

THE MOKI MESSENGER

MAY 2017

SAN JUAN BASIN
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

www.sibas.org

Next SJBAS Meeting – Wednesday, May 10th

The next SJBAS meeting will be held on Wednesday, May 10th, at 7:00 p.m. in the Lyceum at the Center of Southwest Studies at Fort Lewis College. After a short business meeting, Dr. Steve Lekson will present: "Chaco: North and South." A social before the meeting will take place at 6:30 p.m. in the CSWS foyer.

This talk will summarize Chaco, and then contrast the situation in the north half of Chaco's region to the less well-known situation in the south. There has been considerable research in the north half of Chaco's region -- Chimney Rock, Aztec Ruin, Salmon Ruin, Lowry Ruin, Bluff Great House and others -- but much less in the southern half. The northern boundary is well defined; the southern, much less so. Chaco Great Houses are found far south in New Mexico, and Chaco-like features at sites almost to the Mexican border.

In addition, on Thursday, May 11th, at noon in the Lyceum, Dr. Lekson will present: "The Mimbres: Dimples, Slip-Slop and Clapboard: What They Are and What They Mean." This lecture is free and open to the public. This talk will focus on the 11th century Mimbres' black-on-white pottery, famous for its images of animals, people, and mythical scenes. Its construction is also of great interest. Dimples, slip-slop and clapboard all refer to aspects of Mimbres pottery-making that are strong clues about what happened in prehistory, and who and what the Mimbres are.

And on Friday, May 12th, at 7:00 p.m. Dr. Lekson will be at Aztec National Monument to present: "Chaco and Cahokia: Two Great Regional Powers in 11th century North America." Chaco Canyon and Cahokia, across the Mississippi River from St Louis, were the principal centers of their respective regions; both are World Heritage Sites. Their trajectories were almost exactly parallel, rising and falling at the same times. We can learn a lot by comparing these two remarkable sites -- and by considering a third player, Mesoamerica, which at that time was in the Early Postclassic with great capitals like Tula and Chichen Itza.

Stephen H. Lekson is Curator of Archaeology at the Museum of Natural History, University of Colorado, Boulder. He received his PhD from the University of New Mexico. Dr. Lekson is prominent throughout the archeological and academic world for his innovative and thought-provoking research in the U.S. Southwest. He has predominantly conducted fieldwork in Ancestral Puebloan and Mogollon regions. He has also investigated areas including the Hohokam, Casas Grandes, Jornada, and Rio Grande areas. Lekson is the author of numerous publications and books; most well-known include "The Chaco Meridian: Centers of Political Power in the Ancient Southwest" and "A History of the Ancient Southwest."



Office for Outreach and Engagement

UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER

SJBAS Monthly Meeting Notes – April 12, 2017

Submitted by: Barb Hancock, Secretary

Attendance: approximately 80

Janice Sheftel, President, opened the meeting at 7 p.m. and welcomed many students, Members, and visitors.

- ◆ Janice announced that the Animas Canon Toll Road was placed on the National Register of Historic Places. This was an initiative endorsed by SJBAS some years ago.
- ◆ Bob Powell is leading a Montezuma Canyon field trip in early May that is full, but he generally has a few cancellations. If people are interested to be put on a waiting list, they should contact him.
- ◆ Shelby Tisdale welcomed the group to the Center of Southwest Studies and announced that the Center will be welcoming Arizona State University professor Dr. Donald L. Fixico Monday, April 17th. Dr. Fixico will deliver the 2017 Duane Smith Lecture in Southwest Studies at 7 p.m. in the Fort Lewis College Ballroom: “Water is Life and the Dakota Access Pipeline.” The event is free and open to the public.
- ◆ Susan Livenick introduced herself as the new Volunteer Coordinator for SJBAS and looks forward to meeting Members through her outreach efforts. She circulated two sign-up sheets. The first is to recruit members who would be willing to help with bringing cookies to the SJBAS socials and the second, for helping with the upcoming SJBAS picnic in June.
- ◆ Janice Sheftel announced that Dr. Steve Lekson will be the SJBAS speaker May 10th in the Lyceum and will be giving a second lecture at noon on May 11th also in the Lyceum. His topics respectively are: “Chaco, the Big Picture” and “Mimbres.” Both events are free and open to the public.

There being no further announcements, the meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m. and Janice introduced the evening’s speaker: Jane Thompson, presenting “*The History of Uravan.*”

SJBAS Summer Picnic and Monthly Meeting – June 14th

Our annual picnic will be held on Wednesday, June 14th, at 5:00 p.m. at the residence of Fokie and Dick Mason. Their address is 1940 County Road 250 Durango; it is 1.8 miles north of the junction of 32nd Street and CR 250. The club will provide brats, hot dogs, buns, condiments, disposable tableware, bottled water, iced tea and lemonade. To complete our meal, we are asking participants whose last names begin with A through F to bring a dessert, G through K, a side dish, L through R, a salad, and S through Z, an appetizer. You are welcome to bring your favorite alcoholic beverage.

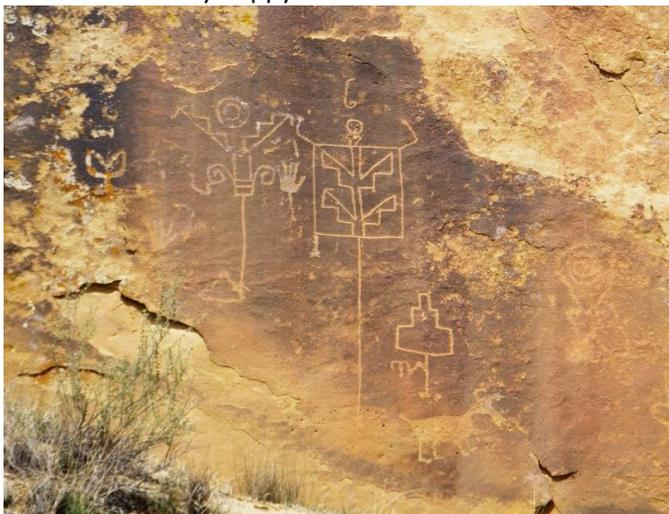
You may bring family members, friends and prospective new members. We need a head count so we know how many brats, hot dogs and buns to order. **You can sign up for the picnic at the May meeting, or please RSVP to Jim Mueller by emailing rhondaandjim@msn.com or calling 504-259-9564 by June 5th. Please respond by that date so we can place our food orders before the picnic.**

We need a few volunteers to help. Fokie needs two people to carry tables, chairs, etc. from the garage to the house. Ideally this would be done on the 13th for set up and the night of the picnic for breakdown. We also need a few volunteers to cook brats and hotdogs. To volunteer, please contact Susan Livenick at susanlivenick@gmail.com.

Trip Report - El Morro, El Malpais and Acoma Field Trip – April 26th – 28th

- by Lyle Hancock

Twelve hardy SJBAS members participated in the field trip. We rendezvoused at noon at El Morro National Monument where we ate lunch at the visitor center picnic ground. Then we viewed the NPS El Morro informational video, and hiked the 2-mile Mesa Top Loop Trail, stopping at the pool, the inscription panels, and the 13th century Atsinna Pueblo. El Morro became an important stop for travelers because the pool filled by rainwater running off the cuesta was a reliable water source along the ancient and historic trade route. Ancestral Puebloan people, Spanish explorers, U.S. Army soldiers, and railroad workers left over 2,000 documented inscriptions. The trail to the top of the cuesta was built by the Civil Works Administration during the Great Depression. The CWA was a short-lived U.S. job creation program established by the New Deal to create manual labor jobs for millions of unemployed workers. They did a remarkable job cutting steps in the sandstone, building switchbacks, paving the trail, and delineating a path across the sandstone bluff. We hiked through the partially-excavated 800-room Atsinna Pueblo ruin situated on top of the cuesta. After our hike, we drove to Joe Skeen BLM Campground in the El Malpais National Conservation Area, set up camp, and enjoyed a somewhat breezy happy hour.



On Thursday, we formed carpools and left camp about 8:30 a.m. to visit several Ancestral Puebloan sites and historic homestead sites in the BLM-managed National Conservation Area. The wind was howling and it was cold, but our intrepid group persevered. We hiked into the partially-excavated Dittert Pueblo, a Chacoan outlier, inspected a ranch ruin from the 1930's, found an unexcavated great kiva, and located an interesting petroglyph panel. Then we moved a few miles down the road and hiked to a special panel that exhibited a creation story of the Ancestral Puebloan people. Finally, we hiked to the Lobo Canyon petroglyph panel (photo). On the way back to the campground, we stopped to see La Ventana Arch, one of the largest natural stone spans in New Mexico.

We awoke on Friday morning to snow flurries and a light rain.

After quickly breaking camp, we headed to the Sky City Cultural Center at the Acoma Pueblo. The cultural center, built in 2008, is an impressive building within which reside the Haak'u museum, a café featuring traditional foods, conference rooms, and a gift shop. We joined a few other intrepid souls for the 1½-hour tour. Our guide did a great job explaining the history of the Acoma people and the pueblo. We visited the huge San Estevan del Ray Mission Church built from 1629 to 1641 when Father Juan Ramirez enslaved the Acoma people to build the mission. They moved 20,000 tons of adobe, straw, sandstone, and mud to the mesa top for the church walls, and hauled Ponderosa pine logs for the ceiling vigas from Mount Taylor, over 40 miles away. Then we walked through the pueblo, stopping at various vendors to see pottery and other crafts for sale. It was freezing cold with a light breeze, rain showers and snow flurries, so we moved relatively quickly to finish the tour. Then we visited the Haak'u museum and had a catered lunch. The field trip ended after lunch and our group headed home in many directions.

Participants were Randy Graham, Linda and Pete Groth, Barb and Lyle Hancock, Nancy and Reg Leach, Marion and Andy Simon, Diane Skinner, Irene Wanner, and Susan Whitfield.



Highlights of April 18th SJBAS Board Meeting

The financial report included:

- The operating fund (checking) has a balance of \$3,252.92 including the \$1,500.00 grant from the Ballantine Family Fund which will be used to host Dr. Doug Owsley as a speaker in September.
- The Internship fund continues to grow affording SJBAS the opportunity to continue its internship funding to the Center of Southwest Studies twice a year.
- The IRS filing has been completed and submitted.
- The Board reviewed and edited a draft 2017 operating budget.

In preparation for the April 29th CAS Quarterly Meeting, the Board addressed the following topics:

- CAS is seeking Chapter input regarding the role of CAS in advocacy as part of an effort to develop a policy for the state organization. If advocacy is allowed by law, the SJBAS Board would like Chapters to have the latitude to advocate for local archaeological and historical matters, such as the efforts of SJBAS regarding the old wagon road north of Durango, not only new or revisions to federal archaeology legislation.
- CAS is seeking ideas for the future of PAAC classes. The newly stated vision for PAAC courses is to shape courses so that the content and outcome of certified avocational archaeologists is of maximum value to professional archaeologists. The SJBAS Board would like to see PAAC education include courses that provide knowledge and information for those who have a strong interest in archaeology but are not interested in field work.
- CAS has an outstanding action item to provide a breakdown of the production costs of publishing Southwestern Lore which consumes the lion's share of CAS annual dues.

SJBAS business discussion highlights included:

- Susan Livenick continues to seek volunteers to help with the pre-meeting socials and will begin seeking volunteers to help with the June mid-year meeting and picnic.
- Dr. Lekson will speak in the Lyceum on May 10th as the SJBAS guest speaker, as well as the following day at noon. Dr. Lekson will also speak in Pagosa Springs and Aztec during this visit. Details will be communicated to the Membership for all events.
- Picnic is upcoming on Wednesday, June 7th. Members RSVP to Foxie.
- Janice is soliciting ideas for 2018 speakers for the lecture series.

The next meeting of the SJBAS Board will be held on Tuesday, June 27th at 11:00 a.m. the location to be confirmed. Members are welcome to attend.

SJBAS Volunteer Coordinator

SJBAS Member Susan Livenick has graciously volunteered to help the Board with recruitment of Member Volunteers for various club needs. You will be hearing from Susan in the coming months as she contacts Members for assistance. The Board received a very enthusiastic response to the recent club survey and Members expressed significant appreciation for and importance of field trips, lectures, and the club socials. These activities can only happen with help from the Membership. Your Board Members are working at capacity. A little volunteer time from Members is needed, appreciated, and keeps SJBAS vibrant.

Susan has been and will continue to reach out to SJBAS Members. You may also e-mail her directly with your contact information if you are interested in helping: susanlivenick@gmail.com.

Letter from the President

Dear SJBAS members,

The Board would like to let SJBAS members know well in advance that the Colorado Archaeology Society (“CAS”) is holding its Annual Meeting and Conference this year on October 27 – 29 at History Colorado in Denver. This year’s event is being hosted by the Denver Chapter.

For those SJBAS members who have not attended in the past, this conference is open to CAS Members, which includes SJBAS Members, as well as the Public. It is a multi-day event with a variety of activities, such as a day of short archaeology presentations by professionals in the field; a banquet and keynote speaker; field trips; a silent auction; and a great opportunity to network with Members of chapters across the State.

If this is an event you think you may wish to attend, we encourage you to note the date on your calendars now. The event does require a registration fee, which will be announced together with more conference details later this summer on the CAS website: <http://www.coloradoarchaeology.org>. The website will also suggest hotel accommodations at a conference rate.

Janice C. Sheftel

La Plata County Historic Driving Tour – May 20th

Follow this link for more information about the [La Plata County Historic Driving Tour](#).

Animas Canon Toll Road

Animas Canon Toll Road is now listed in the National Register of Historic Places ([Read Durango Herald article](#)).

Four Corners Lecture Series 2017

Follow this link to view the [2017 Four Corners Lecture Series Poster](#).

Field Trip and Activity Schedule for 2017

May 6 - 7	<p>Montezuma Canyon and Hovenweep Exploration</p> <p>This will be a 2-day camping or motel trip to visit Ancestral Puebloan sites in Southeast Utah. On the first day, we will visit either the main Square Tower Complex or the outlier sites at Hovenweep National Monument, and rock art sites and Three Kiva site in the Montezuma Creek Valley. We will spend the second day visiting surface sites, cliff dwellings, and rock art panels further north in Montezuma Canyon. All the walks are nearly level and less than ¼ mile long. Overnight options include a motel in Blanding or camping at Hovenweep. Trip participation limit is 16. For more information or to sign up, contact trip leader Bob Powell at robertpowell@durango.net or phone 970-385-8949.</p>
May 10	<p>SJBAS meeting – Dr. Steve Lekson, Curator of Archaeology at the Museum of Natural History, University of Colorado Boulder, will present: "Chaco: North and South."</p> <div style="text-align: right;">  Office for Outreach and Engagement <small>UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO BOULDER</small> </div>
May 11	<p>Lekson presentation – at noon in Lyceum - "The Mimbres: Dimples, Slip-Slop and Clapboard: What They Are and What They Mean."</p>
May 18 - 21	<p>Hopi Immersion</p> <p>This will be a 4-day motel trip to Northern Arizona to explore the lands and culture of the Hopi. The trip participation limit is 10. For more information or to sign up, contact trip leader Rusty Chamberlain at chambrke@aol.com.</p>
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	<p>SJBAS annual picnic</p>

July 12	SJBAS meeting - Louie Garcia will present: "Weaving in the Pueblo Southwest"
July 17 - 18	Tour Silverton Cemetery and Mining Museum and Explore Animas Forks 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 .
August 9	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."
September 13	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."
September 15	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.  
September 25 - 27	Ancestral Puebloan Sites on Cedar Mesa - Utah 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 .
October	CAS annual meeting in Denver, CO
October 11	SJBAS meeting - Dr. Andrew Gulliford, professor of History and Environmental Studies at Fort Lewis College, will present: "Arborglyphs in Southwest Colorado"
October 27 - 29	Nine Mile Canyon and USU Eastern Prehistoric Museum in Price, Utah 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 .
November 8	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.
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

As part of the Four Corners Lecture Series, the Hisatsinom Chapter of the Colorado Archaeology Society is pleased to present Dr. Lewis Borck on Tuesday, May 2nd, 2017 at 7:00 PM at the Sunflower Theater, 8 E. Main St., Cortez, CO to discuss “Dissent in Deep History: Social Movements and Intentional “Collapse” in the Ancient U.S. Southwest.” With a focus on the Hohokam, Lewis counters the traditional explanations of cultural change by looking at other ways to examine horizontal reorganization. Contact Kari Schleher at 505-269-4475 with questions.

Archaeology in the Southwest

What’s Next for Bears Ears – Terrian.org

When Barack Obama declared Bears Ears National Monument on December 28, 2016, the Bears Ears Inter-Tribal Coalition was charged with developing a management plan in conjunction with the Bureau of Land Management and U.S. Forest Service. The Coalition saw President Obama’s decision to provide members with a major voice in shaping policies for the monument as “a tremendous step toward healing past injustices suffered by the Tribes.” Tribal leaders fully recognize both the opportunity presented by Obama’s action and the political challenges confronting them. Zuni Councilman and Coalition co-chair Carleton Bowekaty says the tribes are prepared to surmount what may be considerable obstacles to success. ([Read article](#))

Enigmatic Chaco – Santa Fe New Mexican

The San Juan Basin in northwestern New Mexico can be a forbidding place. There are year-round rivers in the north, but in the central area, you don’t want to be on foot with no water and no friends from horizon to horizon. It was right here, however, that the Ancestral Puebloans built the Chaco Canyon complex, scores of masonry buildings with thousands of rooms — and not only did people flourish here for most of four centuries, but it was apparently a celebrated place of pilgrimage. ([Read article](#))

SJBAS Officers

President	Janice Sheftel	janicesheftel@gmail.com
Vice President	Florence (Foxie) Mason	fmason@frontier.net
Vice President	Jim Mueller	rhondaandjim@msn.com
Field Trip Program coordinator	Lyle Hancock	lylehancock@bresnan.net
Secretary	Barb Hancock	barbhancock@bresnan.net
Treasurer	Mark Gebhardt	mark@virtbiz.com
CAS Representative	Tish Varney	tishvarney@att.net
PAAC Representative	Tish Varney	tishvarney@att.net

Other Positions

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.**