



THE MOKI MESSENGER

January 2024

San Juan Basin Archaeological Society

sjbas.org

'Tis the Season... for Membership Renewal

It's time to renew your membership. It is easy to renew or join SJBAS – just print and complete the [Annual Membership Form](#); sign the membership form, Liability Waiver and Proper Etiquette forms; write a check to SJBAS for the appropriate amount; and mail the one-page Annual Membership Form and your check to SJBAS, Attn: Treasurer, PO Box 3153, Durango, CO 81302. Please keep your signed Liability Waiver and Proper Etiquette forms for your records.

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First Board Meeting of the New Year

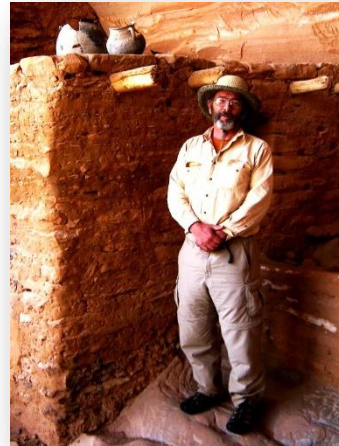
The next SJBAS Board meeting will be held Thursday, January 11, 2024 at the Center of Southwest Studies Conference Room 271. All SJBAS members are welcome to attend. Please email me at p_landrum@hotmail.com and I will send you an agenda. If you can't attend the meeting, please email ideas, questions, and comments by January 4th and I can add them to the agenda.

Happy Holidays!
Paul Landrum
SJBAS President

New SJBAS President: Background and Thoughts on the New Year

Paul Landrum was elected SJBAS president at the annual meeting in December. The other officers elected were Tom Polich as Vice-President; Susan Hicks as Secretary; and Mary Moorehead as Treasurer.

Paul conducted his first dig years before most archaeologists decide on their life's calling. He excavated an ancient mano from his grandparent's muddy driveway in Tennessee when he was four years old. It may have been in his genes as his great-grandmother was a member of the Cherokee Nation. He still possesses a pair of her stone earrings.



When he was ten his father crafted a stone ax out of materials from the backyard. By junior high school he was making his own paleo tools out of glass and soft sandstone and knapping bottle glass. His interest was further piqued by reading about the American fur trapping period. The accounts of Lewis and Clark and the art of George Catlin stand out. One high school science project was describing lithic techniques, flint cores and tools. Another high school project, however, proved a little too real-world for administrators when he built a working still. While Paul earned kudos for describing the chemistry of fermentation it was decided that future science projects in this vein were verboten.

Paul went on to take anthropology classes in college but his passion has always been spending time in the field, appreciating the real past.

When asked, Paul said that his priorities are to have fun, learn about the past and pursue the mission of SJBAS. That is, to "advocate for and promote public awareness and preservation of archaeological, cultural, and historical resources."

Things he wants our membership to think about include:

Membership: How big does SJBAS want to be and do we need a better balance of younger members?

Promotion: In addition to "push" announcements we should do more community outreach. These would include presentations to schools and community groups.

Engagement: Particularly with agencies such as the BLM, which is currently developing a national recreation management plan. Given the recent issues with access to Bears Ears, we may need to increase our participation in public input, etc. Going under the radar is not an option and proactively lobbying for reasonable access is a better course for the long run. Many of the "partners" listed on BLM regional planning sites are association representing commercial guides, OHV users, etc. He says he has not found any references to archaeological groups.

Volunteers: We need to expand participation by newer/younger members in SJBAS. Many of the current board members have served for years and have created a great organization. However, there are members new and old that we have not heard from. We need to encourage them to bring their ideas to board and monthly meetings. It's their society, too.

Events for 2024

[Contact trip organizers for details.

Sign-up dates were instituted to minimize last-minute drop-outs.]

January 10	SJBAS Monthly Meeting at Center of SW Studies. 7 PM “Lucy: 3.2-million-year-old fossil <i>hominid</i> ” by John Kappelman, retired Anthropology professor from University of Texas at Austin.
January 10	SJBAS Day-trip Backroom Tour of Canyon of the Ancients Visitor Center and Museum – Curator-led. We will meet at the Twin Buttes parking lot at 9:30 and carpool from there. Limit 12 participants. The tour will take about 1.5-2 hours. Difficulty rating: Easy. Contact Lorie Hansen at lmhansen39@gmail.com Sign-up begins now. Trip is wait-listed.
February 14	SJBAS Monthly Meeting at Center of SW Studies. 7 PM “The Gardens of Amache Nat’l Historic Site: Japanese Internment Camp” by Bonnie Clark, Prof at Univ of Colorado.
Mid-February, date TBA	SJBAS Field Trip See the Ohkay Owingeh Deer Dance; plus visit Fort Marcy, Tsankawi Prehistoric Site and more – Difficulty: Easy-Active. Contact Rusty Chamberlain at chambrke@aol.com . Sign-up begins Jan. 1st
March 13	SJBAS Monthly Meeting at Center of SW Studies. 7 PM “Archeoastronomy at Chaco Canyon” by David and Chloe Valentine and GB Cornucopia. David is associated with Cloudy Ridge film production. GB is an interpreter at Chaco Canyon.
March - date TBA	SJBAS Day-trip “Colors of the past: A Guided tour of Salmon Ruins and Museum,” by Kelsey Hansen, University of Arizona. Difficulty: Easy-Active. Contact Janice Sheftel at janicesheftel@gmail.com . Sign-up begins Jan. 1st.
April 5-7	SJBAS Field Trip Exploring Bluff area via car camping with Andy Gulliford. Difficulty: Moderate. Contact andy@agulliford.com Sign up begins Feb. 1st.
April 10	SJBAS Monthly Meeting at Center of SW Studies. 7 PM “How landscape shaped the world of Indigenous cultures” by Piyawit Moonkham, visiting professor of Archaeology at Ft Lewis College.
May 8	SJBAS Monthly Meeting at Center of SW Studies. 7 PM “Dating of White Sands Footprints” by Jeff Pigati and Kathleen Springer with the US Geological Survey.
Late May- date TBA	SJBAS Field Trip Keet Seel overnight backpack and guided tour, Navaho Nat’l Monument. Also includes day-tour of Betatakin. 3-4 days of camping. Difficulty: Hard. Contact Hunter McCleary at hunter.mccleary@gmail.com . Sign-ups begin March 1 st .
Early June- date TBA	SJBAS Field Trip San Juan River Trip, organized by FLC Outfitter FLOW. This is a four-day guided trip with all amenities included in the price. Difficulty: Moderate. Limit of 16. Contact Tish Varney at tishvarney@att.net for more info. Sign-ups begin Feb 1 st .
June 7	Special SJBAS Meeting – FLC Vallecito Room “Written on the Landscape” -- the latest film from Anna Sofaer and the Solstice Project.
June 8	SJBAS Day-Trip Sand Canyon and Goodman Point Pueblos: Two Pueblo III villages at the head of Sand Canyon. Difficulty: Moderate. Contact Rusty Chamberlain. chambrke@aol.com Sign-up begins April 1 st .
June 12	SJBAS Annual Picnic (tentative)

July 10	SJBAS Monthly Meeting at Center of SW Studies. 7 PM “The Cutting Edge of Conservation: Prehistoric and Historic Archaeology on the BLM’s National Conservation Lands” by Andy Gulliford, professor of History and Environmental Studies at Ft Lewis College.
August 8-11	SJBAS Field Trip The Pecos Conference, Payson, Arizona (tentative). Difficulty: Easy-Active. Contact Rusty Chamberlain at chambrke@aol.com
Late August - date TBA	SJBAS Day-Trip Hovenweep Nat’l Monument Outlier Towers: One-day trip to Painted Hand, Cutthroat Castle, Holly/Hackberry. A chance to speculate together on their function and cultural significance. Difficulty: Moderate. Contact Andy Dennison at andrewdennison86@gmail.com . Sign-up begins June 1 st .
September 6-7	SJBAS Field Trip Crown Point Rug Auction and More. This weekend trip includes lectures, a trading post visit and the rug auction. Lodging and food are extra. Difficulty: Easy-active. Contact Bill Postler at postler.bill@gmail.com . Sign-ups begin July 1 st .
September 11	SJBAS Monthly Meeting at Center of SW Studies. 7 PM “The Survival of Diné textile traditions” by Venancio Aragon, Diné textile artist and former NPS Interpreter.
September 20-22	SJBAS Field Trip Gallina Canyon Ranch. Guided hike to Cerrito Cliff Dwelling. Camping or primitive cabin. Difficulty: Moderate to hard. Limit, 16 trekkers. Contact Tish Varney at tishvarney@att.net . Sign-up begins Aug 1 st .
October 4	SJBAS Day-Trip Canyons of the Ancients guided exploration. Hike to Ismay and Mud Springs Pueblo guided by Diane McBride. End the day at Sutcliffe Winery. Trip limit 14. Difficulty: Moderate. Contact Lorraine McCleary at lorrainemccleary@gmail.com . Sign-up begins Aug 1 st .
October 8-10	SJBAS Field Trip Cedar Mesa Backcountry sites. Three-day car-camping trip with several day-hikes to a variety of Ancestral Puebloan sites. Difficulty: Hard. Limit of 12. Contact Lyle at lylehancock99@gmail.com . Sign-up begins Aug 1 st .
October 9	SJBAS Monthly Meeting at Center of SW Studies. 7 PM “Impact of fire on artifacts across the Southwest” by Rachel Loehman, research landscape ecologist with the US Geologic Survey. [Tentative]
October 28	SJBAS Day-Trip Chimney Rock Nat’l Monument day-hike. Guided hike to the most important lunar observatory in the Chacoan world. Difficulty: Hard. Contact Hunter McCleary at hunter.mccleary@gmail.com . Sign-up begins Aug 1 st .
November – date TBA	SJBAS Field Trip Chaco Canyon 1-2 day camping trip. Difficulty: Moderate. Contact Rusty Chamberlain at chambrke@aol.com . Sign up begins Sep. 1st
November 13	SJBAS Monthly Meeting at Center of SW Studies. 7 PM “Recent Insights into the Fremont People of Uinta Basin, Utah,” by Elizabeth Hora, Public Archaeologist with the Utah State Historic Preservation Office.
December 7	SJBAS Annual Meeting and Brunch (tentative) Ft Lewis College

Annual Meeting and Brunch: A Good Time Was Had by All

Forty-five members gathered at the Vallecito Room at Ft Lewis College for our annual meeting, brunch, fund-raiser and the election of officers for 2024. The new officers are Paul Landrum, president; Thomas Polich, vice-president; Mary Moorehead, treasurer; and Susan Hicks, secretary. The silent auction raised \$260 to support internships at FLC. Among the highlights was a carefully curated slide show from John Sanders slide archives. The collection of over 1,000 slides spanning decades of trips in the Southwest will be donated to the Library at the Center of Southwest Studies.

Susan Hicks received special recognition for her years of service as SJBAS President. Thanks to the McKibbens for organizing another successful event and Michelle for these pictures.



Additional SJBAS Volunteer Opportunities

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.

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 Board Members

President	Paul Landrum
Vice President	Thomas Polich
Secretary	Susan Hicks
Treasurer	Mary Moorehead
Communications chair	Byron Kellogg
Membership chair	Tish Varney
Field Trip Program coordinator	Rusty Chamberlain
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. Individual dues drop to \$15 after June 30. 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.