

# San Juan Basin Archaeological Society

a Colorado Non-Profit Corporation



## Field Trip Report

Trip Description: \_\_\_ Pecos Conference

Date: Aug 7-11 2025

Trip Leader(s): \_\_\_ Rusty Chamberlain

Participation Limit: No limit

### Participants:

Rusty Chamberlain  
Michael Moravan  
Elaine Moravan  
Judy Fisher

### Remarks:

The four of us thoroughly enjoyed this year's Pecos Conference. This was the first conference for Michael, Elaine, and Judy. They all expressed interest in returning for the 2026 conference to be held in Mancos.

Pecos Conferences are run by a non-profit, Southwestern Archaeology, Inc. and are held outdoors under big tents. There is always free camping. One tent is for talks, panel discussions, meetings, and for the Saturday dinner and dance. The other tent is for vendors, the silent auction, poster displays, and some times, for meals.

### Thursday:

Pecos begin with registration and reception at Edge of the Cedars Museum in Blanding on Thursday evening. After the reception your SJBAS contingent returned our B&B for supper.

### Friday:

This day started with FLC professor Chuck Riggs playing bagpipes to welcome attendees to the day's events. Throughout the day so much is going on one can't see it all. Speakers give talks on their area of research in 15-minute shifts in the big tent. Posters describing research projects are displayed in the other tent. Vendors and the silent auction also occupy the other tent. Plus, and this is really the great thing about Pecos, conversations about archaeology and like interest are going on all over the place. You too can join in. Just walk up and say Hi. Boy, do they love to talk. Since your SJBAS contingent was not camping and since no food service was available, we returned to Blanding for supper and a movie.



Hall Tent

Pecos Lecture and Dance



have a sense of humor

Mr Woodrat -Archaeologists



The SJBAS contingent at lunch

#### Saturday:

This day also started with a bagpipe serenade by FLC professor Chuck Riggs. Today was pretty much like Friday, more talks with fascinating and new information and more posters, please don't miss the posters. But at 11:00am Southwestern Archaeology, Inc. had the annual meeting. The big news here is that 2026 conference will be in Mancos the 2<sup>nd</sup> weekend of August. OK, not really in Mancos but up in National Forest land north of town. The afternoon sessions end after 3:00pm so that the tents can be reconfigured, one for dinner and the other for the dance. Your SJBAS contingent returned to Blanding for freshen up and to "gas up" the Moravan's EV.

The dinner and dance, beer and wine included was a blast. Do folks say that? The beer and wine were ok, the meal was fine and ample, the conversations were great. The band was good and was loud and went on until midnight, or so we heard. We, however returned to the B&B.

#### Sunday:

Sunday is the day for Pecos field trips. Your SJBAS contingent signed up for 2, first at 9:00am on Cedar Mesa for guided tour to House-on-Fire (see the photo Judy and a photo of it), and then at 1:00pm for a backroom tour of Edge of the Cedars Museum. Dr R.E. Burrillo, one of the speakers on Saturday, was an informative even if we did take the long way back. Dr. Jonathon Till, the Curator at Edge of the Cedars, turned the one-hour tour into 2 fascinating hours.



Judy viewing House-on-Fire House



Fossil of giant leaf on Comb Ridge





House-on-Fire House



Katsina dolls

Jonathon Till showing modern



Basket Maker III pot -

oldest in the museum

**Suggestions if trip is repeated:**

I suggest camping if you can, but since Pecos for 2026 is just outside of Mancos just go for the day.

**Prepared by**  
Rusty Chamberlain