

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)

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Lives in Ruin Review

By
Reid Farmer

I believe that some of you might enjoy Marilyn Johnson's new book, *Lives in Ruins: Archaeologists and the Seductive Lure of Human Rubble*. It's a book written by an objective outsider looking in at archaeologists, their interests, motivations, and careers. Johnson has written two previous books on other "odd" professions, *This Book is Overdue!* about librarians and *The Dead Beat* about obituary writers.

I think she does a good job catching onto why we archaeologists are attracted to the field, how we do our work. She also does a good job describing a number of the quirks in the culture of archaeologists (she can't get over that we are so fond of beer!). She has an amusing section discussing our relationship with our cult hero, Indiana Jones. A recent review of this book in the *New York Times* faults Johnson for seemingly losing objectivity and acting almost as an advocate for archaeology. I don't think most of us working in the field would see that as a problem.

I believe Johnson deserves credit for actually getting her hands dirty doing field work at two field schools, one on an island in the Caribbean and another on an island in the Mediterranean. She certainly picked two nice locations.

On the other hand however, I think she paints an unnecessarily dire picture of the economic and career prospects of archaeologists. Most of us working in North America can make a reasonable living working as consultants in cultural resource management (CRM). Johnson writes some about CRM archaeology, but chooses to focus on academia and government agencies, where jobs are few and far between, what I like to call "monastic" archaeologists. By that term, I mean those in the field (and there are a number of them) who become so completely captivated by a research area or topic, that they are willing to work on it for free and in fact, are willing to sacrifice other viable career alternatives in the field to do so. It's as though they have taken vows of poverty.

The book isn't nearly as well-publicized as it should be - I only found out about it in an ad for a book-signing she did here at The Tattered Cover, that I unfortunately had to miss because of a schedule conflict.

I also found it interesting that she only talked with one archaeologist that I have met personally, Sarah Nelson at University of Denver. We are a fairly small field where most everybody is only a degree or two of separation apart, but we are somewhat geographically divided. Johnson is based in New York, and most of her contacts were in that region.

Lives in Ruins: Archaeologists and the Seductive Lure of Human Rubble

Marilyn Johnson
Harper
978-0062127181
\$25.99

February General Meeting: Monday, February 9th at DMNS in Ricketson Auditorium at 7 PM. Enter through the Security entrance. The West entrance is closed.

Erin Baxter
University of Colorado, Boulder
(Grateful Alice Hamilton Recipient)

Title: Fire, Sweet Corn, Violence and Demography, Woodrow Wilson and the Lindbergh Kidnapping: A new history of Aztec Ruins excavated from Earl Morris' field notes (with some interesting implications for Chaco Canyon too).

Abstract: This paper will be a biography of a place and time: it will tell two tales. The first is the vibrant and complex story of the prehistoric site of Aztec, NM (A.D. 1080-1300). And the second is the narrative of the Aztec Ruins as we came to know it when it was excavated (AD 1916-1934), and studied by Earl Morris, the famous Southwest archaeologist. Aztec was once the center place and political capital of the Ancestral Pueblo World, but some of what it has to tell still lies buried – in both the ground and in Morris' unpublished work. I would like to share with you 'new' information gleaned from his notes, letters, field notebooks, and photographs. When synthesized and combined with 'new' 21st century research, Aztec indeed has some new tales to tell.



Bio: Erin Baxter is a graduate student at the University of Colorado, Boulder. She has worked in Turkey, Bolivia, Ireland, Tunisia, but returned (quite happily) to the only place you can get a cherry limeade and green chili after work: The US Southwest. After seven years at Crow Canyon Archaeological Center, she is currently mid-life crisising in 25th grade at CU-Boulder, where she's interested in political organization, architecture, and the post-Chacoan era of the Upper and Middle San Juan Basin.



March General Meeting: Monday, March 9, 2015 at DMNS in Ricketson Auditorium at 7 PM.
Gordon C. Tucker Jr., PhD

Title: You Can Take The Archaeologist Out Of Colorado, But You Can't Take Colorado Out Of The Archaeologist: Excavating Tel Ashkelon In Israel

Lamb Spring Archaeological Preserve Talks and Tours

Learn about the Paleo-Indian mammoth, camel, sloth, and extinct forms of bison hunters at the Lamb Spring archaeological site in the SW Denver. Talks and tours are held from May through October. For more information and reservations see www.lambspring.org.

Colorado Council of Professional Archaeologists Annual Meeting

March 12-15, 2015
Estes Park, CO
For information and registration see www.coloradoarchaeologists.org

In addition to meetings, papers, posters, book sales, and a banquet, special program honoring the life work of CCPA Fellow Richard F. Carrillo will be featured.

Denver Chapter-CAS 1/6/2015 Board Meeting Minutes

Linda Sand, 2015 DC-CAS President, called the DC-CAS Board meeting to order at Annie's Café at 7:09 PM 1/6/15. The meeting location was changed on short notice due to unavailability of our normal room

at MSUD. Linda welcomed all the Board members and particularly the members who are serving for the first time: VP and Scientific Co-Chair, Catherine Griffin; Reid Farmer, Director; Aaron Theis, Director; Cashel McGloin, APB Editor. A quorum was present.

VP- Linda and Catherine outlined the speaker schedule thru March. Catherine would like to hear from any CAS member with suggested future speakers for April and beyond.

Science- Jack Warner reported that all Blackfoot Cave artifacts have been curated at the Castle Rock lab. He also reported that the Douglas Co. people who operate the lab are very happy with the new artifact cabinet DC-CAS donated to them. He presented a temperature and humidity study done by Mary Ann Gabriel showing the effectiveness of the cabinet at providing a stable storage environment for faunal remains. Neil has scheduled Blackfoot Cave pottery, bone, and lithic analysis events for Jan. & Feb. Email Neil if interested in more information.

Membership- Via email Rosalie reported we have 156 members and 126 memberships as of 1/1/15.

PACC- Anne Winslow reported that the 2015 PAAC schedule is at www.history.colorado.org. The first Denver class, Field Photography, is scheduled in April and is accepting applications.

Treasurer- Preston Niesen reported that all seems well on the financial front.

Trips- Teresa Weedin reported that a trip planning meeting is scheduled for 2/7/15 at 6:30 PM at Jann Dillon's home. All CAS members are welcome. More information and a map will be at the 1/12/15 General Meeting.

Library- Teresa reported she is researching software to use to catalog our library at DU. The previous program under study is not adequate for our needs.

APB- Cashel reported that the Jan. 2015 APB is done and Craig Banister reported that it will be up on the DC-CAS WWW by 1/8/15. A sign-up sheet for authors of future APB articles passed around. All DC-CAS members are encouraged to contribute articles.

Internet-Craig reported that all is OK.

Old Business

Teresa reported that our "Meet-Up" subscription is due and the trial of the system has not produced the desired results to justify the cost and effort. Teresa made a motion that was seconded and approved to not renew our subscription.

The above item led to a discussion of the use of Facebook and Twitter by DC-CAS. Aaron Theis volunteered to setup and maintain a DC-CAS Facebook account. He proposed a motion that was seconded and passed to do this. Cashel volunteered to assist Aaron.

Teresa & Linda discussed a letter from an archaeology society in Mass. requesting information from us on our operations. Linda requested help from Catherine and Neil on preparing a reply. Jon Kent advised care in describing the goals of our excavations and the ethical issues involved.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 PM.

Submitted by Jack Warner for Secretary Kendra Elrod

LECTURES

"Rethinking Colonial Art from Peru to Mexico", Robin Farwell-Gavin, Curator, Museum of Spanish Colonial Art, Santa Fe, NM, Sunday, February 15, 2015, 2:30PM, Sharp Auditorium, Hamilton Bldg., Denver Art Museum. Alianza de las Artes Americanas. Meeting. Call 720-913-0173 for more information.

"Settlement and Climate up to the Pre-dynastic Period. What Came Before: Ancient Egypt's Roots in Neolithic North Africa" by Joni Teter, Tuesday, February 17, 2015, 7:00PM, Ricketson Auditorium. Egyptian Study Society Meeting. (Two dollar donation requested for nonmembers.) Early scholars were puzzled by the sudden appearance of civilization in the Nile Valley. Where did those people come from? How did they become civilized so fast? Modern excavations are providing the answer: the people came from the Western Desert, graduates of a climate-driven accelerated learning program. Interdisciplinary teams of archaeologists, anthropologists, geologists, paleobotanists, paleobiologists, archaeoastronomers and climate scientists are painting a fascinating picture of cultural adaptation and displacement, as people responded to an accelerating set of environmental challenges

before transporting themselves to the Nile Valley. We'll explore evidence of cultural linkages from settlements and cemeteries, rock art, megalithic stonework and stellar orientations; and trading networks that fed the desire for ancient forms of consumer "stuff". We'll also look at some of the ways new evidence is changing our understanding of early Egyptian culture and how human civilizations evolve.

"Tea Horse Road: The World's Oldest and Highest Tea Trade Route", Thursday, February 12, 2015, 7:00PM, Ricketson Auditorium, DMNS. \$15 member, \$18 nonmember, Cash bar & tasting, book sale & signing.

60 Minutes in Space: Go "behind the stories" with space scientists who will use the best images and animation available to help you understand new developments in space exploration. No reservations required: seating is first come, first served. Wednesday, February 25, 2015, 7:00PM, Ricketson Auditorium. FREE

"Towards a Community Based Conservation and Sustainable Use of Tanzania's Heritage: The Laetoli Footprints Project", Sunday, February 15, 2015, 2:00PM, Room 453 (4th Floor), Sturm Hall, University of Denver, 2000 East Asbury Avenue, Denver, CO. Meeting of the Denver Chapter, Archaeological Institute of America. AIA lectures are free and open to the public. (Visitor's parking west across S. Race Street, \$1.50 per hour)

"Creticum Vinum Excellens: The Role of Cretan Wine in the Roman Economy", by Dr. S. Gallimore (Wilfrid Laurier University), Wednesday, February 18, 2015, AIA Boulder Society, University of Colorado Museum of Natural History.

DC/CAS
November / December, 2014 Financial Report
Prepared by Preston Niesen, Treasurer

Assets		
	October	December
Key Bank checking	\$ 3,152.19	\$ 2,867.93
TD 182 day to 07/03/14 @0.15%	\$ 5,686.67	\$ 5,686.67
TD 182 day to 10/23/13 @0.15%	\$ 4,804.57	\$ 4,804.57
TD 1 year to 5/14/14 @ 0.15%	\$ 4,986.29	\$ 4,986.29
Total checking/savings	\$18,629.72	\$18,345.46

Liabilities & Equity		
Current Liabilities		
	October	December
AH Scholarship Fund payable	0.0	0.0
State CAS Dues payable	0.0	0.0

Funds		
	October	December
Scientific Applications	\$ 5,166.07	\$4,840.81
Swallow Report Project	\$ 2,571.81	\$2,601.81
D Bucknam Memorial Speaker Fund	\$ 1,747.10	\$1,747.10
Blackfoot Cave	\$ 190.00	\$ 0.00
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	\$ 768.62	\$ 768.62

Total Liabilities & Funds	\$ 11,458.56	\$10,973.30
General Fund	<u>\$ 7,171.16</u>	<u>\$ 7,372.16</u>
Total L E F's	\$ 18,629.72	\$18,345.46

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DUES RENEWAL
MARCH 1, 2015

____ Application or ____Renewal

Membership Type

____ Individual \$30.00 ____ Senior Individual w/o SW Lore \$22.00

____ Family \$45.00 ____ Senior Family w/o SW Lore \$35.00

____ Student (include copy of ID) \$16.00

____ Current State CAS Life member or Full member of another chapter \$14.00. Primary chap. _____

Contributions to these funds:

\$ ____ General \$ ____ Swallow Site

\$ ____ Scholarship fund \$ ____ Contribution Total

TOTAL of membership and contributions \$ _____
Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone # _____

Email _____

Note Payment of dues for renewal is considered reaffirmation of your consent to the CAS Code of Ethics.

Make checks payable to: **Denver Chapter/CAS**

Mail to: **Denver Chapter/CAS, P.O. Box 100190**
Denver, CO 80250-0190

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