



# Sacramento Archeological Society, Inc. Newsletter

---

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

---

November/December - 2022

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### November 2022

November 14, 2022 – Monday, 5:00 – 6:00 p.m. PDT **SAS Webinar** “*Digging Olompali*” by  
**E. Breck Parkman**, archaeologist

### December 2022

December 3, 2022, Saturday, PST - **SAS Annual Meeting** featuring “*Can we identify these 150 year-old remains? Recent archaeoforensic research in San Francisco, CA*” by Jelmer Eerkens, Professor of Anthropology at University of California Davis at U. C. Davis campus, Young Hall Room 224

December 12, 2022 – Monday, 5:00 – 6:00 p.m. PST **SAS Webinar** “*Water and Wind: Paleoenvironmental and Archaeological Correlations at Rimrock Draw Rockshelter*” by  
**Pat O'Grady**, Archaeologist for University of Oregon

Please note that our regular monthly Zoom presentations are rescheduled for the second Monday of the month from 5:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

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).

---

# UPCOMING EVENTS

## SAS Webinar

“Digging Olompali”

by

**E. Breck Parkman, Archaeologist**

**Monday, November 14, 2022**

**5:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. PDT**

Breck Parkman’s first assignment as a State Archaeologist was to inventory the cultural resources of Olompali, a brand, new 760-acre State Park in Marin County. According to Breck, one of his most important discoveries was a cultural deposit consisting of artifact-rich fire debris inside the ruins of the former Burwell Mansion. It was here that he found a virtual time capsule of hippie material culture, items that once belonged to the Grateful Dead-affiliated, Chosen Family commune, the residents of the mansion when it was destroyed by fire on February 2, 1969. This presentation describes the importance of that discovery and how, more than fifty years later, it’s still informing our knowledge of the Recent Past.



The Grateful Dead and other bands such as Quick Silver and Jefferson Airplane would set up in front of the Burwell Mansion and play free music for hours on end during their brief stay in May and June of 1966. (Archived photo) <https://wandering-through-time-and-place.com/tag/burwell-mansion-at-olompali/>

Breck Parkman was born and raised in Georgia but has made California his home since 1971. He lives in Sonoma with his teenage son. Breck retired from State service in 2017, after four decades as a State Archaeologist. His work took him to all corners of the state, and to places like Kodiak Island, Alaska; the Canadian Plains; the South Coast of Peru; and Central Siberia. He has worked on five continents. Breck earned B.A. and M.A. degrees in Anthropology at California State University, Hayward. He was the founding Director of the UNESCO-sponsored Fort Ross ~ Global Village Project (1996-2000), is a Research Affiliate at the University of California at Berkeley, and a Past President of the Society for California Archaeology. Currently,

Breck sits on the Board of Directors of the Sonoma Ecology Center. His research interests are broad and range from Ice Age megafauna to the archaeology of the Recent Past. Breck's many publications address these and related topics. His work has been featured in hundreds of newspaper, radio, and television interviews and he has appeared in various films and documentaries that have aired on PBS, BBC, and the History and Discovery Channels. Breck is perhaps best known for his work at Olompali, where he has helped develop the field of Contemporary Archaeology through his archaeological study of the Grateful Dead and the Chosen Family commune. In addition, he has been part of an international project focused on the Upper Paleolithic archaeology and paleoenvironments of southwestern Russia and central Ukraine.

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

The webinar will start at 5:00 pm PDT and formally conclude at 6:00 pm. You may join starting at 4:30 pm to say "Hello" and enjoy a social time.

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

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

### **Featuring**

*"Can we identify these 150 year-old remains? Recent archaeoforensic research in San Francisco, CA"*

by

**Jelmer Eerkens, Professor of Anthropology at University of California Davis**  
at U. C. Davis campus, Young Hall, Room 224

**Saturday, December 3, 2022**

**1:30 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.**

At our annual meeting in addition to a review of the year, a peek into 2023 and our election of officers for 2023, we are pleased to feature a talk by Jelmer Eerkens on archaeoforensic research. The program will be in person at the University of California Davis Campus, Young Hall Room 224.

### **Annual Meeting Program**

The schedule for the event is as follows:

1:30 – Meet and Greet

2:00 – SAS Annual Meeting with election of officers for 2023

3:00 – Recent archaeoforensic research in San Francisco by Jelmer Eerkens

4:30 – Raffle and Socialize at restaurant

At the SAS Annual Meeting President, Tom Johansen will review SAS events for 2022, highlight expectations for 2023, and conduct an election of officers. See the Members' Corner section of

this newsletter for the list of candidates. In 2022 we continued monthly webinars. These will continue in 2023. We had two local tours in 2022: Sacramento Waterfront and San Francisco Presidio. We hope to continue tours in 2023, including one to Nevada. In 2022 we awarded a total of 13 scholarships. Three of which were given as Michael L. Barham Scholarships. We hope to continue this program in 2023.

Following the annual meeting **Jelmer Eerkens** will discuss archaeoforensic research on bones from a woman from San Francisco.

Don't miss this annual meeting. After the meeting the group will participate in a raffle and be invited to socialize at a local restaurant. Friends are encouraged to attend and join our organization.

Directions to meeting:

To Quad Parking Structure, UC Davis  
I-80

Exit at Richards Blvd

Left onto 1st Street toward Davis

Right onto B Street

Left onto Russell Blvd

Left onto Howard Way

Left into Quad Parking Structure (no fee on weekends)

Walk from parking structure to Young Hall (2/10 of a mile)

Left on N Quad

Right on E Quad

Young Hall is opposite Memorial Union and Book Store

Room 224

Stairs or elevator

## **SAS Webinar**

**"Water and Wind: Paleoenvironmental and Archaeological Correlations at Rimrock Draw  
Rockshelter"**

by

**Pat O'Grady, Archaeologist for University of Oregon**

**Monday, December 12, 2022**

**5:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. PDT**

Rimrock Draw Rockshelter in Harney County, Oregon, has produced a number of artifacts, botanical remains, and sedimentary deposits indicative of both a nearby marsh and substantial stream. Crescentic stone tools are frequently associated with shallow desert lakes and plants like wapato, bulrush, and wada, are also found in similar settings. Massive rounded boulders in the channel adjacent to the rockshelter attest to long term and high energy stream flow. This presentation will focus on how the archaeology and sedimentology at the rockshelter guided us

to search for and discover the ancient hydrologic system that made the site attractive between ca. 18,000 to 7,000 years ago.

Pat O'Grady is a staff archaeologist for the University of Oregon Museum of Natural and Cultural History. He has taught classes at the University of Oregon campuses in Bend and Eugene, and summer field schools in Harney County for twenty years. O'Grady has been involved with SAS since 2016 when the Society first visited Rimrock Draw Rockshelter.

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

The webinar will start at 5:00 pm PDT and formally conclude at 6:30 pm. You may join starting at 4:30 pm to say “Hello” and enjoy a social time. See announcements:

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

## PAST EVENTS

### SAS Webinar - *“Mound Building Culture of Mississippi Valley Region”*

On Monday, September 12, 2022 Jan Johansen took us on a tour of mound sites in the Mississippi Valley. She related sites visited from Louisiana to Iowa to periods of North American Mound Building History including Archaic era, Woodland period, Coles Creek culture, Mississippian culture, and Plaquemine culture.

### SAS Tour - *“San Francisco Presidio”*

On Saturday, October 1, 2022 George Ann DeAntoni, Archaeological Specialist at the San Francisco Presidio led us on a tour of El Presidio’s Main Post excavations, El Polin Spring and Archaeology Lab, after which we visited the Presidio Officer’s Club and Presidio Heritage Gallery (museum).

### SAS Webinar - *“Tracking the First Americans”*

On Monday, October 3, 2022 Vance Holliday, Archaeologist and recently retired Director of the Argonaut Archaeological Research Fund at University of Arizona gave a presentation on peopling of the Americas. He focused on the recent discovery of fossilized human footprints at White Sands, New Mexico. The New Mexico site provides convincing evidence that humans were there between 23,000 and 21,000 years ago. Human activity in the form of footprints is quite clear and numerous and the dating is solid.

## **SAS Pre-Tour - “Nevada Caves, Rock Art, Fossils, and Mining”**

Johansens and Peakes, SAS members checked out central and eastern Nevada sites that might be included in a spring or fall tour in 2023. They visited Toquima Cave, Gatecliff Shelter, Etna Cave and Baker Village that were sites inhabited by prehistoric peoples. They also sought out rock art. They found pictographs and petroglyphs at Crystal Wash, Mount Irish Archaeological District, White River Narrows, Rainbow Canyon/Etna Caves, Great Basin National Park, and Honeymoon Hill/City of rocks. These were varied, but generally stunning. Fossils offered a glimpse into the past. The SAS members were introduced to Ichthyosaur fossils at Ichthyosaur Museum and trilobites at Oak Springs Summit. Finally more modern activity in the area were reflected in visits to Berlin, an abandoned mining town, Ward Charcoal Ovens that supported the mining at Ely, and Northern Nevada Railway Museum where tourists can take a train excursion ride or even ride with the Engineer in the Locomotive’s cab. The visited sites are definitely candidates for the 2023 tour.

More information on the tour will be forthcoming in newsletters in 2023. The tour will accommodate lodging in motels and/or camping. The number of participants will be limited. If you are definitely interested and wish to be put on the tour list, please contact Jan Johansen at [janjohansen@sbcglobal.net](mailto:janjohansen@sbcglobal.net). Be advised that a minimal fee of \$50 / person will be charged.

## **Friends of Sierra Rock Art - “30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration”**

On Friday, October 28 Friends of Sierra Rock Art (FSRA) hosted a presentation in Nevada City that explored the early history of the organization. Bill Drake, president presided over the event. After a video of scenes of Bill’s favorite rock art site high in the Sierra Mountains he narrated a detailed slide show of the activities of the first ten years of operation. Many participants were highlighted including Dan Foster who was instrumental in the founding of the society. The evening culminated with a panel discussion by Dick Markley, Forest Archaeologist retiree, Tahoe National Forest, Bill Slater, District Archaeologist retired, Tahoe National Forest, Stan Padilla, FSRA co-founder, Native American Artist and Bill Drake, FSRA co-founder

# **MEMBER'S CORNER**

## **Election of 2023 Board of Directors**

During the Annual Meeting the 2023 Board of Directors will be elected. The following slate of officers is proposed but additional members may still be nominated. We invite members to become involved. Serving on the Board of Directors is a way to influence the content and timing of events. Join us for 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>
Jan Johansen	<b>President</b>	Rae Ann Eckstrom	<b>Member at Large</b>
Paul K. Davis	<b>Vice-President</b>	John Foster	<b>Member at Large</b>
Debra Brinson	<b>Secretary</b>	Kim Frasse	<b>Member at Large</b>
Doug La Rocca	<b>Treasurer</b>	Jeremy Johansen	<b>Member at Large</b>
Tom Johansen	<b>Past President</b>	Martie Lewis	<b>Member at Large</b>
Lynette Blumhard	<b>Membership</b>	Tori Lyon	<b>Member at Large</b>
		Ruth McElhinney	<b>Member at Large</b>
		Carolyn McGregor	<b>Member at Large</b>
		Lydia Peake	<b>Member at Large</b>
		Roger Peake	<b>Member at Large</b>
		Diane Sangster	<b>Member at Large</b>
		Knuti VanHoven	<b>Member at Large</b>

## **New Members**

We want to welcome new member: Garry Fine. We hope to see you at our webinars, annual meeting and tours.

## **Support SAS through Amazon Smile**

Amazon Smile provides a means to support non-profit organizations such as Sacramento Archeological Society, Inc. It doesn't cost you anything, but you must simply designate a charity or non-profit to ear-mark a small donation from Amazon. The percentage is small, but with 50+ members and our network, maybe we can all contribute to our SAS scholarship account.

Here's the link for setting it up on your system.

<https://www.aboutamazon.com/news/community/how-to-sign-up-for-amazonsmile>

If you purchase from Amazon, sign into <https://smile.amazon.com>

and proceed as you would when making a normal purchase through Amazon. Try it out and let us know if there are problems.

## 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 **2023** dues. **Remember your dues help 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**

or **pay at the annual meeting.** We really appreciate your support.

\*\*\*\*\*

### Annual Dues for 2023

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

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

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

Total enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_



## Major Donors for 2022

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

### Patron (\$1000 or more)

Carolyn and Gordon McGregor

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

Paul and Knuti Davis

Ruth McElhinney

Jan and Tom Johansen

## 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:

- “Neanderthal brain development” and “Scaling brain neurogenesis across evolution – A genetic change could explain increased cortical neurogenesis in modern humans”
- “Collapse of terrestrial mammal food webs since the Late Pleistocene”
- “The genomic history and global expansion of domestic donkeys”
- “Drought exposes ‘Spanish Stonehenge’ for study”
- “Ancient DNA from the Near East probes a cradle of civilization – Studies seek clues to origins of farming, early languages”
  - “Ancient genomes and West Eurasian history – Storytelling with ancient DNA reveals challenges and potential for writing new histories”
  - “The genetic history of the Southern Arc: A bridge between West Asia and Europe”
  - “Ancient DNA from Mesopotamia suggest distinct Pre-Pottery and Pottery Neolithic migrations into Anatolia”
- “Drought exposes ‘Spanish Stonehenge’ for study”
- “Zimbabwe find illuminates dawn of the dinosaurs – Nearly complete specimen shows earliest dinosaurs needed a temperate climate”

### “Neanderthal brain development”

“Neanderthal brains were similar in size to those of modern humans. The researchers sought to investigate potential differences in neurogenesis during neocortex development. Modern

human transketolase-like 1 (TKTL1) differs from Neanderthal TKTL1 by a lysine-to-arginine amino acid substitution. Using overexpression in developing mouse and ferret neocortex, knockout in fetal human neocortical tissue, and genome-edited cerebral organoids, they found that the modern human variant, hTKTL1, but not the Neanderthal variant, increases the abundance of basal radial glia (bRG) but not that of intermediate progenitors (bIPs). bRG generate more neocortical neurons than bIPs. The hTKTL1 effect requires the pentose phosphate pathway and fatty acid synthesis. Inhibition of these metabolic pathways reduces bRG abundance in fetal human neocortical tissue. Their data suggest that neocortical neurogenesis in modern humans differs from that in Neanderthals.” (Joshua Sokol, *Science*, V 376, 2022-6-3 pp. 1036-1041)

## “Scaling brain neurogenesis across evolution – A genetic change could explain increased cortical neurogenesis in modern humans”

(*Science*, V 377, Issue 6611, pp. 1155-6 Full article at <https://doi.org/10.1126/science.abl6422>)

## “Collapse of terrestrial mammal food webs since the Late Pleistocene”

“Food webs influence ecosystem diversity and functioning. Contemporary defaunation has reduced food web complexity, but simplification caused by past defaunation is difficult to reconstruct given the sparse paleorecord of predator-prey interactions. The researchers identified changes to terrestrial mammal food webs globally over the past ~130,000 years using extinct and extant mammal traits, geographic ranges, observed predator-prey interactions, and deep learning models. Food webs underwent steep regional declines in complexity through loss of food web links after the arrival and expansion of human populations. They estimated that defaunation has caused a 53% decline in food web links globally. Although extinctions explain much of this effect, range losses for extant species degraded food webs to a similar extent, highlighting the potential of food web restoration via extant species recovery.” (Evan C Fricke *et al*, *Science*, V 377, 2022-8-26 pp. 1008-1011)

## “The genomic history and global expansion of domestic donkeys”

“Donkeys transformed human history as essential beasts of burden for long-distance movement, especially across semi-arid and upland environments. They remain insufficiently studied despite globally expanding and providing key support to low- to middle-income communities. To elucidate their domestication history, the researchers constructed a comprehensive genome panel of 207 modern and 31 ancient donkeys, as well as 15 wild equids. They found a strong phylogeographic structure in modern donkeys that supports a single domestication in Africa ~5000 BCE, followed by further expansions in this continent and

Eurasia and ultimately returning to Africa. They uncovered a previously unknown genetic lineage in the Levant ~200 BCE, which contributed increasing ancestry toward Asia. Donkey management involved inbreeding and the production of giant bloodlines at a time when mules were essential to the Roman economy and military.” (Evelyn T Todd *et al*, *Science*, V 377, 2022-9-9 pp. 1172-1179)

## “Ancient DNA from the Near East probes a cradle of civilization – Studies seek clues to origins of farming, early languages”

“The following three articles present DNA from 727 individuals who lived and died in the region over the past 11,000 years. Taken together, the studies survey the history of the Near East through a genetic lens, exploring the ancestry of the people who first domesticated plants and animals, settle down into villages, spread the precursors of modern languages, and peopled Homer’s epics.” (Andrew Curry, *Science*, V 377, 2022-8-26 pp. 908-909)

## “Ancient genomes and West Eurasian history – Storytelling with ancient DNA reveals challenges and potential for writing new histories”

“The studies by Lazaridis *et al*. represent an important milestone for ancient genomic research, providing a rich dataset and diverse observations that will drive the next iteration of interpretations of human history of West Eurasia.” The article points out concerns with the research. (Benjamin S. Arbuckle and Zoe Schwandt, *Science*, V 377, 2022-8-26 pp. 922-923)

## “The genetic history of the Southern Arc: A bridge between West Asia and Europe”

“For thousands of years, humans moved across the “Southern Arc”, the area bridging Europe through Anatolia with West Asia. The researchers eco-analyzed the ancient DNA data with the published archaeogenetic record to understand the origin of its peoples. They focused on the Chalcolithic and Bronze Ages about 7000 to 3000 years ago, when Indo-European language speakers first appeared.” (Iosif Lazaridis *et al*, *Science*, V 377, 2022-8-26 pp. 939-951)

## “Ancient DNA from Mesopotamia suggests distinct Pre-Pottery and Pottery Neolithic migrations into Anatolia”

“The researchers present the first ancient DNA data from the Pre-Pottery Neolithic Mesopotamia (Southeastern Turkey and Northern Iraq), Cyprus, and the Northwestern Zagros, along with the first data from Neolithic Armenia. They show that these and neighboring populations were formed through admixture of pre-Neolithic sources related to Anatolian, Caucasus, and Levantine hunter-gatherers, forming a Neolithic continuum of ancestry mirroring the geography of West Asia. By analyzing Pre-Pottery and Pottery Neolithic populations of

Anatolia, they show that these and neighboring populations were formed through admixture between Mesopotamian-related and local Epipaleolithic-related sources, but the latter experienced additional Levantine-related gene flow, thus documenting at least two pulses of migration from the Fertile Crescent heartland to the early farmers of Anatolia.” (Iosif Lazaridis *et al*, *Science*, V 377, 2022-8-26 pp. 982-987)

## “Drought exposes ‘Spanish Stonehenge’ for study”

“Scientists are rushing to examine a 7000-year-old stone circle in central Spain that had been drowned by a reservoir for decades and was uncovered after the drought plaguing Europe lowered water levels. Nicknamed the “Spanish Stonehenge”—although 2000 years older than the U.K. stone circle—the Dolmen of Guadalperal was described by archaeologist in 1920s. The approximately 100 standing stones, up to 1.8 meters tall and arranged around an oval open space, were submerged in the Valdecañas reservoir after the construction of a dam on the Tagus River in 1963. The water has receded a few times since, most recently in 2019, when archaeologists worked to create a digital record of the site. This time they hope to better understand engravings on the stones, which include a human figure and a squiggly line, and document any further damage to the monument’s porous granite.” (*Science*, V 377, 2022-8-26 p. 906)

## “Zimbabwe find illuminates down of the dinosaurs Nearly complete specimen shows earliest dinosaurs needed a temperate climate”

“During the late Triassic period, when the terrestrial world was a single sprawling land mass called Pangaea, a dog-size plant-eating dinosaur perished near a river in Zimbabwe. When the river flooded, its body was buried by sediment, with some bones still articulated as in life. Paleontologist Chris Griffin, then a doctoral student at the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University and now a post-doc at Yale University, spotted a thigh bone sticking out of a hill in the Cabora Bassa River Basin, Zimbabwe. It turned out to be a new species of early dinosaur: *Mbiresaurus raathi*. Though small by dinosaur standards at 1.8 meters long, the find has outsized implications for the early spread of dinosaurs. Until now, the earliest known dinosaurs also dating to about 230 million years ago were found in Argentina and Brazil, with a few partial specimens from India. When the continents were gathered together to form Pangaea, those sites all lay at about 50° south. Earth was warmer at that time, lacking icecaps and climate models suggest that latitude on Pangaea had a wet, temperate climate with hot summers and cool, rain winters. Researchers have suspected the first dinosaurs needed this type of climate and that this limited their spread across the supercontinent. To confirm that idea, they needed dinosaur fossils from other parts of the same climate belt. The find which had a long tail, a smallish head, and small triangular teeth, suggesting it favored plants reinforced this hypothesis.” (*Science*, V 377, 2022-9-2 p. 1031)

**Sacramento Archeological Society, Inc.**  
**P.O. Box 163287**  
**Sacramento, CA 95816-9287**