

Mesa Verde Foundation

Stewards of an Ancient Treasure

FALL/WINTER NEWSLETTER

2017-18



LETTER FROM THE MESA VERDE NATIONAL PARK SUPERINTENDENT

Hello and good day!

We have just finished a busy season here at Mesa Verde.

Our visitation is up over 3% over last year, and that's on top of another 8% increase in 2016 over 2015. It appears American and foreign tourists are rediscovering their National Parks as places to discover and explore.



Planning never stops, despite the visitation. We have several projects in various stages of the planning process, and others nearing completion. Some projects may sound mundane in nature, but serve important functions, such as replacing sections of the pipeline that provides drinking water to the Park, or the construction of an additional restroom near the Chapin Mesa Museum. Others, like an accessibility plan or new exhibits for the Museum, are more visible and will provide enjoyment for future park visitors.

Providing more accessible opportunities for visitors with disabilities will lead to better experiences for us

all, and is an important goal for all national parks. We look forward to having a completed plan in about a year, and then to begin improvements in 2019 or 2020, depending on funding. Another project that will benefit visitors involves improvements to the Park orientation film. We will be installing a larger screen and high definition projector to make the film easier to see and hear. These improvements will make the open captioning much easier to read, providing a better experience for all of our guests. Finally, thank you for being a supporter of the Mesa Verde Foundation. Your passion for this extraordinary resource is appreciated by the staff and me. You've provided us with support over the years, and we look forward to working with you in the years ahead.

If you are interested in supporting projects and initiatives at Mesa Verde National Park, please contact Mesa Verde Foundation at info@mesaverdefoundation.org or call (303) 321-3120.

Cliff Spencer
Mesa Verde Superintendent

Navajo Weaving Benefit Sale and Auction

November 4, 2017, 9am-5pm, Denver Post Lobby, 101 W. Colfax, Denver

The 32nd Annual Navajo Rug Sale and Silent Auction, benefiting the University of Colorado Museum of Natural History, is sponsored by Toh-Atin Gallery of Durango and will feature over 150 Navajo weavings, old and new. At 1 pm, Jackson Clark, long-time MVF supporter, will talk about Navajo weaving, its history and the weavers who create this great American art.

During the day, free estimates on the repair and cleaning of your weavings will be given by Master Restorer Ben Leroux and free verbal evaluations of your weavings will be provided by Jackson Clark.

For further information on the auction or event, please call 970 247-8277 or visit www.toh-atin.com.



Lucy Simpson,
Two Grey Hills

JANET MCFARLAND-BURLILE NAMED NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Janet McFarland Burlile was appointed as the Executive Director of the Mesa Verde Foundation in April of this year. Janet is very excited to lead the Mesa Verde Foundation into its next chapter. Her plans include introducing

a broader membership program through a new Friends of Mesa Verde Foundation program, introducing new tours and events and focusing on providing important support back to Mesa Verde National Park.

Janet brings nearly 25 years of nonprofit leadership and fundraising experience from some of Colorado's top cultural institutions. She most recently served as the Vice President of Development and Membership at History Colorado and has held positions at the Denver Zoo, Denver Botanic Gardens, Denver Art Museum, and the Women of the West Museum.

Janet has a strong background in history, earning a B.A. in history and political science from Colorado College and an M.A. in American history from Arizona State University, where she paid for her degree by sewing costumes for theatrical productions.

Born in New Orleans, Janet grew up in Pueblo, Colorado where she graduated from East High School and worked for the Sangre de Cristo Arts and Conference Center after graduating from Colorado College. Janet enjoys spending her off time gardening, camping and hiking, sewing and spending time with her family. She now resides in the Denver area with her husband Cory, their daughter, Ruby, and a small menagerie of animals.

Year-end Funding Challenge

Two anonymous donors—a Colorado family foundation and a long-time Mesa Verde Foundation donor—have issued a challenge to our supporters to increase our year-end funding. Last year, the Mesa Verde Foundation raised over \$80,000 to close out 2016 from our very generous donors who responded to a similar challenge. In 2017, the Foundation has been challenged to increase its year-end giving campaign to once again receive an additional \$15,000 at year-end. Every gift received between now and December 31, 2017 will qualify for this challenge, including new Friends of Mesa Verde Foundation and renewing Fellows. Please consider making a year-end gift to help the Foundation meet this challenge and secure much needed funding! You can make a gift today by making a check out to the Mesa Verde Foundation, 6650 West 44th Avenue, Wheat Ridge, CO 80033, donating at mesaverdefoundation.org or calling 303-321-3120.

Mesa Verde Foundation Board of Directors

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Fifth Annual
RIMS TO RUINS
Art Exhibition and Sale

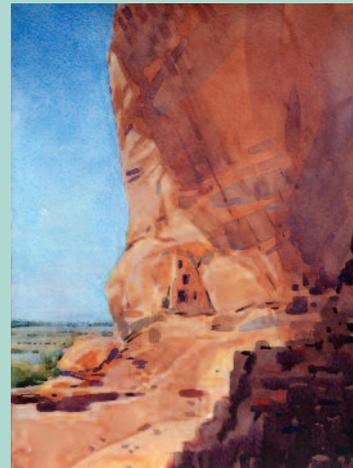
The Rims to Ruins Art Exhibition and Sale is the Mesa Verde Foundation's largest fundraiser, and this year it will once again be held at the Saks Gallery in Denver's Cherry Creek North, 3019 E. 2nd Avenue. The opening event will be held on November 3, 2017 and tickets are available for \$75 at www.mesaverdefoundation.org or by calling 303-321-3120. Guests will enjoy wine, beer, a signature cocktail and hors d'oeuvres while viewing original artwork by some of our country's finest Western and American artists. Original paintings, sculptures and etchings will be available for purchase. Drawing inspiration from Mesa Verde and the Colorado Plateau, artists include William Acheff, G. Russell Case, Walt Gonske, Walter Matia, Mian Situ, Jill Soukup, Dinah Worman and many more.



For the first time this year, artwork will be available for purchase online on the Foundation's website, mesaverdefoundation.org beginning on October 1. Sales will be on a first come first served basis so those interested in a particular artist may want to purchase early!

Artwork will be on view from November 3 to 18, 2017. All proceeds benefit the Mesa Verde Foundation and Mesa Verde National Park.

**Don't forget to
reserve your tickets today!
mesaverdefoundation.org
or by calling
(303) 321-3120**



Top right: Greg Kelsey,
She Hung the Moon
Middle left: Jill Soukup,
The Thinker
Bottom right: Spike Ress,
Long House Alcove



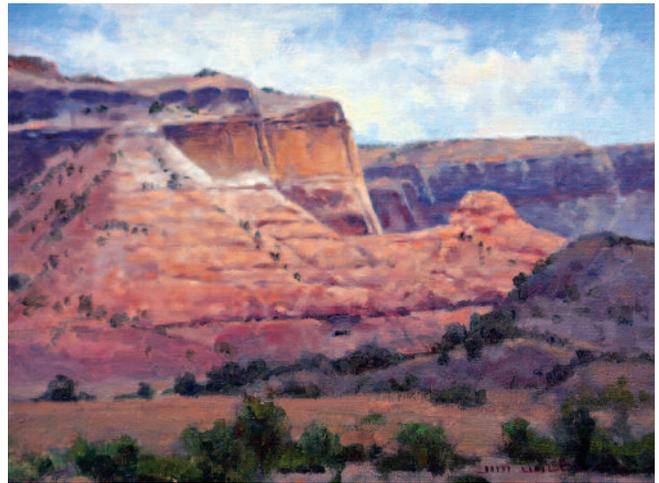
New Mesa Verde National Park Podcast Series

Mesa Verde Voices, a podcast series connecting the experiences of people from the past with the people of today, launched on September 1, 2017.

Mesa Verde National Park, Mesa Verde Museum Association, KSJD public radio and Mesa Verde Country Tourism Bureau collaborated to produce the pilot season. The first three podcasts are: *Revealed by Fire*, discussing how fire has revealed sophisticated water management practices used more than 800 years ago; *Corn=Life*, the critical importance of corn to survival and agricultural practices that evolved to fit well with the dry climate of the southwestern United States; and *Moving On*, humans everywhere, including the Ancestral Pueblo people, have always moved around the landscape driven by cultural, spiritual, and survival demands. “Water, fire, food, migration...these are all topics which people across the country and the world are grappling with,” explained Cally Carswell, KSJD’s *Mesa Verde Voices* producer.

“We want this podcast to both enrich the experience of visitors coming to visit the MVNP and other Pueblo sites in our region,” says Kristy Sholly, Chief of Interpretation at the Park, “and we hope that it sparks conversations across the country. This project represents the highest ideals of the National Park Service around education, inspiration, conservation, and action. And we’re really proud to be able to bring the relevance of ancient cultures forward to our challenges today.”

But the podcast isn’t just about the park, according to Kelly Kirkpatrick of the Mesa Verde Country Tourism Bureau, “Mesa Verde Voices highlights the experiences of people across a region and across cultures. The park and the Tribal Park on Mesa Verde were and are critically important, *and*, to really get a feel for the grand scope of the Ancestral Pueblo and Pueblo people today, this podcast series reaches out across the Four Corners, where most of the people live. I like to think of the culture living on Mesa



Jim Wilcox, *Layers*, artwork for sale at *Fifth Annual Rims to Ruins Exhibition and Sale*.

Verde as Manhattan—a center of culture in our Country today, but only a jumping off point as it relates to the story of our nation.”

After the three-episode pilot, work will begin on the second season. “We’ve worked hard with partners to drive this important work forward, says Teri Paul, Executive Director of the Mesa Verde Museum Association. “And we look forward to having others join us. In doing this work, it’s really interesting to learn how the people living in this region 1,000 years ago are similar in their actions and reactions to the way people are today.”

Funding has already been secured to produce five podcasts for the 2018 season thanks to the work of the partners in this project and the Ballantine Family Fund, Mesa Verde Museum Association, the members of KSJD. *Mesa Verde Voices* is a production of KSJD, whose mission is to inform, entertain, and empower the people of the Four Corners Region.

The podcast is available on iTunes or for download at mesaverdevoices.org. Because wireless service is limited past the entrance to the park, visitors are encouraged to download the podcasts in advance of their visit or at the new Visitor and Research Center, which has free Wi-Fi service and is located at the entrance to the park.

Friends of Mesa Verde Foundation

The Mesa Verde Foundation is pleased to expand its membership program by creating the Friends of Mesa Verde Foundation. Friends of Mesa Verde Foundation provides critical support to the Foundation's mission to promote understanding and appreciation of Mesa Verde National Park and develops financial and other resources to support the park in its mission to protect its cultural, natural, aesthetic and wilderness values.

As someone who feels a special bond with Mesa Verde National Park, you can help the Foundation preserve this unique national treasure for generations to come. Your annual membership supports the Foundation and its contributions to the Park's interpretive and educational programs and vital capital projects and improvements.

Based on your level of membership, joining the Foundation entitles you to many benefits outlined here. Join today by filling out the application on the back of this newsletter or visit mesaverdefoundation.org/become-a-member.html.



The Mesa Verde Foundation is working to go green and will be converting its newsletter to an electronic version in 2018. Please be sure your email address is on file by emailing info@mesaverdefoundation.org.

Membership Levels

All levels receive a MVF Decal, Discounts on MVF Programs, Invitations to MVF Events, Quarterly MVF Newsletter, Listing in MVF Annual Report

Mesa Verde Contributor **\$100 - \$249**

Mesa Verde Sustainer **\$250 - \$499**

Mesa Verde Partner **\$500 - \$999**

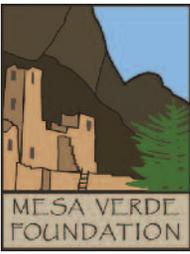
Fellow level memberships receive the Basic member benefit plus discounts on MVF Tours, Annual Mesa Verde Wall Calendar, *Mesa Verde: The First 100 Years* book (one-time gift), Invitations to special MVF Fellows tours, exclusive events and receptions in Denver, the Four Corners Region, Phoenix, Santa Fe and the Park

Spruce Tree Fellow **\$1,000 - \$2,499**

Balcony House Fellow **\$ 2,500 - \$4,999**
Basic member benefits and Fellow level benefits plus Mesa Verde National Park Annual Pass (annual gift)

Cliff Palace Fellow **\$5,000 - \$9,999**
Basic member benefits and Fellow level benefits plus Annual America the Beautiful pass (pass to all National Parks)

Mesa Verde Society **\$10,000 and Up**
Basic member and Fellow level benefits plus Annual America the Beautiful pass (pass to all National Parks) and Behind-the-scenes tours/programs at Mesa Verde National Park and other venues (museums, archaeological sites, etc.), and Special, one-on-one tours/receptions with Park Superintendent and other Park personnel or archaeologists.



Mesa Verde Foundation
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 Wheat Ridge, CO 80033

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Please make check to Mesa Verde Foundation and mail with your completed form to:
 6650 W 44th Ave, Ste #1, Wheat Ridge, CO 80033 or visit mesaverdefoundation.org to join online!
 If you have questions, please call (303) 321-3120. All personal information is kept confidential and will not be sold, distributed, or used by any other party than MVF.