

The Uncompahgre Journal

October 2022 CHIPETA CHAPTER OF THE COLORADO ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY Volume 39 Issue 8

Mark Your Calendar

Oct 5: [Montrose Historical Society](#) monthly meeting with Ken Sloan on the history of the Cashin Mine. Montrose County Event Center, 7:00 pm.

Oct 12: [San Juan Basin Archaeological Society](#) monthly meeting with Christopher Schwartz on Scarlet Macaws in the US Southwest and Mexican Northwest. In the Lyceum of the Center for Southwest Studies, Fort Lewis College, 7:00 pm. This meeting will also be on Zoom.

Oct 19: Chipeta Chapter monthly meeting with Ben Bellorado on sandals, sandal imagery, and social identity in the Bears Ears area (*right*). Montrose United Methodist Church, Park Ave. and 1st St., 7:00 pm.



Our October Presentation

Captivated with Footwear: Sandals, Sandal Imagery, and Social Identity Across Cultural Landscapes in the Southern Bears Ears area during the Thirteenth Century

by Ben Bellorado



Ancestral Pueblo people in southeastern Utah seem to have been preoccupied with sandals and their depictions during the thirteenth century. Recent research has documented hundreds of sandal depictions on plaster and rock surfaces in the area dating to this period, but how should archaeologists interpret these data?

This presentation investigates how people in southeastern Utah used clothing and representations of clothing in other media, especially rock art, to signal important aspects of social identities in the thirteenth century. I outline recent field- and collections-based research of plaster building murals and rock art depicting twined sandals and

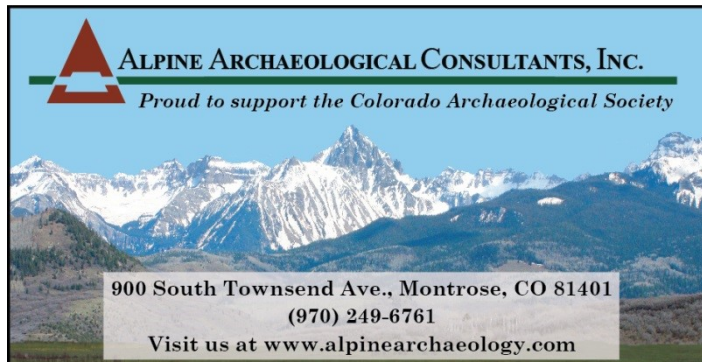
other types of clothing, and actual twined sandals and other woven garments from southeastern Utah and the larger region.

Next, I apply cross-media approaches and clothing theories to the study of identity expression, in an effort to understand some of the ways that Ancestral Pueblo people materialized concepts of personhood, group and community-level identities, and religious ideologies across diverse classes of decorated media during this era. Finally, I address how changes in clothing styles, and their depictions, signaled major developments in the ways people expressed aspects of group affiliation and social position across the area, just prior to the large-scale depopulation of the region.



Our October Speaker

Dr. Benjamin (Ben) Bellorado (Ph.D. University of Arizona, 2020) is an anthropological archaeologist who focuses on Indigenous cultures in the northern Southwest. For over 20 years, Ben has studied the material cultures of Native American peoples who lived in the Four Corners area. Ben is originally from Wyoming and received his bachelor's degree at Fort Lewis College, his master's degree from Northern Arizona University, and his doctorate from the University of Arizona (2020). He also worked extensively in the Cultural Resource Management industry. Ben has studied a diversity of topics throughout his career ranging from maize agriculture to ceramic analysis, to experimental archaeology, and ethnography. Ben's recent research focuses on documenting at-risk archaeological sites in Bears Ears National Monument, using tree-ring dating to date these sites, and revisiting old museum collections of ancient clothing. His doctoral research focused on understanding the ways in which Ancestral Pueblo peoples utilized textiles and textile depictions in other media to express complex ideas about various aspects of social identities in the tenth through thirteenth centuries. Ben is now the Laboratory Director at Crow Canyon Archaeological Center.



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President's Corner

by Sally Johnson

Photo by Sally Johnson

Just a short note for the membership: you can email me or meet me at the monthly meeting to pay your dues. However, it is better to sign up on the state website (under Membership) if you can. The advantage to the state site is that you will receive an email when your dues are ready for renewal and you receive all correspondence from the state of any upcoming publications or notices. Lastly, you do not have to wait for the check to clear after 2 months of going through the steps of passing on the payment from me to the state treasurer. Just a thought for the future.

We will be planning the Christmas/Winter gathering and please mark it on your calendar for the 14th of December for the party. We have not decided on the location yet, but the brewery known as 2 Ras-

cals, which is now the Silver Basin Brewery might be an option. We will keep you posted.

Also, since the field trips are starting up with the cooler weather, please contact the trip leader for sign-ups and information.

If you have had a great trip that you have done and would like to share photos and the knowledge gained, we would love to share them in our monthly journal. Just reach out to me or David to submit them for the upcoming journal--a week or so before the next issue is due out.

I hope everyone is out enjoying the fall weather.

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.



Colorado Archaeological Society

2022 Annual Conference

October 22-23, 2022

Embassy Suites, Loveland, Colorado

CONFERENCE INFORMATION

Welcome to Northern Colorado!

The Northern Colorado Chapter of the Colorado Archaeological Society is pleased to host the 2022 CAS Annual Conference on October 22nd and 23rd!

Conference Location and Room Reservations

The presentations, meetings, silent auction, Saturday evening banquet and keynote speaker will all be held at the Embassy Suites, 4705 Clydesdale Parkway, Loveland, Colorado, with an easily accessible location just off I-25. A small block of rooms has been booked at the special rate of \$169+tax. For room reservations, call (970) 593-6200. If you prefer to stay at an alternative location, there are several options in the vicinity including the Holiday Inn Express, Candlewood Suites, Microtel Inn and Suites, My Place Hotel, and WoodSpring Suites. Please check the internet for availability, pricing, and reservations.



Registration

Registration is required to participate in all conference activities. For the lowest rate, please register before October 1st. Upon arrival to the conference, follow the signage to the registration table to pick up your name badge and welcome bag. On-site registration will be open beginning at 7:30 Saturday morning.

Meetings

The state CAS Board meeting will be held during the lunch hour and the quarterly CAS meeting will be in the late afternoon. Specific details on times and location will be available in mid-September.

Silent Auction and Book Sale

A silent auction and book sale will be held throughout Saturday with proceeds benefiting the Alice Hamilton scholarship Fund. Since the scholarship inception in 1987, CAS has distributed hundreds of awards, totaling over \$100,000, to Colorado college and university students majoring in Anthropology/Archaeology!

Saturday Evening Social, Banquet, and Keynote Speaker

Join us for conversation, a cash bar, and time to reflect on the day's archaeological topics followed by a delicious Tuscan buffet. The evening will conclude with a keynote address by the renowned Dr. Jason LaBelle speaking on the Roberts Ranch and archaeology sites in Northern Colorado.

Speakers

A great line-up of speakers is being arranged on a vast array of topics ranging from dendrochronology to rock art to pottery and much more. The speakers, topics, and schedule will be announced and posted in mid-September as we finalize details.

Check back periodically as we add information on tours, sponsors, and more!

From the Editor

There are some interesting new studies that I could write about this month, from the movement of people into and around Europe and into England or the alarmingly high concentrations of mercury in large Maya sites that could be harmful to archaeologists. Instead, I will tell you about two studies that reveal, respectively, the medical skills of ancient people and insights into their personal lives.

Modern people, in our seemingly infinite capacity for hubris, seem to believe that everything we do is light years more advanced than what could have been done in the past. Yet, a healer in ancient southeast Asia was well ahead of his time. In a limestone cave in Borneo, a burial was recently excavated that revealed the skeleton of a young adult of about 20 years, somewhat more likely to be a male than a female. Otherwise nearly complete, the skeleton was missing its left foot,

even though all the bones of the right foot were present. The lower third of the left tibia and fibula were also missing.

The excavators argue that this must have been a surgery because the “amputation margin” appeared to be a clean cut: there was no evidence of crushing as might be expected if their foot was struck by a heavy object, and no related trauma or infection that one might expect of a bite from a tiger or an alligator. The size of the lower left leg bones (which stopped growing after the removal of the foot) suggest that the patient was a child at the time of the surgery, and the degree of healing and remodeling indicated that they lived about 6 to 9 more years. Their right femur was also somewhat atrophied, suggesting that they were subsequently not very active.

The burial was determined to be roughly 31,000 years old. The next earliest clear evidence of an amputation was from the French Neolithic and dated to about 7,000 years. It is unlikely that this kind of surgery happened very often, either in the

French case or in Borneo, but it is fascinating to think of the courage and knowledge of the healers who suggested such a solution, and the skill required to carry it out—without metal tools.

On the lighter side, the study of the DNA found in human teeth has revolutionized our understanding of the history of the herpes cold sore. Teeth have blood vessels in them, and those blood vessels carry viruses and bacteria that have infected a living person. Teeth are very durable, and ancient DNA from viruses and bacteria can be preserved along with the teeth. Researchers troll through collections of ancient teeth, looking for DNA of various pathogens of interest. The authors of this paper stumbled upon herpes HSV-1 in a 600-year-old British teenager, when they were looking for plague bacteria.

We don’t know much about HSV-1, apparently, so the researchers were intrigued and went searching for other carriers, finding three more. Using those four cases and some fancy statistical procedures, they extrapolated a time and place of origin of the HSV-1 genome and found that it probably evolved in the western Asian steppe around 5,000 years ago instead of the African origin 50,000 years ago that had been the previous best guess. Apparently, HSV-1, like omicron, figured out a way to be more infectious and less nasty than its forebears, and so managed to seriously out-compete all other strains of herpes, being currently present in 2/3 of the global population under age 50.

The next part gets highly speculative. Most herpes strains pass between mothers and children, through intimate contact, but the HSV-1 variant found a quicker way to spread to more people. The authors suggest that the innovation may have been “romantic kissing.” First mentioned in writing about 3000 years ago in India, the authors speculate that kissing may have been helped in its western spread by Alexander the Great’s armies returning from India around 2300 years ago. After all their hardship and fighting, perhaps the greatest contributions those soldiers made to modern life were learning how to kiss and spreading the herpes virus.

Maloney, T.R., Dilkes-Hall, I.E., Vlok, M. *et al.*

2022 Surgical amputation of a limb 31,000 years ago in Borneo. *Nature* 609, 547–551. <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41586-022-05160-8>

Freda Kreier

2022 Ancient tooth DNA reveals how ‘cold sore’ herpes virus has evolved. *Nature* 609:21–22.

Guellil et al.

2022 Ancient herpes simplex 1 genomes reveal recent viral structure in Eurasia. *Science Advances* Vol 8, Issue 30, <https://doi.org/10.1126/sciadv.abo4435>



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
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- **Secretary:** Susan Henderson, secretary@chipetachaptercas.org
- **Treasurer:** Jim Douras, treasurer@chipetachaptercas.org
- **CAS Rep:** Nick Ard, casrep@chipetachaptercas.org

STANDING COMMITTEES

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- **Membership:** Sally Johnson, membership@chipetachaptercas.org
- **Site Steward Coordinator (acting):** Leigh Ann Hunt, sitestewards@chipetachaptercas.org
- **Library:** Linda Manske, library@chipetachaptercas.org

OTHER COMMITTEES AND POSTS

- **Scholarship:** Jon Horn / Bill Harris / Fred Henderson, 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

rebecca.simon@state.co.us
Assistant State Archaeologist/
303-866-4671

November Meeting: Rich Trujillo, geologist and trail runner, on Interesting Things, such as dino 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.