At this year’s annual meeting, Terri and Tom Hoff were presented the 2022 Ivol K. Hagar Award. This award is named for widely recognized avocational archaeologist and long-time CAS member Ivol Hagar and is presented to those people who have made outstanding long-term contributions to CAS.

CAS recognizes Terri and Tom Hoff for their invaluable contributions to CAS at both the state and chapter levels, as well as to the archaeology of Colorado. They became involved with the Denver Chapter in the mid-1990s, serving various chapter board positions. They then became deeply involved with state CAS in the early 2000s, including Terri’s roles as Recording Secretary (2000–2001), Alice Hamilton Scholarship Committee member and Chair (2004–present), and Website guru (2009–2010) and Tom’s roles as Publications Chair (2001–2002), President (2003–2004), and Executive Secretary (2006–2018).

Beyond their involvement as CAS officers, committee chairs, and committee members, they were seen as “cheerleaders, coaches, and advisers to other CAS officers and committees...and to willingly share their knowledge [of CAS history] with anyone who appeared at all interested in knowing more about CAS and its inner workings. They were able to bring people together in support of CAS, communicating their belief in the importance of CAS and their willingness to do whatever it took to support CAS and Colorado Archaeology” (Karen Kinnear, current CAS Executive Secretary).

Other accolades for Terri and Tom Hoff from professional and avocational archaeologists alike, emphasizing their contributions to CAS and to Colorado archaeology in general, follow:

“They rooted our organization—kindly sharing their expertise, perspective, and good humor while providing continuity and strength when it came to running the annual and quarterly meetings, the Alice Hamilton scholarship fundraiser, and Southwestern Lore.” (Dr. Jason LaBelle, Past President)

The Hoffs brought a “sincere dedication to CAS business with a constructive, supportive, and efficient approach...their assured, supportive and dependable presence set a friendly and productive tone for CAS meetings and activities.” (Joel Hurmence, Past President)

Tom and Terri “have been a great team for CAS’s benefit, and a major force in pursuing the continued and growing success of CAS, both as a meaningful organization and as an impactful contributor to the State of Colorado.” (Linda Seyfert, Past President)
Terri and Tom understood the importance of developing relationships, and “the Hoffs’ participation in CCPA has been an invaluable effort to reach across the two organizations and create lasting relationships that allow for better shared stewardship of our cultural resources.” (Dr. Holly Norton, Colorado State Archaeologist)

“Tom and Terri’s key efforts lie in their prodigious contributions in outreach and in assisting research by volunteering their efforts on archaeological projects, notably with Bruce Bradley in the Four Corners and in France, with Kevin Black on PAAC training and projects, and with Dennis (Dr. Stanford) and I...” (Dr. Pegi Jodry, Smithsonian Institution)

The Hoffs excavated for many years at Champagne Spring and Mitchell Springs Ruins with Dave Dove, as well as at Sticks and Leaves and Wallace Ruins with Drs. Bruce and Cindy Bradley. Their abilities were impressive. As Bruce explains: “They have contributed many, many hours of volunteer effort to the Wallace Ruin Project, in both the field and the lab. Owing to their excavation abilities, and for their absolute reliability to record such evidence, in keeping with the project’s protocols, they earned the right to work at Wallace Ruin on their own.” (Dr. Bruce Bradley, site owner and Principal Investigator)

Equally impressed, Cindy noted that the Bradleys’ trust in the Hoffs was “a singular circumstance in more than 50 years of research at this Chacoan great house. Terri has mastered the art of detecting even the most nebulous floor surface, which is matched by her interest in training other volunteers with kindness, patience and good humor! Tom’s background in skeletal anatomy and photography was particularly helpful with the documentation of the human skeletal remains from Wallace Ruin. Tom and Terri Hoff have long epitomized the highest standards in avocational archaeology, together as a team and as individuals.” (Dr. Cindy Bradley, site owner)

Ultimately, the Hoffs became lead excavators at all of these sites and had a huge influence on crew training, as well as site interpretation. Their “participation and influence in these excavation activities reached many others across Colorado, helping them to understand Colorado prehistory and history.” (Karen Kinnear)

“Working closely with them was a tremendous learning experience for excavation techniques, identification of artifacts and pottery.” (Kris Holien, Past CAS Vice President and dig buddy)

“Tom and Terri provided their own important contributions to research including participating in laboratory and field projects that have helped all citizens of Colorado better understand our dynamic prehistory and history, as well as presenting that research not only at CAS meetings, but at CCPA annual meetings.” (Dr. Holly Norton)
These testimonials represent only an abbreviated list of the Hoff’s many contributions to the Colorado Archaeological Society, CAS membership, and the archaeology of Colorado. Because the Hoff “have gone above and beyond in their support for CAS and for Colorado archaeology [and because] their support for and belief in the importance of CAS and Colorado archaeology has never wavered” 16 Figure 1. Terri Hoff at Mitchell Springs, Montezuma County, Colorado. Figure 2. Tom Hoff at Wallace Ruin, Montezuma County, Colorado. 17 (Karen Kinnear), the Awards Committee and the membership of CAS wish to acknowledge the Hoff’s legacy with the Ivon K. Hagar Award for 2022.

Here are Terri Hoff’s words of acceptance delivered at the awards ceremony: “CAS has given Tom and me inspiration, many dear friendships, great learning experiences, exciting adventure and a commitment to a very worthy cause. It has been our deepest pleasure to serve. We are so very honored. Tom would have been so thrilled to have been here to accept this award with me. Unfortunately, Tom is now elsewhere. Not to worry, he is ready and waiting for the rest of us to join him, whiskey and trowel in hand, at that cosmic Great Kiva in the Sky!”