



THE MOKI MESSENGER

January 2023

San Juan Basin Archaeological Society

sjbas.org

January is Membership Renewal Month

SJBAS Membership renewals are due by January 31st each year. If you need to renew a lapsed membership or join SJBAS, please complete the SJBAS Annual Membership Form, make your check for \$25 (\$50 family, \$10 student) payable to 'SJBAS' and mail with the Annual Membership Form to: SJBAS, Attn: Treasurer, P.O. Box 3153, Durango, CO 81302.

SJBAS Meeting, January 11: "The Colonization of Ireland"

The presenter will be Jesse Tune, an Associate Professor of Archaeology at Fort Lewis College. Dr Tune is an archaeological scientist who researches the relationships that humans have with their environments, specifically during the last Ice Age 20,000 to 10,000 years ago.

The talk begins at 7 PM in the FLC Lyceum. There is a pre-meeting social beginning at 6:30. The presentation will also be Zoomed. You may obtain the login credentials at sjbas.org.

Contents

January is Membership Renewal Month.....	1
SJBAS Meeting, January 11: "The Colonization of Ireland"	1
President's Message.....	2
Annual Membership Meeting and Holiday Brunch.....	3
.....	4
Field Trips, Speakers and Events for 2023	4
Briefs.....	6
Museum Roundup.....	6
Volunteer Opportunities	7
SJBAS Elected Officers and Other Board Members.....	7

President's Message

Dear SJBAS Members:

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

CHECK IT OUT - the 2023 Field Trip and Activity schedule is included in this Moki. There are some great outings and speakers scheduled for the new year. Descriptions, difficulty ratings and contact information are included. Thank you to Lorraine McCleary for putting the Field Trip Schedule together, the Field Trip Leaders and to our Program Chair, Janice Sheftel.

I want to thank the many volunteers who helped set up, decorate, set out the auction items, and clean up during the Brunch and Annual Meeting. We appreciate your willingness to be involved!

SJBAS is an all-volunteer organization and we are looking for volunteers to fill a few positions. Details can be found below. Getting involved is a great way to meet people and contribute to SJBAS.

I want to conclude with a thanks to the anonymous members who donated \$500 to the John W Sanders Fund. Most appreciated!

Happy Holidays!
Susan Hicks
SJBAS President

Annual Membership Meeting and Holiday Brunch

The annual holiday brunch brought together 48 members for festivities, voting and silent auctioning. Susan Hicks was re-elected president for another term and Paul Landrum was elected as vice-president.

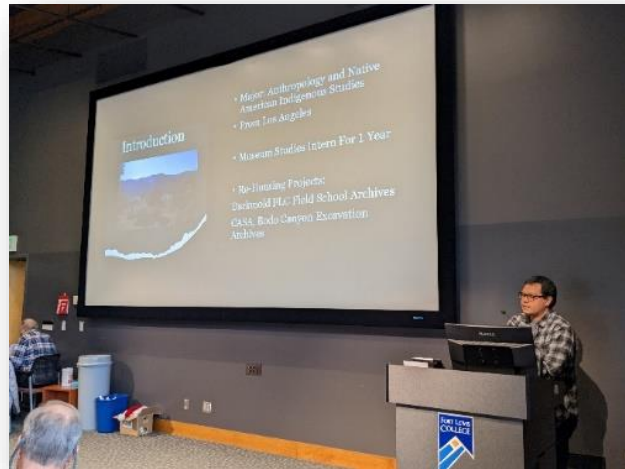


Mary Rieke was re-elected as secretary and Mary Moorehead as treasurer.

Special guest speakers included Cory Pillen, Director of the Center of

Southwest Studies and Joseph Gonzalez, recipient of a John W Sanders internship award. Joseph talked about his work on collections from the Darkmold excavation site in La Plata County.

The silent auction raised \$1,195 for the John W Sanders Fund and the Robinson Native American Fund.



There was also a slide show of 2022 field trip highlights prepared by outgoing Trip Coordinator, Lorraine McCleary. Thanks to Michelle and Mark McKibben for putting on a marvelous event and Michelle for these pictures.

Field Trips, Speakers and Events for 2023

See SJBAS.org for details on each of these field trips or events. Check the Web periodically for the latest details. This year SJBAS is instituting a compressed sign-up process. The past year saw way too many last-minute participant cancellations. It is hoped that if the sign-up window is closer to the trip dates there will be a firmer commitment once someone signs up. You



must be a SJBAS member to participate in field trips. All are welcome to attend speaking events.

Tentative Field Trip and Activity Schedule - 2023

January 11	SJBAS meeting – “The Gallina Culture” Gretchen Gürtler, Ghost Ranch Museum Director.
February 8	SJBAS meeting – “Bears Ears: Landscape of Refuge and Resistance,” a presentation on his new book, Andy Gulliford.
February TBD	Ohkay Ohwingeh Deer Dance Three-day motel/camping trip to the Santa Fe area. The primary focus of the trip is the Deer Dance at the Pueblo, but we will also enjoy other educational resources in the area. Trip participation is 15. Difficulty rating: moderate. For more information or to sign up, contact Rusty at chambrke@aol.com Sign up begins Jan. 1 st .
March 1-2	Santa Fe Museum Back Room Tour Three-night motel stay in Santa Fe with a guided tour the School of Advanced Research (SAR) and afternoon tour of the Museum of Indian Art Culture (MIAC) with behind-the-scenes exploration. Cost is \$20 per person for SAR and \$8 dollars for MIAC. The second day we will have a free guided tour of <i>The Center for New Mexico Archaeology</i> , visiting both collections, testing and curation labs. Trip participation is 16. Difficulty rating: Easy. For more information or to sign up, contact Tish at tishvarney@att.net Sign up begins Jan. 1 st .
March 8	SJBAS meeting – “Colors in the Past,” by Kelsey Hanson, University of Arizona.
April 12	SJBAS meeting – “The Peopling of South America.” Emeritus Professor Bruce Bradley, University of Exeter, UK.
April 24-26	Cedar Mesa Backcountry Sites – Three-day car camping trip.

	We will camp two nights in a dispersed campsite and do several hikes over three days to a variety of Ancestral Puebloan sites. 4 WD/HC vehicles will be needed, but we can carpool. Participants must be fit and ready to hike all day. Difficulty rating: hard. Trip participation limit is 12. For more information or to sign up, contact Lyle Hancock at lylehancock99@gmail.com . Sign up begins 7 AM Feb. 1st.
April 29	Sand Canyon Pueblo Visit Sand Canyon Pueblo at the head of Sand Canyon then walk down into the canyon to view other sites. Trip participation limit is 12. Difficulty rating is moderate. For more information or to sign up, contact Rusty at chambrke@aol.com . Sign up begins 7 AM Feb. 1 st .
May 30/31-TBD	San Juan River Raft Trip Four-day Ft Lewis College Outfitter river trip (Ft Lewis on the River, FLOW) on the San Juan River from Sand Island to Mexican Hat to view archeological sites along both side of the river. This all-inclusive trip includes transportation, food, camp gear, float gear and guides. Cost is \$600 plus/per person. A deposit of \$300 is due at sign up in Feb. with final payment 30 days in advance. Fees are non-refundable unless there is a person on the waiting list or you find a substitute. Trip participation is 16. Difficulty rating: Moderate. For information or to sign up, contact Tish at tishvarney@att.net Sign-up begins 7 AM Feb 1 st and not prior.
Early June	Keet Seel Backpack We are trying for the third year hoping the monument will open to guided tours. 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 (3 rd nite) 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@bike-durango.org . Trip sign-up begins 7 AM April 1 st .
June 8	SJBAS Annual Picnic
July 13	SJBAS meeting – Speaker TBA
July TBD	Telluride Museum/Tomboy Mine One-day trip to Telluride with guided tours by Rudy Davison. Trip participation is TBD. Difficulty rating: Hard (hike starts at 11,500 feet). For more information or to sign up, contact Janice janicesheftel@gmail.com Sign up begins 7 AM May 1 st .
August TBD	Flint knapping with Paul Landrum A flint knapping workshop will be held at Janice Sheftel's home. Participation set at ten. For more information or to sign up, contact Janice at janicesheftel@gmail.com Sign up begins 7 AM June 1 st .
August 11-13	Pecos Conference – 2023 – One to three-day trip near Flagstaff. 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 TBA	Albuquerque/Salinas Missions. Trip participation and difficulty rating TBD. For more information or to sign up, contact Rusty at chambrke@aol.com Sign up begins 7 AM July 1 st .

September 14	SJBAS meeting - TBA
October TBA	Bear's Ears Exploration – Three-day tour of Bear's Ears sites near the Bluff area, camping at Comb Wash CG. Meet at Edge of the Cedars Museum with brief tour of museum and Cave Towers hike. Second day tour of Ballroom cave, Bullseye Ruin, Cottonwood Wash Great House. Final day we will hike to Salvation Knoll, Arch Canyon, Birth Panel at Moki Dugway with dusk gathering at Andy's house in Bluff. Trip participation is 10. Difficulty rating: Hard. For more information or to sign up, contact Andy at andy@agulliford.com Sign up begins 7 AM Aug. 1 st .
October 12	SJBAS meeting - TBA
October 20	Cannonball Mesa One-day exploration of Cannon ball mesa in Canyon of the Ancients NM. This is a 5-6 mile round trip hike to the site. Trip participation is 14. Difficulty rating is moderate. For more information or to sign up, contact Lorraine at lorrynemccleary@gmail.com Sign up begins 7 AM Sept. 1 st .
November TBA	Aztec Inscriptions A one-day guided tour of the inscriptions at Aztec West with Fred Blackburn. Trip participation and Difficulty rating TBD. To sign up or for more information, contact Janice at janicesheftel@gmail.com Sign ups begin 7 AM Sept. 1 st .
December	SJBAS Annual Meeting and Holiday Brunch

Briefs

The Chaco Cultural Heritage Area Protection Act has been re-introduced in Congress. The measure would create a ten-mile protected radius around Chaco, restricting mineral and oil and gas extraction. The bill passed the House in 2019 but died in the Senate. It faces a doubtful future in a less than receptive Republican House. The re-introduction comes as evidence mounts that “Chaco” is way more than the impressive structures we’ve all seen. A new study in the *Journal of Archaeological Science: Reports* says that, based on geo-spatial imaging, there is so much we don’t know about the surrounding area. The authors state that archaeology is prone to “site bias,” meaning that we become obsessed with structures and ignore the surrounding area. You can read the article [here](#).

The Hopi Perspective on today’s archaeology. The *Moab Sun News* presents a nice interview with Hopi archaeologist Lyle Balenquah on what attracted him to archaeology despite its long history of disrespecting Indigenous cultures and dominance by white men. Key to the Indigenous perspective is that Archaeology to them is not studying the past; these sites are still alive. You can read the full interview [here](#).

Museum Roundup

Canyons of the Ancients Visitors Center in Dolores will close starting January 1 as they renovate the floor. It is expected to re-open by April.

Volunteer Opportunities

Field Trip Coordinator: If you are organized then you might be perfect for this position. The coordinator coordinates the effort to produce, communicate, and monitor the SJBAS annual field trip program. The coordinator shall conduct at least one annual field trip organizational meeting. This person does not need an in-depth knowledge of archaeology. This is a Board position.

Program Co-Chair: We are looking for a volunteer to work with our Program Chair, Janice Sheftel. The Program Chair secures speakers for regular membership meetings and works with other SJBAS members to organize other lectures, such as the John W. Sanders Lecture. This is a Board position. Please contact Janice at janicesheftel@gmail.com for more information.

Membership Co-Chair: The co-chair will work with Tish Varney and, eventually, move into the chair position. The Membership Chair is responsible for organizing recruitment of new SJBAS members and supporting Board members in encouraging active participation by members. This is a Board position. Please contact Tish Varney (tishvarney@att.net) for more information.

Technology Assistants: We are looking for people to assist in running our monthly programs - this includes running Zoom and helping our speakers set up their Power Point presentation.

Webmaster Assistant: If you know your way around a computer, please consider volunteering to assist our Webmaster, Lyle Hancock, when he is unable to access a computer. The Webmaster is responsible for maintaining and updating the SJBAS website, www.sjbas.org. Please contact Lyle for more information, lylehancock99@gmail.com. Training and support will be provided for all positions.

We look forward to working with you!

SJBAS Elected Officers and Other Board Members

President	Susan Hicks	sc53hicks@gmail.com
Vice President	Paul Landrum	
Secretary	Mary Rieke	mbrrieke@hotmail.com
Treasurer	Mary Moorehead	mmtax@cmconline.com

Communications chair	Byron Kellogg	bwkellogg@charter.net
Membership chair	Tish Varney	tishvarney@att.net
Field Trip Program coordinator	OPEN	
Education/PAAC representative	Betsy Moore	bmoore5552@gmail.com
<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	lylehancock99@gmail.com

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