



THE MOKI MESSENGER

June 2023

San Juan Basin Archaeological Society

sjbas.org

President's Message

I hope to see you and your guests on Wednesday, June 14th, for the SJBAS annual picnic to be held at the Junction Creek Picnic Area starting at 5:00 p.m. SJBAS will provide bratwursts and non-alcoholic drinks. Bring your favorite potluck dish and your own place setting and utensils. And, bring your appetite - SJBAS members are known for their delicious potluck dishes! Please RSVP by June 4th. More details can be found in this newsletter. I'm looking forward to a fun time!

There are still open slots for some of our field trips. You can find the list of these awesome trips under the Field Trips and Activities tab at sjbas.org.

Thank you to all of the SJBAS volunteers and members!

Sincerely,
Susan Hicks
SJBAS President

Contents

| | |
|---|---|
| President's Message..... | 1 |
| Directions to the Annual SJBAS Picnic | 2 |
| Field Trips, Speakers and Events for 2023 | 2 |
| Trip Report: Goodman Point and Sand Canyon Pueblos..... | 4 |
| Briefs | 5 |
| Museum Roundup | 5 |
| Volunteer Opportunities..... | 6 |
| SJBAS Elected Officers and Other Board Members..... | 6 |

Directions to the Annual SJBAS Picnic

The location will once again be the USFS Junction Creek Campground Group Pavilion. The attached link provides [directions to the campground](#). Look for the SJBAS sign at the campground entrance and take the drive to the left.

Please RSVP to Michelle McKibben at: michellemckibben56@gmail.com by June 4, 2023 to allow us time for ordering brats, buns, drinks, etc. Family members, guests and prospective members are welcome - we do ask that those attending adhere to current SJBAS field trip policies.

For additional information or if you wish to volunteer to help with set-up, cooking, or clean-up at the picnic, please contact Michelle McKibben at: michellemckibben56@gmail.com

Looking forward to seeing you on June 14,

SJBAS Board of Directors

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 Meeting Schedule - 2023

| | |
|-------------------|---|
| June 14 | SJBAS Annual Picnic |
| June 20-23 | San Juan River Raft Trip – Four-day Ft Lewis College Outfitter river trip (Ft Lewis on the Water, 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 . Waitlisted Sign-up began Feb 1st . |
| July 12 | SJBAS meeting 7:30 PM in the FLC Lyceum – “ <i>Sand, Stone, and Songs: Ancient Lessons from a Living Landscape</i> ” presented by Vince MacMillan, archaeologist at Canyons of the Ancients NM. |
| July 14 | 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 1st . |
| August 5 | 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 1st. Time TBD. Cost is \$5 for materials. |
| 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 9 | SJBAS meeting – “ <i>The Gallina Culture.</i> ” Jacque Kocer will talk about his dissertation. |
| September 22-24 | Albuquerque/Salinas Missions – On this 3-day trip, we may visit Jemez Pueblo, Coronado State Monument, Petroglyph National Monument, the Pueblo Indian Cultural Center in Albuquerque and the Salinas Pueblos near Mountainair. The trip is rated as easy. For more information or to sign up, contact Rusty at chambrke@aol.com . Sign up begins 7 AM July 1st. |
| Sept-Oct TBD | 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 (NNM) 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 night) 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 began 7 AM April 1st. Update: NNM backcountry <u>may</u> open in early June but a decision will not be made until later in May. With so much uncertainty I have pushed the trip into the fall. If you have already signed up you will retain your place in line. |
| September 13 | SJBAS meeting – Noted Indigenous ceramic expert Karen Harry from the University of Nevada will present a topic TBA. |
| October 6 | Cannonball Mesa – One-day exploration of Cannonball Mesa in Canyon of the Ancients Nat'l Monument as lead by noted CANM expert Diane McBride. 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 lorraine@bike-durango.org Sign up begins 7 AM Aug. 1st. |
| October 11 | SJBAS meeting – Dr. Shelby Tisdale, Former Director, FLC Center of SW Studies, will talk about her new book, “ <i>No Place for a Lady: The Life Story of Archaeologist Marjorie F. Lambert.</i> ” |
| October 27-29 | Bear's Ears Exploration – Three-day to Bear's Ears sites near the Bluff area, camping at Comb Wash Camp, Blanding. The trip concludes at Andy's house in Bluff. Difficulty rating: Hard. For more information or to sign up, contact Andy at andy@agulliford.com Sign up begins 7 AM Aug. 1st. |
| November 8 | SJBAS Meeting – “A Different Way to Understand Community: A Closer Look at the Velarde Valley of New Mexico” by Patrick Cruz, PhD candidate and curator of collections at the Museum of Indian Arts and Culture in Santa Fe. |
| 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. 1st. |
| December | SJBAS Annual Meeting and Holiday Brunch |

| | |
|--|--|
| | |
|--|--|

Trip Report: Goodman Point and Sand Canyon Pueblos

April 29th was a great day to enjoy the beautiful vistas out on the Great Sage Plain. Kurt Hillman and Rusty Chamberlain met at Rusty's house and motored through Cortez headed to our first site, Goodman Point Pueblo. Before we reached the site, we encountered a detour. Rusty added excitement to the trip with a wrong turn, which led to an impassable, steep and rutted track. But we did get to see some interesting terrain. After getting back on track, we arrived at the parking lot for Goodman Point Pueblo.

Goodman Point Pueblo was set aside as an archaeological resource in 1889 and is a unit of Hovenweep National Monument. Because of its early protection, the pueblo and the surrounding land have been untouched by agriculture. The path to the pueblo is an easy level walk which ends at the canyon wall. From there we could see structures on the other side.

We then traveled west to Sand Canyon trail head. At the parking lot, hikers can go left and hike down to McElmo Creek and County Rd G or right through mixed forest to the pueblo. Veering right took us to the head of the deep side canyon with the pueblo built along both sides. This site has a well-marked trail with interpretive signage along the way. Like Goodman Point, the pueblo had rock walls that enclosed it on both sides. We hiked along the wall then crossed it to a plaza inside the village. We followed the path through the village to the canyon, pausing at signs that explained the results of excavation. The signs pointed out architectural features such as the double walled D-shaped building and the Great Kiva. One sign discussed the differences between the larger neighborhood on right and that on the left. This difference is an example of dual moiety or two groups living together but separated by a barrier, lineage, social status or function.

The path ended at the canyon edge. From here we could see how the structures on the left side of the canyon had been built down the steep side. To get there we had to back track and pick up the path that goes around the smaller left side of the of the town. Again, several more signs to help explain researchers' interpretation of the site. We walked to the end of canyon on this side and looking down we saw remnants of walls. On one boulder we spotted what appeared to be a Hovenweep-like structure perched on a boulder.

Back at the trail head, we enjoyed our lunch at a table in the shade. It was fun to share our histories and our thoughts on these two sites. Both sites make an easy half-day trip that can be combined with a visit to Lowry Pueblo or Canyon of The Ancients Visitor Center for a full day of archaeological adventure. –Rusty Chamberlain

Briefs

The annual Pecos Conference is coming up August 10-13 in Flagstaff. Registration is now open at [their Web site](#). Our very own Rusty Chamberlain is coordinating the trip for SJBAS members that plan to go.

New Stamp Honors Chief Standing Bear for Civil Rights Achievements. Astonishing as it sounds it took a Supreme Court decision in 1879 for Indigenous Americans to be recognized as "persons within the meaning of the law" and have the right of *habeas corpus*. Standing Bear of the Ponca tribe brought the suit that eventually led to the ruling. You may read more about this remarkable man on [Wikipedia](#).

Petroglyphs National Monument Shrinks Trail System by 70%. In response to years of visitor-caused damage PNM's trail system will drop from 140 miles to 39. Thirty *unofficial* access points will also be closed. The decision was made after years of damage to the site caused by off-leash dogs, people not picking up dog poop, littering and illegal dumping.

Four Corners Lecture Series Continues. June features talks by Scott Ortman on "The Archaeology of Convergence in the Rio Arriba Valley, New Mexico on June 6, 7 PM in Cortez. See [Hisatsinom](#) for more information. And June 8 there will be the Crow Canyon webinar "Un-Erasing the Indigenous Paleolithic: Re-Claiming and Re-Writing the Indigenous Past of the Western Hemisphere (the Americas)" by Paulette Steeves. See [Crow Canyon](#) for details. On July 1-2 Mesa Verde NP hosts Lomayestewa Family - Traditional Hopi Dances.



Museum Roundup

Life at Chimney Rock Festival, June 3rd and 4th. Chimney Rock Interpretive Association invites you to the Life at Chimney Rock Festival at Chimney Rock National Monument from 10:00am to 4:00 pm each day. Family activities and interactive demonstrations of the skills of the Ancients will be led by CRIA volunteers and will include pounding yucca, making coil pottery, creating rock art, weaving, corn grinding, and throwing a spear with an atlatl. You may obtain details at [their web site](#).

Volunteer Opportunities

Field Trip Coordinator: If you are organized then you might be perfect for this position. The manager 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 |
| Vice President | Paul Landrum |
| Secretary | Mary Rieke |
| Treasurer | Mary Moorehead |

| | |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Communications chair | Byron Kellogg |
| Membership chair | Tish Varney |
| Field Trip Program coordinator | OPEN |
| Education/PAAC representative | Betsy Moore |
| <i>Moki Messenger</i> editor | Hunter McCleary |
| Programming chair | Janice Sheftel |
| Publicity chair | Rusty Chamberlain |
| Social chair | Michelle and Mark McKibben |
| Webmaster | Lyle Hancock |

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.