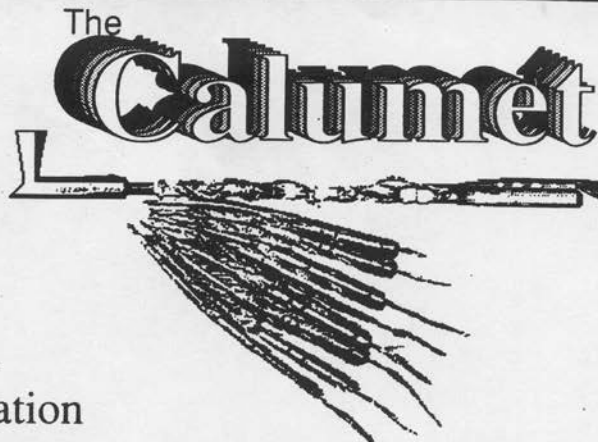




**Indian Peaks Chapter**  
Colorado Archaeological Society

Conservation  
Preservation  
Education  
Exploration




Calendar of Events


FEBRUARY 1993

NOTE; Aztec exhibit at the Denver Museum of Natural History continues through Feb 20, 1993.

- January 27 Indian Peaks Regular Meeting. Speaker: Roger EchoHawk. "The Use of Oral Tradition and Archaeology in Understanding Ancient Indian History". Foothills Nature Center, 4201 N. Broadway at 7:30 pm.
- February 3 Ft. Collins Chapter, CAS Regular Meeting. Mark Larson will speak on "Archaeology in the Gunnison Area". Ben Delatour Room, Ft. Collins Public Library at 7:00 pm.
- February 16 IPCAS Executive Bd. Meeting. 7:30 pm. Location to be announced.
- February 23 Indian Peaks Regular Meeting. Slide and lecture presentation by Steve Leckson, President, Crow Canyon Archaeological Center. NIST Auditorium, 325 Broadway, at 7:30 pm. (See related article inside.)
- April 24 CAS & PAAC Quarterly Meeting.
- July 13-22 PAAC Summer Training Survey at Heckendorf State Wildlife Area.



# Indian Peaks HORIZONS





Happy New Year to one and all! What a lot of snow we've had! Dock Teegarden's stone circle tour scheduled for late November was snowed-out, and it just keeps on. Like the snow, the news has been piling up. Some of it is really exciting.

Radio carbon dates have come back on the two hearth excavations we did last summer: **Arapaho Pass and Rock Creek**. The Rock Creek date pertains to a slab-lined hearth eroding out of a cut bank about 10 feet high, and it is a total surprise. Hearths excavated at Rock Creek during the summer of 1990 identified an early ceramic component yielding radio carbon dates in the 600-1000 AD range. The date for the cutbank hearth came back 6,070 BP (with a variance of plus or minus 190) placing it squarely within the altithermal phase of the early archaic period! So far the best evidence for the early archaic in Colorado has been James Benedict's high altitude sites in the Continental Divide region west of Boulder (Hungry Whistler, Ptarmigan, Fourth of July, et alia). Ours may be the first Archaic site east of the Colorado foothills. Rick Lippincott's article in this issue gives background on this remarkable find and talks about the progress of his application to the Colorado Historic Fund for a grant to continue the chapter's work at Rock Creek under the direction of Pete Gleichman. Rick's faith in this project is what's kept it going, against all odds. The rewards have been rich, and promise to be richer if the grant comes through.

Don't miss hearing Roger Echohawk, who will be our speaker at the January 27 meeting. The nominating committee has corralled some wonderful new officers for 1993, and we will be formally electing them (and/or others) at this meeting. Please note, future regular meetings will be held the **FOURTH TUESDAY** instead of the fourth Wednesday of the month at the Foothills Nature Center. The change was required by the City of Boulder Parks and Rec, who manage the center.

Be sure to look for the article, in next months newsletter, on Indian Peaks hosting a Boulder visit of San Juan Chapter members on July 16 to 18, 1993. There just wasn't room for the article this time.

Ann Hayes  
IPCAS President



## "CHACO CANYON & THE ANASIZI OF SOUTHWEST COLORADO"

...is the title of a slide and lecture presentation which will be given by **STEVE LECKSON, President, Crow canyon Archaeological Center** at the February IPCAS meeting to be held at the **NIST Auditorium, Department of Commerce Building, 325 Broadway, Boulder.**

**TUESDAY, February 23, 1993 at 7:30 pm.**

Steve Leckson has had a long career in southwestern archaeology. After completing his Ph.D. at the U. of New Mexico, he worked in field research in the Gila and Mimbres drainages of southern New Mexico, then served ten years with the National Park Service at Chaco Canyon, and most recently was employed at the Arizona State Museum in Tucson, before becoming the President of the Crow Canyon Center.

The Crow Canyon Center is a non-profit archaeological research and educational institution located northwest of Cortez in southwestern Colorado. It has a 70 acre campus that incorporates a full archaeological laboratory; collections are curated at the Anasazi Heritage Center in nearby Delores, Colorado. Fieldwork since 1983 has involved intensive excavations at an A.D. 800's Pueblo hamlet, and at Sand Canyon Pueblo, a large (420+ rooms) Pueblo III village; extensive field surveys have been carried out, and a number of smaller Pueblo III sites have been tested. Research results are reported in the Center's monograph series.

Steve should have some great slides for the big screen at NIST and some provocative information of the evolution of the 11th century Chacoan regional system of the southwest, and how it influenced and structured the later 12th century Mesa Verde culture.

### **A re-connection with old friends.**

Sue and Lee Lacy, former very active members of Indian Peaks, sends Holiday greetings and thanks to all for their letters, calls and visits during the past year. A most interesting "Holiday letter" written in Sue's unique style, described their "continued enchantment with the passages of the seasons, the views, the wildlife and the pleasures of living here in the Four Corners."

To be sure, their lives have not been without the "downs". Lee is holding his own with the leukemia and continues chemo treatments while Sue says she is down to one crutch after a revision of the hip replacement surgery last April.

Lee finished his part of a pebble artifacts analysis project, an attempt to get a clearer picture of some of possible uses of worked and unworked pebbles found in excavations at the Anasazi Pueblo III Sand Canyon Ruin. Sue just continues to be Sue. Her letter restores one's faith in the goodness of life and in the worthwhile goal of peace in this old world ... and in holiday newsletters.

## EARLY ARCHAIC HEARTH FOUND AT 5BL2712:

By Rick Lippincott

There was the stuff of diamonds in that small rock-lined pit perched precariously on the cutbank at Rock Creek Campsite (5BL2712). The stuff is carbon from the hearth excavated by Native Cultural Services and Indian Peaks Chapter, CAS, in August, 1992. The carbon yielded a date of 6070 +/- 190 B.P. (Beta 58396), the earliest Early Archaic site date on the plains of Colorado.

Those who attended Dr. James Benedict's lecture last year will recall the Early Archaic occurred during the significant climatic shift identified by Ernst Antevs (1948, 1955) as the Altithermal, in which the plains became hotter and dryer, forcing the plains fauna (including the human component) into the cooler and wetter foothills and mountains. Benedict's Mt. Albion complex people are Early Archaic. His studies of Early Archaic sites such as Hungry Whistler, 5BL70, Ptarmigan, and Fourth of July Valley are well known in the literature (Cassells, 1983:95). The Early Archaic on the Plains is much less well known and understood (Eighmy, 1984:63). The lack of information on Early Archaic use of the plains makes this component extremely important to our understanding of Early Archaic materials, culture and lifeways.

On this same timeline, the Early Ceramic Period component of the site has already been dated at 850 +/- 70 B.P. (Beta 40187) and 970 +/- 70 B.P. (Beta 40188) from two hearth features and 650 +/- 110 B.P. (Beta 42955) and 780 +/- 90 B.P. (Beta 42956) from Stratus B (the charcoal-stained stratum immediately above the hearth surface. These dates place the Early Ceramic component of 5BL2712 in the transition period between the Plains Woodland (Early Ceramic) and the Upper Republican (Middle Ceramic) which began ca. A.D. 1000 (Cassells 1983:171). In this transition, the typical Early Ceramic conical shape was replaced by the more globular Upper Republican ware (Cassells 1983:171). Both were formed by the paddle and anvil technique.

The chapter, under the guidance of Pete Gleichman of Native Cultural Services, and with the approval of Boulder County Parks and Open Space, has nominated Rock Creek Campsite for the State Register of Historic Places. If the nomination is accepted by the Colorado Historical Society, the site will be eligible to receive grant funds from the State historical Preservation Fund to complete excavation of the endangered portion of the Early Ceramic component and to test the Early Archaic component for additional data.

A portion of the Early Archaic hearth had already been lost to erosion. There is no way of knowing if there is additional Early Archaic artifacts in the hearth area. Only test excavations will shed light on the Early Archaic component.

Once the site is accepted for the state register a new grant application will be submitted by the Indian Peaks Chapter to the Colorado Historical Society by the March 1, 1993 deadline. A response to the application will be made by the Historical Society in May or early June. If the grant is approved, it will be mid-September before field work can begin.

Pre-field preparation will require notification of teachers in area school districts of the availability of a September field trip experience to a working archaeological site. Schedules of class visits will have to be worked out to maximize the educational opportunity. Field experience leaders will have to be trained to interpret the excavation activities to school classes, as well as interpretation of the cultural periods represented in Rock Creek Campsites and their place in the cultural history of Colorado and archaeological record. This field experience program is, for the Chapter, a vital part of our involvement in the Rock Creek Campsite, since education and development of cultural awareness is a major charter obligation of CAS and its chapters.

Pete Gleichman has agreed to be Principle Investigator and Field Director for the project. The actual field crew will be selected by Pete, since his professional reputation will be evaluated by the competency and accuracy of the field work and interpretation.

At this point, the Chapter's contribution is: (1.) the preparation of the nomination documentation (thanks to Laura Viola for the property ownership research, and Kevin Black for his critique on the nomination), (2.) the subsequent grant application prepared in collaboration with Pete and Carol Gleichman (with additional guidance, direction and encouragement from Dr William Lucius), and (3.) picking up the cost (\$355) of the radiocarbon date analysis for the Early Archaic hearth.

This is a great time to be part of the Indian Peaks Chapter. We have the opportunity to extend the cultural horizons of Colorado archaeology and to be part of some significant work in promoting understanding and public awareness of two important periods in the prehistoric cultural processes of our state.

References:

- Antevs, E. (1948). Climatic changes and pre-white man. Bulletin of the University of Utah, 38, (20), 168-191.
- Cassells, E. S. (1983). The archaeology of Colorado. Boulder, Colorado: Johnson Books.
- Eighmy, J. L. (1984). Colorado plains prehistoric context. Denver, Colorado: Colorado Historical Society.

## PAAC CLASSES

What is PAAC, what do the initials mean? These are a series of mini courses that lead to CAS certification.

The Program for Avocational Archaeological Certification, (PAAC), is designed to be a mutually beneficial educational program for avocational and professional archaeologists. It was established in 1978 by CAS and Office of the State Archaeologists of Colorado, (OSAC). It provides a means for CAS members to obtain formally recognized levels of expertise outside of an academic degree program. It also facilitates contributions by avocationalists to public service and assistance in education, government management of cultural resources, research, and protection of archaeological resources in Colorado.

Courses are taught by Kevin Black, Assistant State Archaeologist. Besides Boulder, Kevin teaches in Denver, Ft Collins, Colorado Springs, Pueblo, Carbondale, Del Norte, and Cortez. This is why courses are only offered every six months in Boulder.

### PAAC Schedule: January - June 1993

<u>February</u> 4, 11, 18, 25	Denver	Basic Site Survey
<u>March</u> 4, 11, 18	Denver	Basic Site Survey
<u>April</u> 6, 13, 20, 27 21, 28	Boulder Fort Collins	Perishable Materials Arch. Dating Methods
<u>May</u> 4, 11, 18 6, 12,	Boulder Fort Collins	Perishable Materials Arch. Dating Methods

The location for the classes and the times will be announced in the March newsletter. The cost is \$13 for CAS members, \$15 for non-members. For more information contact:

Anita McHugh, PAAC Coordinator, 449-6127.

## IPCAS MEETING NIGHT CHANGE

Since pre-historic times our regular meetings were held on the fourth Wednesday of the month. Starting in February, 1993, however, IPCAS regular meetings will be held on the fourth Tuesday of the month. The City of Boulder Department of Parks and Recreation, the agency that schedules use of the Foothills Nature Center, requires that we make this change and regrets any inconvenience it may cause.

## INDIAN PEAKS 1993 OFFICERS

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DIRECTOR	—Hillary Reynolds	530-1229
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CALUMET EDITOR	Ed Grefrath 3875 Cloverleaf Dr, Boulder, CO 80304	444-2091

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### APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP - INDIAN PEAKS CHAPTER, CAS

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

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

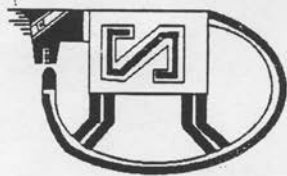
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

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.



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