

2009 Maine Archaeology Month Events!

Updated Oct 19, 2009

OCTOBER

ORONO, OCT. 13

Lecture: New Views of Norse Greenland: Successful, Well Adapted, But Still Extinct

By Dr. Thomas McGovern, Hunter College, CUNY

Where: Hutchins Hall, Collins Center for the Arts, University of Maine at Orono

When: Tuesday, October 13 at 7 pm

Tickets are needed but are free - just email climatechange@maine.edu or call 581-2190.

Details: Recent work in Norse Greenland and related parts of the North Atlantic has significantly altered our understanding of the long-term human ecodynamics of the extinct settlements. Norse Greenland remains a fascinating and troubling worst-case outcome of human interaction with climate, and our new understanding of the dilemma faced by their society serves to increase the relevance of this case to modern times.

Sponsored by: The University of Maine and the Hudson Museum.

ALTON, SATURDAY, Oct. 17

Lecture: Pots Along the Penobscot: A Discussion of Aboriginal Ceramics from the Penobscot River Valley

By Bonnie Newsom, Penobscot Nation Tribal Historic Preservation Officer

Where: Hirundo Wildlife Refuge, 15 HUDSON ROAD, ALTON, ME 04468

When: Saturday, October 17th at 7:00 p.m.

Free and open to the public.

For more information contact Stephanie Larouche at sjlarouche@gmail.com

BRUNSWICK, WEDNESDAY, OCT. 21

Lecture: Exploring La Milpa, a Classic Maya City in Belize

By Dr. Norman Hammond (Boston University)

Where: Beam Classroom in the Visual Arts Center, Bowdoin College

When: Wednesday, October 21, 7 - 8 pm

Details: La Milpa was a great Maya city, with as many as 50,000 inhabitants around AD 800, but within a generation it had been abandoned to the tropical jungle, and lay unexplored for almost 1,200 years. Mapping and excavation have shown how La Milpa originated as a village around AD 50, became a small city with rulers who commemorated themselves with carved stelae some four centuries later, and was then abandoned for more than a hundred years before suddenly springing to life again and becoming one of the major Maya communities in its region.

Sponsored by the Peary-MacMillan Arctic Museum

Contact: Leslie Shaw 725-3815 or lshaw@bowdoin.edu

PORTLAND, SUNDAY, OCT. 25

FALL Meeting of the Maine Archaeological Society

Where: Cohen Education Center, Osher Map Library and the Smith Center for Cartographic Education, University of Southern Maine, Portland Campus. (This is the NEW library and is attached to the old library on Forest Avenue.)

When: Sunday, Oct. 25, from 9 am to 2 pm

Exhibit: Spend time viewing the new exhibit "American Treasures"

Lectures:

Dick Doyle (MAS President)

10 - 11 am "The Gene Stewart Collection and the Middle Archaic of the Sebago Lake Region"

Skip Brack (Davistown Museum, Liberty, ME, and the Liberty Tool Co.)

11 - 12 am "Perspectives on Early Historic Tools"

LUNCH - bring bag lunch or buy lunch nearby

Dr. Nathan Hamilton (University of Southern Maine, Gorham)

1 - 2 pm "Archaeology and Environmental History of Smuttynose Island, Isles of Shoals"

Book room opens at 9 am

BRUNSWICK, OCT 29

Lecture: The Archaeology of Conflict: Apaches, Buffalo Soldiers, and the Battle over the Southwestern Frontier

By Dr. Eleanor M. King, Howard University

Where: Beam Classroom in the Visual Arts Center, Bowdoin College

When: Thursday, October 29, 7 - 8 pm

Details: In the late 1800s a prolonged war pitted the Apache against the U.S. Army, particularly the Buffalo Soldiers, the African-American regiments created after the Civil War. Resisting confinement on reservations, the Apache sought to evict all intruders and regain their land. The military, meanwhile, tried to protect travel routes, towns, and mining camps on an increasingly populated frontier. Their story, which helped shape the Southwest as we know it, is the subject of ongoing research by a unique archaeological field school that unites students from Howard University, the Mescalero Apache Reservation, and elsewhere in a joint exploration of the past. The story of the Warriors Project archaeology program and its research results will be the focus of this presentation.

Sponsored by the Department of Sociology and Anthropology and Africana Studies, Bowdoin College

Contact: Leslie Shaw 725-9110 or lshaw@bowdoin.edu

ADDITIONAL EVENTS IN NOVEMBER!

ORONO, NOV. 10

Lecture: The Prehistory of El Niño in Ancient Peru

By Dr. Dan Sandweiss (University of Maine at Orono)

Where: Hutchins Hall, Collins Center for the Arts, University of Maine at Orono

When: Tuesday, October 13 at 7 pm

Tickets are needed, but are free - just email climatechange@maine.edu or call 581-2190.

Details: Every few years, the climatic phenomenon known as El Niño changes weather throughout the world. Sometimes these changes are positive, such as a reduction in hurricanes. El Niño, however, often is devastating - nowhere more than in its heartland over the coast of Peru. Professor Sandweiss explores the prehistory of El Niño over the 13,000 years that people have lived in coastal Peru. He explains the methods used to track ancient El Niños and discusses how this phenomenon may have altered the course of cultural development in the region.

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