

CRAA April Webinar



When: **Thursday, April 29, 7:00 pm Mountain Time**

Title: *A Storied Past: An Introduction to the Rock Art of Hueco Tanks, El Paso County, Texas*

Presenter: Tim Roberts

Zoom: Meeting ID: 613 694 4443, Passcode: 674219

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/6136944443?pwd=aGIwV2pJWUE0aVMweE1XQmRXTW56Zz09>

Description:

Hueco Tanks, located near El Paso, Texas, is a nationally significant multicomponent archeological site with a continuous record of more than 10,000 years of human occupation. This record includes extensive archeological deposits as well as an abundance of rock art. At present, there are 304 known rock art panels containing an estimated 3,000 to 6,000 individual figures. These figures represent at least six different rock art styles, the earliest of which may date to the Early Archaic period, 5,000 to 8,000 years ago. However, the most extensive imagery is attributable to the Jornada style and was created by early farmers petitioning for rain 1,800 to 550 years ago, during the Formative period. The threat of private development and other impacts ultimately led to the property being acquired by the State of Texas and designated a State Historical

Colorado Rock Art Association

Park, now a State Park and Historic Site, in 1970. Hueco Tanks was subsequently listed in the National Register of Historic Places in 1971 and was designated an official Texas State Antiquities Landmark in 1983. In January 2021 the property was designated a National Historic Landmark

Biography:

Tim Roberts is the Cultural Resources Coordinator for the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department in far West Texas, a position that he has served in for more than 20 years. Prior to joining the TPWD, Mr. Roberts worked as an archeologist for several private companies, and state and federal agencies across the United States and the Caribbean. As a result, his archeological research interests have been varied, reflecting the differences in the cultural and environmental backgrounds of the regions where he has worked. Since coming to West Texas, his research interests have focused primarily on the extensive rock art of the Trans-Pecos. Most recently, he prepared the National Historic Landmark nomination for Hueco Tanks, near El Paso, Texas, which resulted in this major cultural site receiving the designation in January 2021. Mr. Roberts received undergraduate degrees in art/anthropology and sociology from Bethany College, Lindsborg, Kansas in 1985, and an M.A. in archeology from the University of Tulsa, Oklahoma in 1988.

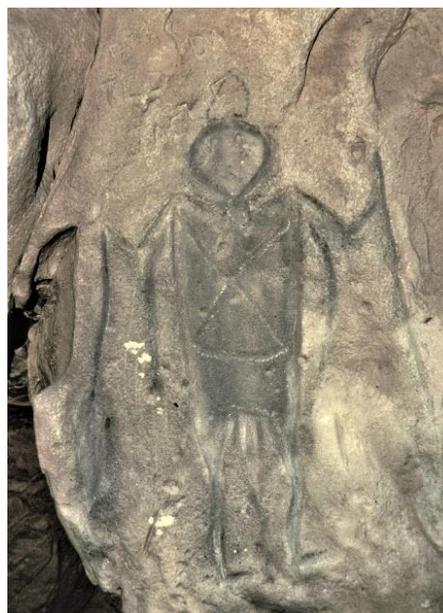
Hope you can join us!



Design Your Own Fieldtrip to Picture Canyon.

Had your shots, and still cautious?

VERY lightly visited, Picture Canyon is perfect during the time of COVID. Picture Canyon is so named for the over 100 panels once visible on its walls. Today, due to weathering, fewer than 30 panels are found with ease. It's fun to see how many one can find. Crack Cave (an archaeo-astronomy site) is open to visitors during the Spring Equinox. Find the illusive "sunrise panel" near the entrance (clearly visible only at equinoxes). Discover remnants of Plains Indian cultures and early 20th century homestead remains. Amenities include a vault toilet and picnic shelter. Camping is allowed. Scenic vistas and unique rock formations are main attractions on the 13 miles of hiking and horseback riding trails that start here. It is excellent for birdwatching, including

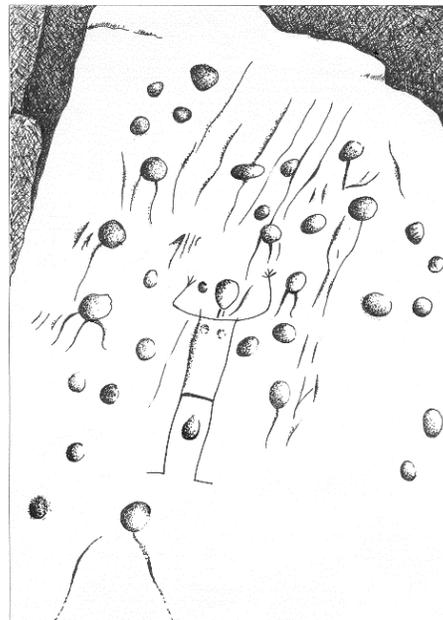
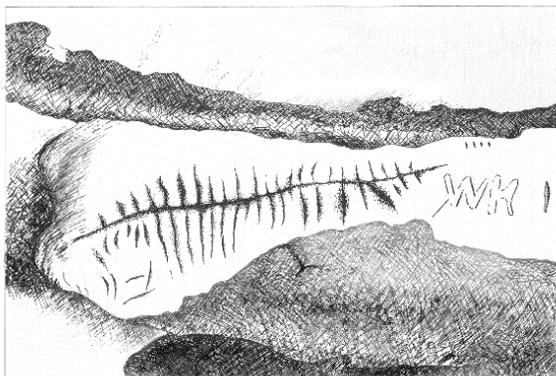
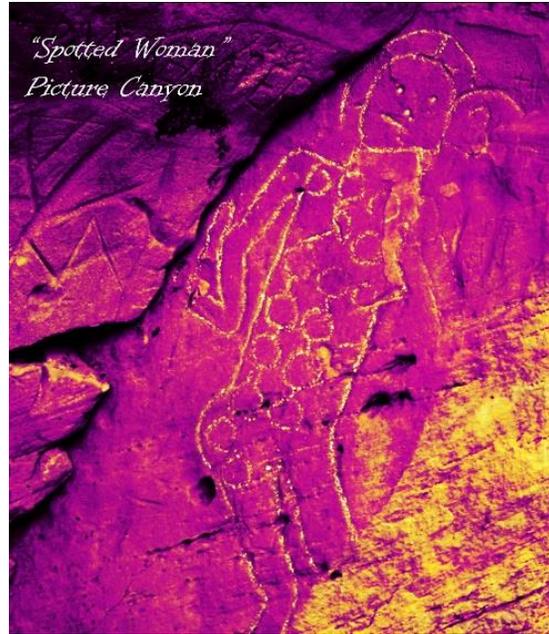


Colorado Rock Art Association

Bullock's oriole, scaled quail, several species of towhees, wrens and sparrows, ladder-backed woodpecker, eastern phoebe and blue grosbeaks. Google "Picture Canyon" for complete information. (Managed by Forest Service).

Directions: From Springfield, Colorado drive south on Highway 287 for 17 miles; turn right (west) on County Road M for 8 miles; turn left (south) on County Road 18 for 8 miles; turn right (south) at the Picture Canyon road sign (Forest Service Road 2361) and continue on into the recreation area.

If you make the trip, don't forget to submit your panel photos to the crowd sourcing project ([CRAA Archive@yahoo.com](mailto:CRAA_Archive@yahoo.com))!

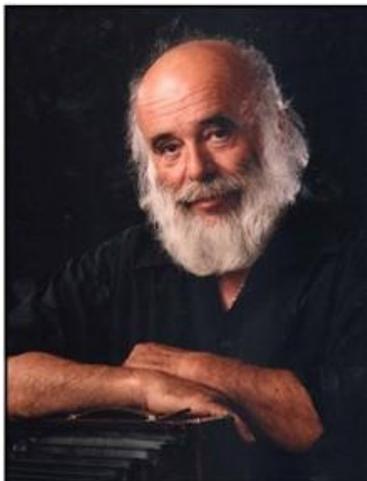


Colorado Rock Art Association

Michael J. Maselli, Jr.

May 30, 1936-Jan. 18, 1921

“Life Well and Thoroughly Lived”



“Mike” Maselli was one of the first presidents of the fledgling Colorado Rock Art Association. He was there at its formation, and involved in regional meetings on rock art before it was ever formed. Mike, along with Mark Mitchell and others, was part of the official recording team of Picture Canyon at Comanche Grasslands. Once said to have over a hundred rock art panels, only a few panels could be seen with ease in the canyon. Mike conducted numerous experiments to “make discernable” those illusive images.

Being a very fine photographer, Mike did most of the photographic work at the Canyon. Mike was a dedicated president of the CRAA. He was especially interested in archaeo-astronomy and astronomy, in general. Mike, along with Larry Loendorf and Anne Whitfield, organized the recording of the J.E.Wenger Ranch, a private ranch with a wealth of rock art. Mike wrote the grant that was key to the success of the project. Meanwhile, he could often be seen at the Heritage Center. Today, one can see the exhibit on rock art at Wallace Ranch. This was, in part, Mike’s doing. Mike was President of PAHS for a number of years. The organization thrived.

Keenly intelligent, he was a person of many interests: from genealogy to antiques, to refurbishing old cars, to orchids, to railroads, to . . . the list goes on and on.

Mike was a real “doer.” He had a career as a Psychiatric Social Worker at Colorado State Mental Hospital. He opened a photography gallery in Pueblo with a friend. In the last ten years, he went on a Road Trip to Alaska! He was a kind man who took care of his former wife in her final days. Given to infectious laughter, he had a fine sense of humor! But he didn’t suffer fools lightly, either! I really miss Mike. He was a friend, a really fine friend.