

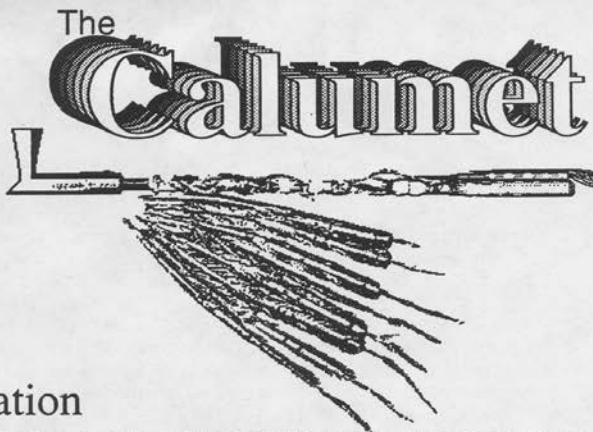
APRIL

The Calumet



**Indian Peaks Chapter**  
Colorado Archaeological Society

Conservation  
Preservation  
Education  
Exploration



**Calendar of Events**

APRIL '92

- Apr 11 Survey Abernathy cabin (details in Horizons).
- Apr 14 Robert Brown on "Cripple Creek: Then and Now", Co Hist Soc, Den. Adm \$4.50, \$3.50 if member Colorado Hist Soc.
- Apr 15 Indian Peaks Executive board Meeting, 7:30 P.M. at Foothills Nature center, 4201 North Broadway, Boulder.
- Apr 22 Reg monthly meeting, 7:30 P.M., NIST Auditorium. Archaeologist Gordon Tucker will speak on "Archaeology on the new Denver Airport".
- Apr 26 - May 2 **COLORADO ARCHAEOLOGY PRESERVATION WEEK**
- Apr 27 Wormington Lecture by Dr Anna Roosevelt on "Recovering the New World's Earliest Ceramics: Significant New Discoveries for American Archaeology", IMAX Theater, 7:00 pm, Adm \$8, \$6 if member Den Museum of Nat Hist.
- May 26 D Smith & R Ellis on "Colorado: A History in Photographs", Co Hist Soc, Denver. Adm \$4.40, \$3.50 if member Colorado Hist Society.
- May 27 Reg monthly meeting, 7:30 P.M., NIST Aud (tentative). Dennis Stanford, Smithsonian Institute, will speak on "The Paleo Indian Occupations of Colorado".

# Indian Peaks HORIZONS

I am pleased to report that Jim Benedict's March 25th slide lecture on prehistoric migrations along the Colorado Front Range attracted audiences from as far afield as Greeley, Ft. Collins, and Canon City. In case you missed the Daily Camera's impressive follow-up article with a digest of the talk we, are reprinting portions of it in this issue of The Calumet.

This excellent article by Chris Roberts elicited much public response. Steve Montgomery received phone calls from folks offering to assist with the excavation of the ancient hearth mentioned in the story. Jim Benedict, who is directing the excavation, has said that no more than six people will be needed on August 13 and 14 to do the shoveling and sifting. Preference will be given to CAS members. Observers will be welcome at all times, especially on Saturday, August 15. The excavation also provides opportunity for others to become involved in lab work, specimen curation procedures with the University of Colorado Museum, and completion of reports for the Colorado Historical Society's Office of Archaeological and Historic Preservation. This is equally a part of "doing archaeology", as we all eventually learn.

See the Calumet for details on our April meeting. Our speaker, Dr. Gordon Tucker, is Vice President of the Denver chapter. His talk, "Archaeology at the new Denver Airport Site", will reveal much about an indigenous 1200 year old Plains Woodland culture.

Dennis J. Stanford, our May speaker, hails from Washington, D.C., where he is head of the Department of Anthropology at the Smithsonian Institution. He comes expressly at our invitation. His topic (on May 27) will be "The Paleo Indian Occupations of Colorado." Dr. Stanford and Jane Day co-edited Ice Age Hunters of the Rockies, a collection of symposium papers just published by the University Press of Colorado. Autographed copies will be available at the talk. Dr. Stanford's travel expenses will be paid from our speaker's fund and by supporting contributions from DMNH, the University Press of Colorado, and The Boulder Historical Society, who are co-sponsoring the talk. This concludes our 1991/1992 lecture series. Many thanks to Steve Montgomery for planning these wonderful programs.

Our field season begins April 11 with a survey of the Abernathy Ranch site on Cherryvale Road. We are undertaking this at the request of Boulder County Open Space. Participation can earn you credits toward Surveyer I PAAC certification. Call Rick Lippincott (828-3144) if you wish to participate.

Ann Hayes - President, Indian Peaks CAS

PRESS RELEASE

**EVENT** Lecture and Slide Presentation:  
"Archaeology on the new Denver Airport Site."  
By Gorden Tucker  
Archaeologist with Powers Elevation, Inc.

**SPONSER** Colorado Archaeological Society  
Indian Peaks Chapter

**DATE** April 22, 1992 7:30 P.M.

**LOCATION** NIST Auditorium  
Department of Commerce Building  
325 Broadway, Boulder, CO

**CONTACT PERSONS** Steve Montgomery 443-4414 w  
Ann Hayes 494-3773 h  
Gorden Tucker 321-2217 w

**ADDITIONAL INFORMATION** Gorden Tucker has been one of the principle investigators with Powers Elevation since they began their contract field investigations of the Denver Airport Site in 1989. Gordon is also an active CAS member. He is the current V.P. of the Denver chapter of CAS

Nearly 35,000 acres of the site were surveyed. 65 historic and prehistoric sites, and 100 isolated finds were recorded in the four major drainages of the area.

Two major sites were excavated, and one in particular, the multi-component Tate Hamlet Site on Box Elder Creek has yeilded a great deal of information on a 1200 year old Plains Woodland settlement, including pit houses, hearths, tools, and pottery.

**FUTURE EVENTS** The last speaker in this year's lecture series will be Dennis Stanford, from the Smithsonian Institute. Dennis will speak on May 27, 1992 on "The Paleo Indian Occupations of Colorado". The location of the presentation is tentatively scheduled for the NIST Auditorium at 7:30 P.M. The lecture will be co-sponsored by the Denver Museum of Natural History, The Boulder Historical Society, and The University of Colorado Press.

Reprinted from Boulder Daily Camera: 3/28/1992  
By Chris Roberts, Camera Staff writer.

### Archaeologist offers theory on county

The ramshackle stone wall winds more than a half mile, an ancient artifact out of place in the treeless, high-mountain environment west of Boulder where it is hard to believe that human beings have been hunting for thousands of years.

Nevertheless, the wall is the work of an ancient race of people who lived part of their nomadic lives in Boulder County - long before the white man stumbled onto the North American shores and introduced the horse.

The strategically placed walls, leading to stonewalled "blinds" that concealed spear-wielding hunters, are part of a communally built system used to trap wild game.

James Benedict who graduated from the University of Colorado in 1961 and lives near Ward, has spent 30 years studying an area that includes the Indian Peaks Wilderness and the southern part of Rocky Mountain National Park.

He is the first to suggest a circular migration pattern that covered up to 240 miles from Boulder to Wyoming, to Kremmling and back.

By painstaking examination of hearths, blinds, game-drive walls and other sites for artifacts and dateable remains, Benedict has pieced together evidence of a nomadic lifestyle for what may be Boulder's original human inhabitants.

**Follow the seasons:** Known as the Mount Albion people, the first apparent inhabitants are believed to have moved into this area sometime between 4000 B.C. and 4500 B.C. in response to a regional drought. The Front Range with late summer snow still trickling its watery bounty into the mountain headwaters, was practically drought-proof.

New to the area and possible competing with other groups escaping the drought conditions the Mount Albion people moved west into the mountains at the first sign of spring thaw. In the winter they descended to low-altitude base camps.

They were forced to use quartz, which was plentiful, to make their distinctive dart points. Quartz, Benedict noted, is not easily formed into tools.

Benedict thinks that another migration pattern developed that may have been used between roughly 520 A.D. and 1185 A.D.

Known as the "Hog Back phase", small groups - extended families of between 15 and 50 people - moved north, following the east flank of the Front Range and hunting the sparse spring game. They carried a supply of sandstone grinding tools and locally quarried chipped-stone blanks that could be worked into projectile points, knives and other tools.

Using Cameron Pass north of Rocky Mountain National Park, or entryways through the Medicine Bow mountains in Southern Wyoming and Northern Colorado, they made their way to North Park, on the west side of Cameron Pass.

North Park was lush with game animals, waterfowl and wild

plant food. As the summer bloomed, the small groups drifted south over the Continental Divide to Middle Park, which was also rich in game.

High quality stone was available to replenish tool supplies near what is not Kremmling. Hot Sulfur Springs was a sacred spot, where arrow heads were dipped for good luck.

The small family groups came together, probably near the springs, by August. "It was the season of plenty - a time for courtship and marriage, group ceremonies and contests of skill and chance," Benedict wrote, "By late August or early September, preparations were being made to move eastward into the Front Range for communal game-drive hunting along the Continental Divide."

**Game drives** - The only extensive game-drive systems that have been found in Colorado are along the northern section of the Front Range. In fact, Benedict said, eight drive systems contain about 6 miles of game-drive walls, many of them more than a half mile long.

Hunters probably waited in the blinds, which were downwind of the game walls, repairing tools and cracking animal bones for a marrow snack. Others circled around a herd of bighorn sheep, walking slowly behind, urging them toward the kill area.

The walls presented more of a psychological than physical barrier, as many are only a few stones high and appear to be in food repair. But, the natives may have dressed the walls with bird wings, hides that flapped in the wind, animal shoulder blades and any thing else that would make the walls ore imposing.

At the last possible moment, the hunters would spring up, throwing their spears and, as hunting technology improved, launching arrows from ran-horn bows. The kill areas usually had boulder-strewn floors that prevented the animals from gaining solid footing.

**Ancient evidence:** Distinctive dart points made by the Mount Albion people were not found in Middle Park, indicating that they didn't make the more adventurous migration. However, projectile points found along the migratory route used during the Hog Back phase, in the mountains west of Boulder tell a different story.

Arrowheads and spear points not related to the Mount Albion people, found along a stretch of Continental Divide from Rollins Pass to Rocky Mountain Nation Park, are mostly from the west, particularly from the Kremmling area.

Grinding tools fashioned from sandstone available only from quarries near Lyons were protected and recycled whenever possible. By the time the nomadic bands reached the high mountains, the sandstone have been reduced to small, badly worn fragments. And there is evidence that the worn pieces were abandoned just before the groups descended to their wintering sites near Boulder.

Benedict is quick to point out that his theories are sketches that need testing and more proof. "The high-altitude stuff has just simple not been worked on," he said. "It's a hypothesis and I'm expecting people to take some shots at it."

**SAWTOOTH FIELD TRIP:**

CAS members are invited to go on a backpacking field trip to see the Sawtooth Game Drive, (Jim Benedict's lecture) in the Indian Peaks Wilderness 6/26 to 6/28, 1992. (max. - 15 people).

On Friday, June 26th, we'll assemble at the Coney Lakes trailhead, hike over Buchanan Pass and camp in Fox Park on west side of the Divide. On Saturday, the 27th we'll visit the game drive. Steve Montgomery will relate some of the findings of recent analysis of the game drive system that has been under investigation by archaeologist Steve Cassels. We'll return to our campsite to spend the night of the 27th, and hike out on Sunday, the 28th.

There is a chance that Steve Cassels may be the site. We hope to coordinate our trip with his planned visit at the end of June. His plans are still indefinite, so we thought it best to make our backcountry reservations while the permits were still available.

This will be a strenuous hike. We'll probably encounter snowfields and fairly cold temperatures at the high altitude campsite. Call Steve Montgomery, 444-4414 for more information.

\*\*\*\*\*  
**Executive Board Minutes - March 20, 1992, (abbreviated).**

Treasurer's report: Current balance \$1225.37

President: (1.) CAS Quarterly meeting on 4/4, set up starts at 8:00 am, Field Trip on Sunday to Rock Creek. (2.) Archaeology week poster distribution. (3.) By-Laws review by R Lippincott, A McHugh, E Deval. (4.) Brochure review by J Hamilton & A Hayes. (5.) Denver chapter claim for reimbursement for food at CCPA meeting. Motion approved to reimburse Denver Chapter,

Vice President: (1.) Hosting Dennis Stanford's talk on May 27. (2.) Requested reimbursement for microphone usage at NIST. (3.) Sawtooth Game Drive field trip 6/26-6/28.

Newsletter: Items due to Ed: Friday following reg monthly mtg.

Field Reports: White Rocks needs manpower and continuous attention. Photographic recording is done. Mapping is incomplete. Need to do research on property ownership.

\*\*\*\*\*

**HELP!!! ... NEEDED ON NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION:**  
We need someone to take over the handling and mailing of the camera-ready newsletter. Jeannie will continue to create the mailing labels. Contact Jeannie on 492-5661 (D), 443-9221 (N).



INDIAN PEAKS 1992 OFFICERS

PRESIDENT	Ann Hayes	494-3773
VICE PRESIDENT	Steve Montgomery	443-4414
SECRETARY	Edna Devai-Alth	494-4524
TREASURER/MEMBERSHIP	Jeannie Hamilton	443-9221
DIRECTOR (Honorary)	Leni Clubb (619)	358-7835
DIRECTOR	Pam Baker	772-2888
DIRECTOR	Rick Lippincott	828-3144
DIRECTOR	Sue Lippincott	828-3144
DIRECTOR	Anita McHugh	449-6127
DIRECTOR	Bob Powell	494-9445
DIRECTOR	Dock Teegarden	494-6496
CAS REPRESENTATION	Bill Maxson	447-1947
PROFESSIONAL ADVISOR	Bill Lucius	449-7791
PROJECT INFO OFFICER	Laura Viola	442-2019
PAAC COORDINATOR	Jean Kindig	442-2581
CALUMET EDITOR	Ed Grefrath 3875 Cloverleaf Dr Boulder, CO 90304	444-2091

\*\*\*\*\*

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP - INDIAN PEAKS CHAPTER - CAS

Individual membership \$20       New  
 Family membership \$25       Renewal

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

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone numbers \_\_\_\_\_ (H) \_\_\_\_\_ (W)

Make check payable to: INDIAN PEAKS CHAPTER, CAS

Mail to: JEANNIE HAMILTON, 1100 Deer Trail, Boulder, 80302

For renewals please enclose a stamped, self-addressed envelope with your check to receive your membership card and roster.



Indian Peaks Chapter, CAS  
P. O. Box 18301  
Boulder, CO 80308

0192  
Hayes, Ann  
2525 Briarwood Drive  
Boulder, CO 80303