



THE MOKI MESSENGER

January 2025

San Juan Basin Archaeological Society

sjbas.org

SJBAS Monthly Meeting: January 8

SJBAS meeting – “War Paint: Biographic Art Painted on Plains War Horses” by James Keyser of the Oregon Archaeological Society. A reception kicks things off at 6:30 p.m. in the foyer of the Center of Southwest Studies with the zoom presentation starting at 7 PM. Details are on sjbas.org. Please note that new zoom login will be used so check the web site link.

President’s Message

Happy New Year fellow members!

Hopefully, everyone had a good holiday season. I for one will be in the gym, compensating for holiday indulgences.

Our Annual Meeting and Brunch was well attended and the festivities were enjoyable. The two student interns we sponsored last year gave interesting and informative presentations on their activities.

Mark and Michelle McKibben were recognized for their years of service as social chairs and presented with a gift certificate to Maria’s Bookstore so they may get more travel guides. Two new volunteers, Tammy and Joel Barger were introduced and welcomed as their replacements. Their willingness to step up into the positions is much appreciated. (Note that we still have openings for volunteers in programs and memberships!)



Susan reported the Silent Auction raised \$535.50 with an additional \$115 placed in the donation jar. Members donated \$410 with their membership renewals bringing a total to \$1,060.50 contributed to the John Sanders fund.

The trips and events calendar is mostly complete with a few specific dates to be determined. There are a number of great trips and presentations scheduled for this year. Note that the monthly presentations are free and open to the public, so bring a friend. The field trips require membership which acknowledges site visitation guidelines and self-responsibility/liability waiver, but are otherwise free to supporting members other than costs associated with individual entrance or camping fees. Similar trips with a guide service would cost hundreds of dollars per day. Often, knowledgeable members participate in trips and provide valuable insights that enhance the experience.

Speaking of memberships, please remember to renew your SJBAS membership as soon as possible so the board may have some idea of anticipated dues revenues for the budget preparation process. You can print out [membership forms and mailing instructions](#) on our Web site.

An event of note scheduled for 2025 is the 28th annual “Saving Places Conference” sponsored by the Colorado Preservation, Inc. and held in Colorado Springs, Colorado, starting, January 29th through Friday, February 1st, 2025. The conference will focus on the theme “intangible heritage,” which encompasses the cultural, social, and historical practices, traditions, knowledge, and expressions deeply rooted in a community’s identity and collective memory. Preserving non-material culture is critical to maintaining diversity and fostering a sense of identity and continuity. For more information see the [Colorado Preservation website](#).

Finally, the Society for American Archaeology is holding its annual conference in Denver on April 23–27, 2025. The SAA Annual Meeting is the largest gathering of archaeologists of the Americas and includes presentations and exhibits by experts from the Southwest region as well as national and international professionals. While the conference is still being organized, more information can be found at [Annual Meeting](#).

We all look forward to another year of learning, informative entertainment and fun field trips.

Paul Landrum
President, SJBAS

Upcoming SJBAS Events for 2025

[Contact trip organizers for details.
See sjbas.org for the latest version of the full-year calendar.]

January 8	SJBAS Meeting – “War Paint: Biographic Art Painted on Plains War Horses” by James Keyser (Oregon Archaeological Society).
January 16	SJBAS Board Meeting —Center of Southwest Studies. 1:30-3:30.
February 12	SJBAS Meeting – Speaker TBA
February 14-17	Ohkay Owingeh Deer Dance – Fort Marcy, Tsankawi Prehistoric Site and more. Difficulty: Easy. Contact Rusty Chamberlain at chambrke@aol.com . Sign-up begins Jan. 1st
March 12	SJBAS Meeting – “Adaptive foraging behaviors in the Horn of Africa during the Toba supereruption” by John Kappelman, University of Texas, Austin, retired.
March-April TBA	Bluff, Utah 3-day camping trip – Explore Bluff area via car camping with Andy Gulliford. Pending receipt of BLM permit. Difficulty: Moderate. Contact andy@agulliford.com Sign up begins Feb. 1st.
Early April TBA	Guided Daytrip to see Diné Defensive Sites and Rock Art. Cost: \$110 payable to Salmon Ruins. Includes guide, transportation from Bloomfield, lunch, water. <i>Minimum</i> signup: six. Difficulty: Easy-active. Contact: hunter.mccleary@gmail.com
April 9	SJBAS Meeting – “Faux Native American Picture-Writing in Colorado and the American West” by Leigh Marymor, Museum of Northern Arizona.
April-May TBA	Hovenweep Outliers Day-trip. Cutthroat Castle, Painted Hand, Holly Tower. We will compare and contrast siting, masonry, function, and occupation periods as each is different. Difficulty: Moderate. Contact: Andy Dennison at andrewdennison86@gmail.com
April-May TBA	Cottonwood Wash camping trip. In development. Contact: Tom Polich at thomas.polich@gmail.com .
April-May TBA	Mitchel Springs —Planned to coincide with a professional excavation of the site. Possible two-day trip. Difficulty: Easy-Active. Contact: Tom Polich at thomas.polich@gmail.com .
April-May TBA	Jackson Castle Day-Hike. One-mile hike to pueblo with a dozen kivas and long walls. Difficulty: Moderate. Contact Andy Dennison at andrewdennison86@gmail.com .
May 14	SJBAS Meeting – “Turquoise Trade in the Chacoan World and Beyond” by Sharon Hull, Chaco Culture National Historical Park.
May-June TBA	Sand Canyon and Goodman Point Pueblos – Day trip to two Pueblo III villages in Canyons of the Ancients. Difficulty: Moderate. Contact Rusty Chamberlain at chambrke@aol.com . Sign-up begins April 1st.
June	No monthly meeting
June 11	SJBAS Annual Picnic

June 23-25	Ohkay Owingeh Festival. The festival is June 24 but before and after this date we enjoy other sites in the Santa Fe/Espanola area. Easy. Contact Rusty Chamberlain at chambrke@aol.com . Sign-up begins April 1st.
July 9	SJBAS Meeting – “Geographies of the Sacred” by Mathew J. Martinez, Mesa Prieta Petroglyph Project.
August 13	SJBAS Meeting—Speaker TBA
Spring or Fall TBA	Ute Mountain Ute Tribal Park camping & work trip. In development. Contact: Tom Polich at thomas.polich@gmail.com .
September 10	SJBAS Meeting—Speaker TBA
Fall TBA	Gallina Canyon Ranch – Guided hike to Cerrito Cliff Dwelling. Camping or primitive cabin. Difficulty: Moderate to hard. Limit, 16 trekkers. Contact Tish Varney at tishvarney@att.net . Sign-up begins Aug 1 st .
October 8	SJBAS Meeting – Speaker TBA
October TBA	Flagstaff - Sedona – Three-day trip that includes Museum of Northern Arizona and Sinagua sites - Palatki, Honanki, and Crane Petroglyph. Tuzigoot National Monument, time permitting. Difficulty: Easy Active. Contact: hunter.mcclarey@gmail.com
November 12	SJBAS Meeting—Speaker TBA

Editor’s Note

This year *Moki Messenger* switches to a bi-monthly format. That means it will publish in odd-numbered months. More importantly, it means the best way to keep current on SJBAS activities is to read the periodic emails from Byron Kellogg, our Communications Chair. And check our web site for Lyle Hancock’s latest updates.

Briefs

Noted FLC Archaeologist W James Judge Dies. Prof Judge was the former director of the Chaco Center of the National Park Service and was a professor at Fort Lewis College in Colorado. He wrote a number of books on Chaco and was influential in southwestern archaeology.

Additional SJBAS Volunteer Opportunities

Program Co-Chair: We are looking for a volunteer to work with our Program Chair, Janice Sheftel. The Program Chair secures speakers for regular membership meetings and works with other SJBAS members to organize other lectures, such as the John W. Sanders Lecture. This is a Board position. Please contact Janice at janicesheftel@gmail.com for more information.

Membership Co-Chair: The co-chair will work with Tish Varney and, eventually, move into the chair position. The Membership Chair is responsible for organizing recruitment of new SJBAS members and supporting Board members in encouraging active participation by members. This is a Board position. Please contact Tish Varney (tishvarney@att.net) for more information.

Webmaster Assistant: If you know your way around a computer, please consider volunteering to assist our Webmaster, Lyle Hancock, when he is unable to access a computer. The Webmaster is responsible for maintaining and updating the SJBAS website- www.sjbass.org. Please contact Lyle for more information, lylehancock54@gmail.com. Training and support will be provided for all positions.

SJBAS Elected Officers and Board Members

President	Paul Landrum
Vice President	Thomas Polich
Secretary	Susan Hicks
Treasurer	Mary Moorehead
Communications chair	Byron Kellogg
Membership chair	Tish Varney
Field Trip Program coordinator	Rusty Chamberlain
Education/PAAC representative	Betsy Moore
<i>Moki Messenger</i> editor	Hunter McCleary
Programming chair	Janice Sheftel
Publicity chair	Rusty Chamberlain
Social chair	Tammie and Joel Barger
Webmaster	Lyle Hancock

SJBAS Membership renewals are due by January 31st each year. Individual dues drop to \$15 after June 30. If you need to renew a lapsed membership or join SJBAS, please complete the [SJBAS Annual Membership Form](#), make your check for \$25 (\$50 family, \$10 student) payable to 'SJBAS' and mail with the Annual Membership Form only to: SJBAS, Attn: Treasurer, P.O. Box 3153, Durango, CO 81302.