



The Folsom Point

Northern Colorado Chapter of the Colorado Archaeological Society

President's Corner

Dear Valued Membership and Friends,

We have had some wonderful Guest Speakers come to NCC-CAS via Heidi Short, our Web Master and Newsletter editor. February's speaker, Dr. Payson Sheets, was definitely in that realm. He was animated and fun and definitely engaged as he educated all of us from his extensive experience put into his writing: **BEFORE THE VOLCANO ERUPTED: THE SURPRISING QUALITY OF LIFE OF ANCIENT MAYA COMMONERS**. Thank you Dr. Payson. I hope you come back soon!

Big thanks to Heidi Short for contacting all of the Speakers this last year, especially her friend, Dr. Sheets and encouraging them to speak to our Membership and Friends of NCC-CAS. We had a large crowd that took every seat at the long table and some folks sat off to the side. What a crowd pleaser!

Coming in March to NCC-CAS will be Dr. Linda Scott Cummings and in April our Speaker will be Dr. Christopher Johnston.

Keep in touch through our Newsletter, The Folsom Point to see the Speaker offering for May.

Note: We will not have NCC-CAS meetings through the summer months; June, and August. Summers were too difficult to schedule last year because so many of the Membership were away.

Don't forget to renew your NCC-CAS Membership by March 1, 2017. The Folsom Point Newsletter has a Membership form!

See you the second Wednesday in March!

*Light snacks and coffee will be available.

**Our next meeting room will be posted on a sign at the front entrance desk at MCR.

I will be looking forward to seeing you!

Happy Trails!

Susan Omori

March 2017
Volume 2, Issue 3

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March Program

Wed, March 8th

Place: Medical Center of The Rockies

2500 Rocky Mountain Avenue, Loveland, Colorado 80538

Big Thompson Room

Time: 6:00 PM -- business meeting, activities, discussions,

7:00 PM -- Program

Program

Dr. Linda Scott Cummings & Barbara Klontz, PaleoNutrition, Coprolites, Dental Calculus, and the Celtic Curse

In the first study of coprolites and dental calculus from the same individuals, we examine and compare dietary reconstruction from these two proxies. A population of over 500 individuals from two Early and Late Christian cemeteries in Nubia provide a human osteological record against which to compare the dietary proxies. The skeletal remains yielded evidence of numerous anomalies including cribria orbitalia, suggesting the possibility of iron deficiency anemia, and spinal fusion typical of ankylosing spondylitis, which was rare.

Approximately 10% of the individual yielded coprolites, which were examined for pollen, phytoliths, macrofloral remains, and faunal bone. The resulting dietary record was compared across males and females and by age group for both components of the diet and dietary breadth. Diet included a grain (sorghum), multiple vegetables and fruits indicating agriculture, and meat (crocodile, pig, and fish). Dental calculus analysis for approximately 50% of these individuals provides a dietary proxy to compare with that of the coprolites. As expected, the dental calculus record is severely limited in breadth. Comparison of these records by individual highlight those differences.

Nutritional assessment of the diet included observations concerning iron, with emphasis on bio-availability. For instance, phytates, abundant in sorghum grains, inhibit iron absorption. HFE gene mutation sequesters iron in bodily tissues rather than eliminating it (hemochromatosis). Ancient DNA analysis that will include mapping the two alleles associated with this gene mutation is in progress. XRF analysis of dried human blood has detected elemental iron, suggesting this technique might provide preliminary data to assess relational iron loads in the tissues. First tier testing focuses on those skeletons and naturally mummified bodies from which coprolites were recovered. This analysis is ongoing and results will be reported.

In conclusion, this multi-disciplinary study compares human osteological results with dietary and nutritional studies that derive from coprolites and dental calculus. The dietary information is specific to individual, most of whom have been identified by age and sex. These agriculturalists enjoyed a complex diet that encompassed grain, vegetables, fruit, and meat, some of which was represented in the dental calculus.

This study forms part of the base of a larger investigation into the Celtic Curse (Hemochromatosis). Today, northern Europeans (and those of northern European descent) carry the majority of the genes for hemochromatosis. This, and other studies of similar nature, cross the boundaries of scientific study to link genetics, human osteology, diet, and nutrition. We used coprolite and dental calculus to identify and evaluate the diet of individuals buried in two Early and Late Christian cemeteries.

The Coming Months and News

April: Dr. Christopher Johnston, History Colorado PAAC Coordinator will speak on his project.

May: Dr. Robert Brunswig, UNC Emeritus Professor and Research Fellow in Anthropology, will speak on Ute archaeology and the Numic World-a summary of the Current Status of Research as presented in the forthcoming edited volume, Spirit Lands of the Eagle and Bear.

Special Program July: Richard Boston, M.A. Anthropology his talk will be on a Civil War quilt he did research on and that has been in his family since that time.

More to come like Dr. Holly Norton, Dr. Gerardo Gutiérrez

We are looking forward to a fun-filled year with many interesting guest speakers.

Travel and Education opportunities.

Uncovering the Mysteries of Colorado's Pueblo Communities
<http://earthwatch.org/expeditions/uncovering-the-mysteries-of-colorados-pueblo-communities>

Crow Canyon Center <http://www.crowcanyon.org/index.php/programs-for-adults-families/archaeology-research-program>

World News

Rebuilding George Washington's childhood in Stafford County
<http://wtop.com/stafford-county/2017/02/rebuilding-george-washingtons-childhood-stafford-county/slide/1/>

Remarkable Maya Pendant Unearthed in Belize <http://www.sci-news.com/archaeology/maya-pendant-belize-04658.html>

News with PAAC

From Assistant State Archaeologist Chris Johnston:

I just wanted to write a quick note to touch base on a few things PAAC.

It's come to my attention that there are some concerns about the direction/future of PAAC. Let me assure you that PAAC is not going anywhere if I have anything to say about it. There is no talk in our office of seeing it go, and I have no designs to have it abandoned.

As you all know I also am adding some new training avenues for PAAC, including a site stewardship track. None of this can happen overnight, and all will take some time and trial-error to implement successfully. By and large the classes will remain the same, just some updated content, different approach to delivery, etc. Classes will be back on in the fall; chapters who did not get a class in fall of 2016 will get first priority.

Please contact me with any questions or concerns.

Chris Johnston chris.johnston@state.co.us

Change in Monthly Meetings

By Rae Todd

By membership discussion and vote, the Northern Colorado Chapter will not meet during June, July and August this year. We will resume monthly membership meetings Wednesday, September 13 with the Board meeting at 5:00 pm in the cafeteria at Medical Center of the Rockies.

See you at the March 8 meeting.

Finding the Fallen: 7 p.m., Wednesday, March 22

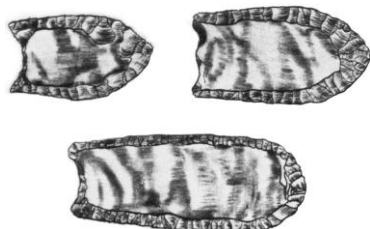
Laramie County Community College, Center for Conferences & Institutes, 1400 E College Dr, Cheyenne, Wyoming

Presented by Steve Cassells

Retired LCCC Anthropology professor Steve Cassells has been engaged in the repatriation of America's WWII fallen military over the past year, having been part of excavations both on the central Pacific atoll of Tarawa, and in Europe. He will speak to the nature of the work and the kinds of results achieved by the non-profit organization, History Flight, Inc., in conjunction with the Defense POW/MIA Accounting Agency (DPAA) in their mission to reunite our missing war dead with their families.

NCC CAS

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We're on the Web!
www.casncc.org

Mission Statement

The Colorado Archaeological Society is a non-profit organization committed to the stewardship of archaeological resources in Colorado. This is achieved through public education, research, and enhanced opportunities for responsible participation in archaeology for interested individuals and organizations.

The Colorado Archaeological Society (CAS) came into existence in 1935 as a focus for people having interest in the history and prehistory of humans in Colorado. The interest in archaeology led to the establishment of the office of the State Archaeologist within the History Colorado Society, a state government society.

Chapter President : Susan Omori **Vice-President – Dave Swinehart**

Secretary – Janet Pancoast **Treasurer – Rae Todd**

Newsletter editor – Heidi Short **Librarian – Julia Kenyon**

PAAC Coordinator - Dave Swinehart

Membership – Rae Todd **Webmaster – Heidi Short**

CAS Chapter Advisory Rep – Dale Agger

Professional Advisor – Dr. Jason LaBelle

Educational Offering

Conserving History: The Battle Flag of Glorieta Pass

Mar 27, 2017

1:00PM - 2:00PM

Location

History Colorado Center

1200 Broadway

Denver, CO 80203

History Colorado Center - Martin Room

Reservations Required: Yes Call 303/866-2394, or [register online!](#)

Cost: Members: \$4, Non-Members \$5

The Battle of Glorieta Pass was a decisive Western victory for Union troops during the American Civil War. As we commemorate the 155th anniversary of the battle, join us for a unique program that combines history with the whys and hows of artifact conservation at History Colorado. An overview of the battle and its context within the war will be provided by Flint Whitlock, local historian and author of *Distant Bugles, Distant Drums: The Union Response to the Confederate Invasion of New Mexico*. Then, we'll get an up-close look at the U.S. flag carried into battle at Glorieta Pass by the 1st Colorado Volunteer Infantry. History Colorado's Director of Collections Management & Registration, Melissa DeBie, will discuss recent conservation work on the flag and provide insight into our approach to artifact care.
