

Colorado National Monument Association

Join Us in Preserving Our National Treasure



New Babies are Here and They are SO CUTE!!!

This is not a rock-slide, it's more like a "Where's Waldo" photo. These are desert bighorn sheep gamboling down the side of the West Entrance second tunnel on their morning descent into Fruita Canyon. Notice the assortment of lambs of all ages. Visitors at this time of year are frequently rewarded with a view of herds with their new lambs ... what a treat! There have been many visitor and staff reports of seeing herds with babies recently.

Photoby: *Cherry Odelberg*, Bookstore and Membership Manager, on her drive to work at the Visitor Center.

"Heart of the World" Premiere

"This event will make all of us who reside in this state proud to do so."

Message from CNMA member

Premiere Clarification:

The recently sent flier describing the "Heart of the World" as "A cinematic 3-hour documentary series that celebrates the centennial of the National Park Service." Some interpreted this as meaning the premiere is three hours long. We will only be showing episode three and clips from the other two episodes so running time will be less than one and a half hours. Sorry for the confusion.

Tickets Are Selling Quickly

For those of you who missed the flier, here are the basic details and ticket information:

- Friday, March 25th, Avalon Theater, 7:30 PM, doors open at 7:00
- Tickets \$15 in advance, \$20 at the door

- Advance tickets available for purchase on the CNMA website, Rim Rock Shop
- Proceeds benefit CNMA
- Presented in conjunction with Rocky Mountain PBS and GJ Visitor and Convention Bureau

Member VIP Special Event

Ticket holder members are invited to a special reception to meet Chris Wheeler, the producer and director, 6:00 - 7:00. We will have appetizers and wine or beer available, with special member reserved seating.

If you are not a member or have let your membership lapse, you may rejoin or join online at the Rim Rock Shop or at the event.

Questions? Call 858-3617, ext. 360 or Marilee, 216-4596

News from the Colorado National Monument

- **2015 Visitation to the Monument** was up 25% as compared to 2014 for Recreational Visits and 41% for all visitation (recreational visits plus non-recreation traffic - Glade Park)
- **The Monument staff archaeology research findings report** by park archaeologist Matt Marquez at the Visitor Center February 20th had an overflow attendance that necessitated a second presentation, with standing room only for both
- **Colorado National Monument was featured in "Backpacker" magazine** as an equally impressive replacement experience for the nearby over-crowded Arches National Park
- A recent **VIP (Volunteers in Parks)** recruitment day January 30th at the Visitor Center attracted close to 50 people
- **Comment posted on YELP:**
"We took a day trip up here (Colorado National Monument) and I'm speechless. The views are beautiful and lush with pine trees and ever greens and a touch of snow. We took our time to experience almost everything. If you truly want to see why Colorado is called "the colorful state" this is a big reason why. The roads were semi clear but nothing to be bothered with. You can choose between going thru Fruita or through Grand Junction, and admission is only 10\$ per car - sweet deal for what they offer here. Only down side is that they have limited restrooms - one on each side of the main entry points so do make sure you go before pushing forward. But I would highly recommend going here if you're a local or someone traveling."
- **Upcoming park events:**
March 15, Family Nature Night, in partnership with CO Parks and Wildlife at Pomona Elementary
April 16, National Junior Ranger Day - Activity based stations
April 16-24, National Park Week
- Call 858-3617, ext.360 for further information

Financial Support Needed - transportation to the Monument for local school field trips:

The CNMA and National Parks Foundation (NPF) have historically funded school bus transportation for local school field trips, which costs us approximately \$4,000 annually. Many of

the local children participating in these Monument field trips have never visited the park. This year, NPF changed their funding request process from applications submitted by parks and associations, to a process where individual teachers must apply for transportation scholarships. This could be detrimental to educational visitation by local children with already too-busy teachers who are not grant writers and don't have the time to pursue such a funding request. Contact the CNMA if you can help.

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Many thanks to Sharon Currie-Mills, who jumped-in to be a CNMA Board Member three years ago. She volunteered to assist the organization not long after she and her husband Paul retired here. Sharon has been a faithful, energetic, and knowledgeable member of the Board for the past three years. She added the perspective and ideas from her background in marketing and as a former Senior Vice President with Discovery Communications. CNMA has certainly benefited from her tenure on the Board as a visionary and passionate supporter of the Colorado National Monument.



Sharon will be greatly missed in her role as one of the guiding forces for the Colorado National Monument Association. She will undoubtedly continue as an advisor and be a visible presence assisting with CNMA special events.

New and Renewed Memberships February

Bronze Business Membership - \$250

FamilyHealth West

Individual Memberships:

Entrada - \$250

Loralee Kerr

JanetScheeval

Kayenta - \$100

Ken Storck

Wingate - \$50

Chinle - \$30

Jim and Jan Burch

Teresa Carpenter

Debe Colby

Pat and Neil Cottrell

Kate Fischer

Dan and Nancy Ford

Michael and Brenda George

Janet Hollingsworth

Kristine Oates

Reed and Lisa Orr

Ann Reddin

Merritt and Ruby Benson

Lynne and Robert Reed

Sharon Brennan

Hank and Judy Schoch

Sharon Blackburn and Terry Chase

Jack Spinelli

Brian and Linda Mahoney

Robert and Adele Suydam

Jack and Jolene Neckles

Gordon and Janet Weidemann

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