

# TALKING STONE AND SACRED STORIES

On Saturday, November 7, 2015 at the Maidu Museum & Historical Site Sacramento Archeological Society, Inc. and co-sponsor, the [Mythological Round Table® Group of Sacramento](#), a chapter of the [Joseph Campbell Foundation](#) presented “Talking Stone and Sacred Stories”.

The event consisted of the screening of two films: [A WALK THROUGH TIME: A STORY OF ANDERSON MARSH](#) and [TALKING STONE: ROCK ART OF THE COSOS](#) and a lecture from guest speaker,

## **Dr. Alan Garfinkel Gold**

*Ph.D., RPA; Principal Archaeologist; Pacific Rim and Western United States  
UltraSystems Environmental Inc. | WBE/DBE/SBE/WOSB*

*“Stone Age Metaphors: Sacred Stories and Symbolic Songs of the Immortal Bighorn”* - The context for understanding the Native views of the bighorn sheep are many and varied. It appears that these animals were something more than a simple subsistence resource. Archaeological sites and specialized features with bighorn bones are documented in the Desert West and these prehistoric expressions are explored. A review of ethnographic accounts, native oral traditions and indigenous cosmology aid our understanding. Bighorn figurative sculptures and rock art are also a data set that helps us explore the religious and ceremonial significance of this animal to the aboriginal people of the Far Western United States.



**SPEAKER BIO:** [Dr. Alan Garfinkel Gold](#) is a California and Great Basin anthropologist and archaeologist. Garfinkel is currently employed as the Principal Archaeologist for the Pacific Rim and Western United States for UltraSystems Environmental, Inc. a full service engineering and environmental compliance firm headquartered in Irvine California with branch offices in six locations throughout California. UEI is a 20 year old environmental compliance firm that provides the full spectrum of cultural resource management services.

Garfinkel is also founder and director of the California Rock Art Foundation, a scientific and educational non-profit corporation dedicated to the conservation and research of the rock art of Upper and Lower California. Garfinkel has authored five books including: [Archaeology and Rock Art](#) and the [Handbook of the Kawaiisu](#) and has formally published 50 scientific articles. He is the recipient of the 2008 and 2011 California State Governor’s Award for Historic Preservation. See his [website](#) for related online articles and additional information.