



THE MOKI MESSENGER

DECEMBER 2018

SAN JUAN BASIN
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

www.sibas.org

Annual Meeting and Brunch – December 15th

Our annual meeting and holiday brunch will be held on Saturday, December 15th, at 11:00 a.m. at St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Parish Hall, 910 East 3rd Avenue. To make your reservation, follow this link to the [Holiday Brunch Reservation Reply Form](#), print the form, and mail your completed form and check made out to SJBAS to Mark Gebhardt, Treasurer, 107 St. Andrews Circle, Durango, CO 81301. Reservation deadline is December 8th, and the cost is \$20 per person. Mail your checks ASAP to ensure a seat.

The brunch will be buffet style: fruit, egg dish, potatoes, breakfast meats, two breads, juice, coffee, tea, water, butter and jelly. There will be a small silent auction, too. Come early so you can check out and bid on the items! You may also bring donations to be included in the auction.

Activities will feature a review of 2018 SJBAS field trips; a tentative 2019 Field Trip Schedule; introduction of new members; door prizes; election of chapter officers for 2019, a silent auction, and good holiday cheer. Join your friends for this fun party; we hope to see you there!

Please email Susan Hicks at hicks@animas.net if you would like to volunteer to help set up or clean up. We plan on meeting at St. Mark's at 10:00 a.m. to set up which will include putting out table decorations and silent auction items. Clean up will include packing the decorations.

Members may invite non-members to attend. For additional information, contact Susan Hicks: hicks@animas.net, 970-759-7152 or Foeie Mason: fmason@frontier.net, 970-247-0252.

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President's Letter - Vital issue for the future of SJBAS: please read

Dear SJBAS Members:

For the last several years, the SJBAS Board has been reviewing its relationship with its parent organization, the Colorado Archaeological Society (CAS). At the SJBAS annual meeting and brunch on December 15th at St. Mark's Episcopal Church, **the SJBAS Board will recommend to the membership that the Board be authorized to take the necessary steps for SJBAS to withdraw from CAS and become an independent, non-profit organization serving our members and the local community.** This was a very difficult Board decision. The Board would still like to maintain an affiliation with CAS in the future if a new arrangement, other than the current chapter status, can be worked out. At the present time, the Board does not believe that the benefits of CAS membership outweigh the cost of remaining as a CAS Chapter.

Approximately forty percent of the current dues paid by SJBAS members goes to CAS. The principle benefit of this dues payment would appear to be receipt by SJBAS members of the printed CAS journal, "Southwestern Lore" (SWL). Seventy to eighty percent of the CAS annual budget goes to the editing, printing and mailing of the printed SWL journal. While steps have been taken to make the journal available online, SWL is still being printed for all those CAS members who do not opt out of receiving a printed Journal. SJBAS has repeatedly presented the case to the CAS Board that the money CAS spends on printing SWL could be better spent in assisting CAS chapters with their activities. While SJBAS did receive a \$200 CAS education grant to support student attendance at the 2015 CAS annual conference in Durango, and could apply for additional CAS education grants, the money saved from avoiding a huge dues transmittal to CAS can be used for local archaeological education and other activities.

The withdrawal process from CAS will require SJBAS to revise our bylaws for the new organization; establish its status as a 501(c)(3) organization so that contributions to the SJBAS education and internship fund would be tax deductible; and work with BLM to acquire a permit to allow SJBAS field trips on lands administered by the BLM in southeast Utah. SJBAS is prepared to undertake these steps and would not officially withdraw from CAS until these steps are complete. The Board would work to expedite this transition, if approved, and make it as seamless as possible for the membership. Even if SJBAS withdraws from CAS, we would still be eligible to hold PAAC classes through History Colorado. The only omission SJBAS non-senior members will experience is not receiving SWL. Senior members are not entitled to receive this journal in print form anyway. If members wish to continue to receive SWL, we will provide information on how to obtain it.

We will ask the SJBAS membership to vote at the 2018 Annual Meeting and Brunch regarding our future relationship with CAS. All the benefits of SJBAS will continue except SWL, and the Board hopes to provide additional educational opportunities, local affiliations and exciting programs in the future.

If you will not be attending the annual meeting/brunch and would like to comment on the issue of the SJBAS relationship with CAS, please email your ideas, comments or questions to janicesheftel@gmail.com by December 10, 2018.

SJBAS in 2019

SJBAS plans for 2019 are well under way... The tentative Field Trip Schedule is nearing completion and the Speaker Series will cover many interesting and unique topics. The John W. Sanders lecture will feature a

renowned archaeologist speaking on the discovery and underwater excavation of Blackbeard's pirate ship, the "Queen Anne's Revenge". SJBAS will provide FLC students with two \$500 scholarships for attendance at the 2019 FLC Archaeology Field School, and two \$500 internship scholarships at the Center of Southwest Studies. The summer picnic is being planned.

Annual Meeting and Holiday Brunch

Mark your calendars for the SJBAS brunch and annual meeting at St. Mark's Episcopal Church Parish Hall, at 11:00 a.m., on Saturday, December 15th. The cost is \$20/person. To make your reservation, follow this link to the [Holiday Brunch Reservation Reply Form](#), print the form, and mail your completed form and check made out to SJBAS to Mark Gebhardt, Treasurer, 107 St. Andrews Circle, Durango, CO 81301. Note: seating is limited so get your reservation in soon.

If you have any ITEMS you would like to CONTRIBUTE TO A SILENT AUCTION to benefit the John W. Sanders Education and Internship Fund, come a little early and bring the items and a pen or pencil to fill out a silent auction sheet with item description, value and opening bid.

The slate of proposed officers for 2019 includes: President, Janice Sheftel; Vice-Presidents Foxie Mason and Susan Hicks; Secretary, Paula Lutz; Treasurer, Randy Graham; PAAC Coordinator, Tish Varney and Publicity Chair, Jill Tripp. Nominations from the floor can be made at the annual meeting.

Janice C. Sheftel
President

Otzi Books

For those of you who ordered books on Otzi, we HOPE to have them at the December 15th Annual Meeting and Brunch. Somehow the books were sent to the wrong address and are just now being returned to Germany. They should be mailed to the correct address very soon. -- Janice

Meet Your SJBAS Neighbor – Joan Kellogg

Greetings fellow SJBAS neighbors. Looks like it's my turn to share a little about myself. My name is Joan Isgar Kellogg; my husband Byron and I have been members of SJBAS for about four years. We have had the great fortune of attending several incredible field trips and I have even organized a few. Being members of this group has enriched our lives far beyond our expectations. We want to thank Tish and Pete Varney for introducing us to SJBAS.

I feel very lucky to say that I am a fourth-generation LaPlata County resident. My family has a multi-generational ranch near Breen, just south of Hesperus. Matt Isgar, my nephew, is managing the ranch where I grew up. My father, Art Isgar, established the current ranch in the early 1950's. As he cleared the land to plant hay fields, it wasn't uncommon for him to discover ancestral artifacts and dwellings. Fortunately, he had two very close friends that understood the significance of these discoveries.

SJBAS founder John Sanders and Dr. Robert Delaney, founding director of the Center of Southwest Studies at Fort Lewis College, would come to the ranch at the drop of a hat. These long-time friends enjoyed visiting my

family at the ranch and sharing their enthusiasm for, and knowledge of, the ancestral people. I remember several groups of archeology students completing digs on our property.

My family has always had close ties with the Southern Ute Tribe. When my father was quite young, he lived a few years with a Ute family in Ignacio. Leonard Burch, former Chairman of the Ute Tribe, and his wife Irene were close family friends. Leonard always said that my dad was an honorary member of the Ute tribe. When my husband and I were married in 1978, my dad and Leonard, unbeknownst to us, planned an outdoor, traditional Ute wedding ceremony to be performed after our typical church wedding. This close family connection with the Southern Utes established a somewhat spiritual appreciation of the native people that my father shared with his children. Now I wonder why I didn't pursue a career in archeology, but it was teaching for me.

For about 10 years before and after earning an elementary teaching degree from Fort Lewis College, I worked for the Southern Ute tribe as a part-time outreach worker and an art instructor. Once I graduated from Fort Lewis, I began my 31-year teaching career. I took a few years off to be home with our two daughters, Robyn and Stacy. I was most fortunate to have generally taught first graders. However, I ended my public-school career as an instructional coach, providing staff develop in servicing and assisting elementary teachers to fine-tune their craft. After retirement, I worked for several years as a student teacher consultant and adjunct professor in the Fort Lewis College Elementary Education Department.

At this point in my life, I'm truly retired. I enjoy volunteering for several worthwhile organizations, my favorite being a free book give-away and reading corner at Park Elementary, where I taught for 25 years.

I look forward to meeting more SJBAS members as we participate in meetings and field trips. Byron and I are the ones camping in the little futuristic silver camper we call Galloping Goose. – Joan Kellogg

Archaeological Artifacts Workshop Report

On November 3, 2018 the SJBAS sponsored class, Archaeological Artifacts Workshop, taught by Teri Hauser was well attended with 16 participants. The Sitter Family Hall geology lab provided the space and visual connections for a meaningful class experience. Andrea Kirkpatrick, Lab supervisor for FLC, made sure the room was ready for the class. The *Moki* advertised the class.

Teri and Neil Hauser founded the Coal Creek Research, Inc. a 501(c)(3) for research. The main purpose of the class was to help individuals be able to recognize artifacts especially in the field on a survey. The first hour Teri discussed artifact identification and showed an interesting flint knapping video by U. of NM professor Dr. Bruce Huckell. The second hour was spent examining examples of pottery types, projectile materials and hearth material. Most people were finished by 3pm and visited with both Teri and Neil Hauser with questions and discussion.

Tish Varney thanked Teri and presented her with a certificate and a basket of local Durango products.

Field Trip Report - Vernal Rock Art – October 26-28, 2018 – by Tish Varney, SJBAS trip leader

Our SJBAS group traveled on trek (about 7 hours) to Vernal Utah for a long weekend of exploration and wonderment. Our headquarters at downtown Dinosaur Inn afforded us a convenient location for museums,

restaurants and beginning our daily adventures! Most of the 13 participants stayed there and enjoyed comfortable rooms and a hearty breakfast. (I recommend it.)

October 26: This was a day full of varied activities. At the Utah Field House of Natural History built in 2004, we met Mary Beth Bennis-Bottomley., the Education Curator and Dale Grey, volunteer coordinator for fossil preparations. Our first stop was in the prep. area where Dale gave us a thorough review of the challenges involving fossil stabilization and exposure of mostly boney remains. Dinosaur fossils from the Cleveland Lloyd Quarry are a weight challenge, for sure, so just moving them into the prep area requires large doors, pulleys and rolling tables. Some fossil matrixes are mud and create a difficult environment to extract from the plaster molds. Dale demonstrated the various materials and tools of the trade. Marybeth completed our tour by leading us through the museum exhibits where she pointed out the geological relationships involving fossil remains.



After lunch, Tim Sweeney, our local rock art guide, took us out to McConkie Ranch located along Dry Fork Creek. This private ranch allows folks to explore the incredible petroglyphs (pecking) and pictographs (painting) located on the sandstone cliffs above the valley. One of the most spectacular panels in the area is the Three Kings Panel. Tim pointed out that there are different styles of rock art that help guide us in the relative age of these petroglyphs. The majority of rock art in this area appears to have been created during the Uinta Fremont culture period. The most common style is called Classic Vernal Style dating approximately the same time as the Puebloans AD 1 to about 1300. Later styles AD 1300-1600 are called Late Prehistoric (Ute).



drinking cups, net bags and herb bundles.

October 27: Both guides, Tim and Darlene Sweeney, met us for a full day of field trips. Ashley Creek is one of the richest and most incredible rock art locations! Here, along the creek valley are many panels that suggest maps, astronomical events, territory markers, shaman visions or commemorative events. Above the valley, many more panels are visible along the cliff face. Strangely, Vernal residents also consider the cliff an excellent

place to throw their unwanted trash such as bed frames, mattresses, tires, lawn chairs, etc. – a veritable modern-day midden!

The last site of the day was called ‘Lapoint’- an alcove with pictographs. Apparently, this panel is ‘refreshed’ periodically by the Utes as the handprints look remarkable vibrant. The Sweeneys, now on a roll, were ready to show us more sites on into the twilight; however, we respectfully declined as the Vernal Brewery reservation was calling!

October 28: At the stroke of 9am, our caravan headed east to spend the day. The geology of the area includes descriptions and names like Split Mountain and Rainbow Park and Gates of Ladore along the course of the Green River. One stop we were treated to both rock art panels **and** concretions, those natural bowling balls that pop out of the cliffs. Concretions form as minerals within a rock aggregate and begin to precipitate within cracks and cavities, or as a sediment builds up in successive layers around a nucleus such as a shell or pebble. Here the McKee Springs site has some fine panels.

The hike into the valley by Rainbow Park was magical! Rainbow Park is along the Green River and is a takeout and launch point for raft trips as well as a great lunch spot. Areas with layered colorful sections, like a rainbow, as well as tortured rock outcrops give the park its name. The more intrepid climbers ascended to a ledge to discover petroglyph images on a horizontal surface as well.



Our final stop and hike for the day took us by an outcrop of belemnite fossils. **Belemnite** is the common name applied to an extinct order (Belemnoida) of mollusks belonging to the cephalopod class. Modern cephalopods include the squid. These fossil remains look like bullets. However, the really amazing destination revealed a petroglyph calendar(?)! The center of the calendar contained a hole which accommodated an object like a stick. We were happy to find one that fit inside to give the hypothesis of a sundial or pointer for the seasons. The group was certainly buzzing with thoughts about this image! Reluctantly, we said ‘goodbye’ to the Sweeneys but not before inquiring about another field trip next year...

Participants: Joan and Byron Kellogg, Betsy Moore and Phil Bruckbauer, Jill and Bill Tripp, Marion and Andy Simon, Barron (Bear) Haley, Chris Kilgore, Darwin Thompson, and Tish and Pete Varney

	<h2>Upcoming Field Trip and Activity Schedule - 2018</h2> <p>To update this schedule, email lylehancock@bresnan.net.</p> <p>Please contact trip leaders by phone or email for more information or to sign up.</p>
December 15	SJBAS annual meeting and holiday brunch - St. Mark’s Episcopal Church – 11:00 a.m.

Life-Long Learning Lecture Series – [2018 Fall Schedule](#)

Colorado Archaeological Society (CAS) News

CAS Surveyor <http://www.coloradoarchaeology.org/PUBLICATIONS/Newsletters/Newsletters.htm>

CAS Bulletin Board <http://www.coloradoarchaeology.org/BULLETINBOARD/bulletinboard.htm>

CAS Facebook Page <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1425711501080053/>

Regional Archaeological News – Bears Ears Issues

Archaeology Southwest's Formal Comments on BLM's Draft Monument Management Plan for Bears Ears

Drs. Bill Doelle and John Welch submitted formal comments to the BLM (Canyon Country District Office) regarding BLM's Bears Ears National Monument Unit Draft Monument Management Plan and Draft Environmental Impact Statement. Read their letter here: [\(Read letter\)](#)

Amicus Briefs Filed in National Monuments Litigation

Today, led by U.S. Senator Tom Udall (D-N.M.) and U.S. Representative Raúl M. Grijalva (D-Ariz.), 26 Senators and 92 House members submitted an amicus brief in support of plaintiffs in five cases before the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia that challenges the Trump administration's decision to significantly diminish the Bears Ears and Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monuments in southern Utah. In the brief, the lawmakers argue that under the Constitution, no president has the power to shrink or reduce national monuments since that power resides with Congress alone — a case that members of Congress are uniquely positioned to make. Under the Antiquities Act, Congress has granted presidents the authority to designate national monuments—not reduce or abolish them, and the amicus is being filed now to defend Congress's prerogatives as a federal court is weighing challenges to the Trump administration's attempt to dramatically reduce previously established monuments. – Senator Tom Udall [\(Read brief\)](#)

The American Anthropological Association (AAA), the Society for American Archaeology (SAA), and the Archaeological Institute of America (AIA) have joined to submit an amicus curiae brief in support of the plaintiffs who have sued the Trump administration alleging that the President does not have authority under the Antiquities Act to substantially reduce the size of Utah's Bears Ears National Monument and Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument. – American Anthropological Association [\(Read brief\)](#)

A group of 21 mayors and council members from Utah have signed onto briefs with the U.S. District Court for the District of Columbia in support of lawsuits filed against President Trump's shrinking of the Bears Ears and Grand Staircase-Escalante national monuments. The amicus friend-of-the-court briefs — filed Monday and drafted by the Harvard Law School's Emmett Environmental Law & Policy Clinic and the Salt Lake City Attorney's Office — contend that the process was flawed, with little input from local voices, and that the boundary reduction will have detrimental economic and environmental effects. – Salt Lake Tribune [\(Read brief\)](#)

New Documentary on Bears Ears

At its heart, it's a battle for homeland and sovereignty. Bears Ears, a remote section of land lined with red cliffs and filled with juniper, sage, is at the center of a fight over who has a say in how Western landscapes are protected and managed. – KUED (PBS) ([View documentary](#))

Utah Legislator Calls for State Management Plan for Bears Ears

Fed up with what he says is a false narrative about the so-called extraction destiny for Bears Ears National Monument, a Utah lawmaker wants the state to craft its own management plan for the lands in southeastern Utah. "I am a conservative conservationist," said Rep. Keven Stratton, co-chairman of the Commission for the Stewardship of Public Lands, adding it is "completely irresponsible" for people to assert that Utah leaders want mining and drilling in the monument. – Deseret News ([Read article](#))

Southwestern State Representatives Urge Public Support for Region's National Monuments

As state representatives of the Southwest, we are concerned about the future of our national monuments. Both Bears Ears and Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monuments are under attack, and the public has just a short window to weigh in. Both these monuments are in Utah, but they are vital to us all, as they safeguard our nation's diverse history and cultural heritage. Our voices are part of the two-thirds of western voters, and 86 percent of Latino voters in the west, who say that reducing these monuments is a bad idea. We are proud to have public lands in our backyard — lands that belong to all of us. – The Hill ([Read article](#))

SJBAS Officers and Other Positions - 2018

President	Janice Sheftel	janicesheftel@gmail.com
Vice President	Florence (Foxye) Mason	fmason@frontier.net
Vice President	Susan Hicks	hicks@animas.net
Secretary	Paula Lutz	paula@durango.net
Treasurer	Mark Gebhardt	mark@virtbiz.com
PAAC Representative	Tish Varney	tishvarney@att.net

Other Positions

CAS representative	Janice Sheftel	janicesheftel@gmail.com
Field Trip Program coordinator	Lyle Hancock	lylehancock@bresnan.net
Moki Messenger editor	Lyle Hancock	lylehancock@bresnan.net
Programming chair	Janice Sheftel	janicesheftel@gmail.com
Publicity chair	Jill Tripp	jtripp51@yahoo.com
Webmaster and email coordinator	Lyle Hancock	lylehancock@bresnan.net

San Juan Basin Archaeological Society – Membership Renewal

Membership renewals are due by January 31st each year. Please complete the [SJBAS Annual Membership Form](#), make your check payable to 'SJBAS' and mail with the Annual Membership Form to our chapter treasurer: **Mark Gebhardt, 107 St. Andrews Circle, Durango, CO 81301.**