Micah Yates on Pioneering in the Dominguez Area

If you’ve ever hiked up Little Dominguez Creek in the Dominguez-Escalante National Conservation Area, you may know about the private inholding where Bill Rambo lived until his health required him to move. Paonia resident Micah Yates is Bill’s nephew and grandson of William Rambo, who worked the homestead for many years until his death in 1958. The land was in the Rambo family back to at least 1905. Mr. Yates will have some fascinating stories about some of the area’s pioneers and the experiences he himself had at the Rambo homestead and will share pictures of the early days. Among them, we hope to see the watch General Custer gave to Mr. Yates’ great-great-grandfather for his wedding. Hope to see you there.

Mark Your Calendar

May 14: Annual guided Dinétah tour, provided in celebration of Heritage Preservation Month, Salmon Ruins presents a tour of the Navajo Defensive Sites and Rock Art of the Dinétah. For more information, see http://www.salmonruins.com/events.html. Free and open to the public.

May 17: CAS-GJ monthly meeting. Jane Thompson and Sharon Johannsen, on the history of mining around Uravan. GJ City Hall Council Chambers, 250 N. 5th St. west side entrance. 7:00 pm

May 18: Chipeta Chapter. Micah Yates on Dominguez Canyon pioneers (right). United Methodist Church, 1st and Park, Montrose. 7:00 pm.

June: Summer Solstice at Salmon Ruins, 7am. There will be a short discussion followed by a visit to the Pueblo Observatory to see the event. For more information, visit http://www.salmonruins.com/events.html. Free and open to the public.

July 20: Chipeta Chapter picnic at Cerise Park, Montrose, starting at around 5 (see announcement elsewhere in this newsletter).

August 5-7: Pecos Conference, Alpine, AZ. Honoring the late archaeologist Linda Cordell. While there, you might be able to commune with wolves!

Also scheduled for the May meeting:

CJ Brafford, Director of the Ute Indian Museum, will update us on the progress of the ongoing renovation project at the museum.
Recommended Stop on the Way to Moab

by Annette Butts

During the first week in April, my daughter and I enjoyed a few days in Moab seeing Arches and Canyonlands National Parks. On the way back, we took a short detour off I-70 to see the pictographs in Sego Canyon, also called Thompson Wash. I had been in the area a few times, but somehow had missed this site. There are many beautiful panels and they were easy to get to. Seeing it was an unexpected treat at the end of our trip. (Photos taken in the middle of the day with our phones and small camera don’t do it justice.)

According to David Succe’s book Sacred Images, it is “perhaps the state’s most impressive multicultural site. There are Native American images in the Barrier Canyon style, the Fremont style, and the Ute style.”

There are also some pictographs on nearby private land which can easily be seen from the road. There was some defacing, especially on the private land, but the whole site is very impressive and well worth making time for a visit.

Photos by Laura Chapin

Dry Mesa Survey

by Bill Harris

In early April chapter members Pete Davis, Russ Barr, Mike Ward and Bill Harris participated in an archaeological survey to assist USFS archaeologist, Brian Haas, with a winter range improvement project. BLM archeologist, Glade Hadden, came along to help with locating old Huscher sites. A cool and breezy day didn’t deter the crew from performing their duties.

Several sites and associated lithic materials, projectile points and ground stone were located and recorded. One wickiup was identified. The public land agencies depend heavily on volunteers to help with these types of projects, so if anyone is interested keep checking the chapter newsletter for offering.

Dry Mesa Survey.
Photo by Bill Harris
Colorado Archaeological Society
Quarterly Board Meeting
April 23rd 2016

Report by Nick Ard

The first quarter meeting was called to order by CAS president Karen Kinnear at History Colorado in downtown Denver. Committee meetings were held in the morning with the official board meeting beginning at 12:30 PM. In addition to the representatives present, three chapters attended via phone conferencing.

Treasurer Preston Niesen reported a current total fund balance of $38,361.

The board confirmed the date of the July meeting as the 23rd in Pueblo. The annual meeting is set for October 7-10 in Grand Junction. Doug Van Etten stated that the keynote speaker will be Steve Lekson from the University of Colorado.

Cynthia Nieb, Deputy Director State Historical Fund, encouraged people to apply for grants from the fund she helps administer and passed out instructions as to how to use their services.

This year’s raffle tickets were distributed to the chapters along with the object of the raffle. At the October meeting, the winner of a 32” tall Raku Art Pot will be drawn. The pot is called “Zebra Sentinel” and was created by artist Jerry Rhodes from Colorado Springs. The value of the pot was estimated to be $900 +. Unlike the raffle offerings from previous years, the style is Japanese Contemporary rather than Native American or Southwestern. Tickets are $3 each or 4 for $10.

During the PAAC report provided by Kevin Black, he announced that he was retiring from PAAC and History Colorado by the end of June. He will be missed and has taught over 500 PAAC courses over the years. Holly Norton, State Archaeologist, announced that the vacancy notice for this position will be posted immediately.

Given the resignation of Bob Dundas from CAS and “The Surveyor”, Carla and John Sanborn from Delta have agreed to publish the next 2 issues. A full time editor replacement is being sought.

During the membership report, it was noted that four chapters are out of compliance with CAS requirements. One of them is Chipeta because we do not have a “student” membership category. I assured the membership that Chipeta Chapter would gladly welcome student members and can deal with category issue. Tom Hoff asked for all chapters to send him a copy of their bylaws. He is concerned that chapters have not updated their bylaws to reflect the changes made at the state meeting last October in Durango.

The internet policy originally proposed at the last quarterly meeting was brought back from “tabled” status and then voted down. Karen announced that a new policy will be formulated by a committee composed of various government agency and tribal representatives as well as CAS staff. A motion to create a Legal Committee was passed. The committee will be appointed by the president and will apparently include people with legal experience as well as people who are not lawyers by profession. The first order of business for the committee will be a mission statement.

Chapters were asked to review their code of ethics to ensure that they are in compliance with the latest CAS standards.
Local Archaeologists’ New Books Published

We are privileged to have a number of excellent archaeological professionals in the GJ-Montrose area, including three who are celebrating the very recent publication of their books. Carol Patterson, Steven Baker, and Curtis Martin, all had books published in the last month or two.

Curtis Martin, research archaeologist for Grand River Institute and Dominguez Archaeological Research Group of Grand Junction, is the Principle Investigator for the Colorado Wikiup Project, which won the 2014 Governor’s Award. His book *Ephemeral Bounty* synthesizes the knowledge gained from the multiyear Wikiup Project, documenting all manner of wooden structures built by the Utes spanning the pre-contact period through the early 20th Century. An important conclusion of the study is that many Utes remained in their ancestral homelands well past the forced removal to reservations in 1881. It was published in April 2016 by the University of Utah Press (www.UofUPress.com).

Steven Baker is known to most of us. He is a member of the Chipeta Chapter and spoke at a club meeting last year about the subject of his long-awaited book *Juan Rivera’s Colorado*, in which he describes and evaluates the routes and contexts of Juan Rivera’s travels from New Mexico up through Colorado. He shares authorship with Rick Hendricks, who translated Rivera’s journals from the Spanish, and Baker’s analysis is made beautifully visible through the illustrations of Gail Carroll Sargent. Baker’s book provides valuable new insights into this early exploratory foray of the Spanish settlement of New Mexico, which provided much-needed intelligence for the subsequent journey of Escalante and Dominguez. Baker is the founder and president of Centuries Research in Montrose. His book finally saw the light in April 2016, published by the Western Reflections Publishing Company, Lake City (www.westernreflectionspublishing.com).

Carol Patterson needs no introduction to the members of the Chipeta Chapter. She is a long-time member, and has served in most every capacity on the chapter board, having contributed especially extensively to attracting excellent speakers to our monthly meetings. She is a cultural anthropologist and archaeologist, and is the principal investigator for Urraca Archaeology, in Montrose. Most of us are aware of her long-time collaboration with Northern Ute elder, Mr. Clifford Duncan, until his death last year. Her new book *Petroglyphs of Western Colorado and the Northern Ute Indian Reservation as interpreted by Clifford Duncan* encapsulates this long collaboration in print. Patterson interweaves the interpretations of Ute Rock Art throughout the ancestral Ute landscape with historical and ethnographic context in order to convey to the reader a deep understanding of the importance of the Ute petroglyphs. It was Duncan’s hope that through understanding would come the protection and preservation of this great body of Ute art and communication. Her book was published in 2016 by the American Philosophical Society (Transactions Volume 105, Part 5—https://amphilsoc.org/publications/current/transactions).
Eight of us made the dash-and-dart field trip that others canceled due to horrendous weather forecasts for the west end. We revisited sites we went to last year with Rand Greubel and Glade Hadden, that some this year had not seen yet.

The “maze” has ring wall features with outer rings of loose laid rock, that I postulate were early warning systems for either game animals being driven up the slope or enemies attacking.

They would come over the wall and the loose rock would rattle and make enough noise to warn occupants of the inner walled structures. Game animals would be ambushed. Enemies would have trouble sneaking over these barriers.

The next site was a revisit of a Wikiup Camp that Rand showed us last year. I relocated a bullnose scraper that I found last year and a nice projectile point.

We spent the evening around Russ’s famous campfires exchanging tales of exploration and triumphs. We mapped out our next day’s hikes.

We tried to drive into the Spring Creek Ranch to access the “fort” site, but got embedded in deep squishy ruts and had to back out. We chose to reroute through Nucla and drove across on drier ground, with a stop at Tabaguache Pueblo and lunch.

Tabaguache Pueblo with the La Sals in the background. The Utes called them the “Elk Mountain” and I see why. They look like the antler rack of an Elk, spread out in both directions.

A dash to the pueblo site and dart back out before these clouds caught us.
On to the “fort” high up on a lone peninsula mesa. We drove down to the Spring Creek ranch without any problems of mud this time. We tried going around to the left this time and found an easier passage up to the top from the cliff base.

Although not everyone wanted to get up that way.

The “fort” is a 6ft walled feature with commanding views in all directions. Today it was highlighted by water pockets on the cap rock.

Perhaps ‘niches’ for religious paraphernalia?

And ‘sipapu’ ?? or modern campfire stone ring. Curiously, it’s not a hearth.
Parting shots by Joe Vinyard:

What a great place the west end is, full of wonder and mystery.
Thanks to all the great cooks and host and field guides for putting on a great campout on the west end this year.

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**Bear Paw Print!**

The La Sals from The Maze pueblo.

**Squint and Juanita Moore Scholarship**

The Scholarship Committee has selected Veronique Torres as the 2016 recipient. This is breaking news, and we will present further information about Veronique on the Chipeta Chapter website as we learn more (www.chipetachaptercas.org).

The scholarship is managed by the Montrose Community Foundation. If you wish to donate, please send your tax deductible donations to the Montrose Community Foundation, PO Box 3020, Montrose, CO 81402.
Chipeta Chapter Summer Picnic!

The Chipeta Chapter summer picnic is scheduled for Wednesday July 20, starting at around 5:00 pm, at the Cerise Park shelter. The chapter will provide charcoal. Bring something to grill, a side dish to share, and something to drink. Also, bring plates, cups, eating utensils, and chairs.

Where is the Cerise Park shelter? From the corner of Townsend (US 550) and Main in Montrose, go westish on Main for several blocks. Cross the railroad tracks, then cross the Uncompahgre River. Climbing the hill from the bridge, turn left (south) onto Chipeta Drive, then left again onto Shanes Way, which ends in a parking lot. Park near the south end of the lot and you’ll see the rather elaborate shelter just south and east of the end of the parking lot.
Chipeta Chapter
Colorado Archaeological Society
P.O. Box 593
Montrose, Colorado 81402

Membership Application

Date: ____________________
Name: _______________________________________________________
Street or RR Address: ___________________________________________
City: ___________________ State: _______ Zip: __________
Telephone: ___________________________________________________
Email: _______________________________________________________
(email required to receive Chipeta & CAS newsletters & field trip info)

Check One:
_____ New
_____ Renewal

Check One: **Annual Dues** (includes state CAS dues)
_____ Family with Southwest Lore* ........................................ $40
_____ Individual with Southwest Lore* ................................... $35
_____ Senior no Southwest Lore ......................................... $25

(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.

Code of Ethics

As a member of the Colorado Archaeological Society, I pledge to:

- Uphold local, state, and federal antiquities laws.
- Respect the property rights of landowners.
- Report vandalism to appropriate authorities.
- Support only scientifically and legally conducted archaeological activities.
- Conduct field and/or laboratory activities using professionally accepted standards.
- Not condone the sale, exchange, or purchase of artifacts obtained from illegal activities.
- Be sensitive to the cultural histories and spiritual practices of groups that are the subject of archaeological investigation.
- Accept the responsibility, if serving as principal investigator, to publish the results and make the collection available for further study.

Signature: __________________________ Other Family Signature: __________

Make checks payable to “Chipeta Chapter CAS” and mail the signed application to:

Dennis DeVore
353 Dakota Circle
Grand Junction, CO 81507
CHIPEETA CHAPTER BOARD MEMBERS

- President: This position is open. Please contact a board member if you are interested in volunteering.
- Vice Pres: Dan Elsner, elsner.dan@gmail.com
- Secretary: Annette Butts, annettebutts63@gmail.com
- Treasurer: Jim Douras, mtncpa@montrose.net
- CAS Rep: Nick Ard, nrard@bresnan.net

STANDING COMMITTEES

- Newsletter: Dave Batten, david.batten@enmu.edu
- Membership: Dennis DeVore, ddv48@mac.com
- BLM Liaison: Bill Harris, trlgpa@skybeam.com
- Library: Linda Manske, cc-manske2@bresnan.net

OTHER COMMITTEES AND POSTS

- Scholarship: Jon Horn / Bill Harris/ Bill Manske, trlgpa@skybeam.com

Program for Avocational Archaeological Certification (PAAC)

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Chipeta Fall Speakers

Our speaker lineup for the fall, not necessarily in order of their appearance:

1. John Pitts: “When Lightning Strikes Twice”—furgulites and Native American rock art
2. Doug Scott: conflict (battlefield) archaeology
3. Mark Mitchell: archeaeology of the high San Juans

Field Trip Committee

George Decker - gdeckercc@gmail.com
Ed Horton - hortoned@gmail.com
Carol Patterson – Urracapro@aol.com
Bill Harris - trlgpa@skybeam.com

For more information on upcoming field trips and to sign up, please contact the Field Trip Leader

All unattributed photos are by the editor.