

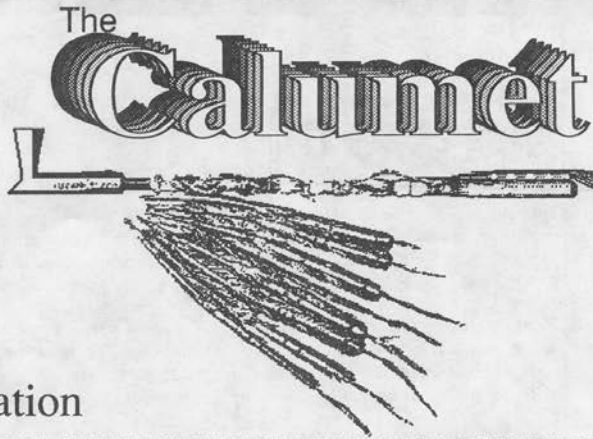


Lyons Chapter  
Colorado Archaeological Society  
Conservation

Preservation

Education

Exploration




**Calendar of Events**

- Feb. 21      The Lyons Chapter Executive Board Meeting, 7:30 p.m. at the Riggs' home, 1690 Lombardy Drive, Boulder 449-2852.
- Feb. 28      The Lyons Chapter regular membership meeting at 7:30 p.m. in Hellems, Rm. 252 on the CU campus. Our speaker will be Payton Sheets, Chairman of the University of Colorado Department of Anthropology. His talk will be on the "Ceren Site, El Salvador."
- Mar. 25-31    Field trip to Ute Mountain (Ute Reservation). This trip is being organized by the Pueblo Chapter. The cost is \$225 with all food included. Call Fran Cosyleon, (719) 544-3344, for information.

**Inside the Calumet**

- Bits and Pieces.....2
- Library Notes.....3
- PAAC Schedule.....4
- Desert Wind.....5
- February Meeting.....8
- Application Form.....9
- Chapter Officers.....9



BITS & PIECES  
from the Prez

WIN A PRIZE! Send in your 1989 dues by February 28th and be eligible for a raffle drawing at our regular February meeting.

FOR SALE: T-Shirts, note cards, and lithograph prints designed or composed by our Chapter artists, Anne Hayes, Janet Lever, and Jean Kindig. We will sell this art-work at our regular meetings. It is necessary to raise money in this or other ways, because our Chapter's share of your annual dues is only five dollars, which doesn't cover the cost of printing and mailing the Chapter's news letter.

Your officers are in the process of planning field work, field trips and work-shops for the coming year. At our regular meetings this winter we will ask your opinion by having you list your interests on a sign-up sheet which will be used to contact you later on projects with general interest.

CAS QUARTERLY MEETING

Sue Struthers, Larry Riggs and I attended the quarterly CAS meeting in Canon City on January 14th. Kevin Black, PAAC instructor for the State Archaeologist's Office, is considering a course on excavation techniques. He wants to know our interest in this course. He also wants to know our interest in PAAC courses for the fall schedule. Please contact me or Ann Pipkin if you have an interest in a given course.

We have a new Chapter, the Wet Mountain Valley Chapter out of Westcliffe.

Our Larry Riggs was elected (railroaded) to be CAS Chairman for the Advisory Board. Congratulations, Larry!

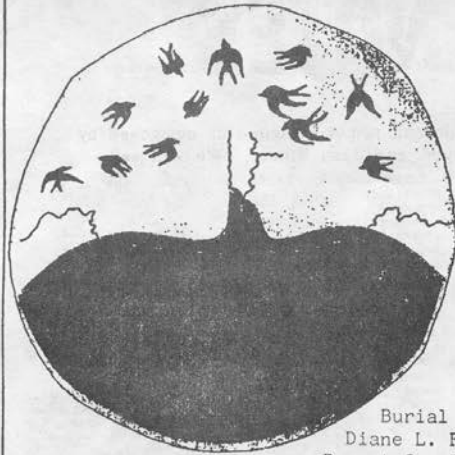
Susan Collins, State Archaeologist, asked us to report all instances of vandalism to cultural resources that might be noted while doing field work, hiking, or other outdoor activities. This can be reported on the State Archaeologist's Inventory Record Form No. 619. The State Archaeologist needs this information for legislative purposes to show that we have a vandalism problem. You can give the forms to me or Ann Pipkin or send them to the State Archaeologist.

The U.S. General Accounting Office has published a report, "Cultural Resources: Problems of Protecting and Preserving Federal Archaeological Resources." To obtain this report, write to GAO, P.O. Box 6015, Gaithersburg, MD 20877, and ask for GAO-RCED 88-3.

The 1989 Encampment will be June 30th to July 2nd at the Silver Jack Camp Ground in the Cimarron River Valley on the western slope. Registration information will be available at the April meeting.

The 1989 Annual Meeting will be at the Holiday Inn in Grand Junction October 6-8. Joe Ben Wheat will be the banquet speaker.

The next quarterly CAS meeting will be April 15th in Cortez at the Anasazi Heritage Center.



## Library Notes by Larry Riggs

We have some exciting new additions to the chapter library. Number 24 of the Colorado Bureau of Land Management Cultural Resources Series is out. It is entitled A Human

Burial From Delores County, Colorado, by Diane L. France. Subtitled An Osteological Report for 5DL975, this volume contains many

photos to accompany the analysis, an appendix covering the Cultural Resources Management Report by Powers Elevation and another appendix entitled "Preliminary Report by M.L. Powell, Smithsonian Institution." It is highly recommended and we would like to thank the Colorado BLM for sending us a copy. These Cultural Resources Series books are a real contribution to the understanding of our state's archaeology.

From the New Mexico BLM we have received their volumes 3,4, and 5 of their Cultural Resource Series. Under the general title of Archaeological Investigations in West-Central New Mexico, they are subtitled Vol. I Report of the First Field Season, by Eileen Camilli, Dabney Ford, and Signa Larralde; Vol. II, Historic Cultural Resources, by Klara Kelley, and Vol. III, Report of the Final Field Season, by David Kayser and Charles Carroll. The area covered by these volumes may be impacted by coal mining in the future. The site density of the area investigated is three times the average for New Mexico and the area is located between the better-known Anasazi and Mogollon areas (near the state line, south of Zuni). The treatment is very thorough and these three volumes constitute a major contribution to our knowledge of the archaeology of New Mexico.

Paul Heinrich, our ever-vigilant denizen of Baton Rouge, sent *Criteria for Making and Interpreting A Soil Profile Description, A Compilation of the Official USDA Procedure and Nomenclature for Describing Soils*, by Gerald Olson. In the note that accompanied the book, Paul noted that "It describes in detail, but understandably, how to make a complete soil profile description," and that, "If followed, it can make a description that will be useful to geo-morphologists and geo-archaeologists." Once again, we owe a debt to Paul for his efforts to strengthen our chapter library.

Closer to home, Peter Pollock of the Boulder Planning Department, sent us some city publications, *Preserving Boulder's Landmarks*, *Goss-Grove Neighborhood History*, and *Survey Results, Whittier Neighborhood*, and the preliminary draft of the 1988 Boulder Survey of Historic Places. These are most welcome because so much of the work we have been doing is historic archaeology. They

# PAAC NOTES

## February

1.....Denver.....Historic Archaeology  
 7.....Fort Collins.....Basic Site Survey  
 8.....Denver.....Historic Archaeology  
 10-11.....Carbondale.....Basic Site Survey  
 21.....Fort Collins.....Basic Site Survey  
 22.....Denver.....Historic Archaeology  
 24-25.....Carbondale.....Basic Site Survey  
 28.....Fort Collins.....Basic Site Survey

## March

1.....Denver.....Historic Archaeology  
 4-5.....Pueblo.....Dating Methods  
 7.....Fort Collins.....Basic Site Survey  
 8.....Denver.....Historic Archaeology  
 11-12.....Canon City.....Perishable Materials  
 14.....Fort Collins.....Basic Site Survey  
 18-19.....Canon City.....Perishable Materials  
 22 or 29.....Denver.....Historic Archaeology  
 24-25.....Denver.....CGPA Meeting

## April

1.....Denver.....Research Design & Reports  
 4.....Boulder.....Colorado Archaeology  
 6-9.....Atlanta.....SAA Meeting  
 11.....Boulder.....Colorado Archaeology  
 15.....Denver.....Research Design & Reports  
 17-21.....Grand Mesa.....Lands End Project  
 22-23.....Grand Junction.....Photography  
 25.....Boulder.....Colorado Archaeology  
 28-29.....Carbondale.....Ceramics

## May

2.....Boulder.....Colorado Archaeology  
 3.....Denver.....Photography  
 5-6.....Carbondale.....Ceramics  
 9.....Boulder.....Colorado Archaeology  
 10.....Denver.....Photography  
 13-14.....Grand Junction.....Ceramic Workshop  
 16.....Boulder.....Colorado Archaeology  
 19-22.....Durango.....Basic Site Survey  
 24.....Denver.....Photography  
 31.....Denver.....Photography

## June

8-11.....Cortez.....Ceramics  
 17-18.....Colorado Springs.....Colorado Archaeology  
 24-25.....Colorado Springs.....Colorado Archaeology

## CHAPTER PAAC COORDINATORS

Chipeta (Montrose)  
 Bernie Witley  
 249-2838

Denver  
 Teresa Weedin  
 h: 366-7843; w: 361-4063

Fort Collins  
 John Slay  
 224-1848

Hisatsinom (Cortez)  
 Gay Ives  
 565-8092

Lyons  
 Ann Pipkins  
 449-0851

Pikes Peak (Colorado Springs)  
 Greg Utterback  
 687-6384

Pueblo  
 Jesse Silvers  
 544-2438

Quahada (Grand Junction)  
 Bev O'Neil  
 434-0753

Roaring Fork (Carbondale)  
 Sheri Hills  
 963-2441

Royal Gorge (Canon City)  
 Jeanne Tucker  
 275-9679

San Juan (Durango)  
 Royce Kinnaman  
 h: 884-9031; w: 247-5702

San Luis (Alamosa)  
 Carl Nelson  
 589-3403

Vermillion Creek (Craig)  
 Beth Mansfield  
 824-5460

Continued: Library Notes

make a most appreciated and valuable addition to our library. Thank you, Peter.

As you can see, the library continues to grow. Thanks again to all the contributors.



## Desert Wind by Leni Clubb

### THE ATLATL: Archaeological and Ethnological Evidence

Baja, California: In 1947, William C. Massey excavated a number of burial caves in Bahia de las Palmas in southeastern Baja California. In one cave he found four atlatls bound together. One was in perfect condition and the others had suffered from rodent chewing. All were similar in construction and averaged 84 cm. in length. All were very slender (1.2 cm. at mid-section) and cylindrical. The weapons were all of the "male" type (the spur projects above the plane of the atlatl shaft) and the complete specimen had an integral spur (carved from the same wood as the shaft). All had a single loop of palm bark bound to the shaft with sinew and all had areas stained with red ochre (hunting magic?)(W. Massey 1955).

Two more examples were found in 1962 in a rock shelter near Buena Vista on the same Bahia de las Palmas. They closely resembled the found found by Massey at the burial cave. One had a bark loop on the opposite side of the shaft from the others, suggesting use by a left-handed person. The other atlatl (Figure 8) was in fine condition except the loop bindings were no longer present. It is a handsome weapon with a delicate geometric pattern on the dorsal surface. In addition the spur is carved to suggest an animal or reptile head. This type of atlatl is similar to examples from western South America and the Caribbean (W. Massey 1955).

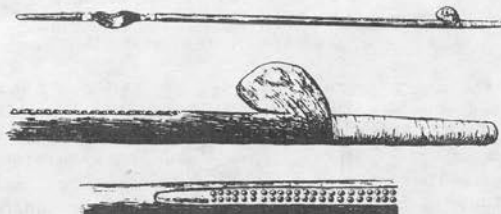


Figure 8. Finely carved cylindrical atlatl from southeastern Baja California. The dorsal surface is decorated with 108 tiny hemispheres. Drawn from L. Massey (1972).

Mexico: It is interesting to note that of all the New World Indians, only the high cultures of Mexico and Peru used the atlatl as a major offensive weapon of war and its effectiveness against the armoured Spanish under Cortez and Pizarro was noted by many early writers. Also carvings in bas-relief at the Temple of the Warriors at Chichen Itza depict fighting men car-

(Continued--)

rying the weapon.

At the time of the conquest of Mexico, Cortez sent many examples back to Spain of richly carved and gilded atlatls and eleven of them have survived in European museums (Figure 9). In Mexico, the atlatl continued in use as a hunting weapon hundreds of years after the hunting-gathering people of the western United States had abandoned it in favor of the bow and arrow. The Tarascan Indians of Michoacan still continue to use the weapon to hunt water fowl on Lake Patzcuaro (Figure 10). The dart or spear is a nine-foot cane shaft with a three-pronged harpoon head. One day a year, a great communal hunt is held in which as many as a thousand dugout canoes, each with two hunters, take part. They surround a vast congregation of ducks and geese and when the birds take flight, the hunters hurl their barbed missiles into the flying mass (Stirling 1960).

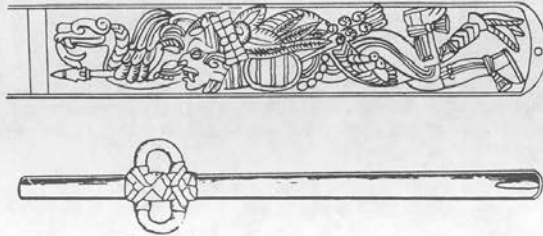


Figure 9. Gilded wooden atlatl sent to Europe by Cortés. Top, enlargement of carved ventral side of the weapon. Bottom, fluted dorsal side. Original in British Museum. Redrawn from Saville (1925).



Figure 10. Tarascan atlatl used in waterfowl hunting, 54 cm long. Drawn from Stirling (1960).



Figure 11. Peruvian atlatl made of thin gold sheeting. Note that there are no finger grips but a hook for the hand to butt against, 33 cm long. This very short atlatl was certainly a ceremonial object. Drawn from Gallo (1959).

Peru: Pottery of the pre Inca Chimu and Nazca cultures of Peru is embellished with helmeted warriors and darts (Means 1931). The monial atlatls of wood. The spur and finger grips per and semi-precious morphic figures. Very sheet gold (Figure 12) craftsmen.

Eskimo: Eskimo/Aleut ferent in appearance from parts of North America. newcomers in the New World could have acquired design long before



Figure 11. Peruvian warrior holding atlatl and darts, from Chimu pottery. Drawn from Means (1931).

carrying their spear-throwers Chimu goldsmiths made ceremonial covered with gold leaf. are sometimes made of cop-stones and represent zoodelicate hollow atlatls of were made by these ancient

spear throwers were different those described from other. These people were relative and their atlatls their distinctive they left Asia.

(Continued--)

Instead of the usual loops or holes for the index and second fingers, these weapons usually had a single hole for the index finger and notches to accommodate the other fingers or ivory pegs in the handle section to aid in gripping (Figure 13). Spurs were commonly ivory and in some examples no spur was used; the contact between atlatl and dart was accomplished by dove-tailed beveling or a beveled hole (Keller 1955). The atlatls were usually 33 cm. to 40 cm. long. The short length was important to the Eskimo hunters as they hunted from skin-covered kayaks which they paddled with one hand while throwing the dart with the other. Some had been painted with red pigment, possibly for hunting magic or to make it visible on the ice or snow. The spears were made of hardwood poles six feet long and tipped with ivory or bone points, or with a long foreshaft with toggle heads loosely attached to the shaft and connected to the spear shaft with a line for pulling in the catch.

Australia: In more remote parts of Australia, the Aborigines continue to hunt with the woomera or spear thrower. There are two basic types: one not unlike some North American examples with a slender shaft and raised spur; and the other an ingenious multi-purpose device used by the natives of central Australia that combines a spear thrower with cutting tool of quartzite mounted on the spur end of the weapon. There are many uses of the spear thrower as a tool. The spur end acts as a chisel, knife and engraver. It is valuable in making decorated weapons. Some of the "decorations" have been identified as maps showing the position of water holes across the desert. The spear thrower is also used as a lever to detach bark from trees, as a digging stick, and as a wood saw. The leaf-shaped concave center of the one shown in Figure 14, serves as an eating dish. The darts or spears are much longer than those used in western United States - from 240 cm. to 300 cm. in length. Stone Age man is alive and well in the outback of Australia and would be quite at home with the Ice Age hunters of the Paleolithic fifteen or twenty thousand years ago.

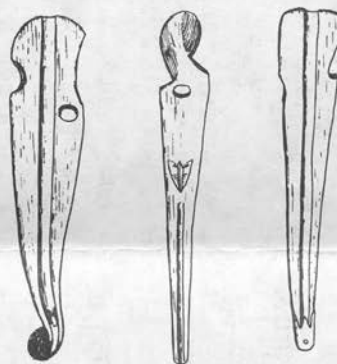


Figure 13. Eskimo Spear-Throwers. These weapons bear little resemblance to other North American types. The hole for insertion of the index finger is common to many and the spur was generally of ivory. Redrawn from Keller (1955).



Figure 14. Multi-purpose spear-thrower, Ayers Rock, central Australia. After Munnford (1956).

(Ibid. Campbell Grant: Vol. 15, No. 1, *Pacific Coast Archaeological Society QUARTERLY*, Jan. 1979)

If anyone is interested in pursuing the study of the atlatl further, I will be glad to send a copy of the references cited in Grant's article. See the roster for my address.

# February Meeting

WHEN: Tuesday, February 28, 1989

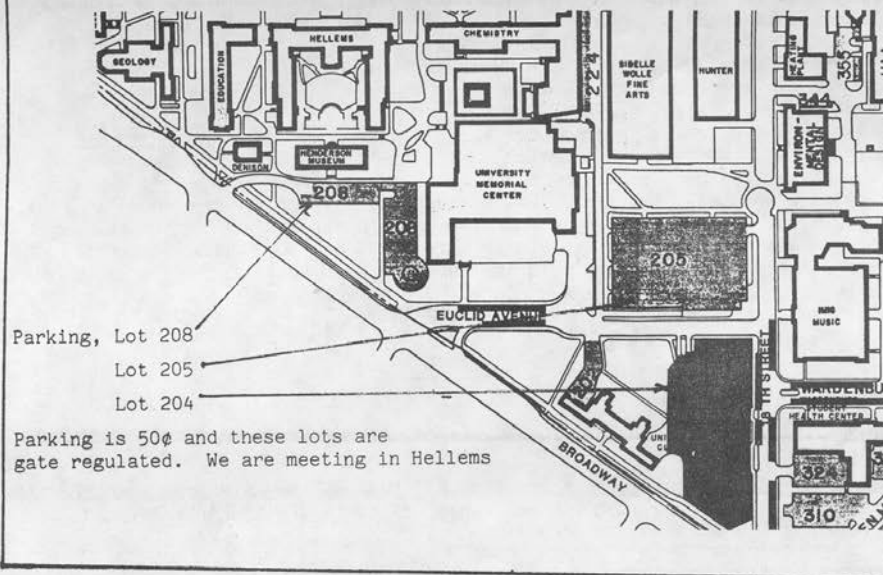
TIME: 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.

WHERE: Hellems 252, University of Colorado

PROGRAM: We are honored to have Dr. Payson Sheets, chairman of the Anthropology Department at the University of Colorado, as our speaker. Dr. Sheets' presentation will be on "Household Archaeology at the Ceren Site, El Salvador."

The Ceren site was buried by the eruption of the Laguna Caldera around 600 BP. This led to a remarkable preservation of household artifacts at the site. Dr. Sheets led the excavations during the 1978, 1979, and 1980 field seasons. The politics of the region, like the caldera, postponed further research in this area. Dr. Sheets continued to work in Central America, specifically in the volcanic area surrounding Mount Arenal in Costa Rica. He presented a program on his research in this area to the chapter in 1984. Dr. Sheets plans to return to El Salvador this summer to resume his work.

Dr. Sheets received his BA and MA from the University of Colorado, and his doctorate from the University of Pennsylvania.



Parking, Lot 208

Lot 205

Lot 204

Parking is 50¢ and these lots are gate regulated. We are meeting in Hellems



Lyons Chapter, CAS, Executive Board For 1988

Officers:

- President:* William Maxson, 827 Maxwell #E, Boulder 80302 (447-1947)
- Vice President:* William Boyle, 1001 Peakview Cir., Boulder 80302 (442-3682)
- Secretary:* Ann Phillips, 217 Hawthorne, Boulder CO 80302 (449-5627)
- Treasurer:* Jeannie Hamilton, 1100 Deer Trail Rd, Boulder 80302 (443-9221)

Standing Committee Chairpersons:

- Directors:* Leni Clubb, P.O. Box 56, Ocotillo, CA 92259 (619-358-7835)
- Lee Lacey, 2262 Juniper Ct., Boulder 80302 (442-4400)
- Richard & Sue Lippincott, PO Box 8, Erie, 80516 (828-3144)
- CAS Representatives:* Sue Struthers, 8439 N 63rd, Longmont 80501 (776-2350, 492-4482)
- Librarian:* Larry Riggs, 1690 Lombardy Dr., Boulder 80302 (449-2852)

*CAS Representatives:*

*Librarian:*

*Professional Advisor:*

Advisory Committee To State Archaeologist:

- Professional:* Sue Struthers, 8439 N 63rd, Longmont 80501 (776-2350, 492-4482)
- Avocational:* Larry Riggs, 1690 Lombardy Dr., Boulder 80302 (449-2852)
- Field Directors:* Bob Mutaw, 3000 Colorado Ave #117, Boulder 80303 (449-6832)
- Larry Riggs, 1690 Lombardy Dr., Boulder 80302 (449-2852)
- Sue Struthers, 8439 N 63rd, Longmont 80501 (776-2350, 492-4482)
- William Maxson, 827 Maxwell #E, Boulder 80302 (447-1947)

*Project Infor. Officer:*

*PAAC Coordinator:*

*Publicity:*

*Ways & Means:*

*Youth Program:*

*The Calumet Editor:*

Ann Pipkins, 4500 19th #456, Boulder 80302 (449-0851)

Larry Riggs, 1690 Lombardy Dr., Boulder 80302 (449-2852)

Bob Mutaw, 3000 Colorado Ave #117, Boulder 80303 (449-6832)

Larry Riggs, 1690 Lombardy Dr., Boulder 80302 (449-2852)

Sue Struthers, 8439 N 63rd, Longmont 80501 (776-2350, 492-4482)

William Maxson, 827 Maxwell #E, Boulder 80302 (447-1947)

According to the By-laws of the Lyons Chapter, Colorado Archaeological Society, the officers and chairpersons of the Standing Committees are voting members of the Lyons Chapter Executive Board.

This newsletter is published monthly by the Lyons Chapter, Colorado Archaeological Society. The views expressed in articles or editorials appearing in this publication do not necessarily reflect those of the membership or the Executive Board of the Lyons Chapter, CAS.

1989 Application form for membership in the Lyons Chapter of the Colorado Archaeological Society.



Individual Membership \$15.00       New member

Family membership \$22.00       Renewal

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone numbers \_\_\_\_\_ (h) \_\_\_\_\_ (w)