



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

We are pleased to announce our first web lecture for 2018. Lynda McNeil will be speaking on **Uintah Basin Basketmaker II Anthropomorphic Style: Antecedent and Ancestral to Classic Vernal Fremont Style Rock Art** on January 9 at 7:00 pm. Web lectures make it easy for everyone to enjoy lectures from any location with internet access.

With the holiday season coming up, you might want to consider purchasing some rock art inspired jewelry, pottery or a calendar. We have suggested some ideas in this issue on pages 9 & 10.

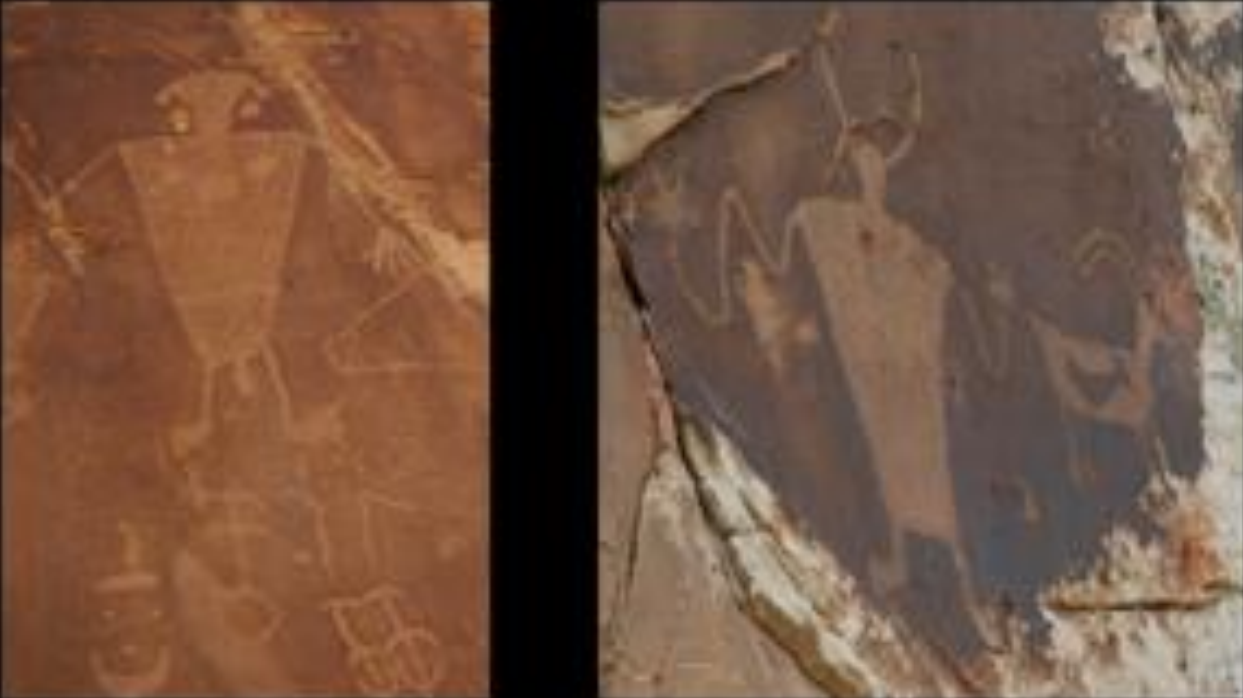
Our first field trip of the season to the Pecos River area of Texas filled up in a flash. We are looking for member input for Field Trips in 2018. Let us know if you have a field trip you would like to see, if you would be willing to lead a trip or you know someone who could lead a trip for us. Field Trips are an important part of the Colorado Rock Art Association. Please join us to make the 2018 field trips better than ever.

If you are interested in coming to a Colorado Rock Art Association Board meeting we will be meeting on January 20 at a location TBD in Denver. Contact Anne Robinson (annerco@yahoo.com) if you are interested in attending. We will be discussing design ideas for a new website and upcoming field trips, and lectures for 2018, in addition to other items.

Happy Holidays to you, your family and friends.

Upcoming Web Lectures 2018

Uintah Basin Basketmaker II Anthropomorphic Style:
Antecedent and Ancestral to Classic Vernal Fremont Style Rock Art



Lynda McNeil
Arizona State University
School of Human Evolution and Social Change

Uintah Basin Basketmaker II Anthropomorphic Style: Antecedent and Ancestral to Classic Vernal Fremont Style Rock Art

Speaker: Dr. Lynda McNeil

Date & Time: Tuesday, January 9 at 7:00 pm

Location: This is a web lecture. Watch from your computer, tablet or phone. Instructions to come.

In his recent analysis of petroglyphs in the Uintah and San Rafael zones east of the Wasatch Mountains, James Keyser (2016) identifies a subset of Fremont style figures as "solidly pecked trapezoidal body style Fremont." In this paper, I expand upon Keyser's analysis by adding to this stylistic repertoire a set of anthropomorphic figures that are largely similar to, but lack Classic Fremont diagnostic features, such as horned or winged headdresses, or body decorations, such as necklaces. Rather than fitting the category of Classic Fremont, I argue that this small assemblage represents a transitional or bridging style linking Eastern Basketmaker

anthropomorphic style (Durango, Colorado and Los Pinos, New Mexico zones to the south) and Classic Fremont style in the Uintah Basin (specifically the Cub Creek and Cockleburr Wash, Dinosaur National Monument area). I interpret this evidence of stylistic continuity, correlated with the presence of early maize (AD 250-400) in the Uintah Basin (Talbot and Richens 1996; Ortman and McNeil 2015), to suggest that Kiowa-Tanoan speaking EBM maize farmers from southwestern Colorado migrated to the Cub Creek area where they reproduced EBM solidly pecked trapezoidal style which was antecedent and ancestral to the Classic Vernal style.

About Lynda McNeil

Dr. McNeil's research interest in anthropology has addressed the question; how or through what mechanisms did humans preserve their collective knowledge over generations before the invention of writing? Early on, she investigated bear cult traditions encoded in Yenisei River (Southern Siberia) rock art, joining a team of international researchers on an expedition in 2002 to that region, as well as Colorado Plateau Ute Indian rock art, Bear Dance spring rites, and oral traditions. Her research correlates linguistic, material cultural, and rock art evidence that shows interactions between different social groups. Her current research includes the Kiowa ethnogenesis involving Eastern Basketmakers, Eastern Fremont, and historic Kiowa in collaboration with anthropologist Dr. Scott Ortman.

How do you join a web lecture? A few days before the lecture we will send a link to all CRAA members with instructions. It is very easy to use on a computer, tablet or phone. We will also offer a help line if you have issues accessing the lecture.

The advantage of a web lecture is you can be at home or anywhere with an internet connection and hear a live presentation.

Volunteer Opportunity Colorado Archaeological Society IT Committee Member

From Neil Hauser, Colorado Archaeological Society President:

To better serve our members I think CAS is going to need to have some online capabilities beyond what we have now, even after the membership capability is up and running. I envision this to include, but not limited to, online video conferencing, data archives, CAS/chapter archives, references and publication library concerning archaeology and Colorado archaeology specifically, etc. CAS is not going to build it but we need to be able to make smart choices that meet our needs, probably some will be buy by the pound (as needed). I don't know if we have members that have expertise in these things that could lead CAS through that maize and make the trades (cost and performance) in selecting vendors. I'd like to form a new committee that would make these types of assessments for CAS. Would you canvas your chapters and see what expertise might be in your chapters and if they would help us out. If they really know this stuff I'm sure they could figure out how to meet remotely when called upon. If you could canvas your chapters before the Jan meeting we can talk about what is possible then. To learn more or sign up contact Neil Hauser at nrhauser60@gmail.com.

CRAA Photos – December 2017

CRAA Rock Art Archives



Colorado Rock Art Board Members visit the CRAA Archives at the Pueblo City-County Library District. The CRAA Archives were donated to the Pueblo City-County Library District a few years ago. CRAA board members paid a visit to hear about the progress they are making with the collection. Currently most of their effort is focused on cataloguing the collection.

Pictured: upper left to right, Hannah Webber, Anne Robinson, Maria Tucker; lower left to right, Teresa Weedon, Peter Faris, Betsy Weitkamp and Anne Whitfield. Photograph by Keith Fessenden. Hannah Webber and Maria Tucker are employees of the Pueblo City-County Library District. Everyone else is either a current or former CRAA Board member.



Upcoming Rock Art Field Trips 2018



Field Trip – March 2018 – Sign up now! Pecos River, Texas Rock Art Field Trip

Visit incredible rock art sites in Texas on this five-day trip

Trip is currently full. Contact Teresa Weedin to be put on the waiting list. Full trip details in November Newsletter.

Leader: Teresa Weedin – email: weedin@comcast.net, or call 303/366-7843 (we screen our calls so leave a message and will call you back), or 303/748-6705 (my cell, same screening info as above)

Description: We will be visiting several private ranches and one state historical park to view the famous Pecos River Style rock art.

Dates: March 5-9, 2018 (Allow 2 days either side to travel there if driving.)

Road & Driving Conditions: Most roads will be on private ranches and will vary from day-to-day. You may be required to drive over rough two-tracks and/or bare limestone.

Vehicle Requirements: 4-wheel drive, high clearance is highly recommended.

Hiking Distance & Difficulty: Moderately strenuous on average; some sites are easy, some more strenuous. Most sites will require hiking down into a canyon to the site and then back out; there may or may not be a trail! One site requires you to use a nylon rope to descend into the canyon (use as an aid) and then back out. Another site requires you to cross a narrow ledge with a limestone cliff face on one side and a drop-off into junipers and prickly pear cactus plants, which hopefully will stop you before you continue falling into the river! Snakes will be coming out now so be aware. Rattlesnakes are quite common and grow to a large size!

Fees: YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR YOUR OWN CAMPING/LODGING RESERVATIONS AND FEES AND STATE PARK ENTRANCE FEE \$4.00/day, INCLUDING THE \$5.00 PER PERSON FATE BELL SHELTER FEE.

Costs: The cost will be \$35 per day per person (\$175) for the activities Monday-Friday.

Sign up information: Email Teresa Weedin with the following information:

- Names of all attending
- Address, All phone numbers, Email
- Will you be camping or staying in a motel?
- Do you have a 4x4, high clearance vehicle?
- How many people can you carry comfortably? Many of the ranch roads are rough!

Maximum number of trip participants/ Minimum number of trip participants: 20, including me.

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

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

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

Sites we'll be visiting: Fate Bell, White Shaman (full day); Painted Shelter, Halo (full day); Curly Tail Panther (this will take 1/2 day); Meyers Spring (full day); Shumla Institute presentation (still working on arrangements so stay tuned!)

Resources:

<https://www.wittemuseum.org>

<https://www.texasbeyondhistory.net/pecos/>

<https://shumla.org/>

<https://tshaonline.org/handbook/online/articles/>



Curly Tailed Panther, Texas

A Beginner's Mistake – Bigfoot Man at McConkie Ranch

By Peter Faris



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

Among the marvelous Fremont culture rock art at McConkie Ranch outside Vernal, Utah is the figure known as Bigfoot Man. Done in what Polly Schaafsma called the Classic Fremont Style this figure presents us with an example of a beginner's mistake. I started my working career by teaching art at a few colleges and my curriculum responsibilities usually included life or figure drawing. Anyone who has actually taught art will recognize this panel immediately as a common error made by beginning students in figure drawing. What it represents is someone starting to draw the figure on a scale that is too large for the surface. Depending upon where the student started the head may be too big for the rest of the body, or some other portion may be seen as outsized. Then they recognize that they have to change the scale to fit the rest of the figure onto the surface. In the case of Bigfoot Man the artist ambitiously began with a pair of large feet and quickly realized that he had to reduce the scale of the rest of the figure to fit onto the chosen rock face.

Some other points to note in this panel; the figure has been given knobby knees which I interpret as an attempt to realistically portray the patella, or knee-cap, and he is shown with six fingers on his hand (polydactylism again). Finally, notice that not only is this panel pecked, but paint has then been added as well, particularly in his headdress. It is an example of mixed-media. Many of the students in my former classes would actually have been happy to have done so well in their initial attempts. This figure is portrayed with details of clothing and headdress as well as weapons. He has a spear or something on his back projecting up above his right shoulder, and he holds a club or axe in his left hand.

Funny looking - yes? This is, however, diagnostic of a situation in which the creation of rock art was actually being taught to someone, and probably critiqued by the teacher. In our culture we

call that an art school and it suggests a high degree of sophistication in the Fremont culture as well as providing clues as to how their rock art was produced.

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.

Rock Art & Archaeology Conferences 2018

American Rock Art Research Association (ARARA)

Dates: June 1- 4, 2018

Location: Grand Junction, Colorado

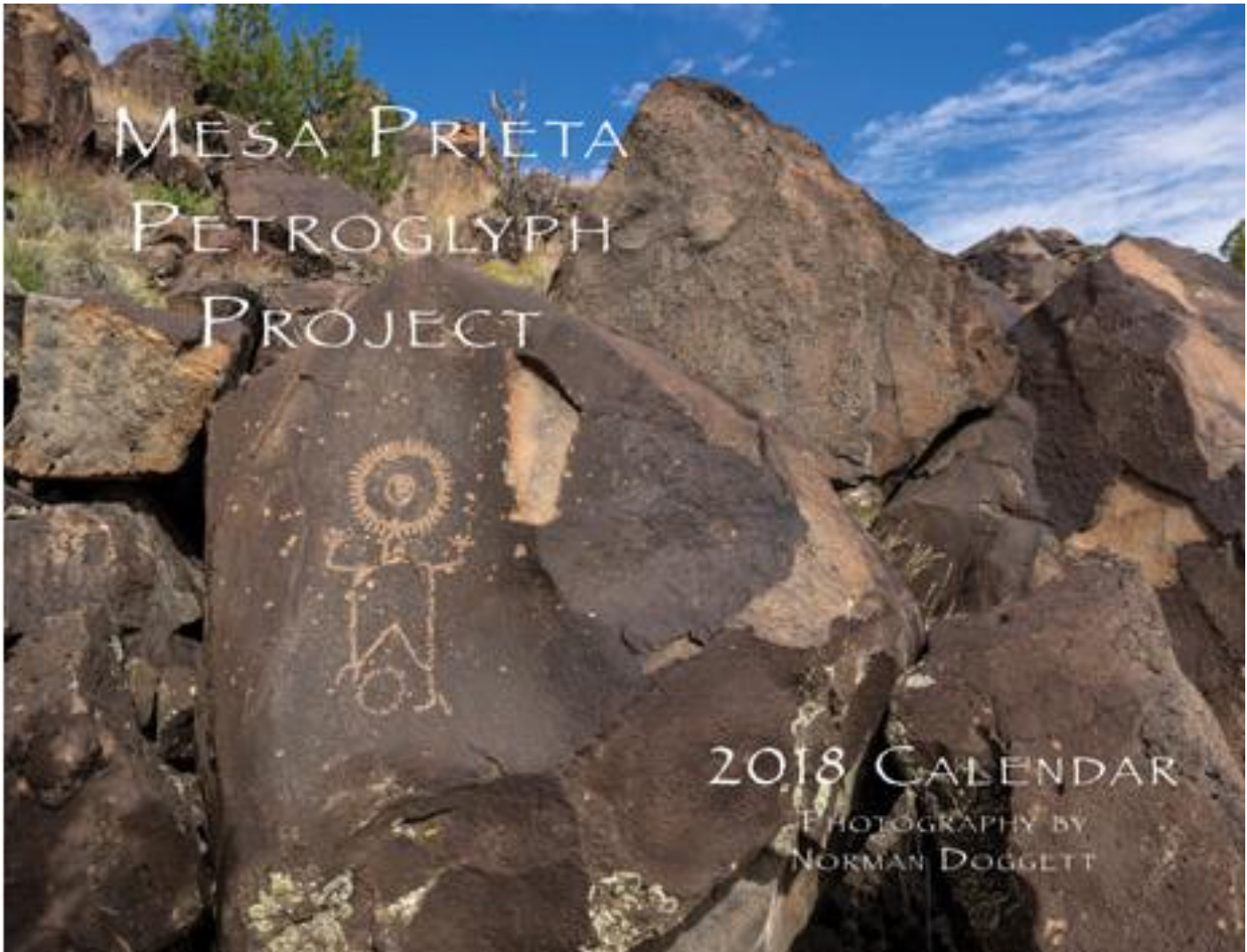
Website: <http://www.arara.org/>

Join Colorado Rock Art on Facebook Friends who like Colorado Rock Art Association

Join us on our Facebook page "Friends Who Like Colorado Rock Art Association". This is a closed group where you can feel comfortable sharing your Rock Art Photos with the group. From the Facebook application search for "Friends Who Like Colorado Rock Art Association."



Ideas for Rock Art Inspired Gifts Mesa Prieta Rock Art Calendar



In order to help support the efforts of the Mesa Prieta Petroglyph Project financially, they have produced a spectacular calendar (8 1/2 x 11") that gives you and others the opportunity to be a part of their preservation team. Help protect petroglyphs for future generations by making a purchase today. Consider purchasing enough for holiday gifts while supporting a significant preservation effort!

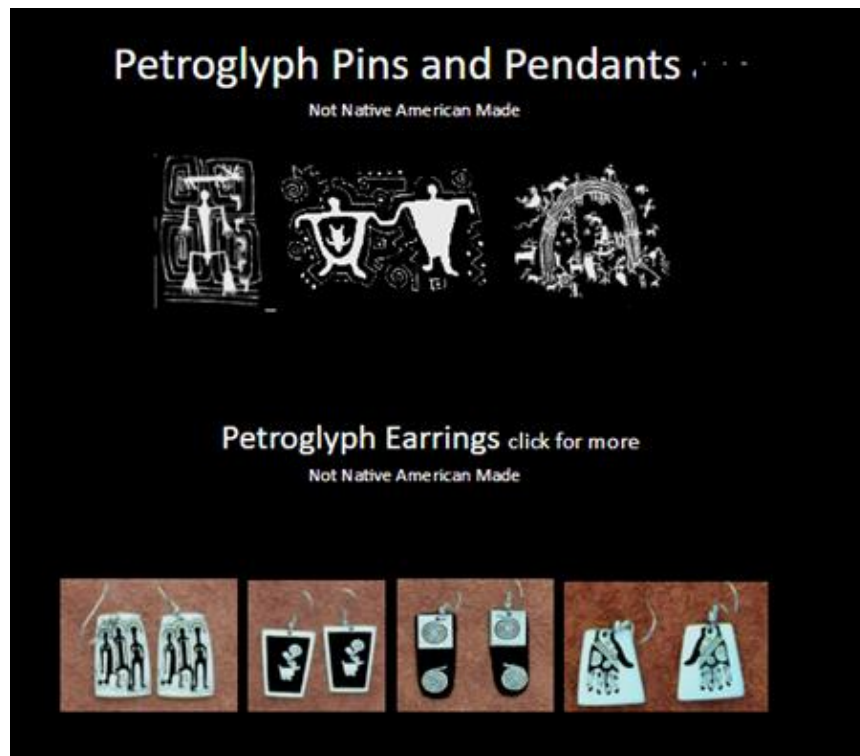
Mesa Prieta is an area in New Mexico that may have up to 100000 petroglyph images. For more on the Mesa Prieta project see <https://www.mesaprietapetroglyphs.org/>

Twelve full page photos of spectacular images on Mesa Prieta are featured for only \$15.00 (with shipping - \$21.45). To order go to <https://www.mesaprietapetroglyphs.org/2018-mppp-calendar1.html>

Ideas for Rock Art Inspired Gifts

Pins, Pendants and Earrings – Alice Seely

Website: <http://www.aliceseely.com>



Pottery and sculpture – Janet Lever-Wood

Website: <http://blueglyphclayarts.com>



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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.