



THE MOKI MESSENGER

JULY 2018

SAN JUAN BASIN ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

www.sibas.org

Next meeting – July 11th

Our next meeting will be held on Wednesday, July 11th, at 7:00 p.m. at the Lyceum at the Center of Southwest Studies, Fort Lewis College. After a brief business meeting, Dr. Susan Ryan from Crow Canyon will present: the "*Northern Chaco Outliers Project*" and discuss current excavations at the Haynie Site near Cortez. There will be a social at 6:30 p.m. in the CSWS foyer.

Those attending Dr. Ryan's presentation will have priority to sign-up for the September 14th Haynie Site field trip at the meeting.

Dr. Ryan is the Director of Archaeology at the Crow Canyon Archaeological Center and is the principal investigator of the Northern Chaco Outliers Project, a multi-year research project in the Mesa Verde region focused on human-environment relationships, community formation, migration, and the Chaco-to-post-Chaco transition. Susan is the director of Crow Canyon's College Field School as well as a principle investigator for the Earthwatch Institute. Her research interests include the nature and extent of Chaco influence in the northern San Juan region, semiotics, the built environment, and community formation and dissolution.

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Pre-meeting Social Volunteer Opportunity

If you would like to help with this month's pre-meeting social, please contact Susan at susanlivenick@gmail.com.

Field Trip Opportunity – 2018 Pecos Conference!

Attend the most informative and incredibly interesting conference on Southwest Archaeology! Please join us at the Pecos Conference in Flagstaff, AZ from August 9th – 12th. The Pecos Conference is the premier annual conference reporting on current research by archaeologists and anthropologists in the Southwest. The conference has been meeting annually for more than 80 years with presentations by leading authorities and students on recently completed and ongoing research projects and field work.

Foxie and Dick Mason will serve as “campground hosts” for SJBAS members who wish to camp at this year’s conference location at the Hot Shot Camp 10 miles north of Flagstaff. If you would like to join the Masons at a SJBAS campsite location, please call Foxie Mason at 970.247.0252, or email fmason@frontier.net, for details. Tents and RV’s are welcome. The conference provides potable water, a trash dumpster and toilets. Pets allowed. No hookups, picnic tables, tent pads or grills are available. Deadline August 1.

Pecos Conference information and registration details are at www.pecosconference.org.

SJBAS Board members needed

Treasurer, Mark Gebhardt, and Vice President, Foxie Mason, are resigning at the end of this year. If you are interested in one of these Board positions, please contact Janice at janicesheftel@gmail.com for more information.

Evening Lectures coming up at Aztec Ruins

July 6 - Porter Swentzell (Santa Clara) *‘Place-Based Education and Sovereignty: Traditional Arts at the Institute of American Indian Arts’*

July 20 - Robin Corder *‘Early Agriculture in the San Juan Basin: Two Case Studies from the Mid-American Pipeline III Excavations’*

August 3 - Michelle Turner *‘A Layered World: New Research on the Aztec North Great House’*

Know Your SJBAS Neighbor – Steve Harris

Steve Harris is the President of Harris Water Engineering, Inc., which he formed in 1983 to provide general water resources consulting services in southwest Colorado. His firm provides services to wide variety of water districts, irrigation companies, and private clients. He and his wife, Lourdes Carrasco a retired FLC Professor, raised two children in Durango. He has a Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering and a Bachelor of Arts in Urban Studies from the University of Southern California. As Steve glides into retirement, he is in the process of transferring his work load to young engineers working with him. He has been on numerous water Boards and commissions as well as the "Liberty School" (private school for dyslexic and gift students) Board. Steve has read many books on the history of the four corners area and is very interested and appreciative of the activities of the SJBAS.

Chimney Rock National Monument Field Trip

Due to some cancellations, we have room for a few more SJBAS members on the July 12th Chimney Rock National Monument field trip. Michael Stillman of the Chimney Rock Interpretive Association will lead a special tour for our group. Tour cost is \$25 per person. For more information or to signup, contact Lyle at lylehancock@bresnan.net.

Field Trip Report – Shavano Petroglyph Tour and Historical-Geology Tour of Ouray’s Perimeter Trail - June 8th – 9th



We met our Shavano Valley Petroglyph docent, Alma Evan, at the Ute Indian Museum just south of Montrose, Colorado. After driving 5.5 miles west of Montrose, she led us through the sacred Shavano Valley Petroglyphs Site located on the eastern edge of the Uncompahgre Plateau. The Shavano Valley Rock Art



Site is one of the most important concentrations of rock art in western Colorado used by Archaic and Ute peoples dating back to 1,000 BC. The site contains twenty-six panels of rock art.

The natural artesian well at the base of the site has historically attracted native hunters and gatherers. Alma, having grown up in this farming valley, also shared information about the origin of the current irrigation system. From the rocky hillside where petroglyph walls are located, we all had a commanding view of the fertile valley below. It is commonly believed that this area was a crossroads for the Ute Indians and one of many ceremonial grounds for celebrating the coming of spring through the Bear Dance.

Participants were especially intrigued by the “tunnel cave”. We walked through a tunnel-like rock formation with petroglyphs on both sides. When we emerged from the other side we were all slightly older.

Much of the well-preserved rock art was comprised of farming and hunting depictions. Alma shared a modern-day map overlay that closely resembled a petroglyph map believed to depict the Shavano Valley.



Ouray Perimeter Trail Historical and Geological Tour

We had the good fortune of having, Rick Trujillo, an Ouray native, as our guide. Rick not only shared a great deal of information about the history of Ouray, he also described the very impressive geological features of the Ouray area. We even heard about Rick’s exciting adventures growing up in the mountainous terrain.

Our tour of the Perimeter Trail began at the Baby Bathtubs, a series of depressions carved into a streambed. We then climbed through beautiful white fir groves, an historic potato patch and lovely glistening aspen. We emerged on a high point with incredible scenic views of Mt. Abram, Hayden Mountain and the Uncompahgre Gorge. This was a fine opportunity for Rick to discuss the various geological features, including the fact that we were standing on rocks about 1.7 billion years old. We were especially interested in the origin of the geological names of the formations and various mountains that preceded the ones that currently surround Ouray.



After walking through the Ouray Ice Park, we followed the path up to the bridge above the Box Canyon Falls which rushes 300 feet below. Before walking into the old Ouray water tunnel, we discussed the great geological non-conformity that is evident in the rocky hillsides. Rick also pointed out similar rock formations and features found in other parts of our country such as the red rock in Animas Valley.

The trail continues along the steep slopes of the mountains that flank the west side of town before dropping down to Oak Street where many old Victorian homes are located. We walked through the west side of town to the Ouray Hot Springs for a quick break. With our water bottles full, we began a series of steep climbs following the cliff's edge above the north end of Ouray. The narrow path is exposed to some very sharp drop-offs. The cool spray from the Cascade Falls was a welcomed relief, as well as a picturesque view of these 100+ ft. falls. Continuing to climb through beautiful aspen groves, we soon reached the road that lead us back to the Baby Bathtubs. Even though there were some steep sections along the hike and a hint of smoke from the Durango area fires, it was very rewarding to learn about our neighboring town to the north. A big thank you goes to Rick Trujillo for sharing his extensive knowledge and slowing down every now and then so that we could catch our breath!

SJBAS Trip participants: Randy Graham, Flow Zerr, Jim Mueller, Rhonda Raffo, Steve Harris, Byron Kellogg and Joan Kellogg (field trip organizer) We had several folks who could not join us due to the fire situation in Durango.

Field Trip Report - FLC Field School – June 18th

Seven SJBAS members met at Santa Rita Park to carpool to The Great Sage Plain to visit three Ancient Puebloan sites. Your intrepid expedition team members were trip leader Rusty Chamberlain, Susan and Don Hicks, Catherine and Ron Larkins, Don Spangler, and Jim Broke. The primary site we visited was the Bowthorpe property. The Fort Lewis College Field School has excavated several P2 units on the property over the last two years.

Bowthorpe Property

FLC Anthropology professor, Dr. Charles Riggs, let's call him Chuck, met us at the Field School campsite on the Bowthorpe property and led us over to the excavation sites. The site has four room blocks; three are on the Bowthorpe property and the fourth is just to the east of their fence. Chuck started us at room block #1 (RB#1) which was excavated by last year's class. He explained that these units are called Prudden Units, after pioneering archaeologist T. Mitchell Prudden. Such units consist of 6 to 10 rooms in 2 rows with a kiva to the south and a midden beyond that. They are common throughout the Colorado Plateau during the Pueblo II period.



From RB#1 we walked to RB#3 where the students have done most of the excavation. This unit has about 10 rooms, but it also has 3 kivas. All three were excavated. They may not have been occupied at the same time. The student excavations of the kivas show that they were mostly cleared out and then burned. They found burned roof timbers. In one of the kivas, they found broken vessels (including some large pieces) and corn kernels. Analysis of the corn kernels and the charred roof beams may show when each kiva was occupied.

Some of the rooms were also excavated. Interestingly, as the students dug down they found evidence of previous occupation. Around the area we saw several square piles of stones. Chuck explained that each pile comes for a single room. As the unit deteriorates, the walls fall into the room. By measuring the volume of the pile and the length of the room foundation, they can determine the height of the walls. During our visit, teams of students were mapping the contents and structure of each kiva and excavated room prior to back filling the excavation.



To finish our visit, we returned to the camp where two students were cleaning items collected during the previous four weeks. The bag of sherds, which student Micha was cleaning, came from the layer where the large pots were found; sherds were laid out on the screen, and we could almost put the pot together. We appreciated how generous Dr. Riggs, assistant Blyth Morrison, and the students were with their time and answering our many questions.

Sand Canyon Pueblo

After saying our goodbyes, we drove to the trailhead for Sand Canyon Pueblo where we enjoyed our lunch. We first explored the half of this Pueblo III village on the right of the drainage. This part

of the pueblo has two large structures, a double walled “D” shaped building and a great kiva. I must admit that I had to use my imagination and the map supplied on the information plaques. Then we checked out the other side of the village. Not as much to see here but we stopped at the last info plaque which indicated that Sand Canyon researchers believe there was a large plaza over a kiva with a tower on each side. Since we were not present for the excavation, we had to use our imaginations. In my imagination I see a white plastered Native American version of a Greek village climbing up the canyon wall. By the way, this site was first recorded in archaeological literature in 1903 by Mr. Prudden of Prudden Unit fame referenced above.

Goodman Point Pueblo

From here we backtracked to Goodman Point Pueblo. This site is now part of Hovenweep National Monument. Like Sand Canyon Pueblo, this village is built on two sides of a drainage with a spring some 30 meters inside the enclosing wall. The site is not documented with information plaques, but it is accessible, and Don Spangler found that the check-in station has literature about the site.

All in all, it was an enjoyable and educational trip. From the Goodman Point Pueblo which is on County Road P, it is a straight shot east to Highway 491 and home.

– by Rusty Chamberlain

Fort Lewis College – CSWS Summer Lecture Series schedule – 1:30 p.m. in the Lyceum

July 11: “Millicent Rogers: From New York to Taos.” Shelby Tisdale

July 18: “Western Women We Respect: Durango’s Own Olga Little,” Andrew Gulliford

July 25: “Alice Eastwood: Pioneer Botanist in the Four Corners.” Marietta Easton

August 8: “Mable Dodge Lujan and Company,” Lois Rudnick

August 22: “Slim Woman: Louisa Wade Wetherill of Kayenta.: Harvey Leake

Four Corners Lecture Series – [2018 Schedule](#)

Upcoming Field Trip and Activity Schedule - 2018

Updates are in red.

Dates

To update this schedule, email lylehancock@bresnan.net.

Please contact trip leaders by phone or email for more information or to sign up.

Follow this link for a [printer friendly 2018 Trip Schedule](#).

July 11	SJBAS meeting - Susan Ryan from Crow Canyon will present: the " <i>Northern Chaco Outliers Project</i> " and discuss current excavations at the Haynie Site near Cortez.
July 12	Chimney Rock National Monument – day trip – Special tour led by Michael Stillman of Chimney Rock Interpretive Association. Tour cost is \$25 per person, and the Trip Participation Limit is 18. For more information or to signup, contact Lyle at lylehancock@bresnan.net .
August 8	SJBAS meeting - Dr. Heather Smith – " <i>The contribution of Southwest archaeology to our understanding of how North America was occupied by humans.</i> "
August 9 - 12	Pecos Conference 2018 at Flagstaff, AZ - Group camping event. For additional information, contact Foxie Mason at fmason@frontier.net .
September 12	SJBAS meeting – Larry Ruiz, together with Laurie Webster, will present his new film: " <i>The Language of Landscapes: Places in Time</i> ," with a focus on the Cedar Mesa Perishables Project.
September 14	Haynie Site – Day trip - Site tour led by Susan Ryan to visit Crow Canyon research dig. Sign-ups accepted only after July 11th SJBAS meeting. For more information or to signup, contact Jim Mueller at rhondaandjim@msn.com .
September 15	<p>John W. Sanders Lecture Series - Dr. Aaron Deter-Wolf, a prehistoric archaeologist with the Tennessee Division of Archaeology, and an adjunct professor at Middle Tennessee University, will discuss "Otzi, the Iceman: a 5,000-year- old mummy found melting out of a glacier in the Italian Alps" at Fort Lewis College Ballroom.</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: flex-end; align-items: center; gap: 20px;">   </div>
September 21 - 23	Natural Bridges National Monument - 3-day camping trip - Visit Edge of the Cedars Museum; visit Cave Towers site; hike to backcountry sites at Natural Bridges. Trip Participation Limit is 12. For more information or to signup, contact Andy Gulliford at andy@agulliford.com .
September 22 - 25	Northern Arizona Exploration - 4-day camping trip - Navajo National Monument - guided hike to Betatakin; Wupatki and Sunset Crater National Monuments; Walnut Canyon National Monument; Flagstaff - tour Riordan Mansion State Historic Park and explore Museum of Northern Arizona; Grand Canyon – experience Desert View Watchtower, and tour Tusayan Ruin and Museum. Trip Participation Limit is 12. For more information or to signup, contact Lyle at lylehancock@bresnan.net .
September 22 - 23	CAS annual meeting in Cortez

September 29	Local Hispano Cemeteries Tour – day trip led by Ruth Lambert – Trip Participation Limit is 20. For more information or to sign up, contact Joan Kellogg at joankellogg@charter.net .
October 10	SJBAS meeting - Geri Hockfield Malandra will present: “ <i>The Ancient Sites of Ellora: A Microcosm of South Asia’s Archaeological Past</i> ”
October 26 - 29	Rock Art near Vernal, Utah – 4-day motel or camping trip – Tim Sweeney of Vernal will guide us to various rock art sites. Trip Participation Limit is 12. For more information or to signup, contact Tish Varney at tishvarney@att.net .
November 14	SJBAS meeting – Kristin Bowen, Lead archaeologist with Bureau of Reclamation, Western Colorado Office, will present: “ <i>A Federal Archaeologist’s work experiences in the Western USA.</i> ”
December 15	SJBAS annual meeting and holiday brunch

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/>

CAS Chapter News

Hisatsinom Chapter – [July Newsletter](#)

As a part of the Four Corners Lecture Series, the Hisatsinom Chapter of the Colorado Archaeology Society is pleased to present Dr. James Potter on Tuesday, July 3rd, 2018 at 7:00 PM at the Methodist Church, 515 Park Street, Cortez, CO to discuss “Photogrammetry and Beyond: Recent Preservation Efforts at the Ute Tribal Park.” James discusses the collaborative project of the Ute Mountain Ute THPO and PaleoWest Archaeology to record and conduct condition assessments of a number of large sites in the Ute Mountain Tribal Park using photogrammetry to create detailed maps and 3-D models. Contact Kari Schleher at 505-269-4475 with questions.

Regional Archaeological News

Video: Tour to Mesa Verde’s Long House Is Worthwhile

Long House, on Wetherill Mesa, is the second largest cliff dwelling in the park. Have you ever had the opportunity to venture out to Long House? If not, check out this great video on our website to get a taste of what this 2.5-hour, 2.25-mile ranger-guided hike is like. If you plan to visit Mesa Verde this summer, a tour is a wonderful (and only) way to experience and explore this amazing site. — Mesa Verde National Park ([Watch video](#))

Esteemed Writer Craig Childs Visits Texas’s Gault Site

Fifteen thousand years ago, this land was 1,200 miles south of the ice cap. It was temperate, environmentally like what it is now. The spring would have flowed about the same, toolstone being struck, crystalline sounds ringing through oaks, the music of the first people. A camp near a spring with good toolstone would have meant the scent of smoke drifting through woods, and you would have heard human voices, languages brought down from Siberia, or perhaps carried over from the Iberian Peninsula, beyond the Atlantic, as some researchers believe. — Sapiens ([Read article](#))

Mesoamerican Source of Turquoise Confirmed by Geochemistry

Because scientists have found little evidence of turquoise mining in Mesoamerica, some researchers have used the presence of turquoise artifacts in the area as evidence of a long-distance trade exchange with ancient civilizations thousands of miles away in the American Southwest, where turquoise mines have been found. But a recent geochemical analysis of Aztec and Mixtec turquoise suggests that the mineral did not originate in the American Southwest, but rather in Mesoamerica. — New York Times ([Read article](#))

Now Online: The Salmon Pueblo Archaeological Research Collection

We are pleased to announce the public debut of the Salmon Pueblo Archaeological Research Collection (SPARC). Co-PI Paul Reed says, "This project was a 3-year effort with an amazing team of people. Carrie Heitman, Worthy Martin, Larry Baker, and I hope that people will access the archive and share their thoughts and opinions with us." — Archaeology Southwest ([Article about and link to the digital collection](#))

Update on Mesa Verde's Spruce Tree House

Shortly after the most recent rock fall, a climbing crew did a preliminary assessment. Then modern geoengineering methods were applied, including remote-sensing LIDAR to draw a profile of the structure, followed by a three-dimensional engineering analysis. — KNAU ([Read article](#))

Announcing www.archaeologicaethics.org

Archaeologicaethics.org is a comprehensive, searchable database of resources on ethics in archaeology. It includes published literature, but also includes course descriptions and syllabi, blogs and blog posts, organizational ethical statements, and other online resources. The database is provided to the archaeological community by the Register and the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists to proactively strengthen ethical behavior in professional practice. — Register of Professional Archaeologists ([Visit website](#))

Results and Rectifications from DNA Research

From their data, the researchers concluded that living Native Americans descended from a population of Asians who moved into Alaska and then expanded southward, likely along the coast. Soon afterward, that original population split into two groups, which Dr. Scheib and her colleagues call ANC-A and ANC-B. — New York Times ([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
Volunteer coordinator	Susan Livenick	susanlivenick@gmail.com

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.**