
AAG NEWS

Archaeological Associates of Greenwich

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Programs

News & Notes of Interest

ARCHAEOLOGY OF INDIA-- FOCUS OF OUTSTANDING SPEAKER ON MARCH 18

“Archaeology of India” will be the subject of Samir S. Patel on Thursday, March 18, 8 p.m. at the Bruce Museum in Greenwich. Sponsored by the Archaeological Associates of Greenwich (the AAG), the event is free to AAG and Bruce Museum members and \$10 to the public at the door.

Last year Samir Patel traveled through southern India, reporting and photographing stories for *Archaeology Magazine*. With this talk he will highlight what he saw and provide an overview of archaeological developments on the subcontinent. From the palaces, temples, and bazaars of the medieval city of Vijayanagara, to the dusty Jurreru Valley of Andhra Pradesh, Patel met with scientists – American and Indian alike – working in the forefront of archaeology. He will present the fascinating background of his story that appeared in the January/February *Archaeology Magazine* about the 74,000 year old site of a super-volcano that some archaeologists think will redraw the map of human migration. He will include a preview of his latest story from the trip – a photo essay that will appear in the May/June issue of *Archaeology* -- about a one-of-a-kind, 3,000 year old megalithic site with over 1,000 standing monuments.

Since 2006 Patel has served as Senior Editor at *Archaeology Magazine*, writing, photographing, editing and developing new feature stories. As a freelance journalist, his articles have appeared in *Nature* and the *New York Times*, among others. He has a master’s degree from Columbia University’s Journalism School, specializing in science, environmental journalism, photo journalism and magazine writing. His undergraduate degree is from Duke, with a year at Oxford University in the U.K.

DON’T MISS TWO NEW SPRING MUSEUM EXHIBITS

Its not often you read a review of a museum exhibit that’s called “fabulous.” According to Holland Cotter in the *NY Times*, the show is “perfectly (meaning modestly) scaled, with the kind of Asian art loans – matchless in quality, straight from the source – that we rarely see here anymore.” But this is the case of **Arts of Ancient Vietnam: From River Plain to Open Sea** now at the Asia Society Museum, 725 Park Ave. at 70th St. in NYC until May 2. On view are artifacts from the prehistoric Dong Son culture that settled in northern Vietnam in the last half of the first millennium BC to objects from the first centuries A.D. and onward to the fifth century A.D. with Cham sculptures, one of Asia’s most piquant and undervalued sculptural styles, ending with art from the 17th century A.D.

To Live Forever: Art and the Afterlife in Ancient Egypt is on view at the Brooklyn Museum until May 2. The exhibit uses more than a hundred world-renowned holdings of ancient Egyptian art to illustrate the range of strategies to overcome death – from mummification to tomb rituals. Objects on view include one of the oldest preserved statues from all Egyptian history, the female figurine popularly known as the “Bird Lady,” as well as a painted limestone relief of Queen Neferu and the elaborately painted shroud of Neferhotep.

To: **Archaeological Associates of Greenwich**

33 Byram Dr., Greenwich, CT 06830-7007

Membership supports outstanding evenings of archaeology and the award-winning “Prehistoric People Project”—over 65,000 students reached since 1976.

Enclosed are my membership dues: \$35 family ____

Name:

Address & Phone:

March, 2010

MAPLE FESTIVAL SUGARING SCHEDULED

The Institute for American Indian Studies, Washington, CT, will present a full Native American sugar-making demonstration in their outdoor Algonkian Village on Saturday, March 20 from 11 am to 3 pm. Long before recorded history, the Mohegans believed that the melting snow caused the spring sap to run in the maples. They considered the sap to be the dripping oil of the Great Celestial Bear who had been wounded by the winter sky hunters. The bear, sometimes becoming the celestial bear and embodying the Big Dipper, repeats itself through many Indian origin stories. Join the IAIS staff, along with Jim Dina, who will present a full Native American Sugar-making demonstration. Inside, from 11-1, pancakes will be served with local maple syrup. Activities for children from 1-3 pm. Fee: Advance tickets \$8 adults, \$6 children. Tickets at the door slightly higher. Call: (860) 868-0518. www.birdstone.org

TERRA COTTA WARRIORS EXHIBIT IN D.C. 'TIL MAR. 31

Terra Cotta Warriors: Guardians of China's First Emperor is at the National Geographic Museum in Washington, D.C. until March 31. The exhibition features the treasures that accompanied China's first emperor, Qin Shihuangdi into the afterlife. The discovery near Xi'an in 1974 is one of the greatest archaeological finds of the 20th century. The exhibit includes 15 life-size figures, weapons, armor, coins and more. If you can't travel to D.C., there is a wonderful web site with details that display much of the exhibit at <http://www.nationalgeographic.com/terracottawarriors/>

ARCHAEOLOGICAL ASSOCIATES OF GREENWICH

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Home page:

<http://people.brandeis.edu/~jbernard/brucemuseum/lectures.html>

BLOG: <http://archaeologybriefs.blogspot.com/>

NCC MEETING: MARCH 11

"Iron Age Burials in Poland." Speaker: Magdalena Kulczynska, graduate of the University of Lodz in Poland. Date: Thursday, March 11, 8 pm. Sponsor & Place: Dining Room, East Campus, Norwalk Community College Archaeology Club. Ms Kulczynska will give a short history of Iron Age Europe, focusing on a cemetery in Central Poland dating from 150 – 350 AD. Artifacts and the burial site are classified as one of the most significant sites of the Przeworsk culture.

AIA BOOK CLUB MEETING

Guns, Germs & Steel by Jared Diamond. Date: 1:30 pm, March 18. Place: Greenburgh Public Library, 300 Tarrytown Rd (Rt 119) at Knollwood Dr. Sponsor: AIA Westchester Society. RSVP: Myrna Silverman (914) 769-5389.

ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY OF CT ---- GREAT WEBSITE!

The Archaeological Society of Connecticut, Inc. was founded in New Haven in 1934. It consisted then, as it does today, of avocational and professional archaeologists and those interested in archaeology. The Society serves to create situations where people learn, contribute and remain current on archaeological activities around the state of Connecticut as well as learn about the latest discoveries and archaeological techniques from around the country and, to a lesser extent, the world. Their new web site includes events at your favorite Connecticut organizations such as the NCC (see above); IAIS; Pequot Museum; AIA in New Haven & Hartford. Go to <http://www.connarchaeology.org/>
