



Colorado National Monument Association

Join Us in Preserving Our National Treasure

April 2016



Hello Members



If You Missed the "Heart of the World" Premiere, You Missed A Great Movie & Party

Over 400 CNMA members and guests enjoyed appetizers and cocktails before viewing the movie. There's nothing like seeing cinematography of this quality on the big screen! For those of you who missed the Avalon showing, the series will be airing on PBS:

April 7, 8:00 to 10:00, episodes 1 and 2

April 14, 8:00, episode 3

Many thanks to our drawing donors: **Grande River Winery** – 12 wine gift certificates; **Loki Gear** – two coats; **John Lintott** – two original paintings; **Cavalcade** in Fruita – 1 -year pass to monthly variety shows for two; and **Rocky Mountain PBS** - the Downton Abby 6 series DVD set.

Also, special thanks to our co-sponsors: **Rocky Mountain PBS, Grand Junction Visitor and Convention Bureau, the National Park Service** and our many volunteers! And to producer/director **Chris Wheeler** for participating in our event, meeting guests and speaking to the audience about this PBS

Hi,

My name is Rachelle Kreie and I am replacing Denise Hight, who recently retired after many years of service to CNMA. I am a second-generation lifetime resident of the Grand Valley. I graduated from Central High School and attended Mesa State College, now Colorado Mesa University, with my high school sweetheart, Ken Kreie.

We have been married 20 years, and have two children. We reside in Fruita, at the base of the Colorado National Monument. I am very excited to be working with the CNMA to help support one of the greatest wonders of Colorado. My favorite leisure activities are hiking, reading, listening to all types of live music,

series.

and spending time with friends and family. I hope to meet many of you at the Visitor Center soon!

News from the Colorado National Monument

- **April 17 & 18, National Junior Ranger Days** - Activity based stations, educational participants from NPS rangers, staff from Colorado Parks and Wildlife, Bureau of Land Management and the Mesa County Search and Rescue team.
- **National Park Week April 17-23.** The entrance fees will be waived from April 16 through April 24. We invite everyone to go for a drive, hike a canyon, or just sit and enjoy the view.
- **Volunteer Rim Rock Drive spring clean-up day on April 20.** Call 858-3617. ext. 360 for further information
- **May 22, 3:00 - 5:30,** Mesa Land Trust Annual Picnic at Ruckman's Farms
- **Colorado National Monument has been chosen to be a test site for advance online entrance and pass fees. through the “Your Pass Now” website (www.yourpassnow.com).** Visitors to the Monument now have the convenience of purchasing—at no additional cost—annual and seven-day entrance passes in advance of their trip. The annual entrance pass fee for Colorado National Monument is \$25. Seven-day entrance passes are \$10 for a private vehicle, \$5 for a motorcycle, and \$5 for an individual (hiker or bicyclist). Persons under age 16 are admitted free. All National Park Service sites honor the America the Beautiful – the National Parks and Federal Recreational Lands Annual pass, Senior pass (\$10 lifetime pass), Military, and Every Kid in a Park 4th Grade passes.

Watch for news about our new Guided Biking & Hiking Tours and Talks. We'll be sending you information soon. We have a great spring line-up

March 2016
Backpacker Magazine

Snake Through Canyons in a Little-Visited Colorado Landmark

Liberty Cap-Ute Canyon Loop, Colorado National Monument,
Colorado

by Paul Chisholm

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Stare down the barrel of Ute Canyon from Liberty Cap. Photo by: tandemstock.com; www.jtdudrow.com

In 2014, 1.3 million people flocked to the iconic sandstone formations at **Arches National Park**. In the same year, less than a third that many visited Colorado National Monument. Take away: Hikers who want to explore a sandstone wonderland without the crowds are in luck. But it won't remain anonymous for long—efforts to upgrade the monument to full national park status have gained traction. The time to visit is now.

Get a sampler platter of Southwest geology on this 11-mile overnight from the Liberty Cap trailhead. Follow good trail across a thinly forested ridgetop that affords views into the 500-foot-deep canyons that drop off on either side of the trail. Scramble up 5,880-foot Liberty Cap for a view of the surrounding valley and canyonlands before heading into seldom-visited Ute Canyon. Look for the 200-foot expanse of Finger Arch, extending like a teacup handle from the eastern canyon wall, near mile 7.6, and pitch a tent in the canyon bottom. Reach Rim Rock Drive at the end of the trail and shuttle, walk, or hitch the 2.9 miles back to your car. Water is scarce year-round; pack enough to last the trip.

Distance 11 miles, 1-2 days **Trailhead** 39.055555, -108.737006 **Shuttle car** 39.036883, 108.708983 (Commercial option: Sunshine Taxi; \$14/two people) **Season** March through November, though summer months can hit triple digits **Permit** Free; obtain at the Saddlehorn Visitor Center

Tags:

The Best National Parks That Aren't

- See more at: <http://www.backpacker.com/trips/colorado/national-parks-hidden-wonders-snake-through-a-canyon/#sthash.IQLV8v4V.dpuf>

New and Renewed Memberships March

Individual Memberships:

Entrada - \$250

Ronald & Judy Lease

Kayenta - \$100

Dave and Carolyn Brown

Daniel Colesworthy

Ken and Rachelle Kreie

Rebecca Manley

Wingate - \$50

Joan and Bill Bevington

Jeanne and Kelly Cooper

Ruth and John Field

Paris Horan

Richard Hyland

Jane and Jeff Jones

Darlyne Merkel

Barbara Roberts

Dave and Maggie Shishim

Chinle - \$30

Joanie Dahlen

Patty Doss

Mark Davison and Desirée-Drane Davison

Alex Eves

Kathy Portner and Keith Fife

Sally Hall

Thomas and Mary Hodgson Jr.

Meredith Aldrich and Kent Keith

Rolf Larsen

Bill Lewis

Kay Madigan

Lis Mauch

Kathleen McGinley

Diane Melancon

Christine Milton

Robert Parker

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