




The Uncompahgre Journal

May 2021 CHIPETA CHAPTER OF THE COLORADO ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY Volume 38 Issue 5



President's Corner

by Sally Johnson

Photo by Sally Johnson

I want to thank Dave Upchurch for the update on the PAAC classes. We have four Chipeta members doing the classes this time around. I will say that I prefer the zoom classroom to sitting for a long weekend in a one-room class. As class members, we still chat, but the downside is that there is no hands-on work. These classes are a great review and informative to the layperson. I personally will be looking at sites from a different viewpoint after these classes.

On a different note, the annual meeting seems to be going along as the State guidelines have laid out for the hosting chapter. Most of the work will be in August and September. At that time I will be asking for more and more help. At the present, I do have an inquiry. Does any of you have a friend that has

a winery in the area that would be willing to do a tasting for our social hour on Friday, October 8th at the Ute Museum? Please let me know, I think it would be great to showcase local wines.

Membership reminders: If you write a check it takes several steps before cashed, about a month. If you have renewed online after a year of absence, it will take a while for the state CAS to notify me that you have renewed. The state sends out a list at the beginning of each month from the previous month's membership updates. Then I go through the steps to make sure I have the current email per membership. Then you will receive updates. If you would like to speed up the process, you can drop me an email and I can view your updated membership status online. Remember you must be a current member to sign up for field trips.

We are hoping to meet in person as a board next month to start planning for the fall. Leigh Ann and George have started planning trips again. If you have been to a site and would like to lead a trip, please contact her.

The State sent out a survey about whether you wish to receive Southwest Lore as a printed copy or as a PDF (electronic copy). I hope you received the survey and I encourage you to answer it promptly.

On a sad note, we just lost a valuable long-time member of Chipeta, Monte Sanburg, who was a notable historian and a wealth of information. I want to thank Steve Baker for the great article on Monte that you will find in this newsletter.



Chipeta Field Trips

There are a few spots left for the Paradox trip on May 15 and 16th, which is a campout at the Uravan ball field campground. Paradox rock art will be one of the days and The Maze fort site and a rock art site in Big Gypsum valley will be the other tour. Glade Hadden and Leigh Ann are trip leaders. Contact Leigh Ann Hunt if interested at lahunt970@gmail.com.

If there is enough interest, George Decker will take another trip to see wild horses later this year. It will also include some great scenery and some "grooved" rocks.



From a recent Chipeta trip to the Roatcap panel in 2021.

From a Chipeta trip to a wild horse area in 2020.



Photos courtesy of George Decker

Monte Sanburg Over the Great Divide

by Steven G. Baker

On Monday, April 12th, Monte Joe Sanburg (1932-2021) jumped the Westbound No. 88 and crossed over to the far side of the Great Divide following a sudden and mercifully brief decline. Monte was a diligent leader of the Chipeta Chapter and CAS for a great many years (President of the Chapter and State group) as well as a founder of the Montrose County Historical Society and its museum. Monte was an avid avocational archaeologist who worked with Bill Buckles, Bob Lister, and Will Husted in the Ute Prehistory Project of the 1960s and ultimately as an archaeological technician with me at Centuries Research for nearly 20 years. Although many who were associated with Monte via CAS have gone on to their rewards, there are certainly some still around who will remember him and recall how he, virtually alone, carried the Chipeta Chapter through hard times and helped it to survive and become the vital group it now is. Monte was awarded the Hagar award by CAS in 2008 for his long service to the organization.

Before any professional archaeologists settled in Montrose, Monte was long known as “Mr. Archaeology” in the local area. Any archaeologist with any experience in the Montrose region of western Colorado or the Chipeta Chapter should know Monte or at least know of his role in regional research. A fourth generation Montrose country boy he had a deep appreciation for local history and archaeology. He was a stalwart and personable member of the greater Montrose community well known to many old locals who shall mourn his passing. Monte managed the local City Market for many years and then went to work with me at Centuries Research, Inc.

Monte leaves behind Shirley (Schiebler) Sanburg, his wife of 68 years, children Randy Sanburg (Myrna), Darlynn Powers (Dave), and Verlee Sanburg (Julie Lowther) and far too many grands and great grands to even begin counting.

Although truly a bit of an old western slope “sage brush rebel,” Monte was essentially non-political and always a hesitant self-promoter. If there was ever a political squabble he would usually hang back and let the contestants duke it out. That all started when as a young man his brothers were fist fighting in the night out in the yard—seemingly because one told the other that his date “had not been the most beautiful in town”—his dad told Monte to hold the lantern and let them fight. That is what he commonly did, simply hold the lantern unless the subject shifted to some-



Monte Sanburg excavating at the Sandshadow Site with Centuries Research, Inc. near Rangely in 1991(courtesy Centuries Research).

thing he was passionate about and then he could really dig his heels in!

Over the nearly 50 years that I knew him, one could not ask for a better and more loyal friend. He will be sorely missed by his family, many friends, the Baker family—to whose children he was a surrogate grandfather—and any others who truly knew him. He was simply the kind of man that does not appear all that often anymore in this modern age!

For further reading:

Baker, Steven G.

2008 “Monte Sanburg Receives CAS Ivor Hagar Award: An Antemortem Obituary.” *Southwestern Lore*, 74 (3 & 4):22-35. (This was a bit of a “roast,” which readers might find amusing and I had a load of fun writing! SGB)

Montrose Daily Press, Wednesday, April 21, 2021. Obituary, also available on website for Crippen Funeral Home, Montrose.



Colorado Archaeology Society Quarterly Board Meeting April 17th 2021

by Nick Ard

The spring quarterly CAS meeting was held with approximately 25 participants via Zoom.

Sally Johnson informed the board that the annual meeting on October 8-9, will be hosted by Chipeta Chapter. The program is coming together with speakers signing up, a venue and a caterer selected. Eight lectures have been confirmed with some of the talks perhaps being virtual. Field trips are being planned with some in person tours to be hosted by Sally Johnson and virtual tours to be developed by Dave Melanson.

Sally Johnson was supportive of having a social meeting outreach in conjunction with the annual meeting. Dave Melanson wants to engage the membership and the public in the meeting as much as possible. There was a suggestion that the annual meeting needed its own Facebook page.

The president, Linda Sand, stated that all reports for agenda items at CAS meetings needed to be in PDF format and not changed after a report is submitted. Bev Goering reported that CAS currently has 649 memberships and a total of 914 members, an increase of 14 since the last report.

The Alice Hamilton Committee has decided to award two graduate scholarships and four to undergraduates. Linda Sand stated that Covid vaccination completion should be required for Field Trips.

Committee reports were minimal since the pandemic has curtailed a lot of statewide activities. A motion to approve the charter of the governance committee was passed. The July meeting will be hosted by Hitsatsinom Chapter with the format yet to be determined. Future Annual Meetings will include 2022 hosted by Northern Colorado with Rock Art and 2023 to be hosted by Pikes Peak Chapter.

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.

The Uncompahgre Journal
Published 9 times annually
by the
Chipeta Chapter
of the
Colorado Archaeological Society.

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may be emailed to:
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When I started graduate school, I was a bit surprised to see a two-semester required course called “Theory and Method in Archaeology.” Interesting, I thought. As a carpenter in my mid-thirties who had been taking archaeology undergrad courses for a couple of years and who had participated in a number of small digs, I thought I pretty much knew what archaeology was about. But theory and method? Method made sense, but I thought you ought to be able to cover it in a couple of days at most. You dig 1-meter squares, and you go down 10 centimeters at a time, and you measure the location in three dimensions of every cultural item you find. You screen all the dirt you take out of the square, so you don’t miss the small stuff. What’s the big deal? It probably took me till about halfway through the first semester before I began to get a glimmer of understanding.

The theory comes in when you try to make the big jump from discovering artifacts and their spatial relationships to saying something meaningful about the people who made and used the artifacts, features, and structures. As an example of the difficulties in doing this, imagine you have just excavated a site with cultural remains estimated to be three to five thousand years old (dating is a whole other can of worms). If you’re working in the Americas, you might consult ethnographic reports of the lifeways of Native Americans. You might use analogy to weave a nice story about how the ancient people managed their seasonal rounds, procuring plant and animal foods and moving with the seasons, based on the way indigenous North Americans of the 19th and 20th centuries were reported to have lived. But to do that would be to make the almost certainly erroneous assumption that native societies had remained unchanged for three thousand years or more. That is very unlikely.

There are no universally accepted approaches to theory. There are rather mechanistic explanations that relate aspects of behavior to environments, and at the other end of a continuum, there are explanations that rely entirely on ideology—that world views and ways of thinking define and determine the nature of the society. I and many others think that it’s productive to draw from a number of viewpoints across this spectrum to explain different aspects of a social system, and no particular approach is sufficient by itself to explain everything.

But let’s go back a bit. In order to say anything about the people and how they lived and organized their society, we have to first establish a more basic level of theory: one that relates the artifacts in the ground to each other and to a particular time. And this goes back to the 1-meter holes that go down in 10 cm increments. Archaeologists speak of cultural processes that result in things being manufactured or captured/eaten and then disposed of or lost, and of the natural processes that act on these things between the time of use and their recovery by archaeologists. For the natural processes, we get to fall back on geological theory, at least to start. Here are two important ideas that we rely on from geology: the uniformitarian principle and the stratigraphic principle.

The first says that the natural processes that we see operating today have operated the same way in the past and in other places. For example, the erosion and deposition that we can observe taking place during flooding events are the same processes that shaped the world that we see around us. The second principle, which follows from the first, simply says that in most cases, as we dig deeper, we are digging into increasingly older strata. These are pretty simple concepts. They are unfortunately not universally accepted in our modern world, but they form the foundation for archaeological inquiry. Theory isn’t all that simple, after all. Next month, I’ll tackle the ideas about how objects are affected by people and the elements after discard: we call this taphonomy.



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 Chapter newsletters & field trip info)

Check One:

☐ New

☐ Renewal

Annual Dues* (includes state CAS dues): Check one

☐ Family (2 or more members same household)\$40

☐ Individual\$35

☐ Student (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, and a .pdf is posted to Member365 for download.

Photos by Dennis DeVore



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 "Colorado Archaeological Society" and mail the signed application to:

Chipeta Chapter
P.O. Box 593, Montrose, CO 81402

CHIPETA CHAPTER BOARD MEMBERS

- **President:** Sally Johnson, sjcas1@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, nrard@bresnan.net

STANDING COMMITTEES

- **Newsletter:** Dave Batten, david.batten@enmu.edu
- **Membership:** Sally Johnson, sjcas1@gmail.com
- **Site Steward Coordinator (acting):** Leigh Ann Hunt, lahunt970@gmail.com
- **Library:** Linda Manske, manske46@gmail.com

OTHER COMMITTEES AND POSTS

- **Scholarship:** Jon Horn / Bill Harris / Fred Henderson, trlgpa48@gmail.com

CHIPETA CHAPTER WEBSITE

- <https://www.chipetachaptercas.org>

TO JOIN OR RENEW:

- Go to the Chipeta Chapter website and follow the membership links.

Program for Avocational Archaeological Certification (PAAC)

PAAC Contacts

Rebecca Simon

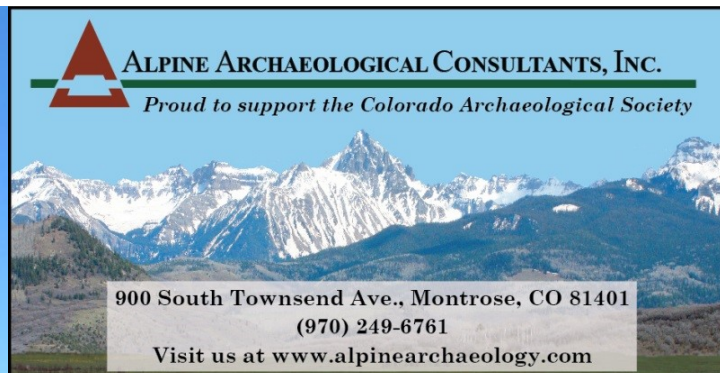
rebecca.simon@state.co.us
Assistant State Archaeologist/
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Dave Upchurch

PAAC Coordinator
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Want More?

Archaeology Southwest 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

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