Mark Your Calendar

July 15th Picnic
Cerise Park
Montrose, 5pm

June 13th field trip with
Grand Junction chapter of
CAS to Paradox Valley
With Glade Hadden

June 20th Cottonwood
Creek area east of Nucla.
With Bill Harris, 249-8055

July 9th Historic mining
structures in the Ironton
Park area south of Ouray
along highway 550. Brian
Haas, Forest Service
archaeologist, and Leigh
Ann Hunt, retired Forest
Service archaeologist
leading excursion.

High Altitude Field Trips
with Leigh Ann Hunt
TBA
A field trip to the Telluride
area is being considered, date TBA.

July 15 Picnic 5pm
Cerise Park
5pm July 15

15th of July Chipeta Picnic 5pm
Wednesday Cerise Park

Bring your own drinks
and service set and
meat to cook and a Dish to share.

Bring a musical instrument too

A chair service set hat

See you all there Cerise Park
President’s Corner

Welcome to a special June edition of the newsletter: we thought it would be nice to leave you with some reports of the May field trips.

Summer is a wonderful time in this part of the world. There will be lots to do, and I hope you all get into the mountains for some hikes in the cool country, or maybe by boat down into the desert country. There may be some summer field trips coming up, such as site steward orientation trips with Bill Harris or high altitude historic site visits with Leigh Ann Hunt. We’ll let you know by email if and when these happen.

Don’t forget the Chipeta Chapter summer picnic on Wednesday, July 15th starting at about 5:00 pm at Cerise Park in Montrose. We will get the word out on that by email as well, as the date draws near.

Some of you may be planning trips to do some excavating at some of the sites around Colorado that are associated with CAS chapters such as the Mitchell Springs site near Cortez.

I will be enjoying the mountains in a variety of ways most of the summer, with at least one quick trip out to the flatlands—and I mean really flatlands—of Levelland, Texas. Whatever your plans, whether it be work, fun, or both, I wish you all the best through the summer and hope to see you at the September meeting for another great evening presentation.

David Batten
West End Rendezvous

Members of the Chipeta Chapter gathered at the Ball Park campground on a warm Thursday morning. The campground would serve as our HQ for the next several days. Back in the days when Uravan, CO was a bustling company town the quiet river bottom parcel served as the baseball field for countless kids. One of our field trip participants, Larry Scarbrough, actually played Little League on the field when he was a kid.

Over the next four days our group of a dozen or so intrepid travelers drove the back roads and hiked the wild lands of the West End of Montrose County in search of archaeological sites. On Day 1 we stuck pretty close to highway 141 visiting the Roc Creek rock art site (5MN443), the Hummingbird Panel (5M1186) and Dolores Cave (5MN915). The cave was excavated by CAS founder, C.T. Hurst in 1946. Before retreating to the comforts of camp we visiting the reconstructed section of the Hanging Flume.
On Day 2 the group drove out County Road Z-26, northwest of Nucla. From the road we hiked to Tabeguache Cave II, Tabeguache Pueblo and a site (5MN364) briefly mentioned in Cathy Crane’s 1978 SW Lore article about the West End’s prehistoric settlements. Tabeguache Cave II is a large rockshelter that overlooks the creek of the same name. Hurst excavated the site between 1942 and 1944. He found evidence of Ute, Formative and Archaic cultures in the site’s strata.

The other two sites on the day’s agenda hadn’t been visited by anyone in the group, but we had good map data to assist in locating the sites. To access Tabeguache Pueblo we crossed the Garvey’s pasture – thanks to Stan and Doylene Garvey for permission to do so. Our initial route-finding efforts took us east of the site, but Rand Greubel’s reckoning brought us to the ridgetop site. The site consists of four stone habitation features attributed to the Gateway Tradition.

The third site was also a Gateway Tradition site, but had only one structure with walls that stood 6 feet tall. It sat on a rocky, cliffed point overlooking the confluence of two drainages, and had a much more pronounced feel of being a defensive position. A wall across the narrowest segment of the point and rock chocks blocking access from the cracks in the sandstone walls added to that feeling.

Day 3 began a bit more cloudy, but warm, none-the-less. The main course for the day was an architectural site on Hamilton Mesa called The Maze. This site is quite large, and had been one of the structures that archaeologist; Harold Huscher had visited back in the 1930’s. Rand then showed us a site that had several very obscure wickiups. The best part was finding the Ute pottery Rand had found on the site survey years ago. We then headed for the Rimrocker Museum in Naturita for a private tour of the museum. Janet Thompson showed us around the facility, and then was game enough to accompany us on a short hike to the Split Rock petroglyphs overlooking Naturita.

We wrapped up a very educational and fun trip with a visit to several rock art panels in east Paradox Valley. Having Carol Patterson along to interpret the glyphs really added to the excursion. We lucked out with the weather, completely avoiding the rains that followed. Thanks to all the members who joined in the experience and it was a consensus that we repeat it in a few years, if not sooner.

Bill Harris
Nine Mile Field Trip with George Decker, Ed Horton and Randy Johnson as leaders.

Although the weather was threatening and rain did turn to snow at one point, our spirits were high enough to venture forth during the sun breaks.

The newly paved road was certainly a luxury. My memories of traveling through 9 mile in 1990 was pretty rough, with two small kids driving from Seattle to Denver, taking a shortcut to see rock art 😊. My kids were not happy about camping that night 40 miles in to the canyon and getting dark with no idea if the road was passable out to Myton or Vernal. I got out at the Balance rock site and made a camp fire. One last photograph before it got to dark, and there on the ledge was coiled a nice desert rattler. I calmly walked back to the car and we huddled inside all night. Not a sound all night but coyotes until dawn. My thoughts and dreams that night of “what if” and how would I have driven all the way out with two kids, dying of a rattlesnake bite?

Rasmussen Cave site had some very old glyphs and peculiar “praying sheep” figures. But for me the Ute picture writing was the most interesting. It talks about the mechanics of a steam engine or train that the author may have witnessed nearby in Wellington or if there was a line that went through 9 mile.
The spokes and wheel and mechanical arm is described in this panel. The wavy line attached to the wheel means “moves back and forth”. The train track, ties and riffraff rocks are show also. The little man next to the wheel is gesturing the words “turn” with one arm, and “difficult” or “can’t” with the other. The arms are lowered down from the shoulders that mean “can’t” or “not”.

Nine Mile gets a lot of flash floods, pour offs from the canyon rims and road wash outs. The paved road is bisected by dozens of concrete dips to accommodate the gully washers. This stone wall above, is part of an older road bed that the Buffalo Soldiers built during the 1860’s. To the right is a petroglyph that predicts a wash out for this gully. It is the horned snake moving along that is commonly referred to as Avanyu, (water serpent) the water that comes down in a flash flood.

Rock wall construction made by Buffalo Soldiers in 1889. Avanyu (horned water serpent) to the right of the stone wall.

George refers to the “dot” people because there are so many panels with fields of dots portrayed as well. Some have speculated they are star formations, but they seem to be organized in rows rather than scattered like stars.
Some preliminary research shows that some panels resemble Hopi corn fields. The Hopis plant in bunches, their seeds put in 4 or 5 in a hole. The corn grows in clumps and their stalks support each other during windy conditions. Carol Patterson

Site Stewardship Training
- The site stewardship program will be doing 2, possibly 3 field trips this summer. We have a few spaces open for CAS members who want to attend. The first field trip is to the Cottonwood Creek area east of Nucla on June 20th. The second field trip is to the historic mining structures in the Ironton Park area south of Ouray along highway 550. That field trip will be on July 9th. Brian Haas, Forest Service archaeologist, will lead the June 20th excursion, and Leigh Ann Hunt, retired Forest Service archaeologist, will lead the July 9th field trip. Another field trip to the Telluride area is being considered, date TBA.

If anyone in the chapter wants to lead a field trip, please contact Bill Harris, 249-8055, or Carol Patterson.

The Moore Scholarship Recipient this year is: Victoria Riggs

The Squint and Juanita Moore Scholarship went to Victoria Riggs, a 2015 graduate of Fruita High School. She will be attending Eastern Washington University this fall.

Ute Indian tribe
Annual 4th of July Powwow
July 4, 2015
Ft. Duchesne, Utah

Ute Bear Dance Exhibition
June 13-14, 2015
Aspen, Colorado
Annette has the raffle tickets for sale.
Contact her at 970/318-0128 or annettebutts63@gmail.com.
She will be selling raffle tickets at the picnic on Wednesday, July 15 and at the September meeting.
ALICE HAMILTON
SCHOLARSHIP FUND
RAFFLE

- Scholarships are open to all Undergraduate and Graduate students in the field of Archaeology (or related) currently enrolled in programs in Colorado.
- All profits are paid out on an annual basis as scholarships.
- Purchase price of tickets is TAX-DEDUCTIBLE as contribution to a public charity under IRS Section 509(a)(2).

1 Ticket = $3.00
4 Tickets = $10.00
Date: __________________ Membership Application
Name: ____________________________________________________________
Street or RR Address: ____________________________________________
City: ______________________ State: _______ Zip: __________
Telephone: ______________________________________________________
Email: __________________________________________________________

(email required to receive Chipeta & CAS newsletters & field trips)

Check One:  
____ New  
____ Renewal

Check One: **Annual Dues** (includes state CAS dues)
____ Individual with Southwest Lore*........................... $30
____ Individual senior (no Southwest Lore*).................. $20
____ Family with Southwest Lore*.............................. $35
(Family = 2 or more members, same household)

*Southwest Lore is the journal of the Colorado Archaeological Society and is mailed quarterly. Most of our members elect to subscribe, and it helps support CAS.

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**Code of Ethics**

- As a member of the Colorado Archaeological Society, I pledge:
- To uphold State and Federal Antiquities Laws.
- To support policies and educational programs designed to protect our cultural heritage and our State’s antiquities.
- To encourage protection and discourage exploitation of archaeological resources.
- To encourage the study and recording of Colorado’s archaeology and cultural history. To take an active part by participating in field and laboratory work for the purpose of developing new and significant information about the past.
- To respect the property rights of landowners.
- To assist whenever possible, in locating, mapping and recording archaeological sites within Colorado using State Site Survey forms.
- To respect the dignity of peoples whose cultural histories and spiritual practices are the subject of any investigation.
- To support only scientifically conducted activities, and never participate in conduct involving dishonesty, deceit or misrepresentation about archaeological matters. To report vandalism.
- To remember that cultural resources are non-renewable, and do not belong to you or me, but are ours to respect, to study and enjoy!

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Signature: ____________________________ Other Family Signature: ____________________________

Make checks payable to “Chipeta Chapter CAS” and mail the signed application to:
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CHIPETA CHAPTER BOARD MEMBERS

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STANDING COMMITTEES

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Upcoming Events

May 2 / June 6 / July 11 / August 8 /
September 5 / October 3
**Lamb Spring Archaeological Preserve**
Tours
Littleton, Colorado
http://lambspring.org/

July 31-August 3 / August 14-17 / September
11-14
**Mitchell Springs Excavation**
Cortez, Colorado
http://www.fourcornersresearch.com/

August 6–9
**Pecos Conference**
Mancos, Colorado
https://www.facebook.com/pages/Pecosconfere
nence/203021673045677