



South Suburban Archaeological Society

# ArkyFacts

Monthly Newsletter of the  
South Suburban Archaeological Society  
Summer Schedule of Events  
(no Irwin Center lectures)  
2017

Saturday, July 8      ☼      Isle a la Cache Museum  
1:00 at the museum located on Romeo Road/135th Street, east of  
Route 53 in Romeoville.  
(Google map: <https://goo.gl/maps/RLgt7> )

July 31      Officer's meeting

Saturday, August 5      ☼      Aztalan, WI  
Aztalan State Park & Museum—SSAS excursion

Deadline for material to be included in the next  
Arkyfacts is two weeks before the monthly meeting.

**nitel**

*Corporate sponsorship, making it possible...*

# ArkyFacts July 2017

July 2017



**Saturday, July 8**, SSAS members and their guests will tour Isle a la Cache Museum in Romeoville. "The Isle a la Cache Museum offers visitors an adventure in 18th century history, when the 'Illinois Country' was home to French voyageurs and native Potawatomi. The Museum features interactive exhibits of the Great Lakes fur trade of the 1700s, in addition to a replica Native American longhouse."

We meet at 1:00 at the museum on Romeo Road/135th Street, east of Route 53 in Romeoville. (Google map: <https://goo.gl/maps/RLgt7> )

Isle a la Cache: <http://www.reconnectwithnature.org/preserves-trails/Isle-a-la-Cache>

SSAS Excursion: <http://southsuburbanarchsociety.weebly.com/excursions-2017.html>



*Quetico Superior Route, passing a Waterfall,*  
by Frances Anne Hopkins

*Scene showing a large Hudson's Bay Company freight canoe passing a waterfall, presumably on the French River. The passengers in the canoe may be the artist and her husband, Edward Hopkins, secretary to the Governor of the Hudson's Bay Company.*

**Saturday, August 5** will have us visiting Aztalan, WI, the northernmost outpost of Mississippian civilization, with Michael Ruggeri. Aztalan was first settled around 900 and flourished during the 10<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> centuries.

## Business Meeting Notes

The next business meeting will be July 31, at 7:30.

We will begin hosting lectures again at the Irwin Center in Homewood on September 21. Robert McCullough, Senior Research Associate with Illinois State Archaeological Society will give the talk *Late Prehistoric Societies in Central Indiana*.

## Bookmarks!

South Suburban Archaeological Society

<http://southsuburbanarchsociety.weebly.com/>

See also <http://southsuburbanchapter.tumblr.com>

South Suburban Chapter Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/SouthSuburbanChapter2015>



SSAS programming is made possible through generous contributions from our members of time, effort, and financial support, and through the valued sponsorship of our friends at: NITEL

## What is Gobekli Tepe?

In an article written by Andrew Curry for *Smithsonian Magazine*, November 2008, Curry tells the story of how excavated megaliths older than Stonehenge were re-discovered.



### ***Gobekli Tepe: The World's First Temple?***

Predating Stonehenge by 6,000 years, Gobekli Tepe re-writes the conventional view of the rise of civilization. “Gobekli Tepe was first examined—and dismissed—by University of Chicago and Istanbul University anthropologists in the 1960s. As part of a sweeping survey of the region, they visited the hill, saw some broken slabs of limestone and assumed the mound was nothing more than an abandoned medieval cemetery.” German archaeologist, Klaus Schmidt, reading about the site some years later, ventured to investigate himself. Seeing the rounded shape of Gobekli Tepe amongst plateaus, he had a decidedly different opinion. His hunch proved correct when a year later he and his colleagues “uncovered the first megaliths, a few buried so close to the surface they were scarred by plows.”

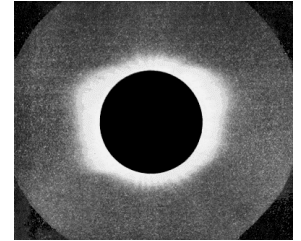
Read more: <http://www.smithsonianmag.com/history/gobekli-tepe-the-worlds-first-temple-83613665/>



*Göbekli Tepe (Turkey): a panoramic view of the southern excavation field*

## Archaeoastronomy

Solar eclipses have inspired and terrified humans over the millennia. To understand the phenomenon, different cultures created myths and legends.



*Solar corona of the 1889 eclipse*

“Pomo, an indigenous group of people who live in the northwestern United States, tell a story of a bear who started a fight with the Sun and took a bite out of it. After taking a bite of the Sun and resolving their conflict, the bear, as the story goes, went on to meet the Moon and take a bite out of the Moon as well, causing a lunar eclipse.” *TimeandDate.com*

<https://www.timeanddate.com/eclipse/solar-eclipse-myths.html>

*In the Shadow of the Moon: Solar Eclipses in the Cahokian Sky – AD 800-1300*

**August 13, 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm**

Cahokia Mounds will offer a special lecture by Russell Weisman, Senior Historic Preservation Specialist, MoDOT Environmental and Historic Preservation Section.

On Monday, August 21, 2017, millions of Americans from Oregon to South Carolina will have the rare opportunity to witness a total eclipse of the sun. This lecture will review similar events that occurred in the ancient skies above Cahokia and will consider prehistoric beliefs about solar eclipses and celestial shadows and how they may have influenced Mississippian art, iconography, and religion.

This is a free event and seating is on a first come first served basis.. It will be held in the auditorium, Cahokia Mounds State Historic Site, 30 Ramey Street, Collinsville, IL. For more information call 618-346-5160.

<https://cahokiamounds.org/>