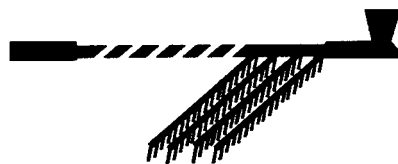


CALUMET

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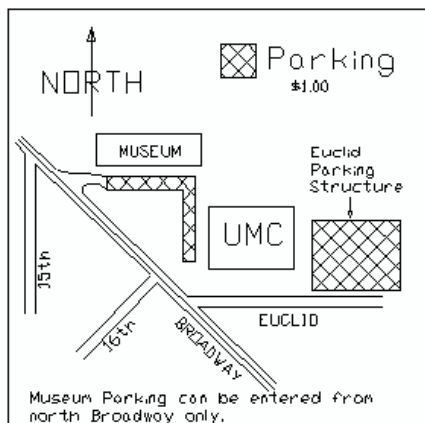
PRESERVATION
EXPLORATION



Newsletter of the Indian Peaks Chapter of the Colorado Archaeological Society
December, 2002

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

General (lecture) meetings are held in the University of Colorado Museum, Dinosaur Room
Second Thursday of each Month, at 7:00 PM. The public is always welcome.



The Museum parking lot 208 is off limits to non-permit holders, even at night.

You can park in the Euclid parking structure for \$1.25. The Euclid parking lot is east of the Museum on Euclid. Avoid tickets and towing.

After parking in the Euclid Parking Structure, walk west on Euclid toward Broadway. Prior to Broadway, take the sidewalk to the right to the Museum parking lot. It is only a few hundred yards.

December 5 (Note the date change) **Holiday Party.** The Dinosaur Room at the CU Museum, 7 PM.

December 12 (Note the date change) **Executive Board,** 7:30 PM, The Atrium.

Membership Renewals

Memberships that expired (if you have renewed, please ignore this listing):

October, 2002 - William Butler, Tom & Beverly Meier, Barbara Stiltner, and David Yanoski.

November, 2002 - Paula M. Edwards and Tandra Casserly

Memberships that expire:

January, 2002 - Patricia Adler, Madeline Goldhawk, James Gross, Reginald Hofmaier, Bruce Huxley, Mike/Hal/Zack Landem, Jon Lane, Paul Lundy, Jr., Steve Montgomery, Robert Powell, William Rosquist, Dr. Payson Sheets

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Annual Holiday Party

Get ready for the big social event of the year for our chapter - the annual Christmas Party. It will be held at the museum at the time and date of a regular meeting. That is: 7:00 PM on December 5th. Bring your reluctant spouse or friend that may not be thrilled with archaeology (are there people like that?) because this evening is dedicated to good food, conversation, and fun. Each person (or couple) should bring a main dish and either a salad or dessert to share. The chapter will provide drinks (hot and cold), cups, paper plates, and table service. You are free to bring your own table service and refreshments, if you wish. The museum requests no red wine - it stains the carpet. We will eat promptly at 7 PM.

After everyone is full, we will enjoy the highlight of the evening - the White Mammoth Gift Exchange. This annual event allows you to get rid of something you no longer need, want, or even wish to look at (kids are not considered an appropriate exchange item!). Each **person** should bring a wrapped gift for exchange. The gifts should be of little or no value (okay, some have limited value). But wrap them nice and disguise the contents. All the gifts are placed together and each person draws a number. Number 1 goes first. At each person's turn (in numeric order), they may pick an unopened gift from the stash of presents or take a previously-opened gift from a prior person. The person who has a gift taken may pick an unopened gift from the stash or take a previously-opened gift from someone else. **A previously-opened gift may be taken only once during any turn.** It is possible for a number of "takes" to occur in one turn. Does it sound like a high number is better? You bet. Does it sound like fun? You bet.

Dress is casual. Wear your best smile. Bring your appetite. **Prospective members and guests are always welcome.**

Rock Art Tour in Nine Mile Canyon, Utah October, 2002 by Marie Palowoda

The morning was clear, but cold enough to freeze a quarter cup of coffee within 20 minutes when my husband, Brad, and I arrived at Nine Mile Ranch. The ranch is a working cattle ranch located 25 miles from the nearest town in eastern Utah's Nine Mile Canyon. Here, we met the rest of the rock art tour group and made arrangements to camp a couple of nights at the ranch. Ben and Myrna Mead own the ranch and offer the only overnight accommodations in the canyon. Situated alongside Nine Mile Creek amongst a stand of cottonwood trees is a bunk and breakfast, several campsites, and a historic hewn log cabin. The enterprising Ben has recently purchased additional historic buildings in the canyon and is reusing the beautifully notched logs to build 2 more guest cabins on the ranch. The Mead family has lived in the canyon for three generations and Ben also offers guided tours of the canyon, a mixture of river bottom pastureland, rocky slopes studded sage and junipers, and in places, sheer sandstone cliffs.

Leaving Ben to his duties, we piled into our SUV's and hit the dusty trail. (This is not just a cliché; we had to wash the dust off the windshield every hour or so.) The sun doesn't rise in the canyon until 8 o'clock at this time of year but it quickly warms the air as it reflects an unspoiled landscape dotted with golden cottonwoods making autumn an especially enchanting time to visit. Besides showing our group dozens of rock art panels and other archaeological features, our lively tour leader, Bruce Burgess, kept us entertained with his interesting and amusing stories. Bruce not only grew up near Nine Mile Canyon, but out of his love and passion for the area, as a member of the Utah's State Archaeological Society, he has helped survey and record literally thousands of petroglyphs and pictographs in the 40-mile long canyon.

Often called the longest art gallery in the world, Nine Mile contains the greatest concentration of rock art in the U.S.A. This tremendous amount of rock art, much of it concentrated along the road makes Nine Mile Canyon a prime place to see and appreciate an art form that takes 25 to 100 strikes to create a line only 1 inch long. It also makes it accessible to just about anyone and with a style of 'tour' to suit almost every taste. Dozens of panels can be easily and clearly seen from the car with a set of binoculars. Many of those are right along the side of the road. The rest are reached by very short but usually steep scrambles up the rocky slopes. For folks who want to stretch their legs a little more, a guide can point out panels not visible from the car but still within a short distance of the road. Much of the land in the canyon is privately owned, however, a guide can again point out to those who like a good hearty hike, public lands offering the thrill of finding rock walls covered with ancient art that is rarely seen by modern man.

Although evidence points to human presence in Nine Mile Canyon for 12,000 years, the majority of the rock art found here was made by the Fremont culture in the Northern San Rafael style as early as 300-500 AD. There is also a good amount of Ute art dating from approximately the 1500's to as late as the 1940's when the Utes were last known to pass through the canyon. One of the first panels we saw was a 2,500-6,000 year-old Barrier Canyon style pictograph located in a tiny, hidden crawl space. There are only a few examples of this style in the canyon and this particular panel is located right next to the road. However, it cannot be seen unless one knows exactly where to look. Bruce told us that this panel was recorded in the 1920's. Since then, people looking for this panel, including the person who recorded it could not find it again until the late 1900's when it was 'rediscovered'. The U.S. cavalry and early homesteaders have also left their mark on the canyon walls. The teamsters, driving mule teams through the canyon around the turn of the 19th century used axle grease that is just about as black today as it was when their names were first signed.

Along with the rock art are also remains of dry laid structures; watchtowers and pit houses; granaries on seemingly inaccessible ledges, and for those who know where to look, artifacts left by these ancient people. Bruce also showed us a feature, which he insisted several times, did not belong in the canyon due to its northerly location; a set of Anasazi footholds carved into the canyon wall! More recent remains of human habitation in the canyon include the ghost town of Harper, once a stage stop and sheep ranch, Wimer Ranch, and the historic Nutter Ranch where the Buffalo Soldiers stayed.

After a day of scrambling through sagebrush and rock to see an incredible array of rock art missed by most visitors to the canyon we bid goodbye to Bruce and half our tour group. The rest of us spent the evening enjoying our dinner under an intense blanket of stars and swapping stories around a blazing campfire before crawling into our sleeping bags for the night.

Wanting one of those good hearty hikes, we spent the entire next day on Warriors Ridge. With the general direction of 'there's some pit houses and rock art up there', we became adventure explorers, discovering remains of watchtowers, pit houses and outstanding rock art panels. Even more exciting surprises included a perfect knife and other projectile points, several metates, and simple smooth pottery sherds of typical Fremont design. The biggest surprise was a sherd with a very nicely incised design.

Since the tour was officially over, Brad and I were the only campers at the ranch that night. Awakened before dawn by an animal, probably one of the Mead's sheep investigating our camp, I reflected upon how little the canyon had probably changed since the artists were pecking out designs and ancient farmers were raising crops. The next day as we tried to find a few rock art sites on our own, we had an enhanced appreciation and gratitude for all that Bruce had shared with us. We would also like to again, thank Mike Landem for organizing such an outstanding and rare opportunity.



The historic Nutter Ranch was in operation from 1880 until 1960 when Virginia Nutter, the last of the 'cattle queens', died. The stone building on the left was the post office. The log building has a small sign that says, 'U.S. Army'. Slide 2-8



This long-necked quadruped measures an incredible four feet tall. Slide 3-25



The 'Owl Panel' actually consists of two perpendicular rock faces. In the Fremont Northern San Rafeal style, more emphasis is placed on animal and abstract forms than on anthropomorphic figures. Slide 3-29



Another portion of the 'Owl Panel' is apparently depicting fertility. Just below the bear claw is a female figure with very large hands, a feature not uncommon in the canyon. Slide 3-31



A beautifully stippled pregnant buffalo with a historic Ute family below and an 1887 signature above. Slide 2-31



Although Nine Mile Canyon exhibits mostly petroglyphs, this panel displays pictographs in several colors. The anthropomorph in the upper right with broad-shoulders and a tapering torso is a typical Fremont style. Slide 2-32



Numerous willow-lined granaries have been found on high ledges throughout the canyon. Slide 3-21



The 'Warrior Panel' has been reproduced in books, on T-shirts, murals and has become synonymous with Nine Mile Canyon. Slide 2-21



Another hunting scene on Warriors Ridge. Hunting scenes are common in the Fremont Northern San Rafael style. Note the kokopelli figure in front of the largest sheep. Slide 3-02



Atop this knoll on Warriors Ridge are the remains of a drylaid watchtower. In the foreground evidence of a pithouse is partially hidden in the brush. Slide 2-37



Artifacts found on Warriors Ridge. Left to right; light brown petrified wood or chert knife; pinkish-white chert Desert Side Notch point base; obsidian point base. Slide 3-12



More artifacts on Warriors Ridge. Left to right; clear white chalcedony Humboldt Concave base; light gray incised pottery sherd; 3 smooth gray pottery sherds. The lichen to the right of the pot sherds is the size of a 50-cent piece.



One of the metates found on Warriors Ridge, perhaps the one Ben had seen on earlier trips to the Ridge. He was pleased to hear that it was still there. Slide 3-13



This exquisite elk adorning a wall on Warriors Ridge is three feet in length. Slide 3-17

This newsletter is published each month, except July and August, by the Indian Peaks Chapter of the 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 Indian Peaks Chapter, Colorado Archaeological Society.

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Please check the chapter web-site at: <http://www.indianpeaksarchaeology.org>

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION - INDIAN PEAKS CHAPTER			
<input type="checkbox"/> Individual	\$25 / Year	<input type="checkbox"/> New	<input type="text"/> Date
<input type="checkbox"/> Family	\$28 / Year	<input type="checkbox"/> Renewal	
<input type="checkbox"/> Student	\$12.50 / Year, with Calumet delivery by e-mail		
NAME	<input type="text"/>		TELEPHONE (<input type="text"/>) <input type="text"/>
ADDRESS	<input type="text"/>		
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When you join or renew you will receive the <i>Calumet</i> , our monthly newsletter, and <i>Southwestern Lore</i> , the quarterly publication of the Colorado Archaeological Society.			

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