



University League Spring Luncheon and Lecture

Diving into History: The Lake Mendota Canoes

Amy Rosebrough - State Archaeologist

Wednesday, March 20, 2024, 11:00 a.m.

Maple Bluff Country Club

In 2021 Maritime Archaeologist, Tamara Thomsen, found a dugout canoe in Lake Mendota that dated to A.D. 800. Its recovery made international news and it was selected as one of the top 10 archaeological discoveries in the world in 2021.

In 2022, lightning struck twice. Another canoe – this time dating to 1000 B.C. – was found in the same location. These discoveries are rewriting the history of Lake Mendota and highlighting the deep history of De Jope.

Dr. Amy Rosebrough is the State Archaeologist, an office associated with the State Historic Preservation Office of the Wisconsin Historical Society. A native of the Missouri Ozarks, she has long had an interest in burial monuments and archaeology. She is an alumnus of the University of Wisconsin-Madison. She received her doctorate for region-wide re-analysis of Wisconsin's effigy mounds and mound builders. She has worked as an archaeologist in the academic, private, and public sectors. In her current position at the Wisconsin Historical Society, she manages archaeological and burial sites data, assists Wisconsin's citizens with archaeological questions, promotes Wisconsin's amazing archaeology, conducts research, and serves as a subject matter expert. (Continued on page 3.)



Spring Luncheon

When: Wednesday, March 20, 2024

Social Hour: 11:00 a.m.

Lunch: 11:30 a.m.

Speaker: 12:30 p.m.

Where: Maple Bluff Country Club

500 Kensington Drive

Madison, WI 53704

Cost: \$35 per person

Reservation Deadline:

March 9 - [Reservation form](#)

The University League is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization, which welcomes both members and nonmembers to events.

The Mendota Canoes: Connecting Past and Present

The Wisconsin Historical Society, in partnership with Wisconsin's Native Nations, is preserving a pair of historic dugout canoes recovered from Lake Mendota. Testing revealed the first canoe is 1,200 years old (800 A.D.) and the second 3,000 years old (1000 B.C.).

These significant artifacts, unearthed by Society maritime archaeologist Tamara Thomsen, are being preserved for display at the future Wisconsin history center and for other educational opportunities. They will help provide a more complete story of how the Ho-Chunk and other Native American ancestors lived in the area thousands of years ago while also connecting their traditions to the vibrant Tribal Nations of today.



1,200-Year Old Canoe

The 15-foot dugout canoe was recovered from Lake Mendota on November 2, 2021. Dated to 800 A.D., it is the oldest fully intact vessel ever to be extracted from Wisconsin waters. It was also the first canoe found with artifacts on board – net sinkers used for fishing. News of the recovery spread on social media and made headlines across the world.



3,000-Year Old Canoe

The 14.5-foot dugout canoe was recovered from Lake Mendota on September 22, 2022. Dated to 1000 B.C., it is the oldest canoe ever found in the Great Lakes region by roughly 1,000 years. It was unearthed within 100 yards of the 1,200-year-old canoe, prompting research into ancient shorelines and fluctuating water levels.

For more information visit: www.wisconsinhistory.org/canoe

About the Spring Luncheon

The event will be held at the Maple Bluff Country Club on Wednesday, March 20, 2024.

The cost is \$35 per person. Please see the [reservation form](#) for more details.

The menu will be

Spinach pear salad with grilled chicken breast, spinach, red wine poached pears, Gorgonzola Cheese, Marcona Almonds, Whole Grain Mustard Sherry Vinaigrette, rolls, coffee, hot tea, iced tea, water and cookies (DF without cheese, GF, V without chicken).

A cash bar will be available.