

SAN JUAN BASIN ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Chapter of Colorado Archaeological Society



Website: www.sjbas.org

The Moki Messenger

February 2014

February SJBAS Meeting

Our next SJBAS general meeting will be held on Thursday, February 13th, at 7:00 p.m. in the Lyceum at the Center of Southwest Studies at Fort Lewis College. After a brief business meeting, Linda Wheelbarger will present: Point Pueblo: A Total Chacoan Great House Community.

Linda Wheelbarger is a professional archaeologist who has worked in the Southwest for 36 years. As a graduate student at Washington State University, she first came to the Southwest at the tail end of the summer of 1978 to work for one month on the Dolores Archaeological Project (McPhee Reservoir) as recommended by Dr. Bill Lipe. She fell in love with the Southwest and moved here in 1979 to build her archaeological career. Through the early 1980's, Wheelbarger worked on several projects including McPhee Reservoir, Animas-La Plata Reservoir, Rifle-San Juan Powerline, and Vermejo Park for the York Canyon Coal Mine while settling permanently in Farmington, NM by 1981. After working as a contract archaeologist for several years, Wheelbarger obtained a full time position at the San Juan College Cultural Resources Management Program in 1987. She became co-director of their contract archaeology office in 1991 with Meredith Matthews and began teaching the college field school in 1999. Although Wheelbarger retired from the contract archaeology segment of her career in 2010, she continues to teach the field school and other courses at San Juan College as well as continuing with public archaeology commitments, various GIS archaeology projects, and conference presentations.

January Meeting Notes

Janice Sheftel, our new chapter president, presided over the January 9th meeting. She asked that contributions to the Moki be sent to Lyle at lylehancock@bresnan.net and discussed the upcoming Colorado Archaeology PAAC class to be held in Dolores from January 31st through February 2nd. The current PAAC schedule can be found on our website. Mark Gebhardt explained our dues structure and how to renew one's membership by the January 31st deadline. Peggy Morris thanked all the participants in the Silent Auction at the holiday party that earned \$547 for the John W. Sanders Internship Fund. Terri Hoff explained the CAS raffle and that they are looking for a donation of a raffle item valued at approximately \$1,000. Tom Hoff mentioned that the Mitchell Springs field school will be held the first weekend in May and that more information is forthcoming.

Jim Mueller discussed his upcoming January 22nd field trip to Aztec Ruins where our group will tour the usually off limits East Ruin. Janice explained Gail and Marlo's March 3 – 6 Ghost Town trip in southeast Arizona, and Bob Powell discussed his May 19 – 22 trip to Gray canyon and the San Rafael Swell in Utah. For more information or to sign up for trips, members should contact the trip leaders directly. Contact information is available on the website at www.sjbas.org/Trips.htm.

Rich Robinson gave an interesting, face-paced presentation about his trip to Peru on a 20-day archaeology trip where he linked three tours together, "A Day In Caral", "Nazca Lines" and "Archaeological Adventures". His presentation included visits to Caral, Chiclayo town site and Witches Market, Trujillo town site and Museum Huaca De Moche, Moche culture, Chimu culture, Huaca De La Luna, Cusco, Sacsayhuamen site, Pisac site, Salinas site, Moray site, Ollantaytambo site, Machu Pichu site, Cantallo aqueduct, and the Nasca lines.

Annual Membership Renewal

If you want to remain a member, but have not paid your dues, please pay now. If you already have signed Liability Waiver and Site Etiquette forms on file, you do NOT need to fill out these forms again. If you have new information such as a postal or email address change, you will need to complete a membership renewal form. All three forms may be found by following this link: <http://www.sibas.org/Application.pdf>. Print and complete the form(s) you need, write a check to SJBAS for the appropriate amount, and mail it to our Chapter Treasurer, Mark Gebhardt, at 107 St. Andrews Circle, Durango, CO 81301. Annual dues are \$23 for an individual with no Southwest Lore (SWL), \$31 with SWL mailed; \$30 for a family (two or more) with no SWL, \$40 for a family with SWL mailed. If you have any questions, please contact Mark at mark@virtbiz.com.

New Members

SJBAS welcomes the following new members: Tom & Terri Hoff, Carolyn & Tim Miller, Mark & Michelle McKibben, Sandy & Larry Tradlener, and Mary Jean Moseley.

Trip Report – Aztec Ruins, New Mexico – by Jim Mueller

On January 22nd, eighteen SJBAS members went on a mid-winter field trip that was planned to help pass the short winter days. The group met early for the afternoon tour of the East Ruins, so that they could enjoy an excellent lunch at the Thai Style Restaurant in downtown Aztec.

The tour started with a 20-minute video about Aztec Ruins' past and present, through both the archaeologists and modern Native Americans' perspective. Hopi, Navajo and others do not like to use the term 'ruins', because it is the current home of the spirits of their ancestors and considered a sacred place.



The tour, led by Ranger Cyresa Bloom, included a walk around the East Ruins, which are closed to the public. Earl Morris excavated this section between 1916 and 1922, during which time he was mainly focused on the West Ruins. The East and West Ruins are separated by a flat area that is believed to be a section of an old Chacoan Road leading up to an older kiva site on the mesa above the National Monument. We were told that the original Aztec site was much larger than what we see today, with sites not only on the mesa above, but in the surrounding farm land and subdivisions and even across the river in what is now downtown Aztec.

Construction of the West Ruins and East Ruins great houses started at the same time around 1103, but the progress and purposes were quite different. The West Ruins were built intensely over a short time frame of 30 years, and archaeologists believe that it was a ceremonial, gathering location and trade center. The East Ruins great houses, actually two separate structures, were built over a period of 170 years, but continuing on and off at a smaller scale. They were built more for habitation and included a great kiva larger than the restored great kiva of the West Ruins. Construction style started with Chacoan but later transitioned to McElmo style to Mesa Verde style. There were remnants of some of the rooms and walls of these once three story great houses, but mostly it was the usual mounds and depressions of dirt that indicated once great things to the educated eyes of the SJABS participants. By 1290 the site was

deserted. Was it because of a drought, which caused agricultural problems? Native American's believe it was just time to continue their journey to other places. But whatever the reason, they moved on to sites in the Rio Grande valley and in the current Zuni and Hopi areas.



Upcoming Field Trips

Our 2014 Trip Schedule is available on our website at www.sjbas.org/Trips.htm. Please contact the trip leaders directly by phone or email for trip details and to sign up. Remember, our Field Trip Schedule is a work in progress. If you have a trip in mind that you would like to lead, please contact Lyle at lylehancock@bresnan.net to see if it can be worked into the schedule.

<p>March 3 - 6</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Ghost Towns in Cochise County, Arizona</p> <p>This is a four-day motel trip to southeast Arizona. We will visit stops on the Ghost Town Trail including: Dragoon and the nearby Amerind Museum, Pearce, Gleeson, Tombstone, Fairbank, and Millville-Charleston. We may add a day to visit Lochiel on the border and Harshaw near Patagonia. The itinerary is flexible.</p> <p>Trip Leaders: Gail and Marlo Schulz - 970-946-5234 mschulz@frontier.net</p>
<p>April 15</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">B – Square Ranch Totah Archaeological Project</p> <p>This is a day trip to an interesting property and archaeology project hidden along the San Juan River just east of Farmington, New Mexico. There are numerous interesting sites, including a large Chacoan kiva, petroglyphs and much more. Participants should bring a lunch and come prepared for warm and windy weather.</p> <p>Trip Leader: Richard Robinson Contact: Mary Ann Hiller - 970-259-5170 johnhilldurco@durango.net</p>
<p>April 26 - 27</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Ute Mountain Tribal Park Service Weekend</p> <p>The Hisatsinom Chapter will join us for our annual work and play outing at the Ute Mountain Tribal Park. Participants may car camp, stay in a motel in Cortez, or make the service weekend into two day trips. Be prepared for a day of manual labor followed by a day touring sites not often seen by the general public. Bring work gloves, hat, work boots, tools, and water. A one-day, work-only option will be available.</p> <p>Trip Leader: Jim Shadell - 970-247-5597 shadelljim@gmail.com</p>

Ghost Towns in Cochise County, Arizona - What to expect - by Gail Schulz

This trip begins on Monday, March 3rd, and continues through Thursday, March 6th. We plan to base all three day trips out of Sierra Vista, AZ. Participants will stay in Sierra Vista 4 nights, beginning Monday March 3 and checking out Friday March 7th. We have been looking at motels and recommend the Comfort Inn, 3500 E Fry Blvd, Sierra Vista AZ, 520-459-0515. We are not reserving a block of rooms in our name, so participants will need to make their own reservations.

We plan to meet Monday March 3rd at 5 to 6 pm, for happy hour and pizza at our house. We'll go over trip plans and set up carpools. On Tuesday we will travel to Patagonia and to the ghost town of Lociel on the Mexican border, including the de Niza monument, the ghost town and cemetery of Harshaw and maybe even a stop at Patton's Hummingbirds for a little bird watching when we return to Patagonia.

On Wednesday we will travel The Ghost Town Trail to Gleeson, Courtland and Pearce ghost towns and out into the Sulphur Springs Valley to the area where the springs giving the valley its name are located.

On Thursday we will travel to the Amerind Museum. They are installing a new exhibit March 1 of historic ceramic revivals, in addition to their impressive permanent collections.

You will need lunch, water, snacks, hat and sunscreen, good hiking shoes and the usual hiking gear for all three days of this trip. We don't plan much hiking, but we will be walking on uneven ground so you may want your hiking poles. If you have questions or want to sign up, contact Gail at 970-946-5234 or email mschulz@frontier.net.

SJBAS Trip Leaders Needed

Richard is looking for leaders for the following trips:

April 15th – Day trip to B-Square Ranch Totah Archaeological Project near Farmington

June 21st – Day trip to Aztec Ruins for the Summer Solstice

July 11th – 13th – Three-day motel trip to the Taos Area

Please contact Richard at robinson7150@gmail.com for more information or to volunteer.

What our members are doing...

Rae and Rick Moeller are volunteering at the Old Vero Ice Age Site along the Peace River in Florida. Researchers have recovered a mastodon tooth among other finds. You can learn more about what they are doing at <http://www.oviasc.org/>.

Chipeta Chapter Newsletter

<http://www.sjbas.org/Chipeta Chapter - Uncompahgre Journal - January 2014.pdf>

Hisatsinom Chapter Newsletter

<http://www.sjbas.org/Hisatsinom Newsletter - February 2014.pdf>

Hisatsinom Chapter News

The Hisatsinom Chapter of the Colorado Archaeology Society is pleased to present Jonathan Till on Tuesday, February 4th at 7:00 PM at the Methodist Church, 515 Park Street, Cortez, CO to discuss the **Results of the Hovenweep Pottery Analysis Project, Year 2**. Till's presentation will focus on Abajo Archaeology's second year of work with the Hovenweep pottery analysis project, including typological, temper, rim arc, and design style analyses of sherds from particular sites in the Hovenweep landscape. Jonathan Till has lived and worked as an archaeologist in the Four Corners region for more than 20 years. Till has worked with a variety of organizations, including Abajo Archaeology, Crow Canyon, and Edge of Cedars Museum. Contact Kari Schleher at 505-269-4475 with questions.

Four Corners Archaeology News

Ute Mountain Tribal Park Solstice Tour

Follow this link for the Cortez Journal article: <http://www.sjbas.org/UteWinterSolsticeTour2013.pdf>

Crow Canyon Archaeology Center

January eNews: http://www.crowcanyon.org/e-newsletter/2014/January/cover_page_jan_2014.html

Events:

Colorado Preservation Inc. (CPI) annual Saving Places Conference, February 5–7, Denver

Colorado Council of Professional Archaeologists (CCPA) annual meeting, March 20–23, Glenwood Springs

Society for American Archaeology annual meeting, April 23–27, Austin, Texas

SJBAS Elected Officers and other Positions

President	Janice Sheftel	jsheftel@mbsslip.com
Vice President	Florence (Foxy) Mason	fmason@frontier.net
Vice President	Peggy Morris	sipapu_72@q.com
Vice President Field Trip Program	Richard Robinson Lyle Hancock (after March 1)	robinson7150@gmail.com lylehancock@bresnan.net
Secretary	Diane Skinner	skinnerkatz@durango.net
Treasurer	Mark Gebhardt	mark@virtbiz.com
CAS Representative	Robert (Bob) Powell	robertpowell@durango.net
PAAC Representative	(vacant)	

Other Positions

Moki Messenger contact	Lyle Hancock	lylehancock@bresnan.net
Programming Chair	Janice Sheftel	jsheftel@mbsslip.com
Publicity Chair	Jill Tripp	jtripp51@yahoo.com
Webmaster	Lyle Hancock	lylehancock@bresnan.net



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2014 SPRING PROGRAMMING SCHEDULE

LECTURES

Mark Stiles, retired San Juan National Forest Supervisor

"Wilderness Management: What's So Hard about Doing Nothing?"

Monday, January 27th, 6:00pm, Lyceum Room 120

Part of the Wilderness 50 Lecture Series

Dr. William Philpott, Associate Professor of History, University of Denver

Author of "Vacationland: Tourism and Environment in the Colorado High Country"

Thursday, February 6th, 6:00pm, Lyceum Room 120

Part of the Wilderness 50 Lecture Series

Paula Watson, director of WolfWood Refuge

"Refuge: Living and Working with Rescued Wolves"

Thursday, February 27th, 7:00pm, Noble Hall Room 130

Part of the FLC Life Long Learning Series

Dr. John Baranski, Associate Professor of History at FLC

Immigration film screening and moderated discussion

Monday, March 3rd, 3:30pm, Lyceum Room 120

Rory Mullett

"The Ludlow Massacre and the Evolution of Industrial Relations"

Thursday, March 13th, 7:00pm, Noble Hall Room 130

Part of the FLC Life Long Learning Series

Dr. Cathleen D. Cahill, Associate Professor of History, University of New Mexico

"Federal Fathers and Mothers: Federal Indian Service Employees at the Turn of the 20th Century"

Monday, March 17th, 6:00pm, Lyceum Room 120

EVENTS

Friday, April 4th, 7:30-8:30pm, Community Concert Hall

Latin American National Music Concert at the Community Concert Hall, open to the public

A function of the Rocky Mountain Council for Latin American Studies Conference

Thursday, April 10th, 5:00-7:00pm, Museum at the Center of Southwest Studies

Rio Grande Textiles from The Durango Collection® Opening Reception

Rio Grande textiles are traditional weavings of Hispanic peoples in Colorado, New Mexico and the lower Rio Grande Valley. These textiles were produced for the historical local markets and continue to be produced by master weavers in the greater region.