

# SAN JUAN BASIN ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Chapter of Colorado Archaeological Society



## FIELD TRIP REPORT

Date: **August 20, 2011**      Destination: **Red Mountain Mining District**

Leaders: **Bob Danielson**      Number of Participants: **6**

Six SJBAS members joined Bob Danielson on August 20, 2011 for a drive through the Red Mountain Mining District over Corkscrew Pass, following Cement Creek into Silverton. Bob worked hard putting this trip together since it took the snow a long time to melt this year, and he did not want to cover the same areas as our two previous mining history trips.

We viewed (1) the National Belle, which operated from 1883 to 1897 and had high grade ore, but not a large amount; (2) Red Mountain Town, which boomed in response to the National Belle, but was established so quickly in the winter on several feet of snow that what the surprised population discovered in the spring was they were on top of a swamp and had to move the town; (3) the Genesse-Vanderbuilt mine; (4) the Yankee Girl Mine; (5) the Mogul Mill; (6) Gold King Mill sites; and (7) the Mayday mine. We then traveled along the route of the Silverton, Gladstone and Northerly RR. The flowers were abundant, and the three Red Mountains glowed. The trip ended in Silverton with a dish of ice cream. Others stayed to hear the Brass Band.

- Prepared by Rich Robinson