

June, 1992

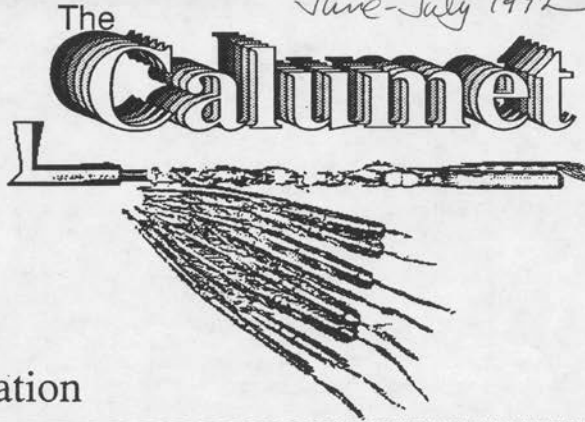
The Calumet

June-July 1992



Indian Peaks Chapter
Colorado Archaeological Society

Conservation
Preservation
Education
Exploration



Calendar of Events

JUNE '92

- N.B. Next Calumet - August 1992.
Next Regular Chapter (speaker) Meeting - Sept 1992.
- June 13 Formal survey of Old Smelter at Boulder Valley Ranch, with Rick Lippincott, 828-3906.
- June 26 - 28 Backpacking field trip to see Sawtooth Game Drive site in the Indian Peaks Wilderness. Strenuous hike. Call Steve Montgomery, 444-4414 for details.
- July 7 - 16 Summer PAAC Survey, (see article in newsletter).
- July 10, 11, 12 - CAS Encampment at Horseshoe campground near Fairplay. **Note change of dates.**
- August 13, 14, 15 - Excavation of an Ancient Hearth in Arapahoe National Forest with Jim benedict. Coordinated by Steve Montgomery, 443-4414.
- Aug 19 IP Ex Bd Mtg, 7:30 p.m. at Foothills Nature Center, 4201 North Broadway, Boulder. Members welcome.
- Aug 22 Indian Peaks annual picnic, 4:00 pm at "Rick's (and Sue) place in greater downtown Erie". Bring a potluck dish to share, refreshments provided in the Casbah. Bring photos, atlatl gear, mementos of previous archaic game hunts, etc.
- Oct 9-11 57th Annual Meeting of CAS, Iron Horse Inn, 5800 North Main Avenue, Durango, CO.



Indian Peaks HORIZONS



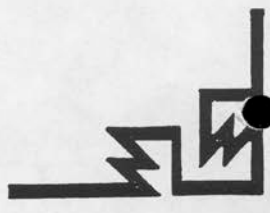

The month of June marks the conclusion of the 1992 speakers program and ushers in our field season. Many thanks to Vice President Steve Montgomery for attracting a series of outstanding speakers to our podium. These included Payson Sheets, Gordy Tucker, Robert Hohfelder and Jim Benedict. Our May speaker, Dr. Dennis Stanford of the Smithsonian Institution, came from Washington, D.C. expressly at our invitation. Stanford's talk on North American Paleo-Indian sites attracted an audience of about 240, which included Leni Clubb and Hallie Cash, all the way from Ocotillo, CA! A total of 38 books on archaeological subjects, obtained on consignment from the University Press of Colorado, were purchased by members of the audience, as were several of Janet Lever's colorful rock art T-shirts. (The chapter gleans between 20% and 35% on these sales).

Two other landmark events took place at the May 27 meeting. Members voted to approve an updated version of the by-laws (using the Indian Peaks name) drafted by Laura Viola and Anita McHugh. And - the new Indian Peaks membership brochure made its debut! Many thanks to Linda Parks, a talented graphic artist and a new CAS member, for volunteering to design and typeset the brochure. Anita McHugh, Bob Powell, Jeannie Hamilton and Ann Hayes developed the text. Jean Kindig's drawing of a mimbres lion, our chapter logo since 1982, adds elegance to the piece. (The brochure brought us three new memberships that very night.)

Our box at the new Meadows Branch Post Office held a nice surprise this week - a certificate of appreciation from City of Boulder Open Space, thanking us for outstanding work in their volunteer program. Recent projects include surveys of two historic cabins and our present work on the Degge smelter. Thanks to Dock Teegarten and Rick Lippincott for providing inspired leadership.

While I'm at it, a huge "thank you" to Ed Grefrath for editing and producing this newsletter month after month. Ed will be taking a vacation in July. The Calumet will again be published in August, and our speaker's program will resume in September, 1992. Meanwhile, enjoy archaeologizing in the great outdoors of Colorado.

Ann Hayes
President, Indian Peaks, CAS



Wray opens window to Ice Age

Smithsonian exhibit displays artifacts from 10,000-year-old kill site

By Joseph B. Vernegele
Rocky Mountain News Science Writer

WRAY — The story of rancher Bob Jones Jr. and his Ice Age bison herd has been repeated so often in this High Plains town that it sounds like a yarn spun by some cowboy poet. But the tale is grounded in scientific fact.

Twenty years ago, Jones was leveling a ridge on his spread near the Kansas border in preparation for a new irrigation line when his blade turned up a jumble of bones. Probably the remains of some poor sodbuster's cows, he lamented. But before he could back up his tractor and take another swipe, the sky grew black and a violent thunderstorm erupted.

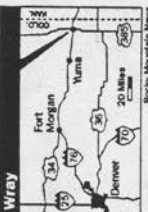
Jones took refuge in his pickup truck and watched as the gully-eroding ridge cut through the site. When the clouds broke, he found not only that the bones he'd never laid eyes on, but the ridge cut was now littered with sharp flint spear points as well.

The Smithsonian Institution dispatched its paleo-Indian expert from Washington to investigate. Dennis Stanford needed to take but one look at the carpet of weathered bones from Ice Age bison — a third larger than today's buffalo — and the spear heads, rare and distinctive chipping pattern known as Hell Gap.

He declared the patch of arid short-grass prairie the most fertile known at the time. Jones Miller, the brother of the rancher, who died in



Dennis Stanford, center, a Smithsonian archeologist, and wife, anthropologist Peggi Jody, position bison bones as they were found. Behind them is Wray Museum director LouAnn Cheek.



1991, and local anthropologist Jack Miller.

Two decades and more than 1,400 pages of scientific papers later, the Smithsonian is honoring the rancher, who died in

Bones, spear points tell of harsh, prehistoric life

WRAY on 44

later, it remains one of the largest and oldest communal kill sites from the Stone Age and one of the most important records of North American prehistory.

From the 248 projectile points and 41,000 bones, belonging to 300 animals unearthed by Stanford and his team in 1973-75, researchers have reconstructed a nearly perfect picture of the Ice Age bison hunt. The site probably was here during brutal winters 10,000 years ago.

The Smithsonian has recognized the contributions of the Jones-Miller site, as well as other paleo-Indian digs in Colorado, with a comprehensive new exhibit in the permanent Smithsonian exhibits outside of the nation's capitol, it opened with a community celebration Wednesday evening that drew 260 people.

"I've spent a total of three or four years of my life here out of the past 20 years," Stanford said. "I've been so lucky to be able to do it with his wife anthropologist Peggi Jody, and Smithsonian designers."

"When I was working here, I knew doggone everybody in town, if not Yuma County," he said. "This is my way of saying thanks."

The Wray Museum is in the renovated space of the former Farmer's Restaurant across from the courthouse.

The exhibit authoritatively organizes and explains the culture behind the ancient bones and projectile points that townspeople have been regularly finding in and around Wray for generations.

While they were setting up the exhibit, a local carpenter brought in a near-perfect spear point for Stanford's evaluation. At the grand opening, one amateur bone-hound brought a box of artifacts and a woman was carrying spear points in her purse. Much of it was museum quality.

"We've had them around here for so long now that I think people take it all for granted," said museum director LouAnn Cheek. "Now that we've got the exhibit in and they see it, I think they'll be very enthusiastic."

The centerpiece of the exhibit is a re-creation of a small portion of the bone bed. Dozens of bones are mounted in the positions in which they were discovered.

Wall panels of photographs, text and artifacts explain the excavation and tell how the evidence shows the slaughter of 300 bison. Fossil pollen and geological samples show the Ice Age climate was cooler and wetter than today's.

The climate probably was drier, but the trees probably grew much closer together than it does now. Pine trees grew in clusters.

The 35-yard by 20-yard bone bed lies in what probably was a shallow tributary draw, now filled with sediment.

Anthropologists believe the hunters herded the frightened bison through a makeshift corral made slick with ice and snow. The corral's logs have long since decomposed, but researchers forwarded their theory based on the identification of the clumped remains of a ground squirrel that lives in modern corrallogs.

More than 300 male and infant bison were killed, but not at the same time. Tooth wear and tooth eruption on the jaws indicated the animals had been butchered in the late fall, midwinter and early spring; the corral must have been used three times, with 100 or more killed in each hunt.

Three hundred animals would have fed 50 people all winter, Stanford calculates.

Flint points came from rock deposits scattered from Wyoming to Texas, suggesting the nomads traveled great distances or traded with other bands.

The bones were tossed in different places for the nomads to find and so on. That, researchers say, suggests the butchering was well-organized with "production-line methods and a complex social organization, with authority centered in a hunt leader."

The most intriguing find remains a mystery — a large soil discoloration in the middle of the corral and surrounded by the remains of a dog and offerings. Anthropologists believe it is early evidence of a medicine post where ritual offerings would be scattered to ensure a good hunt.

EXECUTIVE BOARD MINUTES

The Indian Peaks Executive Board met at 7:30 p.m., May 20, 1992 at Ann Hayes' place. Present were: Ann Hayes, Anita McHugh, Robert Powell, Steve Montgomery, Rick Lippincott, Sue Lippincott, Pam Baker, Edna Devai. The following reports were presented:

- TREASURER: * No report.
- PRESIDENT: * CAS Annual Encampment will take place on July 10, 11, 12 at Horseshoe campground near Fairplay.
- * Need 'people power' to handle "store" merchandise at regular membership meetings. (Chapter gets 15 - 20 % of sale as a donation.) Sue and Rick Lippincott will handle the sale of books and T-shirts on May 27.
 - * New Indian Peaks brochure is complete. Rick Lippincott will write a letter to Linda Parks acknowledging her work on the brochure.
 - * Next Board meeting - August 19 at Foothills Nature Center. Next Calumet will come out in early August. Next regular meeting will be September 23, when Speakers program will resume.
 - * Ann Hayes will interview and do profiles on Board members for future Calumet newsletters.
 - * Need to formulate policy on how to assimilate new members.
 - * New opportunity to do survey work with Kevin Black.
 - * Chapter picnic in August.
 - * Kudos to Steve Montgomery for an outstanding 1991-92 Speaker program.
 - * Rick Lippincott's talk at the Broomfield Senior Center was a big success. Funds have been allocated for duplicating his slides and having his script written up.
- VICE PRES: * Bamforth Field Camp: Equipment list is available from Steve Montgomery.
- Reports: * Rock Creek additional excavation, (Rick Lippincott). See separate article in newsletter.
- * Based on Everett Long's oral testimony, Degge's Smelter was a nickel smelter built in 1942-43. The ore was transported from Gold Hill Cobalt Mining and Milling Co, (Pam Baker).

Submitted by: Edna Devai, Secretary.

WESTVIEW SCHOOL RECEIVES ARTIFACT

This year the Indian Peaks Chapter choose as its 1992 Archaeology Week project an educational presentation to the new Westview Middle School (Longmont) of an ovoid biface artifact found by Steve Montgomery, in May 1991, during a stroll over the school's construction site. Pam Baker, a teacher at Loma Linda School and a member of our Board, volunteered to make the presentation in person. The delayed presentation event actually took place on May 26, when Pam presented the biface with the following letter at a meeting of the student council, with Dr. Pierce, the school superintendent, attending.

May 26, 1992

Dear Westview Student Council Members:

Your school is fortunate to have an artifact that was found on the school site during construction. A copy of the report written when the artifact was found is attache to this paper. This biface belongs to the school district and will stay at your school.

I hope the information below will answer your question. If I can help you in any way, please call me.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Baker

WHAT IS IT? A preform or blank.

This is the first step in stone tool manufacture. A biface like this can later be made into any tool needed - a scraper, knife, awl, etc. By reducing the original raw material to biface size a nomadic group could carry the rock with them until it was needed to make a specific tool. The smooth flake scar on one side probably does indicate that the biface was carried around before it became buried.

WHAT IS IT MADE OF? Morrison Quartzite.

One small patch of the cortex, or outside edge of the source material, can be seen as a discolored area. Since this outside edge is eroded, the original source was probably a streambed cobble.

HOW OLD IS IT? 11,000 B. P. - 150 B. P. (Before present)

As an isolated find with no diagnostic features, a precise date

cannot be determined. Any aboriginal group which lived in the area and used stone tools could have used something like this. The earliest date for people in Colorado is about 11,000 years ago. Stone tools would have been used until contact with Europeans provided access to metal.

FUTURE RESEARCH POSSIBILITIES

1. Rumors have circulated for years about local land owners finding items on the present school site. A local investigation could be pursued.

2. One source stated that Jack Moomaw surveyed the area around 1930 - 1940. Surface collections would have gone to Henderson Museum on the CU campus in Boulder. One could research whether artifacts from the school site are in the museum collections and what might be learned from these materials.

NOTE:

Student council members were asked to share this information with their classmates and were encouraged to pursue the proposed research ideas. Pam expects to develop a curriculum unit based on a study of the artifact and its possible history.

Pam, who will be a full time student in CU Anthropology Dept next fall, will be participating in all five weeks of Doug Bamforth's field school in the Routt National Forest this summer.

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PAAC NEWS

FROM KEVIN BLACK, re: 1992 Summer PAAC Survey

Last summer we surveyed the Dinosaur Ridge hogback near Morrison, and volunteers on the survey received PAAC credit for their efforts. The survey experience offered can apply toward two different certificates: site recording experience to meet the four recorded sites requirement of Provisional Surveyor certificate or supervised survey work to meet the 15 days survey requirement of the Certified Surveyor I Certificate. Selection preference will be given to those PAAC participants who have: 1) submitted a signed PAAC application form, 2) have successfully completed the Basic Site Surveying Techniques course, and 3) are close to achieving one of the above two certificates.

This summer's survey will be held July 7 - 16 (plus any needed finish-up work in late August) at the Heckendorf State Wildlife area near Buena Vista in Chaffee County. Prospective participants should contact Kevin before June 12 to apply for a position on the survey. No formal application is required, just contact Kevin to let him know what days you can participate.

C. U. FIELD SCHOOL

This is a great opportunity for CAS avocationalists to learn excavation techniques in the field. Doug Bamforth and the C. U. archaeology students will be spending five weeks in North Park performing a salvage excavation on eleven pre-historic sites which will be flooded by a new dam project. Surface collections suggest the sites are probably of the Archaic period, but there may be earlier components.

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED TO HELP WITH THIS WORK. In return Doug Bamforth has offered to give inexperienced volunteers instructions in excavation.

DATE: Sunday, July 26 to Sunday, August 2

COST: \$50/person - for one weeks meals prepared by the Field School's cook.
\$40/person - for tools (trowel, pick, dustpan, etc.) each person will provide their own.

LOCATION: On the plains of North Park. C.U. has rented a ranch building for showers and cooking. Everyone will be sleeping in tents. We'll drive from the ranch to the site each day.

MORE INFO: Call Steve Montgomery, 443-4414, to apply and get a complete list of tools.

ROCK CREEK EXCAVATION AND MINI-FIELD SCHOOL.

An excavation and mini-field school will be held in July at the Rock Creek Camp Site, to salvage a hearth eroding out of bank of Rock Creek.

The work will be done by members of the IP Chapter under the leadership of Pete and Carol Gleichman and Chapter field director, Rick Lippincott. To participate in this excavation, call Rick at 828-3144.

The site was identified, in 1991, as an Early Ceramic camp. This new hearth is stratigraphically lower and thus may reflect an earlier occupation of the site.

Boulder County Open Space has requested the hearth be salvaged and has agreed that the Chapter take on the task. This is an opportunity for Chapter members to gain experience in excavation techniques under the guidance of skilled professionals.

The work will be conducted in July and will be scheduled on a Saturday to permit maximum participation. Those signing up will be notified as to the day and time.

FOUR CORNERS GRAND TOUR WITH FLORENCE LISTER

Dates: September 24 - 28 (Thursday - Monday)

Note change from May CALUMET listing

Includes two travel days (24 & 28), to and from Boulder
3 days with Florence Lister

We will tour Chimney Rock, Ute Tribal Park in Mancos Canyon, Dominguez and Escalante Ruins at the Anasazi heritage Center, Crow Canyon and Mesa Verde. This non-strenuous trip will be a marvelous introduction to 4-corners archaeology. As during last year's tour of Chaco and Aztec with Florence, we will have the enrichment of her company, commentary, vast wisdom, and delightful anecdotes.

Florence C. Lister, who will be guiding our trip, has as deep a knowledge of the civilizations of the American Southwest as anyone alive today. For over half a century, she shared fully in the researches of her archaeologist husband, the late Robert H. Lister, at Mesa Verde, Chaco, and Aztec - as well as in Arizona, Utah, Mexico, Latin America, Europe, the Canary Islands, and Africa. A scholar in her own right, Florence is the author of many publications on Anasazi and Spanish Colonial ceramics. She co-authored numerous works with Robert Lister. Her forthcoming book about Chimney Rock should be "hot off the press" any day now.

Trip organizer: Ann Hayes / 494-3773. I will respond after June 14. **Trip Limit:** 15

Cost: Between \$75 and \$100, depending on how many decide to go. This covers Florence's fee. There would also be campground fees and guide fees at the Tribal Park, a possible motel overnight (unless you camp), carpooling and meal costs. All this can be worked out at a pre-trip meeting at my house during the last week in July. A detailed itinerary will be sent to anyone who signs up for the trip.

BRAINARD LAKE ROAD WILL BE CLOSED UNTIL SEPT 4, 1992

The Brainard Lake Road will be closed for repaving until Sept 4, 1992. The road will be closed from a point (2) miles west of Ward, Colorado to motorized traffic. You are welcome to walk up the road from that point, but parking may be limited.

The Forest Service will be publishing a brochure that will suggest other places to camp, fish, hike and picnic while the work is being done.

Call the Boulder District Office if you would like more information. Telephone number is 443-5283.

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) _____

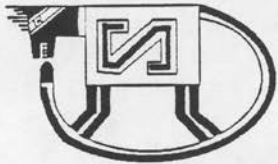
Address _____

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



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Boulder, CO 80303