

The Uncompahgre Journal



CHIPETA CHAPTER
COLORADO ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

MAY 2011
VOLUME 28, NO. 5



Monthly Meeting

Wednesday, May 18, 2011, at 7:00 p.m., Baldrige Hall, Montrose United Methodist Church, South 1st St. and Park Avenue.

Program: Folsom-age Structures presented by Dr. Mark Stiger

Folsom-age structures atop “W Mountain” outside Gunnison are the topic of Dr. Mark Stiger’s presentation May 18. Excavations by Western State College and Southern Methodist University during the last eight years have revealed contemporaneous Folsom houses that show a longer-term occupation and a more complex community structure than are usually attributed to Folsom peoples. To demonstrate this contemporaneity and complexity, Mark will present the results of refitting studies and comparison of artifact assemblages.



Since 1989, Mark has been a Professor of Anthropology and Archaeology at Western State, and is holder of the Moncrief Chair in Anthropology. His degrees were earned at University of Colorado and University of New Mexico. He has worked on the Western Slope for over 35 years, including at the Dolores Archaeological Program in the Four Corners, with special interest in pre-farming cultures in the Gunnison Basin. He is the author of *Hunter-Gatherer Archaeology of the Colorado High Country* (University of Colorado Press), and is a recipient of the Hart Award for Historic Preservation, Colorado Historical Society.



APRIL PROGRAM REPORT

“The Power Behind The Throne: Maya Women and Warfare” by Barbara Hughes

At the April 27 2011 Chipeta Chapter meeting, program presenter Barbara Hughes shared this saying: “Jump and the net will appear.” Some years ago, Barbara jumped. She went back to school, replacing business suits with anthropologists’ dusty jeans and t-shirts. Barbara has visited and studied Mayan sites in Mexico, Belize, Honduras and Guatemala. She has presented conference papers in the US and Canada. She currently teaches at Metro State. Her program drew a large crowd eager to learn about her investigations into the role of Mayan women in warfare.

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Barbara focused on classic period Maya women of the royal elite class, spanning a time from about 30 BC to AD 700. Her research builds on the previous work of other Maya scholars, including Michael D. Coe, Carolyn Tate and Annabeth Headrick.

Barbara explained that Mayan cities scattered throughout Mesoamerica were interconnected by trade, inter-marriage, and battle. From the north and west, Teotihuacan culture influenced the Mayans. An example is the Teotihuacan butterfly image that links to warfare. Some butterfly images have the goggle-eyes of Tlaloc, god of rain and storms. (Remember Tlaloc in Craig Childs' *House of Rain*?) The butterfly wings are warrior shields, and the antenna a warrior's atlatl.

Mayan culture is patrilineal. Men are the rulers and warriors, while women have supporting roles. Yet there are some examples in Mayan glyphs of powerful women who are either regents or blood line rulers. More than a dozen royal women have been identified in Mayan glyphs. Some are depicted in diamond-patterned "net skirts," a distinctive dress worn during rituals that commemorate the end of a time-period.

"Ritual practices normalized warfare and made it a socially acceptable means to achieve and maintain power," said Barbara. As an analogy, Barbara described the all-consuming fervor of American small town football, with its pep rallies, games, and victory parties. Likewise, in Mayan society every able body participated in pre-and post-battle rituals.

Before each battle, some women of the elite class had a gruesome duty to fulfill. Mayan glyphs portray a procedure in which a thick rope is passed through a woman's tongue as gushing blood collects in a pottery vessel. The blood is necessary to implore the deities for battlefield victory. Some glyphs show women transferring battle gear to warrior husbands. After battle, the women perform in a battlefield re-enactment, ritually killing a captive prisoner. All pre-and post-battle rituals were elaborate public performances before the entire community. In this way, women served a key component of Mayan warfare, explained Barbara, restoring balance to their city and the world. Mayan women were more than back row spectators or prancing cheerleaders. Their rituals made them, Barbara said, "the power behind the throne."

After the main presentation, Barbara shared photos of many of the Mayan sites she has visited. There were grey-stoned, stepped temples reaching to the gods of the sky. There were astronomical observatories. There were grassy, high-walled ball courts, a staircase of hieroglyphics, architectural stone masks, and giant, inscribed riverstones. Some audience members were sorely tempted to stowaway on her next field trip, or sneak into her anthropology classes at Metro State.

Through the efforts of Chipeta President, Dr. Carol Patterson, our chapter has sponsored many fine programs on Inca, Aztec and Maya archaeology. Chipeta extends a big Thank You to program presenter Barbara Hughes, and to Dr. Patterson, and to Chipeta Chapter Program Coordinators Tricia Winslow and Chuck Richey. ~Laurie Labak

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

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PRESIDENTS CORNER

May 2011

Dear Members,

News for our chapter includes finishing the survey at Shavano for the Archaeology Conservancy. We decided the whole 20 acres was one big site with supporting archaeological component. A 30 page document with pictures of all the 38 lithic scatters we found there is available in PDF. If you would like to read this report on the internet please contact me. Also available is the Chipeta Chapter survey that Bill Harris wrote up called Stinking Desert Cairns Project, Preliminary Report, January, 2011, and is available as a PDF.

Some members are off to the American Rock Art Research Association, annual meeting in Idaho Falls, Idaho, May 27-30th. I will be attendant the Colorado Rock Art Research conference in Ft. Collins May 1st to present the latest findings in Ute rock art maps.

The new recipient for the Squint Moore Scholarship is Kelsey Fife. We hope to introduce her at the next meeting or at the summer picnic. The dates for the picnic will be discussed at the general meeting in May and we will vote on where and when it will be. Traditionally it is in July, but a solstice picnic at Shavano is a possibility.

Have a great spring and summer out on the trails.

~~Carol Patterson

FIELD TRIPS

May 2011

There is a three day trip to Moab in the planning stages, with easy access sites as well as more challenging climbs. These trips will be to unusually fine panels and dwelling sites from several cultures. Email information will be forthcoming. If you require notification by telephone please call Ed at 874 5142.

~~Ed Horton

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

Sad Farewell

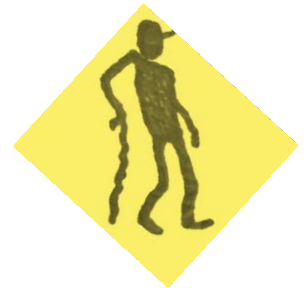
John Slay

Chipeta chapter member, John Slay was an archaeologist with the U.S. Forest Service for 25 years performing archaeological services in National Forests in South Dakota, Wyoming, Arkansas, Oklahoma and Colorado. While he had “officially” retired he had a small contracting firm, Armadillo Archaeological Consultants in Grand Junction.

John suffered from a heart condition, arthritis and other problems but managed to get out camping and hiking in spite of everything. Being a self proclaimed “Wandering Gypsy Archaeologist” when John couldn’t find anyone to accompany him into Grand Gulch he took a solo trip in to Owl Canyon. Our colleague and friend passed away on Monday, May 9th, doing what he loved best, hiking in the back country.



Squint and Juanita Moore Scholarship-Please consider a donation to the Carlyle (Squint) and Juanita Moore Scholarship Fund. The fund supports college students in the field of archaeology. The fund now provides one scholarship, and the goal is to support two scholarships. Checks can be made out to “Montrose Community Foundation”-in the check memo section note “Moore Scholarship”. Please do not make them out to Chipeta Chapter. Funds should be mailed to Montrose Community Foundation, P.O. Box 3020, Montrose, CO 81402. Please note that the check payee and mailing address represent changes from previous scholarship information.



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.

**Dick & Andi Furman
Sky Baldwin & Bill Johnstone
Jan Smeltzer
Loran & Hollis Reed**

**Patricia Jablonsky & Bill Yett
Jim & Vicki Douras
David & Annett Butts**

**Stephen Slade
Iraida Rodriguez
Karen Lomax
John & Carla Sanborn**

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

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



Please recycle

**Questions Raised about the Dating
of Alleged Pre-Clovis Deposits at
Blackwater Draw**

Archaeologists burrowing in the dirt of central Texas are stirring up a scientific debate that could change history in eastern New Mexico. At issue is the recent discovery of artifacts at an archeological site on Buttermilk Creek, Texas. The artifacts found have been dated between 13,200 and 15,500 years old, said George Crawford, chief archaeologist for the Blackwater Draw site. <http://newsok.com/artifacts-spark-debate-on-the-clovis-culture/article/3565863#ixzz1Lp8PE3o1>

**A Unique Opportunity to Tour
Utah's "Danger Cave"**

It's a state park not often found on Utah road maps or in tourist literature. Signs of the oldest humans to inhabit Utah dating back 11,300 years ago were found here. It was the site of one of the most famous archaeological studies in the U.S. And World War II soldiers stationed in Wendover to work on the Manhattan Project often held dances here. If you haven't heard of Danger Cave State Park, chances are you are not alone. <http://www.sltrib.com/sltrib/outdoors/51651032-117/cave-utah-danger-caves.html.csp>