

The Uncompahgre Journal

November 2020 CHIPETA CHAPTER OF THE COLORADO ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY Volume 37 Issue 9

Things to Consider

Lectures and Stuff

The San Juan Basin Archaeological Society is having zoom meetings with speakers, and some of them are made available as videos. For more information, their website is <http://www.sjbas.org/>. They also have a nice listing of organizations that have YouTube channels covering archaeology.

Here are some sites with virtual talks that you can access:

From Utah, a virtual Stewardship Day over seven weeks: <https://history.utah.gov/nine-mile-canyon-stewardship-day-but-virtual/>. Some of these have expired, so you may be redirected to find the current offerings. And if you end up in EventBrite, note that not all of the offerings are free.

From Archaeology Southwest, videos from the archives of their Archaeology Café series can be found at <https://www.archaeologysouthwest.org/videos/>.

For those of you interested in the history of archaeology, a 1988 interview of Emil Haury can be viewed in three parts on Youtube, at this address: https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=Emil+Haury.



Field Trips Update

by Leigh Ann Hunt

On October 17, Grand Junction chapter invited Chipeta chapter to participate in a field trip led by Jim Schultz to the remote country west of Glade Park to view a unique pictograph panel. About 8 Chipeta members joined that hike and we want to thank CAS-GJ for the opportunity. That was probably the last mild and mellow "Indian Summer" trip we will have due to the "season ending" snowstorm October 26th.

The field trip to the lower reaches of the Dolores River below Gateway planned for **October 29** with George Decker has been postponed a few days and those who signed up have been notified of a new date. There are still a few spaces available, so contact George if you want to be added to that trip.

Next trip: watch for an announcement for **November 9** for a trip guided by Leigh Ann and Chris Miller,

director of Fort Uncompahgre on the Old Spanish Trail, to view the Old Spanish Trail "ruts" north of Delta, along with rock art on the Gunnison River near Wells Gulch. Should be an easy trip with no long hikes and no high clearance needed—weather permitting!

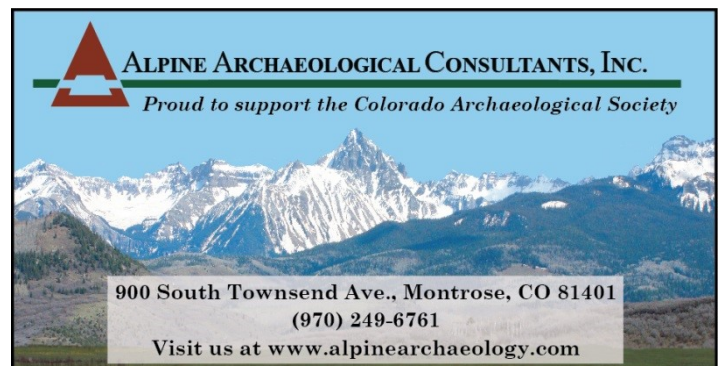
More field trips will be planned if the roads stay dry enough: stay tuned for email announcements. We are also open to suggestions if you know of a place you'd like to go, within a few hours of here and meeting whatever the Covid requirements are, and we can probably put a trip together. When you sign up for a trip, George and Joe and I, the field trip committee, want to remind you to give the trip leader a way to contact you

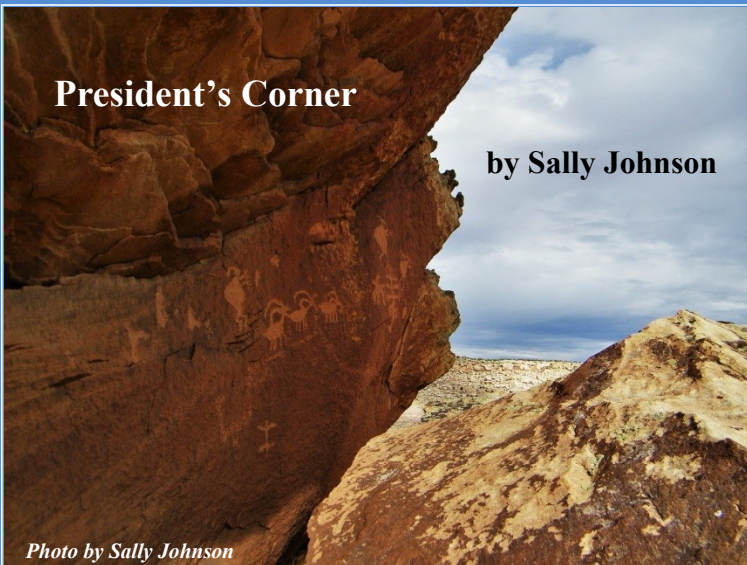
quickly if the weather conditions lead to cancelling the trip. Often we will make this call at the last minute—probably by phone—so make sure to leave your phone number when you sign up for a trip. And thanks for your support!



Ute charcoal pictograph from northern Uncompahgre Plateau, December 2017, photo by Leigh Ann Hunt

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President's Corner

by Sally Johnson

Photo by Sally Johnson

It's great to come across a historical newspaper article on Miss Ruth Moore on July 3, 1935. The article explained that "she was making quite a name for herself in scientific circles as an amateur archaeologist." She was credited with two important archaeological discoveries in the past month. One was reported to be the "first Folsom-type flints ever found west of the Continental divide." Further, "a series of flints submitted by her to the Colorado Museum of Natural History was definitely identified as belonging to the little known Gypsum Cave culture, first discovered in a cave near Las Vegas, Nevada."

The Moore family archaeologists include Carlyle ("Squint"), her brother. The pair would spend days upon days out on the Uncompahgre Plateau looking for artifacts, and they were credited with discovering many of the regional archaeological sites known today. In 1935, the two young Moores helped found the Colorado Archaeological Society and its oldest continuously active chapter: Chipeta. If you were privileged enough to be included in the "Squint" group, there were always discoveries. When the sun is shining go out and make your own respectful discoveries—and as always, enjoy them, photograph them, and leave them undisturbed.



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

White Sands National Park is located in a high desert basin between the Tularosa Mountains and the Organ Mountains of southern New Mexico. During the Pleistocene, it was the site of a large lake, or collection of smaller lakes, depending on the current moisture regime. People and animals loved to walk on the sandy shores of that lake (cue the romantic music!), and conditions happened to be right for many, many of those footprints to be preserved over the years, some in quite remarkable anatomical detail.

A widely reported news item referring to an article in *Quaternary Science Reviews*, describes a woman carrying a child of maybe 2 years along the shoreline for more than 1.5 kilometers, occasionally stopping and putting the child down. A few hours later, probably the same woman returned, following the earlier tracks, but without the child (I assume she must have been dropping the little one off at day care). Between trips, the woman's path was crossed by up to three large mammoths or mastodons, and also by a giant ground sloth. The woman's tracks provide no evidence of concern about the existence of large animals, but the ground sloth's tracks do indicate that it may have been worried about the proximity of humans.

I was particularly struck by the concept of a 1.5-km-long archaeological excavation. Apparently, the trackway was discovered beneath a loose layer of gypsum sand, so it wouldn't have been too onerous to expose the entire set of tracks. Apparently White Sands is just teeming with tracks, and the researchers in this case emphasize how valuable it is to have so many tracks of the same individual event.

This is a real human interest story, and it seems to strike a chord with people, including me, because we

are able to observe an individual separated from us for 10,000 or so years, doing something so very human.

I like this kind of close-up archaeology. So much of the discipline is about analyzing aggregate data sets that record repetitive behavior, seeking to achieve generalizations about behavior or regularities of cultural evolution (e.g. when population densities reach certain threshold levels, a new layer of administrative functions must be added). It is refreshing to be able to zoom down to the individual level, where your imagination can take over. We can so effortlessly visualize a young woman carrying a child, getting tired, letting the child down momentarily, then picking it up possibly on the other hip and carrying on. Also the sheer everydayness of the event impresses: the unperturbed woman making her way across the sand in the presence of mammoths and ground sloths! How cool is that?

Matthew R. Bennett, David Bustos, Daniel Odess, Tommy M. Urban, Jens N. Lallensack, Marcin Budka, Vincent L. Santucci, Patrick Martinez, Ashleigh L.A. Wiseman, Sally C. Reynolds

2020 Walking in mud: Remarkable Pleistocene human trackways from White Sands National Park (New Mexico). *Quaternary Science Reviews*, Volume 249, 1 December 2020, <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/abs/pii/S0277379120305722>, abstract accessed 10/31/2020

Jeanne Timmons

2020 A Human Toddler and a Mammoth Crossed Paths in Ancient New Mexico, Footprints Suggest. Gizmodo 10/25/2020. <https://gizmodo.com/a-human-toddler-and-a-mammoth-crossed-paths-in-ancient-1845463474>, accessed 10/31/2020

Stephanie Pappas

2020 10,000-year-old footprints show journey of squirmy toddler and caregiver. *Live Science*, <https://www.livescience.com/human-footprints-prehistoric-toddler-caregiver.html>, accessed 10/31/2020



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:

☐ 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

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

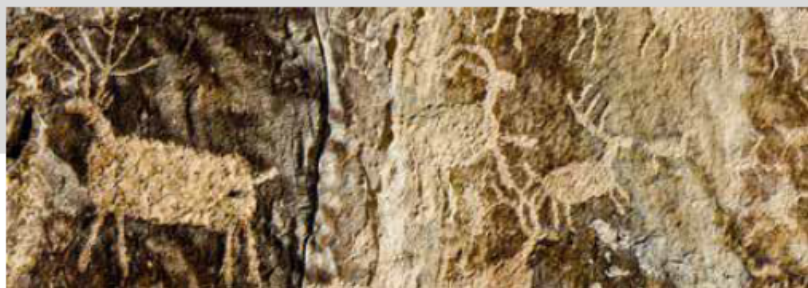
☐ Secondary (Circle one) Individual (\$10) or Family (\$15)

☐ 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.

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 81401

CHIPETA CHAPTER BOARD MEMBERS

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- **CAS Rep:** Nick Ard, nrard@bresnan.net

STANDING COMMITTEES

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- **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

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Dave Upchurch

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Want More?

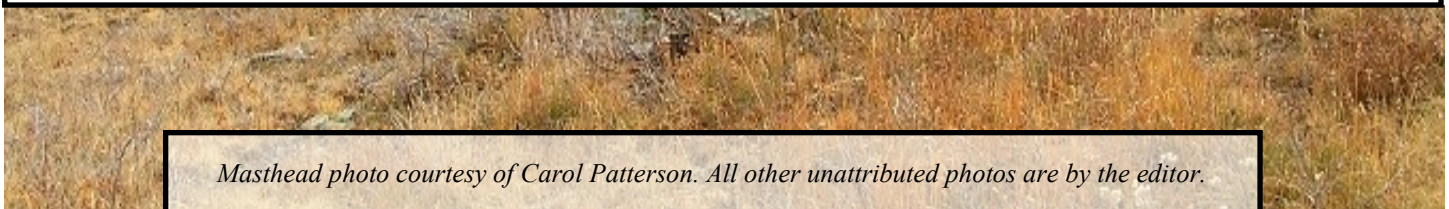
Archaeology Southwest is a great link to find out about current issues and events relating to Southwest Archaeology.



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.