



Sacramento Archeological Society, Inc.

Newsletter

www.sacarcheology.org

January/February - 2010

Message from SAS President John Foster



Hi there. I know some of you from SAS activities and meetings, but I'm a relative newcomer to your group and wanted to introduce myself. I'm an archaeologist by training. I recently retired as the State Archaeologist from California State Parks in Sacramento where I worked (?) for 35 years. My predecessor in that job was Fritz Riddell. My successor has yet to be appointed.

By way of background, I hold BA (UCLA) and MA (CSU Long Beach) degrees in anthropology. I did further graduate study at University of Arizona before starting my state career in 1975. I had the desire to be an archaeologist from about the 6th grade on, but while most kids went on to develop other interests; I kept coming back to archaeology. I've been incredibly fortunate to find a career in the field I love, and that worked well for me over the years.

My first field experience was as an undergraduate student. I read about the need for diggers to work at Ft. Vasquez on the Platte River in Colorado. Hey, archaeology, in Colorado and beer at 18...it all sounded good to me, so I signed up for the summer. I was a sophomore at UCSB at the time and had one or two anthropology classes under my belt. Somehow I thought I'd be working in the Rockies and only after I arrived did I discover the intense summer heat on the plains of eastern Colorado. The second surprise I got was to be put in charge of the excavation after a few weeks. The Field Chief was called to another assignment, and he put me in charge. Ft. Vasquez was an 1835 fur-trading fort. Our assignment was to trace out some wall foundations so that accurate reconstruction could be done. The problem was that the site was literally in the middle of the Interstate with traffic whizzing by in both directions.

So we went looking for evidence of an adobe fort next to traffic going by at 70mph. Within a week or so, Eureka!! In our trench at a depth of 12 inches or so we found an alignment of rectangular squares paralleling the road surface. We dutifully followed them and did our mapping and photography. They were carefully swept, measured and accounted for. My field notes were text book. They were in the right place, according to early drawings. I was sure we had come down on an in-situ adobe wall -- just like we had been instructed to find.

I couldn't wait till the big boss came to inspect our work. We proudly showed him the "adobe" blocks. I was shocked when he jumped in the trench, took a trowel and cut down through them. Nothing!! This was not a wall from 1835. It seems we had spent a week uncovering Caterpillar tracks from the Interstate construction!! The cat had stamped out beautiful "adobe" bricks in the clay dirt next to the highway. Egg on Foster face, big time!! I never went back to Colorado to do archaeology!! I've also had something of an aversion to adobes ever since!!

Lessons learned? Examine all the explanations for archaeological evidence you find. Don't assume you've found what you've been seeking until other possibilities have been eliminated.

SAS Event

“Students Involved in ARCHAEOLOGY”

Presentations by
**Samuel Crenshaw, Sheel Jagani, Benjamin Harris, and Monica
Nolte**

2009 Scholarship winners

Saturday, January 23, 2010

2:00 – 5:00 p.m.

at the

**Home of Jan & Tom Johansen
505 Cleveland Court Davis, CA 95616**

In 2009 four scholarships were awarded to support the archeological/anthropological education and graduate research. The four recipients will speak on the areas of study that were made possible by the scholarships.

The four presentations are as follows:

- Field School in Nemea and Mycenae Greece – **Samuel Crenshaw**, UC Berkeley Undergraduate Student
- Mycenae Field School – Pestas House – **Sheel Jagani**, UC Berkeley Undergraduate Student
- Public Archaeology in the San Francisco Bay Area – **Benjamin Harris**, Sonoma State University Graduate Student
- Improved Method for Inferring Activity from Human Remains – **Monica Nolte**, San Francisco State University Graduate Student.



Samuel Crenshaw



Sheel Jagani



Benjamin Harris



Monica Nolte

On January 23th they will discuss their adventures and projects. Join us at the home of Jan and Tom Johansen, 505 Cleveland Court, Davis 95616 at 2:00 pm for this step into the past. **Bring a dish to share for an early dinner. For more information contact Jan Johansen @ 530-756-6970.**

SAS Highlights

Sacramento Archeological Society, Inc.'s Annual Meeting

Featuring

“THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF COLONIALISM”

by

Dr. Kent G. Lightfoot

Thank you, Dr. Kent G. Lightfoot, professor of Archaeology and Anthropology, UC Berkeley, for speaking at the Society's annual meeting. Dr. Lightfoot noted that only a modest amount of research has been done on hunter-gatherers in California. Evaluations are following a new approach (as applied to California's hunter gatherers) to resource management. He noted, for example, the needs to evaluate prodiversity using techniques such as fire-started dendrochronology, rotational burning and outcomes. The incredible pre-historic linguistic diversity in California, and the extent of quite complex societies, provides a very ripe area for study and evaluation. He summarized his hour-long presentation by noting that in California 1) colonial agrarian societies were detrimental to hunter gatherers, 2) population aggregations in central places were a failure for hunter gatherers; 3) demographic declines and population declines were significantly detrimental to Native cultures in aggregated population centers (as opposed to “tribelets”); and 4) there was Native-to-Native interactions but not so many with Europeans. For example, California hunter gatherers interacted with people from Mexico and local Kashaya Pomos in the Fort Ross area with Native Alaskans. The discussion of how indigenous peoples may have managed the environment by fire control was very enlightening. We sometimes underestimate the abilities of previous cultures. If you are interested in more information, refer to Dr. Lightfoot's book *Indians, Missionaries, and Merchants*.

During the brief Annual Meeting following Dr. Lightfoot's presentation **Vallejo's Restaurant** offered a fine Mexican buffet banquet. Unless we hear objections we are considering reserving the first Saturday in December for the next Society's Annual Meeting at Vallejo's Restaurant.

Upcoming Events

Experience the new Maidu Museum & Historic Site

Opening Day – **Saturday, February 13**

Opening program: 9:30 a.m.
Guided Tours: 10:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.
Story telling: 11:30 a.m. and 2:30 p.m.
New Exhibits: Come Alive 12:00 – 1 p.m.
Speaker: Dugan Auilar, “*Deeper Than Gold*”, 7:00 p.m.

Maidu Museum & Historic Site
1970 Johnson Ranch Drive, Roseville, CA 95661
916-774-5934
www.roseville.ca.us/indianmuseum

Advanced workshop in artifact identification

February 13-14, 2010

Current CASSP volunteers are invited to attend an advanced workshop in Oroville on February 13-14, 2010. This two day, learning-by-doing workshop will consist mainly of lab work as we catalog an archaeological collection of stone tools that was confiscated during criminal proceedings under ARPA. Plumas National Forest archaeologists, Jamie Moore and Mary Kliejunas will lead this workshop. Please visit the CASSP web site at www.cassp.org for more information. Anyone who has attended an initial volunteer training workshop is eligible to attend. There is no fee, but space is limited and pre-registration is required by contacting

Beth Padon at 562-431-0100 or at
bpadon@discoverywork.com

The Art and Science of Flintknapping

February 19 - 21, 2010

California Desert Studies Center (Zzyzx)

[<http://biology.fullerton.edu/dsc/pdf/courses2010winter.pdf>]

This is a weekend learning experience for those who want to make stone tools and understand the waste products of the reduction process. This anthropology class is taught by Dr. Jeanne Day Binning and Charles (Chuck) Bouscaren at the California State University Desert Studies Center (Zzyzx) near Baker, California. Students stay in a dormitory setting and five cafeteria-style meals are provided. The class is \$325.00 per person or \$610.00 per couple and starts at 7:00 p.m. on Friday evening and ends early Sunday afternoon. Most of the class time is spent doing hands-on activities; lectures occur on Friday and Saturday evenings. The class is limited to 23 students.

Each participant has the opportunity to haft what he or she manufactures (arrow point, dart point, or knife). Planned activities include heat treatment of silicious rocks, basic percussion biface reduction, basic pressure flaking (including notching), the use of an atlatl, and the use of a single-stave, self bow. Groundstone manufacture is also covered. Rock samples and different types of debitage are available for students to study during the class.

For more information, call (951) 827-5801 (University of California, Riverside Extension). Also, potential participants can register for the class by calling (951) 827-4105 or (800) 442-4990 or online at the UCR Extension website:
<http://www.extension.ucr.edu/schedule/index.html>.

Dr. Binning can be reached at 559-243-8219 (weekdays) and 559-433-1424 (evenings and weekends), if there are additional questions.

* Students need to bring bed clothes or a sleeping bag, protective leather (or equivalent) for lap and palm, sturdy gloves, shoes that cover the feet, and long pants. Tools and raw materials are provided.

Dillard Flintknapping Workshop

March 26 - 28, 2010

Tim Dillard will be teaching a flintknapping class this March at the Desert Studies Center. The total cost of the class for each person is \$225.00. The meals and sleeping accommodations are \$98.00. The class itself is \$127.00. If you wish to take the class, please send two checks or money orders to the address indicated below. One check or money order for \$98.00 should be paid to the order of the Desert Studies Center. The second check or money order for \$127.00 should be written to Tim Dillard. I am sorry that neither Tim nor the Center takes credit cards.

The class will start at 7:00 p.m. on Friday evening, March 26, 2010, with demonstrations by Tim. Students will be flintknapping with Tim all day Saturday and Sunday morning and early afternoon.

The workshop is not affiliated with any institution and no academic credit can be given. The practicum will focus on the knapping of various materials. Obsidian and some chert will be supplied. Although hammerstone use and pressure flaking will be covered, the use of antler-billet percussion to manufacture bifaces will be the primary focus of the class (copper billets will not be used). Hafting, fletching, dart throwing, debitage identification, etc. will not be taught in this class.

Tim likes to teach all stages of percussion reduction. Initial reduction and sectioning/spalling of raw material will be taught. Class members will have the opportunity to work with some heat-treated cherts. Participants are encouraged to bring their own raw materials if they desire materials with certain qualities.

The Desert Studies Center is located in San Bernardino County, California off Interstate 15, southwest of the town of Baker. The freeway off-ramp is Zzyzx Road. To find the Center, drive south on Zzyzx Road four miles until you reach a cluster of buildings. Zzyzx Road is paved for most of the four miles; there is one small section that is dirt and gravel. The Center is situated on the shore of Soda Dry Lake at an elevation of 237 meters (938 feet) amsl and at the western edge of the Mojave National Preserve.

Each participant should bring pillows and bedclothes or a sleeping bag, since only mattresses are provided by the Center. The bathrooms are separate from the sleeping accommodations. The cafeteria-style meals include a snack on Friday night, breakfast on Saturday and Sunday, bag lunches on Saturday and Sunday, and dinner Saturday evening.

Gloves and pieces of leather or other protective material, to be used for hand protection and lap pads, should be brought for use in the class. Copper pressure flakers will be provided. Also, antler billets for use during the class will be supplied. Long pants and shoes that cover the feet must be worn at all times while flintknapping. The Center has protective glasses that may be used by workshop participants.

Please send your checks or money orders to:

Jeanne Binning
1630 E Shea Dr.
Fresno, CA 93720

If you have any questions, please call or email Jeanne Binning. Her home phone number is 559-433-1424. She may also be reached at her work phone number, 559-243-8219. Jeanne's email address is jeanne_binning@juno.com.

Annual Flintknapping Workshop with Tim Dillard

Presented by the Center for American Archeology
May 31 to June 4, 2010

The Center for American Archeology is pleased to offer a week-long, hands-on workshop in flaked-stone tool manufacturing technology as a part of our summer calendar in 2010. Tim Dillard, a phenomenal flintknapper with over twenty-five years of experience, will lead the course.

Lectures on flaked-stone reduction, chert, quarrying strategies, local geology, and technical aspects of knapping will set the stage for work sessions in billet percussion and pressure flaking techniques. Tim is the master of the use of the traditional antler billet for percussion flaking. Chert collection trips and heat-treating sessions are also a part of the week's activities. Experienced and novice flintknappers alike are invited to take advantage of this exceptional opportunity.

Tuition is \$550 for the week and includes room, basic field lunch (sandwiches, chips, fruit, etc.) each day, and instruction from Tim. Each person also gets a one-year membership to the Center for American Archeology. Breakfast and dinner are on your own. Dorms are equipped with refrigerator, microwave, coffee pot, hotplate, outdoor grill, and campfire area. Also, there are two local restaurants. If you have your own tools, please feel free to bring them, but it is not required. Participants will stay at

one of the bunkhouse-style dormitories on the Center for American Archeology campus. The class is limited to 12 people.

Participants are responsible for making their own transportation arrangements. The Center can provide shuttle service to and from Lambert-St. Louis International Airport or the Alton, Illinois Amtrak station for a fee of \$20.00 each way.

Novices and experienced knappers alike are welcome. If you are interested in learning more about the strategies and techniques used by prehistoric peoples to create their tools, this is the workshop for you. To enroll, complete a registration form and return it to the CAA office along with a 30% deposit (\$165.00) or the full payment (\$550.00). Upon receipt of a completed Registration Form, a confirmation letter and a packet of additional information will be sent to you. A course syllabus will be provided upon arrival. Also, an Adult Medical Form and an Assumption of Risk/Permission to Photograph Form need to be completed before class starts. All the forms are available at the "Registration Packet" link on the Center for American Archeology web page: <http://www.caa-archeology.org/forms/>.

*The Center for American Archeology is an independent non-profit 501(c)(3) research and educational institution located along the banks of the Illinois River in Kampsville, Illinois. The Center was and is an important institution in the development of archeology in the United States. It is dedicated to the exploration of the cultures of prehistoric North American, particularly in the American Bottom, the region surrounding the confluence of the Mississippi River and the Illinois River. The Center is associated with years of excavation at the Koster Site in Greene County, Illinois and other significant prehistoric archaeological sites in the region. The museum and store at the Center are located in an early 1900s mercantile building listed on the National Register of Historic Places. The Center is located about 90 minutes north of the city of St. Louis and the famous Cahokia Mounds.

Yampa River Tour

May 23-30, 2010

\$1895/person (\$150 single supplement)

The Archaeological Conservancy is sponsoring a downriver adventure in Colorado and Utah, where you will float through Dinosaur National Monument

and experience incredible scenery first described by explorer John Wesley Powell. On the 70-mile journey down the Yampa and Green Rivers, you'll visit remote archaeological sites, including Fremont culture rock art panels and prehistoric rock shelters. David Grant Noble, author of Ancient Ruins of the Southwest will accompany the tour. Highlights include: Serviceberry Shelter—partially excavated hunter-gather shelter, Mantle Cave – an immense vaulted sandstone alcove that contains Fremont culture storage cysts, and Deluge Shelter – an archaic period rock shelter with pictographs of anthropomorphic figures.

Reservations are accepted on a first come basis. A non-refundable deposit is required with reservations. Full tour payment is due upon billing 60 days prior to departure.

For more information contact The Archaeological Conservancy 5301 Central Avenue NE, Suite 902, Albuquerque, NM 87108-1517 505-266-1540, tactours@nm.net

9th Annual ISHI Gathering and Seminar

May 6- 8, 2010

This event will be the ninth time scholars, historians, and the public have gathered to honor the memory of Ishi in the location where Ishi chose to come out of the wilderness. The Butte County Historical Society is, once again, coordinating the Annual Ishi

Gathering and Seminar. Our varied program activities appeal to all ages and draw participant out into the Oroville and Butte County community. Highlights include: bus tour, archery tournament, Ishi Day in the Park, Gathering of Scholars, Museum Tours, Dinner Program and a Tour of Oroville.

For more information contact Lucy Sperlin 530-533-9418

Peru

July 9-23, 2010

\$4995/person (\$1188 single supplement)

The Archaeological Conservancy is sponsoring a Peru Tour. The tour will include visits to the golden tombs of Moche on Peru's coastal plain to the splendor of Cuzco and the magic of Machu Picchu. Dr. John Henderson, an expert in the region's archaeology will join the group.

SAS members are attending. Reservations are accepted on a first come basis. A non-refundable deposit is required with reservations. Full tour payment is due upon billing 60 days prior to departure.

For more information contact The Archaeological Conservancy 5301 Central Avenue NE, Suite 902, Albuquerque, NM 87108-1517 505-266-1540, tactours@nm.net

2010 Officers

During the Annual Meeting the following slate of nominees was unanimously selected to serve as officers in 2010. Please support them.

Candidate	Office	Candidate	Office
John Foster	President	Dennis T. Fenwick	Member at Large
Lydia Peake	Vice-President	Jan Johansen	Member at Large
Carolyn McGregor	Secretary	Jeremy Johansen	Member at Large
Roger Peake	Treasurer	Tom Johansen, MD	Member at Large
April Farnham	Past President	Ruth McElhinney	Member at Large
		Diane Rosales	Member at Large

Renewal of Annual Memberships

January 1 starts our year. All memberships except those who join recently (after September, 2009) are renewed at this time. To date we have 23 paid memberships for 2010 out of a total of 68 memberships for 2009. Since membership dues are the primary source of funds for scholarships, please support the society by paying your 2010 ASAP.

The annual dues are:

Student/Limited Member	\$15
Individual Membership	\$30
Family Membership	\$40
Sponsor	\$100 - 499 (individual)
	\$500 - 999 (business)
Patron	\$1000

Membership Benefits

Individual and Student Limited: One-year subscription to SAS Newsletter

Members-only meetings

Members-only fieldwork

Field trips

Special Lectures

Classes and events sponsored by SAS

Family: All of the above for each Family Member

One SAS Newsletter per Family Membership

Sponsor: All of the above plus prominent mention in the SAS Newsletter and event programs for one year

Patron: All of the above plus autographed book from keynote speaker, as applicable

Please make out your check to “**Sacramento Archeological Society, Inc.**”

Sacramento Archeological Society, Inc.

P.O. Box 163287

Sacramento, CA 95816-9287

Thank you in advance for your prompt payment. We really appreciate your support.

Sacramento Archaeological Society, Inc.

Officers and Directors

President parkarky@yahoo.com	John Foster	916/967-6607
Vice President rapeake@att.net	Lydia Peake	916/371-6391
Treasurer rapeake@att.net	Roger Peake	916/371-6391
Secretary Sabrina53@earthlink.net	Carolyn McGregor	916/487-6218
Past President April_farnham@sbcglobal.net	April Farnham	916/371-6806
Member @ Large Fenwick_lewis@msn.com	Dennis T. Fenwick	916/373-1465
Member @ Large I@jeremyjohansen.com	Jeremy Johansen	530-848-5659
Member @ Large janjohansen@sbcglobal.net	Jan Johansen	530/756-6970
Member @ Large trjohansen@thegrid.net	Thomas Johansen, MD	530/756-6970
Member @/Large no email	Ruth McElhinney	916/923-3848
Member @ Large drosales@adp.state.ca.us	Diane Rosales	916/371-4596

Mark Your Calendars

January 23, 2010, Saturday – 2:00 – 5:00 p.m., 2009 Scholarship Winners Presentations by **Samuel Crenshaw, Sheel Jagani, Benjamin Harris, and Monica Nolte** and **potluck** at **Johansen's** home

February 13-14, 2010 – Advanced workshop in artifact identification for CASSP volunteers, www.cassp.org

February 13, 2010, Saturday - "Experience the new Maidu Museum & Historic Site" www.roseville.ca.us/indianmuseum

February 19-21, 2010, The Art and Science of Flintknapping, <http://www.extension.ucr.edu/schedule/index.html>

February 19, 2010, Thursday – 7:00 – 9:00 p.m., **Board Meeting** at **Rosales'** home

March 17- 20, 2010, SCA Annual Meeting, Riverside Convention Center www.scahome.org/meetings_events/index.html

March 25-28, 2010 - Dillard Flintknapping Workshop

March 25, 2010, Thursday – 7:00 – 9:00 p.m., **Board Meeting** at **Fenwick's** home

May 6-8, 2010 - 9th Annual ISHI Gathering and Seminar, contact Lucy Sperlin, 530-533-9418 for details

May 23-30, 2010, Yampa River Tour, tactours@nm.net

May 31 – June 4, 2010 - Annual Flintknapping Workshop with **Tim Dillard** at **Center for American Archeology**.

<http://www.caa-archeology.org/forms/>

July 9-23, 2010 – Peru Tour, tactours@nm.net

Note: SAS sponsored events are highlighted in blue.



A Non-Profit Corporation
P.O. Box 163287
Sacramento, CA 95816-9287