

ArkyFacts

Monthly Newsletter of the
SOUTH SUBURBAN ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Lecture meetings are at 7:30 p.m. at
The Marie Irwin Community Center
18120 S. Highland Avenue, Homewood

MARCH - 2020

Thursday,
March 19 Fred G. Christensen ~ 7:30 PM
"The Archaeology of the River Thames"

Monday,
March 30 Officers' Meeting ~ 7:30 PM
Host: Warren Hastings
Mama & Me Pizzeria, Homewood

Thursday,
April 16 Ben Sells ~ 7:30 PM
"The Tunnel Under the Lake"

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

For more information about South Suburban Archaeological Society, or if you have a special need because of a disability, contact SSAS President Will Kelley.

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Thursday, March 19 - 7:30 PM

THE ARCHAEOLOGY OF THE RIVER THAMES

by Fred G. Christensen

England's heartland river is exceptionally rich in archaeological finds. From its source in the Cotswolds past gravel beds revealing artifacts of all eras, through much-excavated London, to sites like Swanscombe near the estuary, the Thames has yielded evidence of half a million years of human activity.

Fred G. Christensen has hiked the full length of the Thames, filming it for class presentations, and will discuss its archaeological heritage in this talk. He will emphasize the area around Dorchester, south of Oxford, and will address artifacts and earthworks from every era of prehistory. Paleolithic hand axes, Neolithic henges, Celtic hill forts and Roman towns will all make their appearances in this presentation.

Mr. Christensen is a former Instructor at the Universities of Illinois and Kentucky, and retired as a Lieutenant Colonel after 28 years (including 5 years active duty) in the U.S. Army Reserves. Since retirement, he has taught adult and community education courses, and currently serves as President of the East Central Illinois Archaeological Society (ECIAS).



Our Next Business Meeting..... will be on Monday, March 30 - 7:30 PM at Mama & Me Pizzeria, 18219 Dixie Hwy., Homewood. Our host will be Warren Hastings.

PLEASE REMEMBER.....Membership Applications are included in this newsletter for members who have not yet renewed for 2020, and for guests who wish to become members. If you have not already done so, please remember to submit your 2020 Membership Application. Thank you!

Bookmarks! Find us online.....


Search: "South Suburban Archaeological Society on Weebly"

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

OR: <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.

LIBRARY EVENTS.....

MONDAY, MARCH 9 – 7:00 PM

“THE EVOLUTIONARY ORIGINS OF MAN”

Orland Park Public Library, 14921 Ravinia Ave., Orland Park

Dr. Marisa Fontana, archaeologist and Associate Professor of Anthropology at North Central College in Naperville, will highlight the skeletal and cultural evidence for human evolution from the scientific perspective. For more information, call (708)428-5100.

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11 – 7:00 PM

“CHICAGO TRUE STORIES”

Homewood Public Library, 17917 Dixie Hwy., Homewood

Join living history “edu-trainer” Martina Mathisen as she presents an interactive and engaging program on Chicago history. Sponsored by the Homewood Historical Society (708)799-1896 or (708)957-0640.

THURSDAY, MARCH 26 – 10:30 AM

“RIO, BUENOS AIRES, IGUASSU FALLS & PATAGONIAN GLACIERS”

Park Forest Public Library, 400 Lakewood Blvd., Park Forest

One in the library’s “Potpourri of Lectures” series, this program on South American locales will be presented by SSAS member Al Sturges and Mary Lubertozzi. For more information, call (708)748-3731.

Thank you Rick Stern and Ron Grason of NITEL (*Smarter Technology Made Simple*) for another year of SSAS sponsorship. You help make it happen!

If you know of any business or organization that might be willing to provide SSAS programming sponsorship, please let us know!

Learn more about the River Thames.....

“Mudlarking: Lost and Found on the River Thames”

By Lara Maiklem, Bloomsbury Publishing (2019)

This book is a lyrical and evocative narrative history of London and its people, told through objects found on the banks of the Thames.

For thousands of years human beings have been losing their possessions and dumping their rubbish in the River Thames, making it the longest and most varied archaeological site in the world. For those in the know, the muddy stretches provide a tangible link with the past, a connection to the natural world, and an oasis of calm in a chaotic city.

For 15 years, Lara Maiklem has walked the Thames foreshore, spending innumerable hours peering into the mud for items discarded by past generations of Londoners. The list of things Lara has rescued from the river is long and varied: from Neolithic flint, Roman hair pins and medieval shoe buckles to Tudor buttons, Georgian clay pipes, 17th century love tokens and discarded war medals.



Mudlarking is the story of the River Thames and its people, told through the objects that Lara has eased from its muddy clutches over the years. Weaving her story through and around the history of the River, from prehistory to the present day, she uses her finds to bring the ordinary lives of long forgotten Londoners to life.

Goodreads

(Also printed in the U.S. as ***Mudlark: In Search of London’s Past Along the River Thames*** by Lara Maiklem.)