PRESIDENT'S CORNER

by Susan M. Collins

As archaeologists, we deplore the information loss that occurs when sites are looted. As human beings, we may or may not be sensitive to the feelings of outrage engendered by site desecration. Several recent articles pertain to this emotionally charged subject.

The New York Times Magazine has published an article that deals largely with the economics of the black market in Native American ceremonial items and illicitly excavated archaeological specimens [1]. The enterprise is lucrative and stratified, with thieves/diggers at the bottom and gallery owners/art specialists near the top. Consumers may be American, West German, or Japanese private individuals with a taste for arcane status symbols -- including, at present, Basketmaker children encased in acrylic blocks, God forbid. Alternatively, the end consumer may be an American museum, courtesy of our tax system's allowance for charitable contributions. There are those who pay X dollars for an item, donate it to a museum, and then claim 3X dollars as a charitable write-off. The IRS has figured this out and has begun to prosecute "expert" appraisers and to infiltrate the market. Go get 'em!

As you know, Chimney Rock, Colorado was the scene of illegal digging in March, 1983. Frank Eddy and Carol O'Sullivan have published an article outlining this and other threats to the archaeological resources at Chimney Rock [2]. Archaeological visitation and peregrine falcons have been able to coexist, and coal strip mining has been regulated, but looters made inroads, pothunting and excavating skeletons. Despite prosecution and conviction of the perpetrators, Eddy and O'Sullivan wax bitter over the Forest Service's management efforts: "...a watchful eye is required when bureaucrats unfavorably interpret well-intentioned legislation enacted by Congress" (Eddy and O'Sullivan 1986:52).

The issue that galls is that the illegally excavated skeletons were reburied, at Native American request, without anthropological study. Eddy and O'Sullivan see no legal basis for this action, and cite a barrage of legislation as supportive of scientific study. Yet, the Archaeological Resources Protection Act explicitly refers to Native American religious interests: "...rules and regulations may be promulgated only after consideration of the provisions of the American Indian Religious Freedom Act" (Public Law 96-95, Section 10).

The American Indian Religious Freedom Act goes beyond protection of ritual objects, to safeguard conditions which allow the practice of American Indian religion. Who is to define these conditions?

Last but not least, the Society for American Archaeology has issued its statement on reburial [3]. Since the issue is complex, so is the statement, and I recommend that you read it. Essentially, however, "...the Society opposes any Federal legislation that seeks to impose a uniform standard for determining the disposition of all human remains" (Fowler 1986:215). There are no simple answers coming from the national level.

In this final column, I thank you for a quiet year, and look forward to seeing you at the annual meeting. Best wishes to Marcia Tate and the other incoming officers.

1987 CCPA ANNUAL MEETING

The Ninth Annual Meeting of the Colorado Council of Professional Archaeologists will be held March 6 and 7, 1987 at Fort Lewis College in Durango, Colorado.

LAST CALL FOR PAPERS

There are still a few time slots for volunteered papers. These may fall into two categories: (1) research papers on lithic procurement sites in Colorado, for a symposium to be held Friday afternoon; or (2) any topic pertaining to archaeology within the state of Colorado and/or adjacent states, for the Saturday afternoon session. See the attached pages for additional information.

EDITORIAL

If you missed the recent meetings of the Society for Historic Archaeology, maybe it was because you didn’t know about them, and maybe this was because you neglected to pay your dues. (A gentle reminder to pay your CCPA dues.) Sometimes we do tend to forget that there is such a thing as historic archaeology and that it is just as important as prehistoric archaeology. It is easy enough to overlook the importance of historic sites and artifacts in our justifiable concern for the rapid disappearance of prehistoric sites and artifacts, and this does not necessarily imply that we are not cognizant of our responsibility to preserve and record history. But, given the pressures of trying to save as much as we can when we know we can’t save it all, the ever-present budgetary restraints, pressures from clients, and the sheer scope of our work, maybe we sometimes too easily come to regard historic materials as of secondary concern. It may be well, therefore, to occasionally reemphasize “history,” in its broadest definition, as an important aspect of the business of archaeology. Granted, American archaeology has traditionally been more closely aligned academically with anthropology than with history, but anthropology (and archaeology) are surely useful tools for getting at an explanation of history, and “explaining the past” need not be limited only to explaining the prehistoric past. Broken pottery sherds and broken bottles, stone axes and railroad spikes—their importance and contribution to our understanding of history should not be underestimated. But it is not always easy to convince managers or clients that the broken residue of recent times can be as informative and exciting as the most ancient stone tools, but this is part of our job. Let’s not forget it.

As some of you might have guessed by now, I worry a lot about words. This causes me a lot of problems as an employee of the federal government. This is particularly true where it involves my own profession. For the U.S. Government has decided that the correct spelling is “archeology” while just about everybody else in the world spells it “archaeology”. I suppose some minor bureaucrat achieved a measure of fame by figuring out how much paper could be saved by dropping out the second “a”, but it has about driven me crazy. As a result of trying to do both governmental and non-governmental work, I have begun to show definite symptoms of schizophreria. Sometimes I’m an “archeologist” and other times I’m an “archaeologist”, and I’m always afraid I’m going to be the wrong one at the wrong time. I just wish to hell the government would stop worrying about what language to declare to be “official” for the country, and concentrate on shaping up the one it is using. “Archaeology” is the correct spelling for most of the English-speaking world; even the English spell it that way! Whatever we are saving in paper really cannot equal what we are losing in mental health.

As Thak worked frantically to start a fire, a Cro-Magnon man, walking erect, approached the table and simply gave Theena a light.
MEMBERSHIP UPDATE

Please note the following:

New Membership
Janis L. Dial
2939 Sewell
Lincoln, Nebraska 68502

Change of Address
Patricia McCoy
3428 Cove View #115
Galveston, Texas 77551

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Job Opportunity

The Commonwealth of Virginia (presumably the same as the state of Virginia) is looking for a State Archaeologist. If you have an advanced degree in archaeology or arthropology (sic), field experience in archaeology, and experience in archaeology program management, and in-depth knowledge of Virginia archaeology, as well as ability to formulate programs, to think both conceptually and analytically and to deal effectively with clients, you might wish to apply. Salary: $26,160 - 35,740.

To apply or to obtain more information, contact:

Mr. H. Bryan Mitchell, Director
Division of Historic Landmarks
Department of Conservation and Historic Resources
221 Governor Street
Richmond, Virginia 23219

EVENTS AT COLORADO STATE HISTORY MUSEUM

Anasazi World is the title of an exhibition of photographs, graphics, and text documenting over 100 centuries of Indian cultural history of the American Southwest, supplemented by over ninety original artifacts from the collections of the Colorado Historical Society and other area museums. The exhibition, which opened January 21, 1987, and which will be on view through March 29, 1987, is touring the country under the auspices of the Smithsonian Institution Traveling Exhibition Services. Guided tours are available for prearranged groups. For more information about the exhibition or to arrange for tours, contact the Colorado State History Museum at 866-3682. The museum is located at 13th and Broadway, Denver, CO.

Flintknapping Demonstration. Also at the Colorado State History Museum, Dr. Bruce Bradley, associate director of research at the Crow Canyon Archaeological Center in Cortez, will present "The Art of Flintknapping: A Live Demonstration", Wednesday, February 18, 1987, at 7:30 p.m. at the Museum. The demonstration is being presented in conjunction with the Anasazi World exhibition. It is free to members of the Colorado Historical Society and to members of the Colorado Archaeological Society, but non-members will be charged $3.50. Reservations are required. Call 866-3682 for reservations and information.

NATIONAL TRUST CONFERENCE

The National Trust for Historic Preservation is sponsoring a training conference, "Revitalizing Downtown: Creating Economic Opportunity on Main Street", in Tempe, Ariz. March 25-27, 1987 and in Indianapolis, Ind. April 28-30, 1987. The focus of this conference will be on "sharpening the development skills of community leaders, city and chamber officials, downtown program directors, property owners, potential investors and developers, business professionals and others concerned with making a greater impact on their communities through collective and individual efforts." If you qualify as any of the above, and can afford the $270 registration fee, you might want to contact:

National Main Street Center
National Trust for Historic Preservation
1785 Massachusetts Ave, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036

VOTE VOTE VOTE

Please note the ballot attached to this newsletter for the election of officers to CCPA for 1987. If you don't vote, you can't complain about what they do, so vote for your choice of candidates. If you don't like anybody, at least vote "no"! But vote!

ACCOMODATIONS IN DURANGO

As announced, the historic Strater Hotel in Durango has made a special rate available to participants in the CCPA Annual Meeting. This is a pretty good deal, but there are other choices if you do not wish to stay at the Strater. North Main St. has a large number of motels and restaurants, mainly north of the fairgrounds. There are a couple of motels near the train depot, and several nice ones west of the river on HW 160. Some of the motels have winter rates which may help if you are on a tight budget.

There are a number of nice restaurants and watering holes in the downtown area, mainly along Main St. from the train depot north to about the 1000 block; there are also some fast food emporiums there and in the north Main St. motel area. You can live it up or cut your costs if you shop around. Ask some of the local CCPA members for tips on where to go for what you want. Use the map attached to this newsletter to help find your way.

CCPA NEWSLETTER

Published quarterly by the Colorado Council of Professional Archaeologists. Editor: Jack E. Smith, P.O. Box 84, Mesa Verde National Park, Colorado 81330.
CALL FOR PAPERS

COLORADO COUNCIL OF PROFESSIONAL ARCHAEOLOGIST'S ANNUAL MEETING
MARCH 6 AND 7, 1987, DURANGO, COLORADO

CCPA SYMPOSIUM
"LITHIC PROCUREMENT SITES IN COLORADO"

Papers should address, at a minimum, the following five topics:

(1) Legal location;
(2) Geological formation or aspect of the deposit(s);
(3) Type of deposit, whether primary (in situ), or secondary (outwash, glacial, colluvial, etc.);
(4) Type of material (chert, chalcedony, basalt, quartzite, etc.);
(5) Future research questions, designs, problems or opportunities.

Additional suggestions for topics are:

(1) Distributional patterns of the material, either cultural or geological;
(2) Material correlation with artifact type, function, technology;
(3) Physical/descriptive manifestations (color, hardness, luster, alterations, chemical constituents, etc.);
(4) Procurement strategies;
(5) Terminology;
(6) Changes in procurement strategies, material usage, distributional patterns, etc., through time.

Participants and attendees are encouraged to bring material samples which are known to occur in Colorado. The thrust of the symposium is to share knowledge of lithic procurement areas and to demonstrate their importance to research, site determinates, and to establish an exhibit of the range of materials exploited. An immediate goal of this symposium is to combine the data presented for publication and/or presentation at a regional or national meeting.

Two hours have been blocked for the symposium, with more time available if warranted. Please submit abstracts by March 2 to Bob Nykamp, P.O. Box 775251, Steamboat Springs, CO., 80477-5251.
ANNUAL MEETING INFORMATION

DATES AND LOCATION

The Ninth Annual Meeting of the Colorado Council of Professional Archaeologists will be held March 6 and 7, 1987 at Fort Lewis College in Durango, Colorado. Sessions will be held in the Kiva Room, located in the Administration Building. Professor Susan Riches is coordinating the local arrangements; her office telephone number is (303)259-5480.

PAPERS

There are still a few time slots for volunteered papers. Papers are being solicited from all members and their associates. Papers may fall into two categories: (1) research papers on lithic procurement sites in Colorado, for a symposium to be held Friday afternoon; or (2) any topic pertaining to archaeology within the state of Colorado and/or adjacent states, for the Saturday afternoon session.

Abstracts for lithic papers should be sent to Bob Nykamp, P.O. Box 775251, Steamboat Springs, Colorado 80477-5251 (phone 303/879-5159). Abstracts for papers on other topics should be sent to Susan Collins, P.O. Box 84, Mesa Verde National Park, Colorado 81330 (phone 303/529-4471).

Papers should run no longer than 15 minutes. Please indicate whether you will need AV equipment. Papers for which abstracts are submitted earliest have the best chance of being included on the program.

SPECIAL EVENTS

In addition to the Business Meeting and volunteered papers, various scheduled events include: a panel of agency archaeologists discussing their paraprofessional programs; an advocacy workshop conducted by Leslie Wildesen; a special tour of the as-yet-unopened Anasazi Heritage Center in Dolores; and socializing at the Diamond Belle Saloon in the Strater Hotel.

(1) SYMPOSIUM ON LITHIC PROCUREMENT SITES, organized by Bob Nykamp. Several speakers who know about lithic quarries in Colorado have been scheduled; additional papers are being requested. See the attached page.

(2) GOVERNMENT AGENCIES AND PARAPROFESSIONALS, Marcia Tate, Moderator. Government archaeologists will explain the need for paraprofessional programs and how these programs work. The following speakers are scheduled: Roberto Costales (Bureau of
Land Management), O.D. Hand (State of Colorado), Steve Sigstad
(U.S.D.A. Forest Service).

(3) ADVOCACY WORKSHOP, conducted by State Archaeologist Leslie
Wildesen. A one-hour lesson on how to make your opinions count.

(4) TOUR OF THE ANASAZI HERITAGE CENTER. This new museum,
housing artifacts from the Dolores Archaeology Program, is
scheduled to open in the Fall of 1987. We are offered an early
view, compliments of Director Sheilagh MacFarlane. Use your own
transportation to get to Dolores, an hour’s drive from Durango.

(5) SOCIAL HOUR(S) AT THE DIAMOND BELLE. If enough people
pre-register to stay at the Strater Hotel, the management may set
aside space for us to have our own cash bar function on Friday
evening. Otherwise, we will probably gather in the saloon
anyway.

PRELIMINARY SCHEDULE

FRIDAY, March 6
a.m. 9-11:00 General Business Meeting
   (Executive Committee during lunch)
p.m. 1-3:00 Symposium: Lithic Procurement Sites
   4:00 Tour of the Anasazi Heritage Center
   7:30 Socializing at the Diamond Belle saloon

SATURDAY, March 7
a.m. 9-11:00 Government and Paraprofessionals
   11-12:00 Advocacy Workshop
   p.m. 1:15-4:00 Contributed Papers

FEES

The meeting registration fee is $6.00, plus annual dues for
members (non-members need not join the organization in order to
attend the meeting, but they will be asked to pay the meeting
registration fee). Students may register for $2.00. A form for
advance registration is attached.

Treasurer Gail Firebaugh is seeking volunteers who would be
willing to work the registration desk for one half-day in
exchange for free registration. If you are interested, please
send her a note at P.O. Box 2127, Boulder, Colorado 80306, or
call her at 303/440-0855.
BALLOT
1987 CCPA ELECTION

Instructions: encircle the name, in each category, of the candidate for which you wish to vote. When you have finished marking the ballot, return it to:

Steve Sigstad, Chairman
Nominating Committee
#306
7101 West Yale Avenue
Denver, CO 80227

Sign the outside of the ballot return envelope. Ballots returned in unsigned envelopes will not be counted. Ballots must be received by the Nominating Committee by February 27, 1987.

President(elect):  
Michael Plontkowski
Alan Reed

Treasurer:  
Gail Firebaugh

Secretary:  
Priscilla Elwood
Gary Moore
Emerson Pearson

Newsletter Editor:  
Jack Smith

Executive Committee (vote for two):  
Deb Angulski
Jim Grady
Marilyn Martorano
Claudia Nissley
Bob Nykamp
Chris Zier
CCPA
1987 MEETING REGISTRATION
AND
DUES PAYMENT

To keep your CCPA membership up to date, 1987 dues are now payable. Please fill out this form and enclose it with your payment. In addition, use this form to register for the 1987 CCPA Annual Meeting to be held March 6 and 7, 1987, in Durango, Colorado. To ensure receipt of your registration fee prior to the meeting, please mail no later than February 26, 1987. Thanks!

Name: _______________________________
Address: ______________________________
                                               ______________________________
                                               ______________________________
Phone: _______________________________

1987 DUES
Voting Member: $10.00 AMOUNT $_______
Associate Member: $7.50 $_______

MEETING REGISTRATION
Regular Registration: $6.00 $_______
Student Registration: $2.00 $_______
TOTAL $_______

Please make checks payable to Colorado Council of Professional Archaeologists, and mail to: Gail S. Firebaugh
CCPA Treasurer
P.O. Box 2127
Boulder, Colorado 80306