

ALL POINTS BULLETIN



Make friends with...

...the past, through the....

Colorado Archaeological Society - Denver Chapter

"...in the future, as in the past, the gathering of information will depend to a great extent on cooperation between avocational and professional archaeologists." (H.M. Wormington, 1978)

Volume 55, No 11

November,

2017

CAS Annual Meeting By: Cashel McGloin

The Denver chapter of CAS had the distinct honor of hosting the 2017 annual meeting. The focus, as always, is the amazing speakers. As not ever Denver member was able to attend, this is a short summation of the talks.

Steve Nash first clarified that dendrochronology is NOT tree ring dating, but rather cross dating by matching the rings from different trees. He then looked at a systematic bias issue in dendrochronology where more dates from a period is used as a proxy for more building by people in that period and thus presumably more people. Using examples from Mesa Verde, he showed that a larger number of dates simply reflected unequal sampling across sites and while the dates themselves are reliable, the inferences about them as a stand in for past behavior is not.

Zachary Cooper looked at the spread of Tanoan language as a proxy for the movement of people. His focus to date has been on the demographic data with plans to focus more fully on the linguistics later.

Michele Koons talked about the Magic Mountain site near Golden that the Denver Museum of Nature and Science started excavations on in 2016. The site has been excavated twice before, once by a team in the late 1960s and again in the 1990s by Centennial Archaeology. The site proved perfect for ground penetrating radar for locating features. The site, formerly Apex, had been popular for weekend visitors who often took finished points, so while they found few, there was a great deal of debitage. The site spans many periods, possibly as far back as the archaic, but the current excavations focused on the early ceramic phase.

Sarah Foster worked on sites in New Mexico and

witnessed firsthand different kinds of sites and the ways different agencies protect and manage resources.

Chip Colwell read a selection from his book *Plundered Skulls and Stolen Spirits*.

Heather Lynn Seltzer discussed the changes iconography on Pueblo vessels before the Spanish contact and after. She found different frequencies in the use of some icons like bird figures. She also found that crosses had been used before contact, but increased in use post contact, although the frequency changed during the Pueblo Revolt.

Larry Liebrecht documented the remains of an air field in La Junta that was original built in the 1930s for commercial travel, but which was then used by the US army. He is an archaeologist for the Colorado Aviation Historical Society. His surface documentation included finding foundations and an original radio antenna.

Mark Mitchell looked at the effects the adoption of the bow and arrow had in the San Luis Valley. He suspected it would either create social complexity and larger groups or allow smaller bands and families to better feed themselves and thus be autonomous. It was not clear cut, but his evidence found that the later hypothesis was true for the area.

Rachael Wedemeyer looked at figures from (formative period) Oaxca. In particular she studied the differences between form types, including zoomorphic.

Scott Ortman tracked human migrations by proxy of turkey DNA. In the late 1200s-early 1300s, the population centers of the southwest moved from Southwestern Colorado to the Northern Rio Grande area. This may represent a migration, but there are cultural discontinuities that leave that in doubt. He tested the mtDNA in turkey bones from both sides and found the mitochondrial genes of the turkeys

show migration from one area to another, rather than a genetic continuity in the north Rio Grande. This strongly suggests that domestic turkeys, and their humans, migrated from one population center to another.

Richard Goddard discussed his work on Fort Massachusetts, the first US army fort in Colorado, which predates the civil war. Despite only having a single map and one reliable drawing to work from, he has managed to piece together a great deal about the fort, including inhabitants like the washerwomen, not just the soldiers.

Holly Norton spoke about her work on the Cinnamon Bay Plantation, one of the oldest buildings in the Caribbean until hurricane Irma. It was built on St. John by one family in the 1680s and their slaves, probably to feed the colonists on St. Thomas who specialized in cash crops. In 1733, there was a slave rebellion on the island, where much was burned; leaving a line that is still distinct. Cinnamon Bay survived because the slaves chose to go with the family rather than join the revolt. She ended by providing a list of resources for helping people in the Caribbean affected by the hurricanes.

Ann Whitfield and **Hannah Weber** spoke about the new Colorado Rock Art Association Archive in Pueblo Colorado. It will allow for much greater access to the information for the public at large. Hannah also gave good advice for submitting things to archives as well.

Neil Hauser spoke about his work creating a database of projective points. He is focusing on diagnostic types and is working with private owners, whose collections would likely go unrecorded.

Chris Johnston spoke about the survey work he and several teams did in the southern San Luis Valley. Mostly they surveyed in walking lines, but there were also excavations of rock lined hearths and findings of lithics, including an exceptional knife blade.

It was a great line up of speakers and a well balanced program overall.

November General Meeting: Monday, November 13, at DMNS in Ricketson Auditorium at 7 PM.

Speaker: Sarah Trabert, PhD, RPA
Assistant Professor, Department of Anthropology
University of Oklahoma

Title: Western Views on “Eastern Groups”:
Understanding the Dismal River (Plains Apache)
Occupation of Colorado

Abstract: The Dismal River archaeological complex (AD 1445-1740) is most often described using data

from “eastern” sites in Nebraska and Kansas. The record for Dismal River occupations farther west, however, is just as rich and can tell us much of Dismal River migrations, landscape use, and ceramic technology. Starting with a brief discussion of what is known about this group, this lecture will highlight the many ways that eastern Colorado sites have contributed to our broader understanding of Dismal River culture and ceramics technology. Key topics addressed in this lecture will include: the history of Dismal River occupation in Colorado, the interesting variation displayed by peoples living here in the past, and the important role Colorado peoples and natural resources had on the production and distribution of micaceous ceramics.

Speaker Bio: Dr. Sarah Trabert is an Assistant Professor of Anthropology at the University of Oklahoma. She completed her Masters and Doctorate degrees at the University of Iowa with a focus on Protohistoric/Early Historic Period occupation of the Central High Plains. Her current research interests include understanding the myriad of responses Native peoples on the Plains had to European colonialism, how ceramic technology changed in the Historic period, and understanding both Apache and Wichita lifeways during this critical Protohistoric period.

Minutes of the DC-CAS Board Meeting, October 3, 2017

The DC-CAS Board meeting was held at the South Classroom Building/Cherry Creek Building, Room 241 at Metro State University Denver Tuesday, October 3. Attending were Linda Sand, Jon Kent, Alex Rosa, Ken Andresen, Teresa Weedon, Jack Warner, Cate McNabb and Michele Giometti. The meeting was called to order by Linda at 7:08 pm. The December General Meeting, often referred to as Members Night, will be held in Room 241 of the Cherry Creek Building at Metro State University Denver (Jon Kent’s Lab).

Speakers Jon has not started to line up speakers for 2018 due to the uncertainty of where and when we will be meeting in the new year.

Membership Cashel reported by email that there are two new memberships.

Treasurer Michele emailed the September report to the board on October 2.

Scientific Neal Hauser is leading the Colorado Projectile Point Project. Jack Warner is taking care of the Denver Region portion of this project.

APB The October APB was received by Cashel from Ken but not in time for posting on the website prior to the board meeting.

Annual Meeting Several items were mentioned, including that Aztec will donate notepads, the bags were being printed currently, who gets seated at the speaker's table, power outlet available at a table, the caterer's deadline, posters are acceptable, some speakers abstracts and bios still needed, and silent auction items can be received at the October 9 General Meeting.

Michele reported 46 members and 6 nonmembers have registered so far. The next planning meeting will be October 11. Linda wants an Annual Meeting post mortum meeting sometime in the future.

Old Business Nothing new has developed in the search for a new venue for the General Meetings in 2018.

The board approved the new liability insurance arrangement for 2018.

New Business The next Board Meeting will be delayed to Wednesday November 8 to avoid conflict with Election Day.

Michele reported on plans for the December Board dinner meeting at Gaetanos. There will be a limited menu.

Jon asked if funds could be available for the West Bijou Creek work. The new owner of the property is the Savory Institute. Jack is on the History Colorado grant assessment evaluation committee and notes few requests for archaeological projects.

The minutes of the September Board Meeting were approved after correcting a typographical error in a name.

The meeting adjourned at 8:32 pm.

Submitted by Ken Andresen.

Minutes of the DC-CAS General Meeting, October 9, 2017

The meeting, held in the Ricketson Auditorium of the Denver Museum of Nature and Science, was called to order by Linda Sand at 7:08 pm. She announced the CAS Annual Meeting will be October 27 – 29 at History Colorado. One needs to register by October 18th to attend the banquet on October 28. Register by October 10 for early bird pricing. Jack Warner will lead one of the field trips to Lamb Springs on October 27. Onsite registration starts at 8 AM October 28. There is no Alice Hamilton Fund raffle this year. The next Annual Meeting planning meeting will be October 11 at Jon's lab.

There is a free lecture by Doug Preston October 20 in Fort Collins.

Jon announced the November General Meeting speaker, Sarah Trabert, will cover Dismal River archaeology.

Jon next introduced the evening's speaker Reid Farmer who spoke on *Archaeology at Cherokee Ranch 1971 to 2017*.

Cherokee Ranch is located about 6.5 miles northwest of Castle Rock, Colorado. It is now a 3600 acre land trust devoted to education, conservation, and preservation. The early owner of the land was Charles Johnson, a wealthy person, who had an architect design and build the castle in the 1920's. Mr. Johnson originally named the castle Chelmsford. After Mr. Johnson died, the castle was unoccupied for many years. In the 1950's the property was acquired by the husband of Mildred Montague 'Tweet' Kimbal for his soon to be divorced wife with the provision that she never set foot east of the Mississippi River. She assembled a herd of Santa Gertrudis cattle for this working ranch. Texas ranchers told her those cattle could not survive in Colorado. She developed prized bulls. Tweet decorated the castle with valuable art works. She also became active in Republican politics. Tweet died in 1999.

In 1971 two archaeologists, Charles Nelson and Bruce Stewart, requested and were permitted to survey on the ranch. They found a rock shelter geologically under the contact point of the dense Castle Rock Conglomerate which overlays the Dawson Arkose. Erosion creates dry caves in the Arkose. The Franktown Cave is a similarly situated dry cave.

Nelson and Stewart excavated the cave finding about a meter depth of deposition. Their work was reported in a 1973 article in the Plains Archaeologist. Three obsidian flakes and an obsidian projectile point were found.

In the late 1990's a box of artifacts from the excavation was found in the castle basement. Reid was contacted and he received the collection. In the collection Reid found small binotched and trinotched projectile points which date to early ceramic period. Also found were Parker petrofied wood scrapers. Two radio carbon dates 280+/- 30 years and 940+/- 30 years BP were subsequently obtained.

There is a bench below the rockshelter. An excavation in 2014 found artifacts throughout a 1.2 meter deep horizon. Jon Kent has conducted, with Reid, field schools the past few years at the Cherokee Ranch site.

The talk was abruptly interrupted by the museum's fire alarm at approximately 8 PM.

The audience was told to evacuate the building by the guards. Reid was not able to finish his talk or answer questions.

Submitted by Ken Andresen.

[Last update: 11/05/17 9:45 PM MST]

Other Lectures

Unwrapping the Secrets of the Mummies

For years, the *Egyptian Mummies* gallery has displayed two female mummies, described as the “Rich Mummy” and the “Poor Mummy.” In 2016, a team of Egyptologists from around the country banded together to find out how today’s leading technologies could shed more light on the lives of these two women. Michele Koons, curator of archaeology, led the research, which included radiocarbon dating, isotope analysis, tree ring core sampling, portable x-ray fluorescence, and an ambulance ride for the mummies to be CT scanned at Children’s Hospital Colorado. Join Koons to get all the exciting details on the new science, which is newly interpreted in the *Egyptian Mummies* gallery. This program is the annual Marie Wormington Lecture, named for the renowned anthropologist who had an illustrious career at the Museum.

Tuesday, November 7, 7 p.m.
Ricketson Auditorium
\$8 member, \$10 nonmember

Connecting the Pieces: Dialogues on the Amache Archaeology Collection

Join the University of Denver Museum of Anthropology in celebrating the opening of our newest exhibit, *Connecting the Pieces: Dialogues on the Amache Archaeology Collection*, Thursday, November 9, 6-8 pm.

Seventy-five years ago, the U.S. government forcefully removed thousands of Japanese Americans from their homes on the West Coast and confined them in remote camps. Join community members and students in exploring how everyday objects from Amache reveal stories of the past and stimulate dialogues today.

Opening Reception
November 9, 6-8 pm
University of Denver Museum of Anthropology
2000 E Asbury Ave, Sturm Hall Rm 102, Denver CO 80208

Dr. Peter Wood Emeritus Professor of History, Duke University

Missing the Boat: Ancient Dugout Canoes in the Mississippi-Missouri Watershed

When archaeologists discuss the great Mississippian site at Cahokia near East St. Louis, a crucial piece of the puzzle still seems to be missing. They know

much about the great mound-building center, and about the trade goods and tribute that flowed to it. But they rarely talk about how those objects moved great distances. So far, we have never recovered a huge and ancient wooden canoe in the Mississippi Valley (Indeed, we can’t even imagine the immense trees from which such dugouts were made a thousand years ago!). But indirect evidence from other places and disciplines strongly points to the existence and importance of such vessels. This slide talk by a Duke University historian of early America, explores how long such boats were in use, and why they disappeared.

November 11, 2017- 2:00 PM
Auraria Campus
North Classroom
Room 1511
1100 Lawrence Street

J. W. Hanson University of Colorado, Boulder **Oppidum cadavera: Assessing the impact of ancient urbanism on modern Europe and beyond**

Although we have always known that cities were one of the hallmarks of the ancient world and that they have had a fundamental impact on the development of urbanism in modern Europe and beyond, we still have very little idea about the exact nature of the relationship between the ancient and modern urban systems. In this talk, speaker J.W. Hanson will use new data and innovative methods to explore some of these issues. How similar or different are ancient and modern urbanism? To what extent has ancient urbanism acted as a template for the modern world? What does this tell us about the survival or destruction of urban systems? And what can we say about the resilience of urban systems in the long run?

November 15, 2017- 7:00 PM
CU Museum (Henderson Building)
Paleontology Hall

COLORADO ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY DENVER CHAPTER

Prepared by Michele Giometti

Balance Sheet

Balance Sheet

September 30, 2017

ASSETS

Current Assets

Checking/Savings

Key Bank Checking	5,653.06
1st Bank CD 182 day 1/3/18 .05%	5,700.93
1st Bank CD 182 day 10/17/17 .05%	4,811.77
1st Bank CD 1 Yr 2/20/18 .10%	5,004.37

Total Checking/Savings	<u>21,170.13</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u><u>21,170.13</u></u>
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Current Liabilities	
State CAS Dues Payable	<u>0.00</u>
Total Checking/Savings	<u>0.00</u>
Temp. Restricted Net Assets	
Scientific Applications Fund	3,995.91
Swallow Report Project Fund	2,353.81
D Bucknam Memorial Speaker Fund	1,747.10
Blackfoot Cave Fund	0.00
Education Fund	52.40
Field Trips / Social Fund	483.01
Student Membership Fund	57.50
Speakers Meal Fund	<u>483.98</u>
Total Temp. Restricted Net Assets	9,173.71
General Fund	7,352.24
General Fund Net Income	<u>4,644.18</u>
Total Equity	<u>21,170.13</u>
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	<u><u>21,170.13</u></u>

Scientific Applications			
Income			
	Transfer from General Fund	3.50	196.00
	Donations Received		<u>48.00</u>
	Total Income	<u>3.50</u>	<u>244.00</u>
Net Income			
		3.50	244.00
Speakers' Meals			
Income			
	Donations Received	-	<u>2.00</u>
	Total Income	-	2.00
Expenses			
	Speakers' Meals		<u>78.30</u>
	Total Expenses	-	<u>78.30</u>
	Net Income (Expense)	-	(76.30)
Swallow Report Project			
Income			
	Donations Received	-	128.00
Expenses			
	Contract Services		<u>500.00</u>
	Total Expenses	-	<u>500.00</u>
	Net Income (Expense)	-	(372.00)

Income Statement			
September 1-30, 2017			
General Fund	MTD	YTD	
Income			
	Membership Dues	60.00	2,866.00
	Interest-Savings, Short-term CD	-	7.80
	Donations Received		618.00
Annual Meeting Income:			
	Sponsorships	750.00	750.00
	Member Registrations	1,520.00	1,520.00
	Non-Member & Late Registrations	350.00	350.00
	Student Registrations	80.00	80.00
	Board Meeting Dinner	520.00	520.00
	Box Lunch Income	390.00	390.00
	Banquet Income	1,680.00	1,680.00
	Speaker Only	40.00	40.00
Total Income		<u>5,390.00</u>	<u>8,821.80</u>
Expenses			
	Bank Service Charges	-	10.00
	Dues Paid to State	32.00	1,308.00
	Supplies	-	-
	Insurance		280.00
	PO Box Rental	-	-
	Website	-	40.34
	Transfer to Scientific Applications	3.50	196.00
	DMNS Annual Membership	-	-
Annual Meeting Expenses:			
	Catering	2,134.63	2,134.63
	Printing	118.75	118.75
	PayPal Fees	89.90	89.90
		<u>2,378.78</u>	<u>4,177.62</u>
Net Income		3,011.22	4,644.18

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