



Colorado Rock Art Association (CRAA)
 A Chapter of the Colorado Archaeology Society
"Pictures from the Past"

September 2007
 Volume 3, Issue 4

Presidents' Letter

*Volunteers are crucial
 to the success of
 CRAA!*

of rock art south of the Purgatoire River in southeast Colorado. Ten sites which were earlier identified by archaeologists will be more fully surveyed and an area of at least one acre surrounding the site will be searched. The survey will be led by Larry Loendorf and be carried out by CRAA volunteers next spring. Stay tuned for more details.

Be sure to fill out our field trip survey, we really appreciate your inputs.

Get Well Wishes to Thielma Gamewell who is having some health challenges.

Happy Trails!
 Jan Gorski

The summer is almost behind us—many of us welcome the cool temperatures and chances to get back out in the field, others will miss the long days of sunshine and BBQ's with friends and family. Hope you all find time to get out and record one of our precious endangered rock art sites or volunteer to be a site steward for your favorite site this fall.

I'm happy to announce that the CRAA board voted unanimously to set up a Suzi Martineau Education and Conservation Memorial Fund. CRAA will seed this fund with \$500 and welcomes donations from anyone who would like to remember Suzi by supporting efforts to educate the public, as well as preserve our sites for many more years to come. Make a note on your check when you send it to our treasurer if you want your tax-deductible donation to go

to this fund. If you have ideas on projects to utilize these funds we welcome your inputs as well.

Lynda McNeil is working hard to set up our **2008 symposium** which will be held in **La Junta, CO May 2-5th**. We will host the meeting in the Koshare Museum and have several special activities lined up for the weekend. If you would like to help with the symposium Lynda has several open duties that need volunteers.

We also still need a newsletter editor—if you can work in MS Word or MS Publisher you can easily handle this job. Please help me offload this additional duty from my plate!

Thanks to Anne Whitfield and Larry Loendorf for their hard work on the application for a State Grant. The objective of the grant is the recording

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HOUSE OF RAIN BOOK REVIEW

Bear Gulch, MT © Jan Gorski



Rock Art of the Western Egypt Desert

By Mavis Greer and John Greer



Karkur Valley Camel Petroglyphs

The western desert of Egypt is a very remote, isolated region in marked contrast to the green area along the Nile where most of Egypt's population is located. In March 2007, after visiting most of the major pyramid sites from Cairo to Luxor, eleven Americans (the two of us, Jeff LaFave, Margaret Berrier, Evelyn Billo, Bob Mark, Leigh Marymor, Carol Ormsbee, Steve Schwartz, Alice Tratebas, and Gerald Maier), plus one Scott (Geoffrey Kolbe), one Dane (Astrid Schelde), six Egyptians, and our guide, desert rock art expert András Zboray (from Hungary) spent sixteen days in the dry back country. Jeff LaFave had read publications on the rock art of the Sahara and organized us to accompany András on one of his research trips. András is the author of *Saharan Rock Art*, *Rock Art of the Libyan Desert (2005)*, *Tassili N'Ajjer* (in Algeria), and *Egypt* chapters in Chris Scott's *Sahara Overland*, a guide to the Saharan region. He currently maintains a comprehensive catalogue and bibliography of all known rock art sites in the central Libyan Desert and usually makes two trips a year to the area to conduct



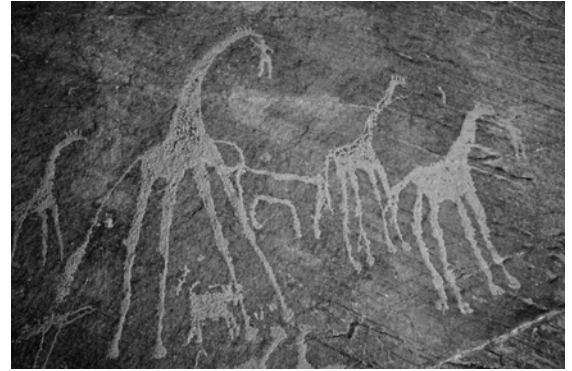
For more information on this and other sites in the Sahara,

visit András' web site

www.fjexpeditions.com

and the sites of Zarzora Expeditions

www.zarzora.com



Karkur Valley Giraffe Petroglyphs

research. On these trips he is often accompanied by others interested in rock art, his family, and always an Egyptian support team. The Egyptians with us included drivers, who also handled equipment, and an Egyptian military officer required for going into the desert backcountry.

Our trek to the desert began in Cairo in Toyota Land Cruisers, which had room for two people in the front and six along two benches in the back. Two vehicles carried people and minimal supplies (mostly on the roof), and two vehicles carried mainly supplies with people only in the



Zarzura/Foggini Paintings

front seat. After a long day on paved roads from Cairo to the oasis of Dakhla and the next day crossing the unmarked, open dunal sands of the Selima Sand Sheet, we arrived at the edge of the Gilf. Shaw's Cave is the only known pictograph site in the Southern Gilf. The rockshelter is full of multi-colored cattle, herders, and other figures, which we eagerly photographed. We then continued across the barren sands to the southwestern corner of Egypt where we set up a base camp from which we spent several days visiting rock art sites in the Karkur valley. In this area, figures are dominated by cattle and giraffes. The cattle are more numerous and portrayed in herds and as individual figures. Throughout this area, the rock art contains both petroglyphs and pictographs and also includes humans, dogs, camels, and sheep. Although not directly dated, we know from environmental evidence and relative dating from other archeological studies that most of the rock art dates about 3000 years ago when the climate was much more favorable to habitation than it is today.

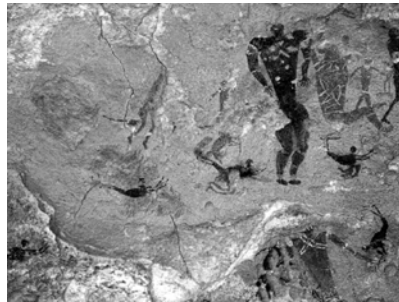
Rock Art of the Western Egypt Desert

By Mavis Greer and John Greer

Some of the earlier figures could date as early as 8000 years ago. Modern graffiti is rare, but it does occur and is mainly from the military. During our time in the desert we saw fewer than a dozen people outside our group, and they were all there to visit rock art sites.

Leaving the valley, we began our trip north along the western border of Egypt. The navigational skills of our guide and drivers were remarkable. Working with GPS coordinates we crossed sand sheets covered with vehicle tracks but with no viewable roads and arrived, with no wandering, at the next rock art site. As we passed through the uninhabited expanse of sand on our way toward Siwa Oasis, our visits to rock art sites on sandstone outcroppings surrounded by desert sands were intermixed with camping beside huge sand dunes, pushing our stuck vehicles out of the soft dunal sand, and walking up and over some larger, softer dunal rises to lighten the weight of the trucks.

In the Wadi Sora region we camped within a short walking distance of the *Cave of the Swimmers*, made famous in the movie *The English Patient*. The cave was discovered by László Almásy in 1933 during the Frobenius expedition. Small, fine-



Cave of the Swimmers

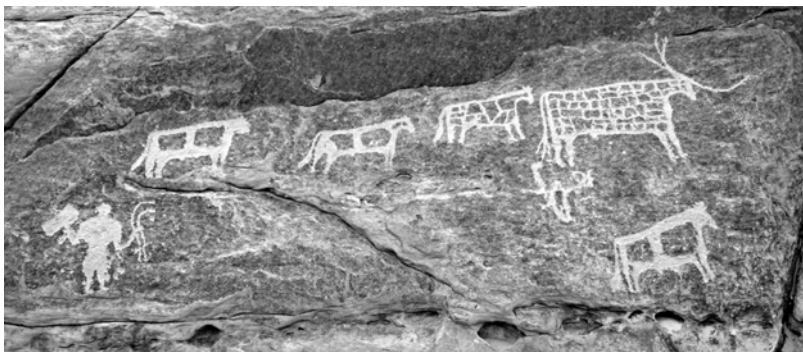
line human figures drawn in what was perceived to be swimming and diving positions gave the cave its erroneous name. The people are more likely portrayals of metamorphic trance flight and almost certainly not people swimming in this waterless desert environment. Other larger figures that covered the wall of the entire shelter supported the less-entertainment, more religious explanation also. The cave was replicated for the movie, which was not filmed anywhere near this remote location.

In 2003 the magnificent Zarzura/Foggini site was reported in the Western Gilf Kebir. The rear wall of the huge shelter from below ground level to high above reachable levels is completely covered with hundreds

of paintings, including over a hundred negative handprints.

Most hands are complete, but some have missing fingers, probably following the portrayal of hand signals or signs still used by south African Koi-San speakers and represented extensively at such European Paleolithic sites as Gargas in Spain, rather than portraying missing digits. There are many animals (some headless) and many humans (some small floating humans like the swimmers). There is considerable overpainting and superpositioning across the heavily painted wall. András reports that most of these finely done pictographs are in the classic Wadi Sora style, although some are clearly older. This site has not been recorded or analyzed, but it is one of the most important in the region, and future study will greatly increase knowledge of regional rock art.

The western desert of Egypt supports no inhabitants today. Visitors are not common, and no one stays for long because there is no water except what is brought with you. Animals are scarce. We saw a few bugs and two foxes. However, in parts of the Kurkur valley, flies were abundant. The wind is often strong, and the shifting sand blasts the body and any exposed equipment. Cameras took a beating, and our tent zippers were not functioning midway through the trip. We quickly adopted headscarves to protect against the hot sun and blowing sand. However, despite these discomforts, the western desert is worth seeing, especially for those of us interested in rock art.



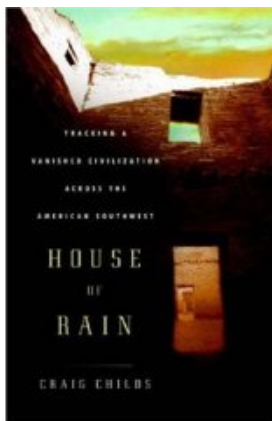
Cattle and herder petroglyph panel in the Karkur Valley

House of Rain: Tracking A Vanished Civilization Across the American Southwest

Book Review by Ed Horton

In lyrically powerful prose, Craig Childs, a seasoned naturalist and desert ecologist, documents in **House of Rain** the many miles and years he has spent exploring Anasazi trails. Meditating in cool and quiet kivas, he observes the enduring adaptive tradition evolved by this people: responding immediately as unpredictable microclimates of drought and rainfall dictate migrations and returns to proven settlement areas. He shares observations from archaeologists of diverse viewpoints gleaned during excavations and around collected artifacts, as well as insights emerging from their works into the Ancestral Puebloans' cultural history. These are interleaved with his sensitive and inspired reflections upon many dimensions of Anasazi life.

The dynamics at Chaco Canyon irrevocably altered the outlook and scale of Anasazi interactions; then, during the conflict, disease, drought and resource stressed 12th and 13th centuries, great migrations ensued to areas progressively further south. Childs' artful descriptions allow the reader to watchfully tramp along with him as he follows these many footsteps through amalgamation with other SW cultures. Thus was formed the Salado of Arizona, with Chacoan T-shaped doorways transplanted and today visible along the Mogollon rim, on Antelope mesa and in other notable sites we visit throughout Arizona. We learn that this T-shaped access accompanied the rise and fall of northern Mexico's great prehistoric city, Paquime', which itself far surpassed Chaco in size and influence. This doorway was subsequently cast into numerous Mesa



Verde style cliff dwellings in the Sierra Madre Mountains of northern Mexico.

Childs writes : "When I reached a perch of snow and rock, the sky opened wide. I could see the full arc of the planet. Beneath me was a clear view of more than a mile down to the solid ground of desert. Other Sky Island mountain ranges were scattered about, but none as tall as the Pinaleños. These others looked like buffalo shrugging their way across the land, hirsute peaks tethered to the desert by sinuous paths of greenery ... like veined organs, living things. Even from many miles away I could see where their pines fell into oak brush, narrowing down to luminous green threads of cottonwood trees, then a haze of creosote bushes and the blank stare of dry, saline earth at the bottom."

"...This mountain was a boundary where far-reaching Pueblo clans stopped and returned to the Colorado Plateau, leaving much of southeast Arizona abandoned in the fifteenth century. Migrants had shown up and revolutionized the place, only to have it fall out from under them, seemingly as a result of overcrowding and social collapse. The end result was that the entire Southwest was destabilized. A century of woodcutting, hunting and intensive

farming had decimated the land during a time of unprecedented growth .. competing for resources .. shattered critical trade networks, severing the cultural fabric that held regions together. It is telling that most of these sites in the last years of occupation were blanketed with colorful pottery, stars fallen to the ground. Local settlements that had been inhabited for seven hundred years came to hasty ends, the final layers of their archaeological record heavily dosed with circus-colored Salado Polychrome."

"So much of the territory surrounding this mountain is marked by foreigners in the fourteenth century prior to the evacuation of nearly every settlement: bird trade; multicolored pottery; big, high citadels peering across the land, kivas packed inside. The Salado Reformation that encompassed the Southwest was the last thing to happen before everything fell apart.. "

"Some went in a different direction .. These .. continued south ..."

Craig Childs might be described simply by the following quote from **Soul of Nowhere**, one of his earlier books: "I have many times tried to invent a valid argument for the preservation of wilderness and could never find it within the bounds of my language, but I knew that without these far places we were risking ourselves as a species. We need these anchors in the land. We might someday cut ourselves loose and find that there are no longer veins feeding us blood, no longer throat to take in air. We might find that we are weak-limbed creatures unable to stand on our own."

CRAA Field Trips and Recording Projects

9/29-30 **Art of the Rock—Canyons of the Ancients NM (CANM) - TRIP IS FULL**

Contact: Tom Getts getts@mindspring.com

On Saturday, Sep 29, we will head into Canyons of the Ancients NM to view a series of rock art panels and visit other and abundant archaeology in this area. There will be 3-6 miles of hiking and some scrambling

On Sunday, we will head further west to visit rock art sites in the lower McElmo Canyon area and around Bluff, UT. The details of this portion of the trip have not been finalized yet, but this will be an abbreviated day due to the memorial/remembrance for Suzi Martineau which will take place in Bluff on Sunday afternoon.

10/13-14 **Picketwire Project 6 - FULL with Waiting List**

Contact: Anne Whitfield annewhit@fone.net

Sign-up deadline: Sept. 25, 2007

Spring 2008 **McKonkie Ranch - North of Vernal, UT**

Contact: Bill Lawrence williamvlawrence_22@msn.com

The Vermillion Chapter of CAS is welcoming CRAA members on this trip!

Upcoming Events

URARA 27th Annual Symposium October 5-8 2007 Moab, Utah www.utahrockart.org

Symposium Chair: Troy Scotter, troyscotter@comcast.net

Program Chairs: Diane Orr, beecherllc@aol.com; David Sucec, davids@networld.com

Rendezvous 2007 - Rock Art Foundation - October 26-28 at White Shaman Preserve

<http://www.fellowpages.org/rockart/news.cfm?newsid=44>

Texas Tech University Rattlesnake Shelter Pictograph Tour - Oct 25-28, 2007

<http://www.fellowpages.org/rockart/news.cfm?newsid=40>



LOGO NEEDED FOR CRAA 2008 SYMPOSIUM

If you have a great shot of a rock art panel from the La Junta area please consider sending it to CRAA to be considered for the 2008 Symposium Logo

Send your photos or line drawings to Jan at janglyph@msn.com by Oct 15th



CRAA 2008 Annual Conference Call for Papers

Rock Art Along the Arkansas River: Colorado's Southeast

The Colorado Rock Art Association announces a Call for Papers for the Annual Conference May 2-4, 2008, in LaJunta, Colorado. Presentations will be made May 3. Preference will be given to presentations that focus on this area of the state, but all subjects will be considered. Presenters must register for the meeting. We are happy to initiate the practice of honoring those chosen to present with a \$50 honorarium. Application deadline is March 15. Application is preferred via email. Please contact Lynda McNeil (303-449-9413) for instructions using hard copy.

Application

Name:

Address:

Telephone # (Home/Work):

Email and FAX:

Title of Presentation (30 min. limit):

Audio-visual needs:

- Slide projector
- Computer video projector (Power Point)
- Other special equipment (Please list)

Abstract (Please limit to 100 or fewer words):

Short Biography (Please limit to 100 or fewer words):

Send all the above information to each member of the Papers Committee: Lynda [.McNeil@colorado.edu](mailto:McNeil@colorado.edu), casmurphy@att.net, janglyph@msn.com

NEWSFLASHES !!!!

Deadline for newsletter inputs is November 30, 2007.

We welcome your trip reports, book reviews, website links, photos, board member interviews ... anything of interest to the Colorado Rock Art Community.

Send to Jan Gorski: janglyph@msn.com or call 303.521.8094

Informative Websites (thanks to all contributors especially Dell Crandall)

Information on Rock Art Sites Around the World

<http://www.bradshawfoundation.com>

Colorado Opposes the Army's Plans to Expand a Base

http://www.nationaltrust.org/Magazine/archives/arch_story/081707.htm

Interpretive Signage: Principles and Practice

<http://www.interpretivesigns.qut.edu.au/guide.html>

Loan Wolf Discovered Art for Ages

<http://www.theaustralian.news.com.au/story/0,25197,22295837-28737,00.html>

Utah's Ancient History is Focus of Donation

<http://deseretnews.com/dn/view/0,1249,695194369,00.html>

US Archaeologists Find Possible Mastodon Carving on Lake Michigan Rock

<http://www.cbc.ca/cp/science/070904/g090406A.html>

Ice Age Rock Carving of Mammoth Found in Cheddar Gorge

http://www.24hourmuseum.org.uk/nwh_gfx_en/ART49804.html

Steward program giving Inland desert's fragile artifacts a fighting chance

http://www.pe.com/localnews/sbcounty/stories/PE_News_Local_D_sites19.1d86a7f.html

Sacred Sites

<http://www.pe.com/reports/2007/sacred/>

Protecting Dominguez vital for historic sites, group says

http://www.gjsentinel.com/hp/content/news/stories/2007/08/12/8_12_1B_Archaeology.html

Is Ancient People's End a Warning for the Future

<http://www.npr.org/templates/story/story.php?storyId=12313268>

South African Rock Art Digital Archive

<http://www.sarada.co.za/ixbin/hixclient.exe?search-form=main/home.html&submit-button=search& IXSESSION =>

Next Board Meeting

Saturday October 27th 10a-2p at Highlands Ranch Library

All are welcome!

Aug 2007 Board Meeting Highlights

The quarterly meeting of the board of directors of the Colorado Rock Art Association convened on August 4, 2007 in the Highlands Ranch library. President Jan Gorski opened the meeting at 10:17 a.m. Board members Mike Maselli, Terry Murphy, Bob Tipton, and Julie Tipton, and guest Cecilia Farin attended.

Business included topics on Vacant Positions - **we still desperately need a newsletter editor.** Duties of the Historian position will be delegated to the Field Trip Leaders and secretary.

Jan Gorski has updated the website and Cheryl Ames will be the new webmaster.

Results of the evaluation at the May symposium were discussed. Most responses were favorable and we will be using the inputs to make the 2008 symposium even better.

Proposed changes to the by-laws were discussed and we will present them to the membership prior to the May symposium for voting.

We discussed a request to use the Silent Auction money for the Alice Hamilton Scholarship Fund (AHSF) but the funds are already committed to fund the lab intern at the CRAA archives in Ft. Collins. If we receive a higher dollar value silent auction item at the 2008 symposium we will consider auctioning it off to support the AHSF.

We reviewed the results of the Gunnison state CAS meeting, the new regulations for grants and the need for everyone to keep their contact information up to date. Several members emails are failing so be sure to keep us informed when you change any contact information.

The board agreed that the membership list access would be restricted due to privacy laws.

Mike Maselli volunteered to look into setting up a Colorado Site Steward program.

Education Committee discussion included the fact that Eileen Gose has offered to put the Rock Art Trunk in action at the next symposium in La Junta.

Need to find a school or scout troop to show how the rock art trunk can be used.

Not much discussion on field trips other than the fact that we need to get more on the schedule. A number of the trips last year were cancelled due to lack of participation. We have therefore put together a field trip survey which is included in this newsletter and has been emailed to all members. We are hoping that most members will take a few moments to fill the surveys out and volunteer to lead a trip or two. **David Daniel is willing to set up a trip to China Lake in Little Petroglyph Canyon but we need someone in CRAA to be the**

coordinator. We also discussed the need to post field trip liability forms and ethics forms on the website. Jan followed up with Cheryl Ames and this is in work.

We cancelled the proposed annual picnic in conjunction with Tom Getts CANM trip since it was also the same weekend as Suzi Martineau's memorial in Bluff. **We need a volunteer willing to set up an annual picnic event.**

We discussed the need for an audit of the CRAA books. New regulations on grant monies require that we have a formal audit. **We are seeking an outside auditor to perform these activities each year.**

Jan Gorski proposed we set up a Suzi Martineau Memorial Fund to support Education and Conservation activities. The board agreed to do so and will seed the fund with \$500. Julie Tipton will send notification to Suzi's family.

Mike Maselli and Anne Whitfield have done a lot of groundwork on the 2008 symposium and Mike shared all the details with us. Look for lots of fun and new activities in La Junta next May.

Mike Maselli, Anne Whitfield and Larry Loendorf have been working on a grant application to record rock art near the Purgatorie River in the Spring of 2008. The grant will help fund some of the costs the volunteers will incur in support of the sessions.



CRAA FIELD TRIP SURVEY - SEPTEMBER 2007

Please fill out this survey and mail to: Laurie Lee 9 Haney Rd Colorado Springs, CO. 80906

1. Do you prefer field trips of 1, 2, 3 or 4+ days?
2. Do you prefer field trips to be scheduled for weekends or weekdays?
3. Do you prefer a field trip group be less than 5, 10, 20 or 30 people?
4. Will you travel to a field trip location within 250, 350, 450 miles or farther away?
5. Do you want a field trip that requires minimal hiking or are you willing to hike for 2-7 miles round trip?
6. On a field trip would you be willing to explore from dawn (8AM) to dusk (6PM) (8-12 hours) or do you want to start later and return by mid afternoon (4-6 hours)?
7. On a field trip are you willing to camp to access a remote location or do you prefer a location that has motels and other services nearby?
8. If you did not participate in a field trip in the past year(s) (not including the field trips at the CRAA Symposium), was it because the trips/locations weren't of interest, the locations were too far away, the dates didn't work for you or you just aren't particularly interested in field trips?
9. If you didn't participate in a field trip because the scheduled date didn't work for you, which of the previously scheduled field trips would you like to see offered again?
10. Have you any suggestions for field trips?
11. Do you know of someone who could lead a field trip to the location(s) you suggested in question 10?
12. Will you plan and lead a field trip?



MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION
COLORADO ROCK ART ASSOCIATION

NAME(S): _____

ADDRESS: _____

CITY: STATE: ZIP CODE: _____

PHONE(S): DAY: EVENING: _____

EMAIL ADDRESS: _____

(Your email address is intended solely for the use of the Colorado Rock Art Association and the Colorado Archaeological Society, to disseminate chapter/society information to members. All emails are sent with members' email addresses hidden).

I am not a member of any other CAS chapter. Enclosed are my dues as follows for the Colorado Rock Art Association and the Colorado Archaeological Society:

Single (\$23.50) _____

Family (\$30.00) _____

Senior (\$15.50) _____

Student (\$10.50) _____

Total enclosed: \$ _____

I am a member of another CAS chapter and have already paid my CAS dues. Enclosed are my dues for the Colorado Rock Art Association:

Single (\$7.50) _____

Family (\$10.00) _____

Senior (\$7.50) _____

Student (\$2.50) _____

Total enclosed: \$ _____

Make checks payable to **Colorado Rock Art Association** and mail to the Treasurer, Denis Boon, 14030 CR 21, Cortez, CO 81321.

By sending in this application and your check, you agree to abide by the Codes of Ethics of the Colorado Rock Art Association and the Colorado Archaeological Society

(see <http://www.coloradorockart.org/pages/aboutus.html>).

(please initial that you have read and agree with the Code of Ethics) _____



Colorado Rock Art Association Code of Ethics

1. Members will comply with all local, state, and federal antiquities laws as well as any rules and regulations of the Colorado Rock Art Association and the Colorado Archaeological Society (CAS).
2. All rock art recording shall be non-destructive with regard to the rock art and the site in general.
3. No archaeological collecting or excavation shall be done unless as part of a legally constituted archaeological project and according to Colorado Archaeological Society regulations.
4. No use of the names Colorado Rock Art Association and Colorado Archaeological Society will be allowed unless in conjunction with approved CRAA or CAS projects or activities. Members may use the names for purposes of identification but no project or activity shall be represented as having CRAA or CAS sponsorship without express authorization of their Executive Committees.

The CO Recreation Search And Rescue card is recommended for all CRAA members on field trips in Colorado. Get your card at: <http://www.coloradosarboard.org/csrb-COSARFund.asp>



Colorado Archaeological Society Code of Ethics

The Society expects that:

1. Members will uphold State and Federal antiquity laws.
2. Members will only excavate archaeological sites using professionally accepted procedures developed in consultation with a professional archaeologist and with the written permission of the landowner. The investigator has the responsibility for publication of the result of his/her investigation and for making the collection available for further scientific study.
3. Members will report archaeological sites to the Office of the State Archaeologist on State Survey forms. Materials noted on the surface of site shall be cataloged and described in the site survey report and they will only be collected if a Collection Permit is in place. Collected materials should be deposited with the State Archaeologist's Office or other responsible repository and made available for scientific study.
4. Members will not support illegal or unscientifically conducted activities by participating in or condoning the sale, exchange or purchase of artifacts obtained from such sites.
5. Members who exhibit artifacts will do so in an educational context. Items from burials and objects considered sacred will not be exhibited.
6. Members will cooperate with the State Archaeologist and other persons and agencies concerned with archaeology and related fields.
7. Members will respect the dignity of groups whose cultural histories is the subject of archaeological investigation.
8. Members will not participate in conduct involving dishonesty, deceit or misrepresentation about archeological matters.

**Colorado Rock Art
Association
A Chapter of the
Colorado
Archaeological Soci-
ety**



**www.coloradorocka
rt.org**

c/o Jan Gorski, Editor
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