



# Sacramento Archeological Society, Inc. Newsletter

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

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May June - 2022

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## UPCOMING EVENTS

### May 2022

May 14, 2022 - Saturday, 2:00 p.m. PDT - **SAS Webinar** "*Stone Tool at Nelson Cave, South Africa*" by **Sara Watson**, University of California, Davis PhD Candidate

### June 2022

June 11, 2022 - Saturday, 2:00 p.m. PDT - **SAS Webinar** "*Seasonality and harvesting practices for pre-contact site in Alameda-1*" by **Marcela Barron**, University of California Davis Graduate Student

June 11, 2022 - Saturday, 3:00 p.m. PDT - **SAS Webinar** "*Experimental Reproduction of Bone Tools - An Attempt to Quantify Relative Complexity of Bone Projectile Points From Middle/Late Stone Age Africa*" by **Sean Begg**, University of California, Davis graduate

See announcements: <https://sacarcheology.org/announcements/> for **webinar access information** and calendar: <https://sacarcheology.org/archaeology-activities/calendar-of-events/> for the complete set of events in our website: [www.sacarcheology.org](http://www.sacarcheology.org).

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## SCHOLARS ANNOUNCED 2022 Scholars

Sacramento Archeological Society, Inc. is pleased to announce our 2022 scholarship recipients. Thanks to the SAS members who contributed funds we were able to financially support a record number of thirteen scholars. Next year we will be hearing about their archaeological projects in presentations. A brief synopsis of the recipient's archaeological projects follows:

### **Marlena Billings**

Marlene is a junior at University of California, Davis majoring in anthropology. She is experienced in data collection, conference presentations, and experimental archaeology. She plans to use this scholarship to participate in an excavation in Belgium at Pont de Bonne at the site of 'Le vieux chateau'. The site is located on a cliff and shows evidence of pre-Roman occupations. This experience will provide Marlene with the field experience that she desires.

**Haley Bjorklund**

Haley is a junior at University of California, Davis majoring in anthropology. She has experience as archaeology lab intern cataloging and organizing material from past field sessions. She will use this scholarship to attend a field school offered by the University of Wyoming at the La Prele Mammoth site, a Clovis mammoth kill site dated to about 13,000 cal BP. The site was briefly excavated in the 1980s and then investigating resumed in 2014. She is very interested in Clovis big game hunting and is excited to share the results of the excavation in a presentation.

**Megan Donham**

Megan is a graduate student at California State University, Los Angeles. She received her B.A. in 2021 from the University of Nevada, Reno majoring in Anthropology. She is working on her M.A. and desires to pursue a PhD and become an academic archaeologist. Her research interests encompass prehistoric lithic technologies. She has experience with New World assemblages and her participation in the Institute for Field Research's Desert Ireland Field School will diversify her field experiences. The site's first prehistoric pre-Christian lithics have been uncovered there. She will be extending her stay to assist in post-excavation lab processing with a few other select students.

**Erika Ebel**

Erika is a PhD candidate at University of California, Davis. She has a B.A. in Anthropology from Humboldt State University in 2015 and has advanced to PhD candidacy at U.C. Davis. She will use the scholarship to test the remaining unidentified bone tool fragments from the Iita site in northwestern Greenland to better understand the species composition of the archaeological assemblages. The osseous fragments are sampled by abrading the surface from each specimen with micro-grit polishing film. This abrasion removes a small amount of the proteinaceous portion of the bone debris which is then analyzed by Dr. Daniel P. Kirby using Peptide Mass Fingerprinting, a method for identifying collagen peptides within bone materials to the genus or species level. This analysis is one of the last pieces of Erika's dissertation research.

**Daniel Hampson**

Daniel is a graduate student in Anthropology at New Mexico State University. He completed the undergraduate program in anthropology at Fort Lewis College in 2016. Since then, he has held internship positions with Crow Canyon in the field and Fort Lewis College working NAGPRA related tasks. He also has extensive employment with a local CRM firm, Woods Canyon Archaeological Consultants, where he participated in numerous survey and testing projects. He plans to use the Michael Barham Scholarship to conduct an archaeological survey of the Rincon Bench community, located in the north bench above the San Juan River at the intersection of Comb Ridge in southeast Utah. This survey will help to provide detailed architectural maps, detailed artifact description and digital aerial imagery of the area which are currently lacking. Daniel's thesis research focuses on this community.

**Danielle Marie Huerta**

Danielle is a PhD candidate at University of California; Santa Cruz. She has a B.A. in Anthropology from Texas A & M in 2015 and has advanced to PhD candidacy. She is currently an archaeologist for the Los Alamos National Laboratory working as part of the Environmental Stewardship and Cultural Resources Group to ensure that Los Alamos National Laboratory

complies with federal and state cultural resource laws and regulation. The project supported by the scholarship will investigate material indices of the varied experiences Pueblo people(s) may have had across the Spanish colonial landscape in New Mexico in the period A.D. 1598-1700. She will subject assemblages of the late Rio Grande Glaze Ware from four sites to lead isotope sourcing and chemical characterization of lead glaze paints, ceramic petrography, variation(s) in glaze paint appearance, along with basic attribute analysis of pottery pastes, slips and decoration. Data from four sites will be compared to understand how each community experienced and navigated colonialism differently. This scholarship supports her doctoral research on the Spanish colonial period in New Mexico.

### **Corey Johnson**

Corey is a PhD student at University of California, Davis. He received a B.A. at the University of Montana, *cum Laude* in 2016. He has had stone artifact data collection experience working on sites in North America (Canada and USA), Africa (Tanzania), and Asia (Mongolia and China). He intends to use the scholarship to participate in field work at the site of Tolbor-17 in Mongolia and to do the exploratory surveys in the Northern Hangay. This research will strongly benefit his doctoral dissertation.

### **Diana Malarchik**

Diane is a PhD student at University of California, Davis. She received her M.A and B.A at the University of Nevada, Reno in 2010 and 2014 respectively. In the last two years in her doctoral program she has examined stable isotopes for individuals associated with both pre-contact and historic archaeological sites. This scholarship will support the data analysis for her dissertation which is focused on how factors such as exposure to heavy metals, and age of weaning affected long-term health outcomes of different ethnic communities in the 1800 and 1900's. The funding will pay for mass spectrometry costs at U.C. Davis to gain stable isotope and heavy metal information.

### **Lucy Maun**

Lucy is a first-year graduate student at Oxford, UK. She received her B.A. with honors at the University of Exeter in 2021. In the last year she has been a research intern with University of Exeter's Centre for Human Animal Environment Bioarchaeology and has focused on faunal remains identification, isotopic and morphometric analysis. The Michael L. Barham Scholarship will support her analysis of sample faunal remains excavated at the Wallace Great House (5MT6970) in Cortez, Colorado. The Chaco Great House Wallace has been excavated intermittently by the Wallace Ruin Project since 1969, and consistently from 2008. Recent excavations have uncovered a deposit of faunal remains and pottery. These remains include large mammal bones, cervids, lagomorphs, and exotic species such as raptor and canines. Preliminary examination suggests that a large proportion of the bones were intentionally fractured. The unusual representation of species and butchery evidence may imply the deposit had a ritual use. This project would mark the first dedicated faunal remains report focused on ritual behavior.

### **Patricia J. McNeill**

Patricia is a PhD student at University of California, Davis. She received her B.A. *summa cum Laude* and M.A. at University of California, Davis in 2015 and 2017 respectively. From 2016 to 2019 she has been gathering experience in the field, excavating and analyzing archaeological

material. For her dissertation she is investigating hunter-gatherer mobility and resource catchment area in the arid Knersvlakte of Namaqualand, Western Cape South Africa. She does this by examining the strontium ( $^{87}\text{Sr}/^{86}\text{Sr}$ ) values preserved in ostrich eggshell and comparing them to isoscapes of strontium bioavailability. Matching values will indicate the region in which the mother ostrich was feeding when her egg formed. Identifying regions of egg collection based on eggshells in archaeological sites will inform on how people and resources were moving around the landscape. The scholarship will provide Tricia with the means to collect additional samples to produce a high-resolution isoscape for her dissertation.

### **Jessica Morales**

Jessica is a PhD candidate at University of California, Davis. She received her B.A. *cum laude* and M.A in Anthropology at California State University, Los Angeles in 2014 and 2019 respectively. She has had continuous research incorporating stable isotopes and field experience from 2012 through 2019. As part of her dissertation she addresses the issue of canid identification through a combination of zooarchaeological, geometric morphometrics and archaeometry. This project seeks to identify domestic dogs from other canids by examining their diets through stable isotope analysis. The scholarship supports this stable isotope analysis of bone collagen and bone apatite to further her project.

### **Sara Watson**

Sara is a PhD candidate at University of California, Davis. She received her B.A. *cum laude* at University of Texas at Arlington and M.A in Anthropology at University of California, Davis in 2016 and 2018 respectively. She has been conducting archaeological research in South Africa since 2015 as a McNair Scholar. The scholarship will support her dissertation research on stone tool production during the Early Later Stone Age in South Africa.

### **Jessica Weinmeister**

Jessica is a graduate student at New Mexico State University in Anthropology. She received a B.A. *summa cum Laude* at Western Colorado University. She has experience as an archaeology intern at Crow Canyon Archaeological Center and cultural resource management at Western Colorado University. The Michael L. Barham scholarship will be used to support the fieldwork at Crosspatch Site (5DL858) located between Central Mesa Verde region and southeast Utah. Her research questions will determine whether flaked stone tools were made at the site and/or exchanged.

## **SAS Webinar**

***"Stone Tools at Nelson Bay Cave South Africa"***

by

**Sara Watson, PhD Candidate UC Davis**

**Saturday, May 14, 2022**

**2:00 p.m. PDT**

Looking at material from South Africa, one of the likely places where our species may have developed, Sara Watson in her dissertation is investigating the emergence of new behaviors starting from some 65,000 years ago. She is addressing some of the earliest use of small tools (or microliths) by Prehistoric Hunter-Gatherers. Such kind of stone technology is thought to be part of a broader conceptual change in the way humans conceived their hunting weapons. This project has involved field work and study of stone tools from the sites of Knysna Eastern Heads Cave and Montau Cave and Nelson Bay Cave in South Africa.

Sara Watson is a PhD student in the Department of Anthropology at University of California, Davis. She received her B.A. (Summa cum Laude) in Anthropology at University of Texas at Arlington and a Masters in Anthropology at University of California, Davis. Her research focuses on human decision-making surrounding stone tool production 50,000 to 20,000 years ago in southern Africa. Her work thus far has resulted in two publications (two as first author), and three manuscripts in preparation (all as first author).

Friends are welcome and also invited to join our organization. There is no participation fee.

You may join before 2:00 pm PDT and enjoy a social time. See announcements:

<https://sacarcheology.org/announcements/> for **webinar access information**.

## **SAS Webinar**

***"Seasonality and harvesting practices for pre-contact site in Alameda-11***

by

**Marcela Barron, University of California. Davis graduate student**

**Saturday, June 11, 2022**

**2:00 p.m.- 3:00 PDT**

Bulk samples from a shell midden deposit were collected on a precontact site in CA-ALA-11, an estuarine site in the city of Alameda on the San Francisco Bay in December/January 2020-2021, but no seasonality studies were undertaken. Marcela as part of her PhD dissertation is examining the stable isotope signature in the growth rings of the shell, with the last growth ring corresponding to the season of harvest. By analyzing a large sample she will be able to determine the seasonal occupation of the site.

Marcela graduated with a B.A in Anthropology from California State University Channel Islands and is now a graduate student at University of California, Davis. She has been working in California cultural resource management for several years for firms including Aspen Environmental Group, Rincon Consultants, SWCA Environmental Consultants and Environ Inc. She brings significant practical experience and laboratory experience to this project.

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## SAS Webinar

This webinar was rescheduled from April 9<sup>th</sup>. It will follow Marcela Barron's presentation.

### ***"Experimental Reproduction of Bone Tools - An Attempt to Quantify Relative Complexity of Bone Projectile Points From Middle/Late Stone Age Africa"***

by

**Sean Begg, University of California Davis graduate**

**Saturday, June 11, 2022**

**3:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m. PDT**

Tool usage in Middle/Late Stone Age Africa involved stone and bone materials. Projectile points made from bone are conventionally regarded as indicative of behavioral modernity. They may have been less complex than previously thought. Sean Begg will discuss his work researching this topic.

**Sean Begg** graduated from University of California, Davis in 2021 with a Bachelor of Sciences in Anthropology and was awarded an SAS scholarship in 2021. At University of California, Davis he worked at the Center for Experimental Archaeology to examine and reproduce bone tools from Middle/Late Stone Age, Africa. He also prepared bone and teeth samples from a Bronze Age site in the Ukraine for stable isotope analysis to reconstruct ancient diets.

Friends are welcome to this webinar and also invited to join our organization. There is no participation fee.

You may join before 2:00 pm PDT and enjoy a social time. See announcements: <https://sacarcheology.org/announcements/> for **webinar access information**.

## PAST EVENTS

### **SAS Webinar - "Tuna Nossi' Kaiva' Gwaa - The Place Where The Antelope Go To Dream"**

On Saturday March 12 Morgan Hall and Painita Kumari, University of California, Davis recipients of 2021 SAS scholarships gave a very informative talk on University of California, Davis sponsored field school at the site of Tunna Nossi' Kaiva' Gwaa in the Humboldt-Toiyabe National Forest on the ancestral lands of the Numu (Northern Paiute) and Washoe tribes. In 2021, the focus of the field school was to collaborate with the Bridgeport Indian Colony in an effort to learn about an ancient communal hunting complex. The goal of the research was to study the evolution of cooperative hunting dynamics in the Great Basin through the examination of large-scale trap complexes and rock rings using pedestrian surveys, surface mapping and documentation of cultural features, and laboratory analysis. Since this site is

especially rich in surface-level lithics, the participants in the field school surveyed the site. They also were given exposure to the cultural history of the Northern Paiute.

## **SAS Tour and Webinar - *“Old Sacramento Waterfront Archaeology Tour”***

On Thursday, March 31<sup>st</sup> John Foster gave a Zoom preview of the Old Sacramento Waterfront tour. He reviewed the history of the Gold Rush Era as it related to Sacramento and the Sacramento River. For example in 1851 thirty-three sailing vessels were moored between today’s two bridges at Old Town. Many of these ships were converted to storage ships. They never sailed away. Many sunk in place. John was fortunate to be part of a diving team to investigate one of these ships, the Sterling.

Then on April 2, eighteen members of SAS met on the dock for the Delta King, Foot of K Street in Old Sacramento. For a couple hours John took the group back in time. He told stories about the gold rush days, the Sacramento River and the vessels that brought the gold seekers. He particularly described the underwater archaeology that was associated with two vessels: the Sterling and the LaGrange. Both are still resting on the bottom of the Sacramento River at Old Sacramento wharf but we know more about them because of the underwater excavations.



John Foster describing “Gold Rush Days” on the Sacramento River Photo by J. Johansen





The Foster notch – The *La Grange* is entombed below. Photo by J. Johansn

## **SAS Webinar – “Lost Cultures - South America (Peru)”**

On Saturday, April 9, 2022 Jan Johansen gave a presentation on lost cultures of Peru, South America. Many lost cultures have been “discovered” through excavations. Jan highlighted seven excavations in Peru that were set in the Paleo-Indian period. These included Piquimachay Cave, Huaca Prieta, Manachaqui Cave, Guitarrero Cave, Lauricocha, Chivateros, and Toquepai Caves. After a brief introduction to Peruvian cultures she discussed the cultural aspects of Nazca, a culture that flourished from 100 BCE to 800 CE beside the arid southern coast of Peru in the river valleys of the Rio Grande de Nazca drainage and the Ica Valley. The cultural categories highlighted were social structure, war, religion, arts, technology, economy/trade, and language. Even though Nazca had no written language they excelled in textiles, ceramics, aqueducts and geoglyphes. The purpose of figures drawn in the desert at Nazca is a still a mystery.



# MEMBER'S CORNER

## Renewal of Annual Memberships

All memberships are renewable on **January 1** annually except for those who joined recently (after September 1 of the previous year). Please support the society by promptly paying your **2022** 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 <https://sacarcheology.org/society-membership/pay-dues/> to renew and make payment using a **credit card or Paypal.** Remember a membership benefit is email receipt of archaeological/anthropological articles and notices of related events.

The annual dues are:

Student/Limited Member	\$15
Individual Membership	\$30
Family Membership	\$40
Sponsor	\$100 - 999 (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.

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### Annual Dues for 2022

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Address:

\_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_

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

Total enclosed

\$\_\_\_\_\_

Welcome new members: Jeannie (Diane Sangster's daughter), Todd and Ethan Coy. We are happy that you joined us.

We are pleased to acknowledge our major contributors for 2021-2022. These donations support our scholarship program.

**Patron (\$1000 or more)**

Martha Lewis and Dennis Fenwick  
Carolyn and Gordon McGregor  
OSIsoft - part of Aveva

**Sponsor (\$100 - \$999)**

Carol and Jim Barry  
Lynette Blumhardt  
Joanne & Kelly Carpenter  
Paul and Knuti Davis  
Rae Anny Eckstom  
Victoria and Dan Foster  
Kathy and John Foster  
Kim Frasse  
Jan and Tom Johansen  
Jeremy Johansen  
Virginia and Robert Meyer  
Roger and Lydia Peak  
Denise Ruzicka  
Diane Sangster

## **ARCHAEOLOGICAL REFERENCES**



The Dirt – A podcast for all ages and backgrounds about archaeology, anthropology, and our shared human story <https://thedirtpod.com/>

### **Recent Articles**

The reviewed article(s) are:

- “A 10,000-year head start for modern humans in Europe?”

### **“A 10,000-year head start for modern humans in Europe?”**

“In 2012 paleoanthropologist, Ludovic Slimak at the University of Toulouse and team found a partial molar – a baby tooth at a rocky overhang known as Grotto Mandrin in the

Rhone River Valley in France. Because of the tooth's square shape it is attributed to *Homo sapiens*. This find provides the first evidence of modern humans in Europe by 54,000 years ago, a time when Neanderthals were thought to have been the sole occupants of Europe. The finds also paint a picture of the intimacy of modern humans and their Neanderthal neighbors, suggesting they may have traded occupancy of the cave several times-once in as little time as a year." (Michael Price, *Science*, V 375, 2022-02-11 pp. 598-599)

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