



# Sacramento Archeological Society, Inc. Newsletter

[www.sacarcheology.org](http://www.sacarcheology.org)

November/December - 2017

## UPCOMING EVENTS

December 9, 2017, Saturday, 12:00-5:00 p.m. – "Atlatl and Bow Replication and Alaskan Excavation" by Kevin Smith and Erika Ebel, University of California, Davis Scholars and Annual Meeting at Carolyn and Gordon McGregor's

January 7, 2018, 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

April 30, 2018 – Scholarship Applications due

May 7- 18, 2018 - Ancient Pueblos and Rock Art of New Mexico Tour

## *Sacramento Archeological Society, Inc.'s Annual Meeting*

Featuring

### "Atlatl and Bow Replication and Alaskan Excavation"

By University of California Scholars. Kevin Smith and Erika Ebel

**Saturday, December 9, 2017**

**12:00 – 5:00 p.m.**

at

Carolyn and Gordon McGregor's home

1334 Mission Ave.

Carmichael, CA 95608

At our annual meeting we are pleased to have two University of California Scholars who received SAS scholarships in 2017 present their research and field work. **Kevin Smith** will speak on his production of atlatls and **Erika Ebel** will talk about her Alaskan adventure at the Adelphi University field school in the Tanana Valley.

Kevin is a graduate student at University of California Davis in Evolutionary Anthropology. He received his masters in Anthropology at California State University, Los Angeles in 2013 and his BA at Humboldt State University in 2007. Kevin is exceptionally talented in replicating past technologies. His current project focuses on an empirical investigation of the cost and efficiency of mechanically assisted projectiles. SAS supported his study of a collection of atlatl and bows in order to produce the most realistic copy of the objects.

Erika is a first year graduate student at University of California Davis. In 2016 she graduated from Humboldt State University. She has a strong background in osteology and zooarchaeology and the application of 3D imaging to natural history and artifact collections. Because of her strong interest in Alaskan archaeology she took an advanced field methods course with Adelphi University in the Tanana Valley of Alaska this past summer.

### **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 – Kevin Smith, “Atlatls and Bows”
- 3:30 – Erica Ebel, “Alaska, Tanana Valley Excavation”
- 5:00 – Close

Lunch will be provided by Carolyn McGregor. The lunch is complementary from the McGregors but a contribution to our scholarship fund of \$15 per person would be appreciated.

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](mailto:sabrina53@earthlink.net). She will be serving ham and chicken. When you confirm your attendance, please indicate your preference for ham or chicken.

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

## *Annual Scholar Symposium*

By

*Scholarship Recipients*

Sunday, January 7, 2018

**1:00 – 5:00 p.m.**

at

**Yolo County Library, Arthur F. Turner Branch  
1212 Merkley Avenue,  
West Sacramento, CA 95691**

In 2017 Sacramento Archeological Society awarded eight scholarships to support archeological/anthropological education. Five of these individuals will be presenting at the Scholar Symposium on Sunday, January 7, 2018 on the experiences made possible by the scholarships.

### **Lucia Diaz**

Lucia is an undergraduate student at University of California Davis. She has worked on organizing and categorizing artifacts in museums at Santa Rosa Junior College and University California Davis Anthropology Museum. The SAS scholarship supported her attendance at the UC Davis Field School in the Sierra Nevada Mountains. The director of the field school conducted the research project to understand the distribution and economic exploitation of acorns in historic societies.

### **Giulia Gallo**

Giulia is a graduate student at University of California Davis in the evolutionary anthropology program. She graduated from New York University in 2014 and has excavated and worked in an archaeology lab for eight field seasons in Europe. This summer she had the opportunity to join a collaborative team of researchers from the Max Planck Institute and University of Belgrade to excavate

sites identified on the Resava Rivery Valley in Serbia. Of particular importance to her dissertation research is a fire feature identified at Bukovac, a cave site (Doganzic, 2014). The SAS scholarship supported her leadership role on site as a field laboratory manager.

### **Patricia McNeill**

Patricia graduated from University of California Davis spring 2017 and is now into the PhD Program at University of California Davis. As an undergraduate she has interned in three labs and written two honors theses. Last summer she participated in a Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology's sponsored excavation at Ilsehöhle Ranis, Thüringen (Germany). The cave site is an important data point for the Middle to Upper Paleolithic transition in central Germany and northern Europe.

### **Karlene Shippelhoute**

Karlene graduated from University of California Berkeley in 2016 with a double major in Anthropology and Near Eastern Studies. She began her graduate studies in Near Eastern Languages and Cultures Archaeology Program at John Hopkins University this year. Her recent excavation experience (2016) was at Megiddo through Tel-Aviv University. This last summer she used her GIS mapping skills in the Jezreel Valley Regional Project (JVRP) to assist in creating a dataset of excavated and unexcavated archaeological sites in the Jezreel Valley in Northern Israel.

### **Sara Watson**

Sara is a second-year graduate student at University of California Davis. She received a BA from University of Texas in 2016. This last summer she participated in the excavation and analysis a very unique site in South Africa, Knysa Eastern Heads Cave 1 (KEH-1). In addition Sara planned to collect data on another similarly-aged assemblage curated in the Field Museum in Chicago: Nelson Bay Cave (South Africa). The lithic assemblages from this site serve as "type" assemblages for the Later Stone Age of South Africa.

## *Ancient Pueblos and Rock Art of New Mexico Tour*

The Sacramento Archeological Society, Inc. is pleased to sponsor a spring 2018 trip to the Southwest (New Mexico and Colorado) to explore native American pueblo culture and rock art. From Monday, **May 7, 2018 through Friday, May 18, 2018** we will tour the area around Albuquerque and Santa Fe.

- The trip will feature pueblos, kivas and pit houses from the 600's BPE to present. We will explore ancient Chacoan culture (1000 to 1300 BPE) including guided tours to **Chaco Canyon** and outliers such as **Salmon, Aztec, and Chimney Rock**. We will also explore non Chacoan contemporary culture of the nearby **Gallina, Bandelier, Galisteo Basin, and Pecos**.
- More recent culture will be explored through visits to **Acoma Pueblo – Sun City and Taos Pueblo**.
- Current state of archaeology in New Mexico will also be discussed by archeologists through visits to **Maxwell Museum of Archaeology** in Albuquerque and **Center of New Mexico Archaeology** in Santa Fe.
- Multiple museums will offer information on the history of the area and provide excellent examples of various types of pottery produced in the area over time.



- We will be able to observe the varied landscape of the region as we drive through it and optionally visit the bad lands of **Bisti Wilderness**.
- Last but not least we will view rock art in **Chaco Canyon, Petroglyph National Monument** in Albuquerque and **Petroglyph Pláticas** at Mesa Prieta.



We are pleased to have archaeologists and area specialists leading the tours.

A tour itinerary follows:

5/7/18 M	<p>In the morning participants will drive an hour to Acoma Pueblo from Albuquerque or possibly Gallup, NM if you are driving from California. There, we will be treated to a tour of <b>Acoma Pueblo Sky City</b>, the oldest continuously inhabited community in North America by a native Acoma guide. Acoma—Sky city, looming nearly 370 feet above the desert floor, is the physical and spiritual homeland for the Acoma people. The history of the Acoma people and the Pueblo dates back to as early as 1100 A.D. You will also have the opportunity to visit the Haak’u Museum which provides a unique perspective on Acoma’s art and culture. Tribal artisans also offer a variety of Acoma arts and crafts in the gift shop, an outdoor marketplace outside the Sky City Cultural Center and in the Sky City.</p> <p>We will drive to Albuquerque where we plan to stay for the next three nights. Each evening of the tour we will convene for approximately an hour to share perspectives, snacks, and beverages.</p>
5/8/18, T	<p>In the morning we will view rock art at <b>Petroglyph National Monument</b>. Easy viewing of rock art will be available at <b>Boca Negra</b> and a more lengthy moderate trail in <b>Rinconada Canyon</b> offers an option to those who want see more petroglyphs. After lunch in “Spanish” <b>Old Town</b> you will have the option to wander around the shops in Old Town, visit the Indian Pueblo Cultural Center, experience modern history at The National Museum of Nuclear Science &amp; History or visit one of the many Albuquerque museums.</p>
5/9/18, W	<p>Today we will explore the <b>Maxwell Museum of Anthropology</b> at the <b>University of New Mexico</b> in Albuquerque. In the morning you will be view exhibits related to New Mexican archaeology and native American presence in the Southwest. After a bag lunch at museum archivists will discuss archiving of papers, manuscripts, maps, films, etc. and show us collections of archived pottery.</p>
5/10/18, Th	<p>We will drive for approximately 1½ hours to Cuba, NM. From there an archaeologist will lead us on a tour of <b>Gallina cultural</b> region. Around 1000 AD this area was home to an unusual culture that did not fit into the traditional interpretations given to other cultures of the area such as Mesa Verde to the north or Chaco Canyon pueblo builders to the west. To explore this culture we have the options to visit the Nogales Cliff House via a strenuous trail and/or Rattlesnake Ridge on an easy trail. Participants will bring a bag lunch.</p> <p>After the tour we will drive approximately 1 ½ hours to Farmington or Chaco Canyon if you plan to camp. Those who go to Farmington will be staying there for three nights; Chaco Canyon for two.</p>
5/11/18, F	<p>Archaeologist at Salmon Ruins will lead us on an all day <b>Tour of Chaco Canyon</b>. We will travel from Salmon Ruins in Bloomfield to Chaco Canyon. At Chaco Canyon, a major center of ancestral Puebloan culture from mid 800s to 1200s, we will be guided through Una Vida, Chetro Ketl, and Pueblo Bonito complexes. A bag lunch will be</p>

	provided as part of the tour fee. The fee for this tour is \$95/person.
5/12/18, Sa	<p>Today you have the option to return to <b>Chaco Canyon</b> (1 ½ hours) First you can enjoy a short talk on archaeoastronomy at Piedra del Sol and then choose the sites to explore. Choices include Pueblo del Arroyo, Pueblo Alto, Casa Rinconada, Hungo Pavi, Kin Kietso, Casa Chiquita, an easy trail to petroglyphs, or take a longer more strenuous hike to pictographs and Peñasco Blanco.</p> <p>If you do not wish to return to Chaco Canyon on this day, we suggest that you explore the rugged beauty of <b>Bisti Wilderness</b> or just enjoy <b>free time</b>.</p> <p>For anyone camping in Chaco Canyon we suggested joining the group in Farmington for the night.</p>
5/13/18, Su	<p>In the morning we will visit a Chacoan outlier, <b>Salmon Ruins</b> at Bloomfield, You can enjoy the displays in the museum and then take a self guiding tour of Salmon Pueblo, a Chacoan style construction modified overtime by local Middle San Juan people beginning in 1120s.</p> <p>In the afternoon we will visit another Chacoan outlier, <b>Aztec Ruins</b>. After a visit to the museum which offers an interesting chronology of regional inhabitation you will have a guided tour through the complex that will highlight the west ruin that had at least 500 rooms that rose to three stories, a great kiva that has been restored, and the Hubbard Tri-wall site, one of few tri-wall structures built of three concentric walls divided into 22 rooms. Pueblo del Arroyo in Chaco Canyon also has a tri-walled kiva.</p> <p>At the end of the day we will drive to Pagosa Springs (2 hr) where we will stay for two nights.</p>
5/14/18, M	<p>Today we will drive ~ 20 min. to Chimney Rock, another Chacoan Outlier.</p> <p>We will have a two-hour guided tour of early pit houses and Chacoan great house at <b>Chimney Rock</b>. The tour includes a moderate hike to top of a ridge to see the great house. We will drive back to Pagosa Springs, CO for some free time in the afternoon.</p>
5/15/18, T	<p>We will drive through the mountainous countryside to Taos (135 mi, 3 hours)</p> <p>There native Taos guide will take us through the <b>Taos Pueblo</b>, the only living Native American community designated both a World Heritage Site and a National Historic Landmark. Some may choose to explore Taos city center. Others may travel directly to Chimayo and visit <b>Santuario De Chimayo</b>.</p> <p>We will regroup in Santa Fe where we will be staying for the remainder of the tour.</p>
5/16/18, W	<p>The day will begin with a guided tour of the <b>Center of New Mexico Archaeology</b> (CNMA). Here archaeological research and outreach to the community is paramount. Lunch at Museum Hill Café</p> <p>You will have the option to visit museums on Museum Hill (Museum of Indian Arts and Culture, International Folk Art Museum, Wheelwright Museum of the American Indian, Museum of Spanish Colonial Art).</p>
5/17/18, Th	<p>We will drive ~45 minutes to <b>Bandelier National Monument</b> where we will have a guided tour. Ancestral Pueblo people lived across the Pajarito Plateau and had cultural links with the people of Mesa Verde and Chaco Canyon. After a Brown bag lunch we will drive to Mesa Prieta ~1 hour. There will have a Guided tour of <b>Mesa Prieta - Petroglyph Pláticas</b>.</p>
5/18/18, F	<p>During the morning we will drive to Pecos (½ hour) and tour <b>Pecos National Historical Park</b>. Pecos is located on the busy trade route between the farming people of the Rio Grande Valley to the west and the Plains Indian hunters to the east. In the afternoon we will drive to <b>Pueblo San Marcos– Galisteo Basin</b> where we have guided tour.</p> <p>At the end of the day we will enjoy a tour wrap up.</p> <p>The museums in Santa Fe are open till 7pm on Fridays.</p>
5/19/18, Sa	<p><i>Options.</i> Drive to Albuquerque on <b>Turquoise Road</b> (75 mi) or spend more time in Santa Fe or depart the area as you wish.</p>

## 2018 Tour Details

Attendees must be members of Sacramento Archeological Society, Inc. Reservations are accepted on a first come basis. A non-refundable reservation fee of \$50 is required with the reservation. Tour cost includes a tax-deductible contribution to Sacramento Archeological Society of \$50 per person and shared costs for up-front admission/tour fees, snacks, beverages, etc. Shared costs are estimated to be approximately \$30 per person and are due 30 days prior to the tour. Participants are responsible for making their own lodging reservations, arranging their own transportation to and on the tour, and paying for their food, fees and incidentals. Medium priced (<~\$100/ night double occupancy) lodging suggestions will be provided to confirmed attendees.

The itinerary is subject to change at the discretion of Sacramento Archeological Society, Inc., but participants will be notified of significant changes in advance. Weather conditions may impact the itinerary. To access to some sites car pooling will be required. Some sites require a short hike over rough terrain. This activity will be an option as you are able. Be advised that the elevation of many of the sites is greater than 6000'. Outside of Albuquerque which is about 5300' above sea level, most of Northern New Mexico where we will be going is over 7,000' and Nogales Cliff Dwelling is at 8225'. (Chaco is about 6,000', Santa Fe 7,000'). Take this into account in your planning. All participants are required to sign a Hold Harmless Agreement prior to the tour.

It is not too early to reserve your attendance. The tour will probably be fully booked very early. Notify **Diane Sangster** at [diane08@comcast.net](mailto:diane08@comcast.net) that you would like to attend and send the registration fee of \$50/person to Sacramento Archeological Society, Inc. at P.O Box 163287, Sacramento, CA 95816-9287.

## ARCHEOLOGICAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

### *The Mesoamerica Center*

The annual Maya Meetings in January 2017 saw the beginning of their transition into the Mesoamerica Meetings, with a theme exploring the relationship between the Maya and their contemporaries. The 2017 conference featured scholarship and workshops examining the ancient Maya through the lens of other Mesoamerican cultures and traditions. The 2018 Mesoamerica Meetings on January 9-13 in Austin, TX will continue the broader trajectory as the conference begins its 41<sup>st</sup> year. They will devote their 2018 conference to a novel topic: Mesoamerican Philosophies: Animate Matter, Metaphysics, and the Natural Environment. For more information see <http://utmesoamerica.org/maya/2018-meetings>.

## PAST ARCHEOLOGICAL ACTIVITIES

### *Archaeology - A Journey of Discovery from Ancient Origins to Recent Past*

On Saturday, October 21, 2017 Sacramento Archeological Society, Inc sponsored a seminar on "A Journey of Discovery from Ancient Origins to Recent Past". The event was held at Maidu Museum and Historical Site, Roseville, California. Human origins in South Africa and Oregon Trail archaeology were featured. Allan Keown, Membership Chair for Renaissance Society at CSUS introduced a video presentation by Dr. Curtis Marean. In this video Dr. Marean, professor of archaeology at Arizona State University presented a causal model of human origins based on research of South African paleoclimate, environment, ecology and anthropology. He concluded that all modern humans are descended

from a progenitor lineage that appeared sometime between 200-130 ka and that lineage lived in Africa and then spread out to the rest of the world. The South African coast has the features that make it an excellent refuge during the cold phase when modern humans evolved. He postulated a very interesting theory that South Africa is the birthplace of modern human lineage.

Dr. Teresa Steele, professor of anthropology at University of California Davis continued the review of human origins by discussing several Middle (315 ka - 40 ka) and Late Stone Age excavations in South Africa. She illustrated various finds and pointed out how human origin theories have changed over time. She discussed several South African sites that are located near the coast and highlighted her research at Middle Stone Age site at Knersvlakte that is located inland from the South African west coast. She closed by presenting investigations in Morocco. We were very fortunate to have her add another layer of understanding to human origins.

John Winner brought us back to California. John is the past president of Oregon-California Trails Association. His very informative presentation led us through the process of mapping emigrant trails. We learned about the 6 classes of trails: unaltered, used, verified, altered, approximate and reconstructed. He described in detail the process of trail discovery and reporting. Archaeological investigation applies to recent events such as the westward emigration as much as ancient human origins.

## **MEMBER'S CORNER**

### *Election of 2018 Board of Directors*

During the Annual Meeting the 2018 Board of Directors will be elected. The following current officers are willing to serve another term and we welcome Dour La Rocca as a candidate. We invite additional member to become involved. Come to the annual meeting and consider participation on the Board.

The slate of the board is:

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

We thank Michael Barham for donating walkie – talkies for use on our tour. These devices will assist us in keeping track of everyone. Thanks, Michael.

Congratulations to Dennis Fenwick for his three year assignment to the Advisory Council to GSAR (Gault School of Archaeological Research) Board of Directors. This position offers Dennis the opportunity to advise and promote GSAR.

# ARCHAEOLOGICAL REFERENCES

## "Human spit contains ancestral surprises"

"Non-African modern humans retain a limited genetic signature from ancestral hybridization events that occurred ~60,000 years ago. Extinct archaic hominoids, such as Neandertals and Denisovans, appear to have had relations with anatomically modern humans. Some researchers have postulated that other archaic lineages may be found within the genomes of modern humans. For example Xi et al. analyzed the extent of human variation of the MUC7 gene, which encodes a protein found at high levels in saliva. One variant appears to have originated in an unknown ancestor before the human-Neandertal split and is retained at high levels in modern people of sub-Saharan African descent." (*Science*, V. 357, 2017-8-18, p. 658)

## "The first Australians arrived early"

"The Madjedbebe rock shelter, formerly known as Malakunanja II has been proposed in 1989 as the oldest human occupation in Australia after stone tools were dated to 50,000 to 60,000 years ago using the then-experimental method of thermoluminescence. But skeptics suggested that the 1500 tools and other artifacts could have drifted downward over time in the sandy sediments or that animals or termites had disrupted the layers. With Aborigine permission, a team led by geochronologist Richard "Bert" Roberts, now at the University of Wollongong in Australia excavated the site in 2012 and 2015 with painstaking stratigraphic controls. They found hundreds of thousands of new artifacts. The earliest people at the site used huge quantities of ochre: and are the first humans shown to have used reflective mica to decorate themselves or rock walls. The team ruled out the migration of artifacts between layers, for example by refitting together broken stone tools found in the same layer. Zenobia Jacobs dated quartz grains from various layers with OSL, determining when light last struck each grain and thus when it was buried. She dated 28,500 individual grains from 6 samples. She concluded that the oldest human occupation was 65,000 to 70,000 with 95% probability.

Living Aborigines carry traces of Neandertal and Denisovan DNA, suggesting that their ancestors must have acquired by mixing somewhere in Asia before they reached Australia." (*Science*, V. 357, 2017-7-21, pp. 238-239)

## "On the trail of Ancient Mariners"

Most archaeologist think the first Americans arrived by boat. Now, they're beginning to prove it

"In 2004 Matthew Des Lauriers, professor at California State University in Northridge discovered shell fragment left by people dated to nearly 11,000 to more than 12,000 years ago. Since then, Des Lauriers has discovered 14 other early sites and excavated two, pushing back the settlement of Cedros Island to nearly 13,000 years ago. The Cedros Island sites add to a small but growing list that supports a once-heretical view of the peopling of the Americas. Most researchers today think the first inhabitants came by sea. In this view maritime explorers voyaged by boat out of Beringia—the ancient land now partially submerged under the waters of the Bering Strait—about 16,000 years ago and quickly moved down the Pacific coast, reaching Chile by at least 14,500 years ago." (Wade, Lizzie, *Science*, V. 357, 2017-8-11, pp. 542-545)