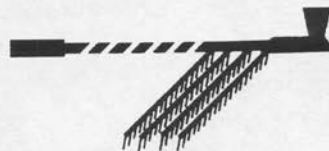


May 1994, Vol 2, No 5

# CALUMET



Newsletter for the Indian Peaks Chapter of the Colorado Archaeological Society

POLL RE: WED MEETING

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

**May 14** / IPCAS field trip, Parson Ranch Gamedrive. Call Steve Montgomery, 443-4414

**May 17** / IPCAS Executive Committee Meeting, 7:30 pm at the Boulder Police Bureau.

**May 24** / IPCAS general meeting at 7:30 pm, The Meeting Place. Pete Gleichman speaker, **Summary of the 1993 Rock Creek Excavation**.

**June 4 & 11** / IPCAS field work at Comanche Creek Project, Strasburg, CO. w/ Chris Prillwitz, (see article).

**July 2-4** / CAS Encampment, near Radium, CO

**July 12 - 21** / Paac Summer survey at Heckendorf Wildlife Area, Buena Vista, CO w/ Kevin Black, (see article).

**July 15 - 22** / IPCAS field work week at S. Platte Projects, Pawnee National Grasslands, w/ Bob Brunswig. call Ken Larson, 297-4805.

**July 25 - 30** / IPCAS field work week at Devil's Thumb, Indian Peaks Wilderness w/ Jim Benedict, call Steve Montgomery 443-4414.

**Oct 29** / 1994 State Cas Annual Meeting in Boulder, hosted by IPCAS.

## IPCAS GENERAL MEETING

May 24, 1994, 7:30 P.M. "The Meeting Place", 1600 28th Street, Boulder.

### SUMMARY OF THE 1993 ROCK CREEK EXCAVATION

At our May meeting, Pete Gleichman of "Native Cultural Services", will present a slide/lecture presentation on the results of last summer's "dig". Combining that information

with what he had previously discovered, should prove to make this an interesting evening. Many of our members participated in the excavation, and therefore will enjoy hearing the results of their labors.



Previously, Pete found evidence of both Ceramic and Early Archaic Periods. Last summer, excavations unearthed evidence of a Middle Archaic Period occupation at the site. In addition, carbon dating has been performed on the numerous fire pits. Dates center around 3,000 B.P.

Plan to join Pete and learn a little more about Rock Creek and Boulder County.

Ken Larson, VP.

## FUNDRAISING/BOOKSALE "UPDATE"

The April meeting had such a large turnout that booksales went better than expected. Total gross sales equaled \$591.30 (of which the chapter earned \$258.78). Many good books are still available including Dr. Dixon's book **Quest for the Origins of the First Americans**. At the May meeting, members are reminded that they can still purchase books on a number of interesting subjects. Funds raised will help offset expenses incurred by the chapter in hosting the October State CAS convention.

Thanks from the entire chapter to Dick Owens for his volunteer efforts in helping to make our fundraising booksale a success!

Ken Larson, VP

CONSERVATION   PRESERVATION   EDUCATION   EXPLORATION

## IPCAS EX BD MTG HIGHLIGHTS

### **3/15/94 Summary:**

Attendees: Steve Montgomery, Pam Baker, Anne Mutaw, Ann Hayes, Ken Larson, Tom Cree, Bob Powell, Jeannie Hamilton.

\* February minutes approved.

\* Jeannie Hamilton - Treasurer

Encouraged recording of volunteer time spent on IPCAS on "white" sheets. Send to secretary when completed.

\* Ken Larson - VP

Need "bookstore manager" for books sold at regular meetings.

\* Committee / Other Reports:

**Rock Creek** - Ann Hayes

Pete Gleichman and Jean Kindig are working on estimate of artifact replication needed for budget completion.

**CAS annual meeting dinner** - Anne Mutaw

Theme: High Altitude Archaeology

Place: UMC West Ballroom & Glenn Miller Lounge

Principal speakers: Dennis Stanford & Peggy Jodry

Other presenters: Jim Benedict, Kevin Black, George Frison, Bill Kite, Mike Metcalf, Mark Steiger, Doug Bamforth.

Saturday Night entree: Chicken Dijon.

Discount group rates for lodging are being investigated.

Fund raising: silent auction with crafts, raffle, book sales.

Bob Mutaw is preparing announcements for quarterly meeting.

Logo: Steve submitted a pair of matched logos for annual dinner and encampment.

**Boulder Creek Festival**, May 22: IPCAS may participate.

**Dowe Flats**: Pam Baker, Director, sent letter to Mike Figgs re: the Dowe Flats Cultural Resources Mgmt. Plan, urging reconsideration of a "no collection" policy in compliance with their stated preservation goals.

**Archaeology Week Posters**: Steve distributed 1994 posters for distribution throughout the community.

### **4/19/84 Summary:**

Attendees: Steve Montgomery, Ken Larson, Bob Powell, Dock Teegarden, Pam Baker, Laura Viola, Maureen Arthur, Tom Cree.

Mar 1994 minutes approved.

Committee / Other Reports:

**Education:**

Maureen Arthur reported a working budget. Pete Gleichman & Nancy Silbert (from CU Museum) will attend our meeting May 1. Committee members have begun to submit their contributions to Sandy Kahru who will edit materials.

**CAS annual meeting:**

Anne & Bob Mutaw confirmed participants and topics for presentations. All's well.

**State CAS report:**

Denver Public Library requested CAS to curate all archives. No problem with access to the archives.

**Pecos Conference at Mesa Verde**: Usually held mid-Aug. Professionals give progress on their projects.

**Comanche Creek Project**: Volunteers needed, high density site with material dating from Paleo Indian period. Steve Montgomery.

**Coney Lake cost share agreement:**

Forest Service and Jim Benedict have requested IPCAS to excavate a hearth, salvage site. Should take 1-2 days, (Aug 5) with Jean Kindig as principle investigator. Motion made that IPCAS accept cost share agreement provided 1) Jean Kindig's name be placed on cost share agreement as principle investigator, and 2) acceptance by Forest Service of Jean's credentials as principle investigator. Motion amended to add \$100 (IPCAS) for final completion of the report. Motion passed.

**Fourth of July**: Report completed and CU Museum curation applied for.

**No CALUMET in June and August**: Editor gone fishing.

**Boulder Fall Festival, (Sept 30 - Oct 2)**: Need volunteer chairperson to coordinate volunteers manning the booth.

**Far Out Expeditions** has scheduled eight trips to visit ancient Indian sites in Colorado, New Mexico, Utah and Arizona. Information, Vaughn Hadenfeldt 1-303-945-5771, Glenwood Springs.

**Crow Canyon Archaeological Center** has new catalog with programs for teens to teachers, call 1-800-422-8975.

**EF Tour** group to Italy/Greece Archaeology sites, custom tour, limited to twenty adults. Call Maureen Arthur, 1-303-939-8342 for additional information.

**Regular Meeting date change suggested**: Change from the fourth Tuesday to first or fourth Wednesday of each month. **Membership comments welcome**. Meeting Place availability unknown.

## COMANCHE CREEK ARCH SURVEY PROJECT

by CHRIS PRILLWITZ

The Comanche Creek Archaeological Survey Project (CCASP) is being conducted on privately owned land northeast of Strasburg, CO, in Adams County, approximately thirty-two miles east of Denver.

The CCASP was started in Sept of 1988, after Bernice Parker invited Chris Prillwitz, to conduct archaeological excavations on her family's property. At the time of the request, May 1988, Chris didn't believe that archaeological excavation should be performed on the Parkers' Ranch until after a complete archaeological survey. In September of 1988, work was started on the survey of the ranch and has continued to the present time. A file search showed that there were two known sites, recorded by Doug Scott in 1972. On the basis of information in the **Plains RP3**, Chris felt that due to the presence of permanent water on the ranch, (Comanche Creek), that the survey could expect to find up to six sites within the project area. As of 28 March, 1994, a total of thirty-two sites have been identified in the original boundaries of the project area. In addition, another site has been identified in the area included in the expanded project area.

The archaeology of the CCASP is complicated. It appears that the area has been regularly used since mans earliest appearance in the area. The identified sites include a site containing a Paleoindian, an Archaic, and Historic component; a site with an Archaic component and Plains Woodlands component; two sites with an Archaic and Late Prehistoric component; a site containing an Upper Republican component, and five sites containing only an Archaic component in addition to sites not containing a dateable component. The site totals do not include the Fort Morgan to Denver stage route or the original telegraph route into Denver, which followed the stage route. The exceptionally high site density is thought to be due to presence of permanent water, and to the fact that very little of the project area has been plowed for agricultural purposes.

Work as started on the preliminary report of the CCASP and it should be published by the end of 1994. Participants in the CCASP are required to sign (1.) the Colorado Archaeological Society's Code of Ethics and (2.) a Center for Plains Archaeological Research permission form and (3.) are asked to fill out a brief questionnaire. There are no age restrictions on participation in CCASP and no fees are charged of participants.

Editors note: Chris has suggested two weekend dates for IPCAS volunteers to participate: Saturday, June 4 or Saturday, June 11. Call Steve Montgomery for additional information, 443-4414.

## CAS CODE OF ETHICS

Members of the Colorado Archaeological Society agree as follows:

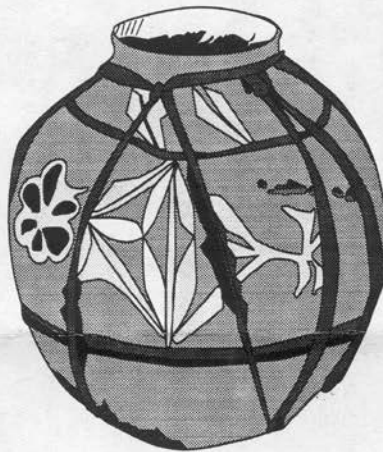
1. Members will uphold State and Federal antiquity laws.
2. Excavation of Archaeological sites will be conducted only according to professionally accepted procedures developed in consultation with a professional archaeologist and with the written permission of the landowner. The investigator has the responsibility for publication of the results of his/her investigation and for making the collection available for further scientific study.
3. Members are encouraged to report archaeological sites to the Office of the State Archaeologist on State Survey forms. Materials noted on the surface of sites shall be cataloged and described in the site survey report and they will only be collected if you have a Collection Permit. Collected materials should be deposited with the State Archaeologist's Office or other responsible repository and made available for scientific study.
4. Members will not support illegal or unscientifically conducted activities by participating in or condoning the sale, exchange or purchase of artifacts obtained from such sites.
5. Members who exhibit artifacts will do so in an educational context. Items from burials and objects considered sacred will not be exhibited.
6. Members will cooperate with the State Archaeologist and other persons and agencies concerned with archaeology and related fields.
7. Members will respect the dignity of groups whose cultural histories are the subject of archaeological investigation.
8. Members will not participate in conduct involving dishonesty, deceit or misrepresentation about archaeological matters.

## PAAC SUMMER SURVEY

The PAAC summer survey for 1994 will again be held at the Heckendorf State Wildlife Area just north of Buena Vista. The dates of the survey have been set for July 12-21, just after the CAS Encampment (July 2-4). To volunteer send Kevin Black a short note expressing your desire to participate and which dates within the survey period you are definitely available (weekdays and a single weekend are included in the July 12-21 time slot). One can volunteer for as little as one day or as much as all days of the survey, but if the demand is overwhelming Kevin may not be able to accommodate everybody's desires.

The survey experience offered can apply toward two different certificates: site recording experience toward the "four recorded sites" requirement of the Provisional Surveyor certificate, and supervised survey work toward the "15 days of survey" requirement of the Certified Surveyor I certificate. Assuming that more people request to participate in 1994's survey than can be accommodated, 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 Technique course, and 3) are close to achieving one of the above two certificates.

As in 1992 & 1993, accommodations at the project area will be on your own: volunteers will be responsible for providing their own food and shelter, but the Historical Society will provide basic surveying tools. Camping and hotel facilities are readily available in the project vicinity. Details will be supplied to those volunteers who will be participating in the survey. Kevin can be reached (or a message left) at 866-4671 if you have any questions.



## HOPEWELL INDIAN ARTIFACTS RE-BURIAL

In 1988, looters working at night, dug up 3,000 artifacts from an ancient Hopewell Indian burial mound located in Mount Vernon, Indiana. The persons involved were caught and sentenced to prison terms and fines. The FBI then turned the burial relics over to General Electric Plastics, the owner of the land.

At first the artifacts were destined for a museum, until it became clear that they were actually funerary objects which had been buried with some twenty individuals. Because of the 1990 Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, GE decided to document the artifacts and re-bury them where they were found.

Local archaeologists hope to change GE Plastics decision, but the company plans to go ahead with the re-burial. The Native American Council in Indiana will be assisting General Electric Plastics.

Summary of article in "Indian Country Today", 4/27/94.

## ANCIENT STAR WARS

### Deaths linked to planet Venus

Austin, Texas - Modern science has found no connection between the motions of celestial bodies and daily life on Earth or anywhere else.

But 1500 years ago in the city of Teotihuacan, astrology could mean life or death. For the people who lived there, the appearance of the planet Venus in the heavens meant war.

"All sorts of nasty things (were) involved with Venus," said John Carlson, director of the Center for Archaeoastronomy at the University of Maryland in College Park.

Recent discoveries at archaeological sites in Mexico and Central America suggest that warfare was more than a way of life for the people who once inhabited those places. Warfare, dictated by close observations of the heavens, underlay the religious and social beliefs of many ancient Americans.

During a symposium in Austin last month, archaeologists presented some of their most recent discoveries about the ritual warfare they call "Star Wars," which had its origins in Mesoamerica about 2,000 years ago. Mesoamerica

includes the Southwestern United States, Mexico and northern Central America.

The new archaeological evidence of Mesoamerica's bloody past includes scores of bodies discovered under a pyramid in the ancient Mexican city of Teotihuacan, a room that may have been used to prepare captives for sacrifice, and a mass tomb at a site on the Yucatan peninsula.

Archaeologists are uncovering evidence that ancient people from Panama to the desert Southwest of today's United States may have associated the planet Venus with war. The wars weren't necessarily like modern wars; sometimes they were more like ritual sacrifices or political assassinations.

"There is very, very little doubt that Venus ... presides over scenes of warfare and sacrifice and transformation," Carlson said.

He and his colleagues hypothesize that Mesoamerican Venus cults associated the planet's cycles with the violent transformation of the blood of sacrificed victims into water and fertility.



Archaeologists have known for a long time that the Mayas, who lived in northern Central America and the Yucatan peninsula of Mexico, were excellent astronomers.

The Mayas knew that on average, Venus appears in the morning sky for 236 days, disappears for 90 days, and then appears in the evening sky for 250 days. After disappearing again for eight days, the planet reappears in the morning sky, completing a cycle of 584 days.

Two Maya documents, the Dresden and Grolier codices, associate that 584-day cycle with the 365-day annual cycle of Earth's years. The Mayas found that those two cycles combined form an eight-year cycle, because in eight years Venus goes through five of its 584-day cycles. Furthermore, the books correlate those two cycles with the 260-day Maya calendar. All these cycles match up every 104 years.

The Mayas didn't know about planets (they apparently thought Venus was a star), and they certainly didn't understand orbits, Carlson said. But the accuracy of their astronomical measurements was formidable. So there must have been a very important reason for the Mayas to understand celestial motions and record them in the codices.

"These were the books that told them when to go to war, when to conduct sacrifices, when to do lots of things," Carlson said.

The Teotihuacanos didn't use writing, so they didn't record any of their historical events. More than 200,000 people may have lived in the city, but researchers can't figure out what ethnic group they belonged to or what language they spoke.

Until recently, the Teotihuacanos were not thought to be especially warlike. The gods carved into the face of the feathered serpent pyramid at the rear of the Ciudadela were believed to stand for peace and prosperity. But as Sugiyama and other archaeologists excavated the feathered serpent pyramid during the 1980s, their image of Teotihuacanos changed.

"We now have a very different idea of what's going on inside the old temple," said Karl Taube, an archaeologist at the University of California-Riverside. As Sugiyama dug into the feathered serpent pyramid, which was built about A.D. 250, he found a symbolic connection between the Ciudadela and Venus. Beneath the feathered serpent pyramid lay hundreds of sacrificial victims.

"The sacrificial burials were dedicated to the monument itself," Sugiyama said. "They were killed and buried before the completion of construction."

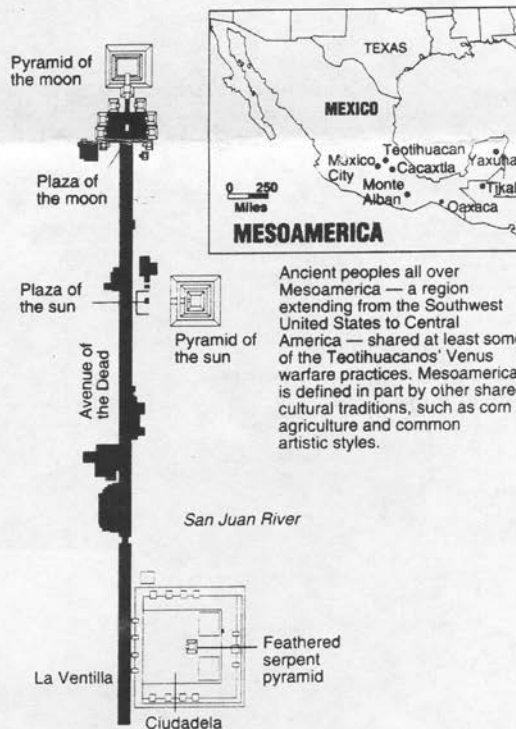
So far, 113 bodies have been found beneath the feathered serpent pyramid. Mexican archaeologists working on the pyramid's north side will probably find more. Altogether, Sugiyama said, 200 people could have been buried under the pyramid.

By Matt Crenson, Dallas Morning News

Reprinted from the Daily Camera, 4/10/94.

## Teotihuacan's heavens on earth

Teotihuacan's ceremonial center contained several pyramids dedicated to celestial objects. The pyramid of the moon lay at the north end of the temple complex, and the pyramid of the sun on the east side. To the south was the Ciudadela, a plaza that enclosed the feathered serpent pyramid, which was probably dedicated to Venus. The Teotihuacanos apparently used the motions of Venus to regulate their wars.



Ancient peoples all over Mesoamerica — a region extending from the Southwest United States to Central America — shared at least some of the Teotihuacanos' Venus warfare practices. Mesoamerica is defined in part by other shared cultural traditions, such as corn agriculture and common artistic styles.

SOURCE: Mesoamerica's Ancient Cities

04/08/94

Dallas Morning News, Knight-Ridder Tribune/ED OWENS

## 1994 INDIAN PEAKS OFFICERS

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 PAAC COOR's Janet & Morey Stinson 530-7727  
 CALUMET EDITOR Ed Grefrath 444-2091  
 CAS ANNUAL DINNER CHAIRPERSON: Anne Mutaw

## MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Please check one:

☐ Individual \$25/yr  
☐ Family \$28/yr

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

☐ New  
☐ Renewal

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check payable to: Indian Peaks Chapter, CAS

Mail To: P.O. Box 18301, Boulder, CO 80308

To receive membership card &amp; roster, enclose a stamped, self-add envelope.

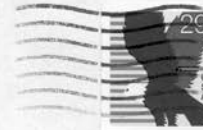
When you join the Indian Peaks Chapter of CAS, you will receive our monthly newsletter, **The Calumet**, & the CAS quarterly Magazine, **Southwestern Lore**. You will be informed of recent developments in Colorado Archaeology as well as field surveys to locate and record archaeological sites, travel opportunities to places of archaeological interest, courses and workshops in archaeology, and monthly meetings featuring guest speakers.

## THE CALUMET --- INDIAN PEAKS CHAPTER

## CALUMET

Newsletter for the Indian Peaks Chapter  
 of the Colorado Archaeological Society

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Number on the mailing label above is the mon/yr your membership renewal is due.