

ALL POINTS BULLETIN



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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)

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OAK TREE HOUSE, NEW FIRE HOUSE AND FIRE TEMPLE: VISITING BACKCOUNTRY SITES AT MESA VERDE NATIONAL PARK BY ANNE WINSLOW

For the last several years, Mesa Verde National Park has been offering special, ranger-guided hikes to backcountry sites in the park which are not open to the public. In the summer of 2013, one of these hikes was to Oak Tree House, New Fire House and Fire Temple. This one mile round trip, moderately strenuous hike starts at Sun Temple on the Mesa Top Loop Road and quickly descends by means of steps cut into the sandstone and several ladders to a relatively level trail near the head of Fewkes Canyon. There are great views from the trail across the canyon to Cliff Canyon and Cliff Palace, providing a great opportunity to view Cliff Palace from a different vantage point, without any visitors and with the sun just beginning to enter the alcove. A little further along, the trail passes under Mummy House before arriving at Oak Tree House.

Oak Tree House, one of the larger cliff dwellings in the Park, is located in a sandstone alcove on the side of Fewkes Canyon. It was named for a large oak tree which is no longer there. The site was excavated between 1915 and 1921 by Jesse Fewkes, for whom the canyon is named. It was open to the public early in the Park's history, but has not been generally open to the public since the 1930's. It dates to the late 1100's – early 1200's and consists of 50 rooms and 6 kivas built on two ledges. Hand and toe holds, as well as ladders, were used to move between the two levels. Space was at a premium as the Park Service interpretive sign indicates: "To level the sloping alcove floor, the (Ancestral Puebloans) filled in behind retaining walls. The altered floor not only supported rooms, but also provided working space and a safe play area for children. Oak Tree House appears to have utilized every inch of alcove space. Some apartments rose four stories to the roof of the inner alcove. There are additional storage rooms along an upper ledge." There is extensive smoke blackening on some of the rear walls indicating that fires, probably for cooking, were used repeatedly in the area. One unusual room was evidently

used primarily for grinding corn as it contained four large side-by-side bins containing manos and metates.

A short distance past Oak Tree House, the trail passes New Fire House, which may have been used as a residence for the caretakers of Fire Temple, and immediately beyond that, arrives at Fire Temple. It is thought that Fire Temple was used for communal social and ceremonial purposes rather than habitation as there were no features found that would indicate domestic use. The floor of the site contains two large rectangular structures with a circular pit in between, which resemble the structures generally found on the floor of great kivas. The circular structure contained large amounts of ash, and has been interpreted as a fire pit, thereby giving the site its name. Large amounts of white plaster are still visible on the walls and several designs are still barely visible in the white plaster. At the far end of the site, one wall contains numerous pictographs in red paint, including images of mountain sheep and a row of flower-like images. Early pictures of this wall also showed images of Kokopelli which are no longer present, and it is thought that they may have been removed because of their depiction of phallic images.

After leaving Fire Temple, the hike returns to the mesa top along the same trail. These ruins can also be viewed from the Sun Point overlook atop the mesa, but the unique views experienced along the trail are well worth the effort.

The program of ranger guided backcountry sites is a unique opportunity to visit some of the lesser known, but no less important, ruins at Mesa Verde which are not generally open to the public. The destinations are different each summer; this summer the Park is offering hikes to Mug House and Upper Navajo Canyon, as well as Yucca House and a four mile interpretive hike through Wetherill Mesa. More information about and tickets for this summer's hikes can be found at www.nps.gov/meve/playourvisit/backcountry_hikes.htm. These hikes are a great way to experience the Park without the crowds and learn more about the amazing place that is Mesa Verde.



Grinding Bins at Oak Tree House



Pictographs at Fire Temple



Oak Tree House



Fire Temple

AUGUST DC/CAS GENERAL MEETING
Monday, August 11, 2014, 7 pm, Ricketson Auditorium,
Denver Museum of Nature & Science
(Joint Meeting with the Egyptian Study Society)

TITLE: Fetch! Anubis & the Canids of Egypt

LECTURER: Sue Ware, Ph.D

DESCRIPTION: Since the beginning of their civilization, ancient Egyptians have had a jackal god in the religious pantheon. Throughout time, there have been dogs in Egyptian villages. They are depicted sitting beside the Pharaohs, and living with the people.

Sue will take us on a journey back in time to the beginnings of Anubis and his influence on ancient Egyptian religion and his role in the Egyptian pantheon. The “dog” family has a rich fossil history, fascinating natural history, and a continuous involvement with Egyptian culture.

LECTURER'S BIO: Dr. Ware is a paleopathologist and osteologist working with fossil and modern carnivores, specifically the members of the Canidae. She is a trained forensic anthropologist and archaeologist with a life-long interest in Ancient Egyptian mummies, burial practices, and sacred animals. Her research interests include the natural history and fossil record of animals and their involvement in the rituals, ceremonies, and mythology of death and dying in world cultures.

Sue holds an M. A. in archaeology and anthropology from the University of Colorado and a Ph.D in interdisciplinary studies from the Union Institute & University in Cincinnati, OH. She is a research associate at the Denver Museum of Nature & Science in the departments of Earth Science & Zoology, as well as the George C. Page Museum of La Brea Discoveries in Los Angeles, CA.

Sue is the designer of the ESS logo.

**DC/CAS FIELD TRIP
COMANCHE CROSSING MUSEUM**

Saturday, August 23 Meet at Corona's Mexican Grill, Strasburg, at 11 AM for lunch before going to the museum. The Comanche Crossing Museum opens at 1 PM. As an alternate, you can go directly to the museum at 1 PM. Contact: Donna Morgan (303-941-6944) (blank67lady@gmail.com) no later than August 15 if you are interested in going.

The museum is located about 35 miles east of Denver at Exit 310 on I-70. Go ¼ mile north to Hwy 36 (East Colfax Ave.) and then 3 blocks west to the museum. The museum address is 56060 East Colfax Ave.

Museum attractions include historic buildings furnished with period artifacts [Living Springs School (1891), Homestead House (1910), Wolf Creek School (1904), Union Pacific Railroad Depot (1917)]. Strasburg, Colorado, is listed in the National Register of Historic Places as the site where the Kansas Pacific Railroad finished laying the tracks that formed the first continuous chain of rails from the Atlantic Coast to the Pacific Coast. There also are outside displays and three buildings housing artifacts.

BLACKFOOT CAVE

Excavation: August 9, 10, 23, 24 (Blackfoot Cave)

Analysis: August 12, 13, 26, 27 (5379 South Flanders Way)

Contact: Neil Hauser (hauserndigger@gmail.com)

**KEN-CARYL RANCH HISTORICAL SOCIETY
100TH ANNIVERSARY OF KEN-CARYL RANCH
Saturday, August 9, 10:30 AM – 2:30 PM**

In recognition of the long and satisfying partnership between Denver CAS and the Ken-Caryl Ranch, Denver CAS members are invited to attend the 100th Anniversary festivities. The Ken-Caryl Ranch Manor House is located at 1 Manor House Road, Littleton, CO 80127 (west of the C-470/Ken-Caryl exit). Activities will include: vintage clothes, music, vintage fashion show, ice cream social, cash food, cash bar, historical posters and movies, mule-drawn rides, antique vehicles, family activities and children's games.

PAAC CLASS SCHEDULE 2ND HALF, 2014 (Draft)

The following is the PAAC class schedule for July, 2014 – January, 2015.

Alamosa	Basic Site Surveying Techniques
Sept. 19-22	
Avon	Archaeological Laboratory Techniques
Nov. 15-16	
Boulder	Archaeological Practice in Colorado
Sept. 10, 17, 24, Oct. 1	
Denver	Perishable Materials
Oct. 16, 23, 30, Nov. 6, 13, 20, Dec. 4	
Dolores	Archaeological Dating Methods
Nov. 1-2	

Durango	Historical Archaeology
Oct. 24-26	
Fountain	Prehistoric Lithics Description & Analysis
Nov. 21-23	
Montrose	Rock Art Studies
Aug. 8-11	
Pueblo	Colorado Archaeology
Sept. 12-14	

To register for the Denver/CAS class on Perishable Materials, contact: Anne Winslow (annewinslow52@comcast.net).

**DC/CAS
May, 2014 Financial Report
Prepared by Preston Niesen, Treasurer**

Assets	April	May
Key Bank checking	\$ 1,843.24	\$ 1,532.48
TD 182 day to 07/03/14 @0.15%	\$ 5,682.42	\$ 5,682.42
TD 182 day to 10/23/13 @0.15%	\$ 4,802.17	\$ 4,802.17
TD 91 day to 03/25/2014 @0.1%	\$ 4,108.53	\$ 4,108.53
TD 1 year to 5/14/14 @ 0.15%	\$ 4,983.49	\$ 4,983.49
Total checking/savings	\$ 21,419.85	\$21,109.09
Total Assets	\$ 21,419.85	\$21,109.09
Liabilities & Equity	March	April
Current Liabilities		
AH Scholarship Fund payable		
State CAS Dues payable		
Funds		
Scientific Applications	\$ 7,105.26	\$ 7,114.01
Swallow Report Project	\$ 2,571.81	\$ 2,571.81
D Bucknam Memorial Speaker Fund	\$ 1,747.10	\$ 1,747.10
Blackfoot Cave	\$ 180.00	\$180.00
Library	\$ 302.45	\$302.45
Education	\$ 182.00	\$182.00
Field Trips/Social	\$ 483.01	\$483.01
Student Membership	\$ 47.50	\$47.50
Speakers Meal Fund	\$ 716.37	\$734.37
Total Liabilities & Funds	\$ 13,335.50	\$ 13,362.25
Total L E F's	\$ 21,419.85	\$ 21,109.09

ARE YOU MOVING OR DO YOU HAVE AN ADDRESS CHANGE??? Please update your address for the APB with our Membership Chairperson.

CAS ANNUAL MEETING 2014 – September 26-28, Colorado Springs

Hosting Chapter: Pikes Peak

(coloradospringsarchaeology.org)

Contact information: [Laurie Lee](mailto:Laurie2014CASmeeting@gmail.com)

(Laurie2014CASmeeting@gmail.com)

2014 CAS Annual Meeting Preliminary Event

Descriptions

(Times are approximate. Please check the Pikes Peak Chapter or CAS website for updates in August)

Early Bird Field Trips

Friday, September 26, 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Fountain's Historic Fairview Cemetery - Learn more about settlement in the Pikes Peak region by joining Fountain historian Pam Owens on a one-hour walk through the town's historic cemetery. Settled in 1859, the Fountain Valley attracted miners, farmers, Quakers, Hispanics, veterans and trouble makers!

Red Rock Canyon History Hike - Explore and learn about the quarry which supplied stone to help build the Brown Palace Hotel in Denver and Colorado College in Colorado Springs, the old trails and rails that crossed the canyon and the other remnants of times gone by.

Other trips to be offered: check the websites for updates!

CAS Quarterly Board Meeting

Friday, September 26, 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

The Mason Jar, 2925 West Colorado Ave., Colorado Springs, CO 80904; 719-632-4820

Conference

Saturday, September 27, Registration opens at 8:00 a.m., Conference, 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Location: Colorado Springs Shrine Club, 6 S 33rd St., Colorado Springs, CO 80904 (entrance off West Pikes Peak Ave.); free parking

Coffee, tea, lemonade and Crystal Light lemonade made with local naturally carbonated Manitou Springs mineral water, fruit and pastries available

CAS Annual Membership Meeting

Saturday, September 27, 4:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Location: Colorado Springs Shrine Club, 6 S 33rd St., Colorado Springs, CO 80904

Banquet

Saturday, September 27, Happy hour/Cash bar: 5:00-6:30 p.m., Dinner served 6:30 p.m., speaker 7:30 p.m.

Location: Colorado Springs Shrine Club, at 6 S 33rd St., Colorado Springs, CO 80904; free parking

Keynote Speaker: **Dr. Scott Ortman**

Topic: **"The Invention of Community in the Ancient Southwest"**

In this keynote dinner presentation, Dr. Scott Ortman will share his recent work with Crow Canyon, which explores how Mesa Verde Pueblo society took shape during the Basketmaker III period. While this talk will touch on concepts presented in his book, *Winds from*

the North, much of the information Dr. Ortman shares will be new and not yet published.

In his research, Dr. Scott Ortman focuses on historical anthropology, or the integration of theory and data from many fields to understand the long-term histories of indigenous peoples. He is especially interested in the causes and consequences of major transitions – periods when new societies formed, old ones collapsed, or new scales of organization emerged. He has investigated Tewa Pueblo origins, the growth and collapse of villages in the Mesa Verde region, and the accumulation of social complexity on a global scale. Dr. Ortman is Assistant Professor of Anthropology at the University of Colorado. Previously, he was Director of Research at the Crow Canyon Archaeological Center and an Omidyar Postdoctoral Fellow at the Santa Fe Institute. He earned his PhD from Arizona State University.

Post Meeting Field Trips

Sunday, September 28, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. (some half day, some full day)

Florissant Fossil Beds, culturally modified trees

Monarch Pass Game Drive, perfect for those returning to the western slope, or those taking who might take the long way home to the upper Front Range.

Roper's Walk Apishapa site near Beulah

Other trips to be offered; check the websites for updates!

Special Display Local artists will display works entitled **"Fiber Art Interpretations of Rock Art Images"**. Don't miss this extraordinary exhibit!

Conference Hotels/Motels – motels are right next to each other and less than 1 mile from conference site – limited number of rooms at these rates available and must be reserved by August 23 to receive special CAS rates – must ask for CAS or Colorado Archaeological Society rate.

Comfort Inn Manitou Springs

45 Manitou Ave.

Manitou Springs, CO 80829

719-685-5455

CAS rate – Two queen beds – 1-2 people \$79.90, extra persons \$10 each

One king 1-2 people \$96.90

All rooms non-smoking, interior corridors and elevator; includes full breakfast and free parking.

Rodeway Inn Manitou Springs

103 Manitou Ave.

Manitou Springs, CO 80829

719-685-3300

CAS rate – Standard room with one king or two queen beds – 1-2 people \$70.00, extra persons \$10 each
Suites with One king or two queen beds - 1-2 people \$95.00

All rooms non-smoking, exterior corridors, no elevator; includes full breakfast and free parking.

JUNE 2014 BOARD MINUTES

The DC-CAS Board Meeting was held at Denver University Sturm Hall on June 3, 2014.

Meeting was called to order at 7:11 PM by Jack W
Attending Board members were Jack Warner, Preston Niesen, Teresa Weedon, Craig Banister, Jon Kent, Ken Andresen, Jan Dillon and Kendra Elrod and two CAS members, Catherine Griffin and Reid Farmer, also attended the meeting

Jack W began the meeting by thanking the APB team for their work

Vice Pres/Speakers (Jack W for Linda S) confirmed Michele Koons, curator for the Denver Museum of Nature and Science Maya Exhibit will be the guest speaker for June. As usual the Egyptian Studies Society will provide the guest speaker for the August general meeting

Scientific (Jack W for Neil H) reminded those attending that the Blackfoot Site Open House is June 28. For those working at the site you are asked to show at the usual time 8AM at the pre-arranged site to coordinate and setup. The Open House officially begins at 9AM

It was discussed how to increase awareness of the upcoming Open House. Craig B agreed he would post the Open House notification on the State CAS board

Membership (Jack W for Rosalie H) reported membership numbers were up from May at 130 individuals members and 166 members including family memberships

CO-CAS (Teresa W) announced the CAS Quarterly and CRAA Board Meetings will be held in Montrose July 26. Activities included with the meetings are a potluck held that same day and a field trip to the Escalante Bridge will be run July 27. September 26-28 the Annual CAS Meeting will be held in western Colorado Springs near Manitou

PAAC (Jack W for Anne W) reported nothing new with PAAC

Treasurer (Preston Niesen) handed out the monthly financials and noted the current charges included Internet fees, Web Hosting and Meet-Up fees.

Trips/Events (Teresa W) reported the field trip to Chaco Canyon included about 15 people and was windy, dusty and awesome.

The upcoming field trip to San Luis Valley is on hold until schedules are worked out. July 18 at 10:30AM Michele Koons will be hosting a private tour of the Maya Exhibit at the Denver Museum of Nature and Science. Anyone interested in attending this private tour needs to purchase their own ticket, sign up for the appropriate time and notify Teresa W to be put on the list

Library (Teresa W) reported the library plans are being worked on for the summer

APB Newsletter (Ken A) announced there was nothing new as the APB will not be posted for July

e-APB (Craig B) reported there was nothing new as the APB will not be posted for July and there are no outstanding issues with the DC-CAS website

Old Business

Past minutes have been approved

No new old business was raised

New Business

It was raised that the time for Chapter Award nominations are coming up and further discussion will be made at the August Board Meeting

CAS Member Reid Farmer took the floor to discuss upcoming fieldwork opportunities; more information on these opportunities will be compiled and posted in the coming months

It was raised that the Douglas County History Repository is in need of cabinets for curation purposes. **Motion for DC-CAS to provide the necessary funds for the Douglas County Repository to purchase cabinets was raised and approved unanimously using the Blackfoot Cave and Scientific Applications funds**

No additional new business was raised

Meeting was adjourned at 8:31PM by Jack W

The DC-CAS General Meeting on schedule for June 9, 2014

7:00PM at the Denver Museum of Nature and Science

The next DC-CAS Board Meeting scheduled for August 5, 2014

Kendra Elrod, Secretary

JUNE 2014 GENERAL MEETING MINUTES

The DC-CAS General Meeting was held at the Denver Museum of Nature and Science Ricketson Auditorium June 9, 2014.

Approximately 40 people attending. The DC-CAS General Meeting was called to order at 7:06PM by Jack Warner

Jack W began the meeting by thanking the APB team for their always diligent work in getting the newsletter together and posted for CAS members to enjoy and noted that the June issue of APB is available online

Events (Teresa Weedon) reported the Chaco Canyon field trip was windy, dusty and awesome and thanks to those who attended the field trip over \$700.00 was raised for the Alice Hamilton Scholarship Fund

Scientific (Jack Warner for Neil Hauser) reminded field season is underway with survey, lab/curation, lab/analysis and excavation opportunities for all CAS members

PAAC (Jack Warner for Anne Winslow) noted no new announcements for PAAC at this time

Speaker (Linda Sand) reminded everyone the Open House at the Blackfoot Cave site is scheduled for June 28 and to refer to the website for more details.

Linda S introduced the June General Meeting guest speaker Dr Michele Koons, curator of Archaeology of the Denver Museum of Nature and Science, Maya Exhibit and reminded everyone Dr Koons will be hosting a private tour of the Maya Exhibit Friday, July 18. Anyone interested must notify DC-CAS as there is a 20 person max limit, they must purchase their own ticket through the museum and must sign up for the 10:30AM time slot

Dr Koons' presentation was dedicated to Maya exhibit currently showing at the museum. Dr Koons explained as to how the Maya exhibit is setup, defining the area of study and brief descriptions of the Maya culture and timeline. Dr Koons also explained the history as well as the expected future of the exhibit

Following Dr Koons' presentation Jack W thanked Dr Koons for her time and willingness to share her interest and expertise with the audience.

Old Business

Old minutes were approved

No old business was raised

New Business

New raffle opportunity to benefit CAS Scholarships, information regarding this raffle will be available online or at the next DC-CAS General Meeting

It was announced that the June Egyptian Studies Society meeting is scheduled for June 16 for anyone interested at the Ricketson Auditorium

Jack W adjourned the DC-CAS General Meeting at 8:30PM

Reminder July the DC-CAS meetings are on hiatus

Next DC-CAS meeting is scheduled for August 11, 2014 at the Ricketson Auditorium

Kendra Elrod, Secretary

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