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Friends:

*Arch File*

At our last CRAM Workshop of 28 October, 1977, we all discussed but did not act upon the formation of a group of "professional archaeologists." (My previously suggested name was the "Colorado Council of Professional Archaeologists.") I believe and insist that the time has come to act. After this 28 October meeting, and consultation and listening at length to various of your views, I am sponsoring (1) the formation of a "Colorado Archaeological Council" coincidentally with a Spring 1978 (2) forum for discussion of general topics (prior to this spring's CRM start-up, and the ongoing national and Colorado Archaeological activities and meetings).

In the enclosed material, I have suggested certain organizational roles and functions of CAC. Such a CAC must be the intent, the will, and the work of all, or almost all, Colorado Archaeologists. At some point, earlier or later, we may have to become a legally bound organization, recognized by state laws, with a constitution, etc. In so suggesting a possible structure, I intend to provide a point-of-departure and an interim model for all of us to envision even the informal CAC structure that must exist.

In the meantime--(1) with the mentality of friendship and of a forum, and (2) recognizing the need for structure (among ourselves and to face the many other agencies we will articulate with), let us meet and act and discuss.

I am holding this in Glenwood Springs (after extensive research of possibilities) which is both as easily accessible to everyone as possible and not identified with any agency or contractor. The essence of this first CAC meeting obviously and properly derives from CRM concerns. THEREFORE, I AM NOT ENCOURAGING CAMP FOLLOWERS, GOOD-TIMERS, OR EXCESS BAGGAGE. IT IS APPROPRIATE TO BRING YOUR STAFFS, not the "gophers," miscellaneous students, or colleagues in "related" fields. I very strongly encourage you to stay at our meeting hotel. We get very, very good rates, free meeting rooms, registration tables, etc. Additionally, I hope propinquity at a single hotel will encourage discourse and simplify logistics. The room rates are said by others to be quite reasonable considering the extras such as a spa.

Please note that I have formally planned for our needs (made so obvious at the last workshop) for (1) socializing and (2) roundtable open discussions. Thus I hope we will be able (1) to form a council, (2) discuss mutual concerns, and (3) socialize. I look forward to seeing you there.

Sincerely,

*Bruce*

Bruce E. Rippeteau  
State Archaeologist