
The Folsom Point



Northern Colorado Chapter / Colorado Archaeological Society

Analysis of Skeletal Remains from the Colorado State Insane Asylum Cemetery

Volume 24, Issue 02

February 2009

February 18 (Wednesday) - Social Time, Business Meeting and Program. Dinner is at 5:30 p.m. and program is at 7:00 p.m. at Pappy's Corner Pub, 1027 W. Horsetooth Rd, Fort Collins. Program: *Analysis of Skeletal Remains from the Colorado State Insane Asylum Cemetery for Presence of Syphilis* by Leslie Johnson.

On October 23, 1879, the Colorado State Insane Asylum opened its doors in Pueblo, Colorado. During the next twenty years, many of the patients who died here were buried on the asylum grounds. These burials were long forgotten by the public, until modern expansion of the facilities unexpectedly uncovered human remains. Although some of the burials had been historically disturbed and relocated, no written records of the cemetery could be found. Unfortunately, the death records from this time do not reveal exactly which individuals were buried in these unmarked graves, and they remain unidentified today.

Syphilis was a common infection in the United States prior to the discovery of penicillin. This infection is of special interest in the skeletons from the Colorado asylum cemetery because historic records for the asylum confirm the presence of syphilis in the patient population. As part of her thesis research, Leslie Johnson examined the skeletons for evidence of syphilis. Fifteen individuals exhibit bone lesions and patterns of lesions that indicate syphilitic infection as the probable cause.

Leslie Johnson is currently studying

biological anthropology at Colorado State University and will graduate with her M.A. this spring. Leslie received her B.A. in archaeology at Western Washington University in 2002. Since then, she has done archaeological fieldwork in Washington, Idaho, Colorado, and Wyoming for the Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, Indian Nations, and various cultural resource management companies. Leslie has been working for Mountain Heritage Associates since June 2008 and plans to continue doing archaeological fieldwork after graduation.

This program is free and open to the public.



One of the skeletons from the asylum cemetery, believed to be syphilitic. Photo courtesy Leslie Johnson.

Special points of interest:

- February 18—CAS/NCC Program: *Analysis of Skeletal Remains from the Colorado State Insane Asylum Cemetery for Presence of Syphilis* by Leslie Johnson, Pappy's Corner Pub
- March 9—Loveland Historical Society program—*Preservation of Mariano Medina cemetery* Loveland Museum and Gallery
- March 18—CAS/NCC Program to be announced, Pappy's Corner Pub
- April 3-5—Colorado Council of Professional Archaeologists Meeting, Alamosa
- April 4—CAS Quarterly Meeting, Alamosa
- April 15—CAS/NCC Program to be announced, Pappy's Corner Pub
- May 20—CAS/NCC Program by Robin Roberts, Pappy's Corner Pub
- June 12-14—CAS Canoe Trip on the Colorado River

Welcome New Members!

- Jessica Anderson
 - Ray Jenkins
 - Kelly Johnson
 - Alfred E. Vigor
-

PAAC News



By Lucy Burriss

Below is the spring schedule for statewide Program for Avocational Archaeological Certification (PAAC) classes. Note that the Loveland (Fort Collins / Northern Colorado) class is highly tentative at this time since we are still looking for a PAAC coordinator. I have offered to provide a communication conduit with Kevin Black in the meantime. Anyone who is interested in coordinating the spring class should contact me (Lucy Burriss at lburriss@holly.colostate.edu) or Bev Goering by Feb 17 otherwise we will cancel the spring NCC-CAS PAAC class.

Watch the NCC-CAS web site for class confirmation/cancellation.

Just some reminders: You do not need to be a CAS member to take PAAC classes and you can take classes at any location, just contact the local CAS coordinator where the class is offered. See the PAAC web site <http://www.coloradohistory-oahp.org/programareas/paac/paacindex.htm> for contact information. Also, PAAC classes can be taken for 1 graduate credit through Adams State College.

Class	Location	Dates
Archaeological Dating Methods	Glenwood Springs	Mar 7-8 S/S
Principles of Archaeological Excavation	Loveland	Mar 24, 31, Apr 7, 14, 21, 28, May 5 T
Basic Site Surveying Techniques	Denver	Apr 16, 23, 30, May 7, 14, 21, 30, Jun 4 TH
Basic Site Surveying Techniques	Montrose	Apr 17-20 F/S/S/M
Field and Laboratory Photography	Alamosa	Apr 25-26 S/S
Field and Laboratory Photography	Craig	June 6-7 S/S
Historical Archaeology	Pueblo	Jan 30-31, Feb 1 F/S/S
PAAC Laboratory Project	Denver	Jan *9-28
Perishable Materials	Gunnison	Feb 13-16 F/S/S/M
Perishable Materials	Boulder	Feb 18, 25, Mar 4, 11, 18, 25, Apr 8 W
Perishable Materials	Grand Junction	May 15-17 F/S/S
Prehistoric Lithics Description & Analysis	Colorado Springs	May 8-10 F/S/S
Prehistoric Lithics Description & Analysis	Durango	Mar 20-22 F/S/S
Summer Training Survey	Antelope Gulch	Jun *16-23
* Lab project takes place at the Museum Support Center east of Denver, contact Kevin Black for details. ** Dates are confirmed, sign up with Kevin Black by May 4, 2009 .		

Join Us for Social Time Before the CAS/NCC Meeting!

All are invited to join us for dinner, appetizers, drinks (on your own tab) starting at 5:30 pm on Wednesday, February 18 in our meeting room at Pappy's Corner Pub, 1027 W. Horsetooth Rd, Fort Collins.
Our meetings are free and open to the public!

PAAC Summer Training Survey for 2009



The Program for Avocational Archaeological Certification (PAAC) summer training survey provides field training in surveying techniques applicable toward certification requirements. The 2009 Summer PAAC Training Survey will be conducted **June 16-23, 2009** on state trust lands in the Antelope Gulch area, northeast of Salida (same place as last year).

Fifteen volunteers took part in the 2008 Summer Training Survey, each participating for two to three days. The survey recorded a total of 15 archaeological sites dating from the Late Paleoindian period through the Historic period (ca. 9000 BC-AD 1930). Prehistoric artifacts such as projectile points, scrapers, knives, and flake tools were found, as well as a few ground stone manos. Debitage (flaking debris) from flintknapping activity was abundant. Tool materials included locally available jasper, chert, and chalcedony. The Historic period record includes sites relating to logging, mining, camps, and prospect pits from mineral exploration. Site 5FN494 in the Antelope Gulch area was reported in *Southwestern Lore* in 2001 by CAS member Don Tucker in the article: "Stone Circles at Antelope Gulch, Fremont County, Colorado." *Southwestern Lore*(67)1:1-17.

Volunteers will hike across rugged terrain in search of artifacts and features. Field training includes instruction in the production of sketch maps, filling out standard

recording forms, plotting site locations on topographic maps, and artifact illustration. Prospective participants must be in reasonably good physical condition. Volunteers must supply their own transportation, room and board, daypack and personal gear. All surveying, recording and mapping equipment will be provided. There is no fee for participation. Supervised survey earns credit toward Certified Surveyor I certification, and site form completion earns credit toward Provisional Surveyor certification.

Prospective participants must submit, or already have on file, a signed PAAC application form. Prior completion of the PAAC classes Basic Site Surveying Techniques, Historical Archaeology, and Prehistoric Lithics Description & Analysis is highly recommended. If space is limited, preference will be given to applicants with PAAC classroom experience. Applicants for the survey should identify the specific dates on which they prefer to participate (two days minimum) and provide their mailing address, phone/fax, and e-mail address. **The deadline for 2009 applications is May 4, 2009.** For further information, visit <http://www.coloradohistory-oahp.org/programareas/paac/summersurvey.htm>, or contact Assistant State Archaeologist at the Colorado Historical Society by mail (1300 Broadway, Denver, CO 80203), phone (303.866.4671), FAX (303.866.2711) or e-mail kevin.black@chs.state.co.us

CAS/ NCC Meeting Notes

By Emily Calhoun, CAS/NCC Secretary

January 21, 2009, Pappy's Corner Pub

- Members met for dinner at 5:30pm and official meeting called to order at 7:00 pm
- Old Business, discussed by Bev Goering
 - ◊ Remember to sign Blue Sheets
 - ◊ 2009 dues
 - ◊ New officers for 2009:
 - Field Trip Coordinator- Jess Anderson
 - Vice President- Margaret Grant
 - ◊ Money Maker:
 - Empty printer cartridges for money
 - Amazon.com website
 - T-shirts for sale

- ◊ Jason LaBelle:
 - Update on the Medina Cemetery Project
 - Blanz Bison Kill Project
 - CAS quarterly meeting to be held 1/24/2009
- ◊ Ron Wemple, Treasurer's Report
- New Business:
 - ◊ Colorado Rock Art Association Program
 - To be held May 15, 2009 in Cortes Colorado
 - ◊ Rock art recording workshop lead by Larry Loendorf
 - To be held sometime in April on the rock art of Pinõn Canyon
 - ◊ Program:
 - "Wildcat Mound Rock Art" by Steve Main

Northern Colorado Chapter/CAS Treasurer's Report

February 11, 2009

Account Balances

Checking Account	\$1,714.41
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Includes: Kaplan-Hoover

Interpretative Exhibit	\$879.08
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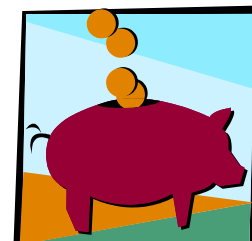
Exhibit Cases	\$3.75
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Greenacre Fund Cash	\$530.50
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Savings Account	\$53.91
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Scudder Money Market Fund	\$1,210.49
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Total	\$2,978.81
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Individual Funds

General - Checking and Savings	\$354.99
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Less Kaplan-Hoover Funds and GF Cash

Greenacre Scholarship Fund	\$1,740.99
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MMF + GF Cash

Kaplan-Hoover Funds	\$882.83
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Total	\$2,978.81
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2009 Northern Colorado Chapter/CAS Contacts

President	Bev Goering	(970) 484-3101	bgoering@comcast.net
Vice-President	Margaret Grant	(970) 482-8210	(no email address)
Treasurer / Membership	Ron Wemple	(970) 484-3317	rwemple@water-earth.com
Secretary / Librarian	Emily Calhoun		emilybcalhoun@gmail.com
Education	VACANT		
PAAC Coordinator	VACANT		
Field Trips	Jess Anderson	(805) 276- 0007	jessica.anderson@colostate.edu
Website / Newsletter	Joel Hurmence	(970) 481-2124	jhurmence@hotmail.com
Advisor	Dr. Jason LaBelle	(970) 491-5784	jason.labelle@colostate.edu



To Join CAS/NCC or Renew Your Membership, Visit
www.fortnet.org/casncc/membership/



Northern Colorado Chapter / Colorado Archaeological Society Membership Application and Renewal

I/We _____ (sign) do hereby agree to uphold and abide by the Code of Ethics as a condition of membership in the Colorado Archaeological Society (CAS) and the Northern Colorado Chapter.

NAME(S) _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____ (H) _____ (W) E-MAIL _____

Membership type (check one):

New Renewal (**renewals are due each January**)

Please choose your membership category (check one):

- \$26.00 Individual
- \$32.50 Family
- \$18.00 Student (includes *Southwestern Lore*, must be currently enrolled)
- \$18.00 Senior (does **not** include *Southwestern Lore*)
- \$22.50 Senior Family (does **not** include *Southwestern Lore*)

Donation to the James and Doris Greenacre Scholarship Fund: \$ _____

Please make your check payable to the Northern Colorado Chapter/CAS. Send to:

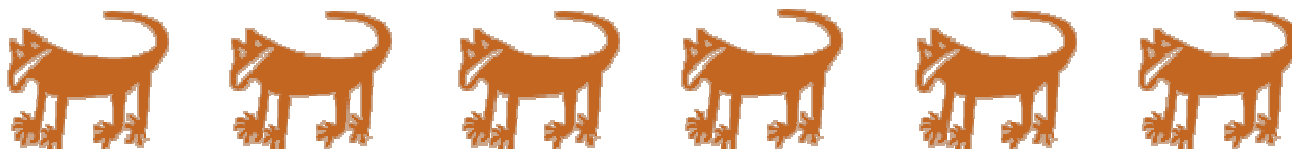
Northern Colorado Chapter/CAS

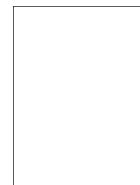
P.O. Box 270738

Fort Collins, CO 80527-0738

Note: Your dues include concurrent membership in the Colorado Archaeological Society and the Northern Colorado Chapter, a subscription to the Chapter newsletter, the *Folsom Point*, four issues of the journal *Southwestern Lore*, and four issues of the CAS newsletter, the *Surveyor*. The Colorado Archaeological Society is a nonprofit 501(c)3 organization.

Please take a moment to fill out our member survey on Page 8 and send in with your renewal!





Northern Colorado Chapter / Colorado Archaeological Society
Website: www.fortnet.org/casncc
E-mail: casncc@fortnet.org
Newsletter Editor: Joel Hurmence



Colorado Archaeological Society Code of Ethics

- Members will uphold State and Federal antiquities laws and regulations.
- Excavation of archaeological sites will be conducted only according to 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 results of his/her investigation and for making the collection available for further scientific study.
- Members are encouraged to report archaeological sites to the Office on the State Site Report forms. Materials collected from the surface sites shall be catalogued and described in the site survey report. Collected materials should either be deposited with the State Archaeologist's office or made available for scientific study.
- 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.
- Members who exhibit artifacts will do so in an educational context. Items from burials and objects considered sacred will not be exhibited.
- Members will cooperate with the State Archaeologist and other agencies concerned with archaeology and related fields.
- Members will respect the dignity of groups whose cultural histories are the subject of archaeological investigation.
- Members will not participate in conduct involving dishonesty, deceit, or misrepresentation about archaeological matters.

