



THE MOKI MESSENGER

NEWSLETTER OF THE SAN JUAN BASIN ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Chapter of Colorado Archaeological Society

June, 2012

SJBAS Picnic

In place of our regular monthly meeting we will enjoy our annual picnic at Edgemont Ranch Picnic Ground on June 14 at 6:15 p.m. SJBAS will provide table ware, hot dogs, buns, condiments, iced tea and lemonade. To complete the meal we should all contribute by bringing a dish according to the following last name assignment: A-F - side dish; G-K - dessert; L-R - appetizer; S-Z - salad. Please RSVP if you have not already done so to fmason@frontier.net or call Foxy Mason at 247-0252.

To reach the picnic ground, proceed east from Durango on Florida Road past the Edgemont Ranch main entrance, which is on the right. Look for the giant metal pine cone sculpture on the left, which is located on the east side of Edgemont Highlands Drive. The entrance to the picnic ground is on the right, across the road from the giant pine cone.

Come to enjoy a delightful gathering in the beautiful Rocky Mountain setting with new and old friends. The weather is always nearly perfect for this event, (I hope that this statement doesn't jinx it.)



Don't Forget Your Dues

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Upcoming Trips

May 31-June 3, NW Colorado. (TL: Mary Ann Hiller, 970-259-5170). Limit: 20. Easy Car Camping Trip. 4 day trip. One half day strenuous hike, but other hikes, short and easy. BLM Archaeologist will escort

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Current Officers of SJBAS

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Trip Co-Ordinator: Richard Robinson, robinson7150@gmail.com

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group to Canyon Pintado National Historic District. Explore Dinosaur National Monument to visit Fremont petroglyphs.

June 20, Salmon Ruins. (TL: Mary Ann Hiller) Day Trip, arrive at Salmon Ruins at 7:00 AM for the Solstice Sunrise event, as described by Larry Baker when he gave his excellent presentation to SJBAS.

July 11, Carson City. (TL: Mary Ann Hiller) Journey along the Cinnamon Pass road up Wager Gulch. Stop at several mining sites in addition to Carson City to obtain Rudy's View. Either long day trip, a car camping trip, or participants may go to Creede and stay in a motel, and attend the theater. High-clearance, 4WD vehicles required. Limit: 20.

TBD, Pigg and Lowery Sites. (TL: Bev & Bob Danielson, 970-385-1058, bndan@bresnan.net) Day trip to learn about excavation efforts with Dr. Charles Riggs and his FLC students. Limit: 20.

Aug. 18 or 19., Visit Champagne Springs, near Dove Creek, with 400 rooms and 100 kivas, while excavation is ongoing. Those who sign up may vote on the date. It can be very busy with 20+ people moving around, tapes and levels for measuring finds, sifting screens, and bags for the collections, notebooks and photographers. Because of site size, it will take time to gather all needed information. Some rooms had a large number of animal bones -- turkeys, dogs, and bear. Contact Mary Ann Hiller at 970-259-5170. Hats, sunscreen, cold drinks and sack lunch would be needed.

Summer 2012 with Andy Gulliford. June 25-30, Ghost Ranch, Abiquiu, NM. SW Sampler: From the Anasazi to Atom Bomb; week-long class, with field trips. See: program@ghostranch.org or 877-804-4678, ext. 121.

Hisatsinom Chapter's suggested field trips include: Archaeological Conservancy sites; Awatovi; Montezuma Creek sites; Tommy Bolack Ranch; McLean Basin with Jerry Fetterman (rained out last year). For information, call Jane Williams, trip coordinator, 565-8867, jswill@frontier.net. on the trip.

PAAC Events: July–December 2012

July 28..... Craig	PAAC Board meeting
August 11 ... Denver	Site Forms Workshop
Sept. 6 Denver	Rock Art Studies (session 1 of 7)
Sept.8–9 Pueblo	Field and Laboratory Photography
Sept. 12 Denver	Site Forms Workshop
Sept. 13, 20 Denver	Rock Art Studies (sessions 2, 3)
Sept. 21–24 Montrose	Prehistoric Lithics Description & Analysis
Sept. 27 Denver	Rock Art Studies (session 4)
Oct. 4 Denver	Rock Art Studies (session 5)
Oct. 5–6 Boulder	PAAC Board meeting at CAS annual meeting
Oct. 11, 18 . Denver	Rock Art Studies (end—sessions 6, 7)

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Oct. 20–21 . Alamosa	Introduction to Laboratory Techniques
Oct. 4, 30 ... Boulder	Historical Archaeology (sessions 1, 2 of 7)
Nov. 2–5 Cortez/Dolores	Basic Site Surveying Techniques
Nov. 7, 14... Boulder	Historical Archaeology (sessions 3, 4)
Nov. 16–19 Gunnison	Colorado Archaeology
Nov. 20, 28 Boulder	Historical Archaeology (sessions 5, 6)
Dec. 5..... Boulder	Historical Archaeology (end, session 7)
*Dec. 7–20 Denver	PAAC Laboratory Project

*Lab project occurs on intermittent dates at the North Warehouse in central Denver; call or e-mail for information

Other Notable Events:

Pecos Conference, August 9–12, Pecos National Historical Park, Pecos, NM
 Utah Rock Art Research Association symposium, September 21–24,
 Vernal, UT Plains Anthropological Conference, October 3–6, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan
 Colorado Archaeological Society (CAS) annual meeting, October 5–6,
 Boulder Great Basin Anthropological Conference, October 17–20, Stateline, Nevada

Visit the PAAC web site at <http://www.historycolorado.org/oahp/program-avocational-archaeological-certification-paac>

Nearby Meetings, Lectures, and Events

Hisatsinom Chapter Meeting: Cortez Cultural Center, 7:00 p.m.; **June 5**, Jonathan Till; **July 3**, Dale Davidson.

Center for SW Studies, FLC, Lecture Series: These lectures are to be held in the Center Lyceum on **June 21**

Summer Solstice Window Viewing: At dawn, a spiral of sunlight makes its way across the gallery walls, creating a dazzling display;

Ancient Skywatchers Lecture: In celebration of the summer solstice, and in conjunction with the archaeoastronomy photo exhibit, "Ancient Skywatchers of the Southwest," John Ninnemann will discuss his photography project and archaeoastronomy, at 5:30 p.m.

2012 Four Corner Lecture Series: This lecture will be held on **June 3** and is entitled the "Crossroads of Art and Culture." Donna Glowacki will speak on *Mesa Verde: Religion and Change*.

Greeley History Museum: On **July 6**, 6-7:30 p.m. at 714 8th St., Greeley. Robert Silbernagel discusses *Troubled Trails: The Meeker Affair and the Expulsion of Utes from Colorado*, casting new light on the story of the Meeker Affair with historical transcripts - revealing the personalities of the major characters - both Indian and non-Indian which was similar to his talk to SJBAS. This talk is free and is open to public.

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Estes Park Museum on **June 7**, 2-3 p.m, at 200 Fourth Street, Estes Park will show *Rocky Mountain Rustic Architecture*, through historic lodges, guest ranches, cabins, and retreats. Free, open to Public.



Don't Forget Your Dues



Don't forget to send in your membership dues for 2009 to Mark Gebhardt. The membership fees are attached on the last page of the Moki.



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



www.sjbas.org.



Volunteer Opportunities

Cortez Cultural Center. Call Shawn K. Collins, Ph.D, Director, (970) 565-1151; email: scol-lins@cortezculturalcenter.org; (or visit www.cortezculturalcenter.org);

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

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Trip Report

The annual Ute Mountain Tribal Park service day on April 28 was a bitter-sweet-sweet-sweet-sweet affair: 'Bitter' because only seven SJBAS volunteers were able to make the trip (the Simons, the Hannulas, Richard Robinson, Irene Wanner and me). 'Sweet' because 13 Hisatsinom chapter members from Cortez bolstered the ranks; sweet because they brought with them such an incredible degree of archaeological knowledge; sweet because we made a 'bakers dozen' of new friends - we had such a good time at happy hour and sitting around the fire drinking wine and chatting after the work was completed. Sweet because we all felt a sense of pride upon completion of Rutefor's list of assigned tasks of improving check dams at Porcupine House ruin, trails at Kiva Point, and out-houses at Kiva Point and the campgrounds; and sweet because we went on an extraordinary bush-whack on Sunday exploring a remote canyon where we 'discovered' two unnamed ruins - we even 'guided' our guide and friend, Rick Hayes to ruins he had not seen! I could even add one more 'sweet' because the temps were refreshing on our work day and warm on our play day. Great fun was had by all, and we all look forward to another great time next year!

Jim Shadell

Reports from Events Around Our Area

April Meeting Report from Hisatsinom: Tim Kearns presented: *Basketmaker Communities of the Chuska Mountains (800-300 B.C.)*. The area boasts nine Chaco-era Great Houses, but people lived in the area long before that time. Double burials in bell-shaped pits were a feature of this time period, as were burials associated with jewelry and other goods. Around AD 150, people left the Chuska Valley. Around AD 500, people returned to the low ridgelines. The Muddy Wash Site was the type site for early Basketmaker III. It contained 16 structures with sipapus. Several structures appeared to be more like sweat lodges, with exterior fireboxes of stone and adobe, approximately two meters in diameter, similar to Meso-American sweat lodges of the same period. Archaeologists identified basin, trough, and Utah-style metates. Group burials suggested families or clans were

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buried together, with pipes, ceramics, ocher, and projectile points. The ceramics were made from local alluvial clays that were self-tempered, producing gray-brown pottery.

2012 Four Corner Lecture Series:

On **May 13**, Jeffrey Clark, preservation archaeologist with Archaeology SW, a nonprofit research foundation in Tucson, shared discoveries at Anasazi Heritage Center. His talk was entitled "The Kayenta: A Powerful Immigrant Minority in the Hohokam World." His talk completed the museum's special exhibit "Pieces of the Puzzle: New Perspectives on the Hohokam."

The Hohokam people were early farmers in the Phoenix and Tucson basins. They dug irrigation canals, made the first pottery in the SW, etched designs on bracelets cut from imported shell, burned incense in carved stone bowls, and played a Mexican-style ball game. Sometime in the late 1200s, a new people arrived who maintained old customs and built distinctive enclaves, a community in diaspora. Over time, both conflict and cooperation led to a complicated cultural pattern that archaeologists call Salado. This event was part of the Four Corners Lecture Series, jointly sponsored by the BLM, NPS, FLC, Cortez Cultural Cntr., CC Arch. Cntr and KSJD Public Radio.

On **May 16**, John Porco presented a program on the history of the Denver & Rio Grande Western Railroad in southern Colorado between Chama, NM and Durango to Pagosa Springs Audubon Society. John is an active volunteer on the Cumbres & Toltec Scenic RR and has been a rail enthusiast for over 60 years. The border between CO and NM was once a hotbed of railroad activity. The narrow gauge mainline of the Rio Grande was built to connect Alamosa and Durango in 1880-81. Regular passenger train service over the line lasted until 1951 and freight traffic was carried until the line was abandoned in the late 1960s. Much of the economic development of the region can be traced to the essential transportation services provided by the railroad, which served multiple communities in Archuleta and La Plata Counties, including Juanita, Pagosa Junction, Arboles, Allison, Oxford and Ignacio; and, until 1936, there was a branch to Pagosa Springs. In fact, the steel bridge that carries Navajo State Park's Piedra Trail over the Piedra River is a vestige of this railroading empire. The presentation discussed the history and route of this railroad and included many then-and-now photographs of the area.

Museum Exhibits

Salmon Ruins Museum. "The Language of [Largo and Gobernador Canyon] Rock Art a Collaboration Honoring the Work of Dr. Hugh Chilton Rogers." Yearlong.

Aerial Photography: From Above, in Oro Valley. Sixty large-format aerial photographs of historical landscapes across the SW. www.cdarc.org.

Anasazi Heritage Center. "Pieces of the Puzzle, New Perspectives on the Hohokam," highlights recent Hohokam discoveries, through October 2012. On loan from Archaeology SW, with artifacts from the Pueblo Grande Museum and AZ St. Mus. (970) 882-5600, www.co.blm.gov.

Rio Tinto Center, University of UT, Houses the National. History Museum of UT, a 163,000 sq. ft. building with ten galleries located above Shoreline of ancient Lake Bonneville. (Summary, [American Archaeology](#), Spring 2012)

The "First Peoples" tells the story of the Great Basin's prehistoric peoples while putting visitors in the shoes of archaeologists interpreting the past. Explore Median Village, a reconstruction of an actual archaeological site excavated in the 1960s in Sevier County, and stop in the Dry Caves Learning Lab to understand why Utah's archeological preservation is so good. (801) 581-4303 or www.nhmu.utah.edu.

NM History Museum/Palace of the Governors.

Telling New Mexico: Stories from Then and Now, 500 years of history. Long term.

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Santa Fe Found: Fragments of Time, archaeological and historical roots of America's oldest capital city. Long term.

Tesoros De Devoción, bultos and retablos dating from the late 1700s to 1900. Long term.

Segesser Hide Paintings, earliest known depictions of colonial life in US. Long term.

Museum of Indian Arts & Culture/Lab of Anthropology, Albuquerque.

Woven Identities, 250 baskets by artists representing sixty cultural groups in six cultural areas of Western North America, SW, Great Basin, Plateau, CA, NW Coast, and Arctic. www.miaclab.org. (long term)

Here, Now and Always: explore SW's indigenous communities and landscapes.

Buchsbaum Gallery of SW Pottery tells the story of two millennia of pottery making in Pueblo communities of SW.

NM Museum of Art. ***It's About Time: 14,000 Years of Art in NM*** presents 120 works of Native, Hispanic, and European-American art as one long chronology. Opens May 11, 2012.

Museum of International Folk Art. ***Statehood: New Mexican Art from the Past 100 Years***, a NM Centennial exhibition, highlights 20th and 21st Century art and artists from the permanent collection, until March 13, 2013.

Governor's Gallery, NM State Capitol, 4th Floor. ***NM Art Tells New Mexico History***, opens May 16, 2012.

Windsor Museum at Boardwalk Park, 100 N. Fifth St., Windsor, CO. April 20-Sept 1, T-Sa 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Historic original Windsor structures restored and refurbished. Free, open to public.

Meeker House Museum, 1324 9th Ave., Greeley. June 6, July 7 & Aug 8; 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Costumed guided tours of the 1870 Greeley family home. Special Nathan Meeker birthday celebration July 7, 10-2. Admission \$3/adults; \$2/seniors; \$1/children.

Poudre Landmarks Foundation, 2005 N. Overland Trail, Fort Collins. 2nd Sat. of each month, June - Oct., 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. Open House at the 1882-1883 Historic Water Works. Friends of the Water Works will hold "Big Splash IV" with tours, displays, exhibits and food on June 9. Free, open to public;

28th Annual Historic Homes Tour, Sept. 8, 10 a.m.- 4 p.m. Details TBA. Tickets go on sale Aug. 22

Estes Park Museum Driving Tour & Lunch, June 16, 10 a.m.-1:30 p.m. Allenspark, led by historian Edie DeWeese, 4th generation Allensparker. Registration required starting 5/21/12. \$30/person, includes bottled water;

Historic Homes Tour, June 30, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Five historic homes, cabins, and ranches in Estes Park. Fundraiser for the mus. Tickets available beginning 5/24. \$20/person.

Centennial Village Museum, Open May 12- Sept 30, W-SA, 10 a.m. 4 p.m., S 12-4 p.m., 1475 A. Street, Greeley. \$6/person (less for children/seniors)

New Colorado Historical Museum Opens; Staff Re-imagines Idea of what Museum To be. (Summary, [Durango Herald](#) and [Cortez Journal](#), April 28, 2012; [Denver Post](#), April 29, 2012)

History Colorado's \$110 million new home is the latest in a group of museums on the south side of downtown Denver. It's across the street from the 2006 expansion of the Denver Art Museum, and two blocks from the Clyfford Still Museum, which opened last fall. The four-story museum moved one block west of its former location. The door to a mine shaft slides open, revealing inner workings of a silver mine in the late 1800s, complete with warnings of Tommyknockers or ghosts, drifting through the caverns. In addition to an expanded research library, the center has "digitalized" the traditional museum experience. Visitors have several opportunities to interact with the exhibits, enjoying such things as touch screen tutorials and simulator rides. The floor of the main lobby is a stone map of Colorado. Visitors can roll "time machines," or mobile stations with four screens on them, over spots on the map to watch different videos about that area's history. Top of the World explores the silver mines near Silverton. In the Keota exhibit, fake chicken eggs can be collected to trade at

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(Volunteer Opportunities: Continued from page 4)

Colodo Historical Society. Contact Kevin Black, Kevin.Black@chs.state.co.us;

Center of SW Studies. Contact Julie Tapley-Booth, 247-7456;

Mesa Verde. Visit www.mesaverdevolunteers.org or Rich_Godin@nps.gov;

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

Anasazi Heritage Center. Training provided. Call David Kill, 882-5621, or dkill@blm.gov.

Salmon Ruins, NM.

Sort of "Neighborhood Watch," can Help Preserve Four National Parks and Monuments in

SE Utah. Joette Langianese, Exec. Director. of Friends of Arches & Canyonlands National Parks, has a special mission to preserve and protect the national parks. www.ksl.com.

Animas Museum. Contact 259-2402 or animasmuseum@frontier.net.

San Juan Nat. Forest, including Sand Canyon. Call Kathe Hayes at 385-1310 or www.sjma.org for more information.

Colorado Archeological Society (CAS): Alice Hamilton Raffle Quilt. Terri Hoff and her sister Gail have made and donated a queen-sized 'on-point' designer log-cabin quilt "Southwest Mimbres 2" in five shades of turquoise and clay, featuring Mimbres pot and "critter" blocks for the 2012 Alice Hamilton Scholarship Raffle Prize. The quilt will be displayed at the 4/16 NCC-CAS meeting and raffle tickets will be available \$4 each or 3 for \$10.

(Museum Exhibits: Continued from page 6)

the trading post. An exhibit about Steamboat Springs includes a Nordic ski-jumping simulator, where visitors can step into skis, feel the wind in their hair and try to keep their balance as a video screen shows their trip down the ramp and through the air. In a re-creation of the Eastern Plains town of Keota, visitors can sit in a Ford Model T. And inside a silver mine, they can set up simulated dynamite charges and try not to blow themselves up. It's part of a new ethic in museum design that stresses interaction, storytelling and immersive, emotional experiences. The main exhibit hall, called Colorado Stories, stars South West Colorado with two of the eight exhibits. A showcase about mining features a re-creation of a Silverton mine from the 1880s, complete with a simulated ride down a mine shaft elevator.

Archaeology Near and Far: Southwest

San Juan Mountains Association and La Plata Co Historical Society Implement Heritage Education Project to Increase Community Awareness of Local Historical Resources.

(Summary, [Cortez Journal](#), May 5, 2012)

These activities will give residents and visitors the opportunity to learn about important resources close to home. With major funding from the State Historical Fund, the education project is offering classes and camps. History in Your Own Backyard includes guided fieldtrips to the SE part of the County, with visits to Tiffany and Allison, with visits to historic churches, schools, and businesses in these early towns. Field trips were offered in April and May. History -- Hands-On! is a field opportunity to learn to document historic cemeteries at the Animas City Cemetery and the Hermosa Cemetery. After a classroom orientation, participants spend three days learning how to document graves and headstones, including recording inscriptions, mapping, photography, and condition assessment. The third activity is the History Detectives: Youth Day Camps. Youth aged 10-12 will spend a day at either the "Animas City Detective Agency" camp or the "If Headstones Could Talk" camp to learn about the clues we can use to discover our history. The "Animas City Detective Agency" will focus

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on the history of Animas City and its importance to the development of La Plata County and mining in the San Juan Mountains. Pre-registration is required for all of these events and each activity session is \$25/person. Space is limited. For additional information about the History Comes Alive events, please contact Ruth Lambert at San Juan Mountain Association, 385-1267. For information about other educational and volunteer opportunities with the La Plata County Historical Society's Animas Museum, contact the Executive Director, Carolyn Bowra at 259-2402.

Brown to Gray Ware: Beginning of Pueblo Pottery Production in the Northern SW.

(Summary, *Crow Canyon ("CC") Newsletter*)

Examining artifacts recovered during the first year of CC's Basketmaker Communities Project showed that Basketmaker III period (AD 500-750) material culture offers research possibilities, especially related to pottery analysis. The Basketmaker III period saw the beginning of pottery manufacture in the northern SW, including the Mesa Verde region, and the transition from brown ware (made from alluvial, stream bed sandy clays) to gray ware (made from finer geologic clays). Gray ware was the predominant pottery type for cooking and storage vessels made by potters in the later Pueblo I through Pueblo III periods (AD 750-1300). In a preliminary analysis of the pottery from the 2011 field season at the Dillard site, CC identified a range of materials used in vessel manufacture. Potters collected a variety of clays from both alluvial and higher-quality geologic sources, and used different kinds of tempering materials, including sand and crushed igneous (volcanic) rock. This variety suggests experimentation with different locally available materials as potters tried to perfect the new technology, or it may indicate that pots were traded from other contemporaneous sites. So far, very few painted sherds have been recovered.

121-year-old CO Mining "Hanging Flume" in Remote Canyon along CO 141: New Research.

(Summary, *Daily Sentinel*, April 6, 2012; *Cortez Journal*, April 28, 2012)

The flume, seven of the 18 miles of which cling to a red rock wall along the San Miguel River in Unaweep Canyon, was constructed after gold was discovered in the San Juan Mountains in 1875. It didn't take long for those seeking their fortune to start staking their claims. From 1883 to 1885, the Lone Tree Mining Company ("LTMC") filed 6.5 miles of claims along the San Miguel River: one, the Bancroft Claim. By 1888 the owners of the LTMC sold their claims to the Montrose Placer Mining Company, owned by investors from East St. Louis, IL. According to Frank Hall's 1895 book, *History of the State of Colorado*, Col. Nathaniel P. Turner, an experienced CA mining engineer, felt that hydraulic mining should be used, claiming that water with a great deal of pressure was needed to make the Bancroft Claim profitable. Turner's solution was to divert approximately 80 million gallons of water from the San Miguel River through 13 miles of ditches and a flume every 24 hours. The seven-mile portion of flume that clings to the cliff wall of the canyon was six feet wide and four feet high. Builders used 1.8 million feet of lumber in its construction. Surveyors ran their line by triangulation, making the grade fall 6 feet, 10 inches per mile. Points for the triangulation were made by a sharpshooter. The marksman fired a .22 rifle from across the river, leaving several marks on the rock wall, used as reference points. From the wagon road above, workers were let down by ropes to drill into the face of the cliff. They inserted iron brackets and set the flume on the brackets. The cliff overhangs ranged from 100 to 150 feet above the River and from 250 to 500 feet below the summit of the gorge. In places there are cliff overhangs of 15 degrees. When the water escaped from the flume it would strike on the opposite side of the river 100 yards from the base. Operation began in early summer 1891. Gold content was 25 to 30 cents/yard. Workers washed down 4,000 to 5,000 cubic yards daily. The gold was especially fine and had to be saved by use of quicksilver. The panic of 1893 ended the mining boom, and the flume was left dangling, unused, on the canyon wall, after just three years. Except for the brief explanation in Hall's book, it has remained a mystery how the flume was constructed on the sheer rock walls.

McDonald Creek [National] Cultural Area ("NCA") Straddles CO/UT Line, Displays Culture

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with Own Art Thousand Years Ago. (Summary, Daily Sentinel, April 15, 2012)

The Area lies within the boundaries of the BLM's McInnis Canyons National Conservation Area. The National Conservation Area (NCA) encompasses 122,300 acres, of which 75,500 are in the Black Ridge Wilderness. Most of the conservation area lies within CO's borders, with about 5,200 acres in UT. To reach the NCA from Grand Junction, follow I-70 west for 29.7 miles to the Rabbit Valley exit (Exit 2); turn left (south) at the stop sign. From that spot, it's three miles to the trail head. Cross over the highway and a cattle guard, and pass a very large staging area. You'll also pass the turn to Rabbit's Ear Trail head. Stay on the main road going forward (SW). At times, you'll be in the creek bed. There are numerous ATV tracks in this multi-use area, but follow the signs. Stay left past the main billboard – showing you the way to about ten different attractions, including McDonald Creek. The road is narrow in several places and has a couple of blind corners. Toward the end of the road, there are two parking areas with restrooms. The first area is the Castle Rock campground. The trail head enters McDonald Creek from the second, lower parking area. A high-clearance vehicle is recommended to reach the trail head. As you search for sites and rock art, imagine where you might have found shelter from the elements if you were a Fremont Indian 1,000 years ago. Those places, such as cliff or rock overhangs, are the best places to look. The first rock art panel is about 400 yards down the stream bed from the parking area on the west facing canyon wall. Look up about 15 feet and you will see red painted pictographs. There are a total of four panels from the first one down to the mouth of McDonald Creek (about 1.5 miles). Two of the panels are just below the drop off, about .5 miles. On the east side of the canyon is a petroglyph panel and some historic names and dates, and on the west side is a painted panel. The last panel is high on the wall in a large alcove near the mouth of the creek. Do not climb the rock ledge below the panel.

Jay Harrison, Lecturer on European and Latin American History at Hood College Maryland and Director of Federal Programs at a Virginia Technology Company Selected Head of Center of SW Studies.

Douglas County Site Shows Hints of Occupation 13,000 Years Ago.

(Summary, Denver Post, April 15, 2012; Durango Herald, April 16, 2012)

Molly, the Columbian mammoth grazed and died about 13,000 years ago near a spring in what is now Douglas County. Five thousand years later, early American humans spent time at the same site, Lamb Spring, where they killed and butchered bison. We don't know if humans visited the spring at the same time as Molly, but if the Lamb Spring site produces evidence that they did, the site could rewrite the scientific and cultural history of North America. And perhaps offer the Denver area a new attraction. Lamb Spring is in Chatfield Basin, between South Platte Canyon Road and Chatfield Reservoir. Further excavation of Lamb Spring could show human activity between 13,000 and even 25,000 years ago. Evidence of Pleistocene megafauna like mammoths makes the Lamb Spring dig compelling in its own right, but mammoth sites pepper the West. Early-human findings, in contrast, are rare. Some archaeologists believe Lamb Spring could provide solid evidence, instead of just speculation, that people lived in North America much earlier. Today, the Lamb Spring dig amounts to little more than a weed-choked and trash-sprinkled depression in the ground, a cavity surrounded by 35 acres of prairie. Once a week for half the year, people can watch a video about the site and then follow a tour guide to the swale to observe the grass

Montrose wants to be Discovered by National and International Tourists.

(Summary, Denver Post, April 15, 2012)

Montrose is the one place in the US where you can travel from a National Wilderness Area to a National Conservation Area to a National Park and, finally, to a National Recreation Area and have them all with contiguous boundaries. It offers Great Colorado Adventures. Contained within the border of Montrose County, more than 1,500 square miles of public playground awaits the recreation enthusiast with opportunities spanning every season and every sport.

San Juan Basin Archaeological Society
107 St. Andrews Circle
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

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

www.sjbas.org