Our community at the Center changed in the past year. Prior to my arrival the staff bade farewell to our interim director, Ken Francis, who also retired as head of the Office of Community Services at Fort Lewis College. The Center’s longtime librarian, Elayne Silversmith, accepted an exciting new position in Washington, DC, with the National Museum of the American Indian’s Vine Deloria, Jr. Library. Julie Tapley-Booth and Jen Pack took on more responsibilities at the beginning of 2013 in their respective roles as business manager and librarian for the Center. Our newest permanent staff member, PeeKay Briggs, joined the staff in early March as cataloger and records processor for the library and archives. Among our students, volunteers, and interns we saw new faces mixed amongst those who continued their work with us.

The hard work on collections, programs, and research projects continued this past year despite the arrival of a new director. Led by Jeanne Brako in the museum collections, Nik Kendziorski in the archives, and Jen Pack in the Delaney Research Library, the Center’s collections continued to grow as new accessions highlighted the growing recognition of our facility as a key regional repository. As we relate in the following pages, the museum opened Woven to Wear to exhibit the Center’s Durango Collection® textiles with an emphasis on comparative traditions among Puebloan and Navajo woven apparel. Exhibitions developed by the Center of Southwest Studies opened in Flagstaff at the Museum of Northern Arizona and in Dolores, Colorado at the Anasazi Heritage Center. With new exhibits underway for the Center’s galleries and those of the Wheelwright Museum of the American Indian, the Center’s collections personnel are busy managing and preparing collections for public interpretation.

Collaborations new and old illustrate the direction of the Center in the year to come. In addition to the partnerships noted above, the Center’s staff has collaborated and partnered with a number of institutions and individuals to further the Center’s reach in the region and beyond. Recent and ongoing joint efforts continue with the staffs of Mesa Verde National Park, the Animas Museum, the Southern Ute Cultural Center and Museum, the Southern Ute Education Department, the archives of the Jicarilla Apache Nation, Anasazi Heritage Center, the Four Corners Museum Network, Colorado Parks and Wildlife, Durango 9-R School District, Durango Public Library, Toh-Ahtin Gallery, Toadlena Trading Post, the Colorado Commission of Indian Affairs, and the San Juan National Forest. Plans are underway to support the regional efforts of the National Museum of the American Indian’s artist in residence programs, and to participate in gallery exhibitions in Washington, D.C. that highlight Southwestern cultures. In the months ahead, the Center plans to continue its focus on education issues in the region while starting a new seminar series of programs on the issues surrounding current and historical immigration in the Southwestern U.S. and northern Mexico.

I thank those of you who continue to support the Center and challenge us to continually deepen our investment in Southwestern studies. In the months to come we hope to see you here at the Center of Southwest Studies and at those places around the region where we meet our collaborators for programs and exhibits. You have my sincerest welcome to share these experiences with us this next year.

Jay T. Harrison, Ph.D.
The Center of Southwest Studies proudly unveiled its newest exhibit, Woven to Wear: An Exhibition Featuring Navajo and Puebloan Textiles, on Thursday, February 7th. With close to one hundred people in attendance, the event brought Durango’s “First Thursday Art Walk” to the Fort Lewis College campus for the first time. The evening included a gallery talk by Jackson Clark, a popular and lively speaker on the development of Navajo textiles and other Southwest Arts. Jackson pointed out the contrasts in Puebloan and Navajo weaving, and highlighted the creative aspects of Southwest textile design. Woven to Wear will display through May 2014.

In keeping with the exhibit’s theme, the Center also hosted a Southwest Textile Road Show on Saturday, February 9th. A number of Center members and friends braved the cold, snowy weather to bring in textiles and rugs for evaluation, or to simply watch attendees’ treasures be presented to textile expert and Toadlena Trading Post owner, Mark Winter. Mark was instrumental in developing the Center’s Durango Collection® and still acts as an advisor to the Center in the collection’s exhibition and development.

Road shows always have their stars and surprises, and this event was capped with the appearance of a white field banded blanket that fell into the “slave blanket” category. The term “slave blanket” is used to refer to blankets with structural aspects from one culture and design aspects from another, combined in ways that are more integral than borrowed characteristics. This piece, which was found sewn inside a quilt, was likely made on a Hispanic loom, but shows strong Navajo design traits. Its coloration and wool type closely matched one of the Durango Collection® Navajo banded blankets on view, making it a good counterpoint example to that textile. This piece proved worth the trip through the snow for road show participants who had never seen such a textile in person.

By Julie Tapley-Booth and Jeanne Brako
One of the more significant collections to surface is the numerous artifacts that date to the historic period and are most likely associated with the military operation at the Fort Lewis post near present day Hesperus, Colorado. The Center's 2011 centennial exhibit Frontier Blues: The Legacy of Fort Lewis College features artifacts from our collections, as well as artifacts excavated by the Fort Lewis College Archaeological Field School from 2007 – 2011. New artifacts that materialized from this last year’s work in the basement are attributed to three primary collections: B.J. and Ellenette Whitworth of Marvel, Colorado; O. Edison Briggs of Aztec, New Mexico; and excavations by Homer Root and his students. Root was the first curator of what was once called the Fort Lewis College Museum. These collections include a great diversity of artifacts such as uniform buttons, cartridge casings, suspenders, clay pipe fragments, various horseshoes, machine-cut nails, portions of cast iron cooking pots, culinary wares, eating and serving utensils, pocket knives, a shaving razor, combs, gas lantern parts, belt slings, forage cap insignias, belt buckles, helmet plume holders and spikes, to name but a few. Among the more interesting items are three belt buckle plates. Two identical plates are the Mills Pattern, 1880 type and made for the Mills woven cartridge belt, which was used through August 13, 1885. A third plate is perhaps a bit more interesting. According to the Homer Root Ledger, this plate was donated by Leslie D. Hanna of Durango sometime around 1964. The plate apparently was found by Nelson T. Machay while working road construction near the old Fort Lewis military post. The brass plate has a loop on the upper left corner that corresponded with a brass hasp or catch that was attached to a leather belt. On the face in relief is an oval panel bearing the letters “US” also in relief. This particular plate was a component of the Palmer brace yolk equipment, which was designed by Lt. George Palmer in 1874. This equipage was an experiment to reduce the bulkiness of the 1872 infantry brace system, designed after a British system and adopted by the US infantry in 1872. The brace yolk system was an attempt to combine the knapsack, haversack, canteen, cartridge box, waist belt, and bayonet scabbard into a single unit. The Palmer brace yolk proved to be just about as cumbersome as earlier equipment, and had fallen into disuse by about 1880, the year that Fort Lewis military post was moving from Pagosa Springs to Hesperus.
B.J. and Ellenette Whitworth were long-time residents of Marvel and enjoyed collecting artifacts from the Fort Lewis military post trash dumps. Ellenette in particular had a penchant for collecting bottles. Three boxes of complete glass bottles and bottle stoppers from the basement were traced back to Ellenette’s collecting days at the “Old Fort”. There was no information about provenience or how Fort Lewis College came into possession of these bottles when we initially started studying them. In a chance conversation with Helen Ruth Aspaas of Hesperus, she mentioned that the Whitworths were relatives of the Aspaas family and that Ellenette had long ago written a paper for the Center’s first director, Dr. Robert Delaney, the subject of which was a collection of old bottles. With the help of the Center’s Archives Manager Nik Kendziorski, we found the Ellenette paper, and although the bottles were not, for the most part, individually discussed in the paper, there is no doubt that the cache of bottles from the Center’s basement holdings are the bottles collected by Ellenette Whitworth. In this collection are 78 items; 72 complete or nearly complete bottles, 5 glass stoppers, a one glass ball. A majority of the bottles once contained alcoholic beverages such as beer, whisky and wine. One classic example is a brown bottle made in a cup-bottom mold with an applied ring or oil finish. The bottle is heavy and completely intact. It even has the cork still inside. Embossed on the base are the letters DOC, and the number 5. This bottle was made by the Dominec Cunningham (DOC) Glass Company, which was the Cunningham Family Glass Holdings. They began making bottles in 1849. Dominec Cunningham, who left work for his father and uncles in 1880 to start his own company, manufactured bottles for beer, mineral water, and ginger-ale. After 1931, the Cunningham Glass Company became a distributor for Owens-Illinois Glass Company.

One of my favorite artifacts to have surfaced during the work in the basement is a calvary helmet insignia (bottom right). The wing and the three arrows are missing from the eagle’s left side, otherwise this piece is in excellent condition. In the eagle’s beak is a ribbon stamped with “E PLURIBUS UNUM”. There are twenty-one total feathers in the right wing and seven tail feathers. The shield in the center has thirteen stars in two rows across the top, horizontally, and six raised panels. In the eagle’s right talon is an olive branch. The left talon holds arrows. There are also two sword handles crossed behind the shield. This is a regulation calvary dress helmet eagle insignia. This style was introduced in 1881. Two small holes in the shield were where a regiment number would have been attached.

By Mona Charles
Several local community organizations donated their records to the archives. The League of Women Voters of La Plata County and the Reading Club of Durango continued to add to their records with the Reading Club also making a monetary donation to help with the preservation of their records. The La Boca Center for Sustainability also donated their records to be added to the archives. Florence Mason donated posters, programs and other ephemera related to her work for Music in the Mountains.

The Fort Lewis College archives expanded its holding when Jim Vlasich, former student and retired professor of history from Southern Utah University, donated his papers. Also, Dolph Kuss donated Fort Lewis College related materials including NCAA ski team records and photos, office correspondence, photographs, slides, newspaper clippings, magazines, and newsletters. Mr. Kuss was a longtime professor and the first men’s skiing coach in Fort Lewis College history. One of the photographs depicts Dolph Kuss skiing down the tailings piles at Durango’s old smelter site during the summer! Ann Hartney donated Fort Lewis College related material from her mother’s, Shelly Hartney, time at the Fort.

A number of community members also donated significant and unique collections to the archives. Nina Heald Webber donated forty-seven lantern slides from Ansell Hall’s Thursday, May 2nd:

An Evening with Erica Olsen, author of *Recapture*

Olsen will read from her new book and share in dialogue with Center staff and the audience; cosponsored by Reed Library at Fort Lewis College.

Author photo credit: Michael Troutman / www.dmtimaging.com © D.M. Troutman
Rainbow Bridge Monument Valley Expedition from the 1930s. Many of these lantern slides were hand-colored and used by Hall to promote his expeditions. Nina also continued to donate numerous postcards, photographs, books, silver spoons and other items from around the Four Corners. Shirena Trujillo Long, Coordinator of El Centro, donated copies of the El Valle Newspaper, 2000-2007. Shirena noted that the slogan of the paper was “para toda la gente” or “for all the people.” Now, the paper will be available for all the people in perpetuity. Jerry and Jo Ann Bowers donated several military buttons from the Old Fort Lewis site and ledgers and records from the Sullivan Ditch Company. They also donated some records from the old Moss School. Marjorie Martinson donated the forty-volume set of The Indian Tribal Series published by Indian Tribal Series in 1975. Each of the paperback sized editions was autographed by the tribal chief at that time. Reese Miller and Tyler Brinker donated a hard-bound copy of the 1877 Hayden Geologic Survey titled, “Geological and Geographical Atlas of Colorado and Portions of Adjacent Territory”. And most recently, oral histories, photographs and newspaper clippings that Charlie Langdon, writer and longtime Durango Herald editor, used in the writing of the history of the Purgatory Ski area were donated by his son, Matt Langdon. Many of the oral histories are from people who helped get Purgatory, today known as Durango Mountain Resort, started.

Donations related to archaeology were received from Mesa Verde National Park and Lynell Schalk. Mesa Verde donated thirty-two copies of “Mesa Verde Notes” ranging in date from 1930 to 1939. Lynell Schalk donated records from her twenty-eight year career with the Department of the Interior, twenty-seven of those years with the Bureau of Land Management. Lynell was in the first group of thirteen uniformed rangers who were delegated with federal law enforcement authority with in the BLM and she was the only female. Later, Lynell was hired as a special agent and eventually was promoted to Special Agent-in-Charge. She was involved in a number of cases that enforced the Archaeological Resources Protection Act.

In November of 2012, longtime archives volunteer Esther Greenfield published a story in the Durango Herald titled “A Powerful Look at Power”. The story focused on P.C. Schools, an employee of the Western Colorado Power Company, and featured his photographs from the early 1900s and information taken from the Center’s archival collections. A book publisher saw the story and asked Esther if she would be interested in writing a book about P.C. Schools’ life. She didn’t think there was enough information for a full book, so the publisher asked if Esther would like to publish a book of School’s photographs. Researching through thirty boxes of photographs, in order to put together captions for about one hundred and fifty images, Esther hopes to have the book ready to publish by the end of 2013.

Volunteers Paula Wiseman and Bud Davis continue their detailed and hard work on the Hubbard collection of railroad photographs. Recently, they received some help from a new volunteer, Lew Matis. Lew is president of the Galloping Goose Historical Society and his knowledge of railroads in the area will help Paula and Bud in their organization and processing of this large collection. Welcome to the Center of Southwest Studies, Lew!

By Nik Kendzierski

Saturday, May 11th:
Opening of the Durango Collection®: Native American Weaving in the Southwest, 1860-1880 exhibit at the Wheelwright Museum of the American Indian in Santa Fe, NM

Exhibiting May 12, 2013 – April 13, 2014. For more information, please visit the Wheelwright website, www.wheelwright.org

Photo credit: Addison Doty; Germantown “Bird” Textile, 1880s; Third Phase “Chief” Blanket, 1870s
Michelle is an Anthropology major in her junior year, also working towards certificates in both Cultural Resource Management and Geographic Information Systems. Although she is slated to graduate in May of 2014, she has amassed extensive experience in her field. Michelle completed a 2011 summer field school component with archaeologist Mona Charles. “Michelle is among the most remarkably talented students that I have known in my tenure at Fort Lewis College. Her infectious smile and exuberant personality were a source of inspiration in whatever project we worked on together,” says Mona.

In the spring of 2012 Michelle was hired for a Colorado State Historical Fund grant, working with Mona on a prehistoric site near Durango called the Darkmold site. Michelle gained true, hands-on experience while on the job, learning artifact analysis, database entry and site map creation using the computer software AutoCAD. But Southwest prehistory isn’t her only interest. Michelle is currently studying European classical archaeology and British prehistory for one term abroad at the University of Chester in Chester, just southeast of Liverpool, England; a fitting choice for Michelle, because it was a family trip to Europe as a youngster that first inspired her love of history and archaeology. It was during that trip so many years ago that she remembers, “We visited some Roman ruins in Lyon (France), and I remember wondering where the fences were and was confused when told the ruins were so common we could touch or even sit on them! The hands-on experience truly struck me… in certain circumstances, it is ok to reach out and hold history in your hands,” says Michelle.

Though her middle school obsession with King Arthur and Camelot also fueled her interest in archaeology in adolescence, it’s clear Michelle’s quest in her chosen field has only just begun.

By Julie Topley-Booth

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**STUDENT SPOTLIGHT**

**The Girl on the Quest for Camelot**

Michelle Phair came to intern with the Center of Southwest Studies in the fall of 2011. She worked in the curatorial area, under the direction of Jeanne Brako. She has since completed a two semester internship working with the Center’s artifact collections, with those hours counting towards her Cultural Resource Management (CRM) certificate. This past fall she simply volunteered her time with us, designing educational and interpretative materials for children visiting the museum.

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**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**Friday, May 31st:**
Tour of the Harris Cabin with San Juan National Forest Heritage Team Leader Julie Coleman

Julie Coleman will lead a tour of the historic Harris cabin, along the east fork of Hermosa Creek, just northwest of Durango Mountain Resort. Please visit our website the first week of May for details and information on how to sign up.

Harris Cabin photo courtesy Ann Bond, San Juan Forest Service
This semester, we opened Woven to Wear, our new exhibit featuring The Durango Collection® wearing blankets and garments, and we continue work on the next Durango Collection® exhibit which will open at the Wheelwright Museum of the American Indian on May 11, 2013. We hope that you’ll join us in Santa Fe for that opening!

Each September, we select a variety of high priority projects for our crew of students. The Museum accepts between twelve and fifteen students each year to participate in our work-study and student internship program. These students train in museum procedures and as their skills develop, they are assigned more advanced work. Peggy Morris, our indispensable, full time volunteer, takes the lead in student project orientation and supervision. We couldn’t do this work without her!

Shung Waketah Looking Horse and Jayme Deschene have been processing prints, paintings and drawing by Native artists that recently arrived at the Center from regular donors Bill and Sue Hensler. The students had a chance to meet the Henslers, and hear about the artists who created these works.

Robert Wood started with us in January, just in time to take on the development of a Hopi Basketry case exhibit as a complement to our Woven to Wear exhibit. This week, Robert produced and placed the basketry exhibit labels in the gallery.

Jed Smith has been organizing our Zuni fetish collection for the past semester. Jed sorted the collection into its three original donations, and created customized archival storage for all of the fetishes, which number over 100 items.

Josh Nash has been our “database master” for the last few years, and we’re fortunate that we’ll have his participation for one more year. Sarah Benson is in training to become our “database queen.” We are so happy to have a freshman take on this role, because it will help us with consistency in records management over the coming years.

Ryan Mullen has become our key photographer, and has photographed most of our new acquisitions this year. Madison Vlass has taken on a new role as our first intern funded through the direct support of the San Juan Basin Archaeological Society. Madison has developed new procedures for the on-going Homer Root ledger transcription project. These ledgers form the core of the Center’s earliest collections’ documentation.

Thank you also to our gallery attendants Andrew Kendziorski, Sean Summers, Candace Cahall, Gina Jagoda, and James Kahler. They are our front-line customer service team.

Ben Cherrington, who has worked with us for the past three years, is graduating this April! We will miss him sorely, but we know that it’s our job to help see that our students move on to graduation. Ben has been working on a FLC cycling history exhibit for the Delaney Library. Congratulations also to graduates Jayme Deschene and Robert Wood, who completed their final semester’s internships with us. We wish you well and will miss you!

By Jeanne Brako

Friday, June 21st:
Summer Solstice Window Viewing

At the dawn of the summer solstice, a spiral of sunlight makes its way across the Center’s gallery walls making for a dazzling display. Join us at 6:00AM in the Center’s gallery to celebrate the first day of summer! Light refreshments provided.

Thursday, July 25th:
Summer Party on the Rochester Hotel’s Patio!

Join us on the outdoor patio for summer fun in the sun!

August 16th:
Center Member Tour of the Mayflower Mill and the Eureka Lodge in Silverton

A “members only” exclusive! Join us for a guided tour of the historic Mayflower Mill and the Eureka Lodge, followed by a catered lunch. Visit our website the first week of August for more details and information on how to sign up. Not a member? Consider a membership today!
FROM THE LIBRARY

Exciting changes taking place in the Delaney Southwest Research Library and Archives

We hope to encourage the exploration of the Southwest’s dynamic heritage and landscape by making the holdings at Delaney Library as accessible as possible. In order to better connect with and serve our patrons, the Delaney Library is now circulating select books!

This is a well-planned departure from previous library policy, and one that will take some time to implement. Staff and student workers are in the process of evaluating books based on their condition, rarity, and value - both monetary and informational - to determine if circulation is a reasonable option. Many of the rare, valuable, or damaged books will continue to be library use only, but a large number of the library holdings will now be available for check-out (seven days for FLC students and faculty, and two days for community members with a current FLC library account). In addition, DVDs and VHS are also available for check-out.

In the Fall of 2012, the library used Title III grant funds to purchase much needed supplies for processing and mending books, periodicals, and audio-visual material. These funds are crucial to the library being able to make its valuable resources available to researchers and the public. Several important donated collections have been waiting up to several years for the appropriate materials necessary to be processed. The book collections of Richard Ellis, Frank and Florence Lister, Jerrold Levy, Jim Judge, Joel Jones, and others are a treasure trove on topics such as Ancestral Puebloan archeological sites across the Southwest; anthropological studies of current and ancient peoples; ethnology reports; curriculum material produced by the United States Bureau of Indian Affairs for schools in the Navajo Nation area; and books and pamphlets from the early years of the Chicano movement in the Southwest. Several years worth of recordings of the Speaker Series at the Center of Southwest Studies, on topics such as Mesa Verde and the Southern Ute boarding schools, have also been waiting for the proper archival supplies for processing. With the funds provided by the Title III grant, these collections are now able to be processed, and will soon be made available to our patrons. These supplies also have enabled the Delaney Library to assist the Native American Indigenous Studies department at FLC in governing the circulation of their new oral history recording equipment to students.

These innovations to the Delaney Library will better support researchers, students, and the community in their regional interests in anthropology, history, and geosciences. We hope to continue making our patrons’ visits more adventurous and rewarding by remaining flexible and receptive to patron needs – please let us know how we can better serve and represent your interest in the Southwest!

By Jen Pack
CSWS MEMBERSHIP

All contributions aid in developing new programs and exhibits!
Please consider membership at the following levels. Your donation becomes part of your lifetime giving legacy.

$55 Basic Annual Membership enjoys free parking if you are not an employee or current student; advance notice of exhibit openings, programs, and events; invitation to special member events; subscription to our Timelines newsletter; 10% off retail items; 10% off archival reproductions; and special e-announcements of Center news.

$150 Sustaining Annual Membership receives all of the benefits listed above, plus 20% discount on archival services; special behind-the-scene tours; and invitations to sustaining member events.

Basic Business Membership of $500 offers all of the above, plus your business website linked to the Center’s improved website; and free meeting space twice a year.

Business Sponsorship of $1500 offers all of the above, plus free meeting space four times a year; and special tours by staff for your special guests.

The Patron Circle Membership of $2000 or higher offers special benefits in addition to all the basics, including exclusive behind-the-scenes and gallery tours; use of the remodeled Lupien Reception Room for your special events; and personalized tours.

CENTER OF SOUTHWEST STUDIES MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name: ___________________________________________________________________________________

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Address: _________________________________________________________________________________

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Payment:
☐ Check enclosed  (Please make checks payable to Fort Lewis College Foundation, with Center of Southwest Studies in the memo line.)
☐ Bill me
☐ Charge my credit card #_________________________________________________ Exp: ______________

All membership levels are tax deductible.

Please mail completed form and method of payment to:
Center for Southwest Studies  |  1000 Rim Drive  |  Durango, Colorado 81301

Questions? Call the CSWS office at 970-247-7456.
The Jim Judge collection contains the records for the Fort Lewis archaeological field school, conducted at the Pigg site of the Lowry Community (1991, 1996, 1997) and the nearby Puzzle House site in southwest Colorado (1992-1997). The collection houses not only the archeological records of the field school, but also a variety of reports, surveys, and student materials related to the field school and the Lowry area. Also included are the records of surveys and reports to the Colorado Historical Society requesting permission to establish a field school at the site, as well as documentation supporting its historical value.

The collection is of interest both to researchers and the general public. For researchers, the artifact analyses and reports on the Ancestral Puebloans can prove insightful for a wide variety of research topics. For the general public, the extensive amount of information about the history of the area and the establishment of the field school will prove intriguing. There is material in the collection to satisfy nearly any interest.

What was most rewarding about helping to process this collection was being able to see the history both of ancient Native Americans as well as the modern Southwest unfold. This project was a wonderful learning experience for me because it not only taught me how to house documents in an archival setting, but also how archives are organized and implemented to allow the public the most access to the information possible. Information from the archaeological field school is so important to Native American studies, to Fort Lewis, and to southwest Colorado, that we must preserve its records for the future as much as possible. The Jim Judge collection serves as an important contribution to the Center of Southwest Studies archives.

By Joe Helzer, FLC Senior, History Major