

## Archaeology Month Calendar 2024

### **Arkhaio Film Festival**

The 12th annual ARKHAIO Cultural Heritage and Archaeology Film Festival - Virtual Edition will take place October 14-20, 2024. It is an educational event to showcase the discovery of past cultures gained from ethnological or archaeological research and illustrated by documentary films. It is a free festival, juried competition, presenting films from around the world, lots of them for the first time in the USA!

The Arkhaio 2024 Program has 6 sections: 1-The Trailer of Trailers, 2- Official Films Selection, 3-Festival Films Selection, 4- Short Films, 5- "Saving the Cultural Heritage of Yemen", 6- Awards. The "Official Selection" are the films in the juried competition for the awards. The "Festival Selection" are the films also selected by the Screening Committee for the festival. The "Short Films" are films, less than 20 min. long, competing in the Short Films track. "Saving the Cultural Heritage of Yemen" Professor and documentary filmmaker Brent E. Huffman documents Yemeni citizens saving cultural heritage in Yemen during the war in three cities.

To discover more about the Arkhaio Film Festivals of years past and present, please visit <http://www.arkhaiofilmfestival.org/> and <https://www.facebook.com/ArkhaioFilmFestival> or contact [info@arkhaiofilmfestival.org](mailto:info@arkhaiofilmfestival.org).

### **Meadowcroft Archaeology Day**

Join Meadowcroft for their annual Archaeology Day program on Saturday, October 19, 2024 from 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. at the Meadowcroft Rockshelter and Historic Village, 2759, 401 Meadowcroft Road, Avella, PA 15312.

Ever wonder how archaeologists learn about everyday lives of prehistoric people? Do you have a suspected artifact you want professionally identified? As part of Pennsylvania Archaeology Month, archaeologists from the Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology will present lectures and identify your artifacts, accompanied by demonstrations on prehistoric technology. Access to Archaeology Day at Meadowcroft is included with regular admission. Purchasing tickets in advance is encouraged, but tickets will also be sold at the Visitor Center depending on availability and capacity limits. For more information visit <https://www.heinzhistorycenter.org/event/archaeology-day-2024/>.

### **Archaeology Day Open House at Indiana University of Pennsylvania**

Indiana University of Pennsylvania is holding an Archaeology Open House on Saturday, October 12th, from 1:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m. at McElhaney Hall (ground floor and outdoors). They will have artifact displays, a "stump the archaeologist" station, atlatl throwing, flintknapping and other prehistoric technologies, screening station, geophysical and zooarchaeology displays, and 3D printing demos. There will also be a "Kidz Room" for ages 3-12, with activities such as hand stenciling/cave painting, wampum beading and artifact guessing. There will also be archaeology themed snacks and giveaways for those completing an archaeology "Passport". For more information contact Dr. Lara Homsey-Messer at [lmesser@iup.edu](mailto:lmesser@iup.edu).

### **Virtual Learn at Lunchtime Programs**

The State Museum of Pennsylvania is holding a series of Learn at Lunchtime lectures for Archaeology Month that will be held virtually this year. Presentations begin at 12:15 p.m. and last approximately 20 minutes followed by a Question-and-Answer session. Registration is required to attend these free, virtual programs. Visit [statemuseumpa.org/workshopsinarchaeology](http://statemuseumpa.org/workshopsinarchaeology) to register.

October 4, 2024 – Ron Fuchs will present “The Nation’s Quest and our Country’s Glory”: Lafayette on Ceramics from Philadelphia.

October 11, 2024 – Jonathan A. Burns will present Training the Next Generation of Preservationists by Processing Colonial Artifact Collections.

October 18, 2024 – Melanie Mayhew will present “Where There’s a Wier There’s a Way: Stone Fish Weirs in Pennsylvania’s Waterways.

October 25, 2024 – Paul M. Nasca will present Keystone Collections: Curating Pennsylvania’s Ceramic Past.

### **Excavation at Ft. LeBeouf Historical Society Campus**

The French Creek Archaeological Society will be holding their Archaeology Month project in September, weather permitting. They will be excavating at the Fort LeBeouf Historical Society Campus, 55 High St, Waterford, PA 16441 looking for signs of the French Fort during the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Primitive Skills Weekend being held from 10:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. on September 27, 28 & 29, 2024. For more information about the excavation please contact John Sites at [jsites@zoominternet.net](mailto:jsites@zoominternet.net).

### **Coxton Yard Dig Site Open House**

The Frances Dorrance Chapter will host an Open House on October 6, 2024 at their Coxton Yard dig site from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. The site can be accessed via a dirt road on the left off Coxton Road in Duryea, PA. Immediately after crossing the Lackawanna River. It is located about 1.5 miles from the beginning of this dirt road. For more information and more detailed directions please contact Ted Baird at [tedbaird@verizon.net](mailto:tedbaird@verizon.net).

### **TAC Zoom Lecture**

Held on October 10, 2024, 7:00 pm Eastern Time (5:00 pm Mountain Time) Brian Fritz will present the program *Digging Deeper: Advancing First American Studies with Mechanized Archaeology*.

Paleoindian sites with fluted points have been found in upland settings across North America, yet only a handful of stratified Paleoindian sites have been found and archaeologically investigated. Understanding the arrival and adaptation of these First Americans requires the discovery and excavation of more stratified sites. The greatest potential for unearthing early sites lies within deep alluvial soils, but traditional excavation methods are often labor-intensive and prohibitively expensive. Mechanized archaeology, however, offers a promising approach to reducing these costs. This lecture will introduce the PaleoDigger, an innovative machine designed to revolutionize deep archaeological testing and advance the study of North America’s earliest inhabitants.

Brian L. Fritz is the Owner and Principal Archaeological Investigator for Quemahoning, LLC, a cultural resources consulting business specializing in geoarchaeology, soil geomorphology, and GIS solutions for complex archaeological projects. He holds a B.S. in geology and a B.A. in Anthropology from Clarion University of Pennsylvania and a M.S. in Geology from the University of Akron. He is a registered professional archaeologist (RPA) with twenty years of experience in conducting archaeological excavations. As the inventor of the PaleoDigger machine and founder of the ArchaeologyX YouTube Channel, he brings a unique blend of expertise and innovation to the field of First American studies.  
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCMifBopbH05ySFOBLr3df1w>.

## CHAPTER MEETINGS

### **Allegheny Chapter #1**

Monthly Meeting via Zoom on Tuesday, October 1, 2024 at 7:30 p.m. Speaker to be determined. Please contact Sarah Neusius for Zoom link at [sraahneusius@gmail.com](mailto:sraahneusius@gmail.com).

### **Ohio Valley Chapter #22**

Monthly meeting on Wednesday, October 16, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. at Lutherlyn, 500 Lutherlyn Lane, Butler, PA 16001. Speaker to be determined. For further information contact Laura at [deyoungl59@gmail.com](mailto:deyoungl59@gmail.com).

### **North Fork Chapter #29**

Monthly meeting on Friday, October 18, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. at the Presbyterian Church Education Building, Corner of Main and White Street, Brookville, PA 15825. The speaker is Bob Oshnock, who will present the program *Chapter 23 Excavations of Three Rock Shelters*. Three rock shelters were excavated in Westmoreland County Pennsylvania by the Westmoreland Archaeological Society on Chestnut Ridge in a stream hollow that drains the side of the mountain at an elevation of 2060 feet. They were located 36 meters apart and were occupied in the Middle to Early Woodland time period by the same group of inhabitants. Their usage of cherts for tool making was sourced to locally available chert workshops. Everyone is Welcome! Contact ken Burkett at [kenburkett@comcast.net](mailto:kenburkett@comcast.net) or (814) 229-2816.

Society for Pennsylvania Archaeology Chapter Meetings in October are not limited to the above chapters. Information on other SPA chapter meetings can be found on the SPA website at [www.pennsylvaniaarchaeology.com](http://www.pennsylvaniaarchaeology.com).

### **Bald Eagle Archaeological Society, Chapter 24**

The Bald Eagle Archaeological Society will host an exhibit at the Train Station in Bellefonte on Saturday, October 19, 2024 and Sunday October 20, 2024 from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. The exhibit will complement local train rides being offered on those days by the Bellefonte Historical Railroad Society that will include information about local history. For more information contact Mary Alice Graetzer at [magraetzer@gmail.com](mailto:magraetzer@gmail.com) or 814-238-5239.