



Sacramento Archeological Society, Inc.

Newsletter

www.sacarcheology.org

July/August - 2014

UPCOMING EVENTS

August 19, 2014, Tuesday 1:30 pm - Tour of Statewide Museum Collections Center, California State Parks, 4940 Lang Avenue McClellan, CA 95652

October 18, 2014, Saturday 1:00 – 5:00 pm – Archaeology Symposium “Examining Archaeology: Looking In, Looking Back, and Looking Under” to Celebrate California Archaeology Month, at Maidu Museum & Historic Site

- Tour of Maidu Historic Site
- John Berg (Far Western) – “**Breaking New Ground: Native Americans in Archaeology**” (Film)
- Gerrit Fenenga (Cal Fire) – “**Sacramento Junior College and the Beginnings of Archaeology in Central California**”
- John Foster (California State Parks) – “**Archaeology Underwater: Explorations Beyond the Shores of Time**”

STATEWIDE MUSEUM COLLECTIONS CENTER TOUR

Tuesday, August 19, 2014, 1:30 p.m.

4940 Lang Ave.,

McClellan Park, CA 95652

The Statewide Museum Collections Center is a working collections management facility and its “open storage” concept allows tour participants to go behind the scenes for a close-up look at the diversity of materials acquired by cultural specialists throughout the state and how these historic objects are stored and preserved. The tour will start in the public exhibit area and take us through the collections processing rooms and 120,000 sq. ft. collections vault. The tour may also include the Department Archives, Photographic Archives, and Archaeology Laboratory, as tour staffing permits.

IMPORTANT DETAILS:

There are 20 spaces for visitors on the SAS tour. Please call or email Carolyn McGregor at 916-487-6218 or sabrina53@earthlink.net to make your reservation or if you have questions. If all 20 of our spaces are reserved, she will try to get any needed additional spaces on the other 1:30 tour. Please arrive by 1:15 so we can get checked-in as the tour will start promptly at 1:30. The exhibit in the lobby is very interesting and worth viewing while waiting for our tour to begin.

There is a \$5 admission fee per participant, any age. Please bring exact change, if possible, as the Center can only accept cash at this time and has limited change available. (No checks or credit/debit cards.)

The tour requires almost one mile of walking on concrete floors through cool storage areas; comfortable shoes and a sweater are recommended.

The tour is geared towards an audience 14 years of age and older and may not be relevant to young children.

Taking pictures or videos is not allowed in any part of the building. This policy includes the prohibition of cell phone photos.

**Sacramento Archeological Society and
Maidu Museum & Historical Site
IN CELEBRATION OF CALIFORNIA ARCHAEOLOGY
MONTH**

present

**"Examining Archaeology Looking in, Looking
back and Looking under"**

Tour and Lectures by Distinguished Archaeologists

Saturday, October 18, 2013

1:00 - 5:00 p.m.

Maidu Museum & Historical Site
1970 Johnson Ranch Drive
Roseville, California 95661

- Tour of Maidu Rock Art
- John Berg (Far Western) -
"Breaking New Ground: Native
American in Archaeology"
- Gerrit Fenenga (Cal Fire) -
"Sacramento Junior Colleges
Role in the Beginning of
Archaeology in California"
- John Foster (California State
Parks) - "Archaeology
Underwater Explorations:
Beyond the Shores of Time"



Cupules at Maidu Historical

Site

Save this date.

ORKNEYS, SCOTLAND TOUR

August 15 – 22, 2015

The Society is coordinating an archeological trip to the Orkneys in Scotland. It is over a year away but reservations are required now due to the limited accommodations. Caz Mamwell and Dr. Dave Lawrence are resident archaeologists who run Orkney Archaeology Tours, and they would lead us on tour and make all arrangements. They are asking for commitment by **July 8, 2014** since there are limited hotel rooms on the island, and these rooms are in demand during "digging season". Also, in mid-July Caz indicates that National Geographic is coming out with a cover and feature story about the

Orkney sites, specifically the temple compound, called the “Ness of Brodgar”. Then, she predicts, there will be much more interest in their little part of the world!

There are sites that are between 6000 to 8000 years old on the Orkneys, and several years ago archaeologists found a previously unearthed temple compound, believed to be among the largest of European Neolithic compounds. The digging season is only six weeks each summer, and we would want to go when we could meet the archaeologists that are excavating, and see what they are seeing – as they uncover it. The period of August 15 to 22, 2015 has been reserved for the Society.

Take a look at an excellent visual “tour” of Orkney’s archaeology and the compound, filmed by BBC. Copy the link into your browser, and you will be tuned in to a BBC special on the new site. <http://m.youtube.com/watch?v=aEqEoWKft58>
Be forewarned – it’s about an hour long – but well worth the watch!

If you are interested, contact Ruth McElinney at GaelForce7@gmail.com as soon as possible. **There is limited availability and the booking much be initiated by July 8th.**

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PAST ARCHAEOLOGICAL ACTIVITIES

ECLECTIC ARCHEOLOGICAL EXCHANGE

Ancestors of Clovis People

On Saturday, June 14th four Sacramento Archeological Society members presented information on the theory that Solutreans who lived circa 16,500 to 25,000 years ago during the Last Glacial Maximum (LGM) in southwestern Europe introduced Clovis technology to the Americas. Diane Sangster and Michael Barham reviewed prehistoric American sites, noted artifacts that are similar in form to Solutrean flaked stone artifacts, and discussed the possible transfer of the technology to the Americas.

Dennis Fenwick continued the discussion by tracing human chronology from 1.77 million BP through Neanderthal to Clovis. Dennis also provided a perspective on the archaeology of Solutrean Culture found in present day Spain and related examples of Solutrean technology to discoveries at the Gault site in Texas.

The presentations were scholarly and well documented with sources including materials from the Paleo-American Odyssey Conference in Santa Fe, New Mexico in October 2013; from Mike Collins, PhD, (Texas State Archeologist and visionary of the Gault site); and from Dennis J. Stanford and Bruce A. Bradley’s book, [Across Atlantic Ice](#).

To cap the topic Tom Johansen introduced mitochondrial DNA as applied to human origins. His talk included mitochondrial Eve and Out of Africa. He concluded with a review of the migration of haplogroup X2a from Europe to the New World and presented evidence that X2a should be considered to be a minor First American founding lineage along with haplogroups A, B, C, and D.

All in all the discussions of these intriguing and controversial topics were of great interest to the twenty plus attendees. The evidence that a group of Solutreans came to North America and sourced the Clovis culture is substantial yet still remains unverified. If not Solutrean, then who were the pre-Clovis people?

MEMBER'S CORNER

Many of our members enjoy their own archaeological adventures. Please share them with us. Document your experiences and send them to Jan Johansen at janjohansen@sbcglobal.net for publishing.

Please welcome Dan and Vicki Foster as new members. They joined the group for the Arizona tour and have already been a great addition to the Society.

If you haven't visited the Sacramento Archeological Society Inc.'s web site www.sacarcheology.org recently, take a look. It has a facelift. Note that we are preserving our history by archiving newsletters, calendars and scholarship awards on this site.

SCHOLARSHIPS

2014 Scholars

Sacramento Archeological Society, Inc. is pleased to announce our 2014 scholarship recipients. The interest was high and the candidates were exceptional. Thanks to the SAS members who contributed funds we were able to provide financial support to six scholars. A presentation by the scholars will be scheduled for early 2014.

Antonietta Catanzariti is a Ph.D. candidate at University of California, Berkeley majoring in Near Eastern Art and Archaeology. Her goal is to obtain a university or college teaching position and conduct her own archeological projects in the Middle East. She has been participating in archaeological excavations since 2003 in Italy, Syria, Lebanon and Jordan. This scholarship will help fund her project: a survey of archaeological sites in Qara Dagh Valley, Iraqi-Kurdistan.

Kasey Cole is a graduate student at California State University, Chico majoring in Anthropology. She intends to work in the field of Zooarchaeology. To strengthen her research and communication skills she plans to attend the Zooarchaeology and Field Ecology Field School organized by Jack Broughton, Ph.D. from the University of Utah. This field school is an intensive four-week course located at Eagle Lake in Northern California. The SAS scholarship will support her attendance at this field school.

Jesica Jayd Lewis is a graduate student at North Carolina State University (NVSU) majoring in Ancient History with a minor in Classical Archaeology. Her goal is to earn a Ph.D. and teach and research history and archaeology professionally. Since 2011, she has worked as a volunteer assistant at the NCSU Archaeology Laboratory, doing mainly ceramics reconstruction. She also volunteered on the Azoria project in Kavousi, Crete last summer as an excavation and finds-processing assistant. This year she plans to participate in the Palatine East Potter Project (PEPP; Rome, Italy) and the Najerilla Valley Research Project (NVRP; Camprovin, Spain). Both projects will hopefully contribute to the larger field of Roman history and archaeology and contribute to her research for her Master's thesis on cycles of economic complexity in marginal spaces of the Roman Empire. The SAS scholarship will support her attendance at these projects.

Heather Macinnes is a graduate student at California State University, Chico majoring in Anthropology. She plans to work as a professor of bioarchaeology and consult on forensic anthropology cases. She was a research coordinator at the University of New Mexico for the Office of the Medical Investigator and had the opportunity to attend scene investigations, witness autopsies and

help collect skeletal measurements with the local Forensic Anthropologist. In June 2014 she will be attending the Aditu Servicios Arqueologicos Mortuary Archaeology Field School in Uharte-Arakil, Navarre, Spain. This field school is involved with the excavation of a 12th century Romanesque church that was built on an earlier Roman Mansio. The main objective of the project is to learn about the medieval population of Navarre through the assessment of skeletal indicators of diet, pathology, and biological profile (age, sex, ancestry and stature). The SAS scholarship will support her attendance at this field school.

Bonny O'Neill is a senior at California State University, Chico majoring in Anthropology. Her goal is to become a professional archaeologist with emphasis on gender and feminism. She attended a ten day training field school while studying in Ghana and learned basic excavation procedure. This summer she plans to attend the Betty's Hope Plantation Field School in Antigua. The SAS scholarship will support her attendance at this field school.

Julia Prince is a graduate student at California State University, Chico majoring in Anthropology. She plans to obtain a position doing bioarchaeology and forensic anthropology. She has worked as an Osteologist and Archaeologist in the Stable Isotope Preparation Laboratory and has volunteered in the Human Identification Laboratory. For her thesis she is studying migration and acculturation that occurred in the Santa Clara Valley between 1870 and 1935. By analyzing a sample population from the Santa Clara County Valley Medical Center Cemetery, she hopes to identify the dietary variation within the valley. She will use stable isotope analysis and compare it to the biological profile of those in the sample. The SAS scholarship will provide funding for preliminary samples for the stable isotope analysis at the UC Davis Stable Isotope Facility.

Past Scholars

After Kyle Lee-Crossett, 2013 scholarship recipient, finishes his internship with the Archaeology Lab at the Presidio of San Francisco he is going back to Catalhoyuk this summer, where he will be doing on-site collections management with the finds lab. In the fall, he starts his MA in Public Archaeology at University College London. We wish Kyle the best of studies.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL REFERENCES

[“Oldest Homo Sapiens Genome Pinpoints Neanderthal Input”](#)

“Scrutiny of the genomes of living people and ancient Neanderthals has shown that 1% to 3% of the DNA of Europeans and Asians come from Neanderthals... The interbreeding probably took place in the Middle East, as moderns first made their way out of Africa.” On the other hand the nuclear genome of the femur found in Spain in 2008 was completely sequenced and its sequences indicate that it was recently introduced.

Ann Gibbons, 2014-3-28, Science, page 1417.

[“New Sites Bring the Earliest Americans Out of the Shadows”](#)

A human skull buried near the bones of wild vicuna, guanaco and deer was dated to between 12,000 and 12,500 years ago was found in the Andes. “We have the highest Ice Age site in the Americas with a really successful human occupation,” states archeologist, Kurt Rademaker. Stemmed, fluted “fishtail points reminiscent of Clovis points in appearance and age, dating as far back as 13,000 years ago in Uruguay and Tierra del Fuego led some researchers to suggest that the Clovis and South American traditions both arose from an earlier culture that already made bifacial points. I think it's irrefutable

that by 13,000 years ago, South America was occupied by people with their own cultural and technological traditions,” geoarchaeologist Michael Water of Texas A&M University, College Station says.

Ann Gibbons, 2014-5-9 Science, pages 567-8.

“Beyond the Temples”

“Turning their backs on spectacular monument, archaeologists are studying ordinary households to uncover the daily rhythms of long-lost cities.” The article presents archeological finds at ancient Izapa, Teotihuacan, and Mayapan. Preliminary findings at Izapa hint at a lifestyle gap. “Mendelsohn says, it ‘seems like rich people were here’”. “In Teotihuacan, for example, neighborhoods were economically mixed, says Ian Robertson, an archaeologist who studied Teotihuacan at Stanford University in California.” In contrast Mayapan was a melting pot of people “forcibly relocated” from all over the peninsula.

Lizzie Wade., 2014-5-16 Science, pages 684-6.

”Bones From a Watery ‘Black Hole’ Confirm First American Origins”

Michael Balter, 2014-06-16, Science, pages 680-681

“Late Pleistocene Human Skeleton and mtDNA Link Paleoamericans and Modern Native Americans”

“Because of differences in craniofacial morphology and dentition between the earliest American skeletons and modern Native Americans, separate origins have been postulated for them, despite genetic evidence to the contrary. We describe a near-complete human skeleton with an intact cranium and preserved DNA found with extinct fauna in a submerged cave on Mexico’s Yucatan Peninsula. This skeleton dates to between 13,000 and 12,000 calendar years ago and has Paleoamerican craniofacial characteristics and a Beringian-derived mitochondrial DNA (mtDNA) haplogroup (D1). Thus, the differences between Paleoamericans and Native Americans probably resulted from in situ evolution rather than separate ancestry.”

James C. Chatters et. al., 2014-06-16, Science, pages 750 - 754.