

SJBAS - 2008 Trip Review – by John Sanders

February 28 – March 2, 2008

Albuquerque and Socorro Area - Pam and Lynn Butler

Visit 13th century pueblo sites and Indian Pueblo Cultural Center and Museum in Albuquerque. Visit Hammel Museum and New Mexico Tech Mineral Museum at Socorro; visit El Camino Real International Heritage Center and Museum and ruins of historic Fort Craig, a military outpost during Civil War and Indian wars.

April 13 – 15

Cedar Mesa and Comb Ridge – Bill and Letha Cagle

A dozen members visited Hovenweep, camped at the mouth of Mule Canyon, and explored portions of Comb Wash, Butler Wash, Cottonwood Wash, and the rocky country in and above Arch Canyon. Enjoyed a presentation by Laura Kochanski, BLM archaeologist, who explained what her agency was doing to study and preserve the abundant cultural remains in the San Juan County district.

Participants: Bill and Letha Cagle, Irene Wanner, Brooks and Janice Taylor, Jim and Kathleen Shadell, Jan Holt, Lyle Hancock, John Sanders, Richard Robinson, Bob Danielson

April 19, 2008

Francis Canyon – John Sanders

We visited Dinetah, the ancestral Navajo homeland in northwestern New Mexico to examine the Francis Pueblito, an early 18th Century masonry building located in a defensive position upon the rim of a steep cliff face. Trip leader John Sanders explained the site and the Navajo occupation of the region.

April 23 – 24, 2008

Navajo National Monument – Jill Ward and Beth Cugini

Our chapter's third and final adventure of this busy month was a late-April journey to northeastern Arizona. On the first day of this outing our trippers visited the historic Shonto Trading Post, located in a cozy cottonwood grove at the bottom of Ten Mile Canyon. This post was established almost a century ago by Joe Lee and John Wetherill; it was subsequently operated by the Babbitt brothers and other owners, and is now the property of Al Grieve, who gave our group a talk concerning the history of the post, along with a fascinating series of anecdotes regarding the trials and tribulations of the managers of such an isolated establishment. After car-camping and enjoying a festive happy hour at the scenic and commodious campground at the nearby Navajo National Monument, our group — on the following morning — gathered at the monument's visitor center and enjoyed a couple of videos that displayed the scenic and archaeological treasures of the area. Our people were then given a special, tour of the huge Betatakin Ruin by Volunteer Ranger Jim Black. Betatakin (a Navajo name meaning "Ledge House") is situated in a deep alcove, and dates to the last couple of decades prior to the Anasazi evacuation of the Four Corners country. It is considerably more visually impressive than such better known cliff houses as those at Mesa Verde, and is one of the largest of such structures in the Southwest. This was the highlight of our trip, a truly delightful outing organized by Jill Ward and Beth Cugini.

May 16, 2008

Toadlena Trading Post – Jan and Ralph Blanchard

Our chapter's mid-May trip to the eastern flank of the Chuska Mountains of New Mexico was a delightful excursion — good springtime weather, a good variety of, things to see and do, and a good turn-out of chapter members. Before visiting the century-old Toadlena Trading Post our host Mark Winter, owner of the historic establishment, and his tour assistant Linda Larouche, took us to a large Anasazi ruin near Newcomb, the unexcavated remains of one of the several Chacoan outliers of the area that provided the massive timbers that were used at Pueblo Bonito and Chetro Ketl. Our group were then invited to visit a nearby Navajo hogan, the home of master weaver Virginia Peal and her

son Roger, where we were shown one of her ongoing projects, a Two Gray Hills rug that was still on the loom. After a lucid discussion of Virginia's prize-winning weaving techniques, our people proceeded to the Toadlena Post and Museum, where we saw a truly magnificent display of Navajo textiles, a collection highlighted by documented examples of rugs made during various periods of the 20th Century and primarily of the Two Gray Hills type. Then, after an al fresco lunch of Navajo tacos and watermelon on the post veranda, the knowledgeable Clay Powell gave our members a talk regarding Navajo silversmithing and jewelry, accompanied by an extensive display of the same. This interesting day-trip was organized by Ralph Blanchard — many thanks for your good work, Ralph!

Participants: Jan and Ralph Blanchard, Shaila Van Sickle and John Sanders, Linda Robinson, Rae Haynes, Mary Ann Hiller, Bob Danielson, Marion and Andy Simon, Bill Cagle, Jeff Davis, Peggy Morris, Kathleen Shadell, Michael Mohr

May 22 – 24, 2008 Santa Fe P-IV Sites – Pecos NM – Marion and Andy Simon

We also had an exciting several-day trip to Santa Fe and its vicinity later in the month, an excursion primarily focusing upon sites of the Pueblo IV (1300-1700) period, on the first day of this outing, May 22nd, our group was met by BLM archaeologist Paul Williams, who led a tour of the La Cieneguilla Ruin, a huge adobe pueblo near the Santa Fe River. This structure had, to a considerable extent, weathered down into a relatively shapeless collection of elongated mounds, a small number of which were excavated by Nels Nelson in 1912. The pueblo was a thriving Indian community in the years prior to the Pueblo Revolt of 1680, and in historic times was a paraje, or overnight stop, for travelers on the Camino Real between Santa Fe and Mexico. Paul then took our group to the nearby Cieneguilla Cliffs preserve, an unusually extensive series of petroglyph panels on BLM land along the edge of a lava flow. The display of Puebloan rock art at this site was quite impressive, with its wide variety of figures and symbols somewhat similar to those found at the better-known Petroglyph Park west of Albuquerque but perhaps of even greater quantity with a notable profusion of the humpbacked and horny flute players sometimes called "Kokopellis".

On the following morning our people toured Pecos National Monument, where our volunteer guide Wendy Hartman explained the role that this Upper Pecos Valley pueblo served as a trading center frequented by both Rio Grande farmers and the buffalo hunting tribes of the plains until its inhabitants were driven out by bellicose Comanche. This Pecos visit was followed by an afternoon tour under the guidance of archaeologist Don Pettigrew, of a neighboring site, the Arrowhead Pueblo. This was one of the several 18th Century communities that later coalesced with other settlements to form the regional trade establishment at Pecos.

May 24th, the final day of this excursion, was spent exploring a portion of the Cochiti area west of Santa Fe, where our group climbed a high and scenic ridge near Canada de Cochiti Creek and studied the sprawling Kuapa Ruin, an interconnected group of room blocks, kivas, plazas and other features of PIV age. This site, largely unexcavated, featured a relatively sophisticated but hand-built acequia system in the valley below the settlement, and included what appeared to be a later Spanish colonial hacienda and its associated plaza and corral. Our guide on this last portion of the three-day trip was David Eck, New Mexico State archaeologist, who provided a copious amount of helpful information about the significance of what we saw at Kuapa.

Participants: Marion and Andy Simon, Gail and Marlo Schulz, Kathleen and Jim Shadell, Rae Haynes, Christine and Rich Dourte, Pam and Lyn Butler, Erma Ruth, John Sanders, Linda and Rich Robinson

June 3 – 7, 2008 Victorio's War and the Mescalero Apache - Paul and Beverly Dittmer

Fourteen gung-ho SJBAS members participated in our early June outing, a five-day (and 2000-mile round trip!) tour of the border country in southern New Mexico and the westernmost corner of the Lone Star State. This is a region replete with sites and museums of both archaeological and historical interest, especially those relating to the Mexican War, the Civil War, and the many battles, ambushes and skirmishes between the Apaches and US troops, including the famed "Buffalo Soldiers" of the 10th

Cavalry. Indian War sites visited included the Rattlesnake Springs and Indian Hot Springs sites, where there were bloody encounters between Colonel Grierson's 10th Cavalry troopers and Victorio and other Apaches; the Cushing Fight site near the Guadalupe Mountains; and the Van Horn Wells site. Our people also visited Fort Stanton, on the Mescalero Apache Reservation; Fort Davis, in the Guadalupe area; and the adobe ruins of the Warm Springs Agency, where both Geronimo and Victorio surrendered. Places of somewhat greater antiquity that were seen or inspected by the group included the Brazito Battlefield where, in 1846, a small unit of US dragoons vanquished a much larger but poorly organized body of Mexican infantry and lancers; and Civil War sites visited included Fort Craig, a Union stronghold pivotal during the conflict with Confederate invaders, and a view of the nearby Val Verde Battlefield. A better appreciation of the regional past was also gained by visits to such local institutions as the Mescalero Apache Visitor Center and Cemetery and the Fort Davis Visitor Center. And our gang learned quite a bit about the days of the aptly named Wild West when they toured the town of Lincoln, New Mexico, with its museum and monuments commemorating such truly rough-and-tough characters as Billy the Kid, Dick Brewer, Buckshot Roberts, and other gunslingers of the Lincoln County War. This epic SJBAS outing also included visits to a mixed bag of places of some cultural interest: the Roswell Art Center, the Peter Hurd "La Rinconada" Gallery, and the enigmatic Prada Monument (we don't know how to explain this last one). All things considered, this was a most splendid excursion — much to see and do, good weather, comfortable accommodations, congenial people, and an extremely knowledgeable and articulate guide, career historian Neil Mangum, a master storyteller and well-known authority on the Indian Wars. This trip, which was organized by Paul and Beverly Dittmer, was one of our chapter's finest and most informative outings. Thanks, Paul and Bev, for your good work!

June 14 – 15, 2008

Upper Forks of Johns Canyon – John Sanders and Bill Cagle

A small but hardy group of chapter members journeyed to Utah's Cedar Mesa area in mid-June, where they searched for, and found, Anasazi ruins in the upper reaches of Johns Canyon. This was a weekend excursion, with a Saturday evening campsite on the mesa rim near Muley Point, where our people had a fantastic view of miles and miles of high desert country illuminated by a full moon. The trip was quite pleasant, despite the unusually high daytime temperatures — so very hot that survival would have been difficult had not Gail and Marlo Schulz provided the hikers with a plentiful supply of ice cream bars, the cool and tasty things that, we understand, sustained famed archaeologist Indiana Jones during his adventures into the past! Our trip leaders were John Sanders and Bill Cagle - Bill actually did most of the leading, and John contributed the usual superfluous advice.

June 19, 2008

Summer Picnic – Eliane Viner and Bev Danielson

No photos

June 20 – 21, 2008 Chaco Summer Solstice Celebration – Judith Issacs and Irene Wanner

Irene Wanner, one of our chapter's esteemed Jemez members, arranged a trip to Chaco Canyon for 14 of our people in late June, a visit that focused upon the summer solstice ceremony at Casa Rinconada. This sunrise affair, a demonstration of Anasazi astronomical sophistication, included prayers and a colorful dance performance by the Cyrus Concho family team from Acoma. Our members were fortunate in finding camping spaces at the park's campground and, after the sunrise celebration, they were able to take advantage of other activities and events at Chaco - they attended other dance performances, a talk concerning the Chacoan community by archaeologist Shellea Conitchan, an evening star-viewing program at the Chaco Sky Center, an evening lecture by astronomer G. B. Cornucopia, and hikes to Pueblo Alto and the Wijiji Ruin. We appreciate your good work as an outings organizer, Irene, and hope that a similar trip can be scheduled for future solstice dates.

July 11, 2008

Bayfield Area - Gail and Marlo Schulz

Fifteen of our members went on our chapter's mid-July excursion, a tour of Spring Creek Valley and its adjacent ridges near Bayfield. San Juan Public Lands Archaeologist Bruce Bourcy, assisted by Bonnie Hildebrand, perhaps our chapter's most savvy avocational archaeologist, took the group to a number of Pueblo I sites, jacal structures which appeared to have been burned and which were surrounded by scatters of diagnostic neck-banded pottery sherds. Thanks Gail and Marlo Schulz for organizing this fine trip!

Participants: Gail and Marlo Schulz, Rae Haynes, Letha Cagle, Bonnie Hildebrand, Jan Holt, Rhonda Raffo and Jim Mueller, Dianne Donovan and Joe Griffith, Lydine and Tom Hannula, Bruce Bourcy, Don Fritch, Diane Skinner

July 31, 2008

Pigg Site and Lowry Ruin - Bev and Bob Danielson

Our end-of-July tour of the Lowry preserve in southwestern Colorado was a delightful summer excursion, with an excellent turnout — 22 of our members journeyed to the area to learn a bit about what life was like on the Great Sage Plain one thousand years ago. Much of this visit focused upon the Pigg Site, the PII-PIII component of the Lowry community. Fort Lewis College's Anthropology Dept. has been conducting summer archaeological field classes in and near the Puzzle House and Pigg vicinity for a number of years; archaeologist Charles Riggs explained the ruins that he and his students have excavated this summer. Our group then visited large Lowry Pueblo and its associated Chaco-style great kiva, where they learned about its various construction stages and its possible role as an important community center during the relatively prosperous times of the late 11th and early 12th Centuries. The group then traveled to the Anasazi Heritage Center, where they viewed photographs of the Lowry Ruin that were made during excavations in the early 1930's; our people also enjoyed a couple of video presentations at this splendid museum. Thanks Bev and Bob Danielson for organizing this fine outing and for arranging the talk and tour by Dr. Riggs.

Participants: Bev and Bob Danielson, Jeff Davis, Gail LaDage, Gail and Marlo Schulz, Bill Cagle, Don Fritch, Barbara Lynch, John Sanders, Eliane and John Viner, Bev and Guy Tomberlin, Jan and Ralph Blanchard, Kathleen and Jim Shadell, Linda Towle, Peggy Morris, Noel Tambu

August 16, 2008

Arborglyph Tour to Beaver Meadows – Mary Ann Hiller

A large group of our members had an informative and quite pleasant tour of a portion of the hilly Beaver Meadows area, northeast of Bayfield, in mid-August. Led by the knowledgeable Mary Ann Hiller, they searched for, and found, a large number of historic arborglyphs, the aspen bark inscriptions that illuminated the lives, times and preoccupations — and occasional erotic fantasies — of the Hispanic sheepherders of the past century, the scribes of the forest. Undaunted by cloudy skies, our people enjoyed viewing some magnificent scenery along the roads, hiking trails, and at our lunch stop overlooking the Piedra Valley. Thanks Mary Ann.

September 13, 2008

History of Stagecoach and Wagon Trail Roads – Rhonda Raffo and Rich Robinson

Our chapter's mid-September investigation of the late 18th Century road and transportation system in our corner of Colorado was an interesting and informative way to spend a weekend. On Saturday, September 13th, Richard Robinson took a number of our people on a hiking tour of a portion of the long-abandoned Animas Canyon toll road, the route used from 1876 to 1882 by miners and other travelers who wintered in the Bakers Bridge area and prospected for minerals in Bakers Park and the upper Animas Valley during the warmer months. Rich has made an in-depth study of the re-



mains of this thoroughfare, and gave our group an excellent account of its significance and impact upon the development of our region. On the following day the group learned more about the nature of early-day transportation by visiting Bartel's Mancos Valley Stage Line, an establishment with a magnificent collection of stage coaches, wagons and other horse-drawn vehicles that were the primary mode of transportation in the mining country of the late 1800's. A high point of this visit was the opportunity to take a one-hour stagecoach ride over the same type of dirt roads used in former times – a truly bumpy and exciting experience! This second event of the busy weekend was organized by Rhonda Raffo, and we wish to thank Rhonda and Rich for their efforts to give us a better understanding of the difficulty of reaching and developing the mineral resources of this mountainous part of our state.

September 26 – 28, 2008 Montezuma Canyon – Dianne Donovan and Joe Griffith

There was an excellent turnout for our chapter's Montezuma Canyon expedition of September 26 - 28th, when 14 adventurous SJBAS members enjoyed the Indian summer weather and splendid scenery of this especially interesting sector of southeastern Utah. Montezuma Creek is a relatively major stream in this otherwise arid portion of the Great Sage Plain, with it and its tributaries draining much of the area between the Abajo Mountains and the Colorado-Utah line. Taking advantage of this permanent and abundant water supply and its associated natural resources, the ancient Anasazi settled in the valley bottom and along the adjacent canyon rims during the Pueblo II-III period. Our group investigated a number of their habitation, farming, and rock art sites, most notably the large Coalbed Canyon, Three Kiva, Bradford Canyon, and Nancy Patterson Pueblos. An ample campsite was found near the creek and, under the capable leadership of Joe Griffith and Diane Donovan, our people found much to see and do and appreciate.

Participants: Dianne Donovan and Joe Griffith, Gail and Marlo Schulz, Diane Skinner, Rhonda Raffo and Jim Mueller, Rae Haynes, Kathleen and Jim Shadell, Barb and Lyle Hancock, Letha and Bill Cagle

October 12 – 15, 2008 Galisteo Basin – Linda and Richard Robinson

Sixteen SJBAS members went on our mid-October visit to the Santa Fe-Galisteo area and learned about the Pueblo IV (1300-1650 AD) occupation of the region. The gang visited the sprawling ruins of Puye, Tsankowi, Arroyo Hondo, and other ancient settlements ~ structures quite different from the Pueblo II and Pueblo III sites of the Four Corners area because of their *much* larger extent, plaza layouts, and (as regards Puye and Tsankowi) the use of cavate dwellings as supplementary habitations. Our people were also given a comprehensive tour of Santa Fe's School of American Research and the associated Indian Arts Research Center, where they viewed an impressive collection of Pueblo IV and Pueblo V pottery, basketry, and other artifacts, plus the unique Hispanic

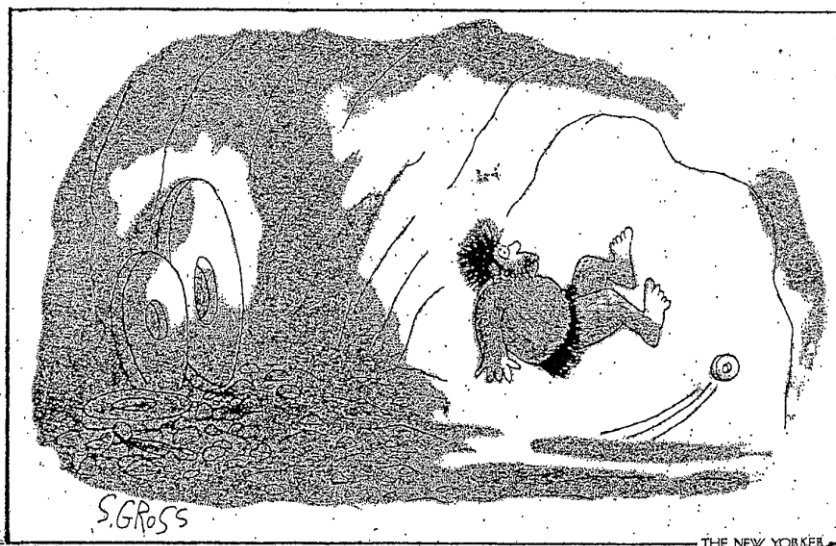
architecture of the establishments. They were also able to enjoy visits to Santa Fe's many museums and other abundant indoor attractions. The Robinsons, who organized this fine outing, did an excellent job of finding comfortable motel accommodations for our people, and recruited some extremely competent and hospitable tour guides. Many thanks, Rich and Linda!

Participants: Linda and Richard Robinson, Gail and Marlo Schulz, Jill Ward, Elsa and Lee Horowitz, Janice and Brooks Taylor, John Sanders, Dave McCrillis, Sandra and Bud Beebe, Rhonda Raffo and Jim Mueller, Rae Haynes

October 25 – 27, 2008

Monument Valley and Goulding Trading Post – Linda Robinson and Gail Schulz

Our chapter's end-of-October journey to the red rock country of the Four Corners was a delightful way to enjoy the late Indian Summer – the drive to and from the Arizona-Utah borderlands, along the McElmo Creek and San Juan River valleys lined with their golden cottonwood groves, was truly spectacular. Some two dozen SJBAS members, including a contingent of our New Mexico friends, participated in this three-day affair. On the first day, after gathering at Bluff's Twin Rocks Cafe for a group lunch, the gang made a leisurely tour of the Valley of the Gods and the Muley Point overlook to delight in the awesome vistas of this high desert region. They then proceeded to Goulding's Monument Valley Lodge, the group's home for the following two evenings, where they



visited the establishment's trading post museum and theater, and celebrated the end of a busy day with a festive "happy hour" hosted by the Robinsons and a fine dinner at the Goulding Restaurant overlooking miles and miles of desert country studded with the high stone monuments that draw visitors to the area. The following day was devoted to an eight-hour tour of both Monument Valley and the adjacent Mystery Valley, where knowledgeable Navajo guides led the group to Anasazi ruins and rock art sites, natural arches and monuments, and other features of both archaeological and scenic interest. The third and final day of this Fall outing focused upon a visit to Fort Bluff, the Bluff community's small but impressive local park, where our people examined a number of displays, relics, and replicated 19th Century buildings relating to the pioneer history of the area, and were shown a video presentation that concerned the Hole-in-the-Rock expedition of the original Mormon settlers. Our group was impressed by the work done by the residents of this small community, with its present population of no more than 250 people, to preserve evidence of Bluff's early days and to honor the founders of their village. This fine field trip was organized by Linda Robinson and Gail Schulz, who did an outstanding but not unexpected job of arranging the meals and hotel accommodations, the bus tours, and other measures that made this such a pleasant and informative way to spend a weekend.

Participants: Linda and Richard Robinson, Letha and Bill Cagle, Janice and Brooks Taylor, Bev and Bob Danielson, John Sanders, Marion and Andy Simon, Warren Levingston, Rae Haynes, Beth Cugini, Jill Ward, Mary Ann Hiller, Gail and Marlo Schulz, Rhonda Raffo and Jim Mueller

November 12 – 15, 2008

Verde Valley - Linda and Richard Robinson

Fourteen SJBAS members went on our chapter's four-day Arizona excursion in mid-November, where the primary focus of the trip was an examination of Southern Sinagua and Hopi migratory habitation sites in the Verde Valley region. The group investigated a number of major ruins and other archaeological features, including those on Anderson Mesa and near Chavez Pass, West Clear Creek, and Sacred Mountain, as well as the large Tuzigoot Ruin. And, as a special treat, a guided tour of Fort Verde gave our people a glimpse of what a soldier's life at a late 19th Century military post would have been – an interesting follow-up to the studies of the 15th and 16th Century Indian sites. This splendid and well organized outing was led by the Robinsons, who have arranged so many of the educational and exciting SJBAS field trips of recent years – thanks for your dedication and good work, Richard and Linda!

Participants: Linda and Richard Robinson, Margo and Ernie Cotton, Letha and Bill Cagle, Eliane and John Viner, Rae Haynes, Beth Cugini, Mary Ann Hiller, Bonnie Hildebrand, Gail and Marlo Schulz

December 21, 2008 Yucca House – Gail and Marlo Schulz

The December 21st solstice trip is a planned visit to the Yucca House site near Cortez.