



e-MIDDEN

Newsletter of the Archaeological Society of Central Oregon

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March-April 2020

In Remembrance of Ann Harbert Evensen



One of our most dedicated and supportive members, Ann Evensen, passed from this world on Valentine's Day of this year. If you did not know Ann well, her Obituary details many aspects of her fascinating life...

“She died in Bend, Oregon, in the house she designed and loved, after driving herself to a lovely dinner with friends, the simplest and most fierce declaration of independence. She was 79 years old.

“Ann was born October 11, 1940 to Lucille (Tomlinson) Harbert and Cecil Lloyd Harbert in Hood River, Oregon. She lived most of her early life in Estacada, Oregon, graduating from Estacada High School in 1958. She graduated from the University of Oregon (!?!) Nursing School located on the OHSU campus in Portland in 1963.

“Ann did not suffer fools, and so surrounded herself with intelligent and interesting people, especially those in her American Association of University Women (AAUW) sisterhood. She was passionate about education and literacy for all, but especially for girls. This dedication fueled her 50 year commitment to local, state and national AAUW causes. The bonds with these women, formed of advocacy and leadership, were some of the most meaningful and lasting friendships Ann had.

“Her years of service also included serving as a Bend/LaPine School Board Member, Deschutes County Library Board Member, State of Oregon Library Board Member, Red Cross volunteer, and Oceanic Society research volunteer. She was a long-time member of the Archaeological Society of Central Oregon (ASCO), Genealogical Society, and the High Desert Museum.”

Her full Obituary and Date for Celebration of Life can be found online at:

<https://www.bendfuneralhomes.com/obituaries/Ann-Harbert-Evensen?obId=11865521#/celebrationWall>

Ann served for several years as our Membership Chairperson until her health began to decline. We will remember her as an influential and caring member of our organization.

April General Meeting

Thursday April 9th, 2020

Guest Speaker: John C. Blong, PhD
Topic: “Coprolite Studies of Paisley Caves”

Doors open @ 6:30pm; Meeting at 7:00pm with Speaker to follow
Ask an Archaeologist Topic: “Resource Protection During Wildfires”

Location: OSU – Cascades Tykeson Hall (TYKH 111)
1500 SW Chandler Ave, Bend, OR 97702



Due to a scheduling conflict, our April Guest Speaker from England, Lisa-Marie Shilleto, will no longer be able to attend.

Fortunately for us, her colleague, Dr. John C. Blong, has agreed to travel from Utah to speak about his exciting focus at the Paisley Caves: coprolites and the behavior of paleo-peoples in the area!

There are key questions about the timing of the initial human settlement of the northern Great Basin, how settlers made a living in the wetland landscape they encountered upon arrival, and how peoples’ lives changed as the climate became warmer and drier in the Holocene. The Paisley Caves in south-central Oregon provide a unique opportunity to investigate these questions. The caves have produced the earliest evidence for human settlement of the Great Basin, including 14,500 year-old preserved feces or “coprolites” containing human DNA, as well as a large collection of coprolites from human occupations spanning the end of the last ice age through historic contact.

These coprolites provide an important resource for investigating long-term human behavior at the caves. In this presentation, Dr. Blong will focus on the remarkable coprolite record from the Paisley Caves, addressing controversies about the earliest occupation of the caves, and exploring what coprolites can tell us about human activity at the caves over time.

Dr. Blong is an environmental archaeologist with a background in the study of stone tools and plant remains from prehistoric archaeological sites. His research is focused in North America where he studies the initial human settlement of Alaska

and the Great Basin, hunter-gatherer landscape use, and human response to late Pleistocene and Holocene environmental change. Dr. Blong is currently a Research Associate at Newcastle University in the United Kingdom.

We would like to give a special thank you to our January Guest Speaker, Michael Boero, for braving the winter weather and delivering a terrific presentation on the restoration of the Black Butte Cupola Lookout.



A good showing of members and guests turned out on that wintry evening to learn about Mr. Boero's work on the Cupola. Mike took over this project from previous Sister's Archaeologist (and friend of ASCO),

Matt Mawhirter. When Mike arrived to take Matt's position in the summer of 2018, he really took on the project with enthusiasm and organization.

Along with help from volunteers with the Friends of the Metolius, the group overcame numerous logistical challenges and in September of 2019, they made huge improvements to the charming building that sits near the base of the current Lookout. Mike's photos of the volunteers working high atop the mountain were awe inspiring. Can you imagine hiking up to the top of a mountain, only to spend the day nailing shingles? Well, they did it! Mr. Boero also told us fun stories about the history of the Lookout and Eddie Park, the Bearded Bachelor of Black Butte.

Mike says there will be more opportunities this season to help finish the restoration efforts. If you are interested, be sure to introduce yourself to Mr. Boero at the next General Meeting and welcome him to Central Oregon!

Mark your Calendar for the
Archaeology Roadshow:

Saturday May 23rd, 2020

More information to follow as the date approaches!

2020 ASCO Field Trip Update:

Our Field Trip Committee, consisting of Val Anderson, Tom Machala, John Williams, and Bob Timmer (Chair), has been working on the field trip line-up for 2020 with the goal of having trips from May through October.

The Committee is pleased to present the following line-up:

P38 & A-6 Crash Sites in Christmas Valley - May 26th

Lakeview Petroglyphs & Pictographs - June 29th

Rimrock Draw Rockshelter with Pat O'Grady - July 24th

Pine Creek Mill in the Skyline Forest with Leslie Olson - August 15th

History of Bridge Creek, Wheeler County with John Zancanella - September 19th

Glass Buttes with Ryan Griffin and Bob Timmer - October 3rd

New Field Trip Sign-up Process:

For the past few years, field trip sign-ups have been held en-masse at the March meeting. Some have claimed this was ASCO's version of "March Madness".

Though a simple process, disadvantages included frustration in missing out on the entire season's field trips by being unable to attend the March meeting and a significant drop-out rate for folks whose schedules subsequently changed. Furthermore, new members joining ASCO later in the year were left out of the sign-up process completely.

Our remedy: sign-ups this year will be scheduled closely with the date of the field trip and will now be via email only.

Please be advised:

- The sign-up start date for each field trip is included with the trip description
- Final field trip details will be emailed 4 weeks prior to the trip
- A reminder email will be sent 3 weeks prior to the trip (when sign-up period begins)
- **Sign-ups will be via email to the Field Trip Coordinator. No early birds please!**
- The Field Trip Coordinator will confirm attendance, update trip details via email, email necessary waivers, etc.

2020 ASCO Field Trip Descriptions:

P-38 & A-6 Historic Aircraft Crash Sites in Christmas Valley with Bill Cannon: May 26th; Sign-up begins May 5th

Following interest expressed at Dick Tobiason's presentation last November, this trip will visit the sites of a P-38 Lightning Army Air Corp fighter plane that crashed into the desert on February 9, 1945 and an A-6 Intruder that crashed in the same area on September 19, 1973. The Bureau of Land Management manages these crash locations near Christmas Valley as historic sites and memorials to the three men who lost their lives here in service to our country.

From Bend, it is about a 2-hour drive to the turn-off onto a BLM dirt road on the east side of Christmas Valley. The 9.4-mile dirt road to the location is rocky in spots and can be impassable in wet weather. A four-wheel-drive vehicle with good ground clearance is recommended. Visiting both crash sites will involve about a 1-mile hike over uneven ground. We plan on scouting the location in late April to verify that the road is passable.

The trip is limited to 20 people

Details to follow from coordinator: John Williams

Lakeview Petroglyphs & Pictographs with Bill Cannon: June 29th; Sign-up begins June 8th

We'll spend the day with Bill Cannon, BLM archaeologist for the Lakeview District, marveling at large panels of pictographs and petroglyphs. The Lakeview District in southeastern Oregon has more pictograph sites than anyplace else in our great state. It is D-Stretch heaven! It'll be a long day, from 7am-ish to 6pm and will require at least one overnight stay, possibly two. There are hotels and camping/RV sites available. **A high clearance 4x4 vehicle is a must!**

The trip is limited to 20 people

Details to follow from coordinator: Val Anderson

Rimrock Draw Rockshelter with Pat O'Grady:

July 24th; Sign-up begins July 3rd

This is a great opportunity to visit the Rimrock Draw Rockshelter, located in the High Desert about 2 hours east of Bend. Dr. Pat O'Grady, along with several students attending a University of Oregon field school, will be continuing excavation of this exciting site.

In 2009, Scott Thomas, BLM Archeologist - Burns (retired), was drawn to this rock outcropping by its promising location along an ancient stream bed, tall sagebrush, and natural, north-facing protection from the prevailing southwesterly winds. Soon thereafter, he spotted projectile points and other artifacts.

The first excavations in 2011-12 extended to a depth of 12 feet, below a layer of large boulders and a lens of volcanic ash, and yielded animal tooth fragments and a beautiful piece of orange agate with obvious marks. The ash turned out to have been from Mt. Saint Helens and was dated at 15,000 to 16,000 years ago.

Work in subsequent years has been to extend the excavation along and perpendicular to the outcropping. Dates from camel teeth fragments found under the St. Helens ash and bison tooth fragments from a second pit, but at the same depths, range between 17,500 and 18,250 years old. In both instances, there are ancient mammal remains and human made artifacts in very close association.

With such an old date, the site is one of the oldest in North America.

****Dr. Pat O'Grady will be giving a presentation on this site at our September General Meeting this year!**

The trip is limited to 20 people

Details to follow from coordinator: John Williams

Pine Creek Mill in the Skyline Forest with Leslie Olson:

August 15th 9am-1pm; Sign-up begins July 25th

Pine Tree Mill, near Shevlin Park, was built in 1916 and operated for two years before burning down. We will explore what remains of the site, talk about early Bend history and what brought early settlers to the area. The walk is about 2 miles on uneven ground, off trail, and may have broken glass and industrial remains.

The trip is limited to 12 people

Details to follow from coordinator: Tom Machala

🚩 History of Bridge Creek, Wheeler County, Oregon with John K. Zancanella
September 19th, 8am-4pm; Sign-up begins August 29th

One hundred million years ago, it was an ocean west of the main continent. 30 million years ago, early evolving plant and mammal populations occupied its plains. One million years ago, Pleistocene mammoths grazed its hillsides. And, during the 1860s, thousands of miners and fortune seekers traveled the infamous “The Dalles to Canyon City Road” along Bridge Creek on their way to the gold diggings at Canyon City, near the town of John Day.

Join Mr. Zancanella for a one-day history tour focused on early transportation and settlement of Central Oregon. The tour will include discussions of how geology and environmental conditions influenced human social and economic development in this rural setting on the western frontier during the mid-19th century.

The Tour will include several stops between Bend and the Painted Hills Unit of the John Day Fossil Beds. We will lunch at the Park Unit. There will be a couple of short (less than ¼ mile) hikes for those interested. One should expect uneven surfaces over low-moderate terrain. After lunch, we will continue to drive around Sutton Mountain to the town of Twickenham. This portion of the tour will allow us to view another transportation route, the “Fossil to Mitchell Road” from the early 1870s, as well as spectacular views of this portion of the John Day River Canyon.

This will conclude the Tour. For those interested, you may return over the same route to visit and explore the Painted Hills Unit of the NPS, or you can exit via a paved road up Girds Creek to the south where it connects with the “Mitchell to Service Creek Road” and head south to Mitchell and Hwy 126.

The trip is limited to 10 people

Details to follow from coordinator: Bob Timmer

**🚩 Glass Buttes with Flint Knapping Workshop by Ryan Griffin
& Geology Talk by Bob Timmer:**

October 3rd; Sign-up begins September 12th

There are at least nine different types of obsidian in two massive mountains at Glass Buttes and Little Glass Buttes, just a two hour drive from Bend. Bob Timmer will tell us how it got there and Ryan Griffin, BLM Archaeologist, will show us how Native Americans crafted it into tools. After lunch, members will receive a rock hounding map so they can collect up to 250lbs (per year) of obsidian on their own.

Be sure you have good tires on your car, there's obsidian everywhere!

This trip is limited to 35 people

Details to follow from coordinator: Val Anderson

ASCO Membership Benefits:

- ✓ Informative Speakers at General Meetings*
- ✓ Education and Adventure on Summer Field Trips*
- ✓ Meet with Fellow Archaeological Enthusiasts*
- ✓ Experience History & Prehistory in our Back Yard*
- ✓ Good Times & Fun!!!*

Your 2019 membership expires:

March 31, 2020

*Please renew so you too can
experience all these exciting benefits!!!*

ASCO CONTRIBUTORS FOR 2019

Many ASCO members contribute time and money to ASCO over and above their regular dues. These contributions help ensure that we have educational and interesting programs and field trips. The money and time also helps in our Stewardship Program and is used to work towards our goal of stimulating public interest in the preservation of and research into our past life ways.

In 2019, ASCO also made a contribution to the University of Oregon Museum of Natural and Cultural History for use by Patrick O'Grady in his work at the Rim Rock Draw Rockshelter Project in eastern Oregon.

Thank you to the Board and Committee Members and everyone who helps ASCO with their time. And, thank you to the following for their cash donations in 2019:

Alison Hamway

Colleen Hill

Steve Hussey

Joyce and Ted Kesterson

Maggi and Tom Machala

Nancy Pauly

Rim Rock Draw field trip participants

ASCO Library Book Sale participants

Sunriver Homeowner Association

ASCO would especially like to thank the Robert G. Kirby Fund of the Oregon Community Foundation for the generous grant they provided to ASCO in 2019.

Other Archaeological Resources:

OPB online currently has very interesting articles, videos, and links pertaining to Oregon archaeology at: www.opb.org/artsandlife/search/?q=archaeology

You can find exciting videos and information pertaining to archaeology in general online at The Archaeology Channel's website: www.archaeologychannel.org

Please remember to visit us online at the ASCO website for changes in our Calendar, as well as background information about the ASCO Stewardship Program, Field Trips, and past copies of the eMidden: www.ascoinfo.net

2020 MEMBERSHIP

ASCO membership is for the calendar year, January-December. Benefits include many excellent Speakers, Workshops and Field Trips, and Stewardship Opportunities. 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 2020, please use the application form posted online or pick one up at the next General Meeting. Only ASCO members in good standing are eligible to participate in Workshops, Field Trips, and the Stewardship Program. Please remember that neither guests nor persons under 18 may attend ASCO functions.

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Field Trips: Bob Timmer, Val Anderson,
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