

Chimney Rock Interpretive Association
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January 2025 CRIA Newsletter

From the President of the Board of Directors

I hope you had a wonderful holiday season filled with joy, peace, and love. As we move forward into the new year, today marks the Lunar New Year, also a time for celebration, family, and reflection. This is the Year of the Snake, a time for new beginnings and opportunities. Snakes are known for their intelligence, adaptability, and resourcefulness, and these qualities will be essential in the year ahead. We encourage all of our volunteers to embrace the challenges and opportunities that the Year of the Snake will bring, and we know that you will continue to make a positive impact while volunteering at Chimney Rock.

I want to extend my sincere thanks to Ernie O'Toole for his exceptional hard work and dedication in renewing the Lecture Series. I had the pleasure of attending the lecture at the library featuring Jon Ghahate, and I found it to be very engaging and informative. It was truly heartening to see a full house, which is a testament to the unwavering support of our association and the broader community. The success of this event highlights the value of the Lecture Series and the importance of providing educational and enriching opportunities for our members and the community.



As we embark on this new year, I am filled with optimism and excitement for what we can accomplish together. The Year of the Snake brings with it a sense of renewal and possibility, and I am confident that our volunteers will continue to demonstrate their commitment to our mission and their passion for making a difference.

Thank you for your continued dedication and support. Together, we can make this year a truly remarkable one.

Jill Sutton
CRIA Board President

Views from the Top:



January 11 lunar standstill – what we saw



What we should have seen!

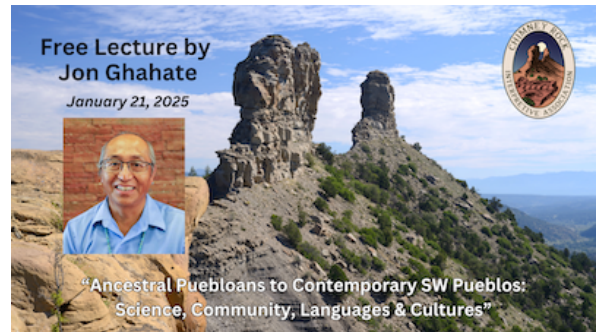
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Chimney Rock Interpretive Association 2025 Lecture Series with Jon Ghahate

Enjoy the recording of Jon Ghahate's lecture on Tuesday, January 21, 2025 at <https://youtu.be/JPsYWMsZD-g>

“Ancestral Puebloans to Contemporary SW Pueblos: Science, Community, Languages & Cultures”

Jon Ghahate is of the Pueblos of Laguna and Zuni of the State of New Mexico, and of the Turkey and Badger Clans. Jon is currently a Staff Educator at the Crow Canyon Archaeological Center in Cortez, Colorado. Prior to that he was the Museum Cultural Educator at the Indian Pueblo Cultural Center in Albuquerque, NM.



School Week

The dates for School Week are: May 5th, 6th, 7th, 9th, and 12th, 13th, 14th.

Helping during School Week is a great way to get ready for the season before the site opens. It is also very rewarding, especially for those who like working with youth. We provide guided tours and activities with school groups, by reservation. Most days are 9 am to 3 pm and the classes are usually elementary or middle school level. All volunteers are welcome to help, no special training is required.

Full Moon, Flute Music at Twilight



I will be working with a few experienced volunteers to help run the Full Moon program this season. The dates and times have not been finalized yet, but hope to have that info soon. The first program for both of these will probably be June, so not too close to opening. Both of these programs will be conducted as in the past, though there may be some changes depending on those in charge.

Special Note: For all three of these special programs: School Week, Full Moon, Flute Music at Twilight, there may be changes required by the Forest Service if there is a staffing shortage this season. I have been in touch with Cody to offer my support for whatever is needed so these programs can be provided to our visitors.

Susan Yalom sueyal@yahoo.com cell: 970-731-1091

Did You Know?

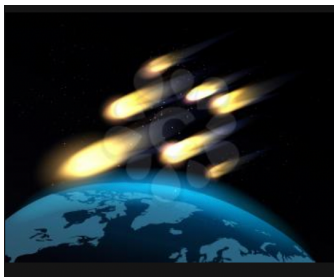


The origin of the Moon is usually explained by a Mars-sized body, called Theia (the mother of Selene, the Moon goddess in Greek mythology) striking the Earth, ejecting debris that eventually accreted into a single object.



This called the 'giant impact hypothesis'. The collision resulted in a 23.5° tilt of the earth,

causing the seasons. The moon's relatively small iron core (compared to other planets and moons in the Solar System) is the result of Theia's core merging into that of the Earth. The newly formed moon originally orbited at about 1/10 the distance that it does today, and spiraled outward because of tidal frictions. The moon's rotation became tidally locked to the Earth such that one side of the moon always faces the Earth. In spite of the evidence for the impact hypothesis, other theories have been put forth, including the impact of multiple large asteroids on Earth that blasted enough rocky Earth debris into orbit to form a protosatellite. The importance of the moon to humans lies in the fact that it makes Earth more liveable by moderating our planets wobble on its axis, leading to a relatively stable climate. The moon also affects people because of its gravitational pull. This is because humans are made mostly of water so changes in gravitational pull can affect mood.





Celebrate the Lunar New Year!

(All photos by Howard Rowe)