



# THE MOKI MESSENGER

MAY 2020

SAN JUAN BASIN  
ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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

## May 13<sup>th</sup> Meeting **CANCELLED**

**Due to the ongoing COVID-19 health crisis, all SJBAS scheduled activities and field trips have been cancelled through June. We will keep members informed in a timely manner as to additional schedule changes or rescheduled activities.**

### President's Letter

Dear SJBAS Members:

We are all fatigued with hearing constantly about the coronavirus, isolating ourselves, wearing masks, and not getting together with friends. In the meantime, numerous archaeological subjects have been presented by staff at Crow Canyon through the use of the online Zoom app. They have been interesting and help keep us thinking that we will be back going on field trips to interesting places and engaging in educational lectures.

Our activities have been canceled through the end of June and we will make the decision on the fate of future activities later in May. Our lectures are tied to the opening of Fort Lewis College which has just announced they will try to resume face to face classes in the fall. Our field trips are dependent on having access to locations like southeast Utah, the Navajo Nation, Hopi, and Zuni, etc. and they all are closed for safety reasons into the future. We will continue to assess what is going on around us and make decisions based on the safety of our members, visitors, and the locations we would like to visit.

Hang in there; we will be back with a fun and interesting program as soon as we can.

Sincerely,  
Rege Leach

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[\*\*SJBAS Volunteer Opportunities\*\*](#)

## John W. Sanders Internship Project – Student Summary

The Spring 2020 John W. Sanders Internship was granted to Amanda Vodicka. Amanda is an anthropology major at Fort Lewis College who is graduating in Spring 2020. She is a Dean's List student and has received the John Ives and Gabe Doegler anthropology scholarship awards. She was a work-study librarian at the Delaney Library at the Center of Southwest Studies her freshman year, and this past spring she received a grant from the San Juan Basin Archaeological Society for an archaeology-based internship at the museum. Throughout the semester she worked with staff and other interns on inventorying the collections and began cataloging the Brougher Site objects from accession 2007:035. Follow this link to Amanda's summary of her work, [Cataloging Brougher](#). This summary is in lieu of Amanda making a presentation to SJBAS as there will no opportunity for her to do this before she graduates this spring. The remainder of the internship is being completed online with additional training and group discussions. In the future, Amanda plans on moving to the Pacific Northwest and enrolling in a graduate program for leadership and sustainability with plans of coordinating educational programs at a museum.

Thank you SJBAS for your continued support of the Center of Southwest Studies and Fort Lewis College students!

Stay well ~ Julie Tapley-Booth

## In Memoriam – Jeff Davis

Jeff Borden Davis, 92, of Durango, Colorado died on April 16, 2020 at the Mercy Hospice House. Born August 5, 1927 in Emporia, Kansas to parents Lee C. Davis and Lena Moore Davis, he was preceded in death by his parents, half -brothers Delmont and Clark, brother Gayle Davis and sister Shirley Davis Coleman. He is survived by niece Sherri Coleman Hanna and her spouse Gary of Edgerton, Kansas, their children and grandchildren, and nephew Robyn Coleman of Kansas City, Missouri, and child. No services are scheduled at this time; a celebration of life will be held at a later date.



After graduation from Gardner Kansas High School in 1945, Jeff enlisted in the Navy V-5 pre-flight program and was honorably discharged from the Navy in 1946. He began studies at Kansas University, then transferred to Denver University, where he completed his BA in Mass Communications in 1950. Jeff left Colorado to work as a copywriter for KFBC in Wyoming for a short period, before being drafted into the Army during the Korean conflict. After serving two years with the National Security Agency in Washington D.C., he was discharged with the rank of Sergeant. Resuming his work as a copywriter, he spent time first at stations in Nebraska and Oklahoma, then settled in Grand Rapids, Michigan working for WOOD, (Time-Life Broadcast) where he became Public Affairs Director and Documentary Director. During his ten years with WOOD, the station received numerous awards, including an Emmy for an expose of Kalamazoo State Hospital deficiencies. Jeff left WOOD in 1966 to form an advertising and public relations firm, where he first met and worked with client Gerald Ford during his congressional campaigns and formed a deep and lasting friendship with President Ford and his wife Betty. In 1978, Jeff sold his stake in the agency and began his work with the Universal Companies, first in the restaurant division as marketing director, then later as administrative assistant to the chairman, and as corporate communications director. Jeff moved to the firm's major subsidiary, Universal Forest Products (U.S.'s fourth-largest building materials supplier), as their market and communications manager, retiring after 16 years with the company.

Returning to Colorado in 1995, Jeff made his retirement home in Durango. Retired in name only, he brought his many talents and skills to a variety of organizations. His interest in the arts and music was spread among many Durango institutions. Active in the First Presbyterian Church, he lent his strong singing voice to the choir and was a valued and enthusiastic member of the Durango Barbershoppers. Jeff sat on the board of the (former) Community Concerts Association and of the San Juan Symphony. As a long-time volunteer with the Durango Arts Society, he was a principal in the Summer Street Arts Festival. He could also be found volunteering with the Fort Lewis College Center for Southwest Studies museum and the Animas City Museum. Jeff served on the boards of the **San Juan Basin Archeological Society** and the Four Corners Rose Society, pursuing his study of the history and culture of the area and raising prize-winning roses. Jeff also supported the Animas Valley Grange both as a board member and could be found in the kitchen utilizing his chef skills at every event.

An avid traveler (England and Italy were his favorite countries) Jeff often went off the beaten path, Ethiopia and Nigeria, Yemen, India, and Fiji to name a few, collecting masks as he went. Skiing, hiking, and Jeeping were part of his favored Colorado lifestyle, until a successful surgery to remove a brain tumor curtailed his more strenuous activities. After recovery, Jeff continued to pursue his hobbies of photography, gardening, and birdwatching and whipping up his famous pies with the fruit picked from his yard. And he continued to follow and believe in his beloved Kansas City Chiefs.

Loved by many, Jeff B. Davis will be remembered by his family, friends, and neighbors as a man of strong faith and conviction, with the determination to meet life on his terms and as a civic-minded example worth emulating. We are sad to mark his passing, but as Jeff, himself would say "No whining!". -- Published in The Durango Herald on April 17, 2020

"Jeff did a lot of work for SJBAS – those were the days when John Sanders wrote long *Moki* messages on his typewriter, Jeff organized the notes into the newsletter that went to the printers; then he picked them up and took them to the Post Office to be mailed according to zip code – which cost a lot of money. After some of us switched to email, some hard copies still had to be mailed until everyone had a computer and decided to switch." – by Eliane Viner

## Upcoming Online Archaeology Events

**Archaeology Southwest** will host our second **Archaeology Café Online** at 6:00 p.m. MST (7:00 p.m. MDT as in Durango) on **May 5**. In "A Tale of Two Cities: Casa Malpais, Kinishba, and the Elusive Promise of Archaeological Tourism," **John R. Welch** will take us on virtual tours of two of upland Arizona's classic pueblos and earliest national historic landmarks. Registration is free but required. ([More info and to register](#)).

**Crow Canyon Archaeological Center** has added a new video from their webinar series to their YouTube channel. Check out **Stefani Crabtree's** presentation "Toward a Science of ArchaeoEcology: Placing Humans into Food Webs." <https://youtu.be/zLjUPRddQr4>

The **Verde Valley Archaeology Center's** (VVAC) Archaeology Field Institute has launched its **Distance Learning program**. The Institute's offerings include "The Archaeology of the Verde Valley" and "The Rock Art of the Verde Valley." The courses are free to all through June 30. Information and registration is available at

<https://course.vvarchcenter.org>. Additional courses are under development.

<https://verdevalleyarchaeology.org>

The **Mesa Prieta Petroglyph Project** invites you to join them on Facebook for a live Q&A with MPPP founder and author of *Life on the Rocks*, **Katherine Wells**. Friday, **May 1**, at 1:00 p.m. MDT. “Please feel free to dialogue with each other and post your questions in advance. We will also embed this video on the MPPP website AND YouTube channel for viewing. The interactive component will occur on Facebook.”

<https://www.facebook.com/events/605292690025629/>

The **Amerind Museum** is hosting a free lecture via Zoom: “An Overview of Mimbres Archaeology: Beautiful Pottery, Ordinary Architecture, and Scarlet Macaws in Southwestern New Mexico” with **Patricia Gilman** on Saturday, **May 9**, from 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. MST (2:00 to 3:00 p.m. MDT as in Durango). To register visit:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_bceb5zYsTkeTsOvOGKDWxg](https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_bceb5zYsTkeTsOvOGKDWxg)

## Yupköyvi - The Place Beyond the Horizon - Official Trailer

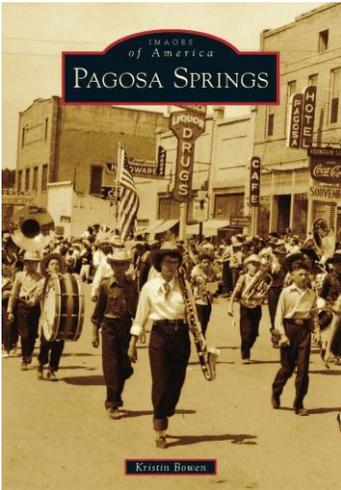
Official trailer for the latest documentary from Larry Ruiz... coming later this year: [Yupköyvi - The Place Beyond the Horizon](#).

## Amerind Museum – Dragoon, Arizona

Sixty years ago, the Amerind Museum in Dragoon, Arizona, excavated Paquime in Chihuahua, Mexico, one of the most amazing archaeological sites in our region. Created by archaeological scholars, the new permanent exhibit “Without Borders: The Deep History of Paquime” lets visitors explore the art, history and architecture that flourished over seven centuries ago. The exhibit tells Paquime’s story from Amerind foundational research to the latest discoveries made there.

## Zits Comics





## Pagosa Springs History Book

Arcadia Publishing newest local history book in their *Images of America* series is on Pagosa Springs, Colorado. The Pagosa Springs title, written by SJBAS member Kristin Bowen, will be released June 22, 2020. The book will be available at local bookstores and at several Pagosa Springs merchants and is available for preorder now at [www.arcadiapublishing.com](http://www.arcadiapublishing.com). Book signing events are still being finalized due to the uncertainty of COVID-19 impacts but had been planned for the towns annual Fourth of July celebration events. The author can be contacted for a signed copy at [kristinbowen52@gmail.com](mailto:kristinbowen52@gmail.com).

## Archaeology Southwest

Archaeology Southwest is a private 501 (c) 3 nonprofit organization headquartered in Tucson, Arizona. For three decades, Archaeology Southwest has practiced a holistic, conservation-based approach to exploring the places of the past. We call this Preservation Archaeology. By exploring what makes a place special, sharing this knowledge in innovative ways, and enacting flexible site protection strategies, we foster meaningful connections to the past and respectfully safeguard its irreplaceable resources. Follow this link to the website: [Archaeology Southwest](http://ArchaeologySouthwest.org).

## John W. Sanders Lecture

SJBAS will be sending out articles on the Neanderthals to present some new issues before our September 19<sup>th</sup> John W. Sanders Lecture by Professor Trenton Holliday at the FLC Student Union Ballroom. Follow this link to our first article: [Neanderthal burial debate revived](#).

<b>Upcoming Field Trip and Activity Schedule – 2020</b>	
<b>Dates</b>	<p><b>Updates are in red.</b></p> <p>SJBAS members have proposed the following field trips. Please read <a href="#">General Information About Field Trips</a> for important information about field trips.</p> <p>Please contact trip leaders by phone or email for more information or to sign up.</p>
<b>May 8</b>	<p><b>Downtown Durango Walking Tour - CANCELLED</b> Meet at train depot at 3:00 p.m. Enjoy a 1.5-hour downtown Durango walking tour with historian Andrew Gulliford; walk north on Main Avenue to El Rancho, walk up to East 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue and then south on 3<sup>rd</sup> back to depot. Participants will learn about Durango’s commercial and residential districts and colorful local history. Difficulty Rating: Easygoing. Trip participation limit is 18. For more information or to sign up, contact Andy Gulliford at <a href="mailto:andy@agulliford.com">andy@agulliford.com</a>.</p>

May 13	<b>SJBAS Meeting - CANCELLED</b> Marilee White will present: "Reversing Archaeology: Ethiopia's Ancient Stone-hewn Churches."
May 15 - 18	<b>PAAC Class in Durango – Ceramics - CANCELLED</b> Prehistoric Ceramic Description and Analysis - Ceramic technology, methods of manufacture, physical/stylistic analyses, and basic Colorado ceramic characteristics. Contact Tish Varney for details and to sign up: <a href="mailto:tishvarney@att.net">tishvarney@att.net</a> .
June 1 - 4	<b>Keet Seel Backpacking – CANCELLED</b> This will be a four-day trip that includes car camping at Navajo National Monument and an overnight backpacking trip (8.5 miles each way) to Keet Seel, one of the best-preserved Ancestral Puebloan cliff dwellings in the Southwest. A Park Service guide will provide a tour of the cliff dwellings. The backpack is rated by the Park Service as strenuous, plus backpackers may have to carry 6 liters of water per person. For those who want to stay for a fourth day there will be a guided five-mile round trip hike to Betatakin. Difficulty Rating: Hard. Trip participation limit is 10. For more information or to sign up, contact trip leader Hunter McCleary at <a href="mailto:hunter.mccleary@gmail.com">hunter.mccleary@gmail.com</a> .
June 10	<b>SJBAS Annual Picnic – CANCELLED</b> Edgemont Ranch Picnic Grounds
June 22 – 24	<b>Ohkay Owingeh Feast Day – CANCELLED</b> 2 to 3-day motel trip to Santa Fe – Combine colorful feast day ceremonies at Ohkay Owingeh Pueblo with other sites such as El Rancho de las Golondrinas, Bandelier National Monument, etc. Difficulty Rating: Easygoing. Trip participation limit is 12. For more information or to sign up, contact trip leader Rusty Chamberlain at <a href="mailto:chambrke@aol.com">chambrke@aol.com</a> .
July 8	<b>SJBAS Meeting</b> - Wayne Lorenz will present: "New finds at Pompei."
TBD	<b>Fort Lewis College Field School – CANCELLED</b> Details will be forthcoming.
August 5	<b>Chaco Landscapes: Sensory and Political Engagement with Place –</b> Archaeologist Ruth Van Dyke – 7:00 p.m. in Room 130, Noble Hall, at Fort Lewis College
August 7 – 9	<b>Attend Pecos Conference near Mancos –</b> Camp at conference site or do day trips from Durango. For more information or to sign up, contact Foxie Mason at <a href="mailto:fmason@frontier.net">fmason@frontier.net</a> .
August 12	<b>SJBAS Meeting</b> - Liseth Louderback will present: "Potatoes of the Southwest."
Early September	<b>Navajo Nation Fair – CANCELLED</b> Window Rock, AZ – 2-day motel trip during first week of September. Difficulty Rating: Easygoing. Trip participation limit is 12. For more information or to sign up, contact trip leader Rusty Chamberlain at <a href="mailto:chambrke@aol.com">chambrke@aol.com</a> .
September 9	<b>SJBAS social gathering –</b> Details will be forthcoming.
September 19	<b>John W. Sanders Lecture</b> - Trenton Holliday of Tulane University will present: "Meandering Neanderthals – A New Look at our Closest Fossil Relatives."  

September 21 – 24	<b>Chaco Culture National Historical Park 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Astronomy Festival</b> – 3-day camping trip – Park Service programs may include astronomy, star gazing through powerful telescopes and talking with astronomers, site tours, campfire programs, and a sunrise program to observe the autumnal equinox. We will do one or two hikes to backcountry sites (4-5 miles each). Difficulty Rating: Moderate. Reservations for campsites must be made by each SJBAS participant. For more information or to sign up, contact Paula Lutz at <a href="mailto:paula@durango.net">paula@durango.net</a> .
October 5 – 7	<b>Cedar Mesa Backcountry Sites</b> – 3-day camping trip. We will camp for two nights in a dispersed campsite and hike to a variety of Ancestral Puebloan sites. 4WD/HC vehicles are required, and participants must be fit and ready to hike all day. Difficulty Rating: Moderate. Trip participation limit is 12. For more information or to sign up, contact Lyle Hancock at <a href="mailto:lylehancock54@gmail.com">lylehancock54@gmail.com</a> .
October 2, 3, 9 or 10 ??	<b>Dinetah Pueblitos and rock art in Largo Canyon, New Mexico</b> – This will be a day trip to visit three Navajo Pueblitos and several rock art panels. We will drive down through Aztec and return through Ignacio. The longest walk is ¾ mile over relatively flat terrain. 4WD/HC vehicles are required; however, if heavy rains occur during the preceding week, we may postpone the trip because of slippery roads. Difficulty Rating: Easy Active. The trip participation limit is 16; we will arrange carpools. For more information or to sign up, contact trip leader Bob Powell at <a href="mailto:robertlpowell@durango.net">robertlpowell@durango.net</a> or 970-385-8949.
October 9 – 11	<b>Navajo Culture – CANCELLED - Crown Point Rug Auction, Hubbell Trading Post, maybe Canyon de Chelly</b> – 2 to 3-day motel trip. Difficulty- Rating: Easygoing. For more information or to sign up, contact Randy Graham at <a href="mailto:rg44@bresnan.net">rg44@bresnan.net</a> .
October 14	<b>SJBAS Meeting</b> - Fred Blackburn will present: "Methodology and Documentation of Historic Names at Aztec Ruins."
October 8 - 13	<b>Paquime / Casas Grandes, Chihuahua, Mexico – CANCELLED</b> - 4-day motel trip – This tour of Paquime and nearby archaeological sites leaves by van from Deming, NM. The tour leader is retired archaeologist Paul Minnis who has conducted excavations in the Casas Grandes area and published widely. We will also visit Cave of the Olla, Cuarenta Casas, the Paquime Museum, and various nearby cliff dwellings and some rock art. There will be optional side-trips to nearby historic Hacienda San Diego and an 1880's Mormon settlement. The town of Mata Ortiz is also known for its revivalist pottery industry inspired by Paquime. The cost is approximately \$1,000/person double occupancy and includes lodging, most meals, and travel by van. The first and last nights in Deming are not covered. Dr. Minnis is not charging for his time but would appreciate it if each participant makes a contribution to the archaeology institution of their choice. Difficulty Rating: Easy Active. Trip participation limit is 12. For more information or to sign up, contact trip leader Hunter McCleary at <a href="mailto:hunter.mccleary@gmail.com">hunter.mccleary@gmail.com</a> .
November 11	<b>SJBAS Meeting</b> - Rand Greubel, Alpine Archaeological Consultants, will present: "Archaeological Investigations: CDOT's Highway 550-160 Connection Project on Florida Mesa"
December 12	<b>SJBAS Annual Meeting and Holiday Brunch</b> – Vallecito Room at Fort Lewis College
	<b>Other Related Trips and Activities</b>
September	<b>Excavation Opportunity – Four Corners Research – Champagne Spring</b> – Follow this

	link for more information, <a href="#">Champagne Spring Excavation</a> , or go to <a href="http://www.fourcornersresearch.com">www.fourcornersresearch.com</a> to download a sign-up sheet.
<b>October 17</b>	<b>International Archaeology Day</b>

## Regional Archaeology News

### Virtual tour of several archeology sites in Grand Canyon National Park

*Archaeology Southwest* subscriber Tom Bartels sent this note: I produced a **virtual tour of several archeology sites for Grand Canyon National Park** a number of years ago. It is still being used on the National Park website, and is an interesting, immersive experience that allows viewers to see the inside of room blocks and other spaces in 360-degree virtual space. (The VRs run with Adobe Flash, so in some browsers, people may have to download Adobe Flash.) <https://www.nps.gov/features/grca/001/archeology/index.html>

### A Message from Crow Canyon Archaeological Center

With the safety of its staff, program participants, and community in mind, Crow Canyon Archaeological Center has closed its campus until further notice due to the coronavirus pandemic. Additionally, Crow Canyon’s spring and summer programs have been canceled in response to school closures in Colorado and other states. “We miss seeing our supporters on our campus, but the safety of our program participants, visitors, and staff is our paramount concern,” said Liz Perry, president & CEO of Crow Canyon. “As we navigate this new environment, we’re dedicated to meeting our supporters where they are and finding innovative ways to serve them remotely. We look forward to being back together in-person soon, fulfilling our mission with delightfully dirty hands and open hearts.” For more information, visit Crow Canyon’s website at [www.crowcanyon.org](http://www.crowcanyon.org).

### Visit National Parks on Google Earth

You can visit National Parks on Google Earth: <https://bit.ly/3dHcbg9>

### Commentary: Evolution and the Strangeness of Social Distancing

For some, particularly self-described introverts, this new form of distancing may not feel so different from their previous everyday life. But for many, it forces a pattern of behaviors that feels unnatural and uncomfortable, feeding a rising sense of anxiety. Why does intentionally avoiding physical interaction with other humans during our daily routine feel so strange? The answer may lie in millions of years of behavioral and cultural evolution. – George M. Leader at Sapiens ([Read article](#))

### Commentary: The Surprising History of Radiocarbon Dating

Several years ago, I went back to Chicago to see some old friends: artifacts, really—ancient sandals to be precise. The sandals were at the Field Museum of Natural History in Chicago, Illinois, where I worked in the early 2000s. They had been found in Tularosa Cave, New Mexico, in 1950, and their construction from reed

matting made clear they were from early Indigenous people of that region, a group that archaeologists call the Mogollon (pronounced MOH'-gee-yoan). But I wanted to know exactly how old they were, so I was returning to collect samples for radiocarbon dating. – Stephen E. Nash at Sapiens ([Read article](#))

### Online Events and Opportunities

Each Tuesday and Thursday at noon the staff of **Utah’s State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO)** will be taking to Facebook Live to talk about their projects and take your questions. Since we’re all working from home, we’re taking this opportunity to expand our outreach and education efforts in the digital world. You can learn more at [facebook.com/UtahSHPO](https://www.facebook.com/UtahSHPO) and send us suggestions for future topics you’d like to see. We’ll be at it until COVID-19 (and earthquakes!) let us get back into our regular schedules.

<https://www.facebook.com/events/237524647639920/>

Take a tour of **Aztec Ruins National Monument** from the comfort of your own home:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DVLwn2cKnVM>

### Closures in San Juan County, Utah

With efforts to protect communities from the spread of COVID-19 underway, a number of substantial restrictions or closures have been announced in San Juan County, Utah. Here is a list of the latest closures impacting visitors in the region. – Friends of Cedar Mesa ([Read article](#))

### SJBAS Elected Officers and Other Board Members - 2020

President	Rege Leach	<a href="mailto:rleach@frontier.net">rleach@frontier.net</a>
Vice President	Susan Hicks	<a href="mailto:sc53hicks@gmail.com">sc53hicks@gmail.com</a>
Secretary	Paula Lutz	<a href="mailto:paula@durango.net">paula@durango.net</a>
Treasurer	Randy Graham	<a href="mailto:rg44@bresnan.net">rg44@bresnan.net</a>

Education/PAAC representative	Tish Varney	<a href="mailto:tishvarney@att.net">tishvarney@att.net</a>
Field Trip Program coordinator	Lyle Hancock	<a href="mailto:lylehancock54@gmail.com">lylehancock54@gmail.com</a>
Membership chair	(Open)	
<i>Moki Messenger</i> editor	Lyle Hancock	<a href="mailto:lylehancock54@gmail.com">lylehancock54@gmail.com</a>
Programming chair	Janice Sheftel	<a href="mailto:janicesheftel@gmail.com">janicesheftel@gmail.com</a>
Publicity chair	Jill Tripp	<a href="mailto:jtripp51@yahoo.com">jtripp51@yahoo.com</a>
Webmaster and email coordinator	Lyle Hancock	<a href="mailto:lylehancock54@gmail.com">lylehancock54@gmail.com</a>

**SJBAS Membership renewals are due by January 31<sup>st</sup> each year.** Please complete the [SJBAS Annual Membership Form](#), make your check payable to ‘SJBAS’ and mail with the Annual Membership Form to: **SJBAS, Attn: Randy Graham, P.O. Box 3153, Durango, CO 81302.**