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MAS Notes (February 2026)

From the Montana Archaeological Society

Layers of Time: Explore, Educate & Engage



MAS Happy Hour in Bozeman

Thanks for Helping Out!

Consider a tax-deductible donation to MAS to support **student scholarships!** One of this year's MAS initiatives has been to encourage student participation in the organization, including the Annual Conference. This year, we hope to offer as much support as possible to aspiring archaeologists! We would greatly appreciate your contribution to this effort!

You can donate here: <https://mtarchaeologicalsociety.org/join-mas/>

We will soon be sharing a tentative schedule of events with you all, but in the meantime, you can find additional information at the links below.

[MAS 2026 Meeting Info - Montana Archaeological Society](#)
[Meeting Registration 2026 - Montana Archaeological Society](#)

Conference Reminders

If you are planning to stay at the conference hotel and use the designated room block, you must reserve your room by March 10th –

- **HOTEL INFORMATION** The host facility is the Holiday Inn Downtown, Missoula, Montana (200 S Pattee St, 406-721-8550)
 - As the conference hotel, the Holiday Inn has reserved a block of rooms at the conference rate (\$151 per night). The cutoff date for booking a room at the conference rate is March 10, 2026. Book early to ensure the widest room selection.
 - **Online Reservations Booking Link: [BOOK ONLINE!](#)**
 - **Reservations via phone:** You may also contact the front desk 24/7 at 406-721-8550 to make a reservation or ask questions.
 - **Group Name:** MAS 2026 Conference Group Booking Code: MAS

 - **Conservation Funding: REMINDER** if applying for research funds
 - Applications for Conservation Committee Funds will be reviewed at the annual meeting. Please submit your application by March 15th to be considered for funding.”
 - More information can be found here: <https://mtarchaeologicalsociety.org/mas-resources/>
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Are you a student looking for a great field experience? Look no further!



Archeology Fieldwork Internship

May 26 – July 3, 2026

\$640/week Stipend +
Housing

For more details contact:
Arian Randall
Forest Archaeologist
arian.randall@usda.gov

The Helena-Lewis & Clark National Forest and PreserveMontana are pleased to offer a 6-week internship to two students in summer of 2026.

The internship will train students in field research, interpretation, and stewardship models with experienced cultural resource specialists and archaeologists. Students will conduct cultural surveys, site testing, and monitoring of archeological sites in the Big Belt Mountains east of Helena, Montana.

Requirements:

- Education or experience in anthropology/archaeology or closely related field.
- Familiarity with computer technologies for recording digital data.
- Must be 21 years of age and have a valid driver's license.
- Ability to hike and carry a backpack for long distances.
- Willingness to back country camp for several days/weeks at a time.
- Must furnish own camping equipment and be prepared with appropriate clothing and gear for working in the mountains during various weather conditions.

Interested students send a resume and cover letter by March 6th to Dr. Lauri Travis, 9395travis@gmail.com



Heritage and History Public Lecture Series

with Sophia Etier

February 26th @ 6PM at the Headwaters Foundation Confluence Center

***From Chop Suey to Chow Mein: Heritage Adaptation Exhibited through
Archaeological Culinary Remnants and the Evolution of Chinese Restaurants in
Western Montana, 1860-1980***

From Chop Suey to Chow Mein explores heritage adaptation in Western Montana's nineteenth and twentieth century Chinese communities exhibited through archaeological culinary remnants and the evolution of regional Chinese restaurants. The lecture will also explore the shift from private heritage sites to public spaces shaped by anti-Chinese legislation and economic adaptation. Regionally, restaurants such as the Pekin Noodle Parlor became cultural anchors, preserving cultural identity amid decades of severe cultural exclusion and discrimination. Later establishments such as the Golden Pheasant and Ming's Restaurant served as tangible memory spaces, bridging historic traditions with modern community life. By integrating archaeological evidence and historical narratives, this talk aims to demonstrate how adapted culinary practices offer insights into the cultural adaptation and heritage resilience in Montana.

Want to join online?

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89891403808pwd=qgwe3WkPiF99rzxKswdwobA8oqs82l.1>

Meeting ID: 898 9140 3808 Passcode: 004118

Paleoamerican Odyssey 2026

Dear Montana Archaeological Society,

The Center for the Study of the First Americans is organizing a three-day conference on the first Indigenous people to enter the Americas during the end of the last Ice Age. The PaleoAmerican Odyssey Conference, will be held in Santa Fe, New Mexico, from October 14–17, 2026. In 2013, we held the first Paleoamerican Odyssey conference and we had 1200 people attend which included professional archaeologists, avocational archaeologists, and interested members of the public.

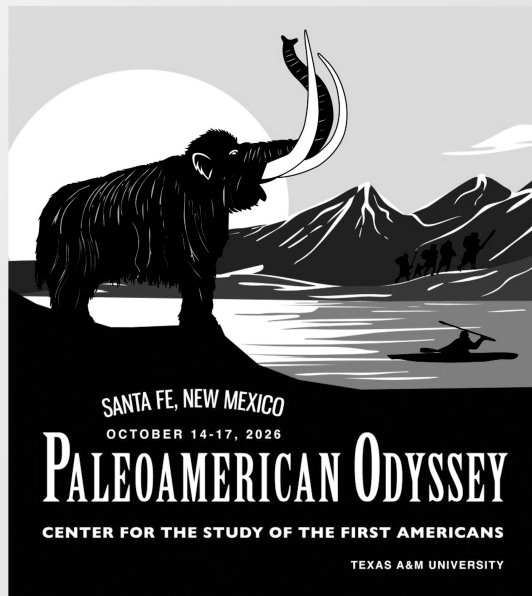
Please visit the CSFA website (www.centerfirstamericans.com) for more information on Paleoamerican Odyssey 2026!

Mark the date on your calendar!

The Center for the Study of the First Americans invites you to participate in a three-day examination of the first people to explore and settle the Americas at the end of the last Ice Age. This conference is for everyone—archaeologists, avocational archaeologists, Quaternary scientists, students, and anyone interested in archaeology.

Much new information generated about the peopling of the Americas since the 2013 Paleoamerican Odyssey conference is changing how we view the First Americans. The archaeological genetic revolution took place after 2013, with genomic analysis of human individuals and their dogs creating a biological outline of the ancestry of the First Americans and estimates for their arrival south of the Ice Sheets. New information generated about the coastal and inland corridors more clearly defines the timing of their opening and viability. The Western Stemmed Tradition of the Intermountain West now appears to be coeval with Clovis. Many new archaeological sites excavated in the Americas place the arrival of humans between 23,000 and 16,000 years ago. New dating and other studies tell us much about the timing and cause of the extinction of megafauna at the end of the Pleistocene and the role of humans in this event.

Hear 35 lectures given by preeminent scholars on all aspects of the study of the First Americans. Examine 400 poster presentations on a variety of topics and view artifact casts from important sites. Enjoy the opportunity to ask questions, meet, and discuss the First Americans with the speakers, poster presenters, and others throughout the day and during our evening meet-and-greet sessions.



Visit the CSFA website (www.centerfirstamericans.com) for more information on Paleoamerican Odyssey 2026!

We'll see you there!

www.mtarchaeologicalsociety.org



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