



e-MIDDEN

Newsletter of the Archaeological Society of Central Oregon

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For our November 19th Zoom presentation we are excited to welcome Dr. Michel Waller who will be speaking to us on the topic of: *"Tool Use in Great Apes: Insights Into Human Evolution"*

When Jane Goodall reported the use of tools by chimpanzees, Louis Leakey responded by saying "Now we must redefine tool, redefine Man, or accept chimpanzees as humans." Since then, primatologists have cataloged a variety of different tool behaviors in non-human primates providing insight into the evolution of culture, language, and social behavior in humans. This talk will examine some of these behaviors with comments on our own tool use history.

Dr. Michel Waller, Assistant Professor of Anthropology at COCC, has over 15 years of experience researching primates in Africa. His field studies include chimpanzee/human interactions in Senegal and bonobo/human interactions in war-torn Democratic Republic of Congo. Dr. Waller studies primate socio-ecology and behavior in an effort to better understand the spectrum of factors that have shaped early human evolution. His research has focused on ranging behavior, territoriality, aggression, and tolerance.

ANNOUNCEMENT:

WE WILL BE HOLDING AN EXTRA ASCO ZOOM PRESENTATION
THIS YEAR ON THURSDAY, DECEMBER 10TH!!!

**Professor Virginia Butler will speak to us
about: *“The Archaeology of Animals,
Earthquakes, and People: The Story of
Community Resilience at Ciwicen Village,
Port Angeles, WA”***



Archaeologists analyzing the remains uncovered from an ancient Native American village in present-day Port Angeles, Washington, found evidence that the village was destroyed by as many as five tsunamis. The 2,700-year-old village site and burial ground, known as Ciwicen (pronounced ch-WHEET-son), was unearthed in 2003 by excavators during construction of a large dry-dock. It is the largest Indian village ever discovered in Washington. The state eventually abandoned the costly construction project, but the discovery turned into one of the most important archaeological finds in the Pacific Northwest. In the first major research project to come out of the excavation, archaeologists from Portland State University and other universities analyzed 1.2 million animal remains and reconstructed plank-houses from remnants of posts, walls, hearths and trenches. The large, diverse sample gave them new insights into the ways that the animals, and in turn, people responded to recurring catastrophic events.

Virginia Butler is Professor Emerita of Anthropology at Portland State University where she has taught since 1994. Her research focuses on the long-term relationships between people and animals, especially fish, that she studies using fish remains from archaeological sites that range from 100 years to over 10,000 years old. Her work has focused on the American West but she has worked in Oceania and Northern Alaska. She is also committed to public archaeology--which finds ways of making archaeology relevant to wider society. She is the lead organizer for the Archaeology Roadshow, a celebration of archaeology and heritage that takes place in late May in Portland, with sister celebrations in Central Oregon and Harney County.



We would like to say a special thank you to Dr. Dennis Jenkins for being our first Zoom speaker back in September. Though we did experience some minor technical difficulties and had to cut the presentation short, Dr. Jenkins was able to provide our viewers with exciting details on his latest findings from 15,000-year-old sites in the Oregon High Desert.

From our Public Outreach Committee:

Part of our mission, here at ASCO, is to promote the preservation and protection of our cultural heritage through education. The Public Outreach Committee looks forward to doing just that, once we can resume in-person interaction with the public that is!

With this in mind, we have created two bookmarks we are hoping to distribute in the near future; one with a prehistoric image (which you saw in the last *eMidden*), and now, thanks to John Zancanella providing his own historic drawings, we have another bookmark design promoting historic sites.

The bookmarks are a fun way to encourage people to avoid collecting artifacts and a great promotion for our organization. They will be just one small tool for us in educating the public about preserving archaeological artifacts and sites.

Please contact Eileen Gose if you would like to assist in the important endeavor of public outreach.

If you find me ...



Imagine my story.
(I could be hundreds of years old!)

Respect my makers.
(I was important to people of the past.)

Take a photo of me.
(Show my picture to an archaeologist.)

Leave me where I lie.
(My location is important to my story.)

Honor people of the past -- help protect archaeological sites!

Terms to Know:
Archaeology - the study of people of the past from the artifacts they left behind

Artifact - anything made or changed by people

Rock Art - images pecked or painted on rock by people of the past

For more information:

Archaeological Society of Central Oregon

www.ascoinfo.net/



Archaeological Programs of Interest:

The High Desert Museum has officially reopened after a period of closure due to COVID. We can once again enjoy their fabulous exhibits and wildlife representing Central Oregon history, culture, and natural wonders.

You will certainly enjoy visiting The Museum of Natural and Cultural History's website at: <https://mnch.uoregon.edu/museum-home>. There is an incredible virtual page, "Museum from Home", where you can view museum galleries, participate in games and programs, and peruse educational materials all online. New activities are posted regularly.

Check out OPB.org for local archaeology-related news, as well as COVID-19 alerts, closures, and re-openings: <https://www.opb.org/news/>

Also, check out PBS.org for a wide array of free streaming videos covering a multitude of topics: <https://www.opb.org/news/>

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

2021 MEMBERSHIP

ASCO membership is for the calendar year, January through December. Benefits include many excellent Speakers, Workshops and Field Trips, and Stewardship opportunities. ***These activities are typically available to members for a \$20 membership fee; however, due to COVID, we will be waiving that fee for the 2021 year. Donations will still be accepted and are always appreciated.***

New members and guests are always welcome at General Meetings. Please note that we cannot offer membership to individuals under the age of 18.

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