



# Sacramento Archeological Society, Inc.

Features

## **“Tour of pre-Clovis Paisley Oregon Caves and Modoc County sites”** **Thursday, June 24, 2010 - Monday, June 28, 2010** **Friday, June 25 1:00 Tour**

Join SAS on a special tour of pre-Clovis Paisley Oregon caves. Archeologist, Dennis Jenkins who has been leading excavations of Paisley cave for 4 years, will be leading the tour coincident with his fifth and last excavations from June 22 and ending on July 30. Finds include human dried excrement that, from DNA testing, reveals the oldest evidence of humans in North America dating to 14,300 years ago. This is 1200 years before the Clovis culture. The cave tour (or tours if there are more than 20) is **scheduled for Friday, June 25, 2010, at 1:00 p.m.** June 24<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> will be travel days.

In addition to the cave visit, one or more of the following sites in Modoc County area near Alturas will be visited:

- **Geyser and hot springs filled swimming pool** at Hunter’s Hot Springs Resort, 18088 Highway 395 North, Lakeview, Oregon 97630, 800-858-8266, 541-947-4242 <http://www.huntersresort.com/> This motel is near the Paisley Caves.
- **Obsidian** collecting sites northeast of Davis Creek.
- **Petroglyphs** northeast of Lava Beds National Monument, with its lava caverns.
- Tule Lake **Relocation Center** (detention camp) near Lava Beds.
- **Petrified wood** sites.
- Surprise Valley **Hot Springs** Resort, Cedarville, CA 530-279-2040 877-927-6426 <http://www.svhotsprings.com/main.html>
- Others that others may suggest.

**More details to follow!**

For additional information on the Paisley Caves, see the article entitled, “Researchers, led by UO archaeologist, find pre-Clovis human DNA – Discoveries by Dennis Jenkins from Oregon’s Paisley Caves validate claims made years ago by UO anthropologist Luther Cressman”

<http://pmr.uoregon.edu/science-and-innovation/uo-research-news/research-news-2008/april/researchers-led-by-uo-archaeologist-find-pre-clovis-human-dna/>

A partial text from “Discoveries by Dennis Jenkins from Oregon's Paisley Caves validate claims made years ago by UO anthropologist Luther Cressman” follows on the next page.

***This activity is limited to two groups of 20 participants so please sign up early!***  
**Individual donation of \$5 suggested to support 2009 SAS scholarship award.**

Donations may be in person or sent to

Sacramento Archeological Society, P.O. Box 163287, Sacramento, CA 95816

**OPEN to SAS and Fossils For Fun Members**

For early registration or questions, email **Dennis Fenwick** at [fenwick\\_lewis@msn.com](mailto:fenwick_lewis@msn.com).



Dennis Jenkins in his University of Oregon lab, displaying a drawer full of artifacts, including ropage and threads, found in the Paisley Caves. "To find these threads was just incredible," he said.

(Photo by Jim Barlow)

EUGENE, Ore. -- (April 3, 2008) -- Human DNA from dried excrement recovered from Oregon's Paisley Caves is the oldest found yet in the New World -- dating to 14,300 years ago, some 1,200 years before Clovis culture -- and provides apparent genetic ties to Siberia or Asia, according to an international team of 13 scientists.

Among the researchers is [Dennis L. Jenkins](#), a senior archaeologist with the University of Oregon's [Museum of Natural and Cultural History](#), whose field expeditions over two summers uncovered a variety of artifacts in caves that had caught the scientific attention of the UO's Luther Cressman in the 1930s.

The [Paisley Caves](#) are located in the Summer Lake basin near Paisley, about 220 miles southeast of Eugene on the eastern side of the Cascade Range. The series of eight caves are westward-facing, wave-cut shelters on the highest shoreline of pluvial Lake Chewaucan, which rose and fell in periods of greater precipitation during the Pleistocene.

The team's extensively documented analyses on mitochondrial DNA -- genetic material passed on maternally -- removed from long-dried feces, known as coprolites, were published online April 3 in *Science Express* ahead of regular publication in the

journal *Science*.

"The Paisley Cave material represents, to the best of my knowledge, the oldest human DNA obtained from the Americas," said [Eske Willerslev](#), director of the Centre for Ancient Genetics at Denmark's University of Copenhagen. "Other pre-Clovis sites have been claimed, but no human DNA has been obtained, mostly because no human organic material had been recovered."