



Sacramento Archeological Society, Inc. Newsletter

www.sacarcheology.org

March/April - 2016

UPCOMING EVENTS

April 24, 2016, 2:00-5:00 p.m. – “Our Neandertal Heritage” by Teresa Steele, PhD and Tim Weaver, PhD UC Davis at Yolo County Library, Arthur F. Turner Branch 1212 Merkley Avenue, West Sacramento, CA 95691

April 24, 2016, 5:00-7:00 p.m. Board Meeting after presentations at Dennis and Martha’s home.

May 1, 2016 – Scholarship applications are due.

May 4-6, 2016 – Prehistory at Clear Lake Tour

May 5, 2016 – Board Meeting

June 11, 2016, Saturday – Eclectic Archeological Exchange at Carolyn and Gordon McGregor’s

July 16 to July 24, 2016 (approximate dates) – Paleo-Indian Oregon Tour

September 27- October 12, 2016 (approximate dates) – Utah Rock Art Tour

October 15, 2016 – Maidu Museum and Historical Site Event

December 3, 2016 – Annual Meeting at Carolyn and Gordon McGregor’s

Our Neandertal Heritage

By

Teresa Steele, PhD Anthropology at University of California, Davis

and **Tim Weaver, PhD** Anthropology at University of California, Davis

Sunday, April 24, 2016

2:00 – 5:00 p.m.

at

Yolo County Library, Arthur F. Turner Branch

1212 Merkley Avenue,

West Sacramento, CA 95691

Agenda

2:00 **Teresa Steele, PhD**, “Varsche Rivier 003 (South Africa): recent investigations into behavioral variation during the Middle Stone Age and implication for modern human origins”

3:00 **Tim Weaver, PhD**, “The Role of History and Chance in Human Evolution”

4:30 Wrap up and preparation for a 5:00 close of facility

5:00 Follow up Pot Luck at Dennis Fenwick’s

No entry fee is charged but donations to the scholarship fund are welcome. A pot-luck will be held following the event at Dennis and Martie Fenwick’s home. For more information please contact Dennis Fenwick at dennis.t.fenwick@msn.com.

Teresa Steele, PhD Anthropology UCD

Title “Varsche Rivier 003 (South Africa): recent investigations into behavioral variation during the Middle Stone Age and implication for modern human origins”

Abstract

The archaeological record of southern Africa documents a critical phase of human evolution: modern human origins. The ancestors of all living humans evolved in Africa sometime during the Middle (781,000-126,000 years ago) to Late (126,000-11,400 years ago) Pleistocene. Because of this, the Middle Stone Age (MSA) has received intense attention; however the MSA is best documented from the coastal and montane zones of the Fynbos. We seek a better understanding of variation during the MSA, and especially of how humans responded to different environments. With the goal of investigating how humans adapted to a marginal ecological zone, in 2009 we started a project in southern Namaqualand, South Africa. We have now conducted four field seasons at the site, and in this presentation, I will provide an over-view of what we have discovered and discuss the implications of our findings for modern human origins.

Bio

Dr. Teresa E. Steele is an Associate Professor in the Evolutionary Wing of the Department of Anthropology, University of California, Davis (USA) and an Associated Researcher of the Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology (Leipzig, Germany). She graduated with a B.S. in Anthropology and Human Biology from Emory University (1996) and received her Ph.D. in Anthropology from Stanford University (2002). After lectureships at Stanford University and the University of Wisconsin, Madison, she held a post-doctoral fellowship in the Human Evolution Department, Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology (2004-2006). She joined the faculty at UC Davis in the fall of 2006. Her research focuses on the Late Pleistocene (~130,000-10,000 years ago) and modern human origins. In particular, she uses zooarchaeology (the study of animal bones from archaeological sites) to investigate ancient diets, demography, and technology. She has been conducting research in the Western Cape of South Africa since 2003, alongside research projects on similarly aged sites in Morocco and France, which allows for a diverse view of human behavioral variation during the Late Pleistocene.

Tim Weaver PhD Anthropology UCD

Title “The Role of History and Chance in Human Evolution”

Abstract

One of Charles Darwin’s important contributions is that he produced some of the first evolutionary trees. Indeed, the only figure in Origin of Species is an evolutionary tree. The branching process depicted by a tree is very different from the ladder-like view of the relationships among species common in Darwin’s time and still often presented in popular depictions of evolution. Branching means that each species has a unique history—it has taken its own path—which, in turn, allows chance to play a significant role in the outcomes of evolution. In this talk, I will consider the role of history and chance in human evolution. More specifically, I will discuss how conceptualizing human evolution as a branching process provides insights into why we are different from our closest relatives, the Neandertals.

Bio

Tim Weaver is an Associate Professor in the Department of Anthropology, University of California, Davis and an Associated Researcher of the Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology. He graduated with a double major in Computer Science and Earth Sciences from Dartmouth College (1995) and received a Ph.D. in Anthropology from Stanford University (2002). He was a postdoc in the Department of Zoology, University of Wisconsin, Madison (2003-2004) and the Human Evolution

Department, Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology (2004-2006). He studies human evolution, with a focus on the origins, evolution, and disappearance of Neandertals, and the related topic of the origins of humans who were anatomically and behaviorally modern. While his emphasis is on the later phases of human evolution, he has also worked on earlier periods, mostly in the context of the evolution of human bipedal walking and running and childbirth. He strives to integrate approaches and datasets from population and molecular genetics with traditional studies of the fossil and archaeological records.

Clear Lake Tour

Wednesday, May 4, 2016 to Friday, May 6, 2016

Sacramento Archeological Society is pleased to offer a “prehistory tour” of the Clear Lake area. This tour is a follow up to our “Talking Stone and Sacred Stories” event at the Maidu Museum and Historical Site on November 7, 2015 when we showed the outstanding film, “A Walk through Time: A Story of Anderson Marsh”. This tour will take you to sites introduced in the film. We are pleased to have Dino Beltran, Dr. John Parker, Deborah McLear-Gary and Deanna Commons from the Archaeological Conservancy lead the tour.

The itinerary for the tour is as follows:

May 4, 2016, Wednesday:

Presentations at Best Western El Grande Inn, Clear Lake, CA following dinner - Welcome, Overview of the Tour, Review of Lake County Archaeology, Anderson Marsh, Borax Lake Site by Dianna Commons, ...

May 5, 2016, Thursday:

Borax Lake Site (One of The Archeological Conservancy properties) – led by Deanna Commons
Anderson Marsh State Park - led by John Parker and Dino Beltran
Mt. Konokti Obsidian Source – led by Deborah McLear-Gary

May 6, Friday:

Keystone Petroglyphs
Reeves Canyon House pits and Copsy Creek Grooves (tentative)

Lodging: May 4 and 5th at Best Western El Grande Inn, 15135 Lakeshore Drive, Clearlake, CA 95422
[707-994-2000](tel:707-994-2000).

Tour Reservations: **The number of attendees is limited to 30.** Please send Dan Foster an email, calfirearchy@gmail.com to inquire if there are any vacant spots left to fill. A donation check for \$25/person to confirm your attendance is suggested. Please send it to

Sacramento Archeological Society, Inc.

P.O. Box 163287

Sacramento, CA 95816-9287

The donation will be used for scholarships.

The tour is for members only. If you are not a member and wish to attend, complete the membership application and payment of dues in addition to your reservation.

A signed Release of Liability form will be required from all participants.

CALENDAR PLANNING

Eclectic Archeological Exchange

June 11, 2016, Saturday

Carolyn & Gordon McGregor's

1334 Mission Ave. Carmichael, CA 95608

In August, 2015 several members of Sacramento Archeological Society, Inc. joined members of the Council for British Archaeology for an archaeological tour of the Scottish Orkney. Orkney has world famous Neolithic villages of Ness of Brodgar currently being excavated and Skara Brae, Maeshowe chambered tomb and amazing henge monuments of Brodgar and Stennes – all part of our World Heritage Site. Jan Johansen and others will share photos and stories from their visits to these sites.

Paleo-Indian Oregon Tour

We are excited to announce planning for a tour of Paleo-Indian sites in Oregon. The target time frame for this tour is the week of **Saturday, July 16 through Sunday, July 24.**

We anticipate that **Dr. Dennis Jenkins** and **Dr. Patrick O'Grady**. In addition to visiting **Connely Caves** (where the University of Oregon holds a field school), we also may visit the following sites:

- **Sage Hen Gap** 17,400 BP?
- **Rimrock Draw Rock Shelter** 15,400 BP? (the location of another field school),
- **Sheep Mountain Clovis site**
- **Fort Rock**
- **Paisley Caves** 15,400 BP? (for the second time)

Other places of interest that may be added to the tour include

- **Fort Rock**; major volcanic sites including **Glass Buttes** rising 2,000 feet high with red and brown obsidian
- **Favell Museum** in Klamath Falls <http://www.favellmuseum.org/> with 100,000 Indian artifacts including a **fire opal arrowhead**,
- **John Day Fossil Beds**
- **Deschutes Brewery**
- **Bend Brewing Co.** and much more.

Dennis Fenwick is organizing the tour and wishes to know which SAS members are interested. Please check your calendars and, if you are interested in going on the tour, put a hold on your calendars, and inform Dennis at dennis.t.fenwick@msn.com that you are interested and indicate if you have any date conflicts during this period

Utah Rock Art Tour

The Sacramento Archeological Society, Inc. is sponsoring a fall 2016 trip to Utah to explore rock art and native American culture. The state is well known for its natural beauty and its many national parks. Perhaps lesser known are the estimated 7500 rock art sites throughout the state. We will visit several of the spectacular rock art sites in **eastern Utah** that illustrate Archaic (Barrier Canyon Style) chronologically followed by Anasazi, Fremont, Formative and Ute. Rock art will be the focus of the tour but we also plan to visit cultural and historic sites, museums, a dinosaur quarry and enjoy the natural beauty of the area.



Horseshoe Canyon



McConkie Ranch

The target time frame for this tour is two weeks in late September and early October (i.e. **Tuesday, September 27, 2016 through Tuesday, October 11, 2016**. These dates may change slightly as planning proceeds.) You will need to add your travel time to and from Utah. We are also suggesting other sites that would not be part of the organized tour for which extra time would be needed.

The Tour is being organized into geographic “clusters” identified by a significant town in the area where we will find lodging. If you have time constraints, you may pick only the clusters that fit your schedule. Preliminary target sites are noted for each cluster.

Cluster 1: Vernal and Price, Utah

McConkie Ranch, Utah Field House of Natural History Museum, Dinosaur National Monument
Utah State University Prehistoric Museum, Nine-Mile Canyon

Cluster 2: Green River, Utah

San Rafael Swell and The Shute, Rochester, Buckhorn Wash, Thompson Wash (aka Sege Canyon)
Option - Head of Sinbad rock art (perhaps one of the finest examples of known Barrier Canyon style rock art even though figures are only about three feet tall on two small panels)
Option - Horseshoe Canyon/Great Gallery (part of Canyonlands National Park on the west side) The Great Gallery is a “must see” for those serious about Barrier Canyon style rock art.

Cluster 3: Moab, Utah

Arches National Park (Kane Creek), Court House Wash, Dead Horse Point, Canyonlands National Park, State Highway 279 scenic by-way (North and South Bank of Colorado River)

Cluster 4: Blanding, Utah and Cortez, CO

Newspaper Rock, Edge of the Cedars State Park, Huck’s Museum
Cortez Cultural Center, Anasazi Heritage Center/Escalante Pueblo
Ute Mountain Tribal Park

In addition to the “organized tour other places of interest in the area include Capitol Reef National Park, Bryce and Zion National Parks and Mesa Verde National Park (Its entrance is near Cortez, CO).

Tour Reservations: Please check your calendars and, if you are interested in going on all or part of the tour, put a hold on your calendar, and send **Roger and Lydia Peake** an email at rapeake@att.net that you are interested in the tour. Indicate the individuals in your party who may be attending and when you are free to attend.

The number of attendees is limited to 25 and sign-ups are on a first-come, first-served basis, so please make your reservation as soon as possible. A \$50 donation to the scholarship fund is requested.

The tour is for members in good standing with membership dues current for 2016 only. If you are not a member and wish to attend, complete the membership application and pay the dues. For

information on how to become a member refer to the following membership information or www.sacarcheology.org.

Your trip planning committee is: Roger and Lydia Peake, Jan and Tom Johansen, Diane Sangster, and Michael Barham.

MEMBER'S CORNER

Renewal of Annual Memberships

All memberships are renewable on **January 1** annually except for those who join recently (after September of the previous year). Please support the society by paying your **2016** dues. **Remember your dues make scholarships possible.** We keep overhead low so that the funds can be used to support students. You may now use our web site <http://sacarcheology.org/society-membership/> to renew and make payment using a **credit card or Paypal.**

The annual dues are:

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

Alternatively, please make out your check to “**Sacramento Archeological Society, Inc.**” and mail it to:

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.

Annual Dues for 2016

Name(s): _____ Email: _____ Phone: _____

_____ Email: _____ Phone: _____

Address: _____

Student/Limited Member	\$15	_____	\$_____
Individual Membership	\$30	_____	\$_____
Family Membership	\$40	_____	\$_____
Sponsor	\$100	_____	\$_____
Scholarship Donation		_____	\$_____

Total enclosed \$_____

ARCHAEOLOGICAL REFERENCES

"The 5300-year-old *Helicobacter pylori* genome of the Iceman""

"The stomach bacterium *Helicobacter pylori* is one of the most prevalent human pathogens. It has dispersed globally with its human host, resulting in a distinct phylogeographic pattern that can be used to reconstruct both recent and ancient human migrations. The extant European population of *H. pylori* is known to be a hybrid between Asian and African bacteria, but there exist different hypotheses about when and where the hybridization took place, reflecting the complex demographic history of Europeans. Here, we present a 5300-year-old *H. pylori* genome from a European Copper Age glacier mummy. The "Iceman" *H. pylori* is a nearly pure representative of the bacterial population of Asian origin that existed in Europe before hybridization, suggesting that the African population arrived in Europe within the past few thousand years." (*Science*, V. 51, 2016-1-8, p. 162-165)

"Early human presence in the Arctic: Evidence from 45,000-year-old mammoth remains"

"Archaeological evidence from hum dispersal through northern Eurasia before 40,000 years ago is rare. In west Siberia, the northernmost find of that age is located at 57 degrees N. Elsewhere, the earliest presence of humans in the Arctic is commonly thought to be circa 35,000 to 30,000 years before the present. A mammoth kill site in the central Siberian Arctic, dated to 45,000 years before the present, expands the populated area to almost 72 degrees N. The advancement of mammoth hunting probably allowed people to survive and spread widely across northernmost Arctic Siberia."

A partial carcass of a woolly mammoth (*Mammuthus primigenius*) was excavated in 2012 from frozen sediments exposed in a coastal bluff on the eastern shore of Yenisei Bay, 1.8 km north of the Sopochnaya Karga (SK) meteorological station. The SK mammoth was "a young male around 15 years old, according to the tooth change model". Its bones exhibited a number of usual injuries. The shape of one injury suggests that the "tip of the weapon that damaged the jugal bone had a thinned symmetric outline... and was relatively sharp". This was probably the result of a missed blow. Another injury was "to the fifth left rib, caused by a slicing blow, inflicted from the front". "It was strong enough to go through skin and muscles and damage the bone." "The SK mammoth was also hit in the left scapula at least three times." Finally "a much more powerful blow damaged the spine of the left scapula. It may have been imparted by a thrusting spear, practically straight from the front." (*Science*, V. 351, 2016-1-23, p. 260-263)