

# The Uncompahgre Journal



CHIPETA CHAPTER  
COLORADO ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

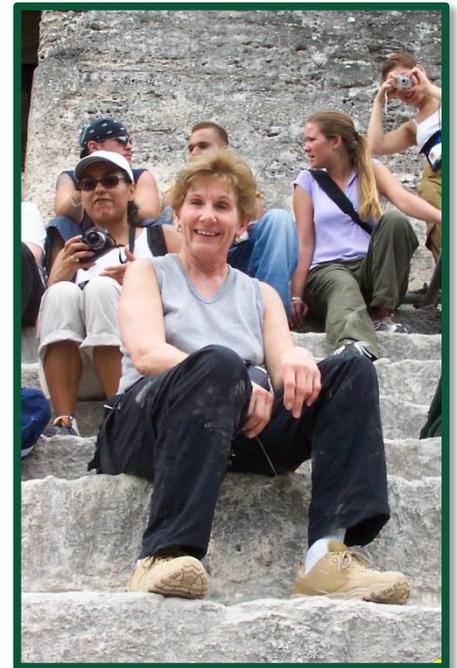
APRIL 2011  
VOLUME 28, NO. 4

## Monthly Meeting

**Wednesday, April 27, 2011, at 7:00 p.m., Baldrige Hall,  
Montrose United Methodist Church, South 1<sup>st</sup> St. and Park  
Avenue.**

**Program:** "THE POWER BEHIND THE THRONE: MAYA WOMEN AND  
WARFARE" by Barbara Hughes

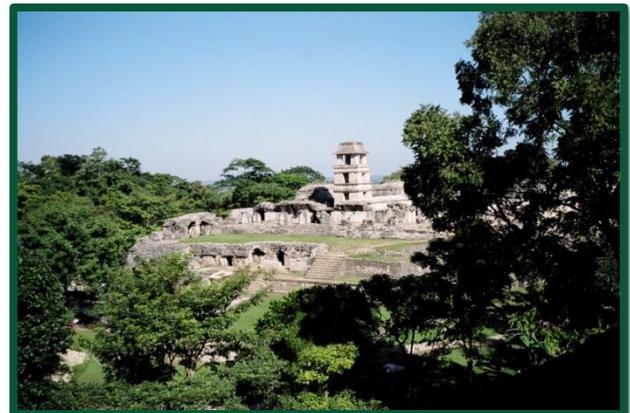
This talk will look at the role of Maya women in warfare. It is generally acknowledged that Maya lords were the primary protagonists in battles with other polities. But what of the women? What role, if any, did they play in battle? By examining various inscriptions and architectural features at Maya sites in the Petén, we will discover that were it not for the royal women, Maya lords may not have been adequately prepared for battle. The women's intervention with the deities was necessary for battlefield victory and completed the post-battle celebrations. I believe you will agree that Maya royal women were frequently more than passive participants in territorial battles; they were, in fact, the power behind the throne.



Barbara Hughes began her career as a cultural anthropologist. She is now focused on Maya archaeology. She has done field work at the Maya site of Blue Creek in northern Belize. She has visited the Maya sites in Belize, Mexico, Honduras and Guatemala including Tikal, Palenque, Copan, Quirigua, Chichen Itza, Uxmal, Xunantunich and others. Her conference presentations on Maya archaeology include papers at the Chac Mool Archaeological Conference in Calgary, Canada and most recently at Maya @ Playa in Palm Coast, Florida. Her related publications include papers on classic period Maya gender issues and her work at Blue Creek.

Barb currently manages the Behavioral Science Program at Metropolitan State College of Denver where she also teaches classes in cultural anthropology, anthropological theory and ancient American civilizations. Other conference presentations and publications relate to American Indian cultural preservation and applied anthropological ethics.

Following the talk, Barbara will show some slides from her travels to various Maya sites in Mesoamerica.



# MARCH PROGRAM REPORT

“Rock art of southern Africa” presented by John Pitts

Be still! You are a Bushman of the Kalahari. You press your ear against a long, thin pole shoved down a rodent burrow. Listen... Wait... There! You jerk the pole, hook your prey and draw it up. The others of your hunting party have taken down a young eland with small, poison-tipped arrows. But you could not run with them; you are still bent over in pain from your recent initiation ritual. Ancestral spirits console you.



At the March 17, 2011 program of Chipeta Chapter, speaker John Pitts of Santa Fe used narrative and photography to bring to life the world of the Bushmen of southern Africa. His brilliant photography mingles rock art images with the phenomenal geology and wildlife of southern Africa. Chipeta members and guests were enthralled as Pitts investigated rock art sites of Botswana, Namibia and South Africa. He managed to capture rare photographs of a Bushman hunting party and a traditional Bushman trance dance. “I have many goals when I travel,” explained Pitts, recently retired from a 30-year career in Foreign Service.

In African rock art, pictographs of red ochre are the most common, with some white and black pigments also used. Many species of wild animals are accurately represented in 3-D realism: giraffe, eland, rhino, ostrich, zebra, lion, monkey, and elephant. The age of the sites is not known, although some images depict now-extinct animals. One Bushman panel depicts running and leaping human figures with elands. Another panel shows a dying eland with drooping head and crossed legs. Some images portray man transforming into animal. Some panels depict tall, slender male dancers with artistic dynamism and realistic detail. Modern Bushmen have interpreted some of the rock art as showing a symbolic battle between the shaman of good and the shaman of evil.

John Pitts observed the Bushman trance dance that is sometimes depicted in their rock art. The men sway and shuffle by firelight until overcome by exhaustion, while the women wail and use wooden clappers. The age-old dance restores harmony, healing, and good luck for hunters.

The complex “White Lady” rock art panel is considered the most famous pictograph in Africa, said Pitts. He compared its artistic style to a 3500-year-old painting from the royal palace of Crete, “Bull-jumping Women.”

John Pitts’ presentation was arranged by Chuck Richey and Tricia Winslow, who are Chipeta Chapter’s program co-coordinators. Thanks to each of you and especially John Pitts for this unforgettable expedition to southern Africa.  
*Laurie Labak*

Laurie adds this report from the Denver Post, March 8, 2011, National Academy of Science. A genetic analysis suggests that modern humans originated in southern Africa about 60,000 years ago. Bushmen hunter-gatherers of the Kalahari Desert who speak one of the Khoisan languages with clicking consonants – have the greatest genetic diversity in their DNA of any people in the world. High genetic diversity is generally accepted as a mark of early origins of a population.

**BUSINESS SPONSOR:** We greatly appreciate the interest in and support for the Chipeta Chapter from:

**Alpine Archaeological Consultants, Inc.**

~~providing professional archaeological assistance and consulting~~

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**Phone:** (970) 249-6761

**E-mail:** [alpine@alpinearchaeology.com](mailto:alpine@alpinearchaeology.com)

## PRESIDENTS CORNER

April 2011

This spring welcomes renewed interest in finding more Ute rock art maps. Also, our site steward training is taking place April 9<sup>th</sup> with Glade Hadden, at the BLM. Site stewards are encouraged to take the training and check their sites for vandalism throughout the season. For Archaeology Appreciation during the month of May, we have been invited by the Ute Indian Museum to display photographs of archaeological sites that are unique and draw our members together to learn about and understand our cultural past. Rock art sites are visually appealing, so members please submit your photos to the Executive Board for this special exhibit.

You are invited to submit photographs of your favorite cultural sites, rock art panels, fieldtrip adventures or whatever, to the Executive Board for review and possible display at the Ute Indian Museum over Memorial Day weekend. If you submit your photos on a jump drive (thumb drive) or CD with JPEG files, I will print them out and mount them for display. ~~~Carol Patterson

## PAAC PROGRAM CLASSES

By Connee Moffatt

Due to travel budget constraints the PAAC program will for this fall will be reduce to the following suggested four locations and classes:

- Cortez: *Research Design & Report Writing*
- Denver: *Introduction to Laboratory Techniques* followed by the lab training at Lowry in December-January
- Glenwood Springs: *Archaeological Dating Methods*
- Pueblo: *Principles of Archaeological Excavation*

Also note that we have revised our web site, so the URL for PAAC has changed to

<http://www.historycolorado.org/oahp/program-avocational-archaeological-certification-paac>.

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY ANNOUNCEMENT

University of Wyoming, Department of Anthropology, **Paleo-Indian Research Lab**, has announced the following:

### **2011 FIELD WORK DATES**

June 4-13 Hell Gap

June 14-17 Break

June 18-27 Hell Gap (**WAS Summer meeting and Atlatl throw; June 17-19**)

June 28-July1 Break

July 2-11 Hell Gap

July12-15 Break

July 16-25 Last Canyon

**Hell Gap.** Principal Investigators and collaborators (Marcel Kornfeld, Mary Lou Larson, George Frison and Vance Haynes) The 2011 field work dates have been set, so begin to plan your summer! We will be starting at the Hell Gap Site, where we will continue excavation of the Middle Paleo-Indian Cody component. The Advanced Archaeological Field School will be running concurrently with the excavation. For those of you interested in the field school please see the web site for our course or contact the instructors Mary Lou Larson – [mlarson@uwyo.edu](mailto:mlarson@uwyo.edu) or Marcel Kornfeld - [anpro1@uwyo.edu](mailto:anpro1@uwyo.edu)

*Continued on page 4*

**Last Canyon Cave.** Principal investigators and collaborators (Marcel Kornfeld, Mary Lou Larson, Judson Finley, Thomas Minckley, Mark Clementz)

Following Hell Gap the field camp will move to northern Wyoming to continue investigations of Last Canyon Cave in the Pryor Mountains of south-central Montana. The small rockshelter is yielding a 40,000 year old paleoclimatic record in the form of fauna, pollen, phytoliths, various stable isotopes, grit ingested by animals, and other forms of proxy data bearing information on the paleoenvironmental conditions just prior to and confronted by the earliest Americans. Last Canyon will thus complement other sites in the region, such as the rich fauna from Natural Trap Cave with other types of Late Pleistocene records.

**HistoriCorps Opportunity**

HistoriCorps has opportunities for PAAC volunteers to get involved in a project. This year, from May through August, we will be working on several historic preservation and restoration projects.

I would love if the Chipeta PAAC would be interested in working with us at any point this season. I have learned a lot about your formal training, and believe that your volunteers would be a real asset to our projects; as well, we hope that our projects will provide your volunteers with some fantastic field time.

We have several other projects coming up across Colorado, and some in Wyoming. They vary in length; from 2-7 days. Food is provided for volunteers, and campsites are always nearby. We try to make these experiences exciting and enjoyable.

Please let me know if you would be interested in helping me round up some PAAC volunteers. Or, if you could, let me know of anyone else in the area who may be interested in this opportunity. Anjolie Rao, HistoriCorps Volunteer Recruitment Coordinator 303-715-1010, ext. 131 <http://www.voc.org/> <http://www.volunteeroutdoors.net/>

<b>2010 CHAPTER OFFICERS AND BOARD MEMBERS</b>			
<b>President</b>	Carol Patterson 252-8679	<b>Vice President/Programs</b>	Chuck Richey 249-1751
<b>Secretary</b>	Marcia Coman 249-3479	<b>Treasurer</b>	Linda Manske 209-6232
<b>CAS Representative</b>	Beverly Kolkman 835-4109	<b>Appointed Members</b>	Ed Horton
<b>Standing Committees (Per By-Laws)</b>			
<b>Field Trips</b>	Ed Horton 874-5142, Chuck Richey	<b>Publicity</b>	Trish Winslow
<b>Newsletter</b>	Carla & John Sanborn 874-8586	<b>Nominating</b>	(Appointed in the fall)
<b>Library</b>	Linda Manske, 209-6232	<b>Professional Advisor</b>	VACANT
<b>Other committees and posts</b>			
<b>Refreshments</b>	Trish Winslow	<b>Scholarship</b>	Hal Manhart, 249-2017; Jon Horn, Bill Harris
<b>Membership/Hospitality</b>	Bill & Linda Manske, 209-6232	<b>PAAC</b>	Connee Moffatt 243-8066

**\*Membership Renewal Alert\*\***

A gentle reminder, the following membership renewals are due or overdue. Please contact Linda Manske, chapter treasurer, at 209-6232, if you have any questions or corrections.

Rich & Carol Fike	Forest Frost & Karen Archey	Glade Hadden
Mary K Dobbs	Leigh Ann Hunt	Amy Schilling
Dick & Andi Furman	Patricia Jablonsky & Bill Yett	Jules & Sandy Minter
Stephen Slade	John Slay	Sky Baldwin & Bill Johnstone
Jim & Vicki Douras	Dick Drake & Fran LeBlanc	Jon & Sonja Horn
Randall Johnson	Iraida Rodriguez	Jan Smeltzer
	David Pitts	

## Membership /Renewal Form

Chipeta Chapter of the Colorado Archaeological Society

**Payment of dues is considered affirmation of consent to abide by the Code of Ethics of CAS.**

Date:\_\_\_\_\_.

Name(s):\_\_\_\_\_

Address:\_\_\_\_\_ City:\_\_\_\_\_ State:\_\_\_\_\_

Zip:\_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Phone:\_\_\_\_\_ E-mail:\_\_\_\_\_

*( Used only by Chipeta & CAS)*

\_\_\_\_Renewal \_\_\_\_New Member Are you a member of another CAS chapter? Yes\_\_\_\_ No\_\_\_\_  
Annual dues include membership in Colorado Archaeological Society (CAS).

\_\_\_\_Individual\* ( \$23)                      \_\_\_\_Family\* ( \$30)                      \*Receives Southwestern Lore, the CAS journal  
\_\_\_\_Individual--No SW Lore ( \$15)                      \_\_\_\_Family--No SW Lore ( \$20)

\_\_\_\_Supporting Contribution - Amount\_\_\_\_\_

I want to receive the Chipeta monthly newsletter via: \_\_\_\_Email or \_\_\_\_US Mail  
I want to receive The Surveyor, the state newsletter via: \_\_\_\_Email or \_\_\_\_US Mail

Contact information about our members is never disclosed unless approved in advance by members.

I(We) give CAS permission to :

- Yes\_\_\_\_No\_\_\_\_ disclose my/our phone number(s) to other CAS members
- Yes\_\_\_\_No\_\_\_\_ publish my/our name(s)/contact information in a chapter directory
- Yes\_\_\_\_No\_\_\_\_ publish my/our name(s) in a newsletters (which may be sent to other chapters, etc.)

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

- To uphold state and federal antiquities laws.
- To support policies and educational programs designed to protect our cultural heritage and our state's antiquities.
- To encourage protection and discourage exploitation of archaeological resources.
- To encourage the study and recording of Colorado's archaeology and cultural history.
- To take an active part by participating in field and laboratory work for the purpose of developing new and significant information about the past.
- To respect the property rights of landowners.
- To assist whenever possible in locating, mapping, and recording archaeological sites within Colorado, using State Site Survey Forms.
- To respect the dignity of peoples whose cultural histories and spiritual practices are the subject of any investigation.
- To support only scientifically conducted activities and never participate in conduct involving dishonesty, deceit, or misrepresentation about archaeological matters.
- To report vandalism.
- To remember that cultural resources are non-renewable and do not belong to you or me, but are ours to respect, to study, and to enjoy.

Signature:\_\_\_\_\_ Signature:\_\_\_\_\_

**Mail this page, with signature(s) to:** Chipeta Chapter of CAS,  
P.O. Box 593  
Montrose, CO 81402

Chipeta Chapter  
Colorado Archaeological Society  
P.O. Box 593  
Montrose, CO 81402



*Please recycle*

**Chaco Digital Archive  
Demonstrates Best Practices in  
Open Access Archaeology**

How can we effectively convey information on the process of the excavation, the importance of theory and method, and the way in which general historical trends are interpreted from specific artifacts? It is time to open our field notebooks and laptops, and make it accessible online. There are a number of examples of this occurring but two famous sites in particular have recently opened their archaeological doors: Chaco Canyon and Chichen Itza.

<http://www.pasthorizons.com/index.php/archives/03/2011/open-access-archaeology>

**Backcountry Hikes in Mesa Verde  
Offered by the Mesa Verde  
Institute**

Home to Mesa Verde National Park, Hovenweep National Monument and Canyons of the Ancients National Monument, this area of southwest Colorado is well-established as one of America's greatest archaeological treasures – with plenty of adventure in hikes, walks and exploration of sites up to 1,000 years old. This summer, for visitors seeking even greater adventure, the Mesa Verde Institute will open five new hikes to backcountry archaeological sites in Mesa Verde National Park that are not normally open to the public. All require advance registration and careful review of the conditions and terrain to ensure ability to complete the trips. Trails are at 7,000 feet, uneven and unpaved, and most include steps and ladders. Many traverse narrow paths along cliff edges and move through tight passages. <http://www.prweb.com/releases/mesa-verde-country/colorado-hiking-outdoor/prweb8231849.htm>