

GRAND JUNCTION GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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JANUARY MEETING

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 23, 2018

Joint meeting with the CMU Geology Students

7:30 PM

Saccomanno Lecture Hall

(In the Wubben-Science Building)

Please note that the meeting is a week later than usual to accommodate the return of the CMU students.

There will be two short presentations this month.

1. GJGS member Rex Cole will review his recent work on the basalts of Grand Mesa.
2. GJGS member Bill Hood will discuss the involvement of the CMU Geology Program's X-ray lab in the identification of cremation remains for the FBI.

Guests Are Always Welcome

Bill's Abstract on Next Page

In February, 2018, Sunset Mesa Funeral Directors in Montrose, CO, was raided by the FBI. The business was suspected of selling bodies and body parts without permission and substituting cement or other substances for the missing cremation remains (cremains). The FBI received numerous requests to clarify whether cremains were bone or something else and the FBI in turn asked the CMU Forensic Anthropology Program for assistance. Melissa Connor, head of that program, in turn asked the Geology Program's X-ray lab to help with the project. This talk will review the work that the X-ray lab did to confirm the presence of bone in the cremains and to identify contamination when present.