

SAA CoAS Newsletter

Council of Affiliated Societies, Society for American Archaeology

Our Mission: To benefit all societies in this field and advance the practice of archaeology

Available [on the SAA website](http://www.saa.org/coas) at www.saa.org/coas

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FROM THE CHAIR:

By Cathy Poetschat, Oregon Archaeological Society, poetschat@msn.com

We are getting ready to go to Memphis for the SAA Meeting April 18-22, with its seemingly limitless presentations, exhibits, and other events! We hope to see you there, and invite you to the CoAS annual meeting, where we'll discuss serving you better with a Facebook page, and more ways to help our members communicate with each other.

We also sponsor the SAA Archaeology Month/Week Poster Contest. If your state has a 2011-12 poster it can be entered in the contest for SAA Meeting attendees to see and vote for their favorite. The three posters with the most votes will be honored at the SAA Business Meeting, and will have their poster shown on the SAA website.

Remember, all the CoAS newsletters are available to everyone at www.saa.org/coas.

ARE YOU GOING TO THE ANNUAL SAA MEETING IN MEMPHIS?

If so, you are encouraged to come to the CoAS Annual Meeting on Thursday, April 19 at 4 pm, in the Jackson Room at the Memphis Marriott. The CoAS mission is to mutually benefit all societies in this field and to advance the practice of archaeology.

Plus, don't miss the CoAS Booth, #919, in the Exhibit Hall. There, you can see what other state

archaeology societies are doing and get ideas for your society. You can also share your society's information at the CoAS booth. This includes newsletters, membership applications, publication lists, event flyers, posters, etc., to be displayed and distributed. If interested, bring your materials to the booth on Thursday, but be advised we cannot sell anything at the booth.

Please contact me for more information about mailing material to the booth or about the CoAS meeting.

Cathy Poetschat, SAA CoAS Chair
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FROM THE EDITOR:

We are considering the option to use Facebook as a way for societies to share information about themselves directly. We can still use this newsletter to reach folks who do not use Facebook, but the editor could use the postings as a source of material. If you have suggestions or comments, please contact me at ginsugard-coas@yahoo.com.

FROM THE MEMBERS:

ARKANSAS ARCHEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

By Deborah Sabo, *Field Notes* Newsletter editor

2010 was the Society's 50th Anniversary Year. The annual meeting in Hot Springs was one of our largest, with 130 registrants. Brian Fagan was the keynote speaker. We debuted a newly digitized version of the 1972 film "Preserving the Past for the Future," featuring joint Society and Arkansas Archeological Survey excavations in the early 1970s at the Ferguson site, a Late

Caddo ceremonial mound center in SE Arkansas.

The 2010 Training Program at the Toltec Mounds site, in Toltec Mounds Archeological State Park, also was one of the highest attended Training Programs in our history with 142 participants, including many high school and college students who received field school credit from their institutions. Toltec Mounds is one of the earliest and most complex Late Woodland mound sites in eastern North America. There were 18 mounds and two plazas enclosed by a mile-long embankment and ditch; Mound Pond (a relict channel of the Arkansas River) bounds the northeast side. The two tallest mounds (today 49 and 38 feet high) are among the largest earthen mounds in North America. The excavations concentrated on Mound P, which sits on the lake bank and is threatened by erosion, and Mound D, which had been explored in the 1970s. Features at Mound D proved even more complex than expected with possible overlapping structures. It will take time and further excavation to sort this out.

Dr. Jamie Brandon directed the 2011 Society Training Program at Historic Washington State Park in Hempstead County. The antebellum town of Washington, Arkansas, founded in 1824 on the western frontier, was a thriving county seat and commercial center in a region of farms and plantations. The town was near the southern end of the old Southwest Trail, and served as the Confederate capital of Arkansas during the Civil War. Society members had contributed to important research at Historic Washington on many previous occasions, but this was the first time that excavations focused on the commercial aspects of the town. We had about 100 participants.

Excavation units were selected after a complete geophysical survey. A large square anomaly in one area is probably a merchant warehouse used from the 1830s–1870s. Nearby was one of the most engaging and unexpected features: a well-preserved, brick-lined, bell-shaped cistern,

complete with a charcoal-filled filter box and drain.

Another remote-sensing signature proved to be exactly as predicted: a row of storefronts along a street in the historic town center. Limestone foundations and abundant brick revealed construction details, while artifacts such as bale seals, apothecary bottles, and coins (including a 1780s Spanish colonial *Real* worth "one bit" in legal tender at the time) are testimonials to the mercantile activities.

In cooperation with the University of Arkansas System's Arkansas Archeological Survey, the Society offers a Certification Program for members interested in earning recognition for their achievements at various skill levels. In 2011, Mary Little and Richard Marshall earned Archeological Technician certificates, having completed all six previous categories of classes and many hours of lab and fieldwork. Also in 2011, Jean Hartfield was awarded the Field Archeologist certificate, upon completion of all levels plus an original independent research project resulting in a publication. Jean's monograph "The Ladner-Dedeaux Site: 22-Pr-913" appeared as Volume 51 in Stanley South's *Volumes in Historical Archaeology* Series. Jean is only the fourth Society member to work through the entire program.

View the Society's website at www.arkarch.org.

SOCIETY FOR CALIFORNIA ARCHAEOLOGY

By Beth and Chris Padon, excerpted from the SCA newsletter

The California Archaeological Site Stewardship Program (CASSP) is an SCA program that trains and supports members of the public to help protect archaeological and historical resources on public lands. Volunteer site stewards regularly visit assigned archaeological and historical sites on public lands to observe and report on their conditions to agency archaeologists. Site stewards help identify problems before they become more serious—and expensive. Additionally, the presence of site stewards

helps deter inappropriate behavior by other visitors. CASSP serves three groups of clients: archaeological sites, agency archaeologists, and members of the public.

Before they are assigned sites, CASSP volunteers take a two-day workshop that consists of an all-day classroom session on Saturday and a field trip on Sunday. In November 2011, there were three volunteer training workshops: at the Sierra National Forest (NF) Supervisor's Office in Clovis, at the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Bakersfield Field Office, and in Springville at the Western Divide District Ranger's Office of the Sequoia National Forest and Giant Sequoia National Monument.

Doug McKay hosted the CASSP workshop at the Sierra NF on November 5–6. He spoke about the cultural resources at the Sierra NF, and about the efforts that the personnel are making to protect them. The workshop also featured Debra Cable, Volunteer Coordinator for the Hollister Hills State Vehicular Recreational Area of California State Parks, and Nick Beer, law enforcement officer at the Sierra NF. On the second day of the workshop, the participants visited sites at Bass Lake.

Tamara Whitley hosted the CASSP workshop at the BLM Bakersfield Field Office on November 12–13. She reviewed the cultural resources management plan for Painted Rock. David Whitley, archaeologist with ASM Affiliates, talked about the archaeological resources at the Carrizo Plain National Monument. Lalo Franco, Cultural Specialist at the Santa Rosa Rancheria, spoke about the sacred cultural resources at Painted Rock. On the second day of the workshop, BLM Wildlife Biologist Kathy Sharum talked about the endangered species at the monument, and BLM law enforcement officer Brien Chartier talked about legal issues and safety concerns. After lunch at the Goodwin Education Center, we visited Painted Rock, where we found a truly special place.

Linn Gassaway hosted the CASSP workshop at the Sequoia National Forest and Giant Sequoia

National Monument on November 19–20. Priscilla Summers, the Western Divide District Ranger, gave us a very warm welcome on the first day of the workshop. Linn presented a multimedia overview of cultural resources at the forest and monument. Other speakers included her coworkers Alex Verdugo and Ernest Wingate, Tribal Relations Officer Dirk Charley, and law enforcement officer Jeremy Mack. The field trip on the second day took us to several areas that receive a lot of visitors and occasional impacts.

The September 2011 issue of the *Desert Report* contains an article about CASSP. We thank the newsletter editors for this opportunity to share information about CASSP, and we especially thank Managing Editor Stacy Goss for helping to improve the article. The *Desert Report* is published by the California/Nevada Desert Committee of the Sierra Club, and covers protection and conservation topics concerning the deserts. More information about the *Desert Report*, and PDF files of past issues, are available at www.desertreport.org.

Anyone with a sincere interest in protecting cultural resources can become a CASSP volunteer. There is a fee of \$25 per person to attend a CASSP volunteer training workshop. Prior registration is required because space is limited. You can register by sending your name and contact information to Beth Padon at bpadon@discoveryworks.com or (562) 427-3474 (this is a new phone number). More information about the program, and the workshops, can be found at www.cassp.org.

KANSAS ANTHROPOLOGICAL ASSOCIATION By Rose Marie Wallen, President

The new year begins for KAA with planning for the June field school by KAA officers and Kansas State Historical Society staff. Many details must be arranged even before the large undertaking can be publicized.

By early January the site and principal investigator are chosen, classes planned, and instruc-

tors contacted. Preliminary information is posted at kshs.org. The work continues as locations for class instruction and laboratory activities are found, as well as camping and lodging options. Dozens of details are arranged. The principal investigator develops a strategy for gathering the most information in a two-week period and optimizing the use of nearly 200 volunteers.

This effort is supported by well-experienced KSHS archeologists, who have been guiding this yearly field school since 1975. The 2012 KATP will be held at Fool Chief Village (14SH305), a historical Kansa Indian site dating from the 1830s and located just northwest of Topeka, Kansas. The site was chosen in an effort to mitigate damage from planned highway construction.

While KAA members begin to anticipate the coming field school with fervor, a winter Certification Seminar is held, which temporarily staves their hunger for archeological experience. This seminar has been held every year since 2005. During an intensive two-day seminar, materials are covered that normally occupy five half-days during KATP. Taking certification classes during the winter frees a KAA certification candidate for more dig or lab time during the summer, and accelerates progression through the list of required courses. (See Fall 2008 CoAS Newsletter for a description of the KAA Certification Program.) The subjects of past seminars have been Artifact Description and Analysis, Archeological Site Survey, Kansas Prehistory, Cultural Reconstruction, Lithic Technology, Field and Laboratory Photography, Ceramic Studies, Historical Archeology, Report Writing, and Lithic Identification. On February 18 and 19, 2012, the topic of the Certification Seminar was Field and Laboratory Photography, taught by professional photographer Larry Colcher of Wolfe's Cameras in Topeka.

Most of the seminars have been held at Bethany College in Lindsborg, Kansas, because the town is centrally located and thus more easily accessible to all corners of the state. The Certification Seminars have been very popular, and are open

to any KAA member, whether or not he/she is enrolled in the Certification Program. They are valuable refresher classes for many repeat enrollees. Usually 30 to 35 members participate.

In April KAA members will observe Kansas Archaeology Month with events, programs, displays, and articles in their local communities. April is also the month that the KAA meets for its annual meeting. Different chapters or service areas of the state take turns hosting the event. On April 21, 2012, the KAA will meet at the Meade County Historical Society Museum in Meade in southwest Kansas. A morning business meeting will be followed by an afternoon of enlightening presentations.

MISSOURI ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

By Lisa Haney, MAS secretary

The 2012 Annual Meeting of the Missouri Archaeology Society will be held on March 30-April 1 at the Holiday Inn Viking Conference Center in St. Louis. The 2012 meeting features 11 presentations by professional and avocational archaeologists and four presentations by University of Missouri-St. Louis students. The Koch banquet lecture will be "This Changes Everything: Recent Work at Poverty Point, Louisiana, the Most Complex Archaeological Site in America" presented by Dr. T.R. Kidder, Professor of Anthropology, Professor of Environmental Studies, and Chair, Department of Anthropology at Washington University.

In addition to the presentations and the banquet, attendees enjoy a reception, book sales, and silent auction, exhibits, and conversing with other attendees. On Sunday, attendees have a choice of two field trips. The Illinois Association for The Advancement of Archaeology will conduct a tour of the American Bottom, hosted by Dr. John Kelly. Other attendees can visit Mastodon State Historic Site, home of the Kimmswick Bone Bed.

The Pilot Archaeological Survey Training Program for Missouri

The MAS received a grant from the Missouri Department of Natural Resources and the National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior to continue the statewide Archaeological Survey Training Program for 2012-2013. The project involves the training of avocational archaeologists and other members of the interested public in the basic ethics, methods, and techniques of modern anthropological archaeology.



Figure 1. Students survey along a right-of-way during the training program.

One of its primary goals is to encourage statewide site recordation efforts. The project will consist of two one-week sessions with a maximum of 20 students per session. The sessions will involve a sequence of instructional classroom activities, field survey, laboratory analysis, and recordation of identified archaeological resources. The proposed survey project will help address management and research questions about Missouri heritage through archaeological work at state parks and other entities. The 2012 sessions will be held at Knob Noster State Park and within the City of Excelsior Springs, Missouri.

NORTH CAROLINA ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY, by Theresa McReynolds Shebalin

On a beautiful fall day, an estimated 800 visitors attended the second North Carolina Archaeology Day event at Jordan Lake on Saturday, Octo-

ber 1, 2011. This year's event was held in conjunction with Jordan Lake's Heritage Day, an annual event occurring on the first Saturday in October. The combined event nearly doubled the number of displays and activities and drew visitors that might not have otherwise attended an archaeology-themed event. The North Carolina Archaeology and Heritage Day event was sponsored by the North Carolina Archaeological Society, Jordan Lake State Recreation Area, the Research Laboratories of Archaeology at UNC-Chapel Hill, and TRC Environmental Corporation. Additional support was provided by Chris Espenshade and Durham Academy.

The event offered a variety of primitive technology demonstrations, informational displays, and hands-on archaeology activities. The demonstrators captured the attention of many visitors, especially those aged 12 and under. Fuz Sanderson showed visitors of all ages how to make fires, Chris Espenshade and Joe Herbert demonstrated pottery making, and David Cranford and David Shebalin made stone tools. Jordan Lake brought in dancers, live animals, and additional activities including cornhusk dolls and archery.

As with the first event two years ago, the level of participation by members of North Carolina's archaeological community was impressive. Exhibitors included East Carolina University; Elon University; the Exploring Joara Foundation; Fort Bragg's Cultural Resources Management Program; North Carolina State University; the Office of State Archaeology; TRC Environmental Corporation; and the Research Laboratories of Archaeology at UNC-Chapel Hill. A number of society members and other volunteers also contributed to the event's success.

Meg Kassabaum and Theresa McReynolds Shebalin coordinated the event with the help of 11-year-old Hannah Jones. Hannah attended an archaeology camp last summer and is a founding member of the new Junior North Carolina Archaeological Society (JNCAS), which was officially launched at the event. Hannah and several of her friends took turns manning the JNCAS

booth to share their interest in archaeology with more kids.

"I want more kids to know about archaeology because then they would appreciate the study more and possibly behave better about protecting the archaeological sites," Hannah said. Thanks to her efforts and those of her friends, the new junior society already has 20 members.

Jordan Lake has asked NCAS to partner with them again, and combining efforts seems like a good way to expose more people to North Carolina's archaeological resources and increase the Society's visibility in the Piedmont area.

OREGON ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY/ MUSEUM OF NATURAL AND CULTURAL HISTORY ARCHIVES PROJECT

By Patrick O'Grady and Bob Boettcher

A trove of books and videotapes once housed at the Oregon Archaeology Society (OAS) offices in Portland was recently donated to the Research Division of the University of Oregon Museum of Natural and Cultural History (MNCH). The printed material includes articles, pamphlets, dissertations, monographs, government publications, and books. These references have already been catalogued into the Research Library through hours of effort by Bob Boettcher, a museum volunteer of long and faithful standing.

In addition, Bob is currently working his way through hundreds of hours of videotaped OAS presentations along with other footage, including OPB interviews with noted anthropologists such as Luther Cressman and Richard Daugherty among others, to create an annotated list of presenters/interviewees and topics for greater research accessibility. The OAS books and videotapes are already proving to be a significant historical contribution that will continue to increase in importance through the passage of time.

Even more important, ephemeral historic resources housed at OAS were brought to our at-

tention by Steven and Glenda Satterthwaite, Chelsea Browne, Dennis Torresdal, Harvey Steele, and other OAS officers. They include excavation records, photographs, slides, scrapbooks, and other documentation of OAS field activities. Most of the projects occurred over the course of the 1960s and 70s at archaeological sites in various places around Oregon and Washington.

As all of you well know, OAS just celebrated its 60th year as an organization of archaeological volunteers. Some of the projects were conducted under the direction of professional archaeologists, often operating with short notice and scrambling to complete some level of archaeological investigation prior to site destruction. The professionals knew that OAS volunteers could be called in with little lead time. In other projects, OAS would contract with a local land-owner to obtain excavation rights to a land parcel and conduct excavations over the course of one or two summers.

In both cases, all artifacts were bagged and collected by the site manager in the field, then stored until the fall when cataloguing parties were convened to inventory the artifacts. Once cataloguing was completed, the artifacts were usually distributed to the original excavators as their personal property. Harvey Steele (2011) recently documented the history of OAS through a series of articles in *Screenings*, the OAS newsletter, which provides valuable context for some of the sites mentioned previously. Steele's articles should be included in the library of every archaeologist working in Oregon.

There is no substitute for the original photos and club records, but the convenience and accessibility of electronic storage comes close. Eventually, plans need to be made for long-term disposition of the hard copies, preferably through curation at the University of Oregon Museum of Natural and Cultural History. In the meantime, the digitization of the long-dormant records allows access for OAS club members as well as both professional and student researchers. Files with all of the digitized items will be housed at

the University of Oregon and OAS. The OAS board and Steve and Glenda Satterthwaite recently donated funds to the museum to purchase a high-resolution flatbed scanner to aid in the digitization process, a much-welcomed development!

Every time we open an OAS binder, notebook, or photo album here at the museum, we learn something new and remarkable about the archaeological history of our state. We have digitized thousands of pages of text and photographs at this point and have much more to do, but we are grasping at mere tendrils of the work that was carried out by OAS volunteers in decades past. Every journal and photo album that documents the history of the OAS between 1951 and 1980 is a precious resource and should be converted into an electronic record for long-term storage and preservation.

Steele, Harvey
2011 The OAS: Sixty Years of Public Service.
Screenings 60(3):1-2.

2011 The OAS: 1974 A Year of Change.
Screenings 60(5):1-3.

WASHINGTON, DC – THE PRE-COLUMBIAN SOCIETY

By Kevin Kelly, President

Behind-the-Scenes Tour of the National Museum of the American Indian Kicks Off 2012 Activities

On January 11th, members of the Pre-Columbian Society of Washington, DC (PCSWDC) were given a look at some of the artifacts in the collection of the National Museum of the American Indian's Cultural Resources Center, in Suitland, Maryland, by Conservator Emily Kaplan. Two separate, one-hour tours were given of the lab and some of the artifacts that are not on display in the main museum on the Mall in Washington, DC.

PCSWDC is planning another tour for members, this time to see the Kislak Collection at the Library of Congress. The collection, donated by Jay I. Kislak, includes 4,000 rare books, maps, documents, paintings, prints, and artifacts.

The Embassy of Peru has been a partner of PCSWDC for many years and has co-sponsored several lectures on Peruvian archaeology at the embassy. A spring lecture is currently in discussion with embassy staff.

Every September, the PCSWDC holds its annual symposium and this year's will be on the use space by Pre-Columbian cultures. This includes how culture influenced the alignment of architecture, town planning and organization. The symposium is scheduled for September 15th. More details on specific speakers and content will be available at a later date.

For more information, contact: Kevin Kelly, President, at: kskelly54@verizon.net.

WYOMING ARCHAEOLOGICAL SOCIETY

By Marcel Kornfeld

The WAS Spring Meeting will be held in Gillett, Wyoming from April 27-29, 2012. The meeting will be hosted by the Pumpkin Buttes and the Ancient Trails chapters of the WAS. As usual the meeting will be held in conjunction with the Wyoming Association of Professional Archaeologists. All meeting events will be held in the Devil's Tower and Summitt rooms of the headquarters hotel, the Best Western Tower West Lodge, 109 N Hwy 14/16, Gillette, WY 82716. Rooms have been blocked for the Wyoming Archaeological Society and are reserved until April 13, 2012. For reservations call: 307-686-2210.

A welcome social will be Friday evening from 6-9 pm in the Summitt Room with a no-host cash bar and hors d'oeuvres. Saturday's events begin with a business meeting at 8 am, followed presentations starting in mid morning and continuing through the afternoon. Saturday evening's banquet will include a silent auction in

conjunction with a social hour, followed by a presentation by historical archaeologist Dr. Doug Scott.

Dr. Scott is retired from the National Park Service after more than 30 years; his last position was with Midwest Archeological Center, U.S. National Park Service, Lincoln, NE. He is currently an Adjunct Professor, Department of Anthropology and Geography, University of Nebraska, Lincoln and an Adjunct Professor, Master's of Forensic Science Program, Nebraska Wesleyan University, Lincoln. He specializes in nineteenth-century military sites archeology and forensic archeology, and is noted for his expertise in battlefield archeology and firearms identification. Dr. Scott has worked on more than 40 battlefield sites. The title of his banquet presentation is "Archaeological Insights into the Sand Creek Massacre" with a focus on recent research at Sand Creek and the subsequent Indian War of 1865.

The spring meeting will end with a Sunday field trip or a tour of the Rockpile Museum. The field trip will include Daly Petroglyph Site (morning) and Sorenson Tipi Rings and Historic Indian Artifacts Sites (afternoon), lead by John and Mavis Greer. The Rockpile Museum tour will be from 9-11 am. For any further questions about the Spring meeting, please contact: Denise Tugman at 307-351-6919 or dtugman@lsi-inc.us.

The WAS chapters have been active in hosting speakers over the winter and looking toward the spring thaw so they can get back out into the field for visits, volunteering, and join various field programs. The Wyoming State archaeologist, Mark Miller, compiles a list of potential speaker and topics for chapters to use if they wish. The list includes archaeologists, anthropologists, and historians from the survey division of the office of the state archeologist, SHPO, UW faculty, state museum, and Game and Fish departments. A broad variety of topics is available from historical to prehistoric to bio-anthropology as well as others. A sample of recently hosted speakers include: Dr. Charles Re-

her of UW who spoke about his recent study of the Spanish Diggings Quarries effigy and Steve Cassells of Laramie Community College who spoke about "Doing Archaeology in the Colorado Tundra" to the June Frison Chapter of WAS in Laramie. Among others, the Sheridan-Buffalo chapter hosted Dr. Richard Adams, Senior Archaeologist for the Office of the Wyoming State Archaeologist who gave a presentation titled "The Rocky Mountain Soapstone Industry and High Altitude Archaeology," while Russell Richard of TRC gave a talk on "Scraped Stains: Middle Archaic and Late Prehistoric Features of Oven Town, Site 48FR5928, Fremont County, Wyoming."

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