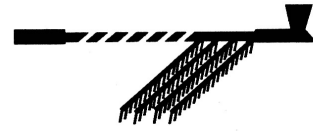


# CALUMET



Newsletter of the Indian Peaks Chapter of the Colorado Archaeological Society  
October, 2009

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Presentation (lecture) meetings are held in the University of Colorado Museum, Dinosaur Room on the Second Thursday of most Months, at 7:00 PM. **The public is always welcome.**

**Web Site: WWW.INDIANPEAKSARCHAEOLOGY.ORG**

- October 2-4** CAS Annual Meeting, Pueblo, details available later  
**October 8** **IPCAS Presentation Meeting**, Dr. Michael Kimball of UNC, Topic: Saving Skwaasutek: Protecting the Petroglyphs of Coastal Maine, see page 2  
**October 8-11** Ninth Biennial Rocky Mountain Anthropological Conference, Gunnison  
**October 9-12** Utah Rock Art Research Association symposium in Cedar City, UT  
**October 14-17** Plains Anthropological Conference in Norman, OK  
**October 14** **PAAC - Perishable Materials (session 1 of 7)**  
**October 21** **PAAC - Perishable Materials (session 2 of 7)**  
**October 22** AIA Meeting, Fiske Planetarium, Anna Sofaer (Solstice Project), "The Mystery of Chaco Canyon"  
**October 23** CU Lecture Series at Fiske Planetarium, Anna Sofaer of Solstice Project, "The Mystery of Chaco Canyon"  
**October 28** **PAAC - Perishable Materials (session 3 of 7)**
- November 4** **PAAC - Perishable Materials (session 4 of 7)**  
**November 5** IPCAS Executive Board Meeting, 7:30  
**November 9** AIA Meeting, CU Museum, Bob Hohlfelder (CU), "Before The Fieldwork Begins: Archaeological Politics in the Eastern Mediterranean"  
**November 11** **PAAC - Perishable Materials (session 5 of 7)**  
**November 12** **IPCAS Presentation Meeting**, Neffra Mathews And Tom Noble, "Photogrammetry"  
**November 18** **PAAC - Perishable Materials (session 6 of 7)**
- December 1** **Lowry Lab**, see page 3  
**December 2** **PAAC - Perishable Materials (last session)**  
**December 3** IPCAS Executive Board Meeting, 7:30  
**December 3** AIA Meeting, CU Museum, Donald Preziosi (Oxford), "Rethinking Minoan Palaces"  
**December 10** **IPCAS Christmas Party**, Details to be determined  
**December 15** **Lowry Lab**, see page 3  
**December 16** **Lowry Lab**, see page 3  
**December 18** **Lowry Lab**, see page 3  
**December 19** **Lowry Lab**, see page 3  
**December 21** **Lowry Lab**, see page 3  
**December 22** **Lowry Lab**, see page 3
- January 6-9** 2010 AIA/APA Joint Annual Meeting, Anaheim Marriott Hotel, Orange County, CA  
**January 7** IPCAS Executive Board Meeting, 7:30  
**January 14** **IPCAS Presentation Meeting**, Kevin Black, Topic: Lithic Sourcing

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- February 4** IPCAS Executive Board Meeting, 7:30  
**February 11** **IPCAS Presentation Meeting**, TBA  
**February 22** CU Lecture Series, CU Museum, Nejib ben Lazreg, “The Mosaic of the Wrestlers from Thapsus”
- March 4** IPCAS Executive Board Meeting, 7:30  
**March 11** **IPCAS Presentation Meeting**, TBA
- April 1** IPCAS Executive Board Meeting, 7:30  
**April 8** **IPCAS Presentation Meeting**, Dr. Arthur Joyce, Topic: Rio Viejo Site, Oaxaca, Mexico
- May 6** IPCAS Executive Board Meeting, 7:30  
**May 13** **IPCAS Presentation Meeting**, TBA

## October Presentation



*Saving Skwaasutek: Protecting the Petroglyphs of Coastal Maine.*

A multi-media presentation by Dr. Michael Kimball, University of Northern Colorado

“Skwaasutek,” a Native American word for “the place of watching and waiting” is home to coastal Maine’s 3,000 year old rock art. These mysterious designs, or petroglyphs –human, animal, and geometric figures pecked into shale outcrops by the ancestors of today’s Waponaki (People of the Dawn) – are endangered by global warming. As the sea-level rises, these fragile markers of an ancient world are eroding into the sea. Through a unique, cross-cultural collaboration among archaeologists, artists, and Waponaki tribal members, we are documenting the petroglyphs, studying their relations to cultural geography and climate change, and preserving the traditional cultural properties to which they belong.

Michael Kimball is an Associate Professor of Anthropology at the University of Northern Colorado. In addition to directing UNC’s Center for Honors, Scholars & Leadership, he conducts research on the transition to agriculture in Ireland and is currently organizing an international, multidisciplinary workshop on the impact of climate change on the cultural heritage of coastal and island communities. He earned his Ph.D. in Anthropology from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 1998.

## PAAC Lab Training at the OAHP's Lowry Facility

The dates for the resumption of PAAC lab training at our Lowry facility have been set. This winter, we will only be having lab days in December, as the first half of 2010 is reserved for the preparations and execution of OAHP's move to a new building. The seven dates in December 2009 are:

Tuesday, December 1  
Tuesday, December 15  
Wednesday, December 16  
Friday, December 18  
Saturday, December 19  
Monday, December 21 and  
Tuesday, December 22

Information about the lab can be found on our web site at:

<http://coloradohistory-oahp.org/programareas/paac/certreq/labcreditb.htm>, as follows:

### **Denver Lab Project**

The Office of Archaeology and Historic Preservation (OAHP) has archaeological collections that have yet to be completely processed for permanent curation. PAAC volunteers may receive credit toward certification at either the Laboratory Trainee or Laboratory Technician level by helping the State Training Coordinator in the cataloguing and analysis of these materials.

The lab work is held at the Colorado Historical Society's Museum Support Center in east Denver (MSCD), 8:30 am-4:30 pm. Prospective volunteers should contact the State Training Coordinator to participate. All supervised hours spent with specific materials in the collections apply toward the 40 hours of lab time required for certification. While the collection includes a variety of prehistoric and historical materials, a large majority is lithic (flaked stone and ground stone artifacts).

### **Prerequisite Courses:**

No prior experience is required in most instances. However, lab space and equipment for volunteers is limited, so if too many PAAC participants wish to volunteer on a scheduled lab day, preference will be given to those volunteers who have already earned the Lab Trainee certificate and are working toward the Lab Technician certificate, and others who have completed one or more of the following courses:

Introduction to Archaeology, CAS & PAAC  
Introduction to Laboratory Techniques  
Prehistoric Lithics Description and Analysis

### **Requirements:**

Prospective volunteers must complete the PAAC Candidate Application Form (PDF) if not already on file with me, and should be prepared to participate on a minimum of two days. Volunteers interested in participating in the lab project should contact me **by November 17**. Later expressions of interest may be accommodated on a space-available basis. A packet of information with additional details, including a location map, will be sent to all participants. Thanks!

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## Photographs from the September Presentation on the Boulder Clovis Cache



Dr. Bamforth describes the history and contents of the Mahaffy Clovis Cache



You will see the artifact at the left on the next page. It is huge.





Examining the artifacts – up close and personal







All the pieces are very large and appealing to the eye.



## **Nero's Dining Hall Unveiled in Rome**

By Marta Falconi, The Associated Press

ROME - Not only was Nero a Roman emperor, it turns out he may also have been the father of the revolving restaurant. Archaeologists unveiled Tuesday what they think are the remains of Nero's extravagant banquet hall, a circular space that rotated day and night to imitate the Earth's movement and impress his guests.

The room, part of Nero's Golden Palace, a sprawling residence built in the first century A.D., is thought to have been built to entertain government officials and VIPs, said lead archaeologist Francoise Villedieu. The emperor, known for his lavish and depraved lifestyle, ruled from 37 A.D to 68A.D. The dig so far has turned up the foundations of the room, the rotating mechanism underneath and part of an attached space believed to be the kitchens, she said. "This cannot be compared to anything that we know of in ancient Roman architecture", Villedieu told reporters during a tour of the cordoned-off dig. She said the location of the discovery atop the Palatine Hill, the rotating structure and references to it in ancient biographies of Nero make the attribution to the emperor most likely.

The partially excavated site is part of the sumptuous residence, also known by its Latin name Domus Aurea, which rose over the ruins of a fire that destroyed much of Rome in A.D. 64. The purported main dining room, with a diameter of more than 50 feet, rested upon a 13-foot-wide pillar and four spherical mechanisms that, likely powered by a constant flow of water, rotated the structure. The discovery was made during routine maintenance of the fragile Palatine area, officials said.

Latin biographer and historian Suetonius, who chronicled his times and wrote the biographies of 12 Roman rulers, refers to a main dining room that revolved "day and night, in time with the sky". Angelo Bottini, the state's top official for archaeology in Rome, said the ceiling of the rotating room might have been the one mentioned by Suetonius, who wrote of ivory panels sliding back and forth to shower flowers and perfumes on the guests below.

"The heart of every activity in ancient Rome was the banquet, together with some form of entertainment", Bottini said at the dig. "Nero was like the sun, and people were revolving around the emperor". However, Nero did not enjoy the frescoed halls and gold-encrusted ceilings of his Golden Palace for too long. It was completed in A.D. 68 - the year the unpopular emperor committed suicide amid a revolt.

## **Team Finds Rare Cup in Jerusalem**

By Thomas H. Maugh II, Los Angeles Times

U.S. archaeologists have found an extremely rare 2,000-year-old limestone cup inscribed with 10 lines of Aramaic or Hebrew script near the Zion Gate of the Old City of Jerusalem. Such ritual cups are common, especially in areas that were inhabited by priests, but usually they are unmarked or bear only a single line of text, such as a name, said archaeologist Shimon Gibson of the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, who led the dig with James Tabor of the same school. "To have 10 lines of text is unprecedented", Gibson said in announcing the find Wednesday.

Although the script is not eroded or otherwise degraded, he said, researchers are not yet able to decipher it because the text is written in an informal cursive script and is apparently deliberately cryptic. They know it contains the Hebrew word for God, "YHWH" or "Yahweh", indicating it was probably important to the priests. Gibson predicted it would take two to six months to understand its meaning.

The team has been digging in Gan Sobeiv Homot Yerushalayim National Park since June 14. The site, overlooking the Kidron and Hinnom valleys and the Mount of Olives, had not been excavated since the 1970s, when Israeli archaeologist Magen Broshi found a monumental Arabic inscription from the 13th century A.D.



## UNESCO: Invasion harmed Babylon

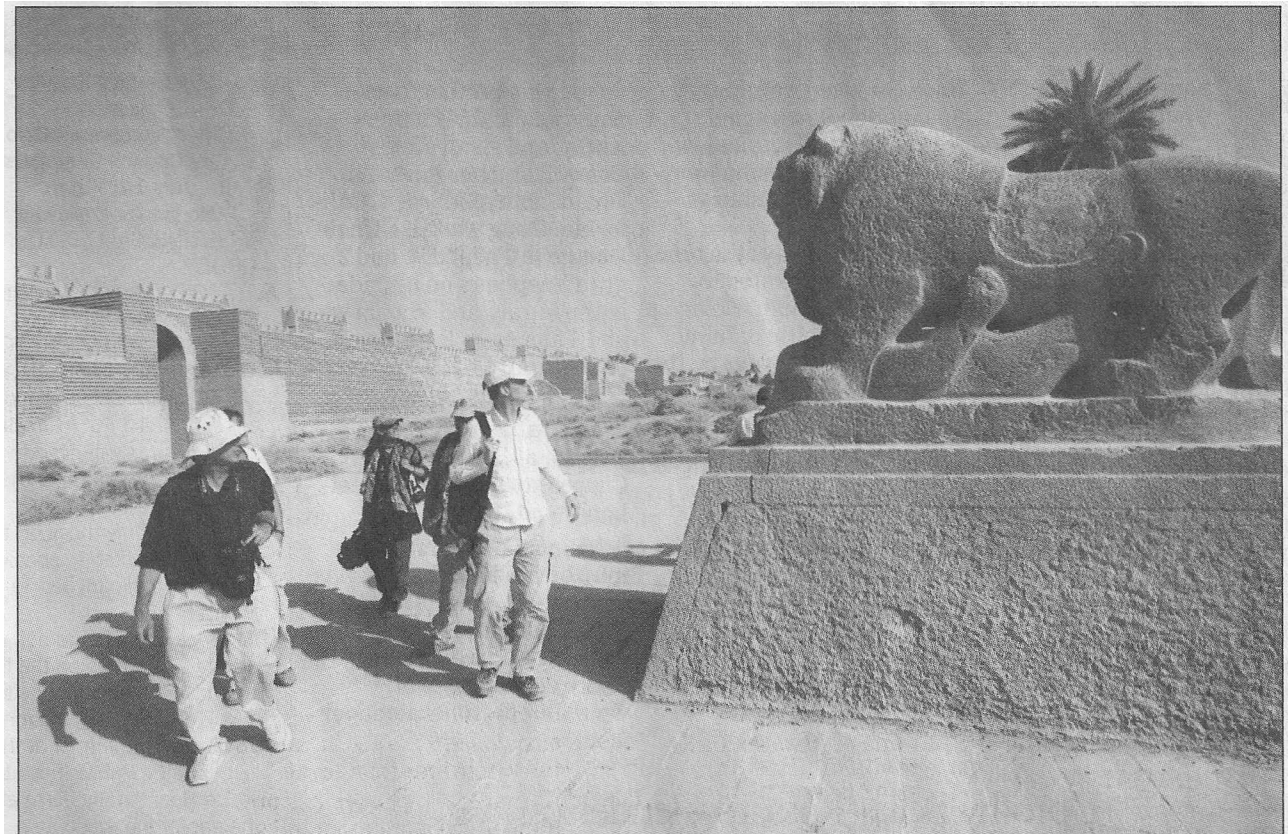
By Kim Gamel, The Associated Press

BAGHDAD - Iraq's U.S.-led invaders inflicted serious damage on Babylon, driving heavy machinery over sacred paths, bulldozing hilltops and digging trenches through one of the world's greatest archaeological sites, experts for UNESCO said Thursday. "The use of Babylon as a military base was a grave encroachment on this internationally known archaeological site", said a report that the U.N. cultural agency presented in Paris.

UNESCO officials stressed that the damage didn't begin with the U.S. military's arrival nor fully end after it left. Archaeologists took away some of Babylon's finest treasures in the 19th century, Saddam Hussein embellished the site with his own structures, and looters returned when the Americans handed the site back to the Iraqis 21 months after the March 2003 invasion. Now Babylon is the object of a turf war between newly empowered Iraqi officials. At the national level, Iraq's state antiquities office, focused on conservation, is up against officials of the province surrounding Babylon who want to attract tourists. They have already provoked concern by leveling a section of the site to create a picnic area.

UNESCO aims to make the 4,000-year-old city fit for the coveted title of World Heritage site and will work to enforce international conventions on the protection of historic sites. Archaeologist John Curtis of the British Museum, who inspected the site just after it was returned to Iraqi control, said it was too soon to assess the cost of restoring and fully protecting the site.

Several initiatives to save Babylon have been announced in recent years but have made little headway. Hopes are pinned on a two-year, \$700,000 project financed by the U.S. State Department to develop a program aimed at balancing tourism and archaeology at Babylon.



Karim Kadim/AP A delegation from the World Monuments Fund and the U.S. State Department stands near the Lion of Babylon during a visit to the archaeological site of Babylon, about 50 miles south of Baghdad.



## Saudis Would Just as Soon Bury Past

By Donna Abu-Nasr, The Associated Press

RIYADH, Saudi Arabia - Much of the world knows Petra, the ancient ruin in modern-day Jordan that is celebrated in poetry as "the rose-red city, 'half as old as time,'" and which provided the climactic backdrop for "Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade. " But far fewer know Madain Saleh, a similarly spectacular treasure built by the same civilization, the Nabateans.

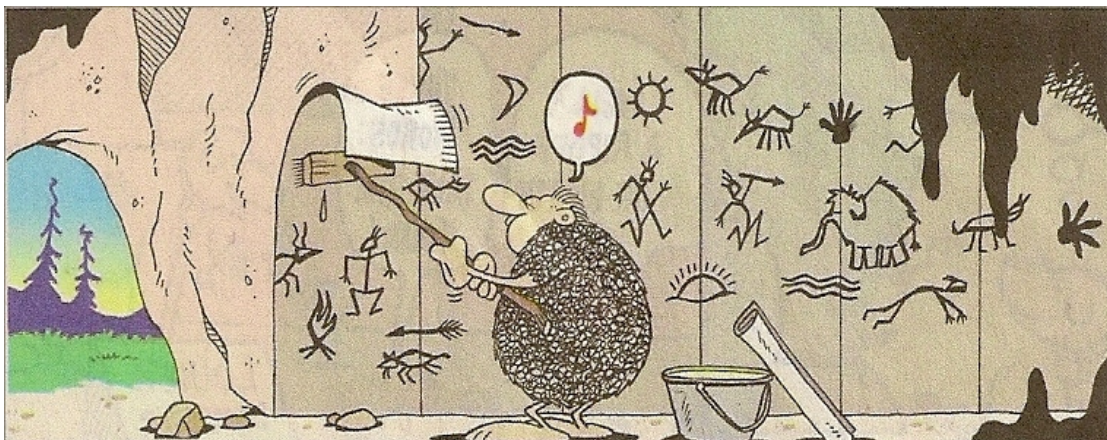
That's because it's in Saudi Arabia, where conservatives are deeply hostile to pagan, Jewish and Christian sites that predate the founding of Islam in the seventh century. But now, in a quiet but notable change of course, the kingdom has opened up an archaeology boom by allowing Saudi and foreign archaeologists to explore cities and trade routes long lost in the desert.

The sensitivities run deep. Archaeologists are cautioned not to talk about pre-Islamic finds outside scholarly literature. Few ancient treasures are on display, and no Christian or Jewish relics. A fourth- or fifth-century church in eastern Saudi Arabia has been fenced off ever since its accidental discovery 20 years ago; its exact whereabouts are kept secret.

In the eyes of conservatives, the land where Islam was founded and the prophet Muhammad was born must remain purely Muslim. Saudi Arabia bans public displays of crosses and churches, and whenever non-Islamic artifacts are excavated, the news must be kept low key lest hard-liners destroy the finds. "They should be left in the ground," said Sheikh Mohammed al-Nujaimi, a well-known cleric, reflecting the views of many religious leaders. "Any ruins belonging to non-Muslims should not be touched. Leave them in place, the way they have been for thousands of years." In an interview, he said Christians and Jews might claim discoveries of relics, and that Muslims would be angered if ancient symbols of other religions went on show. "How can crosses be displayed when Islam doesn't recognize that Christ was crucified?" al-Nujaimi said. "If we display them, it's as if we recognize the crucifixion. "

In the past, Saudi authorities restricted foreign archaeologists to giving technical help to Saudi teams. Starting in 2000, they began a gradual process of easing up that culminated last year with American, European and Saudi teams launching significant excavations on sites that have long gone lightly explored, if at all.

At the same time, authorities are gradually trying to acquaint the Saudi public with the idea of exploring the past, in part to eventually develop tourism. After years of being closed off, 2,000-year-old Madain Saleh is Saudi Arabia's first UNESCO World Heritage Site and is open to tourists.



## 2009 IPCAS Officers, Board Members, and major functions

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**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION - INDIAN PEAKS CHAPTER**

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  **Student** \$14.25 / Year  
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 Mail to: PO Box 18301, Boulder, CO 80308-1301

I(We) give CAS permission to :

Yes  No  disclose phone numbers to other CAS members  
 Yes  No  publish name/contact information in chapter directory  
 Yes  No  publish name in newsletter (which may be sent to other chapters, published on the internet, etc.)

**CODE OF ETHICS**

As a member of the Colorado Archaeological Society, I pledge:  
 To uphold state and federal antiquities laws. To support policies and educational programs designed to protect our cultural heritage and our state's antiquities. To encourage protection and discourage exploitation of archaeological resources. To encourage the study and recording of Colorado's archaeology and cultural history. To take an active part by participating in field and laboratory work for the purpose of developing new and significant information about the past. To respect the property rights of landowners. To assist whenever possible in locating, mapping and recording archaeological sites within Colorado, using State Site Survey forms. To respect the dignity of peoples whose cultural histories and spiritual practices are the subject of any investigation. To support only scientifically conducted activities and never participate in conduct involving dishonesty, deceit or misrepresentation about archaeological matters. To report vandalism. To remember that cultural resources are non-renewable and do not belong to you or me, but are ours to respect, to study and to enjoy.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

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 of the Colorado Archaeological Society  
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 Boulder, CO 80308-1301