



THE MOKI MESSENGER

January 2022

San Juan Basin Archaeological Society

sjbas.org

Time to Renew Your Membership

SJBAS Membership renewals are due by January 31st of each year. To renew your membership or to join SJBAS, please complete the SJBAS [Annual Membership Form](#), make your check for \$15 (\$30 family, \$10 student) payable to ‘SJBAS’ and mail with the Annual Membership Form to: SJBAS, Attn: Treasurer, P.O. Box 3153, Durango, CO 81302.

Next SJBAS meeting – January 12th

On Wednesday, January 12th, at 7:00 p.m. we will use Zoom for a brief business meeting and Dr. Anna J. Osterholtz will present: “Sacred Ridge.”

Dr. Osterholtz is a professor in the Department of Anthropology and Middle Eastern Cultures, Mississippi State University.

Date: January 12

Time: 7:00 p.m. MST

Contents

Time to Renew Your Membership	1
Next SJBAS meeting – January 12th.....	1
President’s Message.....	2
SJBAS December 4, 2021 Annual Meeting highlights	3
Field Trips, Speakers and Events for 2022	3
Modified Field Trip Covid Policy.....	6
Briefs.....	6
SJBAS Elected Officers and Other Board Members	8

Join Zoom Meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85780706701?pwd=NIJxbUx3L09BU1Y0NCs0WTFN1T0lmUT09>

Meeting ID: 857 8070 6701

Passcode: 578820

President's Message

Dear SJBAS Members:

I hope you had a wonderful holiday and I wish you a Happy New Year!!

The Annual Meeting and Holiday Brunch were held at Ft. Lewis College on December 4th. The highlight was the presentations given by our two John W. Sanders Fall Interns-- Rachel Morris and Kegan Roady. They explained the projects they worked on at the Center for Southwest Studies and were both very thankful for the support they received from SJBAS. They were excellent speakers!

The Silent Auction brought in more than \$1,100. The auction items were donated by the estate of Linda and Richard Robinson and the proceeds will be used to support Native American programs per their request. Rhonda Raffo organized, priced, and set up the auction sheets - thank you, Rhonda, for your invaluable work.



I also want to thank the many volunteers—led by Michelle and Mark McKibben-- who helped set up, decorate, set out the auction items, and clean up. We appreciate your willingness to be involved!

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED - We are looking for volunteers to fill the Membership Chair position and the **Webmaster** positions. The **Membership Chair** is a Board member who communicates with new and returning SJBAS members and visitors that attend our monthly meetings. The Webmaster keeps the SJBAS website up

to date. Training will be provided. Please contact me at sc53hicks@gmail.com if you would like to find out more about these positions. Volunteering is a great way to get to know people and contribute to our organization.

CHECK IT OUT - the 2022 Field Trip Schedule is included in this Moki. Descriptions, difficulty ratings and contact information are included. Sign up early for the trips you would like to participate in.

Keeping my fingers crossed that Covid disappears during 2022 so we can all feel comfortable attending next year's Brunch and in-person meetings again.

Sincerely,
Susan Hicks
SJBAS President

SJBAS December 4, 2021 Annual Meeting highlights

The following nominees were unanimously elected to be the 2022 SJBAS officers:

President: Susan Hicks
Vice President: Hunter McCleary
Secretary: Mary Rieke
Treasurer: Mary Moorehead

Thank yous were made to departing Board Members, Lyle Hancock, Randy Graham, Rhonda Raffo, and Denise Galley; Bev and Guy Tomberlin for their donation of over 100 books; Shelby Tisdale, retiring director of the Center for Southwest Studies for her support of SJBAS and our interns; and Andy Gulliford for volunteering to lead several field trips in 2021.

Field Trips, Speakers and Events for 2022

See SJBAS.org for details on each of these field trips or events. You must be a SJBAS member to participate in field trips. All are welcome to attend speaking events.

Tentative Field Trip and Activity Schedule - 2022

January 11	Edge of the Cedars Museum Backroom Tour - Half-day backroom tour of perishables at Edge of the Cedars Museum in Blanding, Utah led by Jonathan Till, Archeologist. We may also tour the adjacent ruins, weather dependent. Lunch following is optional. Cost is \$5 per person for museum admission, \$25 for the group for the backroom tour and \$25 for the group for the ruin tour. The money is donated to Friends of the Edge of the Cedars Museum. Trip participation limit is 10. Difficulty Rating: Easygoing. For more information or to sign up, contact Lorie Hansen at Lmhansen39@gmail.com .
January 12	SJBAS meeting - Dr. Anna J. Osterholtz will use Zoom at 7:00 p.m. to present: Sacred Ridge. Dr. Osterholtz is a professor in the Department of Anthropology and Middle Eastern Cultures, Mississippi State University.
February 9	SJBAS meeting – Speaker TBA

March 9	SJBAS meeting – Speaker TBA
March	Tour of Signatures at Aztec National Monument – Tour of historic signatures on the beams of Aztec N.M. led by Fred Blackburn. For more information or to sign up, contact Janice Sheftel at janicesheftel@gmail.com .
April 9 – 10	Montezuma Canyon – Two-day camping trip to visit Puebloan sites and petroglyphs in Montezuma Canyon, Utah. Trip participation limit is 15. Difficulty Rating: Easy Active. For more information or to sign up, contact Erica Tucker at etucker72@yahoo.com .
April 13	SJBAS meeting – Speaker TBA
April 13 – 15	Cedar Mesa Backcountry Sites – Three-day camping trip. Camp 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 lylehancock54@gmail.com .
May 11	SJBAS meeting – Speaker TBA
Early June	Keet Seel Backpack (Depends on monument opening) – Three or four-day camping trip to Navajo National Monument that includes an overnight backpacking trip (8.5 miles each way) to Keet Seel, one of the best-preserved Ancestral Puebloan cliff dwellings in the Southwest. For those who want to stay for a fourth day there is a guided five-mile round trip hike to Betatakin. Limit of 10 backpackers, but others are welcome to camp. Difficulty Rating: Hard. For more information or to sign up, contact Hunter McCleary at hunter.mccleary@gmail.com .
June 8	SJBAS Annual Picnic
June	Fort Lewis College Field School - Day trip to visit archeology dig with Jessie Tune. Difficulty Rating: Easy Active. For more information or to sign up, contact Janice Sheftel at janicesheftel@gmail.com .
June 23 - 26	Ohkay Owingeh Feast Day - Four-day motel/camping trip to Santa Fe. Combine colorful feast day dances at Ohkay Owingeh Pueblo with other sites such as El Rancho de las Golondrinas, Bandelier National Monument, Pecos National Historic Park, etc. Trip participation limit is 15. Difficulty Rating: Moderate. For more information or to sign up, contact trip leader Rusty Chamberlain at chambrke@aol.com .

July 13	SJBAS meeting - Speaker TBA
July 19 – 20	Arborglyphs 2 – Two-day camping trip at San Juan National Forest Burro Bridge Campground. We will look at glyphs along Groundhog Stock Driveway and around Lone Cone. Trip participation limit is 14. Difficulty Rating: Moderate. For more information or to sign up, contact Andy Gulliford at andy@agulliford.com .
August 5 – 7	Pecos Conference – 2022 – One to three-day trip near Pecos National Historic Park just east of Santa Fe. Archaeologists gather under open skies to discuss recent research, problems of the field, and the challenges of the profession. Most participants camp at the conference site. No trip limit. Difficulty Rating: Easy. For more information or to sign up, contact trip leader Rusty Chamberlain at chambrke@aol.com .
August 10	SJBAS meeting – Speaker TBA
September 9 – 11	Tsiping Ruins near Abiquiu, NM – Two-day camping trip or motel stay. Ranger-led tour of Tsiping Ruins, a Tewa Puebloan Ruin of 1250 AD. Second day visit Ruth Hall Paleontology Museum at Ghost Ranch. Trip participation limit is 15. Difficulty Rating: Moderate. For more information or to sign up, contact Tish Varney at tishvarney@att.net .
September 14	SJBAS meeting – Speaker TBA
September 18	Sand Canyon in Canyons of the Ancients National Monument – Visit Sand Canyon Pueblo at the head of Sand Canyon then hike down into the canyon to view other sites. Trip participation limit is 12. Difficulty Rating: Moderate. For more information or to sign up, contact Rusty Chamberlain at chambrke@aol.com .
September 24 – 25	Ute Mountain Ute Tribal Park – Two-day camping trip at the Tribal Park Campground. On the first day, volunteers maintain trails and facilities; on the second day a Ute guide will lead a tour of several cliff dwellings. Participants must be fit and ready to work all day. Difficulty Rating: Moderate. For more information or to sign up, contact Thomas Polich at thomas.polich@gmail.com .
October 7 – 9	Bear’s Ears National Monument Backcountry Sites – Three-day camping at BLM’s Comb Wash Campground. We will explore various Ancestral Puebloan sites and conclude the trip at Andy’s house in Bluff with a gathering at dusk. Trip participation limit is 10. Difficulty Rating: Moderate. For more information or to sign up, contact Andy Gulliford at andy@agulliford.com

October 12	SJBAS meeting – Speaker TBA
November 9	SJBAS meeting – Speaker TBA
December	SJBAS Annual Meeting and Holiday Brunch

Modified Field Trip Covid Policy

The SJBAS field trip policy remains the same as published in the [June Moki](#).

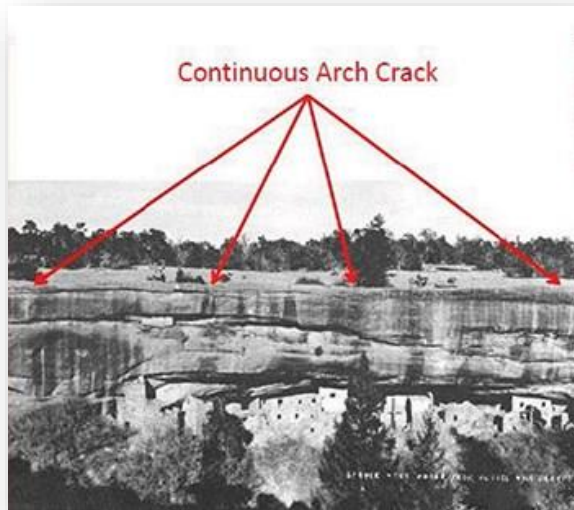
Briefs

Vibration damage from aircraft flying near pre-historic ruins has been suspected for decades. This has been a problem particularly for tourist and military aircraft. Some sites are installing sensors to at least capture baseline measurements. Among those are Montezuma Castle National Monument and Tonto National Monument, both in Arizona. This picture from earlier this month shows Park Service staff installing sensors at Montezuma NM.



Duck Symbolism in Basketmaker Rock Art. Most of us probably have a book on their shelf by rock art expert Polly Schaafsma. On January 4th *Archaeology Southwest* is hosting a Zoom by the rock art icon herself. She will speak on “Ducks, Power, and the San Juan Basketmakers.” For more information or to register go [here](#).

Succession of volcanos served as catalyst for the development of SW cultures. A new study published in *Antiquity* magazine found that regional volcanic eruptions in 536 AD and 541 AD and one huge one in Iceland contributed directly to the rise of the Ancestral Puebloan culture. Researchers from UCLA and CSU used tree ring data to measure climactic conditions and tie those into the timing of cultural changes. While frigid temperatures devastated Europe at the time, in the Southwest these temperatures forced dispersed communities to move closer together. Technology sharing (think basket making and later, pottery) and agriculture blossomed. You can also read about the findings in *Smithsonian*.



To Save Spruce Tree House or Let Nature Take its Course. An article in *National Parks Traveler* summarizes the dilemma facing the Park Service over the decades-long effort to save the third largest cliff dwelling at Mesa Verde. The picture to the left was taken in the 1940s. The Park Service is taking public comments through January 6. You can read the article [here](#).

Lawsuit or Land Swap? Even as both sides ramp up for lawsuits over the restoration of Bears Ears, there is a move afoot to placate Utah's aggrieved right wing

with a land swap of 135,000 acres of state-owned land within the Monument for Federal land elsewhere in Utah. The development is reported in *C&E News*.

The just published "Prehistoric Rock Art in Scotland" may not seem relevant to the Southwest but SJBAS member and archaeologist Lorie Hansen says it is worth a read. It has insightful sections on "How do we record rock art," "Caring for rock art," and "Valuing rock art." You can read the entire volume online [here](#).

Manitou Cliff Dwellings: Educational setting or perpetuator of stereotypes? Most of us have seen Manitou Cliff Dwellings from the highway as we pass through Colorado Springs. A recent story by Colorado Public Radio examines the story behind the semi-faux cliff dwellings. Some Native Americans are starting to speak out about how the dwellings were taken from their original site in the Four Corners and re-assembled using less-than-authentic materials. Moreover, the interpretive signs and tour guides still use language that is "insulting" to Ancestral Puebloan descendants. You can read the article on the CPR website [here](#).

SJBAS Elected Officers and Other Board Members

President	Susan Hicks	sc53hicks@gmail.com
Vice President	Hunter McCleary	hunter@bike-durango.org
Secretary	Mary Rieke	mbrrieke@hotmail.com
Treasurer	Mary Moorehead	
Communications chair	Byron Kellogg	bwkellogg@charter.net
Education/PAAC representative	Tish Varney	tishvarney@att.net
Field Trip Program coordinator	Lorraine McCleary	Lorraine@bike-durango.org
Membership chair	OPEN	
<i>Moki Messenger</i> editor	Hunter McCleary	Hunter@bike-durango.org
Programming chair	Janice Sheftel	janicesheftel@gmail.com
Publicity chair	Rusty Chamberlain	chambrke@aol.com
Social chair	Michelle and Mark McKibben	michellemckibben56@gmail.com
Webmaster	Lyle Hancock	lylehancock54@gmail.com

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