October webinar:
The Elusive & Enigmatic Labyrinth Glyphs of the American West

Date & Time: Wednesday, October 24, 6:55 – 8:00 pm MDT
Location: Click on http://zoom.us/j/6136944443 any time after 6:45 pm. Program will start at 7 pm. See instructions on page 3.

Presenter: Kirk Astroth, Graduate Student, School of Anthropology, Applied Archaeology Program, University of Arizona

Description: (From Kirk) A distinctive unicursal, 7-course, 8-walled labyrinth image is carved into the plaster on the wall above the second floor of the central room at Casa Grande Ruins National Monument. This same glyph has been reported on the Hopi Mesas, at Arroyo Hondo NM, inside the lower room of Montezuma Castle, inside the upper ruins at Tonto National Monument and at Minnie’s Gap in Wyoming. Intriguingly, this image is also found across Europe and is reported to be at least 4,000 years old. How did it come to appear in the Southwest? Was it an independent innovation, or transplanted by Spanish priests among the converted? This image carries a lot of meaning and symbolism. My research focuses on the origins of this image in the Western U.S., its relative age, and its symbolic significance for Native peoples. (continued on page 3)
2018-19 Colorado Rock Chapter Officers and Board

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>President</td>
<td>Teresa Weedin</td>
<td>Membership</td>
<td>Keith Fessenden</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vice-President</td>
<td>Joel Hurmence</td>
<td>Website</td>
<td>Joel Hurmence</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretary</td>
<td>Betsy Weitkamp</td>
<td>Newsletter</td>
<td>Lucy Burris</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Treasurer</td>
<td>Randy Tatroe</td>
<td>Field Trip Coordinators</td>
<td>Anne Whitfield &amp; Betsy Weitkamp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Board Members</td>
<td>Donna Morgan, Darwin Thompson, Anne Whitfield (1 position open)</td>
<td>CAS Representative</td>
<td>Open</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Education</td>
<td>Betsy Weitkamp</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

To contact any of the above, email: coloradorockartassociation@yahoo.com

Upcoming Conferences, Meetings, and Events

- October 20, Saturday, American Institute of Archaeology, International Archaeology Day 2018 [https://www.archaeological.org/archaeologyday/events](https://www.archaeological.org/archaeologyday/events). Colorado and Local programs:
  - 10 am, University of Colorado, Museum of Natural History, Archaeology and Cultural Awareness Day, Boulder Broadway and 15th Street, [https://www.archaeological.org/societies/boulder](https://www.archaeological.org/societies/boulder)
- October 27, Nebraska Archaeological Society, Annual Meeting, Lincoln, NE. [https://sites.google.com/site/webnas/](https://sites.google.com/site/webnas/)
- February 16-17, 2019, Texas Archaeology Academy, Rock Art Academy, El Paso, TX. [https://txarch.org/events](https://txarch.org/events)
Presenter background:
Kirk A. Astroth has been an avocational rock art enthusiast for many years. Growing up in Utah, Kirk spent a lot of time exploring the deserts and canyons of Southern Utah, looking for rock art and habitation sites. Finally, in 2017, he entered the graduate program in applied archaeology at the University of Arizona. As a part of his program of study, he has been researching a specific image—a labyrinth—that appears in just a few locations in Arizona. Kirk is a site steward, a board member of the Arizona Archaeological & Historical Society, and volunteers with Archaeology Southwest and at the repository in the Arizona State Museum.

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 Wednesday, October 24, you can join our web lecture using the information below.
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 http://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.

Notes from the CRAA Board compiled by Lucy Burris

- Officer elections will be coming in May, 2019, consider running.
- Upcoming board meetings will be Oct 15 (via zoom), Nov 17 (in person), contact a board member if interested in attending.
- November webinar will be Richard Jenkins, URARA talking about the Great Gallery.
- No webinar in December.

Volunteer Opportunities compiled by Lucy Burris

Friends of Cedar Mesa, UT - http://www.friendsofcedarmesa.org/volunteer-rock-art-2018/ is looking for volunteers to document rock art near Bluff UT during 5 4day sessions from September through November 2018.
Volunteer Colorado - http://www.voc.org/ - opportunities statewide including cultural focused
Federal Agencies - www.Volunteer.gov/Gov - site has all volunteer opportunities across the US government not just rock art
CRAA Field Trips

**Dinosaur National Monument—Utah**

*Currently the trip is full but a wait list is available.*

**Date:** October 18—21, 2018  
**Leader:** Anne Whitfield  
**Where:** Utah/Dinosaur National Park  
**Vehicle requirements:** 2-wheel drive  
**Fees:** camping and other lodging costs. $5 for entry to McConkie Ranch; FREE entry to the Monument if one person in every car has the senior interagency pass (features red claret cup cactus flowers); $25/car if pass is purchased (It is good for 7 days and covers up to 8 people in the car).  
**Lodging:** camping details to come or lodging available in the area.  
**Capacity:** 15 maximum  
**Signup:** Go to the CRAA website  

**Note:** Complete information will be provided upon registration. You must be a member of CRAA to attend this fieldtrip. Go to the CRAA website, if membership needs updating.

**Description:** Arguably, this area boasts the best rock art in Utah! Our 3 official days focus on McConkie Ranch, (the “type site” of Classic Vernal Style rock art), “Best Of” panels on private properties in the Dry Fork/Ashley drainages (not open to the general public), and an all-day review of the spectacular rock art in Dinosaur National Monument. We will explore the material culture from the area at the Heritage Museum with interpretation by a local expert.

The hiking will be easy to moderate for the most part. There will be some short climbs, but participants can opt out, as panels may be viewed with binoculars. We will be in areas of “high density rock art,” so will avoid being rushed. All hikes are less than one mile one-way. There are a variety of camping and non-camping accommodations available in the area. Fieldtrips will initiate from Vernal. There are also a number and variety of good restaurants in the immediate area.

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

All participants MUST be current members of the Colorado Rock Art Association or Colorado Archaeological Society.  
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.

CRAA Field Trips (continued)

White Rocks Trail, Boulder County Open Space

Date/Time: October 27, 2018, Saturday, 8:30 am—12:00pm
(meet starting at 8:30, organize carpools and depart by 9:00)
Leaders: Joel Hurmence, CRAA and Christian Driver, OSMP
Where: White Rocks trail, meet at the Open Space and Mountain Parks Hub office, 2520 55th Street, Boulder.
Carpool from the office to the trail head.
Vehicle requirements: 2-wheel drive
Fees: None.
Lodging: not required
Capacity: 15 maximum
Signup: Contact Joel Hurmence at jhurmence@outlook.com or cell 970-481-2124

Information below provided by Christian.
Conditions: Participants should be prepared to traverse areas of loose sand, tall vegetation, exposed bedrock, and at least one 30-ish degree slope. Fence crossing may also be necessary depending on how deep into the site we would like to go. Aside from the rough terrain, safety concerns include various tripping hazards such as downed branches and animal holes, poison ivy, cactus, wasps, snakes, and a southern exposure with very little shade. Attendees should wear/bring sturdy boots, long sleeves and long pants, hats, and carry 1-2 liters of water.

Description:
The White Rocks area is primarily defined by a series of sandstone cliffs situated on Boulder Creek in northeastern Boulder. The property is currently owned and managed by Open Space and Mountain Parks (OSMP) which has designated it a habitat conservation area and the property is closed to public access for much of the year.

The White Rocks area has evidence of human use dating back approximately 3000 years. In addition (continued on page 11)
Over the summer Peter posted many interesting blogs. Here are two. Reprinted with permission. See more at https://rockartblog.blogspot.com/

1. A POSSIBLE RIO GRANDE GORGE METEOR PETROGLYPH: (posted August 18, 2018)

I have, on a number of past occasions, speculated on the subject of meteor portrayals in rock art. On May 6, 2009, I posted "When The Stars Fell." On January 18, 2013, I posted "Meteorites." On February 16, 2013, I posted "Meteorites In Rock Art - Continued?" And, on January 17, 2015, I posted "Meteorites In Rock Art - A Possible Portrayal." In these, I made the assumption that something as impressive as a major meteor storm or meteor fall would have been recorded in rock art. Indeed, there are such records in other mediums such as winter counts, so why not in rock art. Now, I have received photos from Jerry Hansen in New Mexico, in the Rio Grande River Gorge southwest of Arroyo Hondo that he suggests as a possible meteor portrayal.

I have not visited this site myself so I know nothing about it directly, but if the location is correct we may be able to deduce some things about it. First, from the location I am assuming that these petroglyphs were probably made by the northern Tiwa or the Tewa speaking Pueblos of the North Rio Grande area. Second, if that symbol does indeed represent a meteorite, the other petroglyphs on the panel likely represent a sky chart showing the constellations of the Tewa or Tiwa people that the meteorite appeared in. Miller (1997) lists many different names for these constellations (and asterisms). Pretty much each group uses a different name for many of them. One that most of the people agree on, however, is Turkey Track, and that appears in the left side of the panel. The other figures on the panel may or may not represent Tiwa/Tewa constellations, but if some correlations could be made here then the possibility that the image in question represents a meteorite would be fairly strong. (continued on page 7)

So, where do we go from here? Perhaps some anthropology student searching for a thesis project would like to take over and dig into this.

REFERENCE:
Miller, Dorcas S.

2. THE EARLIEST DATES IN COLORADO, EAGLE ROCK SHELTER (posted Saturday, May 19, 2018)

The oldest dates recovered so far in Colorado have come from an excavation at Eagle Rock Shelter (5DT813) in Delta County, supervised by Dr. Glade Hadden, recently of the Montrose office of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). Beginning in 2007, the BLM and Western Wyoming Community College collaborated upon this excavation resulting in some remarkable findings.

"Since 2007, the BLM and Western Wyoming Community College have collaborated on the excavation of the Eagle Rock Shelter (Site 5DT813) in the northern portion of the (continued on page 8)
Gunnison Gorge National Conservation Area. Excavations at the site have to date uncovered evidence of habitation within the shelter spanning the range of human occupation of North America.” (Hadden, quoted in Bannister 2013:1)

"Eagle Rock Shelter is a fairly large rock shelter located on the first bench above the Gunnison River. The site was originally recorded by the BLM in 1988 after it was reported as a looted site. After receiving the report, BLM archaeologists, along with staff from Alpine Archaeological Consultants, recorded the shelter and assessed the damage from looters. Their conclusion at the time was that the shelter may still contain some in situ deposits and that BLM should initiate an excavation to recover information missed by the looters. The shelter walls contain dozens of petroglyphs spanning the Archaic Period (ca. 7,000 years BP to roughly 2,000 years BP), the Formative Period (ca. 300 AD to 1,200 AD) and the Late Prehistoric (Numic or Ute) period. The BLM concluded at the time that there was a reasonable chance that some deposits from these time frames may still be intact inside the shelter.” (Hadden, quoted in Bannister 2013:1)

"The Archaic period is an era in the human history of Colorado dating from ca. 6500-AD 200. It is one of the three prehistoric periods used by archaeologists to characterize broad cultural changes that occurred throughout the Americas. It was preceded by the Paleoindian period (ca. 11,500 - 7000 BC), extending back into the late Ice Age, and was followed by the Formative period (1000 BC - AD 1450)." (Black 2018)

"In 2007, BLM archaeologist Glade Hadden and Dr. Dudley Gardner of Western Wyoming Community College visited the site with an eye to establishing a college archaeological field school. Our assessment then was that the site may prove to be an ideal field school project with a high probability of finding undisturbed Formative and Middle to Late Archaic occupation deposits. Excavations began by delineating the damage to the site from the looting episode. After the first year we had concluded that, while most of the later Formative and Late Prehistoric levels had been destroyed, there were good indicators of intact Late Archaic and Formative period levels still in place. Over the next (continued on page 9)
few years, WWCC and BLM continued to excavate and uncovered numerous intact occupational levels including Ute, Fremont hearths (Formative period), and Archaic hunter/gatherer camps, with a degree of preservation that was remarkable. Perishable fibers, cordage, leather, and wooden artifacts were found including a 3,000 year BP basked, dart foreshafts, an early archaic Pinto point with sinew wrap still in place, stone, bone, and wood tools, beads, including bone beads in both round and disk form, eagle bone beads, food preparation impliments, ground stone, and ocher." (Hadden, quoted in Bannister2013: 2)

"By 2010, we had established that the shelter occupation dated back at least to 8,000 years BP and contained undisturbed occupations representing all phases of known human occupation for the area. In 2011, we excavated down through the intact Archaic levels and discovered hearths, with the first dating to ca. 9,000 years BP, well within the Paleo-Indian period, and finally a single hearth which yielded two individually certified dates of 12,800 years BP. The hearth contained charred bones (including one element of a late Pleistocene mammal), charred seeds, grasses, as well as stone tools and debris. The date from the older hearth places the early occupation of the shelter to the end of the last Ice Age, and represents one of the earliest Clovis sites in North America, placing it among a small handful of stratified Clovis/Paleo-Indian occupation sites in the western hemisphere - and currently the oldest archaeological site in Colorado." (Hadden, quoted in Bannister2013: 2)

What seems remarkable to me in this is that it has not been long since all archaeological references insisted that there was no habitation of North America that early. It was argued that Clovis (11,500 - 11,000 BP) was the first culture to inhabit North America. It should be noted that there is no mention of any Clovis culture affiliation in any of the material from Eagle Rock Shelter.

"The site is important because of the Paleo-Indian component, but that is far from the only significant component, says Hadden. "We have some of the most amazing stuff ever found in archaeological sites in Colorado right here. They're not unique, but they're amazing." In all, the site contained more than 50 hearths, and at least 42 different occupational contexts, including some gaps in occupation later on. In one of those layers was a 7,000-year-old woven yucca fiber basked that archaeologists estimate looters missed by about eight inches. It's the oldest known basket in Colorado and the second-oldest found in North America. "And it has a nice provenance," said Hadden. "We know exactly where it came from ... and the dry climate has maintained it beautiful."" (Meck 2016)

"Another find that could be a game-changer is a Middle Archaic Pinto point with sinew wrapped around the base. Pinto points, found in this area, are thought to date 5,000-6,000 years, but the sinew dates back 8,000 years. That could push the occupation dates of sites in the Escalante Canyon near Delta back possibly 2,000 more years, said Hadden." They also found tanned animal hides, a yucca-fiber sandal, and hundreds of projectile points, some dating back 12,000 - 13,000 years." (Meck 2016)

Eagle Rock shelter also includes rock art, although none of it can yet be associated with the earliest occupations of 12,000 to 13,000 years ago, and it was recorded in detail by Dr. Carol Patterson and Dr. Alan Watchman.

They divided the rock art there into sixteen panels (continued on p 10)
for their comprehensive 2006 report, and found that most of the rock art can be attributed to the Archaic and Formative eras. Their description of panel one is reasonably representative of most of the rock art in Eagle Rock Shelter. For panel one their report stated "Two eras are represented in this panel. The large animals are of the Archaic Era with branching antlers, large bodies and long thin legs and cloven feet. The smaller animals with stubby legs and round bodies, and the anthropomorph with stick legs and arms, along with the sinuous lines belong to the Formative era.

The panel at right exhibits characteristics of the Archaic Era with large horned animals, stick figure type anthropomorphs and abstract lines (2400 BP and older). It is superimposed in some areas by later, Formative Era (2400 to 700 PB) quadrupeds, and some later scratched and gouged lines. Determining age is difficult because of the strong weathering which has affected the surface and the glyphs. As no rock surface coatings are present a direct approach to dating is not possible. Varnish has not reformed in the peckings and so an indirect age estimate of less than about 2000 years may be approximate for most of the motifs." (Patterson and Watchman 2006:26 & 27)

While it would have been exciting to have examples of rock art from the earliest Paleolithic occupation, the fact that we now have hard dates from that early, plus the great detail of the rock art recording, provide us with a wealth of material to consider. A good job all the way around.

NOTE: For more complete information I would refer you to the resources listed below.

REFERENCES:


Lofholm, Nancy. 2016. A Basket Older Than God ...
(continued on p 10)
(continued on p 10)

Patterson, Carol, Dr., and Dr. Alan Watchman. 2006. Gunnison River Rock Art Site (5DT813), Delta County: Documentation, Evaluation, and Management Plan. Submitted for Julie Coleman, BLM Archaeologist, BLM Field Office, Montrose, CO, 80401, Urraca Archaeological Services, Montrose, Colorado

CRAA Field Trips (continued)

to several historic-age structures and archaeological sites, the area includes an extensive series of inscriptions consisting of dates, initials, names, and other rock art. The White Rocks area has been the subject of several archaeological investigations, including one in which IPCAS (Indian Peaks Chapter, Colorado Archaeological Society) members played an important role. In the 1980s and 1990s, IPCAS members assisted archaeologist Jean Kindig in recording all known inscriptions at the site (see image above). The resulting report has served as an invaluable tool for the OSMP Cultural Resources Program, as it is our only documentary record of this important cultural resource.

The presence of inscriptions at White Rocks is due to the softness of the sandstone cliffs, which is very easy to carve. However, this softness also creates challenges for preservation. A recent assessment of the White Rocks Area performed by Marilyn Martorano in 2015 documented extensive damage to several inscription panels that had occurred since 1997. Additionally, the OSMP Cultural Resources Program noted recent delamination of a portion of one of the oldest inscriptions at the site. These conditions make it clear that OSMP must move quickly to fully document the rock art at the site before it disappears.

Since 2016, OSMP has been performing photogrammetric documentation of panels at White Rocks. Photogrammetry is an exciting technology that creates 3-dimensional models of panels using photographs. Although photogrammetry is currently the most accurate documentation method available to OSMP, data collection and processing is relatively slow, and it is clear that creating models of all panels at the site will not be complete for at least several more years. In the meantime, another way of assessing the condition or rock art panels is necessary. Towards that end, in 2016, the OSMP Cultural Resources Program began piloting a condition assessment protocol utilizing hand drawings which are both faster and more simple than photogrammetry.
Congratulations to Anne Robinson, recent recipient of the Rock Art Chapter Achievement Award. A long time member of the Colorado Archaeological Society and the Indian Peaks Chapter, Anne was recognized for her leadership of CRAA. As president of CRAA beginning in 2015, she worked to rejuvenate the chapter through increased programs and events, field trip coordination, and a stronger board. She edited the chapter newsletter and started the innovative use of monthly rock art webinars to engage membership in our state-wide chapter. Under Anne’s leadership, chapter visibility and membership increased. In addition, Anne has been involved with the Rock Art archives at the Pueblo City and County Library Special Collections Department. Anne was nominated for this award by Peter Faris and Joel Hurmence. In Peter’s nomination letter, he said "... she has not only revived a flagging chapter, but has breathed new life into it with excitement and passion. I can think of no one who more deserves this award".

Anne (5th from left in back row) in Madagascar. Photo courtesy of Joel Hurmence

To Join the Colorado Rock Art Association visit http://coloradorockart.org/
Pictures from the Past Submission Guidelines
compiled by Luci Burris

Pictures from the Past is published monthly September through May for the purpose of sharing information with members and friends of the Colorado Rock Art Association. Submissions are welcome and are used at the editor’s discretion and may be edited for content, length, and format. Common submissions include book reviews, event announcements, volunteer help requests, activity reports, and local news items. Please follow the guidelines below. Contact the editor with any questions or to submit content: Lucy Burris, LBurris2@comcast.net.

- Submit materials by the 1st of the month. The newsletter is published during the first week of the month. Events or activities which occur early in the month should be submitted for publication in the prior month.
- Include contact information in the form of a name, email address, web site, and/or phone number.
- Illustrations can be used but they may be reduced in size and/or resolution.
- To protect rock art resources, illustrations should not include any specific location information—for example prominent geologic features, address signage, etc. General information is acceptable.
- Event announcements should include specific time and location information, remember members can live anywhere.
- Clearly distinguish your own content from that created by others so that proper credit can be given.
- Submit all material electronically. Acceptable document formats include Microsoft Word documents and plain ASCII text files, as well as plain text in the body of email. Acceptable image formats include .jpg, .tif, and .bmp. Adobe PDF files also can be used. Tables can be sent using Microsoft Excel or embedded in a Word document.

Have you seen a mountain lion?

Tim Dodson, our September webinar speaker, (view the webinar at the CRAA website) is on the hunt for mountain lion rock art in southeastern Colorado. (particularly in Otero, Las Animas, and Baca counties) In his talk he mentioned several panels they have identified but is on the search for others.

So what makes a zoomorph a mountain lion? Tim and his colleague Kendra have settled on several attributes:

- Quadruped
- A long tail (at least 1/3 the body length)
- Tail curving upward over the back or a tail straight out behind
- A short or rounded snout
- An elongated or arched torso
- Pointed or straight ears (short-medium length)
- Round feet
- Claws (somewhat rare)
- Most often pecked

If you’ve seen a motif that could be a mountain lion and can share that information, contact Tim at tsd106@gmail.com

http://coloradorockart.org/