The Flocks of Houck: An Investigation of Ancient Turkeys in Northeastern Arizona

This research investigates evidence of *Meleagris gallopavo* (turkey) presence at a series of multicomponent ancestral Pueblo sites in northeastern Arizona. The sites were primarily occupied between AD 800-1250, before and during the transitional period when turkeys became nutritionally significant to some Puebloan communities in the Four Corners region. When the Houck sites were excavated during an interstate highway expansion project in the early 1960s, turkey remains were found in a number of different archaeological contexts, including a Chacoan great house. The dataset consists of legacies field notes, maps, photos, and artifacts curated at the Museum of Northern Arizona.

Blythe Morrison analyzed the archaeological contexts of turkeys through space and time within the Houck community using methods of spatial analysis, faunal skeletal evaluation, and ethnographic review. With this research, she explores the scope of human-avian interactions at a community level during a time of significant cultural change in the ancestral Pueblo world.

Mark Your Calendar

**Sep 5:** Montrose Historical Society monthly meeting with Jason Townsend, “Wood and Townsend and the Underground Railroad.” County Fairgrounds Pioneer Room, 7 pm.

**Sep 10:** GJ Chapter monthly meeting with Mark Varien of Crow Canyon on the Neolithic in the US Southwest. Redlands United Methodist Church, 527 Village Way, ∙ GJ, 6:30 pm.

**Sep 11:** Have some “Cacao with a Ranger.” Stories with a shared beverage. Aztec Ruins National Monument. Learn more from their Facebook page.

**Sep 12:** San Juan Chapter presents Larry Ruiz with his new film: “The Language of Landscapes” Lyceum, Center of Southwest Studies, Fort Lewis College, Durango, 7 pm.

**Sep 15:** Aaron Deter-Wolf on Ötzi, the Ice Man (see below). John W. Sanders Lecture Series, Student Union Ballroom, Fort Lewis College, Durango, 7 pm. Admission charge.

**Sep 19:** Chipeta monthly meeting, with Blythe Morrison speaking on ancestral Puebloan use of turkeys in Northern Arizona (right). United Methodist Church, S 1st and Park, Montrose, 7:00 pm.

**September 21-23:** CAS Annual Meeting. Hisatsinom Chapter hosting. Cortez Elks Lodge, 2100 N Dolores Rd, Cortez.
Our September Speaker

Blythe Morrison (M.A., RPA) has been conducting archaeological fieldwork and research in the Southwest since 2011. She had the honor of being selected as the first Madden Scholar in research archaeology at Northern Arizona University, where she completed her Master of Arts degree in 2018. For her thesis research, she analyzed legacy collections from the Museum of Northern Arizona, examining context of *Meleagris gallopavo* (turkey) presence in an ancient Puebloan community. She currently serves as the NAGPRA Archaeological Collections and Consultation Specialist at the Fort Lewis College Center of Southwest Studies in Durango, Colorado. Some of her additional research interests include indigenous science, domestic and international repatriation efforts, and regional economic systems in the ancient Southwest. (Photo courtesy of Blythe Morrison.)

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Submissions for publication may be emailed to:
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The Squint and Juanita Moore Scholarship
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.

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Report on the 3rd Quarter CAS Meeting
by Nick Ard

The third quarter CAS board meeting was held at The Ute Indian Museum in Montrose on July 7th with Chipeta Chapter and President Neil Hauser hosting the event. Long standing issues such as “Southwestern Lore” and relationships with outside organizations dominated the discussion.

Executive Secretary Karen Kinnear reported on her meeting with BLM Representatives from the Monticello, Utah office regarding future CAS access to SE Utah sites for field trips. CAS will be given a probationary year for site visits. If all is well at the end of the year, the next permit would be for five years. Permits will cost $6.00 per person and no more than 12 at a time will be allowed to go.

It was noted that several CAS committee chairpersons are not actually voting board members. A motion was advanced and passed allowing all committee chairs to vote on issues before the board.

Treasurer Michelle Giometti notified the board that CAS may have to move its account to a new bank since the current bank does not allow electronic transfers.

Neil Hauser presented three different proposals for printing “Southwestern Lore”. SWL printing and distribution consumes the majority of the CAS budget. Holly Norton, State Archaeologist, provided three different proposals for the CAS signature publication as well. Neil also checked with the Arizona society regarding their practice of recording chapter presentations in a library for use by others at any time that is convenient. Neil would like to implement a similar practice in Colorado. Finally, a motion was made and passed to get four publishers to provide estimates for publishing SWL.

The new assistant state archaeologist, Becky Simon, will work with CAS regarding the PAAC program. A request was made for all chapters to have education chairs.

Current memberships number about 780 and represent 1115 actual members.

Hisatsinom Chapter in Cortez will host the annual meeting, September 21 to 23. The keynote speaker will be Regina Lopez-Whiteskunk talking about Indigenous Living Knowledge. Information about the upcoming meeting as well as instructions on accessing a PDF copy of Southwestern Lore can be obtained on the CAS website: Coloradoarchaeology.org. A Storm Pattern Navajo rug woven by Alice Rose Dan will be raffled to support the Alice Hamilton Scholarship program. Tickets can be obtained from Annette Butts (annettebutes63@gmail.com) or Nick Ard (nrard@bresnan.net).

A motion was made and passed to extend access to the online version of “Southwestern Lore” to all members of CAS. A motion was made to allow people to opt out of the written copy. Also, a proposal to split the costs of SWL publication was not approved and all funding will go to the publication as has been the previous practice. Finally, a proposal was made and passed requesting that the Colorado Council of Professional Archaeologists, (CCPA) be asked to fund a couple of issues of SWL each year. Each issue costs approximately $3,500.

Three resignations were announced: Neil Hauser stated that he will not continue as CAS president when his term expires at the end of the year. Rosi Dennett announced she was leaving as Vice President and Long Range Planning Chair. Dave Melanson said he would leave as chair of Science/Advisory by years end.
President’s Corner
by Teri Hauser

Hello Fellow Chipeta Chapter Members!

Summer is winding down. I hope everyone had a chance to get out to enjoy the hills, and take advantage of one of the Chipeta activities!

Many of you may not know that Neil, my husband, has resigned as State CAS President. He has decided to focus on archaeological projects under the banner of our newly formed non-profit company Coal Creek Research (CCR), Inc. Neil and I are doing this together. I will complete the rest of the year as president of the Chipeta Chapter of CAS, but will then step down as well. So, hopefully someone will volunteer to take the helm starting in January!!

Neil and I will continue on as members of the Chipeta Chapter, and will continue to work on various projects. Under CCR we plan on running some surveys and perhaps some excavations as well, and we hope fellow Chipeta members will be interested in joining us! We also are speaking with a former BLM trainer about offering classes to CAS members in keeping with the Para-Archaeologist Program. Neil will continue running the Projectile Point Project, P3, but under CCR. I hope to meet with the new BLM Archaeologist when he or she arrives in Montrose to continue with the Grey Literature Digitizing project, as well as various other projects, under the Chipeta banner.

I look forward to seeing everyone at the next chapter meeting on 19 September!

Red Mountain and Corkscrew Gulch Field Trip

This photo is from our June 21 chapter field trip to Red Mountain and the Corkscrew gulch turntable. Here we listen to our guide, Don Paulson, from the Ouray County Historical Society telling us about the Gustin Depot. (Photo courtesy of Leigh Ann Hunt.)
Contributed by Leigh Ann Hunt, Dennis DeVore, Joe Oglesby, and Ziggy Whitfield

Our final "summer mountain" trip: View the Denver South Park and Pacific RR "unfinished Palisade", a feat similar to the amazing stone railroad grade on the Continental Divide, except this one was never completed when the company lost the race to connect to the coal camps near Crested Butte. We viewed massive stone culverts and other features of the 1880s railroad construction with Leigh Ann Hunt, past Forest Service archaeologist in charge of managing these features. We traveled the scenic Kebler and Ohio pass roads through the Gunnison National Forest.

These pictures were taken near the top of Ohio Pass, a short distance from where the road joins the Kebler Pass road. The stone-built culverts on the next page are interesting features of this railroad grade to nowhere. They were built to divert water under the “balloon curve” as explained on the sign pictured above. Some are covered, as seen in four of the photos, while at least one was never completed.
Look carefully at the section of roadway below, and you can see three stone abutments on the upper side.

Courtesy of Dennis DeVore

Courtesy of Joe Oglesby

Courtesy of Ziggy Whitfield

Courtesy of Joe Oglesby

Courtesy of Joe Oglesby

Courtesy of Joe Oglesby
We had time to stop and visit the famed Ruby Irwin mining era cemetery on Kebler Pass (10,007 ft.).

(Photos courtesy of Ziggy Whitfield.)

In short, we had a great day of history and archaeology, and it was a fine day to be in the mountains.

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From the Editor

I’ve read a few interesting tidbits about archaeology this summer, including a few that seemed rather important, but I can’t really think of any at this writing, except one. I was interested to read that a group of molecular biologists have analyzed the DNA from a little girl’s toe bone found in the Altai Caves of Siberia and determined that she was the daughter of Denisovan and Neanderthal parents. What intrigues me—and taxes my brain the most—is that the analysis of ancient DNA, which really is nothing but statistics, can tell us so precisely that she was just one generation away from the two different species that contributed to her genome.

I would like to use this column this month to call your attention to the Alice Hamilton Scholarship fund-raising raffle, which is held every year. This year, the raffle winner will receive a beautiful Navajo rug woven in the Storm Pattern by Alice Rose Dan (see below). Scholarships have been awarded since 1986 by the Colorado Archaeological Society to honor the memory of Alice Hamilton (1916-1986), an avocational archaeologist and CAS member for 18 years. Annette Butts has raffle tickets and will be selling them at our September meeting. Tickets are $3.00 each or 4 for $10.00. The winner will be drawn at the State CAS Annual Meeting, which will be held in Cortez this year, on September 21-23. You need not be present to win. Some facts:

- The scholarships are open to all Undergraduate and Graduate students currently enrolled in Archaeology (or related fields) in programs in Colorado
- All profits generated by the raffle are paid out each spring to deserving students as scholarships.
- Purchase price of tickets is tax deductible (public charity) under IRS section 509(a)(2).

Finally, I’d like to alert you about a talk down in Durango at Fort Lewis College on September 15 about Ötzi, the Ice Man, and his tattoos (see below). There is an admission fee of $10, but it should be a very interesting presentation.
COLORADO ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

2018 RAFFLE

Proceeds benefit the Alice Hamilton Scholarship Fund

NAVAJO RUG
STORM PATTERN
Alice Rose Dan, Weaver
Measures ~33” x 44”

A well-known Navajo rug style, the Storm pattern appears to have originated at the Crystal Trading Post. It is a very recognizable geometric composition, said by some to be symbolic with individual components representative of the Navajos’ four sacred mountains, lightning bolts,

Valuation up to $1350 based on American Indian Shows, Flagstaff & Yuma AZ original sales tag

Our gratitude to Sue and Dave Sproul (Pikes Peak Chapter) for this generous donation!

For additional info, contact Carla Hendrickson, 719 583 1633, carlahendrickson@gmail.com or www.coloradoarchaeology.org

Raffle ticket prices

$3 each OR 4 for $10
Ötzi and the World’s Oldest Tattoos

by Janice C. Sheftel

“Ötzi, the 5,300-year-old Tyrolean Iceman and the World’s Oldest Tattoos,” will be the topic of the second annual John W. Sanders Lecture by Aaron Deter-Wolf, prehistoric archaeologist, Tennessee Division of Archaeology. Sponsored by the San Juan Basin Archaeological Society (SJBAS), in conjunction with the Fort Lewis College (FLC) Anthropology Department, the lecture will be held at the FLC Student Union Ballroom, on September 15, 2018, at 7:00 p.m., preceded by a cookie reception at 6:30 p.m.

Tickets for the Lecture, at a cost of $10.00 plus convenience fees, are available at the Durango Welcome Center, in person or at (970) 247-7657 or at www.durangoconcerts.com. Tickets, if still available, may be purchased at the door, starting at 6:00 p.m. at a cost of $13. One-half of the ticket price will support the SJBAS Internship and Education Fund, which provides two FLC student internships annually at the Center of Southwest Studies, and scholarships for the FLC summer archaeology field school.

The ice mummy known as “Ötzi,” since his recovery from an Alpine glacier in 1991, has come to represent a triumph of modern scientific analysis. After nearly three decades of research, scientists know more about this 5,300-year old man than perhaps any other ancient human. Studies have examined the tools he carried, the clothes he wore, his health conditions, the ingredients of his last meal, deciphered his complete genome, and even identified the bacteria that inhabited his gastrointestinal tract. Analysis has also shown that Ötzi’s body was adorned with at least 61 tattoos, the oldest preserved examples of this behavior discovered to date.

For the past decade, archaeologist Aaron Deter-Wolf of the Tennessee Division of Archaeology has been studying the archaeological evidence for tattooing. He is co-editor of the new volume, “Ancient Ink: The Archaeology of Tattooing”, has authored multiple book chapters and articles on tattoo archaeology, and in 2016 appeared in a NOVA documentary discussing Ötzi’s tattoos. Join us on September 15th for a program in which Aaron will discuss Ötzi’s life, death, and discovery, and what 5,300-year-old tattoos can tell us about human behavior and the ancient world.

A limited number of books about Ötzi and about the lecture topics of our prior John W. Sanders lecturer, Dr. Douglas Owsley, will be for sale before and after the Ötzi lecture. Payment is to be by cash or check only.

Janice C. Sheftel is the President of the San Juan Basin Archaeological Society. Photo courtesy of SJBAS.
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CHIPETA CHAPTER WEBSITE
- www.chipetachaptercas.org

TO JOIN OR RENEW
- Go to the Chipeta Chapter website and follow the membership links

Program for Avocational Archaeological Certification (PAAC)

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

Chipeta October Speaker
Dr. David Hyde of Western State Colorado University, talking about his work on the Maya of Belize.

Field Trip Committee
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.