The Paleontology of Bears Ears National Monument An Overview

Robert Gay is a paleontologist who has spent the last 17 years exploring the rise of the age of dinosaurs across the Colorado Plateau. Much of that work has focused on the Triassic-aged rocks in and around what is now Bears Ears National Monument. In 2016 he helped craft language protecting paleontological resources in the Bears Ears proclamation issued by President Obama. Robert received his undergraduate degree in biology from Northern Arizona University and is finishing his Master’s Degree at the University of Arizona. He currently works as the Education Director for Colorado Canyons Association, a public lands education and stewardship nonprofit in Grand Junction, Colorado.
Site Stewardship, Field Trips, and Other Random Notes
by Bill Harris

On June 16, 2017, the many hours of work and months of waiting culminated with the dedication of the new Ft. Crawford interpretive sign along Highway 550, 8 miles south of Montrose. Chipeta Chapter members, Jon Horn, Russ Barr, Susan Dougherty and Bill Harris along with Matt Landt and Steve Gray, representing the Montrose County Historical Museum, gathered to celebrate the unveiling of the new interpretive sign.

The sign project was a result of the re-alignment of Highway 550 to allow for increased traffic due to the gravel pit, owned by Rocky Mountain Aggregate. The old sign was removed by chapter members, Leigh Ann Hunt, Ed Horton and Bill Harris. It was taken to the Montrose County Historical Museum for safekeeping. It was determined at that time that the sign had deteriorated, and needed to be replaced.

The old sign, itself, has quite a history. It was dedicated on June 5, 1966 by the Colorado Historical Society with support from the Chipeta Chapter. The dedication attracted a crowd of several hundred people according to a newspaper article in the Montrose Daily Press. The sign was constructed at the Colorado State Penitentiary. Over the years the sign had been vandalized, struck by a vehicle, moved once and refurbished a couple of times. It now has a permanent home at the museum. As it turns out the sign is one of many that were placed throughout the state some 45-60 years ago that have a similar look, suggesting they were all made at the state pen. At least 9 of the signs remain standing.

The new Ft. Crawford sign was designed by Susan Dougherty with text provided by Jon Horn. Their research discovered additional information about the fort. Some of that information and photos from the Montrose County Historical Society were included in the new sign. The sign kiosk was designed and built by Jon Horn, Russ Barr and Bill Harris. Russ donated the materials to build the kiosk except for the cedar posts. In Design Signs of Montrose made the sign. Funding for the new sign came from the Montrose County Historical Society (MCHS), State CAS and Rocky Mountain Aggregate.

Thanks to Susan, Jon and Russ for their volunteer time and expertise – the sign is very educational and pleasing to the eye. Thanks to the above donors. A special shout out to Sally Johnson, director of the museum, for allowing the committee access to museum, historical artifacts and photographs from the fort. Thanks to Astrid Liverman, History Colorado, for her research concerning the old sign. Thanks to Zane Luttrell, Rocky Mountain Aggregate, and Devin Drayton, CDOT for their interest in the sign project.

The Squint and Juanita Moore Scholarship

Congratulations to Amanda Campbell, this year’s scholarship recipient!

Created in honor of Chipeta Chapter founding member Carlyle “Squint” Moore and his wife, the scholarship is awarded each year to a deserving high school senior or college student intending to enroll or already enrolled in an Anthropology or Archaeology program. Students can apply online at collegeXpress—and note that the deadline is April 1.

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.
Report on the CAS Quarterly Board Meeting  
July 15, 2017, Dolores, Colorado  
by Nick Ard, CAS Representative

The Annual Meeting this year will be in Denver at History Colorado from Friday, October 27th through Sunday, October 29th. Sunday’s activities will include a field trip to a nearby Mammoth Kill Site. Saturday’s keynote speaker is Dr. Michael Waters from Texas A&M University whose presentation will focus upon “Forming a New Understanding of the Pleistocene People of America”.

The proposal to make Southwestern Lore an online journal was tabled again. An Advocacy Policy, which had been circulated for comment prior to the quarterly meeting, was tabled until after a legal review was completed. A vote by email will occur after August 1st.

Karen Kinnear continues to review proposals for online membership renewal. She is looking at 5 different companies and developing a comparison chart. There is an effort to keep the cost at the CAS level rather than the individual chapters. Plans range from $1500 to $6500 per month. Hopefully, it could be done without a dues increase but that is not assured.

The committee reports included pleas for new members to help read and score Alice Hamilton scholarship applications as well as to handle next year’s raffle. Dave Melanson reported that only three chapters submitted new information with the online reporting form this quarter. The lower response may be due to chapters not focusing on reporting during the summer. The photogrammetry project is progressing at Hisatsinom Chapter.

PAAC sent out a survey asking for member input last quarter and over 100 responses were received. Four classes are being offered this fall to resume the program after nearly a year lull. Southwestern Lore is back on a quarterly schedule. On the other hand, “Colorado Archaeology” is still dead with no articles submitted for publication. In addition, the newsletter is still on hold. Someone is needed to put together the 6 or 7 page document on a regular basis. The website and CAS Archives reported nothing new.

CAS membership stands at 1117. Rosi Dennett, Long Range Planning Committee, is developing a five year plan. She intends to contact chapter presidents for a survey to involve members in planning.

There was an update on the code of ethics. The wording states that CAS members must not disclose “non-public” sites. San Juan chapter asked for a definition of “non-public” sites. This will lead to an update of the bylaws which will require them to be published 30 days before a vote is taken.

Neil Hauser outlined the Projectile Point Project for the CAS board. The project, where Neil is assisted by Chipeta Chapter members in documenting private point collections, was described with the suggestion that other chapters begin a similar program. Neil offered to assist other chapters in setting up their programs.

The CAS board meeting wrapped up with the announcement that there will be three statewide positions to be filled at the Denver meeting. These include President, Recording Secretary and Vice President. An appeal for members to volunteer about 4 hours of time for an audit committee was also made.
From the editor

Kudos to Bill Harris for shepherding the new Ft. Crawford sign project from removal of the old one to design, construction, and installation of the new one. Thanks, Bill!

The Denver chapter of CAS is hosting the annual meeting this year, and they have registration details and a registration form on their website. You can register online this year, and they would like to encourage people to use web registration to streamline the process.

Link to website for annual meeting:
http://cas-denver.org/annual-meeting

Link to registration form:
http://cas-denver.org/annual-meeting/registration-form
Dr. Douglas Owsley Lecture

The San Juan Basin Archaeological Society, in conjunction with the Fort Lewis College (FLC) Anthropology Department and the Lifelong Learning Program, is honored to present a lecture by Dr. Douglas W. Owsley. The lecture, “Forensic Investigation of the 17th Century Chesapeake: Colonial Jamestown and Historic St. Mary’s City,” will be held at the FLC Ballroom on Friday, September 15th at 7:00 p.m., preceded by a reception with light refreshments at 6:30 p.m. Funds collected from ticket sales will support the John W. Sanders Internship Fund to benefit student interns at the Center of Southwest Studies.

Dr. Owsley is the Division Head for Physical Anthropology at the Smithsonian Institution’s National Museum of Natural History, and is considered one of the foremost forensic anthropologists at work today. Owsley is fascinated with the wealth of information that can be recovered by studying the human skeleton – not just the cause of death, but also details about the life of a person. In addition to forensic case work, he conducts extensive research on historic and prehistoric populations from North America. These include the remains of 17th-century colonists, Civil War soldiers, and ancient Americans – such as the nearly 9,000-year-old Kennewick Man.

Highlights of his work at Jamestown and Historic St. Mary’s City were featured in an exhibition at the National Museum of Natural History entitled Written in Bone: Forensic Files of the 17th-Century Chesapeake (2009-2014). Owsley has identified remains from news-making crime scenes, mass disasters, and war zones.

Tickets are available in advance from the FLC desk at the Durango Welcome Center (802 Main Avenue), by calling (970) 247-7657, or online at www.durangoconcerts.com. Advance tickets are $10 plus convenience fees. Fees per ticket are $1 in person, $2 by phone, or $3 if purchased online. If still available, tickets may be purchased at the door starting at 5:30 pm. for $12, cash or check, no credit cards.

For more information, visit sjbas.org.
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: Check One: Annual Dues (includes state CAS dues)
___ New ___ Family with Southwest Lore* ...................... $40
___ Renewal (Family = 2 or more members, same household)
___ Individual with Southwest Lore* ....................... $35
___ Student with Southwest Lore* ...................... $25
___ Senior/Disabled** no Southwest Lore ........... $25

*Southwest Lore is the journal of the Colorado Archaeological Society and is mailed quarterly.

**Senior is any person who is at least 65 years of age; Disabled is any person who is permanently disabled.

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
Program for Avocational Archaeological Certification (PAAC)

A September PAAC course on Colorado Archaeology will be held Sep. 8 (evening), 9, and 10 (all day), at the Montrose BLM offices. Contact Beverly Kolkman for more information and to sign up.

PAAC Contacts

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STANDING COMMITTEES

- Newsletter: Dave Batten, david.batten@enmu.edu
- Membership: Dennis DeVore, ddv48@mac.com
- BLM Liaison: Bill Harris, trlgpa48@gmail.com
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OTHER COMMITTEES AND POSTS

- Scholarship: Jon Horn / Bill Harris/ Bill Manske, trlgpa48@gmail.com
- PAAC: Beverly Kolkman, bk7753@msn.com

CHIPETA CHAPTER WEBSITE

- www.chipetachaptercas.org

Want More?

Archaeology Southwest is a great link to find out about current issues and events relating to Southwest Archaeology.

Field Trip Committee

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Ed Horton - hortoned@gmail.com
Carol Patterson – Urracapro@aol.com
Bill Harris - trlgpa48@gmail.com

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

Masthead photo courtesy of Carol Patterson. All other unattributed photos are by the editor.