

The Uncompahgre Journal

April 2016

CHIPETA CHAPTER OF THE COLORADO ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Volume 33 Issue 4

Mark Your Calendar

April 5: CAS-GJ Lecture - Ute spiritual leader Larry Cesspooch. GJ City Council Chambers, 250 N. 5th St., west side entrance. 6:45 pm.

April 19: CAS-GJ. Laurie Webster and Chuck LaRue on perishables. GJ City Council Chambers, 250 N. 5th St., west entrance. 7:00 pm.

April 20: Chipeta Chapter. Laurie Webster and Chuck LaRue (*right*), on the study of perishable collections. United Methodist Church, 1st and Park, Montrose. 7:00 pm.

April 23: CAS Quarterly Meeting, at History Colorado, 1200 Broadway, Denver. 12:00 pm.

April 29-May 1: Archaeological Society of New Mexico 2016 Annual Meeting, The Lodge Hotel, 750 N. St. Francis Drive, Santa Fe.

April 29-May 2: Chipeta West End Field Trip, back by popular demand (**Full**).

May 18: Chipeta Chapter. Micah Yates on Bill Rambo. United Methodist Church, 1st and Park, Montrose. 7:00 pm.

Ancient Woodworking, Animal Use, and Hunting Practices in Southeastern Utah: New Insights from the Study of Early Perishable Collections

by Laurie Webster and Chuck LaRue

During the 1890s, more than 4000 textiles, baskets, wooden implements, hide and feather artifacts, and other organic materials were excavated by local “cowboy” archaeologists from Basketmaker and Pueblo-period archaeological sites in southeastern Utah. Most of these artifacts were shipped to museums outside of the Southwest, where they remain largely unknown to archaeologists and the public. In 2010, the Cedar Mesa Perishables Project was born to “re-excavate” and document these collections. Our work with these 700 to 2000-year-old collections has uncovered a wide range of well-preserved and often-complete wood, horn, bone, and feather implements related to woodworking, hideworking, animal and bird procurement, farming, personal adornment, and other socioeconomic practices. In this presentation, we will discuss some of what we have learned about the use and manufacture of these perishable technologies and how our work with these collections has broadened our understanding of Basketmaker and ancestral Puebloan societies in ways that the study of more durable artifacts cannot.



Hafted knife with chert blade, Grand Gulch, Utah (courtesy of the Field Museum of Natural History).



Dr. Laurie Webster is an anthropologist who specializes in the perishable material culture of the American Southwest. She is a visiting scholar in the Department of Anthropology at the University of Arizona and a Research Associate at the American Museum of Natural History and the Crow Canyon Archaeological Center. Her publications include the edited volume *Beyond Cloth and Cordage: Archaeological Textile Research in the Americas* and the book *Collecting the Weaver's Art: The William Claflin Collection of Southwestern Textiles*, as well as numerous articles about prehistoric perishable technologies. Five years ago, she founded the Cedar Mesa Perishables Project to document the thousands of perishable artifacts recovered from alcoves in southeastern Utah during the 1890s.



Chuck LaRue is a wildlife biologist and naturalist who has worked extensively with birds on the Colorado Plateau and other areas of the Southwest for 35 years. He has conducted bird inventories and surveys for Glen Canyon National Recreation Area, Grand Canyon National Park, Canyon de Chelly National Monument, Hubbell Trading Post National Historic Site, and on northern Black Mesa. He also assisted in a prey habits study that identified bird feather remains from Peregrine Falcon nest sites throughout Arizona. He has recently developed an interest in Ancestral Puebloan



technologies and lifeways on the Colorado Plateau and has replicated many prehistoric artifacts. He will share examples of these replicas with the audience during our presentation.

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Field Trips, Volunteer Opportunities, and Random Thoughts

Bill Harris

On Friday, March 25th I talked with History Colorado staffers about the new exhibits at the renovated and expanded Ute Indian Museum. As some of you know, the Chipeta Chapter wrote a letter to History Colorado in early 2015 recommending that artifacts from the historic component of the Harris site excavation be included in the museum's new exhibits. In a long chat, Liz Cook from History Colorado expressed interest in having an exhibit related to Harris site artifacts and

the associated rock art. When asked about a plan to raise funds for the exhibit, she said they plan on launching that phase this spring, so there is no specific address to mail donations to at this point. It has been suggested that the chapter donate a sum, then ask the membership to match that sum through individual donations – but we'll need to wait and see what sort of fundraising program History Colorado will propose.

Volunteer Opportunities

Last Chance! The BLM and Forest Service will be conducting a joint archaeological survey in the Dry Mesa area, southwest of Delta, CO the weeks of April 4th and April 11th – if the work isn't completed in the first week, then it will be extended into the second week. Archaeologists Glade Hadden and Brian Haas will coordinate the survey, and volunteers are needed to assist with the field work. Work will entail walking grids to identify archaeological sites – the area has a high potential for wickiups. CAS members with survey experience or who have taken the PAAC Site Survey class are invited to

participate for one or more days. A camp will be set up so people can come for more than one day. The drive from Montrose is about 2 hours, or 1.5 hours from Delta. To sign up, contact Robin Lewis at the Montrose Public Lands Office, 249-5308, or rlewis@blm.gov.

Colorado Canyons Association (CCA) is seeking volunteers to serve as guides and chaperones for the Delta Schools Outdoor Ed Days, May 3 – 6, 2016. The seventh graders will visit several stations in Escalante Canyon to experience first-hand the wonders of nature and the historic importance of the Escalante Canyon area, west of Delta. We need one person each day to escort the students out to the Gunnison River water wheel – the hike is about 2.5 miles round-trip on fairly flat ground. Historic information will be provided. CCA staff will contact chaperones about the details of the event. Contact Bry at bryanna@canyonsassociation.org to sign up.



From the Editor

Bill Harris, Ed Horton, and George Decker have been doing the lion's share of the work in conceiving of and leading field trips.

Many Chipeta members (i.e. you, the reader) enjoy these field trips and they are almost always full. Do you have any favorite places that you've gone with the club that you

would like to go to again? Are there some trips that you haven't been able to go on that you'd like to see repeated? Have you been places on your own that you think others would enjoy seeing? Why not volunteer to lead a trip? Or, short of that, make suggestions of trips so that a leader can be found to go there. Feel free to contact any of the board members or field trip committee members listed on the last page of this newsletter.

Protecting the Chaco Landscape

At the March general meeting, Paul Reed told us about some of the activities threatening Chaco Canyon and the Greater Chaco landscape in the Northwest corner of New Mexico. He mentioned that it would be helpful to send letters to the BLM encouraging the agency to adopt a Master Leasing Plan approach to make oil and gas field leasing more rational. With this approach, guidelines can be created to systematically protect features of the Chaco landscape rather than protecting individual site locations while allowing piecemeal degradation of the greater landscape as a whole. Paul has provided a template that we may copy and use to write these letters to the BLM's Farmington Field Office.

Paul writes: "Here's the letter, addressed to Victoria Barr at Farmington BLM. Please let folks know they can modify the letter, make it personal, etc., as appropriate. I'm glad to answer any other questions that may come up..." And he included his email address if you desire more information from him:

preed@archaeologysouthwest.org.

April 4, 2016

Victoria Barr, Manager
BLM-Farmington Field Office
6251 College Blvd
Farmington, NM 87402

Dear Ms. Barr,

I write to you today with concerns about protection of the Greater Chaco Landscape and BLM's RMP amendment process. Under the leadership of Secretary Jewell and President Obama, the Department of the Interior and BLM have made significant progress in fostering a balance between environmental protection and natural resource development. In particular, BLM's use of the master leasing plan (MLP) approach is paying dividends across the southwestern region, in areas such as Dinosaur and Tres Rios, Colorado, and Moab, Utah.

I want to encourage you to implement an MLP approach to future planning for oil-gas leasing around Chaco Canyon and across the Greater Chaco Landscape. To this point, the leasing process has not properly balanced the diverse values and interests in place across the Farmington Field Office territory. I understand that there are currently more than 23,000 active wells in northwestern New Mexico. Over the past few years, oil and gas activity has come closer and closer to Chaco Canyon, threatening the cultural and ecological integrity of the Greater Chaco Landscape and raising concerns among Native Americans who still live on the landscape about potential impacts to their health, safety, and traditional lifestyles.

I hope that you will strongly consider the MLP approach or another balanced means to bring all stakeholders to the table. This will offer lasting protection to an irreplaceable cultural landscape. Thank you.

Sincerely,



More on Protecting the Greater Chaco Landscape from Paul Reed

If you wish to send letters to other government officials who might have some influence on what happens at Chaco Canyon, Paul included a list of such addresses, which is reproduced here.

Secretary Jewell
Department of the Interior
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington DC 20240

Neil Kornze, Director
Bureau of Land Management
1849 C Street NW, Rm. 5665
Washington DC 20240

Larry Roberts, Asst Secretary
Dept. of Interior MS-3642-MIB
1849 C Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20240

Jonathan Jarvis, Director
National Park Service
1849 C Street NW
Washington, DC 20240

Amy Lueders, Director
NM Bureau of Land Mgmt
P.O. Box 27115
Santa Fe, NM 87502-0115

Sue Masica, Regional Director
National Park Service
12795 Alameda Parkway
Denver, CO 80225

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. The deadline for applications was April 1, so the Scholarship Committee will be meeting soon to pick this year's most deserving applicant.

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.

Want More?

The [Archaeology Southwest](#) web site is a great place to find out about current issues and events relating to Southwest Archaeology.

Excavation Opportunity

2016 Mitchell Springs Ruin Group: May-August, 2016

The excavation will be held at the Mitchell Springs Ruin Group in southwest Colorado. Members of CAS are welcome! We will be working with the Verde Valley Archaeological Center and members from various Chapters of the Arizona Archaeological Society. PAAC Excavation course credit is offered.

Located near Cortez, CO, there will be four field sessions of four days each. There will be a maximum of 12 participants per field session. A fee is required to offset expenses.

[Click here](#) to view this announcement and follow a link to more information and sign-up instructions.

[Editor's note: this looks like a great opportunity to learn excavation skills in a spectacular site setting.]



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



Date: _____

Membership Application

Name: _____

Street or RR Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____

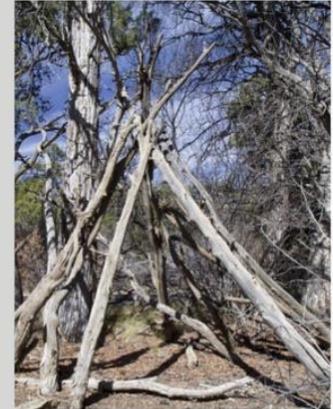
Email: _____
(email required to receive Chipeta & CAS newsletters & field trip info)

Check One: _____ New
_____ Renewal

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

_____ Family with Southwest Lore*	\$40
_____ Individual with Southwest Lore*	\$35
_____ Senior no Southwest Lore	\$25

(Family = 2 or more members, same household)



**Southwest Lore* is the journal of the Colorado Archaeological Society and is mailed quarterly. Most of our members elect to subscribe, and it helps support CAS.



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 "Chipeta Chapter CAS" and mail the signed application to:

Dennis DeVore
353 Dakota Circle
Grand Junction, CO 81507

CHIPETA CHAPTER BOARD MEMBERS

- **President:** This position is open. Please contact a board member if you are interested in volunteering.
- **Vice President:** Dan Elsner, elsner.dan@gmail.com
- **Secretary:** Annette Butts, annettebutts63@gmail.com
- **Treasurer:** Jim Douras, mtncpa@montrose.net
- **CAS Representative:** Nick Ard, nrard@bresnan.net

STANDING COMMITTEES

- **Newsletter:** Dave Batten, david.batten@enmu.edu
- **Membership:** Dennis DeVore, ddv48@mac.com
- **BLM Liason:** Bill Harris, trlgpa@skybeam.com
- **Library:** Linda Manske, cc-manske2@bresnan.net

OTHER COMMITTEES AND POSTS

- **Scholarship:** Jon Horn / Bill Harris/ Bill Manske, trlgpa@skybeam.com

Chipeta May Speaker

If you've ever hiked up Little Dominguez Creek in the Dominguez-Escalante National Conservation Area, you may know about the private inholding settled by Bill Rambo. At our May meeting, Micah Yates will tell us more about this fascinating pioneer and settler.

Program for Avocational Archaeological Certification (PAAC)

Research Design and Report Writing

This class, which is part of the Program for Avocational Archaeological Certification (PAAC), will cover the importance of how to plan a project and to organize the results through a final report.

It will include information on how to plan and define a research design, how to analyze cultural materials and how to write a final report of the findings. The class, which is April 16 and 17, is 15 hours long and the cost is \$12. To register, please contact Chipeta Chapter PAAC Coordinator Beverly Kolkman (see below).

PAAC Contacts

Kevin Black

kevin.black@state.co.us

Assistant State

Archaeologist / PAAC Coordinator

303.866.4671

Beverly Kolkman

bk7753@msn.com

Chipeta PAAC

Coordinator

970.250.8893

Field Trip Committee

George Decker - gdeckercc@gmail.com

Ed Horton - horted@gmail.com

Carol Patterson – Urracapro@aol.com

Bill Harris - trlgpa@skybeam.com,

For more information on upcoming field trips and to sign up, please contact the Field Trip Leader