

THE MOKI MESSENGER

JUNE 2017

SAN JUAN BASIN
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

www.sibas.org

Next SJBAS Meeting and Annual Picnic – Wednesday, June 14th

Our annual picnic will be held on Wednesday, June 14th, at 5:00 p.m. at the residence of Foxie and Dick Mason. Their address is 1940 County Road 250 Durango, 1.8 miles north of the junction of 32nd Street and CR 250. SJBAS will provide brats, hot dogs, buns, condiments, disposable tableware, bottled water, iced tea and lemonade. To complete our meal, we are asking participants to bring potluck dishes as follows:

A thru F	Dessert
G thru K	Side dish
L thru R	Salad
S thru Z	Appetizer

You are welcome to bring your favorite beverage, and you may bring family members, friends and prospective new members. If you plan to attend, but have not signed up yet, **please RSVP Jim Mueller by emailing rhondaandjim@msn.com or calling 504-259-9564 by June 5th**. Please respond by that date so we can place our food orders before the picnic.

Monthly Meeting Notes – May 10th

Submitted by: Barb Hancock, Secretary

Attendance: approximately 150

Jim Mueller, Vice-President, opened the meeting at 7 p.m. and welcomed Members and visitors. Several brief announcements were made before introducing the evening speaker.

- ◆ The evening's lecture was co-sponsored by Life Long Learning, the Center of Southwest Studies, and the San Juan Basin Archaeological Society through cooperation and the generosity of University of Colorado – Boulder.
- ◆ The SJBAS semi-annual meeting and picnic is scheduled for Wednesday, June 14th, starting at 5 p.m. at Foxie and Richard Mason's home. All details may be found on the SJBAS website. Please RSVP so that there will be sufficient seating and food. The picnic is open to Guests who are interested in learning more about SJBAS.
- ◆ Several upcoming field trips are full but interested Members are encouraged to contact trip leaders to provide feedback to Field Trip planning volunteers about the demand for different types of trips.
- ◆ Joan Kellogg is working on a summer overnight field trip to Silverton and there will be more information forthcoming; please contact her if you are interested.

- ◆ Jim announced the SJBAS website address where more information on the club and its activities can be found.

There being no further announcements, the business meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m. and Jim introduced the speaker: Dr. Steve Lekson, presenting: “*Chaco: North and South.*”

John W. Sanders Internship Fund Project Report – by CSWS intern Genna Novodvorsky

This past year, I worked exclusively with the Tupper collection at the Center of Southwest Studies. The collection came to the Center in 2014, and over the past couple of years only had minimal work done with the large number of objects in the collection. Throughout the school year, I added all the approximately 140-150 items in the collection to the CSWS database, wrote out catalog and location sheets for all the items (for a second, hard copy to the database entry), cleaned all the objects in the collection, and added objects that had no official numbers to the recorded collection under assigned numbers. The work on this collection is now almost fully complete, only needing pictures of the objects taken and uploaded to the database.

Field Trip Report – Hovenweep Outliers and Montezuma Canyon – May 6 - 7, 2017

- by Trip Leader, Bob Powell

Our Saturday meeting places were rather scattered – five carpooled from Santa Rita Park, two joined the group in Cortez, and six met the rest of us east of Hovenweep Headquarters. We visited Horseshoe Tower and Horseshoe House, Hovenweep outliers that are in Colorado three miles northeast of the main site. Weather conditions were very good for walking and photographing: clear blue skies with a few puffy cumulus clouds, cool temperatures, a very gentle breeze, and no polluting dust. The side road from the main Hovenweep Road was relatively smooth; however, we could not drive on a rough road to the nearby Holly Site because two cars had low clearance. Fields of beautiful Narrow-leaf Penstemon, *Penstemon angustifolius*, lined the side road. Most of the flowers were light blue, but many were pink.

From the Horseshoe Site, we drove a few miles to Hovenweep headquarters, briefly visited the building and then had lunch at the picnic tables. The Viner’s decided to stay at the headquarters and did not complete the trip. After lunch we drove on clay, unmarked roads in the Navajo Reservation to our next site, Cajon. Fortunately, it had not rained recently. Cajon is eight miles southwest of Hovenweep headquarters. Though it is rarely visited, it is well worth the side trip. It has several surface buildings that are incomplete, but are in very good condition and very photogenic. As a bonus, they are less than 100 yards from the parking area. The register only receives about three signatures per day. This was the last time that we drove on clay roads; from then on, we were on paved or gravel roads.

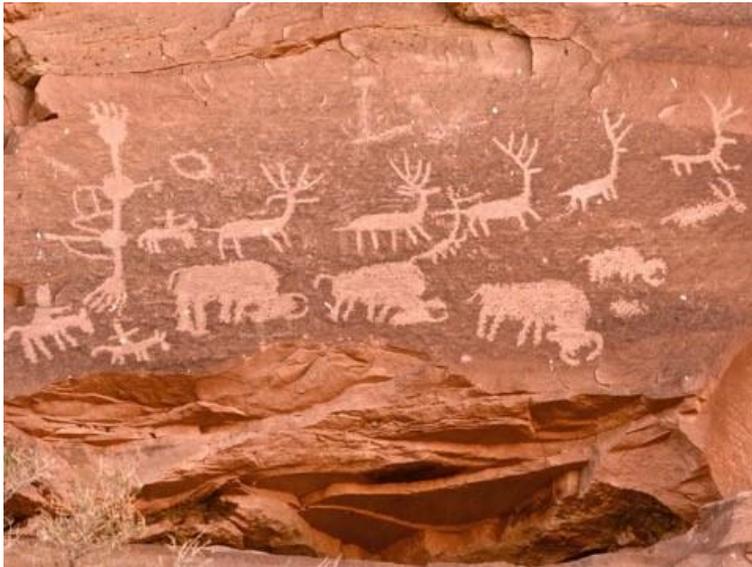


Our next stop was by Hatch Trading Post at the intersection of paved Hovenweep Road and gravel Montezuma Canyon Road. Weather had deteriorated a bit – winds were increasing and skies had become only partly clear. Each participant had a detailed road log listing mileages to archeological sites and a few geological features. Archeological sites in middle

Montezuma Canyon are not in very good condition. Petroglyphs are not outstanding because the rock surfaces do not have well varnished working surfaces. Anasazi surface buildings have suffered for two main reasons. After World War I people in the Blanding-Bluff area were trained to find artifacts in good condition and then sell them. Buildings were damaged from non-professional excavations. The final destruction was caused by cattle rubbing their backs on stone walls and gradually knocking the walls down.

The middle Montezuma Canyon has many rubble mounds, remnants of small family group dwellings. The rubble mounds have many small broken pieces of pottery, a few chips of stone from lithic working, and remnants of stone walls. The geological formation of chert layers was explained. We drove by most of the mounds, but did stop at a site that had from 6 to 10 small one-story dwellings. The ridge has many hundreds of small shards with a few different styles. We stayed there for about a half hour while people searched for different styles of pottery and a few stone chips and traced the remnants of walls. Winds had become strong. After visiting the site, we went down to the intersection of the Montezuma Canyon Road with the Blanding Road to discuss times and meeting places for the next morning. Wind and dust were so extreme that we had to move a mile west by a grass meadow to continue the discussion. Six were camping out at a nearby dispersed site; others went to Blanding to stay in motels. A short time later a wind, lightning and rain storm started pelting the area and the campers decided to move closer to a gravel road and farther north up Montezuma Canyon.

On Sunday, the weather was excellent, especially no wind or rain. Upper Montezuma Canyon is much more interesting than middle Montezuma Canyon. We visited an excellent set of panels extending for about 200 yards. The well-crafted



petroglyphs of buffalo, elk, horses, and cranes were constructed by Utes; simpler petroglyphs are of Anasazi origin. After viewing the site for a half hour, the Blanding group drove north and met the campers. Along the road north we stopped many times to view petroglyphs from up close. The BLM-maintained Three-Kiva site is 7.3 miles north of the intersection of the Blanding/Montezuma Roads. We stopped there for a while to look at remnants of surrounding houses and climb down into one of the kivas.

After leaving the Three-Kiva site, we drove farther north to view the Anasazi Bradford Cliff Dwellings. Again, we spent a long time viewing the site. A fence and steep cliffs prevent climbing up into the dwellings. Three large cliff dwellings are farther north up the canyon. They are in excellent condition, have

fancy doors and windows and are lived in. One is for sale. The camping group was told how to locate the long set of panels and they all returned there later in the afternoon. The cliff dwellings were our last stop as a group. We all headed back south down Montezuma Canyon to paved roads. The camping group stopped at the excellent panel site.

Participants: Thirteen members went on the trip, eleven for the whole two days and two for only the morning of the first day. In alphabetical order, they were: Bindu Bammi, Gary Friedrich, Brad and Suzie Grimm, Michael Hughes, Ron and Catherine Larkens, Brooks and Janice Taylor, John and Eliane Viner, and Flo Zerr. Bob Powell was the trip leader.

Field Trip report – Hopi Land, Rock Art Canyon Ranch, Petrified Forest National Park – May 18 – 21

- by Trip Leaders Kathy and Rusty Chamberlain

Twelve SJBAS members had a wonderful visit to Hopi Lands. The weather was terrific, sunny and mild. We all travelled to Winslow on our own, arriving on Thursday afternoon or evening. After dinner, we gathered for a campfire at the

Homolovi State Park Campground. It threatened rain but we only had a few sprinkles and a breeze later in the evening. We did what anyone does at a campfire, we reviewed plans for Friday and we told stories. Toward the end, Joan Kellogg remembered a quote she read recently. I paraphrase here, "a campfire makes everyone a storyteller". That was certainly true of us.

FRIDAY

Friday morning the group gathered at the Best Western. Here is the group, Rege and Nancy Leech, Rusty and Kathy Chamberlain, Susan and Don Hicks, Irene Wanner, Joan and Byron Kellogg, Tish and Pete Varney and Jill Tripp. At 9:00 AM we caravanned to Rock Art Canyon Ranch. While this is a working ranch, it has prehistoric Ancestral Puebloan sites, historic Navajo sites and a canyon with flowing water that contains over three thousand petroglyphs. We were met at the ranch's museum by Brantley, the rancher, his granddaughter, Torrie and their dogs. Outside the museum is a rock and desert plant garden and a display farm tools and old cars. Inside the big barn, they have displays for artifacts from prehistory to pioneer times up to today. The first thing Brantley showed us were two rooms of artifacts that have been found on the ranch including complete Anasazi pots, arrow heads, including a Clovis point, and old firearms.



The Canyon

From the ranch museum, Torrie lead us to a room block that had been recently excavated by the U of A field school and then to an historic Navajo site with a female Hogan, a male Hogan and a sweat lodge. But the big deal of this day was the actual canyon. Following a quick lunch overlooking a bend of Chevelon Canyon, we climbed down into the canyon. It was so fantastic, I am lost for words.

Homolovi State Park

We left Rock Art Ranch a little after 2:00PM and caravanned to Homolovi State Park. Well, most of us did. The Kellogg contingent realized they had a tire problem and went into Winslow. Although there have been earlier periods of occupation, Homol'ovi (the Hopi spelling) was a Hopi town from 1260 to about 1400. They still return there for ceremonies.

We had dinner reservations at La Posada, an historic Fred Harvey hotel later in the evening, so we all returned to camp or hotel to freshen up, rest or get a tire fixed. We gathered at the bar at La Posada between 6:60 and 7:15 or so for drinks and more stories before dinner. Everyone enjoyed the food and fellowship.

SATURDAY

Today was Hopi day. We met our guide, Bertram Tsavadawa, at the Tsakurshovi Arts & Crafts Shop on Second Mesa. The shop has beautiful jewelry, textiles and Kachina figures. Bertram met us at about 9:30. After introductions he told us that Shipaulovi village was having a Kachina dance and that we of the Pahana tribe are welcome attend as long as we

we are respectful. Bertram spent about 30 minutes on an introduction to the Hopi people and history. He then led us north of Third Mesa to Taawaki Petroglyph site. I estimate cliff wall extends for over a mile.

Bertram showed us around old Oriabi on Third Mesa where he was raised. It is said to be one of the oldest continuously occupied sites in the US. While he was showing us artifacts in front of Aunts house, his mother came out of the Piki House. She had just finished baking a big box of the traditional Hopi paper thin bread. What a great opportunity to interact with a local. She invited us in to see where and how she bakes the bread and how they dry and store their corn. We were all invited to try some of the fresh Piki. Bertram continued our tour showing us the Corn Clan house, the plaza and the ruins of the older part of the village that was abandoned village split between the Traditionalists and the Progressives in 1906. Since the houses still belonged to the Progressives who left, they were not occupied or maintained. Now that it was past lunch time, we went to the Hopi Cultural Center with Bertram for lunch.

Kachina Dance

Our original plan was to tour Walpi, the oldest village on First Mesa. However, because of the opportunity to attend the Kachina dance in Shipaulovi, we returned to the Tsakurshovi Art Shop to say our thanks to Bertram and shop, of course. From there we took the back way to Shipaulovi, climbed the hill and climbed ladders to the roof to watch the festivities amongst the Hopis. The little plaza below was ringed with spectators and in the middle was an oval of perhaps 70 Kachinas all dressed the same. The first dance started shortly after we arrived. A drummer set the pace by beating on a pad of bound sheepskin with a thick stick. Two elders led the singing. The Kachinas responded with their chant while dancing in place. It took a while to understand that the dancers were repeating the same series of subtle gestures followed by a shake of their rattles and a 180 turn, or was it the other way around. After the first dance, the Kachinas left the plaza, a little boy came over to Rusty and Kathy to explain that there would be another dance and that we should stay and watch.

The Kachinas returned carrying baskets of fruit, vegetables and bread and placed them in the plaza, then returned with more. When the plaza was full, the Kachinas distributed produce people in the plaza and also threw it up to spectators on the roofs. Rusty, Kathy and Joan, at least, were recipients. When all the food was distributed, the dancing continued. It was the same dance except that the positioning was changed. We all thought this was one of highlights of our trip.

Star Party and campfire

That evening some of us gathered with a small crowd to view celestial bodies with telescopes provided by group of local astronomers at the Homolovi Visitor Center. This is something the park does monthly through the summer. Then we enjoyed a campfire and, yes, more stories.

SUNDAY

Sunday was Petrified Forest day. We met at the Rainbow Visitor Center Museum at the south entrance to the park. The museum is dedicated to the Triassic Period which is when the parks fossils were alive. From the museum, we walked up to Agate House a Pueblo room block made of petrified wood. There are hundreds of such sites in the area. This was the first one found and excavated. On the way, we saw a bright green lizard enjoying the warmth of the asphalt pathway. Don identified the critter as a Crotaphytus Collared Lizard. After a stop at the gift shop for refreshment and shopping, we headed Newspaper Rock, Lunch, Painted Desert Inn and home.

Kathy and Rusty wish to thank Jim and Rhonda Mueller for sharing the experience and advice from the trip they led to the area some years ago. It very much aided in our putting this trip together. It turns out that leading a trip for SJBAS member is quite rewarding.

Field Trip and Activity Schedule

(Next Page)

June 2 - 4	<p>Explore Historical Uranium Mining in Western Colorado</p> <p>This will be a 3-day motel trip to the Naturita area. Jane Thompson of the Rimrocker Historical Society will be our tour guide. For more information or to sign up, contact trip coordinator Janice Sheftel at janicesheftel@gmail.com.</p>
June 8 - 10	<p>Explore Canyon de Chelly National Monument - Arizona</p> <p>This will be a 3-day camping or hotel trip. A Navajo guide will take our group on a day-long jeep excursion into the Canyon, and a guided evening hike is also planned. The trip participation limit is 12. For more information or to sign up, contact trip leader Joan Kellogg at joankellogg@charter.net.</p>
June 14	SJBAS annual picnic
July 12	SJBAS meeting
July 17 - 18	<p>Tour Silverton Cemetery and Mining Museum and Explore Animas Forks</p> <p>This will be a 2-day camping or hotel trip. Mary Beaber will guide our group through the Hillside Cemetery and Bev Rich from the Silverton Historical Society would guide us through the museum and trip to Animas Forks. For more information or to sign up, contact trip leader Joan Kellogg at joankellogg@charter.net.</p>
August 9	<p>SJBAS meeting - Kari Schleher, from Crow Canyon Archaeological Center, will present: "Pottery Production, Learning, and Social Networks from the Central Mesa Verde Region to Galisteo Basin."</p>
September 13	<p>SJBAS meeting - Dr. Jesse Tune, FLC Professor, will present: "The Times They Were 'A-Changin': Life on the Colorado Plateau at the End of the Ice Age."</p>
September 15	<p>Special Program - Dr. Doug Owsley, from the Smithsonian Institution, will present: "New Discoveries and the Story of Jamestown." The Leland House and Rochester Hotel are providing complimentary lodging for Dr. Owsley and his wife.</p> <div style="text-align: right;">   </div>
September 25 - 27	<p>Ancestral Puebloan Sites on Cedar Mesa - Utah</p> <p>During this 3-day camping trip, we will visit Ancestral Puebloan sites in remote canyons on Cedar Mesa. The hiking will be moderately difficult with some off-trail hiking required; hikes may be up to seven miles long and include elevation changes of over 400 feet. 4WD/HC vehicles will be necessary, but carpooling will be arranged. We will camp in the dispersed BLM campground in Comb Wash. The trip participation limit is 12. For more information or to sign up, contact trip leaders Barb and Lyle Hancock at lylehancock@bresnan.net.</p>
October	CAS annual meeting in Denver, CO
October 11	<p>SJBAS meeting - Dr. Andrew Gulliford, professor of History and Environmental Studies at Fort Lewis College, will present: "Arborglyphs in Southwest Colorado"</p>
October 27 - 29	<p>Nine Mile Canyon and USU Eastern Prehistoric Museum in Price, Utah</p> <p>This is a 3-day motel trip to visit one of the largest concentrations of rock art in Utah and to tour an amazing museum. For more information or to sign up, contact Tish Varney at tishvarney@att.net.</p>
November 8	<p>SJBAS meeting - Kenneth Wright, CFO and Principal Engineer for Wright Water Engineers, will present: The Great Inca Road: A Pre-Historic Highway Engineering Marvel." This Andean Road System has recently been listed by UNESCO as a World Heritage Site.</p>
December 13	SJBAS annual meeting and holiday party

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 – [June 2017 newsletter](#)

Archaeology in the Southwest

Salt Lake Mayor Rallies Public Voices for Bears Ears and Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monuments – Salt Lake Mayor’s Blog

As Mayor of Salt Lake City, I urge residents of Utah’s Capital City to join me in speaking to protect the Bears Ears and Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monuments in Southern Utah. These two natural treasures are under review by the U.S. Interior Department, and in jeopardy of being reduced in size or of having their monument status revoked entirely. Any federal decision to modify acreage or roll back protection of these incredible spaces will have negative and far-reaching impacts on Salt Lake City, as well as our entire state. ([Read blog](#))

Editorial: The Battle over The Antiquities Act Continues – Durango Herald

We’re in uncharted waters. A presidential administration just launched an overarching attack on more than 11 million acres of previously protected landscapes. The Trump administration’s new initiative to overturn national monuments designated over the past 20 years is unlike anything in American history. Never has a president launched such an overarching attack on the bedrock underpinnings of American conservation. Never. Literally. Let that sink in. In the 150 years since America first set aside national parks, no president has ever challenged America’s consensus around landscape conservation. Until now. ([Read article](#))

Editorial: Damaging our National Monuments Will Hurt Rural Economies – the Coloradoan

National parks and public lands and waters are a critical part of the nation’s economy. Rural and western communities rely on tourism and outdoor recreation — income created by visitors to the country’s most unique sites. Communities like mine in Cortez want more of this economic growth, not less. Visitors to cultural and historic sites spend \$800 billion a year, creating a \$2 billion payroll. Over 78 percent of tourists are these “heritage” tourists who stay longer and spend more. Locally, Mesa Verde National Park’s 550,000 annual visitors spend \$55 million on local lodging, food, gas and souvenirs. – Deborah Gangloff ([Read article](#))

SJBAS Officers

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Vice President	Jim Mueller	rhondaandjim@msn.com
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Secretary	Barb Hancock	barbhancock@bresnan.net
Treasurer	Mark Gebhardt	mark@virtbiz.com
CAS Representative	Tish Varney	tishvarney@att.net
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Other Positions

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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.**