The Curious Case of the Invisible Panel – A New Barrier Canyon Style Rock Art Panel in SE Utah

Grand Junction resident and CAS member Dennis DeVore will share his story of discovering a previously unknown rock art panel in the Robbers Roost area of eastern Utah.

The Barrier Canyon Style pictograph is billboard sized — 70 feet long x 15 feet high in places — but has gone undetected by modern visitors because the images are barely visible to the human eye. His presentation will demonstrate how the panel has been given a new lease on life -- recovered and analyzed using modern photo-editing software.

Dennis is a native of Colorado who explores the Four Corners area for rock art as a post-retirement hobby. He graduated from Colorado State University in 1976 with a BS in Economics, followed by a career in real estate appraisal and right-of-way acquisition. He is a longtime member of the Chipeta Chapter of CAS, and a current board member of URARA, the Utah Rock Art Research Association. Dennis and his wife Judi have lived in Grand Junction since 2000.
I hope everyone had a great summer! There will be a couple of changes in October with the meeting being changed to Friday, October 11th (but at the same time and location) because the speaker lined up for that month can only make it on that day.

I will be sending out notices for membership dues that will be due in the next couple of months.

Is there a certain PAAC class that you would like to attend? Please let me know, and I will pass on the information to History Colorado so they could arrange a class in our area.

The State CAS will be having a retreat on Monday October 14th in Pueblo to discuss the future of the State CAS. If you would like to attend that meeting, please let me know and I will pass it on. It will be the day after the 2019 CAS Annual Conference in Pueblo, and you can find more information on the Pueblo Chapter website.

With Fall just around the corner, we will be working on some field trips. I want to thank the trip leaders for all the great trips this year! Just think, we will be planning our Christmas Party soon, so keep a location in mind—or we could just have it at 2Rascals. Please let us know.

Sally
Our quarterly meeting was held on July 27th at Redlands United Methodist Church in Grand Junction. It was announced that San Juan Basin had left CAS as of June 1st. Their membership will be transferred to state unaffiliated when the 501-3C is received.

Pueblo Chapter is hosting the CAS Annual Meeting on October 11th through the 13th. Registration and conference details are available online at the Pueblo Chapter website. A silent auction to benefit the Alice Hamilton Scholarship Fund will be held on Saturday as always, but there will be no raffle this year. However, a raffle prize has been donated for 2020. Phil Williams asked for members to come up with creative ideas for fund raising since $4,000 to $8,000 is awarded every year for the scholarships.

The current CAS membership was reported as 997. This includes 33 from recently departed San Juan chapter. Chipeta is the largest chapter in the state with 165 members.

The afternoon meetings consisted of committee reports. Dave Melanson showed in graph form that the two most popular chapter activities are curation and site stewardship. “Southwestern Lore” and the financial weight it causes for the state continues to be perceived as a problem. Two additional publication cost bids were sought. It was pointed out that the CAS website is out of date and there will not be a “surveyor” sent to membership this quarter. At the suggestion of Karen Kinnear, the legal committee was renamed the Governance Committee to more accurately reflect its mission. Two nominations for the C.T. Hurst award were reported along with one chapter achievement nomination.

The last hour of the Board meeting focused upon the current status of CAS. Volunteers are needed for several positions including recording secretary. Karen brought up the topic that CAS is at a crossroads. One chapter has left and, reportedly, other chapters are considering it. Karen stated the issue as “are we a club, or are we a non-profit agency that serves the state?”

A Columbus Day Retreat was proposed for all the chapters on the Monday Holiday following the annual meeting. The group moved and passed a proposal to ask CCPA to take over half of the support of “Southwestern Lore”. It was stated that CAS has not raised dues since 2003. These issues and the direction of CAS will be discussed at the Retreat. Each chapter is expected to provide two or three attendees in addition to participation in the annual meeting. If no help is received, Karen stated that we have the resources for two years of deficit spending.
SAN JUAN BASIN ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY PRESENTS:

THE PIRATE
BLACKBEARD

The 3rd Annual John W. Sanders Lecture Series to Benefit SJBAS's Education & Internship Fund (Internships for FLC's Center of Southwest Studies)

Blackbeard’s Sunken Prize: Excavation and Analysis of the Pirate’s Flagship, Queen Anne’s Revenge.

Saturday, Sept. 14, @ 7pm Student Union Ballroom at Fort Lewis College

Linda F. Carnes-McNaughton
PhD, RPA Independent Scholar
Co-Author, Blackbeard’s Sunken Prize, The 300-Year Voyage of Queen Anne’s Revenge (UNC Press 2018)

Tickets $10 (plus $3 convenience fee) at the Welcome Center - 802 Main Ave

Tickets $15 at the door if available; Cash or Check only

DOORS OPEN @ 6PM LIGHT REFRESHMENTS AVAILABLE

WWW.SJBAS.ORG

This lecture is one of over 20 “History Live” September events organized by the “Southwest Humanities Roundtable.” See coloradohumanities.org/programs/durango-history-live/
Public Lecture at Fort Lewis College

“Blackbeard’s Sunken Prize: Excavation and Analysis of the Pirate’s Flagship, Queen Anne’s Revenge” will be the topic of the third annual John W. Sanders Lecture, by Linda F. Carnes-McNaughton, Archaeological Curator and co-author of Blackbeard’s Sunken Prize (see above). As part of the month-long History Live presentations and co-sponsored by the San Juan Basin Archaeological Society (SJBAS) and the Fort Lewis College (FLC) Anthropology Department, the lecture will be held at the FLC Student Union Ballroom on Saturday, September 14, 2019, at 7:00 p.m., preceded by a cookie reception at 6:30 p.m.

Dr. Carnes-McNaughton’s lecture will describe, first, a brief historical introduction to Captain Edward Thatch, aka Blackbeard, and what recent research has revealed about the pirate, his family, and his operations. Secondly, the lecture will discuss the discovery and recovery of the shipwreck and archaeological investigations of the Queen Anne’s Revenge site. Her talk will highlight the artifacts recovered so far, their cultural meaning and a brief interpretation of what two decades of work tells us about colonial piracy in general and Blackbeard, specifically.

Tickets for the lecture, at a cost of $10.00 plus $3.00 in convenience fees, are available at the Durango Welcome Center, in person, 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 $15, cash or check only. Five dollars 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 summer FLC archaeology field school scholarships. Free admission will be granted to the first forty high school or college students with proper student identification on the night of the talk.

A limited number of the book Blackbeard’s Sunken Prize and books about SJBAS’s prior lecture topics will be for sale before and after the lecture, cash or check only.

See www.sjbas.org for more information.

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.
From the Editor

You may have heard over the summer about the discovery of a 160,000 year old Denisovan jaw in a cave on the Tibetan plateau. As you probably know, Denisovans are the other human ancestors besides Neandertals that seem to show up in our genetic makeup. Denisovans were, until this discovery, restricted to one cave site in the Altai Mountains of Eastern Russia. Besides its location far away from other known Denisovan specimens, and its elevation at nearly 10,000 feet, the interesting thing about the discovery is that it was not DNA that confirmed the identification of the fossil as Denisovan. They made their positive identification with the help of proteins in some remnant collagen in the teeth. I gather that amino acids are instrumental in laying down the material that becomes bone and teeth in our bodies—in all of our bodies, that is. But, similarly to DNA, there are little variations in the structure of the specific amino acids that may pop up from time to time. In this case, the amino acid variant found in the Tibetan specimen is not found in human collagen, nor in that of Neandertals, but has been found in other known Denisovan specimens.

This technique of identifying and classifying ancient fossils, called paleoproteomics, is groundbreaking. It holds the potential to transform our understanding of the human family tree by making sense of the relationships among the myriad of human and pre-human fossils that have come to light in the last 100 years and more. We have lots of fossils of varying ages, going back to (and beyond) the earliest widely accepted hominin fossils called Australopithecus anamensis, dated to 4.2-3.9 million years ago. These fossils are each unique, and from them, scientists attempt to create a classification into genus and species, and try to fit them into the modern human family tree.

DNA is actually much better for this purpose, but DNA doesn’t endure well enough over those kinds of time spans. DNA survives reasonably well in cold climates, but even there, it is rare to find DNA from fossils older than 100,000 years. The Tibetan specimen did not produce usable DNA. In older and warmer areas like Africa and Southern Eurasia, the DNA is either non-existent, or too degraded to be useful.

This is not an issue, apparently, for proteins, which seem to survive very well, deep in tooth and bone tissue (and especially in tooth enamel, the hardest and most commonly recovered animal material in archaeological and paleontological sites). There is a very real possibility that proteins could be recovered from our 4 million-year-old ancestors, and indeed, they have been extracted from a 2 million-year-old rhinoceros, and from a 3.8 million-year-old ostrich egg, which, you might not be surprised to hear, are not that closely related to us.

As with all new technologies, we don’t know yet whether our great expectations will be borne out, and there may be some errors and inaccuracies in pioneering studies. I question how they can be so confident, given the very small number of Denisovan fossils that exist in the world, that they can make a positive identification. How can they be certain that a particular amino acid doesn’t exist in some other line of ancient humans? Would it be impossible that someday we’d stumble on a Neandertal sample that contains that particular protein? Only time, and considerably more research, will tell. Regardless, it’s a fascinating time for archaeology and paleoanthropology, as biological discoveries and computing power revolutionize the fields.

Warren, Matthew
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:

____ Family (2 or more members same household) ........... $40

____ New

____ Renewal

____ Individual .......................................................... $35

____ Student (Circle if Individual or Family) ......................... $25

____ Senior/Disabled** (Circle if Individual or Family) ........ $25

____ Secondary (Circle one) Individual ($10) or Family ($15)

____ Opt out of printed Southwest Lore

*Southwest Lore is the journal of the Colorado Archaeological Society: print copies are mailed quarterly to all members except seniors, who receive electronic (PDF) copies.

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

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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: ________________________________________________

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Make checks payable to “Colorado Archaeological Society” and mail the signed application to:

Chipeta Chapter
P.O. Box 593, Montrose, CO 81401
CHIPETA CHAPTER BOARD MEMBERS
- **President**: Sally Johnson, sjicas1@gmail.com
- **Vice Pres**: Leigh Ann Hunt, lahunt970@gmail.com
- **Secretary**: Annette Butts, annettebutts63@gmail.com
- **Treasurer**: Jim Douras, mtncpa@gmail.com
- **CAS Rep**: Nick Ard, nrrard@bresnan.net

STANDING COMMITTEES
- **Newsletter**: Dave Batten, david.batten@enmu.edu
- **Membership**: Sally Johnson, sjicas1@gmail.com
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- **Library**: Linda Manske, manske46@gmail.com

OTHER COMMITTEES AND POSTS
- **Scholarship**: Jon Horn / Bill Harris/ Bill Manske, trlgpa48@gmail.com

CHIPETA CHAPTER WEBSITE
- [https://www.chipetachaptercas.org](https://www.chipetachaptercas.org)

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

**Want More?**
[Archaeology Southwest](https://www.archaeologysouthwest.org) is a great link to find out about current issues and events relating to Southwest Archaeology.

**Field Trip Committee**
Leigh Ann Hunt, Joe Oglesby, and George Decker
For more information on upcoming field trips and to sign up, please contact the Field Trip Leader

**Program for Avocational Archaeological Certification (PAAC)**
PAAC Coordinator: Sally Johnson
sjicas1@gmail.com

**PAAC Contacts**
Rebecca Simon
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PAAC Coordinator
303-866-4671

**Chipeta October Speaker**
Nadia Neff, of the University of New Mexico, speaking on "Ancient Biomolecules: Applications within Archaeology."

The meeting will be held on Friday, October 11, instead of the usual meeting time.

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