



Sacramento Archeological Society, Inc. Newsletter

www.sacarcheology.org.

March/April - 2018

UPCOMING EVENTS

March 24, 2018, Saturday, 1:00 - 5:00 p.m. – Archaeological Symposium “New Evidence - *Humans in North America > 15,000 years ago*” by Jon Erlandson, PhD, Pat O’ Grady, PhD, and Mike Collins, PhD at UCD Extension, 2901 K Street, Sacramento, CA 95816

April 14, 2018, Saturday, 12:00 – 5:00 p.m. – Ancient Pottery - “Palatine East Pottery Project by Jennifer Black” and New Mexico Pottery Video and Tour Briefing at Carolyn and Gordon McGregor’s home

April 30, 2018 – Scholarship Applications due

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

“New Evidence—*Humans in North America >15,000 years ago*”

By

Jon Erlandson, PhD, director of the Museum of Natural & Cultural History (MNCH),
University of Oregon

Pat O’Grady, PhD, MNCH Research Archaeologist, University of Oregon

Mike Collins, PhD - Texas State University and director of Gault School of
Archeological Research (GSAR)

Saturday, March 24, 2018

UCD Extension, 2901 K Street, Room 200

Sacramento, CA 95816

1:00 – 5:00 p.m.

In a human origins symposium on **Saturday, March 24, 2018** three renowned archaeologists will share latest discoveries which push back the probable dates for the peopling of North America to at least 15,000 years ago and discuss various migration scenarios, including a Pacific Coast route, the Kelp Highway Hypothesis.

Dr. Jon Erlandson, archaeologist and professor at University of Oregon who has worked on California’s Channel Islands for 40 years will discuss human evolution, the role of fishing and seafaring in human prehistory, and the peopling of the Americas. For more information on the latest migration theories in the Archaeological References section below see “Finding the First Americans”, by Todd J. Braje, Tom D. Dillehay, Jon M. Erlandson, Richard G. Klein, & Torben C. Rick, *Science*, V. 358, 2017-11-3, pp. 592-594.



Photo: CA-SMI-Caliche flats crescent Erlandson 2018

In 2016 **Dr. Pat O'Grady**, archaeologist at University of Oregon led a tour for SAS members at the Rimrock Draw Rockshelter site in Oregon where evidence of human presence possibly older than 15,000 years has been found. In 2016 when the Sacramento Archaeological Society visited Rimrock Draw excavators were still attempting to breach a deeply buried concentration of boulders and cobbles from an ancient collapse of the rock shelter wall. They were finally successful in that effort. The newly exposed sediments are yielding artifacts and ecofacts consistent with those found five meters to the east, where a 15,000 year old tephra, camelid tooth enamel fragments, and an orange agate stone tool were recovered. The new finds are near the same depth and in the same stratum as the others, suggesting that the most ancient deposits at the site may have been well protected over the last 15 millennia. Pat will present a case for this possibility, discuss their plans for this coming field season, and bring the SAS up to date with other news since our last visit.



Photo: Agate stone flake tool found beneath Mount St Helens tephra at the Rimrock Draw Rockshelter, Riley, Oregon. Image credit: Patrick 2017

We are also honored to have **Dr. Michael B. Collins**, archaeologist and Research Associate Professor at Texas State University speak at this symposium. In 2015 he led an SAS archaeological tour of Texas. We visited many sites including the Gault site and saw older than Clovis artifacts found at the Gault site. These lithics were found in a layer under a Clovis assemblage and date between ~13.2 and 15.5 thousand years ago. In this symposium Michael will present a review of excavations that shed new light on humans in the Western Hemisphere.

Program:

1:00 Dr. Jon Erlandson – “Human evolution, the role of fishing and seafaring in human prehistory, and the peopling of the Americas”

2:15 Dr. Pat O'Grady – “Rimrock Draw Rockshelter: Results of the 2016 and 2017 Excavation Seasons”

3:30 Dr. Michael B. Collins – “The very earliest evidence for people in the Western Hemisphere”-
-who they may have been, when they arrived, whence they came, what their cultural materials were like, how they might have gotten here, and what we know about their dispersions across the Americas

Logistics:

Park on 2nd level of parking garage. A \$3 parking fee will be charged if you valid the ticket when you check in to the event at Room 200. Doors will open at 12:30. This event is OPEN TO THE PUBLIC. Bring your friends.

The suggested minimum Donation is \$5

If you have questions, please contact Jan Johansen at janjohansen@sbcglobal.net

Speaker Biographies:

Dr. Jon Erlandson has been a professor at University of Oregon (UO) since 1990. An archaeologist who has done fieldwork in California, Oregon, Alaska, and Iceland, Erlandson has written or edited 20 books and published over 300 scholarly articles. Research and teaching interests include the development of maritime societies, historical ecology in coastal environments, human evolution and dispersals, the peopling of the Americas, the history of seafaring, traditional technologies, dating methods in archaeology, geoarchaeology, cultural resource management, and collaborative research with indigenous communities. Since 2005, Dr. Erlandson has directed the Museum of Natural and Cultural History and the Oregon State Museum of Anthropology at the UO. He was also a founding co-editor of the *Journal of Island and Coastal Archaeology*.



Dr. Pat O’Grady is a staff archaeologist at the University of Oregon Museum of Natural and Cultural History. He has served on nineteen University of Oregon field schools since 1994, first as a student, then as assistant, supervisor, and instructor. His field school operations are currently focused on Paleoamerican sites in southeastern Oregon, including Sheep Mountain and Sage Hen Gap. Primary research interests include hunter-gatherer subsistence practices, late Pleistocene – early Holocene cultural transitions in the Great Basin of western North America, zooarchaeology, mobility patterns, and remote sensing applications, particularly ground penetrating radar.



Dr. Michael B. Collins is a Research Associate Professor at Texas State University in San Marcos. He specialized in the study of lithic technology and worked with prehistoric collections from North, Central, and South America, as well as the Near East and southwestern Europe. He collaborated on the lithics research for the pre-Clovis site of Monte Verde, Chile. Dr. Collins is currently active in research on the earliest part of the American archaeological record and published *Clovis Blade Technology* (UT Press) and *Clovis Stone Tool Technology* (in press).



“Ancient Pottery”

”Palatine East Pottery Project” By Jennifer Black, University of California, Berkeley

“Native American Pottery Maker of San Ildelfonso, Maria Martinez”

Saturday, April 14, 2018

at

Carolyn and Gordon McGregor’s home

1334 Mission Ave.

Carmichael, CA 95608

12:00 – 5:00 p.m.

On Saturday, April 14 Jennifer Black, a graduate student at U. C. Berkeley and a 2017 scholarship recipient will discuss her research in the **Palatine East Potter Project (PEPP)**. PEPP is a long-term research program that involves the study and publication of Roman-period pottery assemblage recovered in the American Academy in Rome's Palatine East excavations, which were carried out in downtown Rome during the 1990's. Jennifer has taken on the responsibility for the study and publication of the family of fine-bodied tableware manufactured in the Rome region. She has been involved in the analysis of this pottery at PEPP for five summers. Her analysis sheds light on the consumption at Rome of locally-manufactured craft goods for the imperial period (ca. 50--CE).

In addition to gaining insight into Roman pottery we will be introduced to the traditional ways of making Native American Pottery. We will show a video, "**Native American Pottery Maker of San Ildefonso, Maria Martinez**". Maria is a renown potter who in this video demonstrates the traditional Native American ways of making of pottery. This National Park Service film is the classic original film that is shown at the Museum of Indian Arts and Culture in Santa Fe, New Mexico. It provides an excellent insight into Native American traditions for making Southwest pottery. This film will be of particular interest to participants of the Ancient Pueblos and Rock Art of New Mexico Tour.

Following the presentation and video all participants of the Ancient Pueblos and Rock Art of New Mexico Tour are **expected** to attend an orientation session. In this session we will review the itinerary, sign waivers, discuss logistics, and answer questions related to the tour.

Carolyn McGregor will cater a delicious lunch. Please confirm your attendance at the event with Carolyn by **April 7** by sending an email to sabrina53@earthlink.net.

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, San Marcos and Pecos**.
- More recent culture will be explored through visits to **Acoma Pueblo – Sun City**.
- 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.

The tour is fully booked. To be placed on the wait list notify and receive additional information contact **Diane Sangster** at diane08@comcast.net

MEMBER'S CORNER

Welcome New Members

We welcome the following new members: Martin Bailey, Kim Frasse, and Michael McGuirt. We look forward to seeing you at our 2018 events.

Departed Members

We are saddened to report the loss of several members: Monica Foxworth, Averil Leach and Bob Orlins. Our deepest sympathy to the families and friends of these departed. A celebration of Bob Orlins' life will be held on April 24 from 1:00 to 5:00 in Woodland. SAS members are explicitly invited. For more information contact Doug La Rocca at doug714@wavecable.com.

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 promptly paying your **2018** 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 2018

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

"Finding the first Americans"

[The first humans to reach the Americas are likely to have come via a coastal route](#)

"In a dramatic intellectual turnabout, most archaeologists and other scholars now believe that the earliest Americans followed Pacific Rim shorelines from northeast Asia to Beringia and the Americas. According to the kelp highway hypothesis deglaciation of the outer coast of North America's Pacific Northwest ~17,000 years ago created a possible dispersal corridor rich in aquatic and terrestrial resources along the Pacific Coast, with productive kelp forest and estuarine ecosystems at sea level and no major geographic barriers. Kelp resources extended as far south as Baja California and then—after a gap in Central America, where productive mangrove and other aquatic habitats were available—picked up again in northern Peru, where the cold, nutrient-rich waters from the Humboldt Current supported kelp forests as far south as Tierra del Fuego. Testing the kelp highway hypothesis is challenging because much of the archaeological evidence would have been submerged by rising seas since the last glacial maximum (LCM) ~26,500 years ago." (Todd J. Brajce, Tom D. Dillehay, Jon M. Erlandson, Richard G. Klein, Torben C. Rick, *Science*, V. 358, 2017-11-3, pp. 592-594)

"Ancient Australian goes home"

[Researchers still hope for access to 'Mungo Man' bones"](#)

"In 1974, in the bone-dry Willandra Lakes Region World Heritage Site in Australia, scientist stumbled on a skeleton in the dunes of long-vanished Lake Mungo. Dating revealed "Mungo Man" was up to 42,000 years old, pushing back the first aboriginal habitation of Australia by tens of thousands of years. Now the skeleton that was kept at the Australian National University in Canberra is going home. For years aboriginal elders had legal authority over the bones and have approved research projects but very few researchers got to work with the remains and little has been published. One project to extract DNA from the roots of Mungo Man's teeth has been approved but not yet started." (Pickrell, John, *Science*, V. 358, 2017-11-17, p. 853)

"The earliest modern humans outside Africa"

"To date, the earliest modern human fossils found outside of Africa are dated to around 90,000 to 120,000 years ago at the Levantine sites of Skhul and Qatzeh. A maxilla and associated dentition recently discovered at Misliya Cave, Israel, was dated to 177,000 to 194,000 years ago, suggesting that members of the *Homo sapiens* clade left Africa earlier than previously thought. This finding changes our view on modern human dispersal and is consistent with recent genetic studies, which have posited the possibility of an earlier dispersal of *Homo sapiens* around 220,000 years ago. The Misliya maxilla is associated with full-fledged Levallois technology in the Levant, suggesting that the emergence of this technology is linked to the appearance of *Homo sapiens* in the region, as has been documented in Africa." (Hershkovits et al., *Science*, V. 359, 2018-1-26, pp. 389-390, 456-459)

"Oldest images of dogs show hunting, leashes"

[Saudi find offers a window into how dogs helped humans survive in harsh conditions"](#)

"Carved into a sandstone cliff on the edge of a bygone river in the Arabian Desert, a hunter draws his bow for the kill. He is accompanied by 13 dogs, each with its own coat markings: two animals have lines running from their necks to the man's waist. The engravings likely date back more than 8000 years making them the earliest depictions of dogs ... And those lines are probably leashes, suggesting

that humans mastered the art of training and controlling dogs thousands of years earlier than previously thought.” (Grimm, David, *Science*, V. 358, 2017-11-17, p. 854)

“A high-coverage Neandertal genome from Vindija Cave in Croatia”

“To date, the only Neandertal genome that has been sequenced to high quality is from an individual found in Southern Siberia. The researchers sequenced the genome of a female Neandertal from ~50,000 years ago from Vindija Cave, Croatia, to ~30-fold genomic coverage. She carried 1.6 differences per 10,000 base pairs between the two copies of her genome, fewer than present-day humans, suggesting that Neandertal populations were of small size. Their analyses indicate that she was more closely related to the Neandertals that mixed with the ancestors of present-day humans living outside of sub-Saharan Africa than the previously sequenced Neandertal from Siberia, allowing 10 to 20% more Neandertal DNA to be identified in present-day humans, including variants involved in low-density lipoprotein cholesterol concentrations, schizophrenia, and other diseases.” (Prüfer, & al., *Science*, V. 358, 2017-11-3, pp. 655-662)

“Little Foot’s big reveal”

“After 20 years of preparation by its discoverer (Ron Clarke of the University of Witwatersrand in Johannesburg, South Africa and his team) a remarkably complete hominid skeleton dubbed “Little Foot” has been separated from the rock encasing it and unveiled. The bones, found in the Sterkfontein Caves in South Africa, include the skull, limb and hand bones, foot, pelvis, vertebrae, and ribs of a female *Australopithecus*—the most complete skeleton of that genus ever, surpassing even the famous Lucy.” SAS travelers to South Africa in 2017 viewed this skeleton at Maropeng. (*Science*, V. 358, 2017-12-15, p. 1363)

“Were nomads the world’s first traders?”

Researchers spar over whether pastoralists sparked the rise of urban civilization”

“Archaeologists generally agree that not long after humans started farming in the Near East about 10,000 years ago, pastoralist began caring for newly domesticated sheep, goats, and cattle. But researches debate just when these groups began to travel vast distances in a seasonal cycle to seek greener pastures.” New techniques that analyzed sheep and goat teeth enamel dating to about 7000 BCE for ratios of carbon and oxygen isotopes suggest that the animals fed in the vicinity rather than distant grasslands.” “Only when domesticated dromedary camels appeared in the first millennium BCE did nomads begin long seasonal treks.” “Guillermo Algaze, an archaeologist at the University of California, San Diego still thinks that mobile pastoralist were the glue that held together extensive trade networks in early urban societies.” The debate goes on. (Lawler, Andrew, *Science*, V. 358, 2017-12-22 pp. 1518-1519)