



CAS ANNUAL CONFERENCE 2018 – September 21-23

Cortez, Colorado

Friday, September 21

Field trip to Ute Mountain Tribal Park

Saturday, September 22

Our conference and banquet offer a variety of topics of interest to professional and avocational archaeologists and students

Conference Speakers (sample)

Dr. Mark Stiger, Western State Colorado University, on the Mountaineer Site

Dr. Lynda McNeil, Arizona State University, on evidence of historical relationships among Western Basketmaker, Fremont, and Hopi Peoples

Dr. Mark Varien, Shanna Diederichs, Dr. Susan Ryan, Grant Coffey, and Kristen Kuckelman on selected current research through time in Montezuma County

William Tsosie Jr., Tribal Archaeologist, Navajo Nation Heritage and Historic Preservation Office

Alice Hamilton Scholarship student Andrew Bair Geophysical Survey – County Roscommon, Ireland

Banquet Speaker

Regina Lopez-Whiteskunk on Indigenous Living Knowledge
(see attached description)

Sunday, September 23

Field trips – we have field trips to the Ute Mountain Tribal Park, Mitchell Springs, Square Tower House in Mesa Verde National Park, and the Haynie Site (see attached descriptions)

2018 CAS Annual Meeting Event Descriptions

CAS Quarterly Board Meeting

Friday, September 21, 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.
Shiloh Steakhouse, 5 South Veach St., Cortez, CO 81321

Conference

Saturday, September 22
Location: Cortez Elks Lodge, 2100 N Dolores Rd, Cortez, CO 81321; free parking
Registration opens at 8:00 a.m., Conference, 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Coffee, tea, fruit, bagels available

CAS Annual Membership Meeting

Saturday, September 22
Location: Cortez Elks Lodge, 2100 N Dolores Rd, Cortez, CO 81321; free parking
4:00 – 5:00 p.m.

Banquet

Saturday, September 22
Location: Cortez Elks Lodge, 2100 N Dolores Rd, Cortez, CO 81321; free parking
Happy hour/Cash bar: 5:30 p.m.
Dinner served 6:30 p.m.
Banquet - Speaker: Regina Lopez-Whiteskunk, beginning at 7:30 p.m.
Topic: Indigenous Living Knowledge

2018 CAS Annual Meeting Banquet

Indigenous Living Knowledge Regina Lopez-Whiteskunk



The archaeological sites in the Four Corners area provide a sense of wonder and mystery to non-Natives. But for the descendants of those who built and inhabited these sites, they provide a direct connection to their history and the teachings of the ancestors. Indigenous oral history preserves tribal culture and provides a window to the people's understandings of their role in the world - where they come from, where they have been and what motivates them. These are questions archaeologists ponder when looking at material remains. Understanding surviving non-colonial cultures and how they relate to the land and each other help us see archaeological sites and history as a living history.

This presentation will include stories shared from Ute traditions, custom and culture and historical living knowledge from the territory shared by grandparents. Lopez-Whiteskunk will emphasize what living indigenous knowledge means to her as a Ute woman and her duty as female, mother and grandmother including sharing with my family and people.

Background: Regina Lopez-Whiteskunk was born and raised in southwestern Colorado and is a member of the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe of Towaoc, Colorado. At an early age has advocated for land, air, water and animals. She has spent ten years in the Information Technology field working for Chief Dull Knife College, the Southern Ute Indian and Ute Mountain Ute Indian Tribes of Colorado. Lopez-Whiteskunk has traveled extensively throughout the country presenting and sharing the Ute culture through song, dance and presentations. In October of 2013 she was elected to serve as a member of the Ute Mountain Ute Tribal leadership. Lopez-Whiteskunk is a former Co-Chair for the Bears Ears Intertribal Coalition. She strongly believes that the inner core of healing comes from the knowledge of our land and elders. Formerly, the Education Director for the Ute Indian Museum in Montrose, Colorado, she is honored to continue to protect, preserve and serve through education creating a better understanding of our resources and culture. A great foundation for a better tomorrow.

CAS Annual Conference Field Trips

To sign up for field trip(s), please send an email to casannualmeeting2018@gmail.com and include your name(s) and the field trip(s) you are interested in. You can attend the Friday field trip and one of the Sunday field trips. For Sunday field trips, please indicate your #1 and #2 choices, so if one is full by the time you register, we can hopefully include you as a participant in your second choice. **Registration for field trips will open on August 1.**

Friday, September 21, 2018

Ute Mountain Tribal Park

Virginia Wolf, who has worked for many years with the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe, will lead this trip into Mancos Canyon. We will visit several sites that feature unexcavated ruins and petroglyphs. Travel will be over a smooth dirt road. Participants should bring snacks and water. Short walks lead to some of the sites so wear sturdy shoes. Limited to 20 participants. The trip will start at 4:30 PM and end at approximately 7:30 PM. Participants will receive directions to the site.

Cost: The tribe charges \$20 cash for this tour. Credit cards are NOT accepted. Please be prepared to pay at the Tribal Park Visitor Center just before the field trip begins.

Sunday, September 23, 2018

1. Ute Mountain Tribal Park

Virginia Wolf, who has worked for many years with the Ute Mountain Ute Tribe, will lead this trip into Mancos Canyon. We will visit several sites not seen on the Friday field trip that feature unexcavated ruins and petroglyphs. Travel will be over a smooth dirt road. Participants should bring snacks and water. Short walks lead to some of the sites so wear sturdy shoes. Limited to 15 participants. The trip will start at 9:00 AM and end at approximately 1:00 PM.

Cost: The tribe charges \$29 cash for this half-day tour. Credit cards are NOT accepted. Please be prepared to pay at the Tribal Park Visitor Center just before the field trip begins.

2. Square Tower House, Mesa Verde National Park

Square Tower House, a cliff dwelling site in Mesa Verde, has many unique features, including a kiva with an intact roof, a four-story tower structure, and a crow's nest – a group of four isolated rooms that were built high up in a corner of the cliff face.

This is a short but strenuous (2 hours, 1 mile RT) hike, going along an unpaved, uneven trail and includes climbing 3 ladders and scrambling up and down boulders (assisted by ropes in some places).

The trip will be led by Archaeologist Kay Barnett of the Park's Research and Resource Management division and is limited to 10 people. The hike will start at 8:30 AM and will conclude between 10:30 and 11:00 AM. Participants will receive directions to the site.

Cost – only cost will be the entrance fee to Mesa Verde National Park.

3. Haynie Site

In 2017, Crow Canyon archaeologists launched a new multiyear project, the Northern Chaco Outliers Project. The focus of the project is the Haynie site, an important ancestral Pueblo village containing two Chaco-period (A.D. 1050-1140) great houses and numerous small houses. Participants will see significant portions of above-ground structures during the tour. Two other nearby great houses on private land make this one of the densest concentrations of great houses found north of Aztec Ruins.

The tour will be led by Susan Ryan, Director of Archaeology, Stuart Struever Chair in Research, Crow Canyon Archaeological Center. It will start at 9:00 AM and be completed by 10:45 AM depending on questions. It is limited to 25 people. Participants will receive directions to the site.

Cost: No cost.

4. Mitchell Springs

The Mitchell Springs community is sprawled along McElmo Creek just south of Cortez, Colorado. It was occupied from AD 650-1240 and consists of a very large Pueblo I town of at least eleven long arc-shaped room blocks. In a 1.5 km radius around the site core, population levels probably exceeded 1,000 people. Later, multiple great houses, a great kiva, prehistoric roads, a tower kiva, a rare tri-wall structure, court kiva, and other publicly constructed features and buildings were built.

This short tour will visit open excavations in and around a 2-story great house and tri-wall building. The ruins are approximately 200 yards from the parking lot. The tour will be led by Dave Dove and will begin at 9:30 AM and last approximately 1 hour depending on questions. It is limited to 20 people. Participants will receive directions to the site.

Cost: No cost.