Thanks to the following Grand Junction chapter members who worked tirelessly to make this conference/meeting a success:

Doug Van Etten (Coordinator), Ike Rakiecki (Chapter President and Day of Event Activities), Su Joffrion (On-Line Registration), Nancy Glover (Paper Registration and Name Tags), Sharon Brennan (Silent Auction and Door Prizes), Arlene Connolly (Days of the Event Coordinator), Katherine Lopez (Graphics Design, Brochure Layout & Production), Werner Duecker (Speakers), Jim Lamson (Field Trips), Carol Duecker (Budgeting and Hotel for Keynote Speaker), Dr. John Seebach (Facilities Acquisition at Colorado Mesa University), Walt Scheer (General Assistance & Maps for participants’ packets), and Carrie Keller, Mark Connolly, Alan Green, Mary Graham, and Judy Brock (General Assistance).

Also I want to give a special thanks to all the field trip leaders (Russ Barr, Phil Born, Mark and Arlene Connolly, Pete Davis, Alma Evans, Alan Green, Van Graham, Glade Hadden, Curtis Johnston, Jim Liewer, Layne Miller, Zebulon Miracle, Joe Oglesby, and Carol Patterson).

Several awards were given out on Saturday after dinner including 3 chapter awards: Carla Hendrickson (Pueblo), Allison and Chris Kerns (Indian Peaks) and Ike Rakiecki (Grand Junction). Summaries of the nominations submitted to the Awards Committee are provided elsewhere in this newsletter – so everyone knows what they’ve done to earn a Chapter Award. Laurie and Terry Lee (Pikes Peak) received the Ivol Hagar award (look for the Winter issue of Southwestern Lore for a description of all that Laurie and Terry have done to earn this award). Congratulations to all award winners and thanks for all the hard work you have done for CAS and your local chapters.

I also want to thank some other people who have worked tirelessly for CAS and have decided to retire from their positions. First, Kris Holien has done a marvelous job as CAS Recording Secretary for the last 3 years, keeping focused at quarterly board meetings and at annual meetings and providing us with meticulous meeting minutes (not always easy if you’ve attended any board meetings). Larry Evans has done an equally great job as Chair of the Publications Committee; he has guided the Committee for many years through several contentious issues, always with calm professionalism and a sense of humor. Finally, Dick Sundstrom recently submitted his resignation as Chair of the Long Range Planning Committee; he has spent many years guiding this Committee, urging CAS members to review our practices and plan for the future. Thank you all so much for all your hard work to serve CAS and work toward making CAS stronger and more relevant in today’s world.

The level of commitment the members of the Grand Junction chapter showed in planning and executing the Annual Conference/Meeting, the Awards given to 4 members of 3 chapters, and the people retiring from their long service to CAS demonstrate the wonderful people we have in CAS as well as the depth and breadth of the great work that CAS does. In addition to the above, chapter boards and state board members have also demonstrated an extraordinary level of commitment to CAS.

As we head into the holiday season, I want to thank everyone for all you do for state CAS and for your local chapters. Wishing you a happy and healthy holiday season!
The Quarterly Board meeting of the Colorado Archaeological Society was called to order by President Karen Kinnear on October 7, 2016, at 6:16 p.m. at the University Center, Colorado Mesa University, Grand Junction, CO. Roll call was taken, with a quorum present. Chapters represented were: Chipeta, Colorado Rock Art, Denver, Grand Junction, Hisatsinom, Indian Peaks, Northern Colorado, Pikes Peak, Pueblo, and San Juan Basin.

OLD BUSINESS:

1. Nominating Committee: A partial slate of candidates for 2017 CAS Officers: President - Karen Kinnear (Hisatsinom), Vice President – Bob Rushforth (Denver), Treasurer - Preston Niesen (Denver) and Recording Secretary - vacant. The Executive Board will make an appointment of a Recording Secretary.

2. Proposed Internet Information Policy and Procedures/Social Media Policy: (Karen Kinnear, written report): We need to create a more comprehensive policy that encompasses site protection and stewardship. We will have a draft policy sent out to board members for their review by the first of the year in time for approval at the January 2017 Board meeting. We will be looking for volunteers to assist with creating this policy.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY (TOM HOFF, written report):

As we near the end of CAS’s eighty-first year, I am pleased to report that our corporation is financially sound with no official business pending. Our current membership of 1101 as of the end of 3rd Quarter, held at last year’s level (1093). Across our state we maintain our geographic balance with five Chapters on the Front Range and five Chapters on the West Slope.

TREASURER (PRESTON NIESEN, written report):

Current assets are $37,583 and liabilities are $2,500.

COMMITTEE/SPECIAL REPORTS:

SCIENCE/ADVISORY (DAVE MELANSON, written report):
The report process and product improvement study got underway this quarter. We requested suggestions from the chapters and the State Archaeologist on how to make the report more useful, accessible, and easier to generate. We will expand the study to include other stakeholders in the coming quarter. In the current reporting process, we received activity reports from seven chapters this quarter plus two who indicated they had no new activity to report. Two chapters did not respond.

PAAC (CHRIS JOHNSTON, written report):

Since the July quarterly meeting, one PAAC class was completed (Lithic Description and Analysis) in Grand Junction, with one course currently in progress (Archaeological Dating Methods) in Boulder. Three classes are slated for the rest of the year: Principles of Archaeological Excavation (Denver), Archaeological Laboratory Techniques (Cortez/Dolores), and Prehistoric Ceramic Description and Analysis (Colorado Springs/Fountain). It is a pleasure to report that we have one person receiving a PAAC certificate this month. Rae Todd (Northern Colorado chapter) earned her Certified Surveyor I certificate after completing the survey in Lory State Park this August. This is Rae’s third PAAC certificate.

PUBLICATIONS (LARRY EVANS):

Larry announced that this is his last quarter as Publications Chair. Tentatively Aaron Theis has agreed to assume the duties of editor for the Surveyor newsletter until an editor can be found.

WEBSITE (CRAIG BANISTER, written report):

The Online membership website project for CAS was approved at the July 2016 quarterly meeting. I will start on that project this fall, after the website rebuild. The Denver and Indian Peaks chapters will be the first to have online membership developed. Online membership will then be rolled out to the other chapters in 2017.

CAS ARCHIVES (CRAIG BANISTER, written report):

The Denver Public Library is working with History Colorado, who will most likely accept the CAS Archive collection within the next few months. After the CAS Archives have a new home, I will write up the process for CAS on how to donate archival materials.

HISTORY COLORADO / CAS REP (PETER FARIS, written report):

At History Colorado, the new Executive Director Steve Turner announced a couple of projects that are being considered. One is an exhibit tentatively titled “Borderland” about the Arkansas River as the border between the U.S. and Mexico, and the cultural differences this caused. The other announcement covered a National Science Foundation grant to History Colorado to develop a STEM curriculum based upon Ute culture and artifacts. I have requested that archaeology be included in both projects.

HISTORY COLORADO PROJECTS (TERRY MURPHY, written report):

Jonathan Raab, the new Preservation Communications Manager at History Colorado, is an organized go-getter and we are ahead of our planning of previous years regarding the 2017 historic preservations poster. No new History Colorado activities that involve CAS are on the horizon. Would it be in order for the CAS Long Range Planning Committee to start brainstorming activities for public outreach that we can suggest to History Colorado and other preservation partners, whether in Denver or at other locations?

MEMBERSHIP (BEV GOERING, written report):

There are 779 memberships and 1,101 members. Memberships have decreased by 72 and members have decreased by 89.

LONG RANGE PLANNING (DICK SUNDESTROM, written report):

Continuing our efforts to develop a Long Range Plan for CAS, we emailed all committee chairpersons in mid-August. We requested each of them to work with their members to develop a first draft of a long range plan for their committee, then for the chairpersons to return their long range plan to us for inclusion in a first draft of the CAS Long Range Plan. The target date for returning each committee’s plan is the January 2017 Quarterly Board Meeting. In the interim, we plan to assemble any of the long range plans we receive from the committees to begin constructing a first draft of a comprehensive Long Range Plan.
QUARTERLY BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS CONTINUED

NEW BUSINESS:

2017 Quarterly Board meetings. The schedule for 2017 CAS meetings will be as follows: January-Colorado Springs, April-Salida, July-Dolores, and October-Denver. Specific dates to be determined.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:51 p.m.

Kris Holien

ANNUAL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS
GRAND JUNCTION, COLORADO
October 8, 2016

The 81st Annual Meeting of the Colorado Archaeological Society was called to order by President Karen Kinnear at 4:30 p.m. A quorum was established with 67 members counted in attendance.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY (TOM HOFF, written report):

2016 has been a year of change for our organization. We continue to increase our presence in social media with a growing following on Facebook. The Board approved a software purchase to facilitate the membership option of using online membership renewal. I would like to express my appreciation to the dedicated people that serve on our Boards of Directors at the State and Chapter levels. It is because of their work that CAS remains one of the longest lasting archaeological societies in the United States, and along with SAA, one of the two Societies that have continuously published journals since 1935.

PRESIDENT (Karen Kinnear, written report):

We have been developing good working relationships with CCPA and History Colorado. We have had discussions with Colorado Parks and Wildlife to develop a site stewardship program. In 2017, we will be implementing a long-range plan, putting together policy and procedures guidelines, working with History Colorado on the Site Stewardship and Curatorial Assistant tracks for PAAC classes, and for implementing a statewide stewardship program.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

ALICE HAMILTON SCHOLARSHIP (PHIL WILLIAMS/TERRI HOFF):

The 2016 Alice Hamilton raffle winner was Warren Nolan (Pueblo). Raffle ticket sales totaled $1612, Silent Auction sales totaled $3668, and CAS merchandise sales were $120. Adding $376 in cash donations made the grand total $5776 raised for the Alice Hamilton Scholarship Fund!

SCIENCE/ADVISORY BOARD (DAVE MELANSON, written report):

The Committee is working on three initiatives to provide additional capabilities to promote and facilitate CAS member participation in archaeological research and preservation — an activity reporting process and product improvement study; an on-line repository of research and preservation guides, best practices, lessons learned, and communications; and a photogrammetric site and artifact recording and archiving pilot project. We also drafted a charter that defines our responsibilities and work scope with emphasis on supporting CAS research and preservation activities, encouraging project collaboration among chapters, and sharing information useful to our membership and to the State Archaeologist.

COMMUNITY OUTREACH & EDUCATION (AARON THEIS, written report):

The immediate goals of the committee are to: 1. Establish a simple way to capture speaker information in order to create a master list accessible by a secure website that will facilitate acquisition of qualified speakers for CAS activities. 2. Inventory existing educational materials. 3. Encourage the use of what appears to be an underutilized education grant program.
ANNUAL MEETING HIGHLIGHTS CONTINUED

PAAC (CHRIS JOHNSTON, written report):

Eleven PAAC classes have been completed in 2016, with one in progress and three more slated for later this fall and winter. Average attendance for these classes was 18. Total enrollment to date is 218.

The PAAC summer training survey occurred August 22-26 at Lory State Park west of Fort Collins. The survey covered approximately 130 acres and documented 12 previously unrecorded cultural resources. These resources consisted entirely of historic sites and isolated finds/features, with the exception of one quartzite biface documented at a historic trash scatter. Nine PAAC certificates were awarded in 2016. In January, Joan Prebish (Indian Peaks) earned the Laboratory Training Certificate; in April Karen Kinneal (Indian Peaks), Anne Robinson (Indian Peaks), and Jerry LaVelle (Pikes Peak) all earned the Scholar Certificate; in July Stephanie Boktor (OAHP) earned the Provisional Surveyor certificate, and Beth Parisi (San Juan Basin), Rae Todd (Northern Colorado), and Brian Meinhart (Grand Junction, formerly with the Denver chapter) all earned the Scholar Certificate. One new certificate was awarded to Rae Todd, who earned her Certified Surveyor I certificate. I will begin making some changes to PAAC such as developing a few new tracks for PAAC. In particular, I want to implement a state-wide Site Stewardship training program in coordination with Colorado Parks and Wildlife and other agencies. The other track I want to work on is a Curatorial Assistant, with a real focus on curation methods and best practices to help facilities across the state manage their collections.

STATE ARCHAEOLOGIST (HOLLY NORTON, written report):

On June 15th Steve Turner was named Executive Director of History Colorado. In addition to State Archaeologist and DSHPO, I am also now the Director of OAHP. We are thrilled to have Chris Johnston join our team as the new Assistant State Archaeologist. Todd McMahon led the 2016 “curation summit” at the Museum of the West in Grand Junction September 23-24. We are beginning to gather comment on proposed rules changes for local repositories holding state-owned collections. The National Register staff, headed by Astrid Liverman, has forwarded several nominations of archaeological properties to the Keeper this year. El Pueblo is progressing! Diane Rhodes has been spearheading the effort to catalogue, and now re-house, all of Bill Buckles notes, maps, and photographs of the site. I will hold a lab class to re-catalogue and re-house the previously excavated materials this spring. In addition, I am planning to re-activate the site and open excavations in the summer of 2017.

HISTORY COLORADO / CAS REP (PETER FARIS, written report):

At the January 12 meeting of the Archaeology and Historic Preservation Committee (AHPC), the amount of $585,162 in grants was appropriated for archaeology projects at the following properties: Lowry Ruin-Pueblo, Chimney Rock National Monument, Ute Mountain Tribal Park, Camp Amache, and Haynie Site. Another grant round in July was conducted under the new system of having archaeologists do the preliminary grant reading and evaluation for archaeological applications. At this meeting AHPC awarded $117,176 for the study of Ute Trails of the Southern Uncompahgre Plateau. The agreement between CAS and the AHPC of History Colorado will expire on July 31, 2017, and must be renewed before that date.

AWARDS (MARK OWENS):

Laurie and Terry Lee (Pikes Peak) were honored with the Ivol Hagar Award at the CAS Annual Meeting banquet. The following Chapter Achievement Awards were also presented at the banquet: Carla Hendrickson (Pueblo), Ike Rakiecki (Grand Junction), and Allison and Chris Kerns (Indian Peaks).

LONG RANGE PLANNING (DICK SUNDSTROM, written report):

We have enlisted the involvement of all committees in developing a Long Range Plan. We have proposed that the Plan be based on the Purposes and Objectives stated in Article I of our Articles and Bylaws.

NEW BUSINESS:

Election of 2017 Officers: A partial slate of nominations was presented by Tom Hoff: President – Karen Kinneal (Indian Peaks), Vice President – Bob Rushforth (Denver), Treasurer - Preston Niesen (Denver), and Recording Secretary - vacant. No nominations were made from the floor. Slate was approved by acclamation. Executive Board will make an appointment for the Recording Secretary position.
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was approved by acclamation. Executive Board will make an appointment for the Recording Secretary position.

Executive Secretary Tom Hoff thanked Kris Holien and Larry Evans for their years of service to CAS as Recording Secretary
and Publications Chair, respectively. President Karen Kinnear thanked the Grand Junction Chapter for hosting the 2016
CAS Annual Meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:21 p.m.

Tepe Yunatsite and the World’s Oldest Gold
By
Cashel McGloin (Denver Chapter)

While on a dig in Central Bulgaria, I had the option to visit another site also run by the Balkan Heritage Foundation, Tepe
Yunatsite. The Tepe (meaning hill in Bulgarian) or tell, is one of the oldest cities in Europe and the oldest known layers are
approximately 5,000 BP. It was once the fortified center of a large city and several important finds have been uncovered,
including one just before I visited that was discovered by one of my colleagues on the dig.

The last day of the 2016 field season. The deeper portion on the left is the 1939 trench

At 40 feet tall, it is one of the largest tells in Europe. Yunatsite has an extensive history of use. Most recently, there was
a medieval cemetery, but beneath that there is a Roman fort, several Iron Age layers and 13 known chalcolithic layers.
There may be Neolithic layers beneath, but the excavators have yet to reach that level to find out. Half the tell remains
intact for future studies.
The first excavation was in 1939 and was a trench that reached down to the middle Chalcolithic layers. Starting in 1976, excavators have slowly started to lower the rest of that half of the tell to the same layer as the 1939, while more slowly digging down within that layer. In addition, there is a pit feature currently being excavated. It is not clear yet why the pit was created, but it is at least 20 feet deep. The pit became an impromptu midden and countless artifacts have washed in. There were also several skeletons, likely from a Chalcolithic burial that eroded and washed in quite some time ago.

During the Copper Age, the site was not only elevated, but also had solid fortifications. These came in the form of a huge ditch encircling the site. The dirt removed from the ditch was used to create a rammed earth wall, 15 feet wide at the base and 6 feet tall. Later, a second wall was built inside the first, indicating an increased need for protection. The amount of time and effort it would have taken to encircle Yunatsite which has a diameter of 360 feet is massive, indicating that warfare with other groups was primary concern. The lowest level known is from the Maritsa I culture while the last Copper age settlement seems to be a mix of at least 5 cultures, perhaps indicating they were refugees relocating to the fort for safety.

During the Chalcolithic Period, the site would have been at roughly the same level as the surrounding countryside. After it was abandoned, much later settlers leveled the debris within the fortified walls, creating a raised site.

At the deepest part of the main site, they are currently at the 5th level of the Chalcolithic settlements, which was approximately 4,500-4,600 years ago. At that time, the site was mostly huts built out of closely set poles covered in wattle and daub. Despite the simple housing, the society was rich and complex for the period.

In this field season, students discovered several bone and rock idols interpreted to be fertility figures. There were also small clay birds, but no figures of males yet found for the period.

The most important find came on the last day of the season. All soil was sent to a jerry-rigged flotation chamber. Nanding Chen, who found several of the bone idols, had the normally thankless task of doing the flotation that day. During the search, she found a single gold bead. Given the layer, this bead almost certainly represents the oldest gold artifact ever discovered. Tests are currently underway to confirm this little piece of history is at least 200 years older than the Varna Treasure, previously the oldest known gold artifacts.
Religious idols of females. The center one is stone, the side ones are bone.

The oldest gold artifact ever discovered. The bead is smaller than a fingernail.
UPCOMING MEETINGS

January 2017 (Date TBD) - Colorado Springs, Pikes Peak Chapter Hosting
April 15, 2017 - Salida Community Center, Salida, CAS Hosting
July 15, 2017 - Anasazi Heritage Center, Dolores, Hisatsinom Chapter Hosting
October 2017 (Date TBD) - History Colorado, Denver, Denver Chapter Hosting

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