



THE MOKI MESSENGER

NEWSLETTER OF THE SAN JUAN BASIN ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Chapter of Colorado Archaeological Society

July, 2011

Salmon Ruins Talk

SJBAS Trips

SJBAS JULY MEETING

July 14, 2011, 7:00 p.m. at the Center for SW Studies Lyceum at Fort Lewis College SJBAS will hold their July meeting. The speaker will be Larry L. Baker, who has served as the Executive Director of the San Juan County Archaeological Research Center and Library at Salmon Ruins since 1993. He will discuss the observatory at Salmon, the Salmon Ruins Research Center and Library, as well as the 11th century pueblo, pioneer homestead and Heritage Park. These are owned by San Juan County, NM, and managed by the San Juan County Museum Association (501[c]3).

As a Southwestern archaeologist with over 37 years of professional experience, Larry has been involved in numerous archaeological research projects, cultural resource management, and ruins stabilization/historic preservation. His research interests focus on prehistoric and historic architecture, archaeoastronomy, and the Ancestral Puebloan periods of northwestern NM. He was involved in the Salmon Ruins and Rio Puerco Valley projects during the 1970's, under Cynthia Irwin-Williams. He is the principal Investigator of the Center's archaeological consulting firm, which has undertaken over 3,000 individual projects from 1993 to 2010. He has organized a team of Native American specialists, who have been preserving prehistoric and historic structures in the Four Corners Region, including not only Salmon Ruins, but numerous Ancestral Puebloan sites, National Register pueblitos on New Mexico State Trust Lands, and historic homesteads managed by the BLM. Larry has authored numerous agency reports, papers, and publications.

July 13, *The Tram Towers of Animas Mining District.*

Limit 20. The SJBAS group will be following Rudy Davison as he follows the trams in the Animas Valley Mining District. This will be a one day trip with emphasis on Mines in Arastra Gulch and above Eureka. Rudy is an expert having schooled at Fort Lewis under Duane Smith. He is not only knowledgeable but has a unique way of presenting his material. This trip has a TPL=20 requiring HC/4WD vehicles. Size of the vehicles is also important in that extra wide or long vehicles are not allowed on these roads which are narrow with sharp turns. In general the roads will not be as bad as they were last year. Car pooling will be arranged. Space will be filled with drivers and their vehicles being given first preference. A sack lunch and drinks are advised. You should dress according to weather conditions present at high altitudes—warm, cold, wet and dry all in the same day.

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Others Meetings & News

Hisastsinom Chapter:

This chapter's next meeting will be July 5, 2011, at the Cortez Cultural Center at 7:00 p.m. The speaker will be Cliff Spencer, the new superintendent of Mesa Verde National Park.

Aztec Ruins Lecture Series.

7:00 to 8:30 p.m., Aztec Ruins Visitor Center. Free.

July 23, *Aztec and Salmon: Variability in Faunal Usage at Regional Great House*, Dr. Kathy Durand Gore, Professor of Anthology, Eastern NM University at Portales, NM;

August 5, *Life and Ritual at the Edge of the Lava: The Las Ventanas Community*, Paul Reed, Chacoan Scholar, Salmon Ruins, and Preservation Archaeologist, Center for Desert Archeology, Tucson;

August 19, *Clothing at Aztec Ruins and Beyond: A Look at Clothing Styles across the Prehispanic Southwest*, Dr. Laurie Webster, Anthropologist/textile consultant, Mancos, CO;

August 26, *Local Potters of Aztec Ruins: Technology and Artistry*, Loris Stephens Reed, NPS, Archaeologist and Ceramics Consultant, Aztec Ruins;

September 16, *Violence, Sex and Witchcraft - Twenty Years of Writing the Southwest*, Michael & Kathleen Gear, Archeologists and Authors of *The First North Americans* Series, Thermopolis, WY. For more information, call 505-334-6174 or www.nps.gov/azru Schedule of Events.

Poudre River Public Library - History Comes Alive: Benjamin Franklin, Christopher Lowell, a teacher/actor for over 50 years will portray Benjamin Franklin. **July 29**, 7-8:30 pm, Student Center, Front Range Comm. College, 4616 S. Shields St. www.poudrelibraries.org/calendarwww.poudrelibraries.org/

CAS, Denver Chapter - Monthly talks/tours are held on Saturday mornings at the Lamb Spring Archaeological Preserve in the Roxborough area of Douglas Co., running through October, to discuss mammoth, extinct buffalo, and paleo-Indian finds dating to 15,500 CALYBP. See www.douglas.co.us/lambspring.

Summary of talk to Denver CAS Chapter

by Lucy Bambrey, Head of cultural resources in the Denver office of the architectural and engineering firm, The Louis Berger Group ("LBG"):

In the fall of 2009, LBG archaeologists recorded almost 200 historic mining features in Glacier, Grand Canyon, Saguaro National Parks; Coronado National Memorial, and Organ Pipe National Monument. Miners in the late 19th and early 20th centuries endured physical hardships in areas that would become our nation's national parks and monuments. With the help of mining historians in Colorado and Arizona, the abandoned mines were evaluated for eligibility for the National Register of Historic Places before being closed for safety concerns in a manner that would not destroy the historic setting and fabric of the sites.

Activities In Our Area

Remaining National Park Fee Free Days: National Public Lands Day (Sept. 24) and Veterans Day weekend (Nov. 11-13).

Ute Mountain Tribal Park (UMTP) Open Houses to be held as follows:

"Nordenskiöld Cliff Dwellings Tour," in Pool Canyon, **July 2**, 8:15 a.m.;

"Inaccessible, Casa Colorado, and Casa Blanca House Cliff Dwelling Tour," **July 23**, 8:15 a.m. Reservations required.

"Turning Red Tail Hawk Tour to Morris Three Cliff Dwelling" in Johnson Canyon, **Aug 30** and **Sept 3**, 9:30 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.

(Departure times are from UMTP Visitor Center). Reservations required. UMTP tour information: (970) 565-9653, 800-847-5485, or ute-park@fone.net.

Denver Chapter Trip (Summary, *All Points Bulletin*, April 2011, by Jann Dillon)

Tentatively, October 1-10, the Denver Chapter will also visit Little Petroglyph Canyon and the Coso Range, the Mojave Desert, and other rock art sites. Priority to Denver Chapter members. E-mail TeresaWeedin, weedin@comcast.net.

Crow Canyon Archaeological Center Trip Report

As fourteen members of the SJBAS made a left turn onto road Montezuma County Rd. "K" on June 03, 2011, they were greeted with an eye full of the beautiful Crow Canyon Archaeological Center (CCAC). Sleeping Ute Mountain is visible from this location for those interested!

During the next several hours we obtained a CCAC organizational overview and its impact on the archaeology of the Four Corners. Mark Varien, Vice President of Programs, is an excellent orator with endless knowledge about the population of the people in the Mesa Verde region from about 900 to 1300 AD. This knowledge had a lasting impact on our understanding about population in this area, and the people who lived here. He also talked about the abandonment of the area. He gave us a birds' eye view of the CCAC's future project of learning about the Basket Maker Communities Project.

After lunch we enjoyed a tasty bite made by one our Durango's own residents Jim Martin the CCAC Chef. We then toured Crow Canyon's laboratory and curation room. This room had many excellent examples of the areas' potters' work. During this time we were given an in depth view and understanding of the importance of the areas' pottery by Fumi Arakawa, a lithics technology analyst. Arakawa also discussed how pottery can be used to date the occupation of a site from which it is found.

Next we traveled to a new site that CCAC is working on near Goodman Point and met Grant Coffey to see how his work in a trench could be interpreted to learn about a kiva that was there. As the day concluded we did a quick walk through the great kiva at Goodman Point.

Every one of us left with a better understanding about Crow Canyon Archaeological Center, how its 25 years of important research is achieved, their role in education, their work to be a good neighbor, and their role in understanding the people who lived in the area and why these people left. Hopefully Mark Varian will be able to give a talk at one of our meetings in the future.

From Richard and Linda Robinson

PAAC NEWS

Reduction in PAAC "In Person" Courses

The number of "In Person" classes will be reduced July 2011-June 2012 because of a decrease in the State Archaeologist's travel budget. Lithics, ceramics, and perishable materials will remain in-person classes to be taught July-December, and will rotate, as follows:

Aug 27 and Sept 15, Denver: Site Forms Workshop;

Sept 17-18, Glenwood Springs: Archaeological Dating Methods;

Oct 14-15, Boulder: PAAC Board meeting at CAS annual meeting;

October 21-23, Pueblo: Principles of Archaeological Excavation;

Nov 5-6, Cortez: Research Design & Report Writing, followed by lab training at Lowry Dec-Jan;

Nov 19-20, Denver: Introduction to Laboratory Techniques;

Dec 2-16, Denver: PAAC Laboratory Project, on intermittent dates at the Museum Support Center in east Denver. For more information, contact Eliane Viner at 970-382-2594 or j_e_viner@frontier.net, regarding dates.

The **next PAAC Board meeting will be July 23 in Cortez. You will have an opportunity to express your views on the program's direction.** See PAAC Web site <http://www.historycolorado.org/oahp/program-avocational-archaeological-certification-paac>.

SJBAS Trips -Cont.

(Continued from page 1)

Mary Ann Hiller, 970-259-5170, johnhill-durco@durango.net. Mary Ann Hiller, one of the leaders for this trip, is going on vacation so please contact Richard at Robinson@frontier.net to sign up and to get further information.

July 22, Southern Ute Cultural Center.

1 1/2 hour group tour, led by a senior staff member, of the new \$38 million facility. Arrive at the Center's ceremonial courtyard at 10 a.m. Move to the Welcoming Gallery at 10:30 a.m. Members may proceed to Ignacio on their own or car pool. Since the date was not known until now, those interested in participating should state or re-state their interest in being on the list or backup list by contacting Jan and Ralph Blanchard at blanchard@mydurango.net, or call 970-382-9058. Include a phone number in any email. Center would like to limit the tour to close to 20. Museum entry fee: \$7.

July 29, Silver Lake Mining District.

(from Jim Shadell)

This field trip was scheduled for Thur., June 23 but had to be postponed to Friday, July 29 due to snow and avalanche possibilities in the area. In July the snow will be gone, but I have to warn you there is an eight foot section of the trail which is washed out, leaving a bit of an exposed section. BUT there is a cable at that spot to assist you and your compatriots across. I will also bring a rope for extra insurance. The mining district is somewhat pristine because there is no road nearby. Consequently there is much mining paraphernalia in situ: Hob-nail boot soles, broken china, shovels, spare parts, ore cars etc. etc. The mine was worked year-round and all the buildings except the assay office have been collapsed by heavy snows.

On around the lake are the Iowa and the Royal Tiger mines as well if some of you want to continue exploring. The lake known as a 'tarn' is located in a beautiful valley above timberline known as a 'cirque'. The 4WD access road going up Arrastra Gulch passes some of the tram towers. Rudy Davison will talk about this as well as the Mayflower Mine and a couple of "avalanche splitters". The trail has a steep section and will take an hour or less to hike.

Bring a snack or sack lunch. We will meet at Animas City Park along the river north of North City Market in Durango at 7:45AM so we can beat the afternoon thunder showers. Let Jim Shadell (247-5597) know if you are interested in going.

Aug 21-23, Historic Mining Districts.

Limit 20. HC/4WD. 2-day CCT or a day trip. Visit several historic mills and mining sites in the Cunningham Gulch. Leader Dave McCrillis, who has worked and owned mines in Nevada and Alaska as well as having attended school as a Mining Engineer will interpret the mechanics and processes of these sites. Expect rain and possibly and evening in Silverton. Bring a sack lunch and dress according to weather conditions present at high altitudes. Contact Mary Ann Hiller, 970-259-5170 or Richard Robinson at Robinson@frontier.net for information and sign up.

Sept 6-8, Jemez Mountains.

Limit 20. HC/4WD. 3-day Car Camping Trip. Large and small sites east of the Jemez River. Several hikes of unknown lengths, depending on road conditions. Leader: Richard Robinson, Robinson@frontier.net.

Sept 16-18, Zuni Pueblo.

3-day hotel trip. Limit 16. Presentation by traditional ceramicist, traditional meal at a Shalako House, and tours of the mission, ancient pueblo, Hawikuu and the Great Kiva. Stay at the Inn at Halona, with eight rooms. Leader: Bruce Howard, 970-385-4539.

Sept 22-25, Disappointment Valley.

HC/4WD. Reschedule of the 2010 4-day cabin camping trip, with BLM from Montrose. Leaders: Peggy Morris and Dennis Lopez, 970-382-8688.

Sept 29-Oct 2, Capitol Reef National Monument and Horseshoe Canyon.

Limit: 20. 4-day CCT. Visit Barrier Reef Style petroglyphs. Hike into Horseshoe Canyon, a steep 7-mile round trip hike. Leaders: Janice and Brooks Taylor, 382-0165.

November Preliminary 5-7 Day Field Trip, with a weekend in the middle.

Visit "Little Petroglyph Canyon" ("Lower Renegade Canyon"), Ridgecrest, CA, with about 6500 petroglyphs in 1.5 miles, for a 3-mile round

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SJBAS Trips -Cont.

(Continued from page 4)

trip hike in a sandy wash at 5000 ft elevation. Only US Citizens allowed, with proof of citizenship. Forms must be filled out and mailed in well prior to the trip. Trip max, and min limit, with no substitutions, so plan ahead. The group will also visit the Blyth Intaglios. Planners are waiting for confirmation from the China Lake Naval Station. The long drive will be broken up by visiting one or two sites along the way. To sign up, contact Richard Robinson at robinson@frontier.net.

Museum Exhibits

Anasazi Heritage Center, through October 30. *Sacred Images*. (Summary, Cortez Journal, May 24, 2011, with portions from Exhibit Brochure).

The collection of photographs of rock art, from 6750 B.C. to the present, taken primarily by Tom Till, Craig Law and John Telford, with some work by the late Philip Hyde: 8,000 years of Native Am life through stories told in stone. Organized by the Center for Documentary Arts in Salt Lake City, the exhibit includes photographs of rock art, information about each rock art image, a free brochure with descriptions of the four rock art styles, including a number of sites, or panels, not usually seen in books; bios of the photographers; and the \$19.95 "Sacred Images" book. All of the rock art is in Utah, but the four styles in the exhibit, Barrier Canyon, Fremont, Hisatsinom and Nuche (Ute) styles, can also be seen in CO. Utah has at least ten distinct styles of rock art.

Barrier Canyon, the most ancient rock art style in the Southwest, has a ghostly appearance, and extends from about 6750 B.C. to 300 A.D. Painters used a variety of red ochre or iron oxide (hematite), with white used frequently and, occasionally, green, yellow, blue and black. They also included pecked, engraved and scratched rock art images. Most Barrier Canyon sites are dominated by human-like figures, which often lack arms and legs, and sometimes have over-sized eyes and antennae. Because of their elongated forms and high position on the canyon walls, they appear to hover like sprites or ghosts.

The **Hisatsinom** style, which changed through the years, is divided into the Basketmaker from about 1000 B.C. to 750 A.D. and the Pueblo from about 750 to 1300 A.D. The earliest artists depicted elaborate human figures but later artists produced simpler work, with more animals. During the Basketmaker, the Hisatsinom developed pit houses, which later developed into major Pueblo sites. As new forms of architecture, ceramics, weaving, and kiva painting developed, the number and quality of rock art panels diminished.

The **Fremont** style is characterized by headdresses and horns on people, sometimes with very decorative costumes. Since the Fremont occupied a vast territory, their rock art varied. Panels in the most northern variant, Uinta, have large, pecked, anthropomorphic figures with elaborate necklaces. Farther south, the imagery is of hunters with bows and arrows, sheep, deer, snakes and nonrepresentational forms.

Nuche, (Ute), rock art extends from about 1500 A.D. to the present. The Ute style has shield figures and a distinctive bison image with the animal's head down. The large number of rock art images with horses suggests the images were created after the Utes acquired horses from the Spanish, around 1600. Over time, there is an increased naturalism in representations of horses, bison, and birds; images of shields, Plains war bonnets, and lances also appear. After the Utes were forced onto reservations, rock art depicted wagons, trains, rifles and houses. As a kid, one commentator saw the rock art created during the (last) warrior period, probably put there soon after the 1881 removal of the Utes from Colorado. It shows Indians on horseback, trains coming from Price,

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Museum Exhibits - Cont.

(Continued from page 5)

Utah, and Grand Junction, Colorado. Because this was all new to the people, they drew it on the rocks.

Dinosaur Journey: Full-sized Robotic Simulation of Tyrannosaurus Rex, 550 Jurassic Court, Fruita. (Summary, Daily Sentinel, May 27, 2011)

The robotic T. rex, measuring nearly 50 feet from its jaw to the tip of its tail and 18 feet high, was created by Wonderworks Exhibits Co. in Abilene, TX. It is the star of "The Summer of Tyrannosaurus rex" exhibit and continues through Labor Day. Along with the carnivore, there will be a robotic juvenile T. rex, fossilized T. rex leg and hip bones, teeth and claws. A full-size T. rex head displays the dinosaur's skull bone and muscle structure. There will be special events related to this exhibit during Dinosaur Days, July 29-30.

Fort Lewis College, (Summary, Am Arch, Summer 2011) Center of SW Studies.

"Treasures Unveiled: An Exhibit of Extraordinary Items from the Vault of the Center of SW Studies," through July 2011, is an exhibit of rarely seen items selected to celebrate the center's 10th anniversary, including more than 10,000 prehistoric and historic artifacts, such as 2,000 ceramic vessels dating from 600 to 800 A.D. The exhibit features 450 handwoven blankets, rugs, and other textiles of Hispanic and Native American origins, including a white cotton manta that has been carbon dated to 1250 A.D., as well as historic photographs and thousands of maps that date back to 1560. [http://swcenter.fortlewis.edu](http://swcenter.fortlewis.edu;);

Maxwell Museum of Anthropol., **University of New Mexico**, through February 2012.

New photography exhibit "Chaco Uncovered: The Field Schools 1929 to Present" showcases archaeological expeditions that uncovered Chaco. The first University of NM field school was in 1929. The excavation project continues today with a long collaboration between archaeologists, students, and the National Parks Service. The exhibit is a visual history of the park, including pictures from the 1930 and 1940s that provide a glimpse into the world of early field schools by documenting the excavations as well as other aspects of daily life. www.unm.edu

Centennial Village Museum, open Apr 30-Sept 30, Tues-Sat, 10 am - 4 pm, 14th Ave. & A St., Greeley, CO; <http://greeleygov.com/Museums>;

Global Village Museum, new location, Tue-Sat, 11 am - 5 pm, 200 W. Mountain, Fort Collins.

A place to engage visitors to learn more about other cultures -- people, arts, history, food, living environment -- to promote understanding and peace. <http://globalvillagemuseum.com>;

Poudre Landmarks Foundation - Fort Collins Waterworks Open House; Sat. July 2, Aug 6, Sept 10, Oct 1 - 10 am - 3 pm, 2005 N. Overland Trail, www.poudrelandmarks.com;

High Plans Archaeological Museum, open for early June - late Aug. Call for hours. 211 Elm St., Pine Bluffs WY. Check for open periods at Windows on the Past Archaeological site at I-80 Pine Bluffs rest stop. 307-245-9372.

President Ronald Reagan's Handwritten Changes to his "Evil Empire" Speech, Correspondence with Mikhail Gorbachev and Bronze Cast of Moscow's Kremlin from the Onetime Soviet Leader on Display at National Archives. (Summary, Durango Herald, January 9, 2011)

A small collection of items will be part of a yearlong rotating exhibit of Reagan documents and objects that marks the 100th anniversary of Reagan's birth on February 6.



Summer is on its way!

THE EDITORS' CORNER



Nine five-star reviews have been received on Amazon.com by an array of top-notch experts, of Moray: Inca Engineering Mystery. The book delves into how and why the enigmatic Moray site in Peru was built 500 years ago. It is Wright Water Engineer's third Inca paleohydrology book published by ASCE Press.

Local Author Goes to Roman Empire for Debut Novel, (Summary of Review, by Ted Holteen, Durango Herald, June 10, 2011)

Suzanne Tyrpak's debut novel Vestal Virgin, talks about life during the Roman Empire, the story of Elissa Rubria Honoria, a priestess of the sacred flame sworn to chastity for 30 years. Not beholden to social convention -- Nero murdered his own mother -- he ignores the sacrosanctity of the Vestal Virgins and pursues Elissa. Vestal Virgin makes the Roman Empire understandable, blending real historical figures with character creations.

The Ancient Guide to Modern Life, (The Overlook Press), by Natalie Haynes, Reinterprets Ancient Events from the Oldest Known Greek Philosophers to the Collapse of the Roman Empire in a Consistently Amusing but Quite Serious Fashion. (Summary, Cortez Journal, June 9, 2011)

Haynes pursued an education in classical languages and literature through Cambridge University. Her book compiles some of what she considers the best stories of the ancient world, stories about people much like ourselves, from whom we may have something to learn. In addition, myths are debunked. Julius Caesar's last words were not "Et tu, Brute?" Haynes found one ancient source, known for gossip, who suggested that Caesar's words, as conspirators plunged their daggers into him, were not Latin but Greek, which translate as "You too, child?" Caesar was known to have a long-term relationship with a married woman, and she had a son named Marcus Junius Brutus. Caesar might have been the father. Many educated Romans spoke Greek. But maybe Caesar's last thought was that the less educated in the crowd would miss the implied insult to the lady and her young son if he avoided identifying them in the language they understood.

Chaco's Vanished Past: Hogans, Tents and Ruins, by Florence C. Lister.

After the last ancestral Pueblo family walked out, Chaco Canyon lay quiet and empty for centuries. Then others slowly came in, raised livestock, sold trade goods and explored the canyon's treasures. Then pastoral Navajos came to stay. Mexicans with flocks of sheep or stocks of liquor passed through. White soldiers, freighters, would-be homesteaders, and men interested in native cultures and evidence of the ancient Americans came.

American Archaeology, Summer 2011, Table of Contents:

The Maya's Sacred Caves, by James Brady. Caves and cenotes were essential to the Maya's spiritual practices.

The Rise and Fall of Sacred Ridge, by David Malakoff. A SW Colorado dig exposes the emergence of an 8th-century community and the massacre that ended it. First American Seafarers?, by Julian Smith. The discovery of 12,000-year-old artifacts on the Channel Islands could support the theory that the first Americans came by sea. A Tour of Virginia's Rich History, by Paula Neely. See the sites that played a pivotal role in shaping America's early history. Breaking the Rules, by Tamara Stewart. Edgar Lee Hewett made friends and enemies during his distinguished, but unconventional career.

Preserving a Noted Paleo-Indian Site. The Thunderbird site has yielded important information about early Americans.

A Legacy of Maine's Past. The Conservancy partners with several parties to acquire the Dresden Falls Archaic site.

The Mysteries of Sims' Place. The Conservancy acquires a Louisiana mound site that could answer questions about the area's prehistory.

High Sage Plains Trip Report

On May 21, nine members of SJBAS used a permit obtained from BLM to visit three special archaeological sites in the Canyon of the Ancients National Monument. The concern about wet and muddy roads caused a change in the original destination, but changes were made to the permit as needed so that the trip was very worthwhile.

However there was a greater than a 50% drop in the number of participants originally planning on attending, so the waiting list was exhausted. This trip was a joint venture with both the SJBAS and the Histastinone Colorado Archaeological Society (CAS) chapters.

We were escorted to the sites by a CAS member who had an incredible amount of knowledge about the area. The first site was on the edge and floor of the beautiful Wood Canyon, a pinion-juniper vegetation zone. The complex contained 220 surface ruins and 50 kivas. It is estimated that 300 people would have occupied the site for 150 years from the 1200's to 1300 AD. Check dams, reservoirs, towers and kivas are important archeological features of this area. While investigating the site we avoided one particular area so as not to disturb a nesting Golden Eagle.

After lunch we then hiked to a second site that was near an impressive reservoir constructed by the occupants. We rounded out our day by visiting a large unexcavated complex of P11 and P111 room blocks and kivas. We learned so much more about an interesting area, even if we had been there before by having a knowledgeable member of our organization accompany us! Afterwards we had some time to talk and get to know each other better.

Thanks to our special friend, Jerry!

By Diane Skinner

Volunteer Opportunities

Cortez Cultural Center. Call Deb Avery (970) 565-1151; deb.avery@cortezculturalcenter.org; (or visit www.cortezculturalcenter.org);

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

Colorado. Histical Society. Contact Kevin Black at Kevin.Black@chs.state.co.us;

Center of SW Studies. Contact Julie Tapley-Booth at 247-7456 to volunteer;

Mesa Verde. Visit www.mesaverdevolunteers.org., email Cheryl and Chuck Carson, volunteer coordinators at cccarson@aol.com, or phone at 259-2699;

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

Fieldwork Opportunities. Lost Lake Mining Camp, July 18-22, Boulder County, north slope of Bryan Mountain. Contact: Paul Alford (303) 541-2506; email: pwalford@fs.fed.us.



Conferences

2011 Pecos Conf. August 11-14, Mile-and-a Half Lake, AZ, www.swanet.org/2011_pecos_conference.
(Summary, Am. Arch., Summer 2011)

This conference will feature special sessions on the archaeology and history of the Arizona Strip, SW Utah, and southern Nevada, including a hands-on workshop on Arizona Strip ceramic traditions. Reception will be held Thurs, evening, hosted by the Kaibab Vermillion Cliffs Heritage Alliance. Fri. night a "star party" will be held in one of N. America's darkest night skies. Saturday night's Bigfoot BBQ to feature live music by a Bluegrass band. Sunday, tours to local sites.

Hopi Festival of Arts and Culture, July 20-23,

Museum of N. Arizona, Flagstaff (Summary, Am. Arch., Summer 2011)

Award-winning artists from the 12 Hopi villages to display work. Festival to include cultural presentations, storytelling, music, traditional dances, and unique work of carvers, painters, jewelers, potters, quilters, and basket and textile weavers. Watch Hopi pottery being shaped, painted, and traditionally fired. Walk the museum's Nature Trail with a Hopi medicine woman. Learn about Hopi clans and clan migration, and how the Tribe is working to preserve language and agricultural traditions. www.musnaz.org.

The People are Dancing Again: The Siletz Tribe of Western Oregon, July 8, Smithsonian's National Museum of the American Indian, Wash, DC. Celebration of the art and traditions of the Siletz Tribe of Oregon. Learn about Siletz basket weaving, watch the Nee-Dash (traditional feather) dance, join a panel discussion and book-signing featuring historian Charles Wilkinson. www.americanindian.si.edu.

Utah Rock Art Research Association Symposium, September 32-26, Price, UT.

Rocky Mountain Anthropological Conference, October 6-8, Missoula, MT.

Colorado Archaeological Society Annual Meeting, October 15-16, Boulder, CO.

Plains Anthropology Conference, October 26-29, Tucson, AZ, www.pac69.com.l.

Society for American Archaeology, April 18-22, 2012, Memphis, TN; Call for paper submissions due Sept. 15, 2011, www.saa.org/call.

PAAC Schedule

July 23Cortez	PAAC Board meeting
August 27Denver	Site Forms Workshop
September 15Denver	Site Forms Workshop
September 17-18 ..Glenwood Springs	Archaeological Dating Methods
October 14-15Boulder	PAAC Board meeting at CAS annual meeting
October 21-23Pueblo	Principles of Archaeological Excavation
November 5-6Cortez	Research Design & Report Writing
November 19-20 ...Denver	Introduction to Laboratory Techniques
December *2-16Denver	PAAC Laboratory Project

*Lab project occurs on intermittent dates at the Museum Support Center in east Denver; call or e-mail for information

Other Notable Events:

Pecos Conference, August 11-14, Mile-and-a-Half Lake, AZ

Utah Rock Art Research Association symposium, September 23-26, Price, UT

Rocky Mountain Anthropological Conference, October 6-8, Missoula, MT

Colorado Archaeological Society (CAS) annual meeting, October 14-16, Boulder

Plains Anthropological Conference, October 26-29, Tucson, AZ.

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

Archaeology In the Southwest

Sen. Bennet Visits Chimney Rock, Pushes for National Monument Status; Rep. Tipton also Envisions National Monument Designation (Summary, [Pagosa Sun](#), June 2, 2011; [Durango Herald](#), June 11, 2011)

After hiking at the site, Sen. Bennet reiterated his position that National Monument status would not only highlight the historic and scientific significance of the site but would also help ensure ongoing preservation of the site's surrounding forest land. A National Monument designation would give the site a higher level of protection. While National Monument designation is usually accomplished through presidential proclamation (and, by the Antiquities Act of 1906, does not require Congressional approval), those proclamations are traditionally made at the very end of a President's term in office. A designation can also be made by an Act of Congress. Sen. Bennet wants to expedite the process. Designating Chimney Rock as a National Monument would provide a potential boon to the local economy, as the site would be added to the National Register of Historic Places and would bring more tourists to the area, especially "history tourists", one of the fastest growing segments of the tourism industry. The designation would also mean additional cash for the area as infrastructure and staffing needs are increased. Currently, the site is staffed and maintained through USFS funding, as well as donations and fees collected by the Chimney Rock Interpretive Association. In May, a US Senate subcommittee held a hearing on Sen. Bennet's bill. Sen. Bennet expressed hope that all Colorado representatives would state support for the legislation. Only Bennet and Sen. Udall were on record in support of the bill until Rep. Tipton announced plans to introduce legislation to make Chimney Rock Archaeological Area a National Monument to increase awareness of Chimney Rock, create new tourism opportunities, generate badly needed revenue and new jobs in a region with double-digit unemployment.

100th Anniversary of Colorado National Monument: 25th Area to be Selected for Federal Administration in US Parks History (Summary, [Daily Sentinel](#), May 13, 2011)

Myriad events have been scheduled in 2011 to mark the anniversary. Blue Pig Gallery will feature more than 20 area artists' work with oil, pastel, watercolor, batik, photography and pottery. On the opening reception night, artists donated 10% of the sales from the original work to the Colorado National Monument Association, a nonprofit education organization that works with the NPS to support interpretive and education programs. New exhibits highlight the monument's geology, Colorado Plateau, Pinyon-Juniper Woodland, Ute Indians, John Otto and the Road Building Era that saw the completion of Rim Rock Drive. Centennial events have been scheduled throughout 2011, including ranger walks, a car tour and more. For further centennial information, go to www.nps.gov/colm or call 858-3617, ext. 360.

Snowmass Fossil Site, Discovered Last Fall, Continues to Grow in Scientific Importance as Excavators Retrieve Boxfuls of Bones (Summary, [Daily Sentinel](#), June 5, 2011)

The Denver Museum of Nature & Science resumed digging at the site this spring and has recovered about 865 fossils, more than the 600 last fall. The success of the excavation and its discoveries is exceeding expectations. The fossils were discovered on October 14, when a contractor unearthed bones from a Columbian mammoth during expansion of a reservoir. Within a month, excavators unearthed bones from another mammoth, and from mastodons, a Jefferson's ground sloth, an Ice Age deer and other animals. Previously, only three mastodons had been discovered in CO. The Jefferson's ground sloth discovery was a first for CO, and Snowmass was the only place in CO, and one of few places in North America, where mammoths and mastodons have been found in the same location. This spring's discoveries include an Ice Age camel and parts of other animals, yet to be identified. But, it's a mastodon story. The Snowmastodon Project crews have discovered the bottom of an ancient lake bed covered with skulls, tusks, limb bones and other mastodon fossils, from infant to adult. They have found a 7-inch thigh bone believed to come from a fetal mastodon, which compares with the 4-foot thighs of adults. With as many as 27 tusks discovered to date, that means a minimum of 14 mastodon discoveries, which compares with a record of 31 at any one site. Also being at the same level are fossils of trees and pollen that suggests the mastodons lived in a warmer, interglacial period of probably more than 100,000 years ago, probably along the shores of the lake. In a higher layer of peat, mammoths, bison and deer have been found, in some cases apparently because they became stuck in the peat. This is the museum's largest fossil-excavation project. The team includes 36 scientists from 17 universities in four countries. Also on site are 107 trained volunteers, 35 staff members and nine interns, and a group of local educators has been selected to help out and share their experiences with students and their communities. The crews have until July 1 to finish work on what is considered the best Ice Age fossil site in

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CO and best high-elevation Ice Age site in North America. After that, the Snowmass Water & Sanitation Dist needs to resume enlargement of the reservoir to help meet the town's water needs. The reservoir will be lined with impermeable clay. Any fossils not yet recovered will remain protected in place, awaiting possible excavation in the future should the reservoir be decommissioned. See an interpretative display at the Snowmass Mall in Snowmass Village all summer.

Restricting Use of Eagle Parts and Feathers to Members of Federally Recognized Native American Tribes for Religious Purposes does not Violate Religious Freedoms of Non-Indians. (Summary, Durango Herald, March 30, 2011)

The US 10th Circuit Court of Appeals found that such a prohibition, under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act, does not violate the federal Religious Freedom Restoration Act. The ruling comes after several cases in which non-Indians, and one man from a tribe that is no longer recognized by the federal government, sought the right to use feathers in their religious practices. Eagle feathers are sacred among many Native Americans. Federal law requires eagle carcasses be sent to the National Eagle Repository in Denver, and any tribal member who wants to use eagle feathers or parts in ceremonies apply for a permit. The court noted that the repository "receives significantly more requests than it has available eagle carcasses" so there is already a long waiting period to fulfill permits. All the cases noted in the ruling weighed freedom of religion against the government's ability to protect the eagles and help maintain the centuries-old religious practices of Native Americans.

Moon House Ruin Complex, McLoyd's Canyon, Cedar Mesa, UT. (Summary, CAS All Points Bulletin, July 2010)

One of the largest sites on Cedar Mesa is a Pueblo III Period Cliff Dwelling Complex with a total of 49 rooms. Inhabitants of the Moon House Ruin Complex farmed on top of Cedar Mesa and built an excessive amount of granaries to pool their corn against bad times. There is a high ratio (5:1) of usable storage rooms to living rooms. The trail head is located on the south rim of McLoyd's Canyon and accessed from Utah 261 by about 8 miles of dirt road (Snow Flat Spring Cave Road), requiring a high clearance, four wheel drive vehicle. Visitation of Moon House Ruin requires a BLM day-hiking permit. No camping or pets are allowed in the McLoyd's Canyon area. A steep, cairned, unimproved trail leads from the south rim of McLoyd's Canyon down into the canyon bottom. About three quarters of the way down to the bottom, there is a slick rock ledge-pour-off with a 3-4 foot drop. Then the trail becomes easier.

The Complex consists of three separate units along a 3,000' stretch of the Canyon. Cliff dwelling M-1 has a total of 18 rooms, composed of two groups of rooms set around courtyards. Additionally, there are five individual rooms which are not clearly associated with a courtyard. Five of the rooms were habitation rooms and are associated with nine granaries, one general storage room, two rooms of unknown function, and the ruins of one non-contemporaneous kiva. Four of the habitation rooms, a general storage room, and two granaries are located behind a defensive wall. One of these habitation rooms has plastered walls with the pictograph that inspired the name, Moon House: a wide white band (approximately 9.5 inches wide) painted about a foot above the floor all the way around the room. There are 155 dots encircling the room about three inches above the white band. On the east wall of the room, a circle ("full moon") created by the absence of white paint is located in the middle of the band. Directly across the room is another area lacking white in the shape of a crescent ("crescent moon"). Cliff dwelling M-2, the eastern most structure, is composed of one long room block of six granaries, along with eleven individual rooms, some of which appear to be earlier than the room block and may have been habitation rooms. A tree-ring date from one of the rooms places the construction at approximately A.D. 1268. Cliff dwelling M-3, the western-most, consists of an above-ground kiva with at least three associated storage rooms, one large room of undetermined function, and the ruins of another possible contemporaneous room of unknown function and is well-preserved. Two granaries, contemporaneous with the kiva and its associated rooms are located just east of the main M-3 group. The kiva and its associated rooms suggest this site was used primarily as a ceremonial unit during the late thirteenth century. Original timbers are in place in several rooms. The Complex consists of three sets of ruins. The middle site contains living quarters. The western site is ceremonial with remains of a kiva, and the eastern site of storage rooms. References: Bloomer, William W., May 1989, Moon House: A Pueblo III Period Cliff Dwelling Complex in Southeastern Utah, Wash St U, Master of Arts in Anthropology; Gulliford, Andrew, Dec 13, 2009, Man and the Moon, Durango Herald.

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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.

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

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