

# The Uncompahgre Journal

September 2022 CHIPETA CHAPTER OF THE COLORADO ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Volume 39 Issue 7

## Our September Presentation

### *Mark Your Calendar*

**Sep 7:** [Montrose Historical Society](#) monthly meeting, with Barbara Kastellic and Steve Gray on the history on the historic Montrose Methodist Church. Montrose Methodist Church, Park Ave. and S 1st St., 7:00 pm.

**Sep 14:** [SJBAS](#) monthly meeting with Anna Sofaer and Rich Friedman presenting an update on the Chaco Solstice Project. Student Union Ballroom, Ft. Lewis College, Durango, 7:00 pm. Also on Zoom.

**Sep 21:** Chipeta Chapter monthly meeting with Charlie Seevers on topics concerning the archaeology of the Four Corners states (*right*). United Methodist Church, Park Ave and S 1st St., 7:00 pm.

**Sep 28:** [CAS-GJ](#) monthly meeting, with Dr. Tim Riley, Director, Utah State University-Eastern Museum and Curator of Archaeology speaking on the diet and foods of the Fremont Culture with food preparation demonstrations. Redlands United Methodist Church, 6:30 pm.



## Violence and Warfare in the Formative Southwest and The Late Archaic to Early Formative in the Four Corners States

Presented by  
Charlie Seevers





## President's Corner

by Sally Johnson

Photo by Sally Johnson

Can you believe that September is here, and we are starting back up with trips and speakers? It has been hot, but we had a great time at the summer gathering with no rain. The group has decided that we are going with fried chicken for the next gathering instead of BBQs. It seems that only Nick can get the charcoal just right, and my grill magic is lacking.

There is an annual meeting but there has been a lack of notice to our group. (You can go to the State Website for more information). It will be in Loveland October 22-23 and the keynote speaker is Dr. Jason LaBelle. It will be a hybrid remote and in-person meeting. The full lineup will be posted soon on the state website.



The Chipeta Chapter summer picnic. A good time was had by all (Photos by Sally Johnson).





## Give a Listen!

### CMU podcast on John Seebach's work at former Teller Institute

#### *“Uncovering History*

*John Seebach has spent years working to uncover the complicated and emotional history of Indigenous boarding schools across North America by studying a former institution that is close to home. In the early 1900s, tens of thousands of Native American children were relocated to boarding schools with the intent to assimilate them into western culture. The Teller Institute in Grand Junction was one of these boarding schools. Through his research, Seebach discovered death notices and archival newspaper clippings showing 21 children who died while attending the Teller Institute although there may be many more undocumented deaths.”* — CMUNow podcasts, Colorado Mesa University

<https://www.coloradomesa.edu/we-are/>

*Thanks to Ann Holmes for calling this to our attention!*

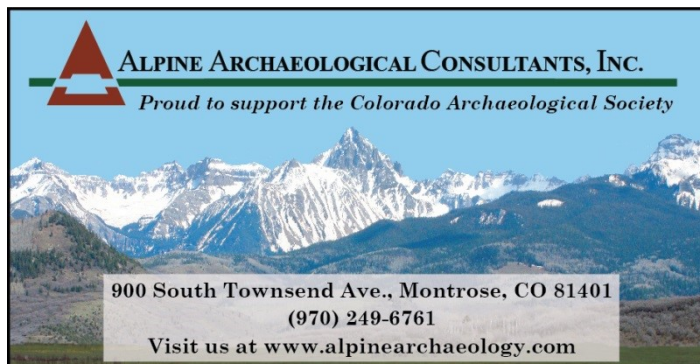
### **The Squint and Juanita Moore Scholarship**

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. Please put “Moore Scholarship” in the memo line.

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Dave Batten, david.batten@enmu.edu



## UTE MOUNTAIN TRIBAL PARK

Colorado Archaeology Society Chipeta Chapter

**Friday, October 14, 2022 @ 8:30 A.M.**

Meet 22 Miles south of Cortez at the Junction of Highway 160/49  
at the Ute Tribal Park Visitor Center.

**BRING CASH: CREDIT CARDS AND CHECKS ARE NOT ACCEPTED**

**\$49.00 for all day.** Must be able to hike 3 miles on an unpaved trail and climb 3 ladders.  
(80 miles round trip.)

**OR**

**\$30.00 ½ day trip**, described as easy with little walking. (40 miles round trip.)

**\$15.00 will get you a ride in the Ute Van with the Ute Guide (This is true for both all day and ½ day).**

Reasons to opt for the van.

In the van, you may hear some interesting stories from our Ute guide.

The road is described as high clearance needed; 4-wheel drive not required.

Since the vans will be in front, you will not be eating dust.

You do not have to watch the road; instead, look around and enjoy the scenery.

You will not get lost.

Private cars will be parked at the Ute Visitor Center and monitored until we return.

Call organizer, Alma Evans, if you wish to go. Limit 12 people all day, 12 people half day.

**970-856-6555 This is a landline**

**Call Soon!**

If I am not home, please leave:

**your name**

**phone number**

**full or half day and**

**if you want to ride in the van.**

**The trip is  
filling up  
fast**

There is a primitive campground available on the Mancos River (no food, no water). Call for reservations if you wish to camp: 970-565-9653.

Google motels in Cortez if you wish a less primitive experience, hot water and food. Call for reservations. The motels will take credit cards.

## From the Editor

S ometime last year, it was reported that a set of human footprints at White Sands had been dated to about 23 to 21 thousand years ago, knocking the earliest solid evidence for humans in America back several thousand years. Strap yourselves in: a new study is now reporting evidence of mammoth butchering at the Hartley Site in northern New Mexico from between 37 and 30 thousand years ago, backed up by a slew of high technology.

The site was named after a hiker, who discovered it a few years ago. It consists of a bunch of broken bones, apparently in a pile, and 6 chert microflakes that may or may not have been associated with the butchering activity. Generally, stone tools, hearths, or human bones are the primary evidence of early human sites. In the case of the White Sands site, the clear human footprints were convincing. Since there were none of the traditional diagnostics of human involvement at the Hartley Site, the investigators had to use a very

different set of arguments backed up by high tech tools to demonstrate that people butchered the two mammoths—a young adult female and a young calf.

They argued first that there was no other conceivable process that would have fragmented the bones—and piled them up—the way they were found. There was no evidence of scavenging, i.e. carnivore tooth marks on the bones, trampling, or violent geologic processes. They were struck by “the thorough, intensive, systematic, and highly patterned bone breakage” at the site that pointed strongly to human action.

In place of sharp stone tools, there were a lot of fist-sized sandstone cobbles, as well as a 50-lb. sandstone boulder interpreted as a hammerstone or anvil. Although there were only two short parallel chop marks that could be interpreted as cut marks, there is considerable evidence of the use of heavy objects to crush or break the bones. The adult mammoth’s face was detached from the rest of the skull by these means. The damage to

the bones included the intentional or incidental creation of bone flakes, some of which could have been used for cutting or slicing. There were many cases of perforation of the bones that the authors suggest mirrored practices by modern hunter-gatherers for extracting marrow. Though they found no big pieces of charcoal, they found tiny crystals in the sediment that are experimentally known to result from controlled fires.

Several different techniques were used to extract enough carbon from the organic elements (collagen) in the mammoth bones, and six samples were sent to three different labs. All samples generated absolute dates of at least 30,000 years ago, with one sample yielding a date of about 37,000 years. Though it was older than any other, the authors considered this to be the most accurate of the different techniques. That may or may not stand up to scrutiny, but even the most recent dates were way older than any previous evidence of human presence on this continent.

The team is reputable, not on the lunatic fringe. I expect their dates to stand up to scrutiny. I also have no problem with their interpretations of the damage to the bones that were apparently deliberately piled. Still, one aspect of their interpretation does bother me. They suggest that the people who did this work were much earlier (of course) and unrelated to the people who made Clovis toolkits, and who probably got here 20,000-16,000 years ago. Clovis tools, they say, are an Upper Paleolithic (UP) industry, marked by sophisticated and complex flaked tools like the Clovis point. Their argument for the lack of flaked stone at the Hartley Site seems to be that these people existed before the development of UP technology and therefore had no recognizable stone tool industry—or no sharp stone tools at all. This seems improbable: Neandertals made sophisticated stone tools well before 40,000 years ago. There had no fluted points like Clovis, but they fashioned a wide range of tools with consummate skill. It seems incredible that this much later group, even on the other side of the world, would have no sharp stone tools. One would think, during the days or weeks it must have taken them to butcher, eat, and extract the marrow from one-and-a-quarter mammoths, that they would have used and discarded some stone tools. Stay tuned. I suspect there will be a lot of debate about this site.

Timothy B. Rowe, Thomas W. Stafford Jr.  
2022 Human Occupation of the North American Colorado Plateau ~37,000 Years Ago. *Front. Ecol. Evol.*, 07 July 2022; Sec. Paleontology, <https://doi.org/10.3389/fevo.2022.903795>





**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, [president@chipetachaptercas.org](mailto:president@chipetachaptercas.org)
- **Vice Pres:** Leigh Ann Hunt, [vp@chipetachaptercas.org](mailto:vp@chipetachaptercas.org)
- **Secretary:** Susan Henderson, [secretary@chipetachaptercas.org](mailto:secretary@chipetachaptercas.org)
- **Treasurer:** Jim Douras, [treasurer@chipetachaptercas.org](mailto:treasurer@chipetachaptercas.org)
- **CAS Rep:** Nick Ard, [casrep@chipetachaptercas.org](mailto:casrep@chipetachaptercas.org)

## STANDING COMMITTEES

- **Newsletter:** Dave Batten, [editor@chipetachaptercas.org](mailto:editor@chipetachaptercas.org)
- **Membership:** Sally Johnson, [membership@chipetachaptercas.org](mailto:membership@chipetachaptercas.org)
- **Site Steward Coordinator (acting):** Leigh Ann Hunt, [sitestewards@chipetachaptercas.org](mailto:sitestewards@chipetachaptercas.org)
- **Library:** Linda Manske, [library@chipetachaptercas.org](mailto:library@chipetachaptercas.org)

## OTHER COMMITTEES AND POSTS

- **Scholarship:** Jon Horn / Bill Harris / Fred Henderson, [scholarships@chipetachaptercas.org](mailto:scholarships@chipetachaptercas.org)

## 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)

For information on On-Demand PAAC courses, visit:

<https://www.historycolorado/paac-event-schedule>.

### PAAC Contacts

#### Rebecca Simon

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Assistant State Archaeologist/  
303-866-4671

#### Dave Upchurch

PAAC Coordinator  
[paac@chipetachaptercas.org](mailto:paac@chipetachaptercas.org)

## Fall Speaker Lineup

**October:** Ben Bellorado on his Crow Canyon Archaeological Center research and books

**November:** Geologist and runner Rick Trujillo on Interesting Things, such as dinosaur tracks, above timberline in the San Juans

## 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.*