



THE MOKI MESSENGER

FEBRUARY 2021

SAN JUAN BASIN
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

www.sibas.org

Next meeting – February 10th by Zoom

On Wednesday, February 10th, at 7:00 p.m., we will use Zoom for a brief business meeting and Dr. Steve Nash will present: “Mogollon Archaeology Near Reserve, New Mexico: A Journey from Chicago to Denver and Beyond.”

Dr. Nash is an archaeologist, columnist, historian of science, and stand-up comedian. He is currently studying the Mogollon archaeology of southwestern New Mexico, Indian peace medals in the Museum’s Crane Collection, and the enchanting Russian gem carving sculptures of Vasily Konovalenko. He has written and edited seven books and dozens of peer-reviewed articles on subjects ranging from Neanderthal stone tools to tree-ring dates, the history of museums to Southwestern archaeology. He has published nearly 40 Curiosities columns for the *SAPIENS* online magazine, on topics ranging from ancient Roman hygiene to Leonardo da Vinci, and from the Huey helicopter to the use of GPS systems. He has been at the Museum for 13 years; prior to this he served as head of collections in the Department of Anthropology at the Field Museum in Chicago. Eons ago, he served as a tour guide and lecturer at the Museum of Science and Industry.

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[SJBAS Volunteer Opportunities](#)

Date: **February 10th**

Time: **7:00 p.m. MST**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85780706701?pwd=NIJxbUx3L09BU1Y0NCs0WWTN1T0lMUT09>

Meeting ID: 857 8070 6701

Passcode: 578820

President's Letter

Dear SJBAS Members,

As I write this there is snow falling and the moisture is very welcome. The Health Department has started giving vaccines to people 70 and older. Both of these events are encouraging!

We have reserved the picnic area at Edgemont Ranch for August 11th in the hopes that we can get together and have a post-Covid celebration and picnic. We hope you can be there!

We have also reserved the Vallecito Room at Fort Lewis College on December 4th for the SJBAS Holiday Brunch and Silent Auction. The Silent Auction will include many wonderful items that were donated by the Linda and Richard Robinson Estate to benefit Native American Preservation Projects. I certainly hope that by December we are able to get together in person again!

This is repetitive, but the Board is continuing to monitor the Covid situation and will start Field Trips as soon as we can. Please contact the Field Trip Coordinator, Lyle Hancock, with your ideas, suggestions, or to volunteer to lead a trip.

There are several Board members who have served on the Board for many, many years. One of our goals is to plan for their retirement - find new people and provide for a smooth transition. The Board will provide more details soon. Please email me at sc53hicks@gmail.com if you would like to serve on the Board and help SJBAS continue to provide fun and educational opportunities.

Sincerely,
Susan Hicks

Next Board Meeting – February 3

SJBAS members are always welcome to attend and participate in our Board meetings. We have scheduled the next Board meeting for February 3, 2021 at 3:00 p.m. using Zoom. If you would like to attend, email [Hunter McCleary](mailto:HunterMcCleary) and he will send you the Zoom link.

PAAC report to Board

Three classes were offered via Zoom by Becca Simon, Assistant State Archaeologist and coordinator/instructor of History Colorado PAAC (Program for Avocational Archaeological Certification). These started in October and ran for 8 sessions covering the subjects of Archaeological Dating Methods, Prehistoric Lithic Description and Analysis and Archaeological Laboratory Techniques. Several members of SJBAS took advantage of the classes; however, the registration form did not request information about individual organization affiliation.

Becca sent out an email on 12/16/20 with participation statistics for those who are interested. Here is an excerpt of that email related to future activities/classes in this report:

Becca writes:

“I hope to have the next set of classes announced no later than mid-January, with them beginning sometime in March. If there are specific needs for your communities, please let me know. I have two volunteers helping me with some technical review of the online classes and recently connected with a group of state-employed Google Classroom gurus and hope to maximize efficacy and impact in the coming months. For the future, I will be managing and working more with Google Classrooms, so all participants will need to have a Google Account (not necessarily a Gmail address) and I will help folks with that task.

In-person classes will likely not happen next year, but I do hope to figure out some sort of field opportunity.

Please let me know if you have any questions or comments about PAAC. Feel free to give me additional feedback (both from yourselves and your respective communities/ networks). Until in-person classes can resume, I see this group as the main marketing and communication outlet for the program. As details change, I will be sure to update you.”

As SJBAS PAAC representative, I will pass along your suggestions and comments. If you would like to suggest a particular class, please email me at tishvarney@att.net. – Tish Varney

Where did the caldarium ash go from the Roman baths of Caracalla?

I wanted to follow up on a question that was asked last week during my presentation, “Heavenly Splendor, the Baths of Caracalla,” about what was done with the ash from the furnaces underneath the caldarium. I asked Dr. Janet DeLaine from Oxford since she is the leading authority on the Baths, and I knew she would know. And she did. Dr. DeLaine was able to see what was left of the furnaces underneath the caldarium, unlike me. She said more than likely, the ash was transported in carts in the passageways I talked about that were 20-feet wide. There is a road outside of the caldarium where she surmised it would have been transported. She thinks it was used in the market gardens, and I agree with her. From what I know of the Romans, they wasted very little. Ash was an excellent fertilizer, and I am certain they knew that.

'Til the next time - Dianne Scialla

Dates	<p align="center">Field Trip and Activity Schedule – 2021</p> <p align="center">January - June</p> <p align="center">SJBAS plans the following meetings and presentations using Zoom.</p> <p align="center">Field trips are not yet planned.</p>
January 13	SJBAS meeting - Dianne Scialla will present: “Heavenly Splendor, the Baths of Caracalla.”
February 10	SJBAS meeting - Steve Nash will present: “Mogollon Archaeology Near Reserve, New Mexico: A Journey from Chicago to Denver and Beyond.”

March 10	SJBAS meeting – Fred Blackburn will present: “Methodology and Documentation of Historic Names at Aztec Ruins.”
April 14	SJBAS meeting – Kelley Berliner will present: "The Archaeological Conservancy's Preservation Efforts in the East: from the Paleolithic through 19th-Century Industrial Sites."
May 12	SJBAS meeting – Bob Leonard will present: “Old Spanish Trail.”
June 9	SJBAS meeting - Shelby Tisdale will present her new book: “Federico – One Man’s Remarkable Journey from Tututepec to L.A.”
July 14	SJBAS meeting - Davina Two Bears, visiting FLC professor, will present: “Boarding school site in Arizona.”
August 11	SJBAS Picnic at Edgemont Ranch
August 11	SJBAS meeting - Carla Sinopoli, Director, Maxwell Museum, will present: “Indi”
September 8	SJBAS meeting - Wirt Wills, UNM Professor will present: “Irrigation at Chaco.”
December 4	SJBAS Annual Holiday Brunch

New Manager at Canyons of the Ancients National Monument

An experienced national park ranger from Arizona has been hired as the new permanent manager for Canyons of the Ancients National Monument in Southwest Colorado. Ray O’Neil, of Tucson, has assumed management of the 76,000-acre monument, known for its archaeological sites, desert canyon beauty and year-round recreation. “I’m so excited to be back on the Colorado Plateau, and look forward to working with monument staff and the community,” O’Neil said in an interview. “I have an open-door management style; anybody can talk with me about issues or concerns.” As a public lands’ devotee, he said the job is an opportunity of a lifetime, especially because of the monuments’ diverse landscapes and archaeology. *Jim Mimiaga in the Journal* | ([Read article](#))



2020 Annual Meeting Summary – A Message from Crow Canyon’s President

It’s been about a month since our first virtual Annual Meeting, and the details are still running through my mind -- listening to roosters crow while Kellam gave his live update from the field, zooming in on special artifacts in the lab with Ben, and visiting with Tyson and Becky on the patio while they explained their projects. It was definitely a new experience talking to all of you without seeing your faces or answering

questions in person.

My hope for the meeting was that you would experience a bit of what it feels like to be at Crow Canyon right now -- to sense the strangeness of doing our work without students and participants beside us, to learn about the innovations we have pursued, to hear the laughter and lightheartedness that provide balance to our work during a time of uncertainty. From the feedback we have received, I am thrilled that our attendees felt connected to our staff and to our landscape.

With the Annual Meeting behind us, our staff members are closing down outdoor projects and preparing for winter work. I would like to share a few take-away messages from the Annual Meeting:

- 2020 has been a year marked by financial strength, protecting assets that will sustain us into the future, and expanding our mission to have a broader impact in the world.
- When the pandemic affected our original plans for the year, we challenged ourselves to discover how our particular talents and resources could be useful to the world and our stakeholders in this moment.
- We've been able to advance our mission in ways that make positive contributions to society with archaeological research, experiential education, and American Indian knowledge with digital resources for learning and teaching about our shared human history, such as [Discover Archaeology](#), a weekly webinar series that reached more than 3,000 new participants.
- Our ability to study and teach about the ancient people of the Mesa Verde region is a privilege and a gift from ancestral Pueblo communities, their vibrant descendant communities, and Native American people throughout the Greater Southwest. Our work during the pandemic has highlighted the importance of reciprocity in our partnerships.



Crow Canyon is a forever organization, and we believe that our mission is literally timeless. We have been studying human resilience and ingenuity and adapting our work to the changing world for 37 years, and we are still going strong. As we adapt, we rely heavily on the generosity and philanthropy of our supporters to maintain our strength and ability to do this work. We run on love, commitment, and gratitude. Thank you for being a part of our family!

If you would like to watch or re-watch the Annual Meeting, the link is [here](#).

Warmly,
Liz

President & CEO
Crow Canyon Archaeological Center

Biden to review changes to Bears Ears

ASSOCIATED PRESS, SALT LAKE CITY – President Joe Biden said Wednesday he plans to review the Trump administration’s downsizing of two sprawling national monuments in the American Southwest, including one on lands considered sacred to Native Americans who joined environmental groups in suing when the boundaries were redrawn in 2017. The land monuments Biden will reassess are the Grand Staircase-Escalante and Bears Ears national monuments in southern Utah. President Bill Clinton created Grand Staircase in 1996, and President Barack Obama created Bears Ears in 2016. The cuts made by Trump paved the way for potential coal mining and oil and gas drilling on lands that used to be off limits, though activity was limited because of market dynamics. ([Read article](#))

The Dig

The film, “The Dig” is a true story of one of the most important archaeological finds of the past century. In 1939, a 6th century burial ship was discovered at Sutton Hoo, an area along a riverbank in Suffolk on Britain’s east coast. Edith Pretty (Mulligan) had been curious about the mounds on her property. With WWII approaching, she hires a local excavator, Basil Brown to investigate. The ship, which had been brought up from a nearby river, was a burial chamber, with its high-status occupant dressed in finery and buried with money, food, household goods and art for his afterlife journey. The find changed our perceptions about the Anglo Saxons. An Anglo-Saxon helmet and other treasures from the ship are now at the British Museum. The film was distributed in a limited release on 15 January 2021, to be followed by streaming on Netflix on 29 January 2021.

Yupköyvi - The Place Beyond the Horizon – by Larry Ruiz

The following is the link to our film, “*Yupköyvi - The Place Beyond the Horizon*” at the Santa Fe Film Festival which will be held February 17-21: <http://santafefilmfestival.com/index/film/yupk%d3%a7yvi-the-place-beyond-the-horizon/>

Online Archaeology Events

The Salado Phenomenon in the U.S. Southwest

On **February 10** at 7:00 p.m. MST, **Allen Dart** will present “The Salado Phenomenon in the U.S. Southwest.” In the early 20th century, archaeologists in the southwestern U.S. viewed a constellation of distinctive cultural traits – multicolored pottery, houses arranged in walled compounds, and monumental architecture – as evidence of a cultural group they termed “Salado.” Subsequent discoveries cause us to question what the Salado traits really represent. More information and Zoom registration: <https://bit.ly/2LNhaSV>

Hisatsinom Chapter presents “Prehistoric use of Florida Mesa near Durango” with Tosh McKetta

The Colorado Department of Transportation is redesigning the hazardous interchange between U.S. Highways 550 and 160 to the south of Durango, Colorado. Cultural consultation and mitigation for the project included a robust program of Native American participation and archaeological data recovery at four major prehistoric sites, including three Pueblo I habitations and a Pueblo II camp. Together, these sites contain at least 11 semi-subterranean structures with associated surface features and artifacts. This presentation will provide information about the project, discuss preliminary results, and provide a regional context through which to

interpret the results. View the video produced by Crow Canyon: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V1B-1viaogM>.

Speculations on the events leading to the creation of the Chimney Rock Great House and those events that followed its abandonment around 1125.

Here is a link to Kim Malville's September 10th Zoom presentation now available on YouTube video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Lu4Xov2-Q9I&feature=emb_title

Regional Archaeology News

Commentary: Haaland's Nomination to Interior Is Redemptive

The nomination of Deb Haaland to be interior secretary is not just a historic but a redemptive act. For the first time in our history, a Native American will hold a Cabinet-level post. As secretary of the interior, Haaland will play a key role at a crucial moment in our nation's relationship with its more than 450 million acres of public lands, and will have a chance to reverse our exploitive history toward our country's first people.

<https://bit.ly/2KWfmaw> - David Gessner in the Santa Fe New Mexican (originally published in the Washington Post: <https://wapo.st/3rUtv8x>)

We strongly recommend that readers listen to this Here & Now (WBUR/NPR) segment with Jim Enote, CEO of the Colorado Plateau Foundation and a member of the Pueblo of Zuni, about his thoughts on Congresswoman Debra Haaland's recent nomination to be the Biden administration's Secretary of the Interior:

<https://wbur.fm/3niQQ8j>.

Federal Appropriations Bill Includes Chaco Protection

The Chaco Canyon National Historical Park is considered the birthplace of the Pueblo people—rich both in culture and natural resources. For years, a battle over oil and gas development in the area has raged on. However, when President Trump signed the recent spending bill, it included an amendment that prohibits new oil and gas leases within 10 miles of the national park. The measure also includes up to \$600,000 to conduct a cultural resources investigation. <https://bit.ly/2KV5WvV> - KOB4 Albuquerque

Hopes for Restorations and Protections

The climate plan outlined by President-elect Joe Biden aims to address environmental issues relevant to Arizona and the Southwest, such as public lands, water protection, clean energy and climate change. And while legal experts warn of a difficult political path ahead, politicians, tribal leaders and activists say they're hopeful about how the incoming administration will focus on the environment. *AZ Republic* | [Read article »](#)
Biden showed his support for both public lands and tribal voices when he appointed Deb Haaland as his Secretary of the Interior. ... "It was a really inspired choice in Deb Haaland to lead Interior," [Tim] Peterson said. "Indigenous leadership there is so long overdue. It's long overdue in any presidential cabinet, but I think this one really demonstrates a commitment to positive change for indigenous issues and for public lands issues as well. She's really been a champion for both." *Fronteras (KJZZ/NPR)* | [Read article »](#)
Advocates hope that the Biden team will find more funding to manage both monuments [Bears Ears and Grand Staircase-Escalante]. They are also hopeful that new management plans will reflect both updated

science—for example, how wildlife corridors can preserve biodiversity and help species adapt to climate change—and a greater influence of tribal voices and perspectives. *National Geographic* | [Read article »](#)

Utah’s Grand County Commission Asks Biden Administration to Restore Bears Ears

The Grand County Commission sent a letter to President-elect Joe Biden last week requesting that he keep his campaign pledge and “take immediate action to restore the Bears Ears National Monument to its original size” once he is in office. The move follows a similar letter approved by the San Juan County Commission last month and marks a growing show of support for the monument from local governments. <https://bit.ly/3oKZwhC> - Salt Lake Tribune

Friends of Cedar Mesa Celebrate 10th Anniversary, 2020 Highlights

As this challenging and upside-down year ends, we at FCM are pausing to reflect upon another year providing stewardship for the lands we love. Amid the hardships this year has brought, we also recognize we have much to be thankful for. This year was momentous at FCM, and we want to share some highlights.

<https://bit.ly/3nzlK3j>

Online Course: From Clovis to Coronado

Dr. Barbara Mills (Regents Professor, University of Arizona) will teach “From Clovis to Coronado: An Introduction to Southwest Archaeology.” The six-week online course will meet virtually on Wednesdays, February 3 to March 10, 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. The course provides an archaeological overview of American Indian societies in the Southwest from the earliest occupation at least 12,000 years ago through the colonial period, including where, when, and how they lived. For more information, including tuition, syllabus, and textbook, visit: <https://bit.ly/35yLiZB>

SJBAS Elected Officers and Other Board Members - 2021

President	Susan Hicks	sc53hicks@gmail.com
Vice President	Hunter McCleary	info@bike-durango.org
Secretary	Rhonda Raffo	rhondaandjim@msn.com
Treasurer	Randy Graham	rg44@bresnan.net

Communications chair	Lyle Hancock	lylehancock54@gmail.com
Education/PAAC representative	Tish Varney	tishvarney@att.net
Field Trip Program coordinator	Lyle Hancock	lylehancock54@gmail.com
Membership chair	Denise Galley	membership@sjbas.org
<i>Moki Messenger</i> editor	Lyle Hancock	lylehancock54@gmail.com
Programming chair	Janice Sheftel	janicesheftel@gmail.com
Publicity chair	Rusty Chamberlain	chambrke@aol.com
Social chair	Michelle and Mark McKibben	michellemckibben56@gmail.com
Webmaster	Lyle Hancock	lylehancock54@gmail.com

SJBAS Membership renewals are due by January 31st each year; however, if you paid dues in 2020, these would carry over through 2021. If you need to renew a lapsed membership or join SJBAS, please complete the [SJBAS Annual Membership Form](#), make your check payable to 'SJBAS' and mail with the Annual Membership Form to: **SJBAS, Attn: Randy Graham, P.O. Box 3153, Durango, CO 81302.**