paid \$1,000 a year salary for his advice, Chief Ouray continued negotiations on behalf of the Utes, although many of the more militant bands thought him a coward. There are no Ute voices found in the original documents.

Decker earned his Ph.D. in history from Columbia University and taught at Duke University and Columbia. He was the first chairman of the Board of Trustees of Fort Lewis College in 2002, and still serves on the board. He has been a director of the National Western Stock Show since 1989. Decker's major publications include "Old Fences, New Neighbors" and "The Utes Must Go!: American Expansion and the Removal of a People."

Rep. Salazar and Sen. Bennet Introduce Legislation to Designate Chimney Rock Archeological Area as National Monument.

(Summary, Pagosa Sun, May 6, 2010)

In July 2009, the National Trust for Historic Preservation recommended designating Chimney Rock as a National Monument. The legislation would designate 4,726 acres surrounding Chimney Rock Archaeological Area to preserve, protect and restore the nationally significant archeological, cultural, scientific, watershed and scenic resources. Chimney Rock will remain a unit of the San Juan National Forest; Native American tribes will retain access to the sites for traditional and cultural uses. Exhibiting many of the features that earned Chaco Canyon, N.M. a World Heritage Listing, Chimney Rock was recognized as a National Historic Landmark in 1970. Between A.D. 900-1150, the ancestors of modern Pueblo Indians occupied the surrounding lands, and the site remains of cultural significance to many descendant tribes. Hundreds of cultural elements surround Chimney Rock's soaring twin rock spires, including the Great House Pueblo. Chimney Rock is the most northeasterly and highest (7,600 feet) Chacoan site known. Every 18.6 years the moon, as seen from the Great House Pueblo, rises between the rock spires during an event known as the Northern Lunar Standstill. The legislation is endorsed by the Archuleta County Commissioners, The Colorado Historical Society, Colorado Preservation Inc. and The National Trust for Historic Preservation, among others.

Grand Junction Elks' Lavishly Appointed 1901 Building: Rare Jewel.

(Summary, Daily Sentinel, March 16, 2010)

Keeping a low profile has been a hallmark of the Elks, and few outsiders have had the opportunity to wander the halls of the sprawling, elegant lodge, with white Corinthian columns that support the grand staircase in the historic three-storied Elks lodge. The lodge opened its doors as a fundraiser for The Legends Historic Sculptures Project to commission sculptures of past Grand Junction leaders. Three sculptures of historical community figures have been commissioned and created so far: Hollywood 10 member Dalton Trumbo, former Daily Sentinel publisher Walter Walker, and Fair Store owner and swimming pool donor William Moyer. Three more sculptures are scheduled for production: St. Mary's Hospital founder Sister Mary Balbina, Colorado National Monument advocate John Otto and the Operation Foresight planners, who in the 1960s turned Main Street into a serpentine, pedestrian-friendly shopping center.

The lodge has its original stained glass dome inset into the ceiling of the meeting room and a grand ballroom. Hundreds of names of deceased members line the ceiling of the room. Many of the rooms have been restored and dedicated to preserving and showcasing the accomplishments of past members. A clock in the meeting room is stopped at the 11 o'clock hour and serves as a reminder for members to honor the dead. The Grand Junction lodge originally was used by railroad workers who came to socialize and relax with their families. The library room pays tribute to these members by displaying photographs, trophies and leather-bound books. Old black-and-white photographs show Elks members and their wives dancing in days gone by. In the past, each floor would host a band, making the

(Continued on page 9)

Archeological News from the Southwest - Cont.

(Continued from page 8)

party extend three floors up.

An Introduction to Archaeological Survey at West Bijou Creek ("WBC"), Jonathan Kent

(Summary, CAS Newsletter, March 2010)

CAS and Metropolitan State College of Denver (MSCD) teamed up to carry out archaeological research along WBC, beginning in 2004. The Plains Conservation Center (PCC) acquired almost 6,000 acres of undeveloped grassland in both Arapahoe and Elbert Counties, 30 miles east of Denver. Very little survey work has been done in Colorado's eastern plains because most of this land is privately owned. Excavations 40 years ago produced good burial data along with reliable C-14 dates and artifactual evidence. (Cassells *The Archaeology of Colorado*, 2nd ed.). PaleoIndian (Folsom), Archaic and Late Plains Prehistoric (in the last 2000 years) sites have been recorded.

An archaeological firm carried out an initial survey of eight percent of the total acreage. Both prehistoric (Archaic and Late Plains Prehistoric) and historical archaeological remains (from the early 1900s through the 1970s) were recorded. MSCD's archaeological field school began a more extensive survey on the west side of WBC. Two seasons later, CAS-Denver began its survey on the east side. In 2008, PCC acquired an additional 8,000 acres of adjacent land. At least 15 additional sites have been surveyed and recorded. There could be hundreds of sites. CAS and MSCD have been working on a comprehensive plan to investigate the temporal (partly through excavation) and spatial (through survey) dimensions of the PCC property, and to put these investigations into the broader context of High Plains Archaeology.

Navajo Photographer who Grew up in Reservation Towns in Arizona and NM Spends Year Documenting Navajo Life.

(Summary, Daily Times, July 6, 2010)

The author (James) wanted the world to know there's more behind his people than what's portrayed by a century of iconic but stereotypical images that show Navajos praying to the morning sun at the edge of Monument Valley. More than 100,000 photographs and 10,000 miles later, he has captured it all -- the high school basketball games, the softball tournaments, weddings, weekend motorcycle rides, ice fishing, the long trips to the watering hole for those without running water and community cookouts on open-fire grills. The culmination of a year of hitchhiking around the Navajo Nation is the book *One Nation, One Year*. He had no course charted across the reservation, where communities are far and few in between and many homes are without electricity and running water. Mobile phone service is out of the question in some areas. James has a bachelor's of fine arts and works as a photographer for Albuquerque The Magazine.

Archeological News from Afar

Unearthing Human Ancestor in South Africa.

(Summary, Daily Sentinel, April 9, 2010)

A nine-year-old dashing after his dog in August 2008, tripped over a log and stumbled onto a major archaeological discovery. He found the bones of a new hominid species that lived almost two million years ago during the still mysterious period spanning the emergence of the human family. His father, a paleoanthropologist, had been searching for hominid bones just a hill-and-a-half away for almost two decades. Matthew held the ancient remains of a 4-foot-2 boy who had been just a few years older than himself. Researchers have since found much more of the boy's skeleton, including his extraordinarily well-preserved skull, and three other individuals. South Africa's children will compete to name the boy. Researchers said the fossils from the boy and a woman were a surprising and distinctive mixture of primitive and advanced anatomy and thus qualified as a new species of hominid, the ancestors and other close relatives of humans. It has been named *Australopithecus sediba*.

(Continued on page 10)

Archeological News from Afar - Cont.

(Continued from page 9)

"Ardi," Hominid, Lived 4.4 Million Years Ago in What is now Ethiopia and is a Million Years Older than Fossil "Lucy".

(Summary, Daily Sentinel, October 2, 2009)

This skeleton reverses the common wisdom of human evolution. Rather than humans evolving from an ancient chimp-like creature, the new find provides evidence that chimps and humans evolved from some long-ago common ancestor -- but each evolved and changed separately along the way. This is not that common ancestor, but it's the closest we have been able to come. The lines that evolved into modern humans and living apes probably shared an ancestor six million to seven million years ago. But Ardi has many traits that do not appear in modern-day African apes, leading to the conclusion that the apes evolved extensively since we shared that last common ancestor.

Scientists have Sequenced the DNA from Four Frozen Hairs of a Greenlander who Died 4,000 Years Ago, Taking Genetic Technology into New Realms.

(Summary, Reuters, by Maggie Fox, Health and Science Editor, February 10, 2010)

Surprisingly, the long-dead man appears to have originated in Siberia and is unrelated to modern Greenlanders, which provides evidence for a migration from Siberia into the New World some 5,500 years ago, independent of that giving rise to the modern Native Americans and Inuit. The findings can help transform the study of archeology and can help answer questions about the origins of modern populations and disease, not only or genetic and geographical origins, but also what our ancestors looked like. The DNA gives strong hints about the man, nicknamed Inuk: brown eyes, brown skin, shovel-form front teeth. Such teeth are characteristic of East Asian and Native American populations. He had the genes for early hair loss. Because researchers found quite a lot of hair from Inuk, it is presumed he died quite young. The man lived among the Saqqaq people, the earliest known culture in southern Greenland that lasted from around 2500 BC until about 800 BC. Scientists have disagreed on who these people were -- whether they descended from the peoples who crossed the Bering Strait 30,000 to 40,000 years ago to settle the New World or whether they were more recent immigrants. The sequencing project is a direct test of the extent to which ancient genomics can contribute knowledge about now-extinct cultures. The DNA links Inuk to modern-day Arctic residents of Siberia. He had almost none of the mutations seen in Indians living in Central and South America. It is a powerful forensic tool with which to "reconstruct" extinct humans and the demographics of populations. A year ago scientists sequenced the genome of a Neanderthal -- early humans who went extinct 30,000 years ago -- and other groups have sequenced DNA from dried-out mammoth hair.



Problems With Your Moki?



If you are not receiving your Moki regularly, please let the editors know. If you cannot open your Moki when you receive it, please let us know. Notify Beverly Dittmer at 375-9568, mokibev@frontier.net; or Jill Ward at 382-5394, jward@peterpattison.com. We want to get your newsletter to you promptly so that you can read it.



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 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.

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