



# Pictures From The Past



NEWSLETTER OF THE  
COLORADO ROCK ART ASSOCIATION (CRAA)  
A Chapter of the Colorado Archaeological Society

<http://www.coloradorockart.org>

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Volume 9, Issue 3

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## **President's Corner**

**By Anne Robinson, CRAA President**

The time is now to sign up for the American Rock Art Research Association (ARARA) Annual Meeting in Grand Junction on June 1-4. This is a wonderful opportunity to hear speakers about Rock Art and to participate in field trips in the Grand Junction Area. The location of the annual ARARA conference changes every year and it could be a long time before it is back in Colorado again. Take advantage of the Grand Junction ARARA meeting this year.

I have big news in my personal life. I have accepted a position to teach English with the Peace Corps in Madagascar. My term as President of the Colorado Rock Art Association will end in April. I will head to Madagascar in September.

We will be holding elections in early May for the elected board positions. We will have several officer positions open. The position as President will be vacant. Teresa Weedin has offered to become President of CRAA. We also have an open Director position.

Regarding appointed board positions, Anne Whitfield and Betsy Weitkamp have stepped into the role as joint field trip coordinators. Keith Fessenden has offered to be temporary newsletter editor. Joel Hurmence is taking on the role of website administrator. We have an open position for the CAS Representative.

We are looking for you and other CRAA members to join us to make CRAA a great organization. If you want to do more with Rock Art this is a chance to get involved.

# Pecos River, Texas Rock Art Field Trip Photos

March 5 - 9, 2018

Photos by Teresa Weedon and Joel Hurmence



## **April CRAA Web Lectures 2018**

### **What is a web lecture?**

This is a live lecture that you can participate in from anywhere you can access the internet and have a device with a speaker- this can be a computer, laptop, tablet or cell phone. More information on how to join in is at the bottom of this article.

### **Web Lecture title:**

### ***Natural Phenomena in Rock Art***

**Speaker:** Peter Faris

**Date & Time:** Tuesday, April 17, 7:00 MDT

**Location:** Click on <https://zoom.us/j/6136944443> any time after 6:45 pm. For more detailed instructions, see below.

### **Web Lecture Description:**

From Peter Faris: I have long believed that Occam's Razor is applicable in most questions - that the simplest explanation is most likely to be the correct one, and in rock art that often means what occurs in the natural world around the artist may be the source of inspiration. To that end I have looked for phenomena in the real world that may explain some questions in rock art.

### **Peter Faris- bio**

Peter Faris is a 30+ year member of the Colorado Archaeological Society, Founder and former President of the Colorado Rock Art Association, Member of the Arapahoe County Cultural Commission, President of Institute for Archeoesthetics. 2013 recipient of the Ivof Hagar Award for outstanding service to the Colorado Archaeological Society, and a 2013 Colorado Rock Art Association Chapter Achievement Award. Member of Archaeology and Historic Preservation Committee and also Programs Committee of History Colorado. Arapahoe County Cultural Council. He writes a regular blog on Rock Art at <http://rockartblog.blogspot.com>.

### **How do you join our web lecture?**

Join from your PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android, includes tablets and smart phones. Starting at 6:45 pm on Tuesday, April 17, you can join our web lecture using the information below. The lecture will begin at 7:00 pm MDT.

Instructions to join the web lecture

1. Go to zoom.us and click "Join a Meeting" at top right and then enter our meeting number 613-694-4443. Follow the zoom application instructions. If you have used zoom before you will likely go straight to the lecture page. If you have problems, please call the help line below and Joel Hurmence will help you get online.
2. Click on this link <https://zoom.us/j/6136944443> Follow the zoom application instructions. If you have used zoom before you will likely go straight to the lecture page. If you have problems, please call the help line below and Joel Hurmence will help you get online.

**Help line.** If you do have issues we will have a conference bridge open and CRAA Vice President Joel Hurmence or others will be on hand to answer concerns. Conference Bridge phone number

is 1-302-202-1108; after the phone answers then enter the Conference Code: 600460. We will have someone on from 6:45 until 7:15.

The advantage of a web lecture is you can be at home and see & hear a live presentation. Please join us. Also feel free to pass this information on to others.

Please send us feedback on our web lectures to coloradorockartassociation@yahoo.com.

## **CRAA Field Trips**

**2018**

### **Field Trip – June 2018**

#### **Western Saguache County Field Trip**

**Dates:** June 15, 16, & 17 (exact times to come)

**Leaders:** Ken Frye, Mike Spearman, Darwin Thompson

**Where:** Tentative locations: Carnero Creek, La Garita Creek, Witches Canyon, Shaw Springs, Penitente Canyon, Elephant Rocks.

We are working on securing permission from the BLM and several private land owners, so details are not finalized on the locations.

**What we will see:** Rock Art- both pictographs and petroglyphs, stone structures, burial grounds, interesting geological features.

**Vehicle Requirements:** 2 WD O.K. if roads are relatively dry. High Clearance is recommended for some of the roads. If the weather is wet, then 4WD may be needed.

**Lodging:** Camping and Lodging recommendations TBD

More information is coming...

### **Field Trip – October 2018**

#### **Dinosaur National Monument - Utah**

**Dates:** October 19, 20 & 21

**Leader:** Anne Whitfield

**Where:** Utah/ Dinosaur National Monument

**Vehicle Requirements:** 2-wheel drive

**Fees:** National Monument, camping or other lodging costs

**Lodging:** Camping details to come, or lodging available in the area.

**Note:** This field trip was listed as being in May in last month's newsletter. It is now in October.

**Sign-up:** Contact Anne Whitfield at 719-485-3314 or annewhit45@gmail.com

#### **General Colorado Rock Art Association Field Trip Rules:**

All field trip participants must agree to the Colorado Rock Art Association code of ethics and the Colorado Archaeological Society code of ethics.

All field trip participants must agree to the Colorado Rock Art Association Field Trip Policies.

All field trip participants must sign the Colorado Archaeological Society Release, Waiver and Indemnity Agreement.

## Rock Art & Archaeology Conferences 2018



### **American Rock Art Research Association (ARARA) 2018 Annual Conference**

Dates: June 1- 4, 2018

Location: Double Tree Hotel, Grand Junction, Colorado

Website: <http://www.arara.org/>

Time to start making your plans to attend ARARA 2018, in Grand Junction, Colorado. The conference will be held at the Double Tree Inn, Grand Junction. The Double Tree is located just a short distance from the airport, and provides a facility that really meets our needs in every way. The conference will be held June 1-4, 2018. Rooms for two are \$119, and include free parking and Internet along with refrigerators and microwaves in each room. Reservations for the event can be made by contacting the reservations department at 970-241-8888, or through the Hotel's central reservations number 800-222-8733. Be sure and identify yourselves by the Group name (ARARA) to receive our special group rate.

Local members of the Colorado Archaeological Society (CAS) are providing assistance with the conference, led by the local team leader Doug Van Etten, with Jim Liewer, assisting the ARARA fieldtrip committee. Trips will include such sites as Canyon Pintado. Not only does it contain hundreds of archeological sites it was also on the route used by the Dominguez-Escalante expedition. We are also close to the Sego Canyon site, arguably the best rock art site in Utah with a combination of Ute, Fremont, and Barrier Canyon panels. Sign-ups again this year will be through the web site, and will require registration for the conference before being able to sign up for specific field trips. Watch the ARARA web site for updates on the offered field trips. The conference will also feature workshops, guest speakers, and our fabulous vendor room.



### **Colorado Archaeological Society (CAS) Meeting**

Dates: September 21 - 23, 2018

Location: Cortez, Colorado

Website: <https://www.coloradoarchaeology.org/>

Annual Meeting of the Colorado Archaeological Society (CAS). All CCAA members are also CAS members. The annual meeting is a great way to learn about archaeology, go on fantastic field trips, and hang out with lots of great folks interested in archaeology. Details to come. Usually registration opens for the CAS Annual meeting in late July or August.



### **Utah Rock Art Research Association (URARA) Symposium**

Dates: October 3-8 - Wednesday - Monday

Location: Bluff, Utah

Website: <https://urara.wildapricot.org/>

Annual Symposium of the Utah Rock Art Research Association. A great chance to learn about and see Utah Rock Art. Many CCAA members also belong to URARA.

# Sally Cole Donates SE Colorado collection to Pueblo Rock Art Archives

Article by Anne Whitfield. Photos by Sally Cole.



The Pueblo City-County Rock Art Archive is delighted to report the acquisition of new materials donated by Sally Cole. Sally is among the most respected archaeologists in the state of Colorado. No doubt, Legacy on Stone, resides on the bookshelves of most CRAA members.

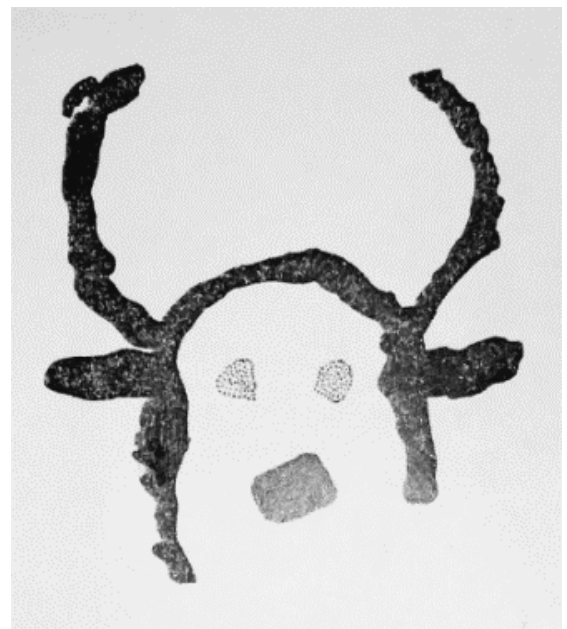
The collection includes field notes, drawings, original drafts, and final reports relating to her contract work recording rock art in and around Pinon Canyon circa 1984. Importantly, there are hundreds of slides, in very good condition, many of which have never been seen before. The final report will now be more readily available to researchers and the public. Significantly, Sally Cole includes in her final report a cultural affiliation and chronological identification scheme for rock art panels of the Southeastern portion of Colorado.

At the Archive, library staff and volunteers are working to make these materials available to the public as quickly as possible. We intend for the Cole materials to be the pilot project in the digitization process being developed at the Archive. Funding for the digitization is needed.

Personal note: I am so impressed with the revelations in these slides. There is nothing sloppy or Random about them. The use of camera angle and directional arrows to better reveal elements is done with great care. The viewer can literally follow Cole's examination of these panels. What a delight! It is one that I hope other rock art aficionados may share!

Thanks to the folks at Pueblo City-County Library. Special thanks to Hannah Weber, Archivist, and Maria Tucker, Manager of Special Collections and Museum Services.

The Pueblo Rock Art Archives were formerly the Colorado Rock Art Association Archives. The collection was donated to the Pueblo City-County Library by the Colorado Rock Art Association.



# Architecture in Rock Art- Tipis – Part I

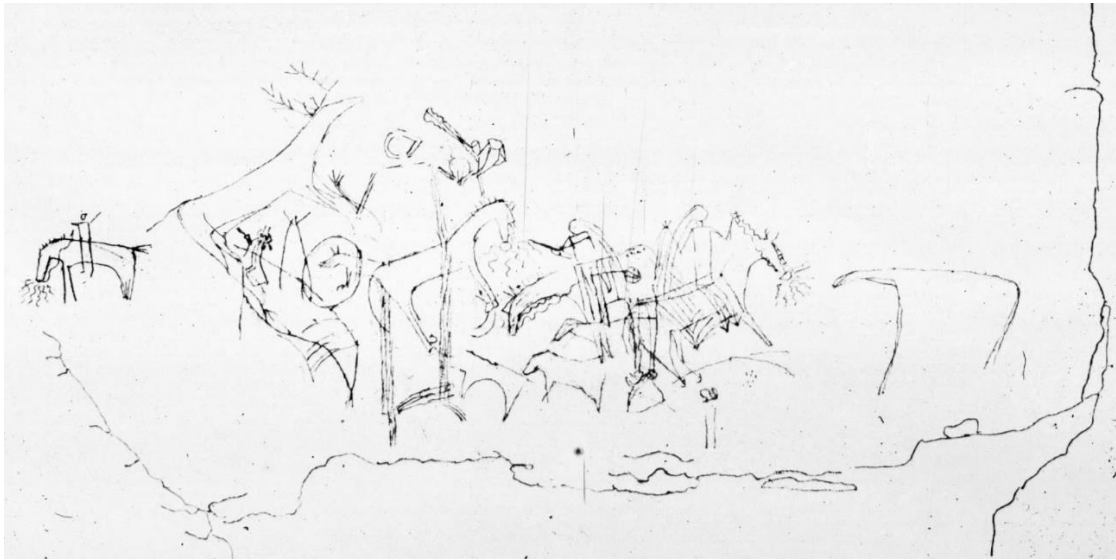
By Peter Faris

In their records left on the rocks by Native Americans of their deeds and situations, we can look for clues to the environment that these feats were performed in. One common feature of the environment in Great Plains rock art is one or more residences, their tipis. In the tradition of Plains Biographic Art much of the imagery in a composition is intended as information. In this way a figure seen in relation to a group of tipis would represent a specific person involved in some activity next to that tipi village.



Horseman in lower left, Anubis Cave, Cimarron County, OK. Photo Peter Faris, 21 Sept. 1986.

My awareness of this came back in the 1980s on one of a frequent number of trips down into southeastern Colorado. In the so-called Anubis Cave in Cimarron County, Oklahoma, I saw a small equestrian figure on horseback in front of the upside-down "V" of a tipi. It occurred to me at that time that it placed a figure in a specific place, and thus at a specific time, the time when he was there. In other words it was telling a story, a simple story certainly, and one that did not provide me with much information, but a story nevertheless. This is the basic premise of James Keyser in his statement that the Biographic art of ledger books and painted robes can provide a lexicon toward the interpretation of some rock art.



Tracing by James D. Keyser and Mark D. Mitchell, Box Canyon site, 5LA8464, Picketwire Canyonlands, Las Animas County, CO. 1999.



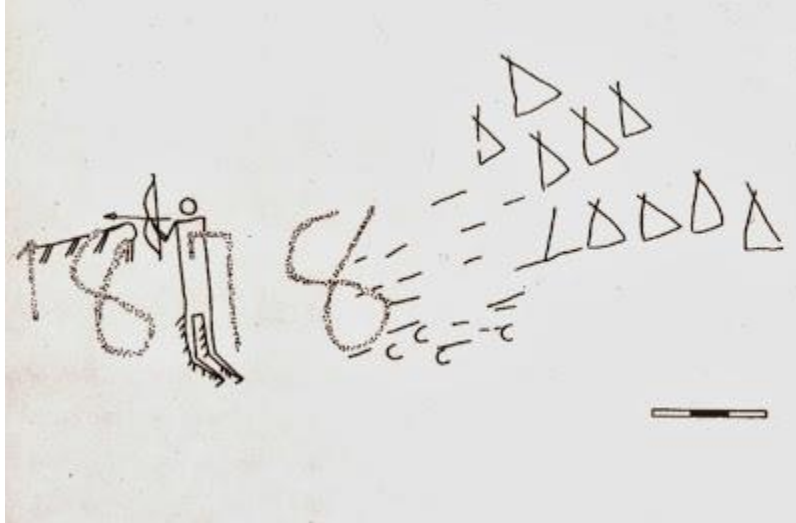
Photograph of a portion of the Box Canyon site, 5LA8464, Picketwire Canyonlands, Las Animas County, CO. Photo Peter Faris, August 1999.



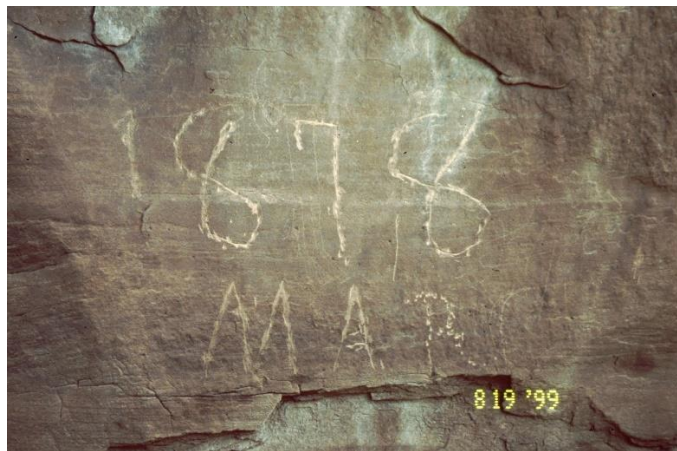
Detail of tracing showing tipi near the center (directly under the elk). Box Canyon site, 5LA8464, Picketwire Canyonlands, Las Animas County, CO. August, 1999.



In the Box Canyon Site in the Purgatoire river canyon in southeastern Colorado a couple of panels illustrate combat in relation to tipis. 5LA8464 was recorded in 1999 by a crew led by Jim Keyser and Mark Mitchell. This is a large panel, faintly scratched into a large flat side of the rock. This panel apparently records an attack upon a tipi village or family encampment by a group of equestrian warriors on the right, whom I believe are Pawnees by the details of their portrayal. The village or encampment being attacked is represented by a tipi on the left side of the panel and would probably have been Cheyenne or Arapahoe based upon the location. One defender seen by the tipi has been struck by an arrow. A number of unriden horses suggest that this combat bay have been in conjunction with a horse raid upon this encampment.



Red Rock Ledge, Picketwire Canyonlands, Las Animas County, CO. Tracing by James D. Keyser and Mark D. Mitchell, August 1999.



Red Rock Ledge site, Picketwire Canyonlands, Las Animas County, CO. Photograph Peter Faris, August 1999.

Another plains biographic rock art panel recorded by James Keyser and Mark Mitchell is the Red Rock Ledge site in the Picketwire Canyonlands, near the Box Canyon site. This smaller panel tells a story related by Keyser in his subsequent published report. "The lightly-scratched petroglyphs at Red Rock Ledge compose a Biographic scene showing a pedestrian bowman who has traveled from a tipi village to engage and enemy represented by a crooked lance or coup stick. Beginning at the right margin of the scene, and following the action to the left, the composition consists of

four major elements. At the far right is a group of nine triangles with forked tops representing a camp of tipis. One other incomplete figure probably represents a tenth tipi with one side no longer visible. A series of seventeen more or less horizontal dashes and four "C" shapes extends from the tipi camp toward the Bowman. Based on comparisons with other Biographic drawings in various media, the dashes represent human footprints and the "C" shapes represent horse hoofprints. The third element, the Bowman, is a simply drawn, rectangular-body figure with a circle head. His legs are shown with thighs, calves, and feet. The short diagonal lines that extend outward from the front of each leg indicate fringed leggings. In his right hand he carries a carefully drawn recurved bow that is shooting an arrow with a large triangular point. The fourth element, located at the far left of the scene, is a horizontally-oriented crook-neck coup stick, from which trail four groups of paired streamers or feathers. Each group extends diagonally downward to the left, and the four groups are spaced about equidistantly along the shaft, with the last at the end of the crook." (Keyser and Mitchell 2000:26-7)



Picture Canyon, Baca County, CO. Photograph Peter Faris, 1986.

In the well-known horse pictograph/petroglyph from Picture Canyon, in Baca County, Colorado, a number of very faint tipi shapes can be made out with careful observation. Indeed, a group of four or five very faint upside-down "V" shapes in the upper right corner of the photo represent a tipi village, with at least two more at the top just left of center. These presumably represent the tipi village that the horseman himself is associated with.

Numerous other examples of tipis portrayed in rock art can be found in the literature. My point here is that in contrast to the common assumption that "we can never know what rock art is saying" we can, in many instances determine quite a bit about a rock art panel.

*Peter Faris is a 30+ year member of the Colorado Archaeological Society, Founder and former President of the Colorado Rock Art Association, Member of the Arapahoe County Cultural Commission, President of Institute for Archeoesthetics. 2013 recipient of the Ivol Hagar Award for outstanding service to the Colorado Archaeological Society, and a 2013 Colorado Rock Art Association Chapter Achievement Award. Member of Archaeology and Historic Preservation Committee and also Programs Committee of History Colorado. Arapahoe County Cultural Council. He writes a regular blog on Rock Art at <http://rockartblog.blogspot.com>. This article is from his blog.*

## REFERENCES

Keyser, James D. and Mark D. Mitchell  
2000 Red Rock Ledge: Plains Biographic Rock Art in the Picketwire Canyonlands, Southeastern Colorado, Southwestern Lore, Vol. 66, No. 2, Summer, 2000, p. 22-37.

## Rock Art Lecture – Colorado Springs

### ***Horses on the Rocks: Iconic, irresistible pictographs and petroglyphs of horses***

**Speaker:** Larry Loendorf

**Date & Time:** Tuesday, May 15 at 7:00 pm

**Location:** Fire Station #19, 2490 Research Parkway, Colorado Springs

Sponsored by the Pikes Peak Chapter, Colorado Archaeological Society

Learn more at [www.ColoradoSpringsArchaeology.org](http://www.ColoradoSpringsArchaeology.org)

The world's oldest horse images are painted on cave walls in France and Spain. These pictographs may be well over 30,000 years old. New World horses became extinct at the end of the Pleistocene Epoch (about 11,700 years ago), so the modern horse evolved and was domesticated in the Old World. In the mid-1500s, Spanish explorer Francisco Vazquez de Coronado traveled to the Americas with horses on this ships- this introduced the modern horse to the American West. While a few pictographs and petroglyphs of horses here might date to the 1500s, by the late 1700s and early 1800s many rock art panels were dominated by images of horses. Horse depictions by the Blackfoot, Comanche, Crow, Navajo, Nez Perce, Ute and other tribes exhibit attributes that allow researchers to recognize tribal affiliation.

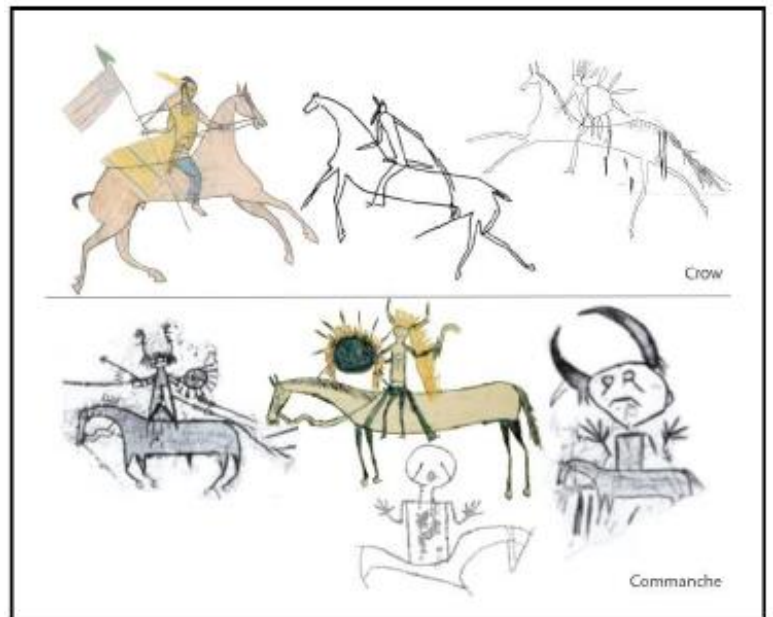


Horse Images, Chauvet Cave, France

Join us for an illustrated discussion on painted caves and rock art sites featuring horses. This presentation ranges from painted horses in Chauvet Cave in France to horse bones found in Natural Trap Cave, Wyoming, and to the hundreds of horse images in the American West that demonstrate the equine's importance to Native Americans.

About the speaker:

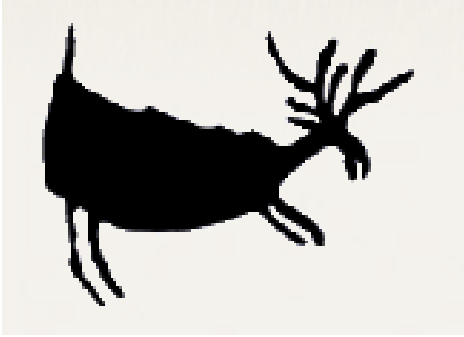
Dr. Larry Loendorf directs Sacred Sites Research, a non-profit company with the goal of protecting rock art sites in the American West. Previously, he taught anthropology and archaeology at the University of North Dakota and New Mexico State University. His books include *Discovering North American Rock Art* and *Thunder and Herds: Rock Art of the High Plains*.



Sketches of Crow and Comanche Rock Art (Courtesy of Dr Loendorf)

## Take a PAAC Class this spring!

### Learn about Archaeology in Colorado



PAAC courses are a great way to expand your knowledge of Colorado archaeology at a reasonable cost. Classes are offered around the state in evening and weekend formats. No prior archaeological knowledge or experience is required.

#### **What is PAAC?**

A joint program of the Colorado Archaeological Society and the Office of the State Archaeologist of Colorado. The Program for Avocational Archaeological Certification (PAAC) is a mutually beneficial educational program for avocational and professional

archaeologists. Established in 1978 by the Colorado Archaeological Society (CAS) and the Office of the State Archaeologist of Colorado (OSAC), it allows CAS members and other citizens to obtain formally recognized levels of expertise outside of an academic degree program. It also facilitates avocational public service and assistance in education, governmental management of cultural resources, research, and the protection of archaeological resources in Colorado. PAAC complements, but does not replace, existing university and governmental training programs. [Click here](#) to go to the History Colorado PAAC website.

#### **Requirements of PAAC:**

- All participants in the PAAC program must: Be 15 years of age or older
- Agree to the PAAC Code of Ethics
- Pay a non-refundable, nominal materials fee per course (also sometimes a fee for the meeting room)

#### **Perishable Materials**

Location: Dolores (Canyon of the Ancients National Monument Visitors Center)

Dates: April 28-29, 2018

Class Description: Value of perishable materials, information on preservation, varieties of materials, tool classes.

CAS Host: Hisatsinom (Cortez)

To sign up, contact: Tom Pittenger at [pittengerte@gmail.com](mailto:pittengerte@gmail.com) or 970-882-2559/ 928-606-2550 (cell)

#### **Colorado Archaeology**

Location: Alma (Alma Town Hall, outside of Fairplay)

Dates: May 19-20, 2018

Host: South Park Site Stewards

Class Description: Covers the major periods and cultures of Colorado's prehistory, concluding with a brief summary of historic period American Indian groups in Colorado.

Contact: Linda Carr or Chris Johnston

To sign up, go to:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSf3lqottvnRY32Et7iPVHiI07KWpzmwmGVO-9b9anLCukOhww/viewform>

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If you hear of any events or projects relating to rock art, please pass them along to us at [coloradorockartassociation@yahoo.com](mailto:coloradorockartassociation@yahoo.com). We will get the information out to CRAA members. Also if you would like to contribute to the newsletter, please let us know.