

# SAN JUAN BASIN ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Chapter of Colorado Archaeological Society



[www.sjbas.org](http://www.sjbas.org)

## The Moki Messenger

January 2016

### Next SJBAS Meeting – January 14<sup>th</sup>

Our next meeting will be held on Thursday, January 14<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 p.m. in the Lyceum at the Center of Southwest Studies at Fort Lewis College. After a brief business meeting, FLC Professor Jesse Tune will present, "Colonizing the Southern Rockies: Timing and Adaptations of the First Coloradans".

Dr. Jesse Tune is originally from Nashville, Tennessee and has been working on Paleoindian sites in the Southeastern United States for about the last ten years. He recently earned his Ph.D. from Texas A&M University and began teaching anthropology and archaeology at Fort Lewis College in 2015. Broadly speaking, his research focuses on the relationships between humans and the environment. He works primarily on Paleoindian sites that were occupied at the end of the last Ice Age. During that time, much of North America was shifting from a colder, dryer climate to the warmer, wetter climate of today. He is interested in how people adapted their behaviors and technologies to cope with those environmental changes. Dr. Tune is currently developing new research projects that are locally focused on the first people to live in the Southern Rockies and San Juan Basin.

### SJBAS Annual Meeting and Holiday Celebration – December 10<sup>th</sup>

Our SJBAS annual meeting and holiday celebration was held Thursday, December 10<sup>th</sup>, in the Student Union Ballroom at FLC. The holiday celebration began with a social hour at 6:00 p.m. with a cash bar followed by dinner and program activities. Activities included recognition for CAS conference volunteers, election of 2016 chapter officers, a silent auction for the John W. Sanders Internship Fund, a discussion of potential field trips for 2016, and a review of SJBAS activities and field trips in 2015.

### Annual Meeting Notes

Janice Sheftel, SJBAS President, called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. She thanked Foxie Mason, Jim Mueller, and Rhonda Raffo for organizing the party and arranging the decorations. Janice then introduced the staff from the Center of Southwest Studies who were attending as guests of SJBAS. Janice presented Jeanne Brako with a \$1,000 check from the John W. Sanders Internship Fund to cover the cost of two interns at the Center of Southwest Studies for spring term 2016.

Janice announced that SJBAS was co-sponsoring with the Center of Southwest Studies on January 12<sup>th</sup> a preview of the film "Women of Colorado Mining Towns" to be aired later that week on PBS. Member Rudy Davison has been

instrumental in the creation of the program and chose to preview the film in both Telluride and Durango. The film will be shown in the Vallecito Room at Fort Lewis College and more details will follow.

Janice introduced the 2015 Board Members and announced that all have agreed to serve an additional one-year term. The slate of officers for Member vote is as follows:

President	Janice Sheftel
Vice President	Foxie Mason
Vice President	Jim Mueller
Secretary	Barb Hancock
Treasurer	Mark Gebhardt
PAAC Coordinator	Tish Varney
CAS Representative	Tish Varney
Publicity	Jill Tripp
Field Trips	Lyle Hancock

Janice requested a motion from the floor to add other names to the slate or approve it for 2016. There were no additional names put forth, and the slate was unanimously approved by the membership. Janice thanked and presented a gift to Terri Hoff for serving as our CAS Representative for several years.

The CAS conference volunteers listed below were asked to step forward to receive the book “No Bone Unturned” about Dr. Doug Owsley as a token of appreciation for their contribution to the tremendous success of the conference.

Joan Kellogg	John and Eliane Viner
Pete Varney	Shaila Van Sickle
Rusty and Kathy Chamberlain	Brigitte Stehlik
Peggy and Dennis Lopez	Jill Patton
Bob Powell	Rae Moeller
Rhonda Raffo	Lydine Hannula
	Sherry Suenram

Vice President Jim Mueller presented Janice with a gift from the Board in recognition of her contributions and leadership in 2015. Janice recruited all of the speakers for 2015, served as President of SJBAS, and provided leadership and did an incredible amount of work for the 2015 CAS Conference and Annual Meeting.

Jim then made a general call for volunteers explaining that the club cannot be sustained by the efforts of the Board alone and other member’s contributions and time is a requirement for a healthy organization. He indicated that a sign-up sheet was posted at the front table and asked members to sign up to be contacted for future volunteer assignments.

Janice Sheftel then adjourned the business meeting and introduced the next two presenters. Pete Varney who volunteered to photograph the CAS Conference showed a five-minute presentation of photographs from the conference. Then Lyle Hancock conducted the field trip portion of the evening’s program. Lyle reviewed the monthly speaker line up for 2016 and then discussed some of the field trips that are being considered for 2016. Lyle explained that this year SJBAS is not providing the full year’s field trips at the holiday party but will roll them out over the year.

Some of the field trips under consideration include:

- Southern Ute Cultural Center and Growth Fund building tour
- Overnight trip to Galisteo Basin to see the fabulous rock art
- Camping trip to Puye Cliff Dwellings and Bandelier National Monument
- Largo Canyon day trip to see Navajo Pueblitos and rock art

Canoe trips on the Gunnison River sponsored by the San Juan Mountains Association and History Colorado  
Day trip and hike to Lewis Mine and mill near Telluride  
Mesa Verde backcountry hike & tour  
Camping trip to see rock art in Bluff and Ancestral Puebloan sites on Comb Ridge  
Day trip to Yucca House National Monument  
Arborglyph tour  
Hike the historic Animas City – Silverton wagon road near Electra Lake  
Charles Riggs' field school  
Ute Mountain Tribal Park work weekend

Lyle encouraged members to volunteer as trip leaders and to contact him at [lylehancock@bresnan.net](mailto:lylehancock@bresnan.net) if they are interested. He then presented highlights from 2015 field trips.

The holiday party wrapped up at 9:00 p.m.

### **A few Field Trip Photos**



Exploring Cochise County, AZ - our group at Coronado National Monument



Backpack to Keet Seel at Navajo National Monument



San Rafael Swell - Bob Powell explaining Fremont petroglyphs



Exploring Cedar Mesa – our group at Shield House



Fallen Roof Site – Cedar Mesa



Mesa Verde Visitor and Research Center - Behind the Scenes Tour



Canyonlands Rock Art - Jim and Rhonda at Crescent Moon panel

## New Dues Structure – 2016

The Colorado Archaeology Society (CAS) has developed a new dues structure for 2016. They have new membership categories for Senior's (age 65 or older) and Permanently Disabled, and Senior's Family; and standard memberships now include the quarterly CAS Southwestern Lore Journal. The senior's membership does not include Southwestern Lore. As a result of these changes, the SJBAS Board has approved the following new dues structure for 2016:

Membership Category	SJBAS dues	CAS dues	Total
Individual	\$15.00	\$20.00	\$35.00
Family	\$20.00	\$23.00	\$43.00
Senior (65+) or Permanently Disabled (* no Southwestern Lore)	\$15.00	\$10.00	\$25.00
Senior - Family (* no Southwestern Lore)	\$20.00	\$11.50	\$31.50
Student	\$ 7.00	\$10.00	\$17.00
Student - Family	\$10.00	\$11.50	\$21.50

**Membership renewals are due by January 31<sup>st</sup>.** To renew or join SJBAS, follow this link to our [Application forms](#). Please complete the application form, "Waiver of Liability" and "Proper Etiquette" statements, make your check payable to 'SJBAS' and mail all three documents to our treasurer: **Mark Gebhardt, 107 St. Andrews Circle, Durango, CO 81301**. Donations to the John W. Sanders Internship Fund may be included.

## PAAC Schedule – 2016

Follow this link to the PAAC schedule for the first half of 2016: [PAAC Schedule 2016](#). The next class in Durango is Rock Art Studies from June 3<sup>rd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup>.

## CAS Chapter News

Hisatsinom Newsletter – January 2016 [Hisatsinom Newsletter - January](#)

## Colorado Archaeological Society 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/>

Please share your photos, upcoming events, links to archaeological articles etc. and let other CAS chapters in the state know what you have been up to.

## Colorado Experience: RMPBS Film on January 12, 2016, at FLC Vallecito Room, 7:00 p.m.

A new documentary "Women of Colorado's Mining Towns", will broadcast on Rocky Mountain PBS, KRMA, on January 14, 2016. It was proposed to Rocky Mountain PBS by Rudy Davison. Rudy's "Viewers' Choice" prize for submitting the best idea for the program [Colorado Experience](#) is to have a film premiere in his hometown. Since he divides his time between Telluride and Durango, both towns get to offer a screening prior to the showing on public TV.

The Durango premier showing will be on January 12, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. at the Vallecito Room, Fort Lewis College, preceded by a reception at 6:00 p.m. and followed by a panel discussion - featuring Rudy and Beverly Rich, President, San Juan County Historical Society, from Silverton and others. Duane Smith and Rudy are both featured in the film.

A quick description of the film, from the producer, Mariel Rodriguez-McGill, is as follows:

*High altitude, groceries delivered by mule train, pack rats and spoiled Thanksgiving turkeys are just a few of the challenges faced by ladies living in Colorado's remote mining towns at the end of the 19th Century. Learn stories of three inspirational women who held their own while surrounded by a harsh landscape and un-lady-like company.*

*The show revolves around three women who left diaries of their adventures in mining camps. Two grew up in camps - Mabel Barbee Lee and Anne Ellis -- and the third woman, Harriet Fish Backus moved to the Tom Boy Mine from the West Coast as a new bride. Each has a unique perspective on life in a mostly male environment, and faced many challenges that can be attributed to the weather, the altitude, the remote nature of the camps, etc.*

## **Four Corners Archaeology News**

### **El Palacio Magazine**

*El Palacio*, the oldest museum magazine in the country, is the source for knowledge about the art, history and culture of the Southwest. Published since 1913, *El Palacio*—now as then—reflects the work of New Mexico's four state museums in Santa Fe; its eight New Mexico Historic Sites; and its singular Office of Archaeological Studies. Follow this link for a calendar of exhibitions and events in New Mexico this December, January, and February: [El Palacio Winter - 2016.pdf](#)

## **Other Southwestern Archaeological Organizations**

### **The Archaeological Conservancy**

The Archaeological Conservancy, [www.archaeologicalconservancy.org](http://www.archaeologicalconservancy.org), is a national, non-profit organization dedicated to acquiring and preserving archaeological sites discovered on private land. The organization identifies, acquires, secures, and manages the archaeological sites as part of a long-term preservation plan. It also engages with and educates the general public about the preservation of our cultural heritage.

The Archaeological Conservancy depends on donations, gifts and grants for funding. Supporters become members of the Conservancy and receive a subscription to American Archaeology Magazine. Published quarterly, American Archaeology is a popular magazine devoted to the excitement and mystery of archaeology in the U.S.A. and North America – including Canada and Latin America.

Follow this link to the table of contents of the [American Archaeology Winter Issue](#). This issue has an intriguing article about Chaco Canyon...

Chaco Canyon has puzzled and intrigued archaeologists for almost 120 years. Despite the abundance of archaeological remains, scholars know relatively little about the people who lived there, including when they formed the hierarchical society needed to build the sprawling, four-story structures like Pueblo Bonito that characterize the culture's zenith.

Most Chaco researchers have long believed that a social hierarchy evolved simultaneously with the construction of the monumental pueblos, an extensive road network, irrigation systems, outlier communities, and other markers of the so-called florescence of Chaco culture around A.D. 1040 to 1120. But a team of researchers who radiocarbon dated scarlet macaw bones from Pueblo Bonito says their work, in combination with a recent study that dates elite burials to the ninth century, contradicts the accepted chronology of cultural development for this Anasazi capital in northwest New Mexico.

In a paper titled “Early procurement of scarlet macaws and the emergence of social complexity in Chaco Canyon, NM” that was published last June in the *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences*, lead author Adam Watson, a postdoctoral fellow with the American Museum of Natural History (AMNH), and his colleagues suggest that some Chacoans formed an elite social class—a sign of social hierarchy—that established contact with advanced Mesoamerican cultures by the ninth century. That’s long before the “pretty much universally” accepted dates for the cultural florescence of Chaco, says co-author Stephen Plog, who admits to being surprised by the radiocarbon results. Plog is an archaeologist at the University of Virginia and a Chaco expert specializing in social and ritual exchange and the emergence of social inequality.

## Archaeology Southwest

[Archaeology Southwest](#) is a private, non-profit organization headquartered in Tucson, Arizona. For three decades, Archaeology Southwest has practiced a holistic, conservation-based approach to exploring the places of the past. We call this **Preservation Archaeology**. By exploring what makes a place special, sharing this knowledge in innovative ways, and enacting flexible site protection strategies, we foster meaningful connections to the past and respectfully safeguard its irreplaceable resources.

## Crow Canyon Archaeological Center Newsletter – December 2015



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### "The Way Every Teacher Wants to Teach"

#### Crow Canyon Educators Lead Students to Discovery

Steamboat Springs, Colorado, has been sending seventh-grade students to Crow Canyon since 1986, and teachers say their experience here covers every part of their curriculum. "Every school program should be designed this way," they say. While here, the students cut their lunch hour short to learn about planting corn from Pueblo farmers. [Read more.](#)

### More News

#### [Meeting Our Mission](#)

#### [Inaugural CultureFest Engages Crowd](#)

In October, Crow Canyon friends, and board members traveled from across the country to attend the Center's inaugural CultureFest and experience the vibrant culture of the Four Corners area. [Read more.](#)

#### [College Feld School Enters Second Year](#)

Crow Canyon's 2016 College Field School will be an intensive five-week immersion in the theory and practice of archaeology. Applications are being accepted now. [Read more.](#)

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elsewhere



## Journal Publishes Article on VEP Research

*Nature*, the online international weekly journal of science, has published an article about the Village Ecodynamics Project and the depopulation of the Mesa Verde region. [Read the article.](#)

## Featured Programs and Events

### 2016 Tours for Crow Canyon Members Only

Trace the explorer Coronado's route through New Mexico and learn how his expedition affected Pueblo communities, or explore the artistic, economic, and sacred value of turquoise. [Read more.](#)

## Crow Canyon Community

### Rina Swentzell Helped Shape Our Research

Rina Swentzell, who died on October 30, 2015, contributed a Pueblo perspective to Crow Canyon's research and taught us new ways to think about archaeological sites. [Read more.](#)

### Save the Date for D.C. Event!

If you are near Washington, D.C., on May 21, 2016, join Crow Canyon for a day of special events. Crow Canyon scholars will give a presentation at the Smithsonian followed by a reception, dinner, and program at the National Museum of the American Indian. For information, call 800.422.8975, ext. 177, or email [Jeanne Becker](mailto:Jeanne.Becker).

## SJBAS Elected Officers

President	Janice Sheftel	<a href="mailto:jsheftel@mbsslip.com">jsheftel@mbsslip.com</a>
Vice President	Florence (Foxie) Mason	<a href="mailto:fmason@frontier.net">fmason@frontier.net</a>
Vice President	Jim Mueller	<a href="mailto:rhondaandjim@msn.com">rhondaandjim@msn.com</a>
Vice President Field Trip Program	Lyle Hancock	<a href="mailto:lylehancock@bresnan.net">lylehancock@bresnan.net</a>
Secretary	Barb Hancock	<a href="mailto:barbhancock@bresnan.net">barbhancock@bresnan.net</a>
Treasurer	Mark Gebhardt	<a href="mailto:mark@virtbiz.com">mark@virtbiz.com</a>
CAS Representative	Tish Varney	<a href="mailto:tishvarney@att.net">tishvarney@att.net</a>
PAAC Representative	Tish Varney	<a href="mailto:tishvarney@att.net">tishvarney@att.net</a>

## Other Positions

Moki Messenger contact	Lyle Hancock	<a href="mailto:lylehancock@bresnan.net">lylehancock@bresnan.net</a>
Programming Chair	Janice Sheftel	<a href="mailto:jsheftel@mbsslip.com">jsheftel@mbsslip.com</a>
Publicity Chair	Jill Tripp	<a href="mailto:jtripp51@yahoo.com">jtripp51@yahoo.com</a>
Webmaster	Lyle Hancock	<a href="mailto:lylehancock@bresnan.net">lylehancock@bresnan.net</a>

## San Juan Basin Archaeological Society – Membership Renewal

**Membership renewals are due by January 31<sup>st</sup> each year.** Please complete the SJBAS application package, including liability waiver and site etiquette forms, <http://www.sibas.org/Application.pdf>, make your check payable to 'SJBAS' and mail with the application forms to our chapter treasurer: **Mark Gebhardt, 107 St. Andrews Circle, Durango, CO 81301.**