

# 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 - 2021

Thursday,  
March 18

Dr. Sinclair Bell ~ 7:30 PM  
ZOOM Lecture  
"The Greatest Race:  
Chariot Racing In Imperial Rome"

Monday,  
March 29

Officers' Meeting ~ 6:00 PM  
Mama & Me Pizzeria, Homewood  
Host: Will Kelley

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

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Thursday, March 18 – 7:30 PM (via ZOOM)

### “The Greatest Race: Chariot Racing in Imperial Rome”

Dr. Sinclair Bell

Chariot races were the earliest, most popular, and longest-lived of all forms of “spectacles” in the Roman world. This program will survey the spatial and architectural framework of the Circus Maximus, the primary chariot racing venue at Rome, and circuses around the empire; the organization of the races, including the role of the factions; the symbolic representations of victories and athletic victors, as well as the charioteers’ actual prizes; and the horses that were bred for racing. Dr. Bell will also briefly discuss the sport’s spectators and fans, for whom the sport was a socially binding religion.

Our focus will be on the first through the fourth centuries A.D., with the bulk of the evidence (literary, epigraphic, artistic and archaeological) drawn from the first two centuries. In keeping with current directions in the study of ancient sport and spectacle, Dr. Bell’s approach will place less emphasis on the legal and technical aspects of the chariot races, and more on these competitions as “part of a broader social canvas.”



Dr. Sinclair Bell is a classical archaeologist and art historian, and is presently Full Professor of Art History at Northern Illinois University. His lecture will draw upon material from his recent documentary for the Smithsonian Channel (2019) and his forthcoming book, *“Chariot Racing in Roman Imperial Art and Culture: Athletic Competition, Social Practice, and Urban Spectacle”* (University of Pennsylvania Press).

**There will be two ways to attend on March 18.** The program will be broadcast via a ZOOM presentation at the Irwin Center. For those attending at the Center, face masks will be required and we will be practicing social distancing. OR, to attend the ZOOM lecture remotely, please see the newsletter attachment.

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Bookmarks! Find us online.....


**Search: “South Suburban Archaeological Society”**

**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

## In the News !! Oldest Cave Painting in the World

Archaeologists have uncovered the oldest-known cave painting made by prehistoric humans after stumbling upon the life-size image of a wild pig painted on a cave wall in Sulawesi, Indonesia at least 45,500 years ago. Humans have hunted warty pigs across Sulawesi for tens of thousands of years, with the animal frequently featured in prehistoric art.

The image was painted onto the walls of Leang Tedongnge cave using red ochre pigment. Two distinct handprints can be seen to the left of the animal and two other, partially preserved paintings of pigs were found nearby.



The island of Sulawesi has a rich history of human presence, including stone artifacts and fossils possibly linked to relatives of modern-day Homo sapiens. The cave itself is located in a valley that's enclosed by steep limestone cliffs and is only accessible by a narrow cave passage in the dry season. For further reading, visit:

<https://www.express.co.uk/news/science/1383923/archaeology-news-oldest-cave-painting-in-world-discover-indonesia-evg>

## How to attend our March 18 program remotely:

You may join the Zoom meeting through this link:

<https://zoom.us/j/99757806012?pwd=SHlwSHU5Q3MxRUxyUjY2Syt6citmZz09>

(If you receive a paper newsletter, type the above link into your internet browser.)

If you do not have the ZOOM app already, click the download button.

When prompted, use this meeting ID number and/or passcode:

**Meeting ID: 997 5780 6012**

**Passcode: 344781**

Smart Phone users can join through this mobile number:

+13126266799,,99757806012#,,,,\*344781# US (Chicago)

+13017158592,,99757806012#,,,,\*344781# US (Washington DC)

Those who wish to join by phone can also dial in, using your location:

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 669 900 6833 US (San Jose)

When prompted, use the above meeting ID number and/or passcode.

If none of these numbers are appropriate, you can find your local number at this URL: <https://zoom.us/u/adHnPzO4nt>

*We hope to see you all at the program!*