



THE MOKI MESSENGER

NEWSLETTER OF THE SAN JUAN BASIN ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Chapter of Colorado Archaeological Society

February, 2011

Richardson to Speak On Easter Island

George L. Richardson will speak on Easter Island: An Environmental Tragedy, at the February SJBAS Meeting, to be held at 7:00 p.m., February 10, 2011, at the Center for SW Studies, Lyceum. Richardson has a strong management record in successful development, start-up, and management of foreign operations. He is experienced in a variety of natural resources in Africa, Mexico, Ecuador, Kazakhstan, Indonesia and the United States.

Richardson speaks English, Spanish, Russian, and Afrikaans. From 2000-2008 he has either chaired or co-chaired the program committee of the Society of Mining and Exploration for the Offshore Technology Conference. From 1995 to 1997, he was Program Director of Kazakhstan Project for IHRDC. From 1976 to 1994, he was Managing Director and chief representative for Oryx Kazakhstan; as well as Exploration Manager, Latin America; General Manager Oryx Ecuador, and Senior Exploration Geologist, Rocky Mountain District. Richardson holds a BA in Geology from the U. of CO, and an MS in Economic Geology from the U. of AZ.

TRIPS

May 7-8; Ute Mountain Ute Tribal Park Service Day. 2-day car camping trip is annual service outing to Ute Mountain Ute Tribal Park. Day of manual labor and day of touring sites not often seen by general public. Leaders: Kathleen and Jim Shadell, 970-247-5597;

May 13, Crow Canyon Archaeological Center. Limit 25. How Crow Canyon has obtained data to support its many papers. Touring lab, curation room, outdoor classrooms and dig in progress. Prepaid lunch for \$10. Mary Ann Hiller, 970-259-5170.

May 21, High Sage Plains. Limit 7. High clearance 4WD. Several short hikes with Jerry Fetterman to visit rock inscriptions and prehistoric villages near Utah/Colorado border. Diane Skinner, 970-247-0849.

May 26, Tallus Village, north of Durango. Limit 15. Leader: Gail LaDage, gladage@yahoo.com.

June 17, Old Fort Lewis. No limit. Learn about recent findings of Mona Charles' field school. Leaders: Bev and Bob Danielson, 970-385-1058.

June 23, Silver Lake. No limit. High clearance 4WD. Strenuous day trip, led by Jim Shadell.

July 13, The Tram Towers of Animas Mining District. Limit 20. HC/4WD. Leader: Mary Ann Hiller, 970-259-5170. Rudy Davison to explain tram towers, with emphasis above Eureka and in Arastra Gulch.

Past Director Kevin Britz Dies

(From the Durango Herald)

Center of Southwest Studies Director Kevin Mark Britz died after a yearlong battle with cancer Friday, Jan. 7, 2011, at his home in Durango. He was 56. He received his doctorate in US History from the University of Arizona in 1999. After an illustrious career he began his directorship of Center of Southwest Studies at Fort Lewis College in July, 2008.

In his free time, Mr. Britz enjoyed exploring the outdoors, reading, watching movies, taking road

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Lectures, Conferences, & Exhibits

Hisatsinom Chapter:

Hisatsinom Chapter will meet February 1 at 7:00 p.m. at the Cortez Cultural Center. Janet Lever Wood will discuss nuances of rock art in a talk called "What's in the Bag?" Lever Wood is a Mancos artist and a cultural site steward for a rock art site near the Ismay Trading Post.

The Friends of Crow Canyon Distinguished Lecturers Series:

Presentations begin at 7:30 pm.

March 13 in the Gates Building on Crow Canyon Campus William Winkler will give a talk on *Ansel Hall's Rainbow Bridge - Monument Valley Expedition*.

April 29 in the Dolores Community Center Maraleen Manos-Janes will give a talk entitled *On a Wing: Flight of the Monarch*.

May 20 in the Dolores Community Center Dr. Patricia Crown, Distinguished professor, Dept. of Anthropology, U. of NM will speak on *Science and Serendipity: The Discovery of Chocolate at Chaco Canyon*.

Call 970-564-4341 for reservations.

San Juan College's ("SJC") Chautauqua Performances. Free, 7 pm, Little Theater, SJC. Contact Dr. Jimmy Miller, 505-334-9325, or Sha Lyn Weisheit, 505-599-8771.

February 18, Edward Wallace, "The Life and Times of Jim Beckwourth," a trapper, trader, scout, explorer and chief of the Crow Nation.

March 18, Dr. Jon Hunter, "New Mexico's March to Statehood," surveys the history of NM from 1850 to 1912.

April 30: Fred Hampton and Van Sanders, "Buffalo Soldiers - Military Heroes of the Southwest."

Artist Keith Hutcheson Exhibits at Anasazi Heritage Center. (Summary, [Cortez Journal](#), December 2, 2010; [Hisatsinom Newsletter](#), December 2010)

Hutcheson's exhibit, which includes 60 paintings spanning 37 years of work by the former Montezuma-Cortez High School art teacher from 1974 until he retired in 2003, will remain through February 28. In his 20s, he visited at Fort Lewis College in 1972 and never left. He was a protégé of Stanton Englehart. He paints from impressions and memory rather than photographs. Most of the work represents his vision of landscapes in a variety of media including oil paintings, pastel, and pencil. Much of his work has focused on the sky, land and water -- sometimes in abstract and non-objective directions. Call 882-5600 for more information about the free "Keith Hutcheson Retrospective 1973-2010" exhibit, or stop by from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. daily at 27501 Hwy 184, Dolores.

Chickasaw Nation Archives.

Located in the Chickasaw Nation Tribal Library, Miko Building, Chickasaw Nation Headquarters, Ada, OK, open to the public Tuesday through Friday, 8 am to 5 pm., the Chickasaw Nation Archives collects and maintains documentary materials to preserve and interpret the history of the Chickasaw Nation. The Archives Department collects historical materials in a variety of formats including photographs, film, slides, negatives, microfiche, video, or other documents that relate to the Archives purposes. SJBAS members, the Dittmers, were impressed with the beautiful site and careful exposition of the Chickasaw Tribe now numbering about 40,000 members, which is a 10-fold increase from "Trail of Tears" numbers. The Department of Museums, Archives and Libraries honors the generations of Chickasaw ancestors, carrying on those traditions by educating the Natives' present and future generations to ensure the continued existence of tribal traditions and the protection of valuable cultural resources. Chickasaw culture has been passed down from one generation to the next through stories. Oral tradition was the primary method used to instruct early generations of Chickasaw about the world and their place in it.

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Lectures, Conferences, & Exhibits - Cont.

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Orlando FL Mus. of Art.

"Aztec to Zapotec". (407) 896-4231, www.omart.orgt. (Long Term)

Florida Museum of Natural History, U of FL, Gainesville. (Summary, *Am Arch*, Winter 2011)

Interactive exhibit, "Dugout Canoes: Paddling Through the Americas". (352) 846-2000, www.flmnh.ufl.edu (Long-term Exhibit).

J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles. (Summary, *Am Arch*, Winter 2011)

"Obsidian Mirror-Travels: Refracting Ancient Mexican Art and Archaeology". (310) 440-7300, www.getty.edu. (through March 27)

Volunteer Opportunities

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

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

Colorado Historical Society. Contact Kevin Black at Kevin.Black@chs.state.co.us;

Center of SW Studies. Contact Julie Tapley-Booth at 247-7456 to volunteer;

Mesa Verde. Visit www.mesaverdevolunteers.org, email Cheryl and Chuck Carson, volunteer coordinators at cccarrson@aol.com, or phone at 259-2699;

Aztec Ruins. Call Tracy Bodnar, 505-334-6174, ext. 232, or tracy_bodnar@nps.gov;

2011 Pecos Conf. Contact David Purcell, davidpurcell@gmail.com;

Site Stewardship Program. After training, volunteers are responsible for checking on the condition of an archaeological sites in Canyons of the Ancients or other public land about four times a year. Contact Diane McBride, Monument Coordinator for the Program at trowelgal_1@yahoo.com, phone: 970-565-9637; or Program Director Ruth Lambert at 970-385-1267.

General News

CAS: The 2010 Alice Hamilton Scholarship Fund Raffle sold 565 tickets for \$1,433. SJBAS sold the most -- 100 tickets.

Anti-vandalism Task Force. In the past, most effort has been spent on the Archaeology and Preservation Month poster. In 2011, activities will be expanded to include a long term effort to encourage participation, even including a multi-year effort to recruit "volunteers." By February, CHS will have a "hot line" and central e-mail contact point for all of the organizations involved in preservation, archaeology and museum work to direct people to the organization most closely related to the interests and location of the people responding. In addition to providing contact information, the center will try to provide calendars/schedules for events, meetings and opportunities with the participating organizations. Plans are underway for a short video outlining archaeological and preservations opportunities in Colorado and to develop several public service announcements that can be distributed to local media throughout the year.

THE EDITORS' CORNER

The Sacred Oral Tradition of the Havasupai: As Retold by Elders and Headmen Manakaja and Sinyella 1918-1921. (Reviewed by Duane Smith, Durango Herald, January 14, 2011)

Anthropologist Leslie Spier explains in the book's introduction that the 48 tales of the Havasupai were collected in 1918, 1919 and 1921 by anthropologist Erna Gunther, all the tales known of two chiefs, about 70, Sinyella and Manakaja, never previously published. In 1961, Havasupai scholar Dr. Robert Euler, who once taught at FLC, received them and later entrusted them to his colleague, Dr. Frank Tikalsky. The Havasupai Tribal Council gave its approval for their publication. Living near the bottom of the Grand Canyon in Havasu Canyon, the Havasupai lived in isolation. Their contacts with the oncoming white settlers were few in the 19th century. Today one can see satellite TV and hear reggae and rap music in the Canyon. Therefore, the authors thought it important to have the collection published and help preserve the culture.



Comanche Role in Colorado. (Summary, Commentary by Ed Quillen, Denver Post, December 26, 2010)

Empire of the Summer Moon by S.C. Gwynne is a lively, sometimes gruesome, history of the Comanche, who dominated the territory from the Arkansas River on the plains south to the Hill Country of Texas. "Comanche" derives from a Ute word for "enemy." Quillen questions how Colorado avoided becoming a satellite of Texas, the way that Nevada and Arizona have been dominated by California. Since the Republic of Texas once claimed boundaries that included the SE corner of Colorado and a swath up through the middle, why didn't it happen? After joining the US, Texas chose to keep slavery and have the US pay off the debts it had accrued during its decade as an independent nation, rather than keeping this land north of the Missouri Compromise line.

There are two practical routes between Texas and Colorado. One is up the Rio Grande from El Paso, and the other is up through the Great Plains. Texas claimed the entire Rio Grande as its western boundary, and tried to enforce that claim in 1841 with a small military and diplomatic expedition to annex Santa Fe. The Texas invaders were routed and marched in irons to Mexico City. During the Civil War, a Confederate army of Texas marched north from El Paso to conquer NM and CO. Hispanics in NM refused to sell supplies to the Texans and harassed them. The Confederates were defeated by NM militia and the First Colorado Infantry at Glorietta Pass on March 28, 1852. So the New Mexicans defeated Texas invasions on that route. As for the other course, across the Great Plains, it ran through Comancheria -- the Staked Plains where there were no landmarks and water was hard to find. The Comanche were resourceful fighters who held the Texans at bay until the 1870s. So in Colorado's formative years, Colorado was connected to the Midwest and West Coast by trails and railroads, but not to Texas. The famous Goodnight-Loving cattle trail from Texas didn't reach Colorado until 1878. By then, Coloradans were raising their own beef. The first direct rail connection wasn't completed until 1888, by which time Colorado was pretty well tied to Chicago, not Texas.

Upcoming PAAC CLASS

Hisatsinom Chapter. February 11-14, Historical Archaeology. Contact Terry Woodrow, TWoodrow@ptrs.com (970) 560-1318.

Archeology in the Southwest

Gulf Oil Spill Clean Up -- the Mesa Verde Connection. (Summary, [Hisatsinom Newsletter](#), January 2011)

Archaeologists from Mesa Verde National Park have been helping with the clean up of the Gulf Oil Spill. Most have been working at Ft. Pickens, FL. Gay Ives, JoAnne Young and Danielle Sheptow have served as Resource Advisers for 2-4 weeks in 2010. Chris McAllister is scheduled to go to help in January. Archaeologists are needed to help clean up crews and avoid archaeological sites. Oil contamination of archaeological sites is a problem. Radiocarbon dating can become unreliable with the contamination from oil, which is older than the archaeological deposits and will give an older and incorrect radiocarbon date to the site.

Diane and Bob McBride of Hisatsinom Chapter Working with Dave Dove on Sites South of Cortez near McElmo Creek. (Summary, [Hisatsinom Newsletter](#), January 2011)

This is part of the ongoing survey of the Montezuma Valley near Mitchell Springs Pueblo. The area appears to have been occupied during the Pueblo I time period (A.D. 750-900) as evidenced by the presence of Utah Redware pottery. It was further occupied into mid-Pueblo III (1150s). The work will provide a baseline for future research.

Brian Ebbert Traces Great-great-grandfather back to Cortez. (Summary, [Cortez Journal](#), June 15, 2010)

One relic that led to Ebbert's research in Cortez was a 100-year-old portrait of William B. Ebbert, a Colorado politician from the 1880s to 1920s, Ebbert's great-great-grandfather -- a pioneer, politician, rancher, farmer, author, Civil War veteran, newspaper publisher and president of the Montezuma Valley Irrigation District Board. He was a Colorado assemblyman who was one of the original legislators in Denver to vote for the creation of Montezuma County. Other relics handed down by Ebbert's family are a solid silver railroad pass issued in 1889 to William B. Ebbert from Otto Mears and a copy of "On Colorado's Fair Mesas," written by his great-great grandfather and published in 1897.

The recent birth of Ebbert's daughter inspired him to dig deeper into his past. Ebbert, who lives in Sacramento, started with newspaper databases and the Internet to find articles that mentioned his ancestor. The website, www.coloradohistoricnewspapers.org, was especially helpful. His research led him to the Montezuma County Historical Society's historian, June Head, and stories came flooding in from people who remembered his relative. An article Ebbert wrote about his ancestor appeared in the first volume of a collection of family histories: "Great Sage Plain to Timberline: Our Pioneer History," edited by Head. Head put Ebbert in contact with Janice (Darnell) Hutchinson, whose father bought the ranch house in 1925 William Ebbert built more than 100 years ago, off US Highway 491 near Arriola.

Pictographs in Canyon Pintado ("Painted Canyon") Detail Ancient Life. (Summary, [Cortez Journal](#), September 18, 2010)

Padres Dominguez and Escalante saw the pictographs in September 1776, including a large four-foot-tall ochre red Kokopelli. The Canyon is administered by the BLM as a National Historic District. It represents 11,000 years of human habitation. The Canyon includes archaic rock art that could be 4,000 to 5,000 years old, Barrier Canyon painted symbols, distinctive Fremont Indian motifs, Ute images dating from 1200 to 1881 and historic cowboy brands etched into stone. Designs vary from mountain sheep to concentric circles, snakes, hands, corn plants, shields, birds and even a sun-dagger site. Listed on the National Register in 1975, the District of 16,000 acres and 200 sites stretches 15 miles south to north but the Canyon is only one mile wide as it follows Douglas Creek. The District was occupied back to 3,500 B.C. at Hanging Hearth. Occupation surfaces with fire pits were found at a depth of seven meters.

A Ute panel shows a small figure with big hands adjacent to a large flintlock Harquebus. The size and shape of the image demonstrates that the artist was impressed with the sound and power

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of guns. Fremont rock art can vary from anthropomorphs to wavy lines and elongated corn plants. The Fremont culture dates from 650 to 1150 A.D. Their rock art is some of the finest in North America. The Fremont used moccasins, not sandals, preferred to hunt and gather, and although they planted corn, made extensive use of pigweed or shepherd's purse in combination with amaranth seeds so tiny that 7,500 of them fit in half a teaspoon. Together both plants, known as Cheno-Ams, are high in vitamin C and lysine, which cannot be found in corn.

Many discoveries are the result of oil and gas archaeological clearance permits. Sites have been found which were used for celestial observations. Native people placed wooden poles into drilled, straight-sided stone holes with cupped bottoms, not mortar holes for grinding plants. Ancient Fremonts picked promontories on rock ledges to line up their poles like a gun sight to match a cliff notch across the canyon. There are four such sites identified in the District with about 18 to 20 inches, sometimes more, in between holes and three to four holes in a group, some as large as the circumference of a telephone pole. The Fremont tracked solstices, equinoxes, lunar cycles and possibly even stellar alignments. Unfortunately, none of the poles has ever been found.

The Fremont may even have created lunar calendars. The Clock Face Site out of the District in Crooked Wash features a huge boulder with nine holes bored horizontally into it and filled with nine cobbles with which to track a full moon on the horizon for almost 19 years. It is called the Metonic cycle. Because of the Dinosaur Diamond National Scenic Byway, visitors drive from Grand Junction through Rangely and Dinosaur to Dinosaur National Monument, over to Vernal, Utah, and then to Price Utah, for a 550-mile loop that features museums, dinosaur replicas and cowboy history. The District even includes a collapsed cowboy line shack from the Philadelphia Cattle Company. At the sun-dagger site, a shadow bisects three painted and pecked circles but only at certain times of the year. In a different location, Andy Gulliford found a Rosegate series chalcedony arrowhead, a possibly 2,000-year-old Fremont point, which he reburied.

Ancestral Puebloans' Decision to Settle at Mesa Verde Leads to Colorado's First Examples of Public Works. (Summary, [Colorado Public Works Journal](#), August 2010)

Around AD 550, Basketmakers found sanctuary in Montezuma County, living on the gradually-sloping mesas of the Colorado Plateau and in canyons below. Precipitation, which today, as it did then, averages 18 inches annually, was enough to reap adequate yields of maize, beans and squash from the land, making constant wandering no longer necessary for survival. An increasing reliance on agriculture repressed the nomadic way of life. They constructed pithouses and multiplied in the area during relatively prosperous times for over 100 years. But the land was changing due to forest fires, considerable clearing of timber for building and fuel, and the growing of crops in the upper part of the valley, resulting in the earth absorbing less water, with more runoff than in earlier days. Therefore, reservoirs for storage of domestic-use water were constructed that allowed the Mesa Verdeans to remain in the area for over 700 years, the first examples of public works in Colorado. Social order centered around the use and handling of water. How, on a semi-arid mesa where infrequent rains flashed through gullies and vanished through porous ground, did the ancients find water enough to supply a population that rivals that which lives near the mesa today?

Using science and engineering over an 11-year period, Wright Paleohydrological Institute ("WPI") explored four potential prehistoric reservoir sites at Mesa Verde to determine their original function when built over 1,000 years ago, with assistance from the National Park Service and financial help from the Colorado Historical Society. The team applied standard water resources and civil engineering methodologies to the sites. Before these studies began in 1995, little credit was given to the ability of early Americans of the southwest to plan, build, operate and maintain large-scale

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projects where organizational skills and technology transfer are essential. WPI identified the AD 750-1180 period with reservoir building and operation. The Ancestral Puebloans had a rudimentary knowledge of hydrological phenomena, water transport and storage. Their public works efforts required major and continuous operation and maintenance work, which would not have been possible without good organizational capabilities.

To create Morefield Reservoir, the oldest studied, Mesa Verdeans excavated a pond on the valley bottom of Morefield Canyon to reach the periodic shallow water table and capture available sediment-laden storm runoff. To maintain storage capacity, sediment accumulation in the pond was periodically dredged and cast aside in berms around the pond. Dredging was performed with crude tools and not all sediment could be removed at each cleaning. Therefore, the pond bottom began to rise and water would no longer flow in by gravity. Rather than dig another pond, the people built an inlet canal to bring in water by gravity flow. Not only did the Mesa Verde reservoirs have to withstand floods and wildfires, the people had to relocate their upstream point of diversion regularly to gain elevation for gravity flow into the reservoir. Parallel in time with relocating the point of diversion of the inlet canal, the Mesa Verdeans would have had to raise the canal elevation along its alignment to keep up with the rising elevation of the water system. Eventually, the canals existed on elevated berms. Just a mile from Morefield Canyon is Prater Canyon, where evidence was found of another valley bottom reservoir -- Box Elder Reservoir -- which has enough similarities with Morefield Reservoir to show that technology transfer existed between the canyons as early as about AD 800.

Scattered pithouses were being abandoned for stable communities on the mesa tops and canyon bottoms beginning around AD 750, as the Basketmakers evolved into "Pueblo I." Kivas were constructed and more mesa-top land was converted to agriculture to support the growing population, estimated to have reached several thousand at Mesa Verde by AD 1200. While living on mesa tops, Mesa Verdeans constructed two additional reservoirs, Far View and Sagebrush. While there were no natural drainage basins for either and the natural soil surface had a high infiltration rate, the Ancestral Puebloans learned that the soil contained enough silt and clay particles that when water puddled on it, the silt and clay migrated to the surface, creating a highly impervious surface. Nearby areas subject to busy foot traffic, such as well-traveled paths, the environs of pueblos and upslope agricultural fields, created runoff from even small rainfalls. With one-half acre of such impervious surface generating a substantial volume of runoff from only a half inch of intense rainfall, the Ancestral Puebloans constructed interceptor ditches to route the limited runoff to the created depressions for storage -- resulting in Far View and Sagebrush Reservoirs.

Is National Park Status in Store for 100-year-old Colorado National Monument? (Summary, Du-rango Herald, December 26, 2010)

The Monument, a 32-square-mile collection of towering red-stone monoliths and deep canyons, is increasingly popular with cyclists, runners, rock climbers and cross-country skiers, and there is growing interest in getting Congress to declare the monument a national park. Sen. Udall has begun soliciting public comment on the national park idea. The Colorado River flows north of the carved landscape that is part of the Colorado Plateau. The 23-mile Rim Rock Drive is a two-lane road, full of switchbacks and anchored by sheer rock cliffs that cuts through nearly two billion years of geology. The four-mile-long Fruita Canyon includes Balanced Rock, a 600-ton mass atop a narrow stone pedestal. Higher up, heading toward the visitors' center, the view expands to take in one of the Colorado

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At the visitor center, recently discovered fossilized footprints of turtles, lizards and a dinosaur, all roughly 150 million years old, are on display. Petroglyphs and archaeological sites have helped document people's presence in the region about 10,000 years back. Monument founder John Otto started blazing the path by building trails himself in the early 1900s. In the 1930s, workers with the CCC and other agencies chiseled Rim Rock Drive from cliffsides and dug three tunnels. Nine workers died in a rock slide just before Christmas 1933. There are 43 miles of maintained trails and more primitive paths, along with campgrounds and backcountry camping. Canyon Rim and Window Rock are accessible from the road and are easy-going short walks running a quarter to a half mile. Alcove Nature Trail, near the visitor center, is a one-mile round trip, good for families. Many people hike the roughly 2.5 miles through Monument Canyon to Independence Monument, a 450-foot remnant of a wall that once separated two canyons and is 5,739 feet in elevation. Otto started a tradition of climbing the rock and planting a US flag on top every Fourth of July.

Outgoing NM Gov. Richardson Did Not Pardon Billy the Kid for 1878 Killing of Lincoln County Sheriff William Brady. (Summary, [Durango Herald](#), December 29, 2010)

An Albuquerque attorney petitioned for a pardon, contending New Mexico Territorial Gov. Lew Wallace promised one in return for the Kid's testimony in a murder case against three men. Billy the Kid, also known as William Bonney or Henry McCarty, was shot to death by Sheriff Pat Garrett in July 1881, a few months after escaping from the Lincoln County jail where he was awaiting hanging for Brady's death. He killed two deputies while escaping, but McGinn's pardon request does not cover those deaths. Emails debating the issue came from all over the US and beyond, including England, Japan, France and New Zealand. Some argued that circumstantial evidence points toward Wallace offering a pardon and said it was not implausible since Wallace pardoned other people involved in the Lincoln County War. Among those opposing a pardon were Garrett's grandson J.P. Garrett, of Albuquerque, and Wallace's great-grandson William Wallace, of Westport Conn.

Southern Utah Site where Mormons Massacred Members of 19th Century Arkansas Wagon Train to Become National Historic Landmark. (Summary, [Cortez Journal](#), December 25, 2010)

In November, a National Parks Service Advisory Board subcommittee voted unanimously to recommend a petition to elevate the Mountain Meadows Massacre site to landmark status. The advisory board will meet in April to decide whether to recommend the proposal to Secretary Salazar. A rolling 2,500-acre valley about 30 miles north of St. George, the Mountain Meadows site is already on the National Register of Historic Places. Landmark status would guarantee public access and federal oversight that includes public input on any construction or development.

On September 11, 1857, 120 men, women and children from the Baker-Fancher wagon train were attacked and killed at Mountain Meadows by Cedar City-area church and militia leaders. The Arkansas-based travelers were bound for California when their stop-over in the meadows turned deadly. Members of the LDS church and members of the dominant society in the 1800s were at odds because members of the church had been forced to move across the country. This episode culminated the conflict. The valley includes several mass grave sites and two monuments -- a rock cairn marking the spot where the siege erupted and a memorial wall inscribed with the names of the known dead. For decades, Mormon church leaders downplayed its role in the killings and instead laid the blame on the area's American Indians. In recent years church officials worked to mend the rift. The church, which owns much of the massacre site land, announced its plans to seek national landmark status in 2008. Whether landmark status can in fact protect the meadows and its sacred burial sites -- some of which may not yet be identified -- is unknown. Rocky Mountain Power is working with BLM to identify a route for a major new power transmission line that would cross

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through southern Utah. Four alternatives are being considered, including one that could potentially affect the meadows.

Missing Handwritten Transcript from a Coroner's Inquest Prepared After the Gunfight at OK Corral Resurfaces More Than 125 Years after Shootout. (Summary, Daily Times, April 22, 2010)

The document was last seen when it was photocopied in the 1960s. It was found when court clerks found the box while reorganizing files in an old jail storage room in Bisbee. Stuffed inside the box was a modern manila envelope marked "keep" with the date 1881. The inquest was held after lawmen Wyatt Earp, his two brothers and Doc Holliday confronted a gang of drunken outlaws, sparking a 30-second gun battle in the streets of Tombstone that killed Frank and Tom McLaury and Bill Clanton. It made folk heroes of Earp and Holliday and inspired numerous movies about the untamed Old West. The transcript is on thick sheets of paper with blue lines and sloppy cursive writing in dark ink. One sheet appeared to contain the beginning of testimony by William Claiborn, identified by a historian as a friend of the three dead outlaws. "I was present on the afternoon of Oct. 26th '81 when the shooting commenced between outlaw parties," the testimony reads. Court officials have turned the document over to state archivists.

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trips and visiting kitschy tourist attractions. He enjoyed hiking in the Southwest landscape, paddling the canoe he made by hand and camping in his vintage 1971 Volkswagen bus. Throughout the years, he also enjoyed raising sheep and goats on hobby farms in Minnesota, Oregon and Ohio.

A memorial was held at 3 p.m. Friday, Jan. 14, 2011, at the McPherson Memorial Chapel at Fort Lewis College. A reception followed at the Center of Southwest Studies.

Enjoy the Winter

Moki By Mail

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

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



Don't Forget Your Dues

Don't forget to send in your membership dues for 2011 to Mark Gebhardt. See his address on the back cover of this Moki.

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

www.sjbas.org.



San Juan Basin Archaeological Society
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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

Editors of this newsletter are in alphabetical order:

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We welcome your comments, reports, pictures, and news to include in this newsletter.

www.sjbas.org