

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

JULY - 2023

Saturday, 10:00 AM Central / 11:00 AM Eastern
July 15 SSAS Members' Excursion
Tippecanoe Battlefield & Museum
Battle Ground, Indiana

Monday, Officers' Meeting ~ 6:00 PM
July 31 (Location to be announced.)
Host: Lisa Nicholson

August (Date to be announced)
"First Kings of Europe"
Field Museum

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

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



Saturday, July 15 ~ 10:00 AM Central/11:00 AM Eastern
SSAS MEMBERS' EXCURSION
Tippecanoe Battlefield & Museum
Battle Ground, Indiana

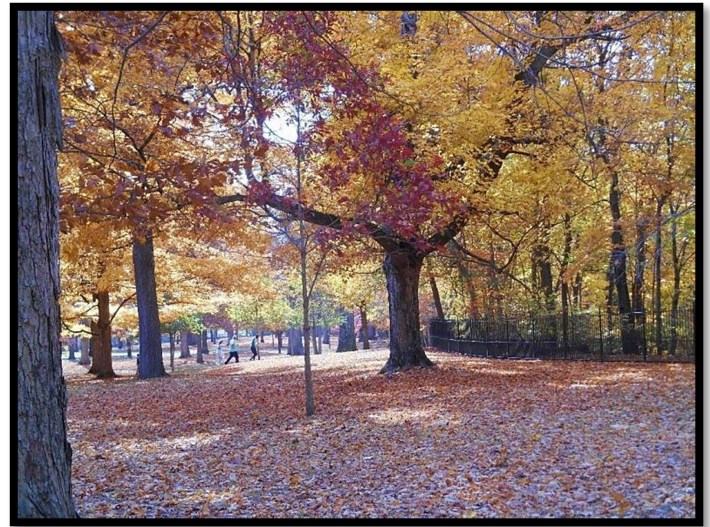
We invite all 2023 SSAS members and their guests to join us on Saturday, July 15 (10:00 Central Time/11:00 Eastern Time) for a fascinating day at the Tippecanoe Battlefield & Museum in Battle Ground, Indiana.

We will enjoy a guided tour given by museum staff, "*Conflict of Cultures*," which takes visitors around the battlefield, showing them where key events took place. This tour provides some of the historical background leading up to the Battle of Tippecanoe, but focuses primarily on the events of the battle.

The price for this tour is \$9 per person (payable at the door), which includes full access to the museum.

To get on the trip roster, please contact Will Kelley.

See our insert page for details!



Search: "South Suburban Archaeological Society" or
<http://southsuburbanarchsociety.weebly.com/>

SSAS on Tumblr: <http://southsuburbanchapter.tumblr.com>

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



SSAS programming is made possible through generous contributions from our members of time, effort and financial support.

SATURDAY, JULY 15 TIPPECANOE EXCURSION

(Excerpted here from an email sent by Will Kelley to the membership on June 9, 2023).

For a long time American history classes included the phrase “Tippecanoe and Tyler, Too,” as an early example of a slogan so catchy it helped propel a candidate into the White House. In this case, it was William Henry Harrison, who took office for thirty-one days in 1841. But “Tippecanoe” referred to the general location of a battle that occurred almost thirty years earlier in the fall of 1811, not far from the Wabash River, at a place known to this day as Battle Ground, Indiana. It was a tremendously important battle since Harrison’s victory crushed all hopes among Native Americans in the Indiana Territory for successful resistance to settlers from the United States. The battleground was preserved and maintained over the last two hundred and thirteen years, with some trees on the grounds today dating back to the battle. And it is lovely. Just as people discover when they travel to Civil War battlefields, there is nothing quite like seeing firsthand what the site is like. There are even tombstones of U.S. officers who were buried where they died. A huge monument to William Henry Harrison is at the east end of the battleground, and just to the east of that is a museum with very informative exhibits of the time, the context, and the battle itself. There is also a room with a fascinating collection of a huge variety of firearms used in colonial and U.S. military units. Not to mention the gift shop! I’m confident that you will enjoy this excursion, provided only that you have the day available.

The date of our excursion will be Saturday, July 15. We will meet at 11:00 AM local time (Eastern Daylight Time), which is 10:00 AM Illinois time. Using I-65, and even the alternate routes, it takes about two hours to drive from the Irwin Center in Homewood to the Tippecanoe Battlefield Park. We will be given a discussion that focuses on the context and the battle, then a tour of the grounds. The field itself is well shaded, and even if it’s hot there will be an air-conditioned visitors’ center to serve as a cooling center. If the weather is bad we will focus more on the things we can see inside,

with the outdoors becoming the less intensive portion. After the tour, we will repair to a reasonably good quality restaurant for a lunch break. There may be something we can do after lunch, but since many members will want to go home after eating, this will be less of a focus.

The cost of the tour is \$9 per person (lunch NOT included). Since the museum costs at least \$5, this is not much more than a trip to the visitors’ center itself.

While the Society does not provide transportation, we would be happy to help arrange carpools for anyone who would like to go but does not want to drive down to the Wabash and back. Feel free to contact me to begin the process.

This excursion is available to members who are 2023 current on their dues. I do hope you will be able to join us on July 15 for the tour. Please let me know if you’d like to be included.

Will Kelley
President, SSAS



NOTE: An additional information sheet that includes final excursion details and driving directions will soon be sent out to our membership.

IN THE NEWS

The former Oriental Institute of the University of Chicago will now be known as The University of Chicago Institute for the Study of Ancient Cultures (West Asia & North Africa), or **ISAC**.



Why the change? "In the early 20th century, the name 'Orient' was used more commonly and applied to a broad geographical area. In fact, it encompassed all of Asia, from Japan to Turkey. This meant that many organizations from this period with work related to Asia included the word 'Orient' in their name. In keeping with this usage, all Asian languages taught at the University of Chicago were grouped together in a single Department of Oriental Languages and Civilizations until 1966. In that year, it split into three different departments of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations (NELC), Far Eastern (later East Asian) Languages and Civilizations (FELC/EALC), and South Asian Languages and Civilizations (SALC). Similarly, the original collection of artifacts housed in the Haskell Oriental Museum, the forerunner of the Oriental Institute Museum (OIM), comprised art that came from Japan, China, India, Mesopotamia, and everything in between. When the OI's new building opened in 1931, it exhibited only artifacts from West Asia and North Africa, while those from South and East Asia moved elsewhere in the University."

"Although the institute's name has changed, our mission remains the same," said Prof. Theo van den Hout, the institute's interim director. "The Institute for the Study of Ancient Cultures continues to strive to be one of the world's leading research centers on the ancient cultures of West Asia and North Africa. The new name better represents the breadth and depth of the diversity of our work as we continue to generate and showcase field-defining research and scholarship."

ISAC (Excerpted)

Tuesday, July 18, 6:30-8:00 PM

History of Chief Alexander Robinson's Family Cemetery

For those who may have missed archaeologist Dan Melone's 2022 presentation at SSAS, or for those who would simply like to learn more about Chief Alexander Robinson and his family, join Dan for a discussion of one of the more important historical finds in Chicago's recent years. In 2015, the original headstones of Chief Alexander Robinson and other family members were recovered by a team that included Dan. The stones have been returned to Robinson family descendants, having been missing for generations.

Using recently uncovered documentary evidence, this lecture will explore changes in cemetery boundaries and use through time. Dan will outline a chronological framework for understanding cultural and natural impacts to the cemetery and surrounding landscape, and identify grave occupants and the physical layout of the cemetery.

Mr. Melone's talk will be at White Oak Library District's Romeoville Branch (201 W. Normantown Road, Romeoville, IL) . Follow the link below to register:

<https://whiteoaklibrary.evanced.info/signup/EventDetails?EventId=30165&lib=1001&lib=1005&backTo=Calendar&startDate=2023/07/01>



August Members' Excursion

We continue to develop plans to attend the Field Museum exhibit ***First Kings of Europe*** in August. Watch for continued updates and information!

Thursday, July 27, 7:00-8:00 PM

Railway History in Illinois

Palos Heights Public Library
12501 S. 71st Ave.
Palos Heights, Illinois

The Illinois Railway Museum in Union, Illinois is the nation's largest railroad museum. This in-person lecture by Marcus Reuf of the IRM will discuss the history of railways and transit in Illinois, and how the Illinois Railway Museum's massive 100-acre campus preserves engines and railcars from steam engines to modern-day equipment. Registration is required! Call (708) 448-1473.



Officers' Meeting

Our next business meeting will take place on **Monday, July 31 – 6:00 PM**. Our host will be Lisa Nicholson. Location to be announced.

Saturday & Sunday, August 5-6

***Annual Fort St. Joseph
Archaeology Open House***

Fort St. Joseph - Niles, Michigan

Fort St. Joseph was a mission, garrison and international trading post occupied from 1691 to 1781. For anyone visiting southwestern Michigan this summer, the public is invited to view ongoing excavations, interact with students, and listen to lectures by Western Michigan University professors and others about the archaeology of the fort. You can also explore the informative Outdoor Museum and Living History Village with 18th century reenactments.

Making archaeology accessible to the public is a major goal of the Fort St. Joseph Archaeological Project. It is the community's history that is being unearthed and interpreted by project researchers, and it is very important that the public is given the opportunity to learn about the project's findings and even take part in the archaeological process.

The Fort St. Joseph Archaeological Project is a partnership between Western Michigan University and the City of Niles, Michigan.

For additional information, call (269)387-1000, or visit

<https://wmich.edu/fortstjoseph/outreach>

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