

# The Uncompahgre Journal

October 2015

CHIPETA CHAPTER OF COLORADO ARCHAEOLOGY

Volume 32 Issue 8

## *Mark Your Calendar*

Colorado Canyons Association mixer on Oct. 1 at 2 Rascals –. Below is a link to a short video about Colorado Canyons Assoc. – well-done and to the point.

[CCA Youtube Video](#)

### **October 16**

Field trip to Shavano Valley and Dry Creek, led by Bill Harris:

[trlgpa@skybeam.com](mailto:trlgpa@skybeam.com)

### **October 2, 3, 4, 5**

URARA 2015 Symposium  
Escalante, Utah

### **October 9-11**

**CAS 80<sup>th</sup> Annual  
Conference and Meeting  
Durango**

### **October 21, 2015**

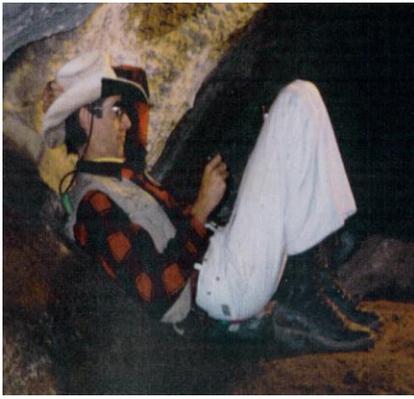
Chipeta monthly meeting,  
Glade Hadden Presenter

## October 21 Presentation: Eagle Rock Excavation Update Glade Hadden, BLM Archaeologist

“The First Ten Thousand Years Is The Hardest: Final excavations at the Eagle Rock Shelter, Delta County, Colorado”

Excavations have now mostly concluded at the Eagle Rock Shelter at the Lawhead Gulch site. BLM Archaeologist Glade Hadden will present the results of the last several years of excavation and discuss the implications of the findings from this 13,000 year old human occupation on the Gunnison River.





## *President's Corner*

It's October, and according to the experts, the aspens have reached the peak of their fall colors. I was up on Grand Mesa twice last week, and they certainly were spectacular in places, though there still seem to be plenty that haven't yet turned. October is also the month for the CAS Annual Meeting and Conference, scheduled this year for October 9-11, at Fort Lewis College in Durango.

Closer to home, we have a field trip scheduled for October 16 to the Shavano Valley and Dry Creek, to be led by Bill Harris. And on the 21<sup>st</sup> of this month, I'm excited to be able to tell you that Glade Hadden will be our speaker, with an update on the excavations at Eagle Rock. I am very much looking forward to hearing about the latest work at that site.

Don't forget to give some serious thought to who you think would make a good chapter president, vp/speaker chair, and CAS rep, and get in touch with one of the board members with your nomination. Remember, clubs don't function well without a board. We need these positions to be filled.

See you on the 21<sup>st</sup>.

Dave Batten

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### *NEW CALENDARS*

I finally have the new 2016 calendars and also have the web site set up. I invite you to check it out and share the info with any one you would like to.

The site is

[www.deckercalendarco.com](http://www.deckercalendarco.com)

George Decker





Upcoming field trip to Shavano Valley and Dry Fork to petroglyphs off the beaten path.

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I've been in touch with Alma Evans getting permission to visit rock art sites on private land. I would like to start by driving up the Rim Rd. to access the Flat Rock site, and Windy Gap panel. Then head into Shavano Valley to see sites on the west side of the Valley on private land. It will be October 16. Contact me at [trlgpa@skybeam.com](mailto:trlgpa@skybeam.com) for more information.

Bill Harris

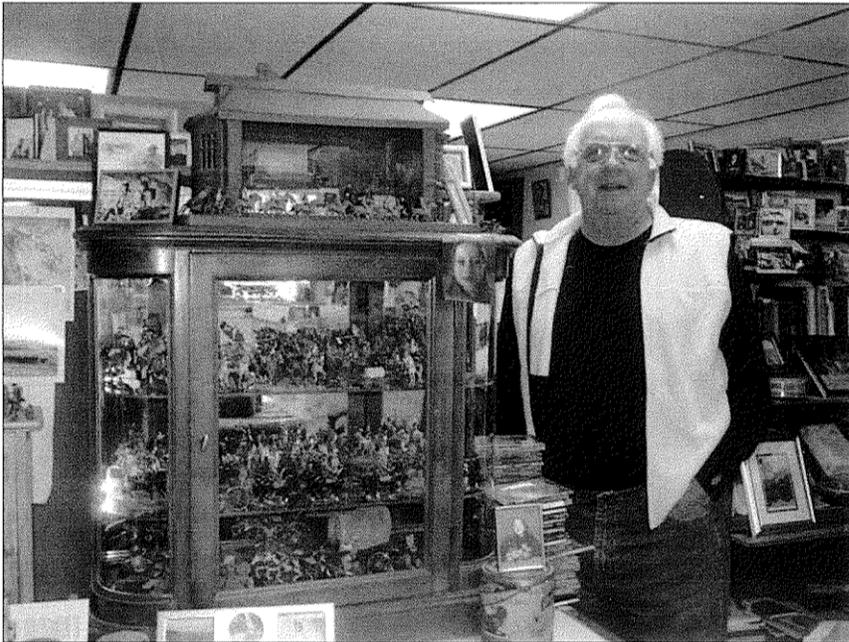
## Publication Out Soon by **Steve Baker**

Although Steve Baker and Rick Hendricks' book on the Juan Rivera expedition of 1765 to our local area was scheduled to be released in September of this year, it has been delayed with the heavy amount of indexing necessary. It should still be out yet this fall. On the next two pages, with permission from the Montrose Mirror, we reprint their excellent article from April 20, 2015. Note that Steve clarifies that Rivera actually reached the Gunnison River on the Roubideau Bottoms near Delta and did not go to Gunnison, as reported in the article.

Back in the early 1970s I worked closely with some of the last of the surviving Catawba potters who maintained the oldest surviving Native American pottery tradition. My work culminated in a exhibition of Catawba Pottery at the Columbia Museum of Art in 1973 and that event is generally credited with bringing about a revival of the Catawba pottery tradition which is today alive and well. This last spring the Native American Studies Program at the University of South Carolina developed a retrospective blog on my early work on behalf of the Catawba Potters. If CAS members are not familiar with the beautiful and highly utilitarian Catawba pottery they may want to access the blog "Reviving an Ancient Tradition: Catawba Indian Trade Pottery of the Historic Period." It is found at <http://nativeamericanstudiesarchive.blogspot.com/2015-04-01-archive.html>. Once on site go to the April 2015 entry.

## BAKER TO RELEASE BOOK ON JUAN RIVERA THIS FALL

*25 YEARS IN THE MAKING, WORK WILL BE IMPORTANT TO HISTORY OF COLORADO AND NEW MEXICO*



*Montrose Archeologist and ethno-historian Steven G. Baker of Centuries Research, Inc. plans to release his groundbreaking work on Juan Rivera's journey later this year. Baker is shown in his office, though today he is "partially-retired."*

*By Caitlin Switzer*

MONTROSE—He has been sifting through the sands of time in Western Colorado for more than 35 years, studying not only the history of Montrose and the surrounding region, but the area's ethno-history as well. For Archeologist Steve Baker of Centuries Research, Inc., the best is yet to come, however—Baker's long awaited next book, "Juan Rivera's Colorado-1765: The First Spaniards Among the Ute and Paiute Indians on the Trails To Teguayo," will be published by David P. Smith of Western Reflections Publishing later this year.

"We are shooting for this fall," Baker said. "The book will be 600 to 700 pages, hardbound—with 250 watercolor illustrations a comprehensive, illustrated trail history."

Once again, Baker has worked with local illustrator Gail Carroll Sargent, whose vivid watercolor depictions bring a sense of immediacy to stories from long ago—in this case, the tale of early day explorer Juan Maria Rivera. The book has been 25 years in the making, Baker noted, and he worked closely with a translator to understand the archaic Spanish of the original journal.

"I have partnered with [New Mexico State Historian Rick Hendricks](#)," Baker said.

"This is the first book ever on Juan Rivera, whose journal was never found until 1969. His journals are the first descriptions of outsiders among the Indians in this territory."

The book contains a cast of characters that rivals any in fiction, said Baker, who has specialized in the history of the Ute Indian people throughout his career.

"I discovered new twists," he said. "Everyone knows of the Dominguez-Escalante Expedition; but Father Vélez de Escalante had actually given up on finding a route to California the year before."

Instead, Baker said, the famed expedition of 1776 was intended to discover the source of a legend prevalent in New Mexico, that strange men with long, untrimmed beards lived in the land of "Tejuwyo."

"They found these men, and the artists drew pictures," Baker said, adding that French explorers had documented similar men on the North Platte in 1689 and a physical anthropologist had found a similar population in California in 1951.

"The authorities were concerned," he said. "Rivera was sent north to find out more, but he only got to Gunnison. The Dominguez-Escalante Expedition took guides and his journal and followed the same path; the church had been enlisted by

the authorities and charged with gathering intelligence on the frontier of New Spain. They also needed an overland route from Santa Fe, but another route was found; they cast lots to decide whether to go on to California."

The book will be available on Amazon.com once it is released, he said.

Hendricks, who translated the Rivera journals, said the release of Baker's book will correct many misconceptions about Rivera and the reasons for his exploration.

"Rivera made interesting observations about the people he encountered," Hendricks said. "This is an unspoiled look at the very earliest encounters between Utes, Paiutes and Europeans."

Native Americans were not especially interested in welcoming the Spanish newcomers to their established trade systems, he noted.

"The Utes and Paiutes had their own trade organizations," Hendricks said, adding, "You can take the journey with Rivera because of Steve's research and the pictures; you can go to those places and get a feel for what it was like when the only way to travel was by horseback—or on foot. Now people would probably go there with four-wheel drive."

"And you encountered people who were not all that interested in having you in their country."

Hendricks, who traveled to many of the sites in the journal with Baker to aid in the translation process, said that the book corrects a number of myths about where Rivera went and what he saw, and will shed light on the explorer's family origins as well.

Juan Rivera's journals were very important to the Dominguez-Escalante Expedition, Hendricks said.

"We suspect that the Governor of New Mexico was particularly interested in silver deposits, and that Rivera was instructed to share just enough information—but not too much," he said. "The journals contain incredibly detailed descriptions in some regards, of the flora and fauna. They encountered swamps and marshy areas where now we don't find those features. They describe finding watering holes in unexpected places; you can see how the landscape has changed."

The book will be important for the history of both Colorado and New Mexico, Hendricks said. "Rivera's family had very deep roots in Northern New Mexico, which was a surprise," Hendricks said. "This book

*Continued next page*

**BAKER TO RELEASE BOOK ON JUAN RIVERA THIS FALL continued**  
**25 YEARS IN THE MAKING, WORK WILL BE IMPORTANT TO HISTORY OF COLORADO AND NEW MEXICO**

will provide a comprehensive look at the expedition itself, and the Native American people. Steve has also done an exhaustive trail study, in itself an important piece of scholarship.

“This will be a fascinating read.”

Baker, a professional archeologist since 1964, is now “partially retired.” He has served as President and Principal investigator for his own business, Centuries Research, Inc. of Montrose for many years, has directed many of the region’s important archeological excavations, and is currently involved with efforts to pinpoint the original site of Fort Roubideau West of Delta. Though he spent his early professional life in South Carolina, Baker and his family moved to Western Colorado in the 1970’s.

“My mom taught school, and we came to Colorado in the summers,” Baker said, “So I was already familiar with Ouray. I had a wife, two kids and no money; I decided it would be better to be poor in Colorado

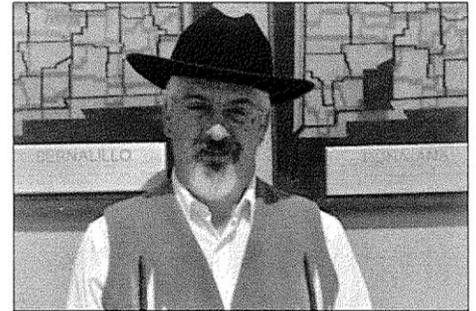
than in the Deep South—this is a great place to live.”

In addition to for-profit excavations, Baker spent 30 years with the Uncompahgre Valley Ute Project, an effort to research and shed more light on the lives of the region’s early peoples.

In a paper entitled, “A Thirty-Year Perspective on the Uncompahgre Valley Ute Project, Western Colorado,” Baker wrote: “Although I moved to Colorado primarily to concentrate on the American Victorian cultural context, a major portion of my career over the past 30+ years has been focused on the historical archeology and ethno-history of Colorado’s Ute speaking Native Americans.

“These peoples are commonly referred to simply as “the Utes” and they alone of the Native American peoples currently residing in Colorado have inhabited the region since prehistoric times.”

Today, Baker lives on a small farm in Montrose with his wife of 30 years, Nancy



*New Mexico State Historian Rick Hendricks worked with Baker to translate the archaic Spanish of Rivera’s original journals. Courtesy photo.*

Ellen. His professional bio notes that the couple’s two sons and four daughters are now “fledged.”

To learn more about Baker’s work and his upcoming book, contact him at 970-249-2283, or via email at [sbaker@montrose.net](mailto:sbaker@montrose.net).

**Field Trips:**

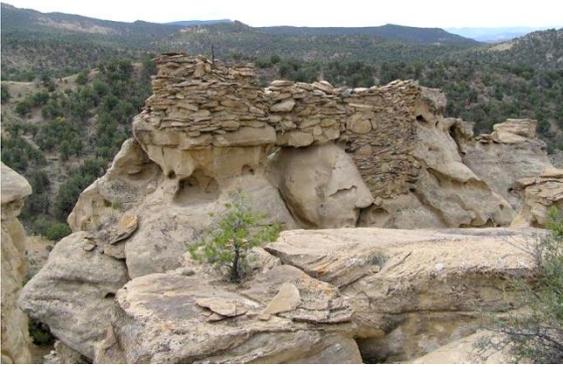
On September 26, 11 Chapter members gathered to visit sites south of Rangeley.

First was a physically inaccessible Fremont pictograph site a short distance up a western side drainage of Douglas Creek that brought out field glasses and long camera lenses.

Next was Texas Creek Overlook, an inferred three interior room defensive structure on a small sandstone island and the latest known Fremont site with dates from the 1500s.



Figure is enhanced with D-Stretch graphics program



East Douglas creek had several sites with the first Barrier Canyon Style (BCS) figures viewed across private property whose owners have unfortunately earned the reputation of hostility to visitors. This didn't dissuade member Alma Evans from gamely trying the ranch door, although no one answered her knock.

Further up the canyon is a Fremont pictograph site followed by another with a huge T - shaped pictograph and a number of petros that had been mudded over and partially uncovered over time. A new petro site with possible BCS figures among various others including a cougar track was seen from the road and explored.



Up Big Horse Draw two multiple panel sites were visited with more mud-covered figures. These Fremont pictographs are partially revealed.



This Big Horse Canyon panel was hypothesized by Betty Houseweart to be a possible representation of the Ute Bear Dance



This newly discovered panel contains two possible BCS-related anthros in David Susec's developing taxonomy, according to Randy Johnson.

Ed Horton



**San Luis Valley with  
Ken Frye,  
Colorado Rock Art  
Association  
Annual Conference in  
Alamosa, Colorado  
September 18-20 2015**

Kenny Frye and his 17+ years in the San Luis Valley as Forest Service Archaeological Technician.

Field trips went to the Loatos Site, Smith Reservoir, Trinchera site, and Vargas Crossing.

Photographs are from **Joel Humence** and posted on his website:

<https://drive.google.com/folderview?id=0Byi7eTghDnpBZkhWQ2VBLWIHSGc&usp=sharing>.

Joel is a member and newly elected VP of the Colorado Rock Art Association, a CAS chapter.



Smith Reservoir



Joe explaining to the group. (*Mr. never-wrong*)



Carol explaining to the group. (*Mrs. Always-right*)

Trinchera site



Keynote Speaker, David Johnson instructing young Jesse from Crestone, the art of finding underground waterflows. He believes using rods will always lead to petroglyphs at the highest concentration of these flows.



At an intersection of high volume flows (underground). Trinchera Site. Glyph showing Rabbit nets?



One would never have guessed there might be petroglyphs here. Thanks goodness for the rods! Vargas Site.



Petroglyphs and lichens, a close up of the upper nob with a 'question mark' glyph. Vargas Crossing



Lobatos Site



Lobatos Site

Carol Patterson

## Colorado Archaeological Society Annual Conference and Meeting

The 80th CAS Annual Conference and Meeting will be held October 9-11, 2015 in Durango. There will be an expanded slate of speakers, including keynote speaker Dr. Doug Owsley who will talk about the scientific analysis of Kennewick Man. There will also be a great selection of field trips, including a historical tour of Silverton, a trip to Chimney Rock National Monument, a visit to the Curatorial Area of Mesa Verde National Park, a tour of Aztec and Salmon Ruins, a visit to Crow Canyon, and a possible day trip to three of the Navajo Pueblitos. See the Announcement and details on the CAS webpage [Bulletinboard](#)

### ***Program for Avocational Archaeological Certification (PAAC)***

Archaeological Dating Methods (15 hrs): Relative and absolute dating techniques, sample collection, preservation and care of datable material.

October 24 and 25, 2015, in Montrose, CO.

For further information and to register, contact Beverly Kolkman, Chipeta PAAC Coordinator, at [bk7753@msn.com](mailto:bk7753@msn.com), or 970.835.4109.

**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:	Check One: <b>Annual Dues</b> (includes state CAS dues)
_____ New	_____ Individual with Southwest Lore*..... \$30
_____ Renewal	_____ Individual senior (no Southwest Lore*)..... \$20
	_____ Family with Southwest Lore*..... \$35
	(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 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 enjoy!

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:** David Batten 970.417.4416  
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UrracaPro@aol.com
- **Secretary:** Annette Butts 970.318.0128  
annettebutts63@gmail.com
- **Treasurer:** Jim Douras 970.252.7363  
mtncpa@montrose.net
- **CAS Rep:** Nick Ard nrard@bresnan.net

## **STANDING COMMITTEES**

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- Membership: Dennis DeVore 970.256.7887  
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- Field Trip Committee
  - George Decker - [gdeckercc@gmail.com](mailto:gdeckercc@gmail.com),
  - Ed Horton - [horted@gmail.com](mailto:horted@gmail.com),
  - Carol Patterson – [Urracapro@aol.com](mailto:Urracapro@aol.com)
  - Bill Harris - [trlgpa@skybeam.com](mailto:trlgpa@skybeam.com),

## **OTHER COMMITTEES AND POSTS**

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## **PAAC CONTACTS**

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**Chipeta PAAC**  
**Coordinator**  
**970.835.4109**

## **Upcoming Events**

Election of Officers – November meeting.

Field trip to Shavano Valley and Dry Creek,  
October 16, led by Bill Harris:  
[trlgpa@skybeam.com](mailto:trlgpa@skybeam.com),

PAAC Course – Archaeological Dating,  
October 24-25, contact Beverly Kolkman (see  
above)

Christmas Party – volunteers to help organize  
it.

### **Field Trip Committee**

George Decker - [gdeckercc@gmail.com](mailto:gdeckercc@gmail.com),  
Ed Horton - [horted@gmail.com](mailto:horted@gmail.com),  
Carol Patterson – [Urracapro@aol.com](mailto:Urracapro@aol.com)  
Bill Harris - [trlgpa@skybeam.com](mailto:trlgpa@skybeam.com),

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