

The Calumet

Newsletter of the Indian Peaks Chapter, Colorado Archaeological Society

December 2015

INDIAN PEAKS CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Presentation (lecture) meetings are held in the University of Colorado Museum (CU Museum), Dinosaur Room from September to May (except Dec), at 7:00 PM.

The public is always welcome at presentation meetings.

Web Site: WWW.INDIANPEAKSARCHAEOLOGY.ORG

- Dec 10** **IPCAS Holiday Party – 5:30 to 8:00 pm**
IPCAS Members only. Bring an appetizer or other dish to share. Wine & Beer will be available. Enjoy field trip photos. CU Museum of Natural History
- Jan 14** **IPCAS January 2016 Presentation** (Second Thursday)
Topic: ***Missing the Boat: Ancient Dugout Canoes in the Mississippi and Missouri River Valleys***
Speaker: Peter Wood
7:00 pm. Dinosaur room, CU Museum of Natural History.
For directions and parking go to <http://cumuseum.colorado.edu/visit/directions>
See page 3 for details.
- Feb 11** **IPCAS February 2016 Presentation** (Second Thursday)
Topic: ***Archaeological Evidence of the 1733 St. Jan Slave Rebellion in the Danish West Indies***
Speaker: Holly Norton
7:00 pm. Dinosaur room, CU Museum of Natural History.
For directions and parking go to <http://cumuseum.colorado.edu/visit/directions>
See page 4 for details.
- Mar 10** **IPCAS March 2016 Presentation** (Second Thursday)
Topic: ***Return to Upper Crossing: What New Architectural Data Tell Us about American Indian Settlement Systems in the Southern Rocky Mountains***
Speaker: Mark Mitchell
7:00 pm. Dinosaur room, CU Museum of Natural History.
For directions and parking go to <http://cumuseum.colorado.edu/visit/directions>
See page 5 for details.
- Oct 7-10** **Colorado Archaeological Society Annual Meeting**
Location: Grand Junction, Colorado
Great opportunity to hear speakers, enjoy field trips and meet others! Look for more details on the schedule and how to sign up in summer of 2016

IPCAS JANUARY 2016 Presentation



"The manner of making their boates" by Theodor de Bry after a John White watercolor. European view of Indians making a dugout canoe, using fire and seashell scrapers (1590).

Missing the Boat: Ancient Dugout Canoes in the Mississippi and Missouri River Valleys

Speaker: Peter H. Wood, emeritus historian, Duke University
Thursday, January 14, 2016, at 7:00 pm. Dinosaur room, CU Museum of Natural History

When archaeologists discuss the great Mississippian site at Cahokia near East St. Louis, a crucial piece of the puzzle still seems to be missing. They know much about the great mound-building center, and about the trade goods and tribute that flowed to it. But they rarely talk about *how* those objects moved great distances. So far, we have never recovered a huge and ancient wooden canoe in the Mississippi Valley. (Indeed, we can't even imagine the immense trees from which such dugouts were made a thousand years ago!) But indirect evidence from other places and disciplines strongly points to the existence and importance of such vessels. This slide talk by a Duke University historian of early America, explores how long such boats were in use, and why they disappeared.

Speaker Biography - Peter H. Wood grew up in St. Louis, giving him a life-long interest in the Mississippi and Missouri Rivers. He studied history at Harvard and at Oxford, where he was a Rhodes Scholar in 1964. He taught early American history at Duke University from 1976 to 2008, and in 2011 he received the Asher Distinguished Teaching Award of the American Historical Association. He is the co-author, with UNL's Tim Borstelmann and others, of an important U.S. History survey, *Created Equal*, now in its fifth edition.

Wood is the author of several widely used books on early American slavery, *Black Majority* and *Strange New Land*. A wide-ranging scholar, Wood has written about Native American demography and African American slave labor camps, as well as "Television as Dream" and Gerald Ford's pardon of Richard Nixon. Intrigued by early French exploration, he published an article on LaSalle in the *American Historical Review* (April, 1984), and this fall his essay on Baron Lahontan will appear in the *Journal of the Iowa Archaeology Society*. An interest in material culture has sparked Wood's research on Native American dipper gourds, Sea Island rice fanning baskets, and, most recently, ancient Mississippian dugout canoes.

In addition, Dr. Wood is the author of three books on the images of black Americans created by the great artist Winslow Homer. His most recent study, entitled *Near Andersonville: Winslow Homer's Civil War*, is based on the 2009 Huggins Lectures at Harvard University. He is currently working on a profile of John Anthony Copeland, a black North Carolinian who accompanied John Brown at Harper's Ferry. Dr. Wood lives in Longmont, Colorado, with his wife, Pulitzer-Prize-winning historian Elizabeth Fenn, who chairs the History Department at CU-Boulder.

Unearthed: Ancient Life in the Boulder Valley **Exhibit at CU Museum of Natural History**



This new exhibit features a collection of 80+ stone tools known as The Mahaffy Cache that was found in a Boulder backyard in 2007. The artifacts were studied by CU Boulder Professor of Archaeology Doug Bamforth, Ph.D. He dates the tools to 13,000 years ago at the end of the last ice age.

The discovery of stone tools from the late Pleistocene within the city limits of Boulder is a rare event in archaeology. This is the first time the tools will be on display for the public. The exhibit includes interactive elements and video, as well as replicas of the tools that visitors can pick up and hold. For more information go to <https://cumuseum.colorado.edu/current-exhibits>.

IPCAS February 2016 Presentation



Location of Key Rebel and Maroon Camps at the Culmination of the 1733 St. Jan Rebellion

Archaeological Evidence of the 1733 St. Jan Slave Rebellion in the Danish West Indies

Speaker: Holly Norton, Colorado State Archaeologist and Deputy SHPO, History Colorado
Thursday, February 11, 2016, at 7:00 pm. Dinosaur room, CU Museum of Natural History

The small Caribbean island of St. John today is a vacationer's paradise and home to the Virgin Islands National Park. Historically, the island was a Danish territory that served as a trading outpost for the trans-Atlantic slave trade for several centuries. Although the thick vegetation of the island now hides the ruins of numerous plantations, the archaeology of these ruins offers unique evidence and striking revelations about the brutal history of slavery on this island. In addition, the archaeological record of St. John also provides evidence of a later thriving free-black community, and the post emancipation industries of bay rum, ranching, and maritime trade. For her February presentation Dr. Norton will focus primarily on her research on the 1733 St. Jan slave rebellion, research that truly illustrates the power of archaeology to complement written history.

Holly Norton is the State Archaeologist and Deputy SHPO of Colorado. Her archaeological experience is extensive and includes work in Colorado, the Carolinas, the Northeast, and the Caribbean. Her BA is from the University of South Carolina and she earned her MA and PhD at Syracuse University. She is presently turning her dissertation "Estate by Estate: The Landscape of the 1733 St. Jan Slave Rebellion" into a book. Her research examines the evidence of political violence and utilizes spatial analysis of the built landscape to better understand the history of slavery and revolts. She has investigated African-American archaeological sites throughout the Virgin Islands, including studying maroons in St. Croix, urban slave sites in St. Thomas, as well as working at the Harriett Tubman House in Auburn, NY. Holly has also conducted research on loyalists in the American Revolution, the development of farming and agriculture in the US, and historic sites in Colorado.

IPCAS March 2016 Presentation



One of the 30 Stone Enclosures documented at the Upper Crossing Site near Saguache, CO.

Return to Upper Crossing: What New Architectural Data Tell Us about American Indian Settlement Systems in the Southern Rocky Mountains

Speaker: Mark Mitchell, Research Director, Paleocultural Research Group
Thursday, March 10, 2016, at 7:00 pm. Dinosaur room, CU Museum of Natural History

The stone enclosure sites of the San Luis Valley have perplexed archaeologists ever since E.B. Renaud first studied them over 75 years ago. Their chronology, function, and cultural affiliation have all been debated, but with only limited evidence to back up various interpretations. Dr. Mark Mitchell will report the results of significant new excavations at the Upper Crossing site near Saguache that permit a much more meaningful explanation of the history and use of these structures. Working with Bureau of Land Management and U.S. Forest Service archaeologists, University of Colorado field school students, and a cadre of dedicated volunteers, Mitchell investigated and dated a sample of the site's 30 stone structures. The surprising results overturn much of what we thought we knew about stone enclosure sites and offer important new data on American Indian mobility and land use in the San Luis Valley and beyond.

Dr. Mark Mitchell is the Research Director of Paleocultural Research Group, a member supported research organization dedicated to archaeological research in the Great Plains and Rocky Mountains. He is the author of *Crafting History in the Northern Plains: A Political Economy of the Heart River Region, 1400-1750* (2013), co-editor of *Across a Great Divide: Change and Continuity in Nation North American Societies, 1400-1900* (2010) and author of many journal articles and book chapters. IPCAS volunteers have worked with him on a number of projects throughout Colorado over the last five years. His experience and expertise spans much of Colorado and extends to the Northern Plains.

Announcing IPCAS 2016 Board Officers and Members

Elections for IPCAS officers at the November 12 meeting.

Here are the folks that will be leading IPCAS in 2016.

Officers:

Rosi Dennett, President
Richard Wilshusen, Vice President
Debbie Smith, Secretary
Hal Landem, Treasurer

At Large Board Members:

Cheryl Damon
Kris Holien
Joanne Turner

Appointed Positions:

PAAC Coordinator – Delane Mechlings
Newsletter Editor – Heidi Short
Communications Director – Joan Prebish
Outreach Coordinator – Allison Kerns
CU Liaison – Gretchen Acharya
CAS Representative – Karen Kinnear
Website Administrator – Anne Robinson
Professional Advisor – Bob Brunswig, UNC

**Renew you IPCAS Membership Now
for 2016**

Go to IndianPeaksArchaeology.org/join-us/memberships
for renewal information and forms

Woodrow Ruin and the Colorado Archaeological Society

By Jakob W Sedig

On Sunday, July 12th, members of the Colorado Archaeological Society Indian Peaks chapter (IPCAS) and I visited Woodrow Ruin, where I have been conducting research since 2011. Like everyone else who has visited the site, the IPCAS members were astonished at the artifacts on the surface of Woodrow Ruin. Hand-sized sherds, obsidian projectile points, manos and metates, roomblocks, and much more can be found with little effort. Yet these surface artifacts tell only a small part of Woodrow Ruin's story. The research that University of Colorado colleagues and I have conducted, generously funded in part through Alice Hamilton scholarships, has helped elucidate the prehistoric occupation of the site, and reshaped archaeological thinking on Mimbres archaeology.



IPCAS Mimbres Tour Members at TJ Ruin

Woodrow Ruin is unique for many reasons. However, the most obvious is the site's preservation, which accounts for the spectacular surface artifact assemblage. Woodrow Ruin is in the Mimbres region of southwest New Mexico, which has been devastated by looters searching for world renowned black-on-white ceramic bowls that feature images of people, animals, and complex geometric designs. Woodrow Ruin has largely been spared from this looting due to the Museum of Indian Arts and Culture's management, and a tall chain-link fence that was constructed around the site in the 1970s. The unique preservation of Woodrow Ruin allowed me to collect data that have been destroyed through looting at many other Mimbres sites.

The Mimbres region of southwest New Mexico lacks the monumental architecture that has made the archaeology of the American Southwest world-famous. However, the Mimbres region makes up for this lack of architecture with beautifully decorated bowls. The most famous of these bowls were made during the Mimbres Classic period (CE 1000-1130). During the Classic period, Mimbres people lived in above ground pueblo roomblocks constructed from river cobbles, practiced intensive agriculture, and held ceremonies in open plazas. Prior to the Classic period (during the Late Pithouse period, CE

550-1000) Mimbres people lived in pithouses, were less reliant on agriculture, and conducted ritual activities in great kivas. My research at Woodrow Ruin not only gathered basic information about the site, but also some addressed long-standing questions in Mimbres archaeology.



Excavation Unit at Woodrow Ruin

Numerous archaeological methods were used to recover information from Woodrow Ruin, while impacting the site as minimally as possible to help maintain its excellent preservation. Extensive survey, inventory of surface artifacts, magnetometry, high-contour GPS mapping, test pits, partial excavation of eight structures, and detailed artifact analysis afforded data about the prehistoric occupation of the site. These methods revealed that Woodrow Ruin was occupied continuously from the Late Pithouse to Classic periods. While archaeologists had long-noted the numerous surface roomblocks at Woodrow Ruin, my research revealed that Woodrow also had a very large population during the Late Pithouse period, and that the population apex likely occurred sometime in the late 10th-early 11th centuries CE. Research at Woodrow Ruin suggests that Woodrow Ruin may have had between 100-150 pithouses and approximately 150 cobble rooms distributed amongst 10-13 roomblocks. Indeed, it seems that Woodrow Ruin was one of the largest sites in the upper Gila and the Mimbres region during this time.



20cm Contour Map of Woodrow Ruin with Visible Surface Architecture

The focus of my research at Woodrow Ruin was the Mimbres Transitional phase (CE 900-1000), when people switched from living in belowground pithouses to above ground pueblo roomblocks. Mimbres archaeologists had previously debated this transition for decades, and concentrated primarily on architectural changes. Many Mimbres archaeologists postulated that the change from pithouses to pueblos was rapid and largely inconsequential. Excavation at Woodrow Ruin revealed a new type of architecture that was constructed during the Transitional period: very shallow pithouses with thin adobe walls. The presence of these structures suggests that the transition was more gradual and significant than previously suspected. However, the change in domiciles was only one part of a suite of changes that occurred between the Late Pithouse and Classic periods.

We also investigated a number of features that are unique to Woodrow Ruin. Two of the most notable features of Woodrow Ruin are the large, deep great kivas located at the center of the site. In 2013, we excavated part of the northern great kiva. Excavation of this structure revealed an interesting use history. Like most great kivas in the Mimbres region, the northern great kiva at Woodrow Ruin housed ceremonies and rituals during the Late Pithouse and Transitional periods. However, after its original use ended, the roof of this structure was dismantled and removed. Later, during the Classic period, a hole was dug through middle of the great kiva, and an alignment of large stones was put in the hole. I argue that this remodeling and repurposing of the great kiva indicates a dramatic change in ritual practices and religious beliefs between the Late Pithouse and Classic periods.



Excavation Units in the Woodrow Ruin Great Kiva

Another piece of evidence from Woodrow Ruin that suggests a dramatic transformation of Mimbres society began during the Transitional period came from Neutron Activation Analysis (NAA) of ceramics collected during excavation. NAA of Woodrow Ruin sherds suggest that Late Pithouse period ceramics were made with a different clay source than Classic period ceramics. NAA also revealed that the inhabitants of Woodrow Ruin expanded their trade networks during the Classic period.

In sum, research at Woodrow Ruin has helped delineate numerous transformations that occurred during the Mimbres Transitional period. I argue that these transformations were social responses to a severe, extended drought that struck southwest New Mexico from approximately CE 920-1020. The American Southwest is replete with examples of people who left their homes during environmental declines. The Mimbres Transitional period provides an important example of ancient human resilience—the ability to adapt and stay in place by transforming social practices.

It is always great to visit Woodrow Ruin. However, the site tour on July 12, 2015 was particularly special because I got to share Woodrow Ruin with members of IPCAS, who have so significantly helped my research. I think that Gretchen Acharya and Debbie Smith, IPCAS members who helped me sort, analyze, and package artifacts from Woodrow Ruin, were especially thrilled to finally visit the site. Gretchen and Debbie, along with other members of the trip, also visited the magnificent museums in southwest New Mexico that house world-famous Mimbres bowls, and several other important archaeological sites including TJ Ruin, the Gila Cliff Dwellings, and Mattocks Ruin. Nominally, I was the leader of the CAS trip to Woodrow Ruin and the Mimbres region. Yet the knowledge of Mimbres archaeology I have attained through the years was made possible with CAS and the Alice Hamilton scholarships that helped fund my research. Leading a tour of Mimbres archaeology was the least I could do to express my thanks to the support CAS has given me through the years.



IPCAS Mimbres Tour Participants Examining Artifacts at the Luna County Museum



IPCAS Highlights from 2015

We have had a really great year at IPCAS. Here are some of the highlights

- Ten great lectures- including well know archaeologists such as Steve Lekson, Bob Brunswig and Payson Sheets
- Lecture participation has been consistently going up. We now typically have at least 60 people at our lectures and have had lectures with up to 80 people
- Field Trips including two multi-day field trips
 - Northern Rio Grande trip – week-long trip with 20 participants
 - Sacred sites trip to Rocky Mountain National Park – lead by Bob Brunswig
 - History Colorado behind the scenes tour
 - Mimbres Trip lead by Dr. Jakob Sedig
- An Outreach Event over Labor Day Weekend at the Boulder Creek Festival gave us exposure to 200 people plus several new members.
- Through May, Monday Labs with Jakob Sedig gave IPCAS members a chance to work on pottery and other artifacts from the Woodrow Mimbres site
- Starting in August, Monday labs with Scott Ortman gave IPCAS members a chance to work on pottery from Pojoaque and Cuyamungue Pueblos
- We (finally) got a new website!
- Two PAAC classes - Rock Art & Perishable Materials
- Name tags for members to use at our lectures
- New Brochures and business cards to hand out to potential members
- Nine monthly newsletters

Thank you to the IPCAS board and the IPCAS Membership for making this year a success!

Colorado Council of Professional Archaeologists



Colorado Council of Professional Archaeologists (CCPA) Annual Meeting - March 18-20, 2016

The CCPA annual meeting is a great way to learn about Colorado Archaeology.

AMONG THE MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

- Talks by CAS members about the Blackfoot Cave (5DA.2358) excavation and analysis.
- Talks on the latest findings in Colorado Archaeology
- Local field trips

TYPICAL CCPA MEETING SCHEDULE (based upon past meetings)

- Friday Afternoon & Saturday All Day- talks by Colorado Archaeologists on Colorado Archaeology
- Sunday - Field Trip Opportunities
- Banquet speaker on Friday or Saturday night

See details of the CCPA Annual Meeting in the Winter 2016 CCPA Newsletter (forthcoming in January 2016): <http://coloradoarchaeologists.org/newsletters/>

LOCATION

The Historic Steam Plant Event Center, Salida, Colorado

HOTEL BLOCK ACCOMMODATIONS

Days Inn (Salida) - Rooms from \$80/night.

(719) 539-6651 - mention "CCPA" for group rate.

<http://www.daysinn.com/hotels/colorado/salida/days-inn-salida/rooms-rates>

Room Block expires March 1, 2016

Salida Inn & Monarch Suites (Salida)- Rooms are from \$89 to \$109/night.

GUESTS MUST BOOK ONLINE to receive the group rate.

Promo code: "CCPA"

www.salidainn.com

Room block expires February 15, 2016

Hampton Inn & Suites (Salida)- Rooms are from \$139 - \$149/night.

(719) 539-0800 - mention "CCPA" for group rate.

<http://hamptoninn3.hilton.com/en/hotels/colorado/hampton-inn-and-suitessalida-SLDCOHX/index.html>

Room block expires February 16, 2016

Colorado Archaeological Society Annual Meeting Fundraising Announcement

Annual Meeting Fundraising Success!

Colorado scholars were generously supported again at the CAS Annual Meeting with the deposit of \$3945 in the Scholarship kitty for 2016.

2015 RAFFLE Winners

The winners were **Ann and Dave Phillips** (Boulder), **Barbara Potter** (Colorado Springs) and **Jerry Searcy** (Palisade).



Ann and Dave Phillips
(Boulder)



Barbara Potter
(Colorado Springs)



Jerry Searcy
(Palisade)

A special treat for us was Native American flute-maker and musician David Nigteagle who entertained us during breaks, and treated the audience to serenades on our very own raffle flutes.

2015 Raffle ticket sales totaled \$2504. Top sales go to the Hisatsinom, Pueblo, and San Juan Basin Chapters. The **Silent Auction 2015** took in \$1036. Thanks to all who donated treasures from artwork, pottery, books, jewelry and handmade crafts to home-canned jams and pickles.



\$10



\$10



\$22

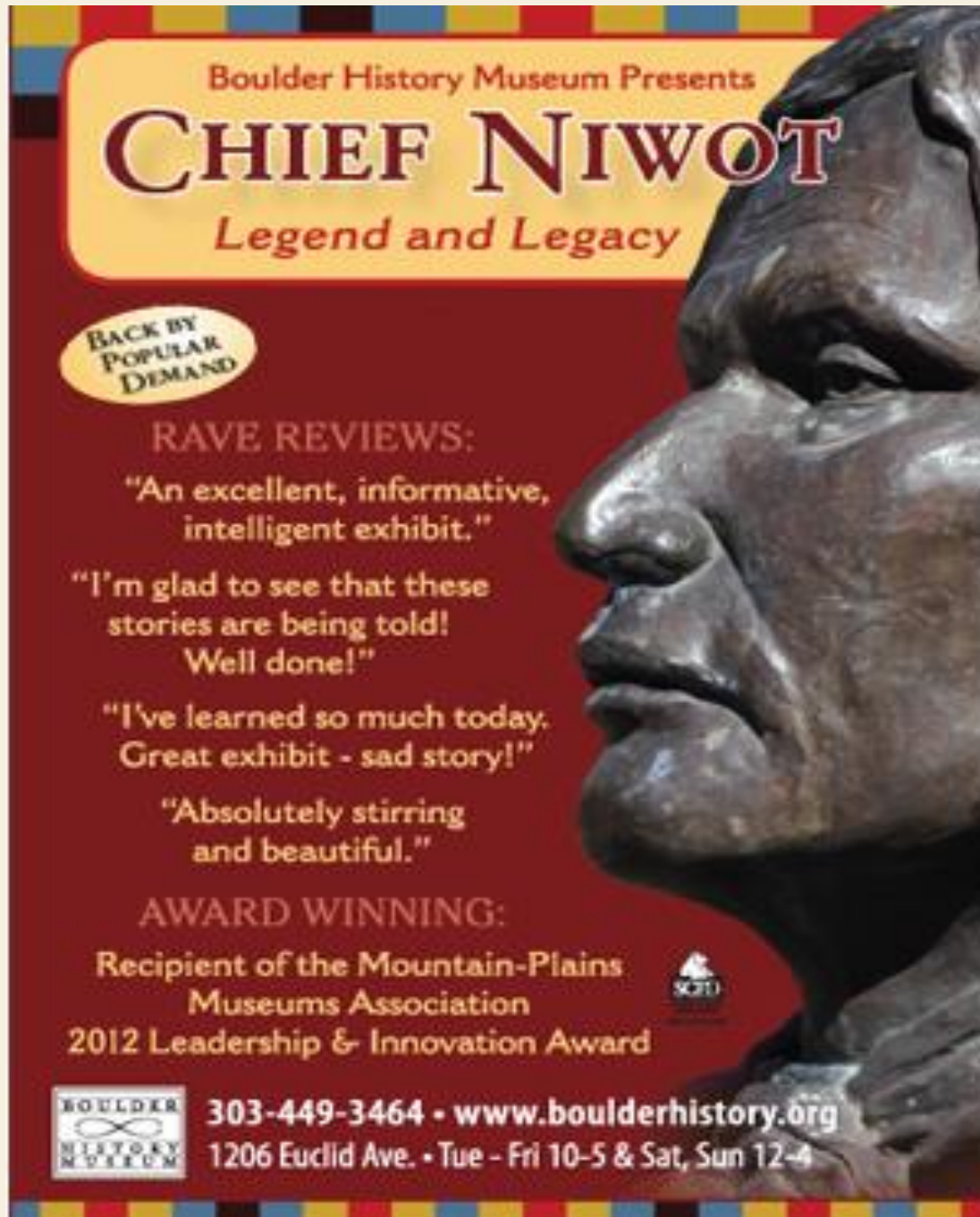
Our **CAS Merchandise Store** expanded its offerings to include mugs, insulated lunch bags and canvas briefcases, as well as the remaining short and long-sleeved T-shirts. Sales were \$495, with a percentage going to the scholarship fund.

We still have items available. Contact Terri Hoff 720-384-3017.

Chief Niwot Exhibit – scheduled to close on December 31.

The popular Chief Niwot Exhibit has been at the Boulder History Museum for the several years and is due to close at the end of December. If you have been wanting to see this exhibit, it's time to make your plans now!

Chief Niwot was an Araphahoe Indian who spent much of his life in the Boulder area.



Boulder History Museum Presents
CHIEF NIWOT
Legend and Legacy

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND

RAVE REVIEWS:

"An excellent, informative, intelligent exhibit."


"I'm glad to see that these stories are being told! Well done!"


"I've learned so much today. Great exhibit - sad story!"

"Absolutely stirring and beautiful."

AWARD WINNING:

Recipient of the Mountain-Plains Museums Association
2012 Leadership & Innovation Award

 303-449-3464 • www.boulderhistory.org
1206 Euclid Ave. • Tue - Fri 10-5 & Sat, Sun 12-4





Sign up now for PAAC Lab– Winter 2015/ 2016

Sign up now for Program for Avocational Archaeological Certification (PAAC) Lab - December 2015 & January 2016

Every winter Kevin Black from the Office of Archaeology and Historic preservation offers lab training sessions. PAAC Lab participants learn laboratory skills using real artifacts from un-catalogued OHAP collections. This free training is a great way to gain laboratory skills on real artifacts and projects.

Lab Dates:

The lab work is held at History Colorado's off-site facility in central Denver, on dates listed below in December and January, 8:30 am-4:30 pm.

December Lab Dates

Friday, December 4
Saturday, December 5
Thursday, December 10
Friday, December 11

January Lab Dates

Friday, January 15
Saturday, January 16

What will you work on?

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 cataloging and analysis of these materials.

Why do a PAAC lab?

PAAC Lab training is a great way to learn about and practice analyzing and cataloging artifacts. This is great training for anyone interested in archaeology. In addition, volunteers may receive credit toward certification at either the PAAC Laboratory Trainee or Laboratory Technician level.

What are the prerequisites?

In General, no prior experience is required. 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:

- a. Introduction to Archaeology, CAS & PAAC
- b. Introduction to Laboratory Techniques
- c. Prehistoric Lithics Description and Analysis

How to sign up for the PAAC LAB?

Prospective volunteers must complete the PAAC Candidate Application Form (PDF), and should be prepared to participate on a minimum of two days. Contact the State PAAC Coordinator at 303-866-4671 or kevin.black@state.co.us for the form and more information. There is no fee for this PAAC activity.

For more information go to <http://www.historycolorado.org/oaHP/additional-laboratory-credit>

Certifications PAAC Lab can contribute towards PAAC Certifications. Here are Certifications that your lab experience can help you achieve.

Certified Laboratory Trainee

Go to <http://www.historycolorado.org/oaHP/certified-laboratory-trainee> for more information

Certified Laboratory Technician

Go To <http://www.historycolorado.org/oaHP/certified-laboratory-technician> for more information

Additional Laboratory Credit

Go to <http://www.historycolorado.org/oaHP/additional-laboratory-credit> for more information.



2015 IPCAS Officers, Board Members, and major functions

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Board Member	Rosi Dennett	rosidennett@gmail.com