

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

FEBRUARY - 2024

Thursday,
February 15 Dr. Dale F. Simpson, Jr., RPA - 7:30 PM
 "Diggin' Illinois Archaeology,
 In the Present, For the Future"
 (In-person and via Zoom.)

Monday,
March 4 Officers' Meeting - 6:00 PM
 1044 185th Place, Homewood
 Host: Matt McDonald

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



Thursday, February 15 – 7:30 PM

“Diggin’ Illinois Archaeology, in the Present, for the Future”

Dr. Dale F. Simpson, Jr., RPA



Illinois has a deep archaeological record, rich in quantity and quality over time and throughout the state. Along with this record, many of the major developments of anthropological archaeology as a discipline can be traced to the Land of Lincoln. This includes theoretical and methodological advancements, along with research and activities of various universities, institutes, laboratories, associations, and societies (like the SSAS!).

In this presentation, Dr. Simpson will highlight the major points of emphasis that make Illinois a center for archaeology, and showcase the value in teaching about Illinois' past, in the present, for the future.

Dr. Dale F. Simpson, Jr., RPA is Senior Scientific Specialist at Illinois State Archaeological Survey (ISAS), Instructor at College of DuPage, Director of the Rapa Nui Geochemical Project and Illinois Simpson Archaeology, Editor-in-Chief of Illinois Antiquity, and a board member of the Chicago Archaeological Society and the IAAA.

Please join us for light refreshments before the program! (For remote viewing, see our insert page.)



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.

MARCH MEMBERS' EXCURSION

Mark your calendars for Saturday, March 16 @ 10:30 AM when SSAS hopes to hold the first of its annual member excursions! Our second excursion of the year (to be announced) will take place this summer.

All 2024 SSAS members and their guests are invited to join us at the Institute for the Study of Ancient Cultures (ISAC), 1155 E. 58th Street, where we will be guided on a tour of their current featured exhibit ***“Back to School in Babylonia.”***

“In 1740 BCE in Babylonia, students went back to school after a holiday. They gathered from across the neighborhood in a modest house in Nippur, a Mesopotamian city in present-day southern Iraq. Young pupils learned to read and write the complex cuneiform script, while more advanced students studied topics like mathematics, religion, and law.

The goal of their education was to gain the knowledge, skills, and character traits necessary to become successful scribes. These skilled professionals worked for the king, temples, and local authorities and were responsible for writing most of the documents that survive from Babylonia.

*In 1951–52, the Joint Expedition to Nippur of ISAC and the University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology discovered the remains of this school. Within its mudbrick walls they excavated texts fundamental to our understanding of Babylonian education and culture, as well as objects that reflect school life. We invite you to enter the Edubba’*a*, a scribal school, in Nippur: explore the school house and its objects, read the school materials, sit down on a school bench, and listen to the disputes of Babylonian students as you follow them on their journey to become scribes, complete with their struggles and successes.”* (ISAC)

This special exhibition is curated by Susanne Paulus, with Marta Díaz Herrera, Jane Gordon, Danielle Levy, Madeline Ouimet, Colton G. Siegmund, and Ryan D. Winters and with support from Pallas Eible Hargro, C Mikhail, Carter Rote, and Sarah M. Ware. It reunites objects excavated at Nippur now held in the ISAC Tablet Collection, the ISAC Museum, and the University of Pennsylvania Museum of Archaeology and Anthropology. Tablets in the Iraq Museum, Baghdad, will be represented by plaster casts.

We estimate that this tour will cost \$12 per person (\$10 entry fee, plus \$2 extra for a guided experience.). If you are an ISAC member, please let Will Kelley know when you register for the outing.

As soon as we receive final confirmation from the ISAC of our tentative arrangements, additional information will be distributed.

For questions, please contact Will Kelley.

For detailed information on this exhibit, visit:
<https://isac.uchicago.edu/backtoschool>



Please join us on our trip to the ISAC! If you have not yet renewed for this year, you may do so in-person at our February 15th program, or by mail. For questions about membership, contact Milan Saric.

How to Remotely View our February 15th Program:

Interested in participating via Zoom?

- SSAS members in good standing for whom we have an email contact address will automatically be sent the program's Zoom access information.



- For all other Zoom inquiries, send a request to the email link shown below. **Please submit your request as soon as possible.** Include enough information in the email to verify your identity.

southsubarkyzoom-request@yahoo.com

1-2 days before the event, the host will respond with an invitation to attend through Zoom. For questions about remote viewing, contact Will Kelley.



Business Notes - Our next business meeting will take place on **Monday, March 4 at 6:00 PM** at the home of Warren Hastings. Our host will be Matt McDonald.



“What Can the Silk Roads Be?”

A Conversation on the Trans-Asian Networks In the First Millennium and Beyond

The Neubauer Collegium for Culture & Society (5701 S. Woodlawn, Chicago) will present this free, open-to-the-public event on **Friday, February 16 from 4:00-6:00 PM**. A group of scholars will consider the pitfalls and potential of the Silk Road as a framework for trans-Asian interactions. Please register for this event by calling (773)795-2329 or visit <https://neubauercollegium.uchicago.edu>

UPCOMING LIBRARY PROGRAMS

Flossmoor Public Library (708)798-3600
1000 Sterling Avenue, Flossmoor IL
<https://www.flossmoorlibrary.org>

Monday, February 12 @ 6:30 PM

“Abraham Lincoln: A New Birth of Freedom”

Experience a first-hand account from Abraham Lincoln himself (portrayed by professional Lincoln presenter Kevin Wood) about the history of the United States during his time, from his childhood on the frontier to the twelve turbulent years from 1854 to 1865, which nearly destroyed our young nation but instead resulted in a “new birth of freedom.” Adult/Young Adult / Registration not required.

Thursday, February 22 @ 7:00 PM

“Lives in Code: Stories of African American Resilience Under the Illinois Black Codes, 1819-1865” (VIRTUAL)

Join Dr. Caroline Kisiel as she discusses a history of the Illinois Black Codes, a series of harsh laws that existed from 1819 to 1865, and how African Americans in 19th century Illinois persevered to forge livelihoods and establish communities. Adult / Email dicastroj@flossmoorlibrary.org to receive access information.

Orland Park Public Library (708)428-5100
14921 Ravinia Avenue, Orland Park IL
<https://www.orlandparklibrary.org>

Saturday, February 24 @ 1:00 PM

“War and Wine”

Certified sommelier Christopher Bakunas will discuss the history of World War II through the lens of French “vignerons,” the battles that raged inside the country, and the power of the French resistance in the world of wine. Adult / Registration required.