



# e-MIDDEN

Newsletter of the Archaeological Society of Central Oregon

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## **Upcoming changes to our ASCO meetings:**

We have located a new meeting site for our ASCO meetings. The new meetings will be on the third Thursday of January, March, May, September and November (no longer on Tuesdays).

The meeting location will be at OSU Cascades in Tykeson Hall, room 111. The college is located at 1500 SW Chandler Ave on the west side of Bend. The room number may vary but will be posted when you enter the building. The room is on the first floor so no stairs to climb. There is a large cafeteria and coffee shop in the building next door.

The meeting time will be 7:00 and doors will open at 6:30 (except on January 17<sup>th</sup> 2019 when the doors will open at 6:45) so you can take care of membership renewals. Also in March, you can take care of field trips sign ups. It's a good time to meet old friends and make new ones. We will need to be out of the room by 8:30 p.m.

Our meeting will be open to the students at no charge. We are hoping some may join ASCO and/or make donations. We will no longer be having a hospitality committee. Thank you to Amanda Hinchman who has held this position since January 2016 and to Diane Kirpach who also served 2016 and 2017 and to Susan Diehl in 2018. There is a very nice cafeteria with a variety of beverages and snacks of your choosing which can be picked up before the meeting.

Parking in the lots of OSU is free after 5 p.m. and it looks like there is adequate lighting outside as you make your way to your car.

See the map on the last page and as an attachment if you wish to print it. Hope to see you there in January. We will celebrate the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of ASCO at the meeting on January 17<sup>th</sup>. We will be serving cake to celebrate and have some beverages provided.

Welcome to new ASCO board member Darla Roselle. Darla has been a member of ASCO since 2017. We appreciate her willingness to serve. Thank you to Emily Pritchard who has served on the board for the last 3 years. She will continue as stewardship coordinator where she has done an outstanding job.

### January Meeting

Guest speaker: John K. Zancanella

### **“Rub-a-dub-dub: Recent Discoveries of Ancient Mammoth Rubs in the High Desert of Oregon”**

Mammoth rubs are a unique and seemingly rare feature of Pleistocene animal behavior. To date, only a hand full of these features have been recognized and reported on in the western United States. Because of the curiosity and observations of a local amateur naturalist, the High Desert of Oregon is now counted as one of the few western States to contain not one but multiple rub sites. The presentation will describe the various characteristics of the Oregon sites, discuss comparative studies from Africa that provide supporting evidence for their authenticity, and review alternative possibilities.

**Event Place:** OSU Cascades, 1500 SW Chandler Ave, Bend. Tykeson Hall Room 111

**Event Time:** 7 pm

**Bio:** Mr. Zancanella is a retired archaeologist and long-time ASCO member living in Bend with over 40 years of experience in California, Nevada, and Oregon. He has spent the last 24 years with the Bureau of Land Management in the Prineville District of Oregon and also has extensive experience in Oregon archaeology and paleontology.

## Last Speaker

Ethnobotany of the Klamath Basin  
Guest Speaker: Erin Rentz

At ASCO's November 13th meeting at COAR, our guest speaker was Erin Rentz, botanist for the Fremont-Winema National Forest. Erin gave a fascinating presentation exploring the interaction of native cultures with the botany of their Klamath Basin surroundings - a synergy going back at least 8,000 years.



In addition to giving an extremely well organized talk accompanied by explanatory slides, Erin stocked a table filled with actual plant materials and their resulting handiwork. Before and as well as after Erin's talk, ASCO members ( plus a number of guests from the Native Plant Society ) flocked around the table, encouraged to handle and examine many of the items.

Erin's presentation had a simple and effective plan: start by exploring general principles of ethnobotany and then go through the seasonal nature of plant gathering and their uses. After this intro, she launched into a discussion along with slides of dozens of Klamath Basin flowers, bushes, trees, bulbs - all cultivated and put to use by various tribal groups with greater and greater skill as time went on.

The General Principles of Ethnobotany:

- only gather what you need
- gather from large populations
- only common plants
- avoid over gathering
- gather only healthy and nutritious plants
- gather only what you know

The Seasonal Cycle:

The year begins with a spring gathering of greens and bulbs plus early basket materials. In the summer, nuts, grasses and berries are harvested as well as more mature basket, clothing and weapon materials. The fall brings berries, acorns and wocus. Around this time, there is field burning to prepare for the future. Erin called this "cultural burning" - a practice to reduce brush, increase productivity, lower insect and pest damage, and maintain important plants - all of which lead to easier, more efficient collection.

A few examples of important cultural plants in the Klamath Basin:

- Camas
- Indian Rhubarb
- Cattail and Tule
- Yampa
- Sandbar Willow
- Mock Orange
- Mountain Mahogany
- Sugar Pine Nuts
- Oregon Myrtle
- Fawn Lilly

At the end of the evening, there was more insight through Q&A, and a rousing “thank you” from a very appreciative audience.



*Submitted by Phil Ruder*

*Photos by Scott McKenzie*

## Upcoming programs of interest

January 16th - Wednesday  
OPB (Channel 7 or 607 HD) 9:00 p.m.  
NOVA The Day the Dinosaurs Died:

66 million years ago, a seven-mile-wide asteroid collided with Earth, triggering a chain of events that coincide with the end of the dinosaurs. But experts have long debated exactly what happened when the asteroid struck and how the giant beasts met their end. Now, scientists have uncovered compelling new clues about the catastrophe.

January 30, 2019 - Wednesday  
OPB (Channel 7 or 607 HD) 9:00 p.m.  
Nova First Face of America:

One unlucky day 13,000 years ago, a slight, malnourished teenager missed her footing and tumbled to the bottom of a 100-foot pit deep inside a cave in Mexico's Yucatán. Rising seas flooded the cave and cut it off from the outside world—until a team of divers chanced upon her nearly complete skeleton in 2007. Intricate detective work reveals that the young woman's bones are among the earliest known human remains in the Americas. What drove her to venture nearly a mile underground inside a vast cave? Where did her people come from, and why does she look so distinct from today's Native Americans? From a stunning Mexico cave to the wilderness of the Yukon, from the genetics lab to the forefront of forensics, NOVA pursues tantalizing new clues that are rewriting the story of the forgotten first people who ventured into our continent.

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Remember to visit the ASCO website for up to date changes in our calendar as well as background information about ASCO stewardship programs and past copies of the eMidden.

[www.ascoinfo.net](http://www.ascoinfo.net)

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## 2019 MEMBERSHIP

ASCO membership is for the calendar year, January through December. Benefits include many excellent speakers, workshops, and field trips. All of these activities are available to members for the \$20 membership fee. New members are always welcome. For a new membership, or to renew for 2019, please use the application form attached. Only ASCO members in good standing are eligible to participate in field trips. Remember that neither guests, nor persons under 18 may attend.

### Officers

President: Steve Hussey

Vice President: (Open)

Recording Secretary: John Zancanella

Communications Sec: Mary Webster

Treasurer: Nancy Green

Members at Large:

Darla Rozelle

Paul Claeysens

Stephanie Marks

Ann Evenson

Leslie Olson

Professional Advisor: Chris Horting-jones

### Committees

Archives: Susan Gray

Bylaws: Susan Gray and Chris Horting-Jones

Field trips: Phil Ruder, Bob Timmer and Val Anderson

Hospitality: Amanda Hinchman, Susan Diehl, Diane Kirpach

Librarian and Webmaster: Stephanie Marks

Membership: Ann Evensen

Programs: Leslie Olson and Chris Horting-Jones

Publications: Brian Hoover

Tag Board: Diane Kirpach

Volunteers / Stewardship: Emily Pritchard

# OSU Cascades Map

