



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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President's Corner

By Anne Robinson, CRAA President

Our January web lecture was well attended. If you haven't tried a web lecture, don't be intimidated by the technology. It has been very easy for most folks to join and if you have questions, Joel Hurmence is available to help via the phone during the first part of the lecture.

We are pleased to announce our second web lecture for 2018. Carolyn Boyd will be speaking on **Introduction to the Visual Culture of the Lower Pecos** on February 8 at 6:30 pm. Web lectures make it easy for everyone to enjoy lectures from any location with internet access. More information is on page 2. Please pass this information on to others. PAAC lectures are open to everyone.

Five PAAC classes are being offered around the state this spring. PAAC classes are an inexpensive way to learn about Colorado Archaeology. Assistant State Archaeologist Chris Johnston teaches most of the courses. Before I took PAAC classes, archaeological reports were incomprehensible, even though written using English words. PAAC courses made a huge difference for my understanding of archaeology.

Of special note, the Historical Archaeology class is going to be taught by Holly Norton, State Archaeologist, and even if you have taken this class in the past you are encouraged to take this class.

We are still working on field trips for 2018. If you have ideas or want to lead a trip please let us know at coloradorockartassociation@yahoo.com.

Upcoming 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:

Introduction to the Visual Culture of the Lower Pecos

Speaker: Carolyn Boyd

Date & Time: Thursday, February 8, 6:30 MST

Location: Click on <https://zoom.us/j/6136944443> any time after 6:15 pm. For more detailed instructions, see below.

Description:

In this webinar, I will provide a brief introduction to the visual culture of the Lower Pecos, including an overview of the various rock art styles present in the region. The majority of the presentation, however, will focus on Pecos River style rock art, which is recognized as one of the most complex and compositionally intricate rock art traditions in the world. I will include information on 1) the materials and processes engaged in producing Pecos River style murals, 2) formulating hypotheses to explain the function and meaning of the imagery, and 3) new insights we are gaining into the worldview of Lower Pecos artists.

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Carolyn Boyd, PhD- bio

In 1998, artist-turned-archaeologist Dr. Carolyn Boyd, who recognized the incredible value of the ancient art, founded, Shumla, an organization to preserve, study and share this important cultural record. Since then, Shumla has been a center of archaeological research, heritage preservation, community outreach and education for students of all ages.

Dr. Boyd received her PhD from Texas A&M University. She serves as the Shumla Endowed Research Professor at Texas State University and as Research Fellow at the Center for Arts and Symbolism of the Ancient Americas in San Marcos, Texas and the Texas Archeological Research Laboratory in Austin. She is the author of *Rock Art of the Lower Pecos*, published in 2003 by Texas A&M University Press and *The White Shaman Mural: An Enduring Creation Narrative*, published by the University of Texas Press in the fall of 2016 and winner of the 2017 Society of American Archaeology Scholarly Book Award. She has been published in numerous peer reviewed journals, such as *Antiquity*, *American Antiquity*, *Latin American Antiquity*, *Revista Iberoamericana de Lingüística*, and *Archaeometry* and has contributed chapters in several edited volumes. Boyd gives numerous lectures around the country and abroad, serves on graduate committees, and is the Principal Investigator for the Lower Pecos Border Canyonlands Archaeological Project.

How do you join our web lecture?

Join from your PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android, includes tablets and smart phones. Starting at 6:15 pm on Thursday, February 8, you can join our web lecture using the information below. The lecture will begin at 6:30 pm.

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 6:15 until 6:45.

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.



Donations Accepted

Colorado Rock Art Association Archives in Pueblo

The Colorado Rock Art Association Archives were donated to the Pueblo City-County Library District a few years ago. Archivist Hannah Weber and other volunteers are working on curating the collection. They are interested in adding other Colorado Rock Art information to their collection- particularly documented photos of Colorado or other western rock art. They plan to make this collection available to researchers.

Donating your Materials to Pueblo's Archives

If you would like to donate your materials to be included with the CRAA collection at the Pueblo Library's Special Collections Dept., please first be sure that your materials have as much context included with them as possible. This would include dates, names of persons, locations, descriptions of what is in the images, and why they are significant. Once you have gone through your materials and minimally organized them, please contact the library and fill out a donation form.

You can contact the library by reaching out to the Archivist, Hannah Weber by either email (Hannah.weber@pueblolibrary.org) or via phone at 719-562-5631. You can also reach the Special Collections Department at 719-562-5626. Staff will advise on next steps.

You can get a donation form via the library's website (<http://www.pueblolibrary.org/sites/default/files/Policies/policycutsrvc.pdf> see page 71) or have library staff send you a copy. This form must be signed and returned to Hannah Weber.

The library will not disclose the exact site information on any rock art site.

Rock Art Vandalism

Reported by Grand Junction CAS Chapter



The Grand Junction Chapter of the Colorado Archaeological Society discovered an instance of vandalism at a rock art site in December. Here is a link to the article that ran in The Daily Sentinel in Grand Junction. The author speculates that rock art vandalism is on the rise. See the article here https://www.gjsentinel.com/news/western_colorado/with-access-a-click-away-vandalism-appears-to-be-on/article_8b253540-f901-11e7-860e-10604b9f7e7c.html?utm_medium=social&utm_source=facebook&utm_campaign=user-share



Bigfoot Man, A Portrait of a Six-Fingered Warrior

By Peter Faris



<http://adventr.co/2011/03/dry-fork-mcconkie-ranch/>

Continuing the subject of the meaning of polydactylic figures in rock art, I present this example known as Bigfoot Man, from McConkey Ranch, outside of Vernal, Utah. Usually noticed for his outsized feet, most people do not even note, or if they do they quickly forget, the fact that this gentleman displays six fingers on his raised right hand (I visited the question of his feet in a previous column, cited below and in December 2017 *Pictures from the Past* newsletter). He is obviously a mighty warrior as he holds what appears to be a war club in his left hand. He also has a trophy head suspended from his left elbow and what seems to be a spear or lance behind his right shoulder.

His importance is attested to by the care and hard work that went into producing his picture, and the fact that he is painted as well as pecked into the rock. This picture is in the style commonly known as Fremont Classical Vernal style and is assumed to date from the peak of their culture, ca. 1100 - 1150 A.D.

The archeologist H. Marie Wormington explained her theory of polydactylism in Fremont rock art to me back in the 1980s (a personal conversation). She had found a Fremont burial of a six-fingered man who had deluxe grave goods interred with him and, from that, she inferred that the polydactylism made one "special" in that society, and hence more likely to be considered important. Important enough to bury with special grave goods, and important enough to be pictured on the rocks.



Bigfoot man, McConkie Ranch,
near Vernal, UT. Photograph
Peter Faris, November 2010.

This figure is also endowed with deluxe accessories; he has a special headdress with plumes on each side painted with red and white stripes (perhaps meant to indicate bunches of red and white feathers), he also wears jewelry, a Fremont pectoral is around his neck. These were usually made from bone plaques strung side-by-side on a fiber or sinew cord. He is also wearing a tunic which is belted at the waist. The most unique thing about this figure, however, may be the fact that he is six-fingered on each hand. An obvious portrayal of a "special" figure who is shown with six fingers on each hand. I believe that Marie was absolutely right.

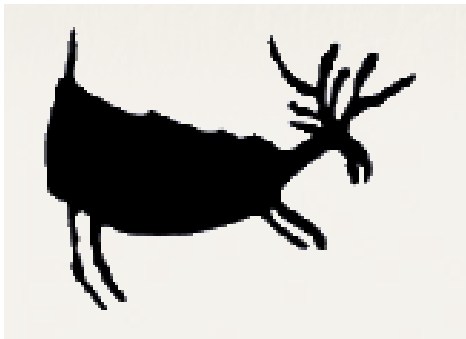
REFERENCE:

Faris, Peter

2015 A Beginner's Mistake - Bigfoot Man at McConkie Ranch, Feb. 15, 2015, rockartblog.blogspot.com/search/label/Bigfoot%20man

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.

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)

Prehistoric Ceramic Description and Analysis

Location: Grand Junction (Colorado Mesa University)

Dates: February 3-4, 2018

Class Description: Ceramic technology, methods of manufacture, physical/stylistic analyses, and basic Colorado ceramic characteristics.

Host: Grand Junction CAS

To sign up, contact: Geoff Peterson at peterston.geoff@gmail.com or 970-250-7402 (cell)

Archaeological Dating Methods

Location: Denver (History Colorado Center)

Dates: Tuesdays, March 6, 13, 20, 27, April 3, 2018 (6:30-9:30 pm)

Host: Denver CAS/History Colorado

Class Description: Relative and absolute dating techniques, sample collection, preservation and care of datable material.

Contact: Chris Johnston

To sign up, go to:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSepptDzkzbieWFvAIJ6yeBzApUS9AIbkDqx8eHnpMLxT7TyBg/viewform>

Historical Archaeology*

Location: Fountain (Fountain Library)

Dates: March 24-25, 2018

Class description: Importance of historical archaeology, types of sites, sources of historical information, key historic artifacts, Colorado history vs. archaeology.

Host: Pikes Peak CAS (Colorado Springs)

To sign up, contact: Jerry Rhodes at rhodespottery@aol.com or 719-332-9723

*This class will follow a slightly different curriculum than previous classes of the same title and will be taught by Dr. Holly Norton, State Archaeologist of Colorado. The class will incorporate a significant lab component for hands-on training in historical materials analysis. Those who have previously completed this class are encouraged to sign up.

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 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>

Rock Art & Archaeology Conferences 2018

Colorado Council of Professional Archaeologists (CCPA) 2018 Annual Conference

Dates: March 9, 10, 11, 2018

Location: Longmont, Colorado

Cost: \$55 for Colorado Rock Art Association as Colorado Archaeological Society (CAS) members. (Additional for the banquet)

Website for sign up: <http://coloradoarchaeologists.org/meetings-events/annual-meeting/2018-longmont/>

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The Colorado Council of Professional Archaeologists puts on a conference every year with updates on what is happening in Colorado Archaeology. The presentations are short and most are very accessible to avocational archaeologists. Presentations start on Friday afternoon and go all day on Saturday. On Sunday there will be local field trips.

Tentative field trip options for conference attendees:

Indian Mountain/Rabbit Mountain Stone Circle Sites (Boulder County) 9:00 AM-1:00 PM (tentative, weather permitting)

Fort Vasquez Trading Post (Platteville) 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM (tentative)

Mahaffey Cache Exhibit Tour at the CU Museum of Natural History 10:00 -11:00 AM

The Banquet will be Friday night. Todd Surovell from the University of Wyoming will be the banquet speaker. The cost for the banquet and speaker is \$39.

For more information and to sign up go to

<http://coloradoarchaeologists.org/meetings-events/annual-meeting/2018-longmont/>

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 Sege 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 Meeting

Dates: TBD – September or October, 2018

Location: Cortez, Colorado

Annual Meeting of the Colorado Archaeological Society (CAS). All CRAA 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.

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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. We will get the information out to CRAA members. Also if you would like to contribute to the newsletter, please let us know.