



Sacramento Archeological Society, Inc. Newsletter

www.sacarcheology.org

November/December - 2016

UPCOMING EVENTS

November 5, 2016, Saturday – 6:00 to 7:30 p.m. - Board Meeting at Roger and Lydia Peake's home
December 3, 2016, Saturday – "Current Neandertal Research and Identification of Carbonized Wood Remains"
by University of California Scholars and Annual Meeting at Carolyn and Gordon McGregor's
January 15, 2017, Sunday, 1:00-5:00 p.m. – SAS Scholar Symposium at Yolo County Library, Arthur F. Turner
Branch 1212 Merkley Avenue, West Sacramento, CA 95691

Sacramento Archeological Society, Inc.'s Annual Meeting

Featuring

"Current Neandertal Research and Identification of Carbonized Wood Remains"

By University of California Scholars

Saturday, December 3, 2016

12:00 – 6:00 p.m.

at

Carolyn and Gordon McGregor's home

1334 Mission Ave.

Carmichael, CA 95608

At our annual meeting we are pleased to have four University of California Scholars who received SAS scholarships present their research, field work, and training. **Naomi Martisius**, **Susan E. Lagle** and **Samantha Dunham** have been studying Neandertals in Europe. Each will speak on their research and experiences. **Mallory Melton** is analyzing the La Blanca wood assemblage. She will speak on her training in taxonomic identification of carbonized wood remains that she received at the Boston University's Wood Identification Workshop.

Naomi Martisius is a graduate student at University of California, Davis majoring in Anthropology. Her goal is to earn a Ph.D. and become a professor at a research institution. As part of her dissertation work she has been attempting to locate and study bone tools made by Neandertals. To this end during the summer of 2015 and 2016 she spent time in France analyzing screened materials from three recently excavated Middle Paleolithic sites. She targeted bone fragments < 2.5 cm. that were retained

in the screens where two of the four Middle Paleolithic pieces were found. We will be very interested in the results of her search and the methods used to identify Neandertal bone tools.

Susan E. Lagle is a graduate student at the University of California, Davis. She is majoring in Paleoanthropology. The summer of 2016 continued her research of archaeological assemblages in France. The primary goal of her study is to test the hypothesis that the Quina Mousterian, a distinct variant of Middle Paleolithic stone artifact assemblages reflects Neandertal mobility within a greater cold-climate subsistence and settlement strategy. She will address this through a comparative zooarchaeological study of three Quina Mousterian faunal assemblages from southwest France, centering on mobility-related questions such as occupation length, task specialization, and seasonality. We look forward to a research report.

Samantha Dunham is currently a senior at the University of California, Berkeley. She is majoring in Evolutionary Anthropology and English. The summer of 2016 she was selected by her professor to participate in a program studying Neandertals in Belgium at the site of Trou Al'Wesse with Dr. Rebecca Miller. This project is investigating the climatic and environmental context and chronology of human occupation across the Middle to Upper Paleolithic transition. The goal of the project is to understand the factors that affected Neandertals extinction and the arrival of modern humans in northwest Europe. Trou Al'Wesse is a rare site with intact stratigraphy and has never been excavated before. They hope to uncover Mousterian layers and other evidence for Neandertal occupation. We look forward to hearing about the Neandertal discoveries.

Mallory Melton is a graduate student at the University of California, Santa Barbara. She is majoring in Anthropology. The summer of 2016 she attended Boston University's Wood Identification Workshop. She will take information and techniques from this workshop to analyze the La Blanca wood assemblage at UCSB. La Blanca, a settlement on the Pacific coast of Guatemala emerged as a site of region-wide population aggregation during the Middle Formative period (900-600 BCE.) She hopes to conduct the first analysis of Middle Formative period wood use in the Soconusco region. We look forward to a report.

Annual Meeting Program

The schedule for the event is as follows:

12:00 – Meet and Greet

12:30 - Lunch

1:30 - SAS Annual Meeting with election of officers

2:30 - **Naomi Martisius** – Neandertal Bone Tools

3:45 - **Susan E. Lagle** – Neandertal Mobility within a greater Cold-Climate Subsistence and Settlement Strategy

4:15 – Break

4:30 - **Samantha Dunham** – Factors Affecting Neandertal Extinction

5:15 - **Mallory Melton** - Identification of Carbonized Wood Remains

6:00 – Close

Lunch will be provided by Carolyn McGregor. The cost of the lunch and contribution to our scholarship fund is \$15 per person. In addition, **students** who attend apply the \$15 charge to next year's membership and **no charge** will be collected for the dinner.

For Carolyn to manage her catering PLEASE provide your **RSVP** by **Monday, November 28** to Carolyn McGregor at 916-487-6218 or sabrina53@earthlink.net.

Don't miss this annual meeting. Bring a friend.

Annual Scholar Symposium

By

Scholarship Recipients

Sunday, January 15, 2017

1:00 – 5:00 p.m.

at

Yolo County Library, Arthur F. Turner Branch

1212 Merkley Avenue,

West Sacramento, CA 95691

In 2016 Sacramento Archeological Society awarded nine scholarships to support archeological/anthropological education. Six of these individuals will be presenting at the Scholar Symposium on January 15, 2017 on the experiences made possible by the scholarships.

Roshanne Shirley Bakhtiary is an Evolutionary Anthropology graduate student at the University of California, Davis. The summer of 2016 she directed a field school where an inland midden deposit in Santa Clara County (CA-SCL-330) was excavated. She used the scholarship award to conduct stable oxygen isotopic analyses of ancient shellfish collected from the site. This method will be utilized to estimate the season of death and thus the season of harvest from this Bay Area resource.

Amanda Dobrov is a senior at the University of California, Berkeley majoring in Anthropology and Classical Civilizations. The summer of 2016 she was part of a team at the American Academy in Rome in connection with the Palatine East Pottery Project, (PEPP). She measured, weighed, and counted diagnostic pottery sherds. By analyzing the collection of African Amphora she plans to begin her research project for her senior honors thesis. Ultimately, she is hoping this work will help her answer a research question about trade between Rome and its colonies in North Africa during the Late Roman Empire.

Sarah A. Hall is a graduate student at the California State University, Chico, majoring in Anthropology. The summer of 2016 she studied adult skeletons from the Santa Clara Valley Medical Center Cemetery (SCVMCC) collection, housed at California State University, Chico. The anatomical method and FORDIS regression formulae for stature estimation will be compared. The anatomical method is considered more accurate, but regression formulae are frequently employed because they are acceptably accurate, expedient and user-friendly. However, pathological remains may affect height in ways unaccounted for in regression formulae.

Anna Khrustaleva is a senior at the University of California Santa Barbara, majoring in Anthropology. During the summer of 2016 she was the only undergraduate to attend a six week excavation project under the direction of Dr. Grey Wilson, UCSB on Audrey-North Site, a lower Illinois Mississippian River Valley occupation site. This field school has helped Anna direct her area of focus in graduate school as well as develop her archaeological skills.

Jason Miszaniec is a graduate student at the University of California, Davis, majoring in Evolutionary Anthropology. During a two week field season in 2016 he collected organic samples for radiocarbon dating from the Difchahak (NOB-005) site at Shaktoolik, Norton Sound, Alaska. The funds that he received from Sacramento Archeological Society, Inc. were applied to the cost of radiocarbon dating of samples. The radiocarbon samples will be crucial in the understanding of the site's occupational history and will aid Jason place the site in a wider cultural chronology of the region.

Jewell Cora Soriano is a senior at the University of California Berkeley double majoring in Anthropology and Rhetoric. The summer of 2016 she worked on an archaeological project in Bolivia. The Taraco Archaeological Project has been excavating the area since 1992 and during the 2016 summer began a targeted mapping project of key archaeological sites on the Taraco Peninsula. Since Jewell is very interested in mapping technology, she was asked to be one of two undergraduates participating in the project. She analyzed spatial distribution and use patterns of Republican-era and contemporary features to study landscape change after sixty years of agrarian reform.

Put on January 15, 2017 your calendar. These will be diversely interesting presentations.

PAST ARCHEOLOGICAL ACTIVITIES

Paleo-Indian Culture in California

On Saturday, October 15, 2015 Sacramento Archeological Society, Inc sponsored a seminar on Paleo-Indian Culture in California. The event was hosted by and held at Maidu Museum and Historical Site, Roseville, California. Dan Foster kicked off the event by leading a group of 24 on a tour of the Maidu Historical Site. After describing his involvement to survey the site and praising Roseville for their preservation efforts he showed attendees the location of several village sites and pointed out the numerous bedrock mortars that were used for acorn food production. He also showed the group very old rock art, incised in boulders.

Moving the event indoors John Foster reviewed Sacramento Archeological Society's visits to ancient archeological sites. These included Borax Lake, California; Gault Site, Texas; Spring Lake, San Marcos, Texas; Black Water Draw, Clovis, New Mexico; Santa Cruz Island; Paisley Caves, Connley Caves and Rimrock Draw, Oregon. Tours to these locations have expanded member awareness of the peopling of the Americas. No longer are we bound by thinking that the first people to come to the Americas came from Asia via the Beringia land bridge and ice-free corridor and used Clovis lithic technology to prepare weapons to hunt mammoth and other mega fauna. Mounting evidence supports an older than Clovis population.



Three distinguished archaeologists next spoke on Paleo-Indian Culture in California. The Paleo-Indian period refers to late-Pleistocene and early Holocene occupations in North America and encompasses the Clovis, Folsom, Agate Basin, and Cody cultures. The Clovis culture, named for distinct stone tools found in close association with Pleistocene fauna at Blackwater Locality No. 1 near Clovis, New Mexico in the 1920s and 1930s. Archaeologists' most precise determination at present suggests that the Clovis culture dates to 13,200 –



12,900 calendar years ago. ^{[2][3]}[Clovis culture - Wikipedia](#) During this period the northern latitudes of North America were covered with vast sheets of ice, and the Southwest was a mosaic of pine woodlands and desert scrub. Clovis period people hunted large mammals, including the mammoth, with the distinctive stone point known as the Clovis point.

Gerrit Fenenga, Senior State Archaeologist, Cal Fire spoke on the finds from older than 10,000 years ago California sites especially the Witt Site (CA-KIN-32) on the shores of Tulare Lake in the southern San Joaquin Valley. Some of the oldest artifacts in the state have been found there. These artifacts—called fluted spear points—have been dated to the end of the last ice age 13,500-11,500 years ago, shortly after glaciers had receded from much of North America. Gerrit shared with the 40 attendees a large number of artifacts including crescents (scrappers) and fossilized bones from this site.

Rick Fitzgerald, Senior State Archaeologist in his presentation, “The Paleo-Coastal Tradition Real or Imagined 30 Years Later” also reviewed excavated Paleo-Indian sites in California. He highlighted several Southern and North Central California sites on the coast and inland from as early as 12,900 BP (Santa Rosa Island). He began his presentation with a review of the earliest migration theory through the ice free corridor between Laurentide and Cordilleran ice sheets. Recent data suggest, however, that the ice-free corridor was blocked from about 21,000 to as late as 11,000 BCE. and may have remained a relatively bleak and barren proglacial landscape for centuries after that. Since evidence of occupation predates 11,000, this theory is in question. Rick also relayed the theory that Clovis technology was not in California. Archaeological evidence shows that this theory is also in question. Hundreds of fluted projectile points have been found in California but few have been found along the coast. A fluted point found in Crystal Cove State Park in Orange County suggests a Clovis presence along the California littoral at the end of the Pleistocene (11,050 to 10,800 BP). During this period the discovery of *Olivella biplicata* beads in central California suggests established trade between coastal and inland California populations.



Greg White, owner and Senior Archaeologist for SubTerra Consulting focused on the California Paleo-Indians at the Borax Lake Site (CA-LAK-36). It is considered the best representative site for Paleo-Indian occupation in the Far West simply because Borax Lake, alone among pluvial lakes, didn't dry up at the end of the late Pleistocene. From the time of Paleo-Indians into the early- and middle-Archaic Periods—millennia of increasing regional aridity—Borax Lake and nearby Clear Lake were among the few permanent lake environments not only in the North Coast Ranges, but also in the whole Western Great Basin and California area. Because Borax Lake was a stable lakeshore environment, successive prehistoric cultures deposited their material culture over some 9000 years. Greg traced the archaeological exploration of this site from Harrington's excavation in 1936 to the site's National Historical Landmark status in 2006.

Photos by Jan Johansen

1. Dan Foster and group at Maidu Historical Site viewing bedrock mortars.
2. Speakers: Rick Fitzgerald, Gerrit Fenenga, Greg White
3. Gerrit Fenenga showing artifacts

Utah Rock Art Tour

The Sacramento Archeological Society, Inc. sponsored a fall 2016 trip to Utah and Colorado to explore rock art, native American pueblo culture, and dinosaurs. From Tuesday, September 27, 2016 through Saturday, October 8, 2016 twenty-five members visited 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 in these styles and exceptional scenery were viewed at the following sites:

McConkie Ranch	Thompson Wash
Dinosaur Nat'l Monument (Stairway to Heaven, Cub Creek and Swelter Shelter)	Black Dragon
Nine Mile Canyon	Dead Horse Point
The Wedge	Moab Golf Course
Buckhorn Draw	Kane Creek
Rochester	Arches National Park
Moore Cutoff Road	Courthouse Wash
Temple Mountain	Newspaper Rock

In addition some attendees viewed rock art at Capitol Reef State Park and others hiked Horseshoe Canyon to view the Grand Gallery Rock Art.



Group at Newspaper Rock, photo by Dan Foster

In addition to viewing rock art the group visited cultural and historic sites, museums: Vernal Utah Field Museum of Natural History, Utah State University Eastern Prehistoric Museum, and John Wesley Powell Museum, two dinosaur quarries: Dinosaur National Monument and Cleveland –Lloyd Quarry and enjoyed the natural beauty of the area. In Colorado pueblo culture was introduced by guided tours at Anasazi Heritage Center and Escalante Pueblo (Dolores, CO), Mitchell Springs Pueblo Excavation –

(Guided Tour by Dave Dove, Director) and Crow Canyon Archaeological Center. Optionally, members attended Mesa Verde Tours and Ute Mountain Tribal Park Tours.

Weather was a factor in the access to sites on the tour. McKee Springs at Dinosaur National Monument was inaccessible. Rain had previously washed out the road. Stairway to Heaven and Cub Creek were pleasant alternatives to visit at Dinosaur National Monument.

The viewing of rock art at Buckhorn Wash was abruptly ended during a downpour when a boulder from the top of cliff fell on the Johansen's vehicle. The chain of cars quickly exited from the area avoiding being caught in a flash flood. As the group sought higher ground, the normally dry cliffs hosted waterfalls dropping several hundred feet to the wash below. A sigh of relief was experienced by all when we were out of Buckhorn Wash.

In Price while the group was enjoying a tour of Utah State University Eastern Prehistoric Museum by archaeologist, Tim Riley the lights went out twice. The second time power was not quickly restored. A transformer was struck by lightning. The greater Price area (including restaurants) was without power until about 7:00 p.m. Cold food was enjoyed by all. The tour resumed the next morning with light.

We thank all of the participants for their interest, cooperation and good spirits. Many of the attendees from England, Minnesota and Southern California had never met each other but made friends during the tour. We thank the tour committee consisting of Roger and Lydia Peake, Jan and Tom Johansen, Diane Sangster and Michael Barham for organizing this tour. We especially thank our tour leaders for extending their knowledge.

- Mary Beth Bennis Bottomley, Curator of Education, Utah Field House of Natural History, Vernal, Utah and McConkie Ranch Rock Art Guide
- Ranger, Barbara Tallman, Dinosaur National Monument, Jensen, Utah
- Mike Leftchin, Cleveland-Lloyd Dinosaur Quarry
- Tim Riley, Archaeologist, Utah State University Eastern Prehistoric Museum, Price, Utah
- Bridget Ambler, Supervisory Curator and coordinator for SAS tours of Anasazi Heritage Center, Dolores, CO and Marty Costos, our guide.
- David Dove, Director/Owner of Mitchell Springs Ruins Group, Cortez, CO
- Deborah J. Gangloff, President and CEO, Kari Schleher, Laboratory Manager, Catlin Sommers, Supervisory Archaeologist, Susan Ryan, Director of Archaeology, Kim Karn, Director of Development, and Jordy King, Development Officer, Crow Canyon Archaeological Center, Cortez, CO

Photos from the tour will be available at <http://sacarcheology.org/archaeology-activities/sas-archives/>

MEMBER'S CORNER
Archaeology Field School
Northern Great Basin Prehistory Project
Summer 2017

Learn archaeological field techniques, earn university credit, and expand your career horizons in one of North America's oldest cultural regions. Space is limited: For more information or to apply contact greatbasinfieldschool.uoregon.edu, djenkins@uoregon.edu or 541-346-3026.

Election of 2017 Board of Directors

During the Annual Meeting the 2017 Board of Directors will be elected. John Foster who has served as president for the past seven years will step down. He has honored the society with excellent leadership and his shoes will be hard to fill. As the Society evolves we invite additional member to become involved. Come to the annual meeting and consider participation on the Board.

The slate of the board is:

Candidate	Office	Candidate	Office
Tom Johansen	President	Paul K. Davis	Member at Large
Lydia Peake	Vice-President	Dan Foster	Member at Large
Carolyn McGregor	Secretary	Jeremy Johansen	Member at Large
Diane Sangster	Treasurer	Jan Johansen	Member at Large
John Foster	Past President	Ruth McElhinney	Member at Large
		Roger Peake	Member at Large
		Knuti VanHoven	Member at Large

Amazon Smile

Have you selected a charity that Amazon will donate .5% of your purchase price to? If not, why not set up Sacramento Archeological Society as your charity. Information about AmazonSmile follows. For more information refer to https://smile.amazon.com/gp/aw/ch/pd/ref=smi_ge_raas_lpd_rpd.

AmazonSmile is a website operated by Amazon that lets you enjoy the same wide selection of products, low prices, and convenient shopping features as on Amazon.com. The difference is that when you shop on AmazonSmile (**smile.amazon.com**), the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price to the eligible charitable organization of your choice.

If you shop on AmazonSmile using an internet browser on your desktop or laptop computer, your mobile phone, or your tablet, then your purchases of eligible products (marked “eligible for donation” on the detail pages) will result in donations. Purchases that are not made using an internet browser (for instance, using the Amazon Shopping App, Kindle Store, FireTV, Amazon Dash, or Amazon Echo) are not currently eligible for donations.

To set up Sacramento Archeological Society as your charity go to <https://smile.amazon.com/> and enter “Sacramento Archeological Society” when prompted for a charity. On the next screen select the box which says “Yes, I understand that I must always start at **smile.amazon.com** to support Sacramento Archeological Society.” Now your Amazon shopping will generate a donation to Sacramento Archeological Society for our scholarship program. Thank you.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL REFERENCES

"Bones record demise of Andean state"

"When the end came for the first Andean empire, it wasn't pretty. The Wari state controlled most of the Peruvian highlands and coast, integrating disparate cultures and building a network of roads that the Inca would later repurpose for their own empire. But its collapse around 1000 C.E. amid a severe drought unleashed centuries of violence and deprivation, according to new research." (*Science*, V. 353, 2016-8-19, pp. 736-737)

"Peru's mysterious dog mummies"

"The remains of more than 100 dogs, resting alongside a similar number humans was unearthed in Lima, Peru in 2012. The dogs had been arranged in peaceful, sleeplike posture and were wrapped in textiles for burial, just as most humans were at that time. However, many of the humans sustained violent injuries such as skull fractures and broken limbs just before death. Nearby ceramics and other artifacts suggest both dogs and humans were buried around 100 C.E. a transitional time for Peru's coastal societies, as the agricultural society of Ychsma moved into regions previously occupied by the Lima culture." (*Science*, V. 353, 2016-8-26, p. 850)

"Neandertals made jewelry, proteins confirm"

"The 'necklaces' are tiny: beads of animal teeth, shells, and ivory no more than a centimeter long. But they provoked an outsized debate that has raged for decades. Found in the Grotte du Renne cave at Arcy-sur-Cure in central France, they accompanied delicate bone tools and were reportedly found in the same layers as fossils from Neandertals." "Unearthed between 1949 and 1963, the controversial artifacts were crafted during a transitional time more than 40,000 years ago, when modern humans were sweeping across Europe and the Neandertals who had lived there for hundreds of thousands of years were dying out." Matthew Collins of the University of York in the U.K. and graduate student, Frido Welker at the Max Planck Institute in Leipzig applied a new method for extracting and analyzing ancient proteins to nearly 200 nondescript bone scraps. The results showed that at least three of the scraps were human coming from the skull of a Neandertal infant. (*Science*, V. 353, 2016-9-23, p. 1350)

"First Polynesians launched from East Asia to settle Pacific"

"Now, the first genome-wide study of ancient DNA from prehistoric Polynesians has boosted the idea that these ancient mariners were East Asians who swept out into the Pacific. It wasn't until much later that Melanesians, probably men, ventured out into Oceania and mixed with the Polynesians" (*Science*, V. 354, 2016-10-7, p. 24-25)